

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
June 7, 2018

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the form prescribed by the General Rules of Council. President Hafford called the meeting to order. The following members answered roll call: Liebold, Knisely, Smith, Zilch, Ruiz and Otte. Councilman Slick was absent.

Before the regular meeting agenda... Paul Grahl, who is also the head track coach for St. Joe introduced his State Champion Winners to the council and the public. 6 members of the track team participated in the State Championships. The 4x100 was the first ever St. Joe track relay team to achieve 1st place and making school history. The 4 x 200 relay team also received 1st place awards in their division. Members of the team are: Tristan Reineck, Adalia Pasch, Miranda Wammes, Jessica Drown, and Natalie Cook.

Mayor Sanchez invited up Ben Fitzpatrick who thanked the City of Fremont for allowing him to serve as a Firefighter for the past 25 years.

The minutes were approved from the May 17th and May 29th meetings. Councilwoman Angie Ruiz made a motion to add two ordinance to the agenda with the same wording as item numbers 3 and 4 adding “an declaring an emergency” to the new agenda items. Rick Zilch seconded. On a motion to add the newly worded ordinances motion carried 6 yea votes. On a motion to remove the previous worded item, seconded by Mr. Liebold, motion carried 6 yea votes.

First reading of an ordinance adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to zone the area accepted for annexation by Ordinance No. 2018-3895 containing 15.0009 acres of land, more or less, as “PUD” Planned Unit Development District. Mr. Gross explained that this was to alter the temporary recommendation to a permanent.

First reading of an ordinance petitioning the Board of Sandusky County Commissioners to adjust the boundary lines of Sandusky Township so as to exclude the territory that, as a result of annexation, now lies within the corporate boundaries of the City of Fremont (submitted by Hoty Enterprises, Inc. annexation of 42.224 +/- acres – Ordinance No. 2018-3883). Mr. Gross explained that the boundary maps be adjusted for the Schwochow property that was annexed into the city.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contracts with ABM Technical Solutions, LLC for energy savings and to proceed with the project and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez explained to the public why the “an declaring an emergency” was added to the last two ordinances...if the clause is not on the ordinance, once signed it would take 30 days for it to go into effect. Therefore, it was recommended by Law Director Melle to add the clause. Mrs. Ruiz stated she thought it should go more than one reading with the 8 ½ million dollar amount that the city would be spending. She also asked how many companies applied Mr. Frost explained the selection process.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a tax-exempt municipal lease for the funding of energy conservation measures in the city provided by ABM Technical Solutions, LLC and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl stated that the project may need to be financed. This ordinance gives the city the ability to find funding is needed. Questions from Mr. Recktenwald were addressed.

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. Smith encourages everyone to enjoy the nice weather that is expected and go out to the Rec. Department and swim.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold called a Finance Committee meeting for 6:30 p.m. on June 21st.

Utilities and Traffic Committee – Chairman Otte reported that the committees meeting held earlier were water taps that were approved by council.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz praised the Fremont Police Department for the great service they provide for the city along with the Fire Department. The Tree and Beautification Committee monthly meeting was held June 5th. She stated that the committee has decided to pull weeds from the old post office to the bridge, and that June 11th the Tschumy corner will be weeded and cleaned around 9 am. The Committee will be accepting application for lawn judging that must be received by June 24th.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely introduced Dave Perrin and Jon Detwiler, Superintendents of St. Joe and Ross respectively. Superintendent/Principal Perrin thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for his service. He spoke about the mural on the wall at the campus of Sacred Heart and encouraged everyone to take a look at it. St. Joe graduated 31 seniors this year and 1 student will go fulltime military and will enter the Air Force as a welder. He spoke about the new class offerings for next year which includes a stem robotic class and work force development. Superintendent Detwiler stated that Ross graduated 253 this year. He spoke about the new turf at the stadium and mentioned that the new building meetings are coming along very, very well. He appreciated the comrade between the city and the schools. He mentions the After School Programs help to fly a drone over Ross High to see the traffic flow and how the school can improve the traffic flow. He also thanked the city for the SRO and being able to have that resource available again.

