

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
February 15, 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, Otte, Ruiz and Sleek.

Before the regular meeting, Mayor Sanchez asked Daniel Gutschalk to step to the podium with Chief Foos. Mayor Sanchez administered the swearing in of Mr. Gutschalk into the Fire Department. Mr. Gutschalk comes to us with 5 ½ years of experience from the Troy Township Fire Department.

Mayor Sanchez then read a proclamation designation February as Black History Month in the City of Fremont.

Law Director Jim Melle explained that he was a judge for the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical Contest. He was so impressed with the presentations that he wanted to share the winning presentations with the council and the City of Fremont. He recognized every individual who participated by name, then introduced the winners in each division. Primary Division – Jeriah Martin, 1st grade. Elementary Division – Zamoriaonna Pugh, 3rd grade. Intermediate Division - Tansie Kidd, 5th grade. Middle School Division - Ava Smith, 7th grade. High School Division – Yesenia Jamison, 10th grade. Mr. Melle thanked all that the winners along with their parents and Mr. Detwiler for all the hard work and dedication put into the speeches this year.

The agenda for tonight and the minutes for February 1st were approved.

First reading of an ordinance adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to zone the area accepted for annexation by Ordinance No. 2018-3883 containing 42.224 acres of land, more or less, as “B-2” General Commercial District. Mr. Gross asked that council suspend Rule 4 to help this project move forward. On a motion to suspend by Mrs. Ruiz, seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 6 yes votes to 1 no vote. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz, motion carried 6 yes votes to 1 no vote.
Ord. 2018-3884

First reading an ordinance to make appropriations in the amount of \$55,585,061.00 for expenses and expenditures for the 2018 Fiscal Year January 1 thru December 31 for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez explained that this was the budget and the first half of the presentation was tonight and they will finish at the next council meeting.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with ABM Technical Solutions, LLC to provide a Conservation Report for the implementation of Energy Savings in the City of Fremont and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained to council that this is a continuation of energy savings for the City of Fremont and how the program would work. Mr. Frost asked for a suspension of Rule 4 to move the project forward. On a motion to suspend by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yes votes. Council asked questions of the representative, Mr. Eric Kuhns of ABM Technical Solutions who were present. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Smith, motion carried 7 yes votes. Res. 2018-2043

First reading of an ordinance authorizing fund transfers in the amount of \$13,834,778.00 for Fiscal Year 2018, for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained that this ordinance goes hand in hand with the budget. The transfer amounts are listed in the budget and the ordinance was introduced with the budget.

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. Smith stated that today was the deadline to apply for the open seats on the Rec. Department Board. He updated the council on the events being held at the Rec.

Center...registration for Little League, Softball registration and he mentioned that the Home Show will be held March 2nd – 4th. He also mentioned that Steve Stotz and the staff are doing a very great job.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated that at the March 15th meeting a representative from Terra will be at the council meeting. A representative from Vanguard will be at the meeting on April the 5th.

Utilities and Traffic Committee- Mr. Otte nothing to report tonight.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Zilch announced that the alternate for the Board of Zoning Appeals will be reviewed and a decision will be made.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz stated that Block Watch is moving forward with a planned Citizen Academy that will last for 5 weeks with a 4 hour training session each week. Anyone who is interested can obtain an application from any Council Members, the Police Chief, or the Mayor’s office.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold stated there was a Finance and Labor Committee meeting held before council with the first half of the budget being presented. The second half of the budget will be presented at the first council meeting on March.

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Government and Economic Development Committee - Chairman Sleek stated that he had the chance to work with Chief Foos concerning the abandon building throughout the city. He thanked the Chief for explaining the procedures for such building and he thought we are going in the right direction. Mr. Sleek thanked retired Policeman Dick Cook for his years of service. Mr. Sleek thank Mr. Frost and Mr. Guhn for their help with the light at K-Mart. He commented on the Napa business at the Potter Village will be holding a Grand Opening.

Kristy Bilger, Executive Director of Downtown Fremont, Inc. passed out flyers concerning the Easter Bunnies arrival on March 24th. She mentioned that she attended the Terra State College State of the College event. The annual report for the college was passed out and discussed along with the upcoming housing units and the return to sports at the college with their new mascot the Terra Titan.

