

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
November 21, 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: Liebold, Barbour, Otte, Zilch, Ruiz, and Sleek. Councilman Smith was absent. The minutes from November 7th and agenda for November 21st were approved.

Before the readings, Dan Rice explained the concept of the Penguin Project. The Penguin Project is a nationwide program which pools the talents of local residents to organize and host a theatrical production of a modified Broadway musical starring local kids with special needs and their teen mentors. He explained how he obtained a sponsor and great people, several that he introduced, to work on the projects that have heart. They will be working in the capacity of Leaders and Advisors. The sign up will be December 13th at 6:30 p.m. at Victory Church.

Second reading of an ordinance amending Ordinance 2019-3945 regarding Fund Transfers for Fiscal Year 2019 and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within General Fund 101 and Municipal Income Tax Fund 201, and declaring an emergency.

Second 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.

Second 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.

First 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 is the budget for the city for the 2020 fiscal year. There will be Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, December 3rd for a presentation with all department heads and administration beginning at 5:00 p.m.

First 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.

Committee Reports

Community Partnership Committee – Chairman Barbour nothing to report.

Utilities and Traffic Committee – Chairman Otte nothing

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz stated that the streets are safe because of the Police and Fire departments. If you see something suspicious, please report it to the police department.

Economic Development Committee – Chairman Sleek commented on the grand opening of the new Kroger store and encourage those who haven't been there, please go.

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. He asked Mr. Kern to explain about the Sunset Meadows that is a new housing division to be built on the old Poorman Orchard land. The plate is in the Engineering office if anyone is interested in viewing them.

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

Executive Director of Downtown Fremont Kristie Bilger – Kristie announced that White Birch Gifting and Antiques has relocated at 118 N. Arch Street. She stated that November 29th will be the tree lighting and Santa will make his appearance then. She stated that there will be construction work taking place at the old WSOS building located at 109 Front. Street. The Holiday Parade will be December 7th at 6:00 p.m. She mentioned that ProMedica earned quite a high achievement this week by receiving four 5 Star Clinical Achievement Health Grades. Cardiac, Pulmonary, Gastrointestinal, and Critical Care.

Department Heads/Elected Officials

Mr. Frost nothing this evening.

Mr. Gross shared the Ohio Magazine that featured Fremont on the cover. He stated that it is a great way to showcase our city. He stated that the city will be a part and hosting the Gus Macker 3 on 3 Tournament. It is a traveling nationwide Basketball Tournament. He commented on the collaboration of the community to have the tournament here. The tournament is expected to draw between 150 to 200 teams to our city.

Mr. Gross also stated that Sandusky County is working on a new comprehensive plan that they have been attending. He believes that a presentation to the council will take place sometime in February. He stating that the band Saints & Sinners sent a thank you letter to the city for allowing them participation in the Mayors Concerts and he thought it was a very nice thing to do. He ended with stating that he and Timmy Milton spent the afternoon together on Sunday evening.

Chief Bliss nothing to report.
Chief Foos nothing this evening.
Mr. Melle wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
Mr. Grahl nothing to report.

Council Comments

Mr. Barbour stated that he was very proud of the achievements that ProMedica received. He suggested with the Holidays approaching, everyone should shop Downtown and locally. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Sleek stated that he did a ride around with Brian Woods and thanked him for his services to the city. He commended him on getting a handle on the buildings and lots that are not up to code. He also mentions the US Storage Company that is located at the old K-Mart Building. He also thanked Mr. Dan Rice for his presentation on the Penguin Project.

Mr. Liebold mentioned that the Garrison Street project seemed to be going well and wondered if there was a progress reports on the project. Mr. Frost stated that they are trying to get the first coating of asphalt on the street and the final coat would probably in the spring. He encourages everyone to attend one of the Christmas tree lightings...the one downtown on the 29th or Mayor Meier Park on December 1st. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Zilch stated that he is with No Shave November drawing awareness to Prostate Cancer and Rectal Cancer. He mentioned that leaves are still being picked up, and St. Joe School is almost complete with the demolition. He stated that eventually there will be a St. Joseph statue placed in the area along with parking. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Ruiz stated that she attended the 90th Birthday Party of Croghan School. She was greeted by the principal Dr. Lori Pierce and several teachers that she wanted to recognize - Lori Nossaman, Lori Willey, Tia Price, Wendy Carrick, Korie Lather, Wendy Paxson, Nickolaos Mayle Stephanie Prince and Nora Esquivel. She thanked all the teachers for their dedication to inspiring our children. She thanked Mr. Dan Rice and Jim Sleek for their work on the Penguin Project. She also thanked Mr. Kern for his investing to the Eastside and she also commended ProMedica on their healthcare grades.

Mr. Otte stated that the Community Fortress is open Tuesday through Saturday. Participants get a bed, a hot shower, and a breakfast. Volunteers are need and located at the corner of Birchard and Arch St. He commented on the lights downtown looking great. He mentioned the Hayes Presidential Center and Christmas Activities being held there. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Hafford state there is a new store on the Eastside called Armory Vintage Market located at 1105 East State Street. It is full of vintage items, Christmas décor, handmade jewelry, and much more. They have limited hours - Friday 2 p.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m., and Monday from 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. She suggests that everyone take the time to check out the new addition on the Eastside.

Public Comments

None

On a motion to adjourn by Mr. Liebold, seconded by Mr. Sleek, motion carried 6 yes votes.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President