

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
May 7, 2020

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. via virtual zoom meeting in the form prescribed by The General Rules of Council. President Hafford called the meeting to order. The following members answered roll call: Liebold, Weiss, Otte, Elder, Ruiz, Smith, and Sleek. The Minutes for April 16th were approved.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing fund transfers for the city of Fremont, State of Ohio, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl stated that this ordinance is related to the energy project. Monies are moved around the unspent proceeds and interest that was earned and placed in the debt service funds to make payments. The first debt payment is due in June. Mr. Grahl requested that council suspend rule 4. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Elder, seconded by Smith, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Smith and seconded by Weiss, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4017

First reading of an ordinance to vacate the portion of High Street between Croghan and Garrison Street and the alley between parcel nos. 238, 4203, 255, 240, 241, 253, and 252 in the City of Fremont State of Ohio.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$19,440.00 to RAE & Associates, Inc., and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained that this warrant for payment is related to the audit cost and a purchase order was not in place. He asked that council suspend rule 4 so that it could be paid. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz, seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2020-2099

Mr. Grahl stated that he and the administrative team within City Hall have stayed in regular conversations about revenues and the City's overall budget throughout this issue. He laid out a brief review of the major sources of revenues throughout various funds throughout the City budget.

Income tax collections from employee withholdings and estimates from individuals seem to be holding steady with our 2020 budgeted amounts but collections through April are for earnings through March so the COVID-19 issue was just beginning. Income tax collections from business net profits also appear to be holding steady with our 2020 budgeted amounts but year-to-date collections from business net profits seem to be propped up by a large month of estimates received in February.

Since we've closed the Rec Center during the COVID-19 issue revenues have been significantly impacted. There are also impacts on expenditures due to part-time staffing going unscheduled, supplies not being purchased and expenses for programs not currently being spent.

Revenues within the Street Maintenance Fund seem to be holding steady with our 2020 budgeted amounts; however, there is a lag in when the City receives these revenues so collections through April were earned through March when the COVID-19 issue was just beginning.

Revenues within the Water and Sewer Funds are down a bit from our 2020 budgeted amounts but it seems this is a result of a combination of the COVID-19 issue and usage by some of our larger users being down compared to 2019.

Mr. Smith asked administration about continuing the traditions of Fremont such as Farmers Markets, Fireworks etc. Mayor Sanchez stated that they have until May 31st to come with a decision on whether to have the fireworks. He stated that orders from the Governor are changing daily. Mayor Sanchez stated that the Mayor's Concert, at least the first one, will probably be cancelled. The first Farmers Market is scheduled for the 3rd week in June. The administration and the Health Department will come up with a working plan to established social distancing and safety measures. Mayor Sanchez stated that he has asked Mr. Gross to put together an advisory team of restaurant owners and the administration team to discuss how the city can support the owners when they allowed to re-open.

No Committee reports were given. No comments from Department Heads, Elected Officials, Council or the Public were made.

On a motion to adjourn by Mr. Elder, seconded by Mrs. Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.