Department Heads

Mr. Frost nothing to report.

Chief Bliss commented on the incident in Florida with the school shooting. He stated that Mr. Detwiler and himself had a meeting earlier this morning and discussed the situation. He stated that were the schools have done some proactive training; they both agree that they need to do more with not only the schools, but the department as well. He mentioned the two officers killed in the Westerville shooting incident. He stated that the Fremont Police Department would be represented during the funeral services for these individuals. Chief Bliss stated that a new dispatcher will be begin working on Sunday, Ashley Slaughterbach and that Jim Burkin has been named the new School Resource Officer.

Chief Foos commented on the amazing speeches that he heard at the beginning of council.

Elected Officials

Mayor Sanchez also commented on the speeches and how nice it was to see the city council chambers filled. Mr. Melle mentioned that maybe next year all the winners could speak next year. He encouraged the citizens to attend the contest next year and see up close and personal, the future of our city. Mayor Sanchez congratulated the 7th grade girls' basketball team on a perfect 16 – 0 record.

Mr. Grahl thanked Mr. Melle for organizing the presentation of the speakers tonight they were posed and very well presented.

Council Comments

Mr. Liebold gave an explanation about his vote about the Planning Commission ordinance voted on earlier. He stated that he wants the city to grow from the inside out, not the outside in with new businesses and building within the city limits. He stated that we already have water lines, sewer lines that can be utilized. Mr. Liebold congratulated the Celek Family of Fremont on having a Super Bowl winner in their family. He wished good luck to the winter sports of both high schools as they enter tournament time.

Mr. Zilch thanked Mr. Melle for getting the speakers together and thanked those who have worked on the budget.

Mrs. Ruiz stated that she was amazed at the growth of Terra Tech. She graduated with an Associate Degree and in Real Estate in 1974. She congratulated the new firefighter, Daniel Gutschalk. She was in awe of the children who presented their speeches. She also thanked congress woman Marcy Kaptur for honoring all Veterans on the start of Veterans Week on February 12th at the VA Out Patent Clinic in Toledo. It is important to remember all veterans and those who gave their lives, such as her husband Antonio Ruiz, for our country. She paid tribute to Virgil Howey, who was Mrs. Haffords father and her first broker.

Mr. Knisely stated the speakers were great this evening. He gave his condolences to the families in Florida. He encouraged citizens to keep shopping in Fremont, Ohio.

Mr. Otte was impressed with the speeches this evening. Birchard Historical District is now accepting membership. He mentioned the beauty of the Sandusky River and encourages others to enjoy the resource. He suggested Fishes in Downtown Fremont such as they do with Frogs in Toledo.

Mr. Smith he thanked the students who presented this evening. He stated with the tragedy of the Florida event, that the students tonight gave us hope for the future. Hayes Presidential Center will be hosting Congressman Jim Jordan will be there at 1:00 p.m. doing Presidential Trivia with the youth on Monday, February 12th. He suggested it would be a great time to visit the museum and the house. Mr. Smith mentioned the passing of Barbara Tuckerman and offered his condolences to the family and commented on her accomplishments during her political career. He stated that he attended the St. Joe pancake festival and the spaghetti dinner. He also welcomed Daniel Gutschalk to the Fire Department. Mr. Smith also mentioned that he attended Hayes Elementary and that many of the winners from the contest attended Hayes....once a Hayes Lion, Always a Hayes Lion.

Mr. Sleek echoed the sentiments about the winners that presented this evening. He reminded everyone about the 59th Kiwanis Pancake Festival that will be held Wednesday, April 18th at Anjulina's in Fremont.

Public Comments

Violetta Rhea 1936 Finley Drive thanked the council for allowing the students to speak. She mentioned that the NAACP will be hosting a scholarship banquet on March 3rd at the VFW. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket for \$35, please see her or any NAACP member.

Tom Kerns commented on the Charette being held on April 12th through the 14th at Terra State Community College. He encourages everyone to attend. A charrette is a collaborative session in which a group of people offer solutions to a complex challenge. The planning sessions will consist of gathering ideas concerning the future of Fremont on Business, Healthcare, Education, and Beautification. All citizens are welcome.

Mr. Kerns said that the State of the College Address was very informative and asked for support from the community.

On motion to adjourn by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Liebold motion carried 7 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President