

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

November 7, 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: Barbour, Smith, Otte, Zilch, Ruiz, Sleek, and Liebold. The minutes from October 17th and agenda for November 7th were approved.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application with the Sandusky County Park District Commissioners through the Local Park Capital Improvement Grant for park improvements and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost spoke on the resolution stating it was a grant that help replace the playground surface at Walsh Park. He stated there was a filing deadline and requested the council to suspend rule #4. On a motion to suspend rule #4 by Ruiz, seconded by Sleek, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Smith, motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2019-2093

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a grant agreement with the Ohio Development Services Agency for the Fiscal Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and declaring an emergency. This grant is for the Second Street Park updates. On a motion to suspend rule #4 by Ruiz, seconded by Otte, motion carried 6 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Zilch and seconded by Smith, motion carried 6 yea votes. Res. 2019-2094

First reading of an ordinance amending Ordinance 2019-3945 regarding Fund Transfers for Fiscal Year 2019 and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained with the increase in the gas tax has started to come in and the amendment will strike out the transfer from the Income Tax Fund into the Street Maintenance Fund.

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within General Fund 101 and Municipal Income Tax Fund 201, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained the next two ordinances pertaining to the Rawson Ave. Project and how the transfers would pertain to the budget. First ordinance increases, the second authorizes the transfer. Mr. Frost answered the question from the public about the Rawson Ave. project.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing fund transfers in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance amending the pay scale for all part-time, intermittent, temporary, seasonal and interim employees, and boards and commissions of the City of Fremont, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained annual ordinance to increase wages due to the increase in the minimum wage.

Committee Reports

Utilities and Traffic Committee – Chairman Otte reminded the citizens of the traffic pattern downtown.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz stated the Fire and Police department are doing well. She mentioned the Tree and Beautification winner for the Halloween season. November 24th the committee will be decorating the Tschumy corner on the 24th. Entries for Christmas decorations should be submitted by Dec. 13th.

Economic Development Committee – Chairman Sleek commented on the grand opening of the new Kroger store. It was an awesome event that many people attended. He also mentioned the Penguin Project and explained the program and stated that Dan Rice will be here at the next council meeting to explain it. The first meeting will be December 13th at Victory Church.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Zilch stated there is an expiring term coming up this year on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Anyone interested in a position, please send an application to the Engineering Office no later than December 5th.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairman Smith stated that the Trunk or Treat was a great success and he thanked the Rec. Department for putting on a great event.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold stated that the Budget Committee meeting will be December 3rd at 5 p.m. with the Budget presentation.

Community Partnership Committee – Chairman Barbour nothing to report.

Executive Director of Downtown Fremont Kristie Bilger – Thanked everyone for a successful Farmers Market season. She then passed out packets for the upcoming winter events that will be happening in the near future downtown. November 29th will be the tree lighting and Santa will make his appearance then. The Holiday Parade will be December 7th at 6:00 p.m. She also mentioned the City of Fremont New Year Eve events including two light shows. She also mentioned that Grund Drug has been named as an Amazon Hub.

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Department Heads/Elected Officials

Mr. Frost mentioned to be aware and cautious of all the deer that will be out at this time of the year. If you do happen to hit one, please call the police.

Chief Bliss nothing to report.

Chief Schneider nothing this evening.

Mrs. Elder mentioned the progress on Garrison Street and thanked the work crew for the progress they have been working on the sidewalks that have been put in. She stated that open enrollment for the Affordable Health Care Act ends on December 15th. She congratulated all the candidates that participated in the past elections.

Mr. Grahl echoed the sentiments of Mrs. Elder about the election.

Council Comments

Mr. Sleek nothing at this time.

Mr. Liebold also echoed everyone comments on the elections. He also stated he appreciated everyone who did vote, but the turnout was very low at 32%.

Mr. Zilch stated that it is No Shave November drawing awareness to Prostate Cancer and Rectal Cancer. He mentioned that Corporate Anointing is having a fundraiser at Jimmy G's on November 13th. Please go and support. Also doing a fundraiser at St. Pauls church on Friday, November 22nd.

Mrs. Ruiz stated that she spoke to Tim Milton who is at Parkview Manor on Oak Harbor Road in room 112, please send him a card or stop by. She stated that the NAACP Forum was very well attended and an excellent event. She also commented about the low attendance from the past election and then congratulated the newly elected officials.

Mr. Otte also echoed about the deer at the cemetery and commented on the new Krogers. He mentioned that the group Proskyneo will be at the strand on December 6th with the proceeds going toward cancer patients.

Mr. Smith also stated that the turnout was very disappointing only having 3,000 people vote. He congratulated the winners and thanked those who competed. Mr. Smith complimented Mrs. Bilger for the successful Farmers Market. Mr. Smith wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving; he will not be in attendance at the next meeting.

Mr. Barbour echoed the sentiments of everyone on the election. He stated it was great to see all that were called to public service and put their selves out there. He mentioned that leaf pick up will start next week.

Mr. Barbour also said that the weather is changing and please keep an eye out for your neighbors and especially your elderly neighbors.

Public Comments

Mr. Recktenwald asked a question to Mr. Grahl about the gas tax and where the money would be credit it and its use. He stated that the public was sold on the tax by believing that it was to go towards road construction.

Mr. Liebold stated that the best coffee house was located on Front Street. Mr. Zilch reminded candidates to pick up their yard signs. Mrs. Hafford shared a story about meeting Chief Bliss son at the pep assembly and how nice and well-mannered he was.

On a motion to adjourn by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Liebold, motion carried 7 yes votes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President