

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
April 18, 2019

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: Knisely, Smith, Ruiz, Otte, and Zilch. Councilmen Liebold and Sleek were absent. The minutes from April 4th and the agenda for April 18th were approved.

Before the reading, Mrs. Ruiz introduced Peggy Courtney, David Thornburg, and Brenda Havens from the Sandusky County Visitors Bureau who gave us an overview of what goes on at the bureau. One of the main points of the presentation is that Sandusky County has grown 14.2% from a 2017 study of Ohio Tourism. Mayor Sanchez thanked the Bureau for all the hard work that they have done in bringing economical dollars to the City of Fremont.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to submit a written agreement to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation's annual Winter Road Salt Contract (19-20) in accordance with Revised Code Section 5513.01(B) and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost stated this is our annual salt bid.

First reading of an ordinance to authorize and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into an agreement with Kayaking Ohio to be the exclusive canoe, kayak, and paddleboard livery at the Fremont Reservoir ("Reservoir"), and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez introduced Tim Willis the owner of Kayaking Ohio who informed the council of what services he and the mayor have been working on for the reservoir for the past two years.

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within General Fund 101, Public Recreation Fund 211, Street Maintenance Fund 222, Water Operating Fund 510, Sewer Operating Fund 570, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost stated to council that the ordinance is to appropriate funds for the ABM service contracts. He asked Chief Bliss to come up and explain the Lexipol program - that is strictly used for policies for police department throughout the United States. It is basically a way for the Police Department to update and implement policies within the department. Officers in the department are sent question from the company for review and testing.

First reading of a resolution by the Fremont City Council endorsing and supporting passage for the Sandusky County Mental Health Levy and declaring an emergency.

First reading a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$7,885.18 to Morton Salt, and declaring an emergency.

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairman Smith nothing this evening.

Utility and Traffic Committee - Chairman Otte nothing to report.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz mentioned that she went to the Tree City Awards Ceremony in Crestline.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated he hopes to have a speaker in May.

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

Executive Director of Downtown Fremont Kristie Bilger – This Saturday will be the Easter Shop Hop in Downtown Fremont along with the Easter Bunny visits. There will be Easter egg hunts for both youth and adults. She mentioned that the Library is hosting a Small Business seminar on How to start a Small Business. Kristie also mentioned the Feet on the Street sponsors that have been placed on the sidewalks downtown. She mentioned the new businesses that are located in the Brady building downtown -Premier Services and Insurance Specialist. Paul and Joni Hasselbach are the new owners of Pottery Perfection. There is also a new photographer business named Adrienne Photography located next to Harvey Oaks. She mentioned the Cinco de Mayo celebration to be held on May 4th along with the Ohio Small Business week May 5th - 10th. Kristie ended with the Fishing & Outdoor Festival on May 18th. She also fielded a question about the green and white trees in the planters - planting day for downtown is planned before Mother's day.

Department Heads/Elected Officials

Mr. Frost thanked the Visitor's Bureau for their presentation. He thanked Tim from Kayak Ohio for his presentation and also the department heads who attended the meeting.

Mr. Gross passed out a map of property that will be presented at a public hearing on May 2nd who is asking for rezoning permission for Mulberry Street. Mr. Gross wanted to give the council a heads up of what to be expected. Mr. Hirt of the owner of the property is asking that the council suspends rule 4 at the next council meeting so the project can get started as soon as possible. The construction is for two bedrooms, two bathroom, and attached garage apartments renting for \$900.

Chief Bliss stated that the Fremont Police Department is now hiring and asked that the council spreads the word.

Chief Schneider commented on the Lexipol system and highly recommended that council consider passing the legislation to provide the Police department with the services.

Mr. Fredericksen nothing to report.

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Mayor Sanchez informed council that there was a public meeting held tonight concerning the Rawson Ave. project. He stated that about 50 people were in attendance with concerns and questions. He mentioned the Dancing with the Stars for Casa and how much fun it was. He wished everyone a safe holiday. Mr. Melle mentioned that Mayor Sanchez received the People's Choice at the Dancing with the Stars.

Council Comments

Mr. Knisely said keep shopping Fremont and keep up the good work. Fremont is a great place to live.

Mr. Otte thanked the Bureau for coming out. He announced that the Hayes Center would be having an Easter egg hunt at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Mr. Otte encouraged everyone to attend council meetings. He announced the Pancake Festival would be held on Wednesday and wished everyone a happy Easter.

Mr. Smith also thanked the Visitor's Bureau for attending the meeting today and their presentation. He also encourages everyone to participate in the Easter events being held in the city and the pancake festival on next Wednesday. He also encourages everyone to support the mental health levy on May 7th.

Mr. Zilch mentioned the cemetery and stated he would have a date and time for planting the flowers. He asked about the Spring Brush drop off that is located on the city website. He thanked the Sandusky Visitor's Bureau for all of the hard work that they are doing

Mrs. Ruiz echoed the sentiments of everyone about the Bureau. She stated that the motto on the water tower that says "Where People Come First" should be kept. She congratulated the Mayor on his award and wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Mrs. Hafford wanted everyone to know that the words "additional tax" is on the Mental Health ballot; however the tax is a new tax that replaces the tax in place while decreasing the amount that citizens will have to pay. She encouraged everyone to vote for the Mental Health Levy. She also mentioned the Steps of Change event will be held on May 18th at Connor Park.

On a motion to adjourn by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Mr. Otte seconded, motion carried 5 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President