

**THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO**  
*Journal of Council*  
*March 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 and Safety Service Director Ken Frost presented Mr. Bill Guhn with the Mike Piero Employee of the Month Award. Mayor Sanchez noted Bill's dedication, hard work, and leadership as Street Department Superintendent.

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

Third 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. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 5 yeas votes to 1 abstain. Ord. 2018-3885

Third 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. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 5 yeas votes to 1 abstain. Ord. 2018-3886

Second reading of a resolution adopting and authorizing the implementation of a Citizens' Participation Plan as part of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) procedures.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing encroachment of the ODNR boat launch located at 201 Walnut Street in the City of Fremont and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained to council that ODNR will be putting a boat ramp in and making improvements to the area. On a motion to suspend rule #4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Smith, motion carried 6-0. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz, motion carried 6-0. Ord. 2018-3887

First reading of an ordinance amending Codified Ordinance Chapter 172 by adopting Sections 718.80 through 718.95 of the Revised Code, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained that the ordinance concerned provision pertaining to municipal income tax. With the guidance from RITA the city was advised to make the changes to be in compliance with the sections that were changed. On a motion to suspend rule #4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried 6-0. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Zilch. Motion carried 6-0. Ord. 2018-3888

#### Committee Reports

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated that at the April 5th Mr. Edinger from Vanguard will speak to the council. Also Dr. Webster will be at the meeting on April the 15th to speak concerning Terra.

Government and Economic Development Committee- Chairman Sleek commented on businesses located at the Potter Village Shopping Center. He stated that the car was on Rt. 53 is now open with monthly deals available.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. Smith stated he will be calling a committee meeting within the next month.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold stated that the budget was just passed and looks forward to making improvements within the near future.

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

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz stated that Chief Bliss spoke at the Fremont City Kiwanis Club meeting. He spoke about the Juvenile Arrest in recent years. The numbers quoted showed that arrests were going down. She stated that our youth programs and activities throughout the city have helped in bringing these numbers down. Chief Bliss also stated that all county schools have completed ALICE training.

ALICE means Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Mrs. Ruiz thanked Chief Bliss for his continued leadership. She reminded anyone interested in the Police Academy to contact the Police Department or any member on City Council. She reported on the Fremont City Tree and Beautification Commission and their preparation for spring activities. Preparations for a tree planting on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Ozzie Rauch City Park on Second Street. Superintendent Steve Stotz also discussed planting trees from Hayes Avenue to Wilson. Mrs. Ruiz also praised Rec. Department Director Cody Bischoff on the excellent work he has been doing.

Kristy Bilger, Executive Director of Downtown Fremont, Inc. updated the council on the Easter Bunnies arrival on March 24<sup>th</sup>. She mentions that the day will be a Shop Hop Event from 11 am to 2 pm. There will be an Easter egg hunt for children of all ages. Mrs. Bilger explained her role and what she does to make Downtown Fremont a better place to shop, live, and work. She passed out a flyer which highlighted the Downtown Fremont Historic District Highlight for 2017. Mr. Liebold asked questions concerning the new apartments that are going in and if effort is being made to get WSOS employees to rent. Mr. Shawn Kerns addressed the council and explained what was happening with the rental property downtown.

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### Department Heads

Chief Conger stated that Chief Bliss is at Leadership College all week, but the Police Department is doing well, in the process of hiring new officers, and that the Citizens Academy is progressing along well. Chief Foos nothing to report.

### Elected Officials

Mayor Sanchez addressed the council concerning the ODOT building located on Oak Harbor Road. He stated that the city has been in talks with the state concerning the building. The building was appraised at \$275,000. He stated that Fremont City Schools is also interested in the property and may be working on a possible partnership.

Mr. Melle nothing tonight.

Mrs. Elder commented on the tax season and that they are due on April 17<sup>th</sup> this year. She also made a comment on a scam alert from the IRS and calls on tax refunds being deposited to your account erroneous. The scammers use your bank account then they take it out and using various tactics to take your money. She asked that citizens be careful.

Mr. Grahl nothing to report although he was 95% sure that in connection with Mrs. Elder's statement, that the IRS will never call you. If you receive a call from the IRS it is probably a scam.

### Council Comments

Mr. Smith stated that he and Councilman Otte attended the President Day event at Hayes Center. He encourages people to visit the center. He attended the school board meeting and the Home Show at the Rec. Center. He thanked those in charge of getting the budget done and passed for the city. He also congratulated Mr. Guhn on his Employee of the Month Award. Mr. Smith also encourages citizens to attend the Charrette in April. He also took the time to thank Dan Henning, Kristy Bilger, and Chief Bliss for their contributions to the city.

Mr. Sleek stated that June 18<sup>th</sup> will be the NAPA open house from 4 to 8 p.m. He also reminded citizens of the Pancake Festival on April 18<sup>th</sup>. He also echoed the sentiments of Mr. Smith concerning Mr. Guhn, and Ms. Bilger.

Mr. Liebold announced that he will be appearing in the CASA Stars event on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$35 if anyone is interested. This weekend is St. Patrick Day weekend, please be responsible. Last but not least he thanked Mr. Frost for taking care of a huge pothole on Buckland Ave.

Mr. Zilch congratulated Mr. Guhn and announced that the Park District is hosting a Bald Eagle tour on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 p.m.

Mrs. Ruiz also congratulated the Superintendent Guhn for his excellent work. She asked the Mayor and Mr. Melle about the change about allowing alcohol in the parks and giving that power to decide to them.

Mr. Melle stated that when the discussion was held after the last time, many thought it wasn't a wise decision to take it out of council hands. Mrs. Ruiz wanted to bring it up now before it's an issue and someone needs it done and it's a rule #4. A discussion was held amongst council concerning the ordinance that allows alcohol at events.

Mr. Knisely congratulated Bill Guhn and the city administration for an excellent job. He encourages us to keep shopping Fremont. He wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick Day and a Happy Easter.

Mr. Frost thanked the council for passing the budget.

On motion to adjourn by Mr. Knisely seconded by Mr. Smith motion carried 6 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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Clerk of Council

Council President