Journal of Council

Government and Economic Development – Chairman Sleek was absent but Councilwoman Ruiz stated that Mr. Sleek and Mayor Sanchez visited residence in the 2nd ward and commercial businesses. She then introduced Mr. Gross and Beth Hannam, Economic Director for Sandusky County. They updated the council on some of the items that they have been working on. She stated has been a very beneficial relationship with the city and the county. Ms. Hannah appreciated all the help she has received from Bob and the administration of the city. She spoke about the Business Retention and Expansion visits that have been made throughout the county. The response has been positive from the community. The Economic Development Plan is awaiting results from the Charette and will continue to forge ahead. Mr. Gross discussed the CRA's in the city and the tax abatement incentives that they trying to offer to get new businesses to come in.

Executive Director of Downtown Fremont - Kristie Bilger passed out bags containing information about the events that will be taking place. She introduced Susan Frye who has been hired as a part-time assistant and Jefferson Vanway.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Zilch nothing to report.

Department Heads/Elected Officials

Mr. Frost congratulated Mr. Fitzpatrick on his retirement and welcomed Susan to her new job.

Chief Schneider thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for his years of service and stated that he will be missed.

Mayor Sanchez congratulated the students and Coach Paul Grahl for their services and making the city proud. He stated that the city is trying to be very transparent and wanted to thank all who have been working on the Economic Development of the city. He appreciates all the hard work on moving the city forward.

Mrs. Elder congratulated Mr. Grahl and the St. Joe track team for their hard work and dedication to the sport.

Mr. Grahl thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for his service. He also thanked the public for all their support. He stated this wasn't just a good thing for St. Joe; it was a good thing for Fremont. He stated that the city needs to hire a part time Victim's Advocate position that will be brought before council at the next meeting.

Council Comments

Mr. Liebold congratulated Paul Grahl and the St. Joe track team for their success and relayed a story of John Kasich being at the State Championship. He also congratulated Ben Fitzpatrick on his retirement and thanked him for his service. Thanks to the members of the community who are helping the family members of Corso's.

Mr. Zilch he echoed the sentiments of everyone concerning Ben Fitzpatrick. He welcomed Susan Frye on board, and then thanked those who helped plant the flowers at the cemetery.

Mrs. Ruiz congratulated all the graduates from both schools. She congratulated Mr. Fitzpatrick for his services. She congratulated St. Joe, and then thanked the Ottawa County for bringing the Vietnam Wall to Port Clinton. She was interviewed by Channel 11.

Mr. Knisely congratulated Ben, Paul Grahl, and the lady athletes of St. Joe. Continue to keep Fremont looking good. Remember that grass cutting is the citizen's responsibility.

Mr. Otte

He thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick, the St. Joe team and welcomed Susan to the Downtown Fremont. He spoke about trying to get Community Gardens here in the city. He thanked those who donated to the Whittlesey Cemetery – Universal Farms, Lowe, and Rural King., and Northwest Spider Control. He stated there will be a party at Mayor Meier Park on June 23rd at 6:00 p.m. He thanked those who helped hang the lights at the park. He stated that the Liberty Center needs volunteers and water at their location. He gave condolences to the family of Biz Paeth.

Mr. Smith repeated the sentiments of everyone concerning Mr. Fitzpatrick, St. Joe, and Mr. Grahl. He encourages everyone to go to the Farmers Market, and wished everyone a Happy Father's Day.

Mrs. Hafford state that on June 30th there will be an event at Birchard Park called God Feast. There will be a balloon release, gospel singing, speakers, and much more. Please come out show your support for those who have lost someone do to addiction.

Public Comment

On a motion to adjourn by Mrs. Ruiz seconded by Mr. Knisely motion carried 6 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President