

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
February 4, 2021

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, Weiss, and Sleek. The minutes and the agenda were approved.

Before the regular meeting, Peggy Courtney, Executive Director from the Sandusky County Visitor's Bureau will be giving a short presentation to City Council. She started by thanking the council and the city of Fremont for the continued support to the Visitor's Bureau. She read excerpts from a speech by Belinda Huntley Director of Ohio Travel Association entitled "Imaging a World without Travel". The pandemic has had a trickle-down effect and has hurt the travel business. The travel industry lost 12.8 billion dollars since the pandemic hit. Ms. Courtney explained what the visitor's bureau is doing to encourage travel to Fremont and Sandusky County. One of the most popular was the Farm to Table tour was a big success. She suggested that everyone check out their website and social media post for updates of events. Visitnorthwestohio.com is the name of the website.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director pursuant to Revised Code 721.01 to advertise for bids (with a minimum established amount of \$3,500.00 annually), to negotiate terms, and enter into a lease agreement for property not needed for a municipal purpose adjacent to 209 Garrison Street, Fremont, Ohio of approximately 65' wide by 87' long and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained that the interest is to provide more spacing for the Garrison. Mr. Frost asked that council suspend rule 4. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz and seconded by Otte, motion carried 7 yeas votes. On a motion to adopt by Elder and seconded by Weiss, motion carried 7 yeas votes. Ord. 2021-4055

Comments

Mrs. Weiss – Asked that everyone should be conscious of the upcoming weather and animals outside.

Mr. Smith – echoed Mrs. Weiss sentiments and also be sure to check on your neighbors and the elderly. He also stated that he attending the opening of Fort Balls Pizza reopening for business.

Mr. Elder – Commented on the addition to the Bike Trail that goes through Fremont and that he and many others are enjoying it.

Mrs. Martin – In honor of Black History Month, Mrs. Martin stressed the importance of everyone getting along. She quoted Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by saying, "We must learn to live together as brothers and sisters or perish as fools. She also stated Just Choose Love – It is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.

Mr. Frost asked that we extend our gratitude to the hard working members of the Street Department trying to keep our streets and roadways clean and safe.

Mrs. Ruiz – Thanks Mrs. Courtney for her presentation and stated that she had received her first round of the covid vaccine. She encourages everyone to consider taking the vaccine and doing their part to stop the pandemic by wearing masking, no large gatherings, and frequent hand washing.

Mr. Gross – Reminded everyone that there will be an Economic Development Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m. On the same night at 7:30 p.m. he will be giving an update presentation of the City's Economic Development. He spoke about the DORA project and he also spoke of Amphitheater and the charge that Kiwanis are leading the charge in the All Inclusive Play Park.

Mr. Liebold – Asked Mr. Gross about establishments that have not received their Dora stickers. He also mentioned all the holidays coming up and for everyone to stay safe.

Mr. Otte – Mentioned the plow drivers and to watch the temperatures that will be dropping. He also acknowledged Ken Kiser who passed away and offered his condolences.

Ms. Mullen – Echoed the words of Mrs. Martin and encouraged everyone to celebrate Black History Month. She asked if everyone could post on their social media, Black History Accomplishments that would help us celebrate our culture in Fremont Ohio and America.

Mayor Sanchez – Thanked his administrative teams and all the Department Heads on their hard work and dedication to the city.

Jim Sleek – Encouraged everyone to be careful with the weather that is approaching. He also stated that Chipotle is projected to open at the end of March.

Shawn Kern – Thanked City Council for passing the ordinance this evening and the help that the city has offered to help the business through the pandemic.

Mrs. Hafford – Stated that the covid vaccine are coming please be passionate and encourages those who can to receive the shot.

On a motion to adjourn by Elder, seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yeas votes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.