

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
December 5, 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: Smith, Otte, Zilch, Ruiz, Sleek, Liebold, and Barbour. The minutes from November 21st were approved.

Before going on with the agenda, John Havens spoke about the Bicentennial. He wanted to share that they will involve with the council the upcoming events. April 1st is the official day and a program is planned at the court office with Governor DeWine in attendance. He stated that they will have a traveling museum that is being worked on. Mr. Havens said that there will be a formal ball that will take place at Terra Community College in the month of May. Another event will be a bicycle ride throughout the county, a historical walk, and a baseball tournament along with several other scheduled events throughout the summer. There will be more information forthcoming. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Havens for his leadership in the Bicentennial Celebration.

Per the agenda, Mr. Otte add an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an employment contract with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association ("OPBA") representing the Records Clerk of the Fremont Police Department and declaring an emergency, seconded by Zilch addition passed with 7 yea votes. Otte added an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an employment contract with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association ("OPBA") representing the full time officers of the Fremont Police Department and declaring an emergency, seconded by Smith addition passed with 7 yea votes. Otte added an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an employment contract with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association ("OPBA") representing the Command Unit of the Fremont Police Department and declaring an emergency, seconded by Sleek. Addition passed 7 yea votes. Councilman Otte then made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Cod 121.22 (G)(4) Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment with Council business to transpire thereafter. Seconded by Zilch, motion carried 7 yea votes. Council went into Executive Session.

Council returned from Executive Session and resumed Council business with the reading of the agenda.

First reading an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an employment contract with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association ("OPBA") representing the Records Clerk of the Fremont Police Department and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Zilch, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. Mayor Sanchez explained to the public when dealing with union negotiation contracts once the union votes on a tentative agreement, the administration has 14 days to bring before council. The tentative agreement is best for the city and would eliminate the need for Fact Finding on December 19th. On a motion to adopt by Liebold and seconded by Barbour, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3985

First reading an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an employment contract with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association ("OPBA") representing the full time officers of the Fremont Police Department and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Smith, seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Smith and seconded by Barbour, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3986

First reading an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an employment contract with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association ("OPBA") representing the Command Unit of the Fremont Police Department and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Sleek, seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Barbour and seconded by Smith, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3987

Third reading of an ordinance amending Ordinance 2019-3945 regarding Fund Transfers for Fiscal Year 2019 and declaring an emergency. On a motion to adopt by Liebold and seconded by Zilch, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3981

Third reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within General Fund 101 and Municipal Income Tax Fund 201, and declaring an emergency. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3982

Third 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. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Zilch, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3983

Third 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. On a motion to adopt by Sleek and seconded by Smith, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3984

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Second reading of an ordinance to make appropriation in the amount of \$61,792,362.00 for expenses and expenditures for the 2020 Fiscal Year January 1st thru December 31st for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained that this was discussed during the budget presentation on Tuesday night. He is asking to change the amount to \$61,994,827.00 and add an amendment to the ordinance. The increases are from the General Fund to re assign the Executive Assistant to the Mayor to become the Director of Economic Development. Also an adjustment due to the Probation Department losing a grant that was not renewed. A local grant was obtained and the adjustment to the budget is needed. There is also an increase in the Income Tax Department. On a motion to amend the amount on the ordinance by Ruiz, seconded by Zilch, motion carried 7 yea votes.

Second reading of an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to grant pay increases to non-union employees of the City of Fremont and declaring an emergency.

First reading ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to amend the Position Classification Plan and the Employee Compensation Plan for non-union employees to amend the position of Victim's Advocate and declaring an emergency. Mr. Melle explained that the county did not the same grant funding that allowed the city to partner up with the county. A full time Victim's Advocate is needed at the City level. This will allow him to seek a full time employee. Mr. Grahl explained the salary for the position.

First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 1305 Equal Housing Practices Code Sections 1305.02 Definitions, 1305.03 Unlawful Housing Practices and 1305.04 posting of notices for the City of Fremont. Mr. Barbour explained this ordinance is a combination effort between Mr. Liebold and himself to expand who the housing practices ordinance would protect. He feels that this ordinance will show that the city of Fremont is an accepting place to all people. Mr. Liebold explained that most was pertaining to definitions and many surrounding cities have adopted upgrading their ordinances. Mayor Sanchez suggested that we hold a public meeting to make them aware of an ordinance being added from the council and make the administration aware of what will be added at a council meeting.

