

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

February 7, 2013

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order at 8:25 p.m. in the form prescribed by the General Rules of Council, with President James Weaver presiding.

The following members answered roll call: Knisely, Kreilick, Leake, Marker, Nalley, Ruiz, and Root.

The minutes of the January 17, 2013 meeting were approved as written and corrected.

Third reading of an ordinance of a previously tabled reading that authorizes the mayor to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for public fishing at the Fremont reservoir, and declaring an emergency. On motion to table ordinance by Kreilick, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. Nalley asked that Lamalie bring more info to next meeting and President Jim Weaver asked that Law Director Jim Melle review the information and bring to council. Marker wants to know if there are gas motor engines used on reservoirs around the state, how many there are, as well as information on zebra mussels infecting reservoirs.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to apply for a Safe Routes to School grant from the State of Ohio Department of Transportation for the cost of a school travel plan, and declaring an emergency. Dr. Tracy McCauly explained to council that the school district has continuous improvement plan and that the Safe Routes to School (SRS) program will allow the district to improve school operations. The grant has a maximum amount of \$500,000 to be used to determine infrastructure needs and \$50,000 to educate the public. The SRS committee met for first time in January. It could provide more sidewalks for students which would enhance community. Later, Washington school and School of Hope will be included in the SRS program. Timeline of the grant is that a proposal is due Jan 1 and city must be the applicant for the grant. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Nalley, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. Leake asked about area first to be targeted and mayor replied it would be sidewalks in Cedar Street area. Upon question from Auditor Paul Grahl about the procedure for handling the finances, he was informed that the city will handle the bulk of the finances. On motion to adopt by Knisely, seconded by Root, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Res. 2013-1879)

First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to apply for a 2013 Fire Department Individual Equipment grant with the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of State Fire Marshal, and declaring an emergency. Chief Foos said maximum would be \$15,000 for face-piece helmets and city applied for \$13,744. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz, seconded by Leake, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Knisely, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Res. 2013-1880)

First reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with the Mannik & Smith Group Inc. for engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for 2013 beginning January 1 through December 31, and declaring an emergency. This will allow the firm to trace pipes and sewers and complete a maintenance plan for those pipes. Nalley commended the mayor on the effort and on the contract. Engineer of City of Rossford Tucker Frederickson introduced himself as the engineer of Mannik & Smith. Weaver asked if the city works with an engineering consultant instead of hiring a full-time city engineer, who would evaluate employees in the engineering department. Mayor said it will be a joint effort between him and the engineer.

WSOS Housing Development Coordinator Don Corley addressed council seeking support for a new senior housing at Bark Creek to be built with tax credits. Kreilick asked about study to show need. Corley a study was completed but he didn't have it with him, and added that such a study is required for the grant. He said that WSOS is making a 30-year commitment to maintain the development. Ruiz questioned the income qualification to which Corley explained that 10% of units will be fully ADA compliant. Ken Dummering of S. Buchanan St. commented on the RR issue and asked if local contractors will be used. Corley replied that it is his understanding that as many local people will be used as possible. Council agreed to support the request. On motion by Nalley, seconded by Knisely, motion carried 6-1 yea votes. Kreilick abstained.

Proprietor Jacinta Mendez was in attendance and requested a new liquor license for a new Mexican restaurant at Sean Center Retail Plaza. He explained that he is seeking a new liquor license because there are no others available in the city. Named Salsas Mexican Grill, a family owned business for more than 20 years, Mendez said it is not a bar and he

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invited council members to visit the family's other restaurant in Kenton OH. After a question from Kreilick about the liquor license, Melle explained that this license is available due to economic development regulations. The restaurant will create about 12 jobs for the community. Melle said he doesn't think this application will affect other license requests for downtown Fremont. Request is to allow the Mayor Ellis or Melle to sign for the license. On motion to allow the application and to show no objection by Root, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes.

Committee reports

Kreilick reported that the Utilities Committee met at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular council meeting and discussed the use of gas engines on the new Fremont reservoir. She thanked those who participated in the discussion saying they contributed a lot of valuable input that led to tabling ordinance.

Knisely deferred to McCaudy on a school report and she said that at the school district's next board meeting at 5:30 p.m. in March, the board will celebrate the Excellent rating it received from the state.

Marker reported the Rec Board will meet again on Monday, February 11 at the rec center.

Nalley thanked the auditor for the new format on financial reporting and announced that the Finance Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 21 before the next regular council meeting.

Council members' comments

Nalley asked the fire chief to relay congratulations to those firefighters who were promoted.

Kreilick acknowledged that a new director for downtown Fremont was hired and said she is looking forward to working with her.

Leake thanked Kreilick for the utilities committee because of the information he was able to gather there. He reminded everyone to celebrate Black History month and encouraged all to seek out information about the nation's Black History. He informed everyone that the local NAACP will have an oratory contest on Feb. 28 at Terra State Community College as well as an event on Feb. 23 at the college that's sponsored by both the local NAACP and Terra. The NAACP's Annual Scholarship dinner is set for March 9.

Law Director Jim Melle reported that 425 Wood Street property is 80 percent cleaned up and the next pretrial will be soon.

Auditor Paul Grahl encouraged everyone to help youth to become involved in community activities. He also said he wants to have a meeting to explain city finances to council. He hopes to be proactive rather than reactive.

The mayor reported that the state of city address before the next council meeting and that city crews will put stop sign at North and Front Street to make it a 4-way stop sign. Progress is being made on the WPCC renovation with bid packages going out. He said that on June 5-9, the Vietnam Traveling Wall will be in the area. Then, Root asked who's responsible for cleaning up the wall at the former old Tremper's building and learned it's the business that ordered the demolition.

Foos reported that Dean Schneider was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief.

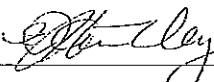
Public comments


Ken Dumminger, S. Buchanan St., said he saw information on Big Fremont initiative wanted more information. The mayor said he will meet with Dumminger to explain the initiative.

Joe Michels, 1614 Birchard Ave., apologized to Kreilick and Utilities Committee members for not having a good packet on gas engine motors. He promised to revise the packet and distribute the information to council later.

Weaver commented that State Rep. Rex Damschroder attended the committee meeting saying he appreciated his presence.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion to adjourn by Knisely, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 6 yea votes with Marker voting no. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Council President