

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
January 16, 2020

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: Weiss, Smith, Liebold, Elder, Ruiz, and Sleek. Councilman Otte was absent. Minutes for January 2nd were approved. Councilman Elder made a motion to add an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an appointment contract with the American Federation of State and Municipal Employees (AFSME) representing all full times employees in the Parks Department, Street Department, Water Treatment Plant, Water Pollution Control Center, Water and Sewer Maintenance Department, Engineering Department, and Water Service Technicians in the Utilities Office and declaring and emergency. Mr. Liebold seconded, motion carried 6 yea votes. Councilman Elder made a motion to enter into Executive Session to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment with no Council business to transpire thereafter. Councilman Smith seconded, motion carried 6 yea votes.

Third reading of an ordinance accepting the plat and survey of Sunset Meadows Subdivision Phase One. Ruiz moved for adoption and Sleek seconded. Motion carried 6 yea votes. Mr. Liebold asked if there was a waiting list or answer as when development would start. Mr. Frost said he was unaware of those answers but believed construction would start in the spring. Ord. 2020-3999

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to enter into an appointment contract with the American Federation of State and Municipal Employees (AFSME) representing all full times employees in the Parks Department, Street Department, Water Treatment Plant, Water Pollution Control Center, Water and Sewer Maintenance Department, Engineering Department, and Water Service Technicians in the Utilities Billing Office and declaring and emergency.

Committee Reports

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold noted that the Auditor sent out the monthly financial reports.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairman Smith nothing to report.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz nothing to report.

Community Partnership Committee – Chairman Weiss looks forward to reporting.

Economic Development Committee – Chairman Sleek nothing to report.

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

Executive Director of Downtown Fremont Kristie Bilger – Kristie passed out the 2020 schedules for Downtown and stated they are hard at work on upcoming spring events. Mr. Liebold asked if you were able to start registration for the Farmers Markets and Ms. Bilger stated yes. Mrs. Hafford stated that she heard that the New Year's Eve event was a huge success.

Department Heads/Elected Officials

Mr. Frost nothing to report.

Mr. Gross stated that Kiwanis are raising money for an all-inclusive playground. Once the playground is established they will turn over to the city for the city to maintain. They are in the membership drive phase and he has membership forms. The total project is \$575,000.00 and funding sources are coming from a lot of different sources. Mr. Gross mentioned that on February 15th there will be a fundraising event concert at the Strand. Mrs. Hafford asked if Kiwanis could come and give a presentation to council. The playground is scheduled to be placed at Rodger Young.

Chief Bliss welcomed new council members. He stated that the department has done a fantastic job handling very difficult calls so far this month. They will continue to try their best for the remainder of the year.

Chief Foos nothing to report.

Mayor Sanchez said he would be working with Mrs. Ruiz to schedule an appointment with the Visitors Bureau to give a presentation to council.

Mr. Melle nothing to report.

Mr. Grahl explained his reason for not attending the last meeting. He welcomed new council members. He stated that they are close to balancing year end and will present to council upon doing so.

Council Comments

Mrs. Ruiz commented on the park that Kiwanis is working on. She was proud to be member of a service group that is working towards a progressive city. She thanked Sheriff Hilton for his attendance at the St. Joseph Church luncheon. He spoke about the grenade and that someone came from Toledo to dispose of it. She gave her condolences for the Dilly family in Port Clinton.

Mr. Smith encourages everyone to attend the NAACP MLK Breakfast scheduled for January 20th at Terra Community College. The event will be held at the Neely Center.

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Mrs. Weiss stated she is looking forward to the playground mentioned early. As a mother of a daughter with special needs, she feels that it is really great to do something so loved ones with special needs can enjoy the outdoor activities too. She also gave her condolences to the Dilly family and friends in Port Clinton.

Mr. Sleek echoed the sentiments of those who attended the Kiwanis meeting today. He was very impressed with the video that was presented today. He gave a shout out Mr. Woods on his hard work and dedication of cleaning up the city.

Mr. Liebold also apologized for not attending the first council meeting of the year due to sickness. He mention that he learned of former councilmen Bill Kelly passing away and gave his condolences to the family. He ended with encouraging others to visit one of the Best Hometown in Ohio – Fremont, Ohio.

Mr. Elder echoed the sentiments of Mr. Smith and Mayor Sanchez concerning the NAACP MLK breakfast and the format that would take place. He suggested that you can add your part by considering joining the NAACP.

Mrs. Hafford welcomed new council members. She stated that she was suffering with Influenza B and it was not anything she would want to pass on to others. She also offered her condolences to the Dilly family in Port Clinton.

The council went into Executive Session.

The council came back from Executive Session

On a motion to adjourn by Mr. Liebold, seconded by Mr. Sleek, motion carried 6 yes votes.
Meeting was adjourned.

Clerk of Council

Council President