

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
December 3, 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: Smith, Otte, Elder, Ruiz, Liebold, Sleek, and Weiss. The minutes and the agenda were approved.

Before the readings begin, John Cheatham gave an brief overview of the Sandusky County being certified to have their own Building Department through the State of Ohio. They have contracted with Safe Build with will enforce all State Codes, inspections, and building needs all done by local people. Tom Hoffman stated that we have been working on getting this Building Code Department for the past nineteen years.

Second reading of an ordinance establishing the City of Fremont Building Department, and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Liebold seconded by Elder, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Elder and seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4043

Second reading of an ordinance requesting certification to enforce the Ohio State Building Codes within the City of Fremont and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Ruiz seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz and seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4044

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 Ruiz and seconded by Sleek, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4045

Second 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. Frost stated that Zoning Board does not require that the owners show specific plans in order for board to vote on the actual change. Mr. Gross stated that the potential buyer was willing to show what they intended to do with the property that would be Senior Living Facility. Several community residents voiced their opinions opposing the change the re-zoning change.

Second 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. Jamie Belcher with the Health Department spoke on this issue.

First reading on an ordinance declaring the City of Fremont Police Department and Fire Department employees as being substantially dedicated to Public Safety and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained that this ordinance is tied to the CaresAct and allows working governments to declare those departments as substantially dedicated and to reimburse funding. He asked that council suspend rule #4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Ruiz seconded by Weiss, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Weiss and seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4046

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within Local Coronavirus Relief Fund 264, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl spoke on the ordinance stating it is just adjusting the budget for the last round Cares Act money received by the City in an amount of about 1.2 million dollars. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Ruiz seconded by Elder, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Elder and seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2020-4047

First 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. Mr. Liebold stated that he would like to have a Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. to address the Budget.

First 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. Elder stated that he received an email from Mr. Albrechta with concerns of changes to be made to the ordinance. He suggested that a Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee meeting be held on Thursday, December 17th at 6:45 p.m.

Committee Reports

Community Partnership Committee – Chairwoman Weiss nothing this evening.

Traffic and Utility Committee – Chairman Otte nothing this evening.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold nothing further this evening, but Auditor Grahl stated that he sent an email out with the budget to council for their review. He stated that an electronic copy will be available on the Finance page for community members to download to view.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairman Smith nothing this evening.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairwoman Ruiz reported Police and Fire Department are doing an excellent job.

Economic Development Committee – Chairman Sleek nothing to report.

Laws Rules and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Elder stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals deadline is tomorrow.

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Mr. Gross stated that the survey will be available on the City website for the housing survey.

Justin Smith stated he attended the tree lighting downtown and Meier Park. He encourages everyone to attend the Farmers Market on Saturday.

Jim Posey asked if everyone had received his email pertaining to the Dora Letter. Several members did not receive it. He will resend and asked it could perhaps appear on the next council agenda.

Mrs. Hafford encourages everyone to continue to wear their mask out in public and to remember to social distance.

On a motion to adjourn by Sleek, seconded by Smith, motion carried 7 yea votes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Clerk of Council

Council President