

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

January 4, 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: Leibold, Knisely, Smith, Zilch, Ruiz and Sleek. Councilman Otte was absent. Minutes from December 21st were approved.

Before the regular meeting, Motions were made to Adopt Council Rules by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Mrs. Ruiz, to adopt the Council Clerk by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Mrs. Ruiz, to nominate Mrs. Ruiz as President Pro Tem by Mr. Leibold and seconded by Mr. Sleek. All motions passed by a vote of 6 yeas votes.

First reading of an ordinance to accept the Application for Annexation for the part of lot 3, Cole Partition, Whitaker Reserve, in the Northwest Quarter, Section 22 Town 5 North-Range 15 East, Sandusky Township, Sandusky County, Ohio containing a total of 42.224 acres to be annexed. Approved for Annexation by the Board of Sandusky County Commissioners in Resolution 2017-271 and to adopt the recommendation of the Assistant Engineer for the interim zoning of the area to be B-2 General Commercial Zoning District. Mr. Gross explained that the ordinance was to seek temporary zoning on Enterprise Drive to possibly extend and continue the strip mall and asked the council for a suspension of Rule 4 for the purposes of economic development. After discussion amongst the council, on a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 6 yeas votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried 6 yeas votes. Ord. 2017-3883

Mr. Gross stated that the city has been working on launch a new website to the city's webpage. The site will be live at the next city council meeting. He also stated that they have received several calls on the situation with Fremont Plastics. He stated the owners are a group out of Chicago investment group. The corporate decision was made to close this plant and another in Illinois. The city is working with Jobs Ohio and a couple other manufacturers to help displaced workers find new employment in the community.

Kristy Bilger, Executive Director of Downtown Fremont, Inc., welcomed all the new council members. She thanks all who served on the committee, those who participated and made the New Year's Eve event downtown a huge success.

Department Heads

Mr. Frost also welcomed the new council members and reminded citizens that snow was on the way. He stated that it is your responsibility to keep the sidewalks clean from snow and ice.

Chief Bliss also welcomed the new council members and stated he looked forward to working with them.

Chief Schneider welcomed everyone on council also.

Mr. Stotz echoed the council members welcome. He told them if they had any questions; do not hesitate to call him.

Elected Officials

Mr. Melle welcomed council members.

Mr. Grahl also welcomed council members.

Mrs. Elder echoed the same sentiments to the new council members and those returning.

Judge Smith welcomed again the new members.

Council Comments

Mr. Zilch stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals has seats available and there are four people who have applied for the seats. The interviews will be next week and he will report back at the next council meeting. He welcomed the new members. He commented on the New Year's Eve event and the success of the event. He echoed about the snow removal on your property and asked that we check on neighbors and pets.

Mrs. Ruiz reported that she will be working with Chief Bliss on the new block watch. She welcomed all the new members.

Mrs. Ruiz stated that she visited the new business Manny's Car Wash located at 340 Justice Street. She thanked Mr. Gross, the Mayor's Administrative Assistant for all his hard work and dedication to the city and a valuable asset to the Mayor. She also commented on the New Year's Eve event.

Mr. Smith thanked all the citizens of Fremont for the opportunity to serve. He thanked his family and friends for joining him tonight. He is very excited to serve and proud of the great history in the city. He also echoed the cold weather sentiment and to check on neighbors and family.

Mr. Knisely echoed the support and admiration for Mr. Gross that Mrs. Ruiz addressed. He welcomed all the new members and welcomed back the old. Mr. Knisely asked that we keep supporting and shopping Fremont, Ohio.

Mr. Sleek thanked everyone for all the support and he thanked his wife. He agreed with the statement about Mr. Gross.

He is looking forward to working on council and getting great ideas from the citizens of Fremont.

Mr. Leibold wished everyone a Happy New Year. He thanked his wife and his predecessor, Mr. Taylor. He thanked his grandmother for being in the audience. He reminded the citizens that the NAACP is having a MLK breakfast on January 15th at the Presbyterian Church and invited everyone to attend.

Public Comments

Scott Miller from the office of the County Commissioners he welcomed all the new members and old and those sworn in this evening. Judge Smith did an excellent job and he was happy to be in attendance. He looks forward to a great new year and is available if help is needed.

C.J. Burel welcomed all the new members and stated he was looking forward to what this council is going to do. He also echoed the sentiments concerning Mr. Gross.

Tom Kerns also welcomed all of the returning and newly elected officials. He wanted to recognize the city in leading the New Year's Eve Event. Mr. Farmer was a name that he felt need special recognition. He thanked those who attended for their support.

On motion to adjourn by Mr. Knisely seconded by Mr. Leibold motion carried 6 yeas votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.