

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
December 17, 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: Weiss, Sleek, Smith, Otte, Elder, Ruiz, and Liebold. The minutes and the agenda were approved.

Third reading of an ordinance adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to re-zone inlot parcel# 34-60-00-0433-02 in the City of Fremont from “B-2” – General Commercial District to “R-3” Multi-Family Residential District. Mr. Gross stated that the potential buyer is looking to invest 5 million dollars to develop a Senior Living Facility. Councilman Elder made clear that the council is only voting on the re-zoning of the property. Once the building plans are made, they will go through the proper channels of the Building Planning Commission. More than a dozen community residents voiced their opinions opposing the re-zoning change. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Weiss, the motion passed 5 yea votes and 2 no votes.
Ord. 2020-4048

Third reading of an ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to require all tobacco retailers within Fremont City limits to post the phone number for the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line at all point of sale locations. On a motion to adopt by Weiss and seconded by Ruiz, the motion passed 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4049

Second reading of an ordinance to make appropriations in the amount of \$56,271,738.00 for expenses and expenditures for the 2021 Fiscal Year January 1st thru December 31st for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Auditor Grahl asked that council suspend Rule 4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Sleek seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Liebold and seconded by Smith, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4050

Second reading of an ordinance creating a comprehensive amendment to the entire Part Eleven Planning and Zoning Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Fremont. Mr. Smith stated that the City of Fremont hired Poggenmeyer to look at the Codified Ordinances and he had confidence in their judgements. Mrs. Ruiz called to suspend Rule 4, but rescinded that motion on the request of Mayor Sanchez.

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within General Fund 101, G.O. Debt Service Fund 108, Municipal Income Tax Fund 201, Municipal Court Computer Fund 235, Fines & Forfeitures Fund 253, Water Operating Fund 510, Sewer Operating Fund 570, Unclaimed Monies Fund 714, and Sandusky County Sewer District Fund 726, and declaring an emergency. Auditor Grahl stated this is the year end budget clean up ordinance and asked that council suspend Rule 4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Smith seconded by Sleek, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4051

First reading of an ordinance establishing Federal Grant Financial Policies and Procedures and declaring an emergency. Auditor Grahl stated that the Government put out new guidelines for grants and that this takes care of this requirement. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Weiss seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Smith and seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes.
Ord. 2020-4052

President Hafford commented on the proceedings held earlier and hopes that in the future, everyone will have more respect and listen to each other.

Council Comments

Chairman Liebold commented on the Facebook post that Fremont was the 10th worst city due to Covid. He asked that everyone takes this seriously and be respectful to other people and be safe.

Chairwoman Ruiz commented on the conduct of the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. She stated that the City of Fremont has done an excellent job of maintaining the city during this pandemic.

Chairman Elder praised President Hafford on the running of the zoom meetings. He stated that no one has applied for the Zoning position. He asked that Jennifer Szymanowski be reappointed. Councilman Elder made a motion to re appoint her, councilman Liebold seconded. Motion carried 7 yea votes.

Chairwoman Weiss stated she received an email from Cassandra Tucker in regards to a community forum vial Zoom January 19th concerning National Day of Healing from Racism. She wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Smith wishes for 2021 were to be through with the pandemic, get back to normal, and thoughtful of those who have lost loved ones. God bless everyone in the New Year.

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Chairman Otte thanked the administration for trying to keep as much as they could normal. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Chairman Sleek wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He stated he has a lot of pride in the Economic Development for the City of Fremont. With the new businesses going in and the expansion of the growth, he is very proud of the city. Hoping for a better 2021 and looking forward to working with everyone to move the city forward.

Mrs. Hafford thanked city council, the administration and the employees for making the city strive. She asked Jim Posey if he would like to speak on the letter for Dora businesses concerning rules and regulations of the Ohio Revised Code. Everyone was in agreement that the letter was good to send out. Mr. Posey asked that everyone on council sign the letter, but it was deemed it was not necessary for that to happen. Jamie Belcher thanked city council for passing the Tobacco Quit Line and asked whom she should work with to make the design for the logo. Ken Frost said it should run through their office.

On a motion to adjourn by Sleek, seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Clerk of Council

Council President