First reading of an ordinance amending the Position Classification Plan established on December 3rd, 1992 for the City of Fremont, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with Midwest Compost, Inc., for an amount of \$650.00 per truck load for disposal of sludge from the Water Reclamation Center, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained that it is our annual contract to dispose of waste. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz, seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. Mr. Ornedorff wondered if Fremont Police Department could possibly do anything about the Porch Pirates. On a motion to adopt by Zilch and seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2019-3988

Committee Reports

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold stated that the Budget Committee Meeting of Tuesday was very informative and a good meeting. He thanked all the Directors who attended.

Community Partnership Committee – Chairman Barbour nothing to report.

Utilities and Traffic Committee – Chairman Otte nothing to report.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz nothing to report.

Economic Development Committee – Chairman Sleek stated that the Storage of America at the old K-Mart building is coming along really well.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Zilch stated they are still looking for someone interested in the Board of Zoning Appeals Committee. Mayor Sanchez asked how this position is publicized. He suggested that it be put on the City's page.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairman Smith nothing to report.

Executive Director of Downtown Fremont Kristie Bilger – Kristie presented council with Hometown Ohio tote bags. She thanked everyone who came to the tree lighting, and stated that the Holiday Parade will be December 7th at 6:00 p.m. She stated that there will be free admission at Paramount Cinema on Saturday with the donation of a nonperishable food item beginning at 3:00 p.m. The Community Fortress will have live characters at the Live Edge. She announced that it is the Third Anniversary of The Garrison, cake and discounted appetizers and drinks are available. She also mentioned that if you text 44321 and message FremontNYE it will allow you to donate to the New Year Eve events. She ended with mention the renovation and expansion of the Library.

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Department Heads/Elected Officials

Mr. Frost mentioned the barrels and cones on State Street and that they are covering poles

Mr. Gross stated that the Eastside Plaza is doing aphesis removal in preparation to demolish the building.
Chief Bliss nothing to report.

Chief Foos nothing this evening.

Mayor Sanchez said that he is excited about Saturday with all the festivities and the parade. He will be a spectator and watching with his family.

Mr. Melle nothing this evening.

Mr. Grahl nothing to report.

Council Comments

Mr. Smith stated that the tree lightening was exciting and was looking forward to the parade also. He is looking forward to finishing out the year in a good way.

Mr. Barbour asked the public to be aware of the weather and advised everyone to stay safe, stay warm, and check on elderly neighbors. He also suggested that citizens consider investing in the paw safe salt for those people who walk their animals.

Mr. Sleek stated that Downtown looked wonderful. He reminded the citizens that anyone interested in the Penguin Project that the first meeting will be held December 13th at Victory Church at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Liebold thanked the streets crew for all their hard work and dedication of continuing to pick up the leaves in the city.

Mr. Zilch thanked the Administration for diligently working on two big projects – the union contracts and the budget. He stated that the fill where the old St. Joseph Elementary building was is about one half full.

Mrs. Ruiz thanked the police department for assisting her after the late meeting on Tuesday with a strange car parked in her driveway. She wished everyone a happy weekend.

Mr. Otte commented on the leave pickup and the awesome job the street department is doing. He stated that the city and the citizens of Fremont have some great decorations and trees that are on display. Volunteers are needed at the Liberty Center and the Community Fortress. Mr. Otte piggybacked on Mr. Orendorff early statement saying that many companies require signatures before receiving packages and then have to go to another location to pick them up if they are not home. Mrs. Hafford stated that Grunds is becoming an Amazon Hub so packages can be picked up at that location too.

Mrs. Hafford stated that there is another shop located on the westside called Embelish. It is connected to the Joseph Clock Shop. She stated that there are very unique gifts and suggested everyone go check it out. She then read a newsletter given to her by Lee Swartz concerning the Sandusky County Veterans Memorial Park asking for help to enrich the park since no county funds are available to help with this project. They hope to erect two stone columns with an archway depicting the park's new name located at the main entrance on Park Avenue. The estimated cost is \$64,000. Donations are being accepted at the Old Fort Bank, 300 West State Street, Fremont, OH. She ended with mentioning the highway dedication for the Vietnam Veterans killed in action and thought that is was a very honorable tribute.

Public Comments

Chief Bliss reminded everyone of the free concert at the Strand being performed by his sons band that will donate money to two local families battling illness. He stated that all proceeds go directly to both families. He was asking for everyone's support.

Mr. Orendorff apologized for speaking out of turn during the agenda.

Pastor Burel thanked the city for fixing the curve outside his church.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.