

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
January 21, 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, Sleek, Ruiz, Liebold, Weiss, Elder, and Otte. The minutes and the agenda were approved.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into a Revolving Loan Fund agreement with the Ohio Development Services Agency and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained that this resolution allows us to continue with the fund through the CDBG and he asked that council suspend rule #4. On a motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz and seconded by Sleek, motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Elder and seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2021-2113

Committee Reports

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

Community Partnership Committee – Chairwoman Weiss reminded people to check out the calendar of the chamber for upcoming events.

Traffic and Utility Committee – Chairman Otte stated that there was a concerning about a school sign being too close to the building.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Liebold stated the last finance report of 2020 will be available soon.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairman Smith stated that the lobby at the Rec. Center is being updated.

They are following Covid Protocols and hoping to continue youth sports.

Citizen Service Committee – Chairwoman Ruiz stated that February 28th will be the retirement of Chief Dave Foos from the City of Fremont Fire Department. She relayed his 33 year career highlights and accomplishments. Chief Foos will be greatly missed. Mrs. Ruiz also commended the Police Department for their great service.

Economic Development Committee – Chairman Sleek was having technical difficulties, but Mr. Gross explained that there will be an Economic Development Committee Meeting on February 18th at 7:00 p.m. Pete DiSalo will be here to discuss the findings of the housing study. He also stated that during the Economic Development Committee Meeting on the 18th, he will be presenting a power point of the 2020 economic development updates for the City of Fremont.

Comments

Mr. Frost – Stated that the city of Fremont put measures in place for the threat of violence they received from the FBI after the January 6th incident at the capitol. He stated that Captain Halbisen would be replacing Chief Foos and encourages everyone to take a look at the Jackson Annex site, it looks amazing.

Mr. Smith - Stated that the citizens of Fremont are very happy with all the improvements here. He attended a meeting with Cassandra Tucker group on Tuesday that promoting kindness and compassion for one another.

Chari Mullen – Mentioned that the city is moving forward with the Diversion and Inclusion initiative, and wanted to piggy back off of Councilman Smith. She request that if you are attend a Community Forum and if the conversation is regarding hiring practices to defer the conversation to her or Safety Service Director Ken Frost, that way the information being relayed to the citizens will be accurate. She also request that many of these events are on Facebook and live, so there is clarity that the event is not sponsored by the city of Fremont – as a city official you should thank the person for the invitation to attend.

Mrs. Ruiz – She made a comment that she signed up for the Covid vaccine and encouraged everyone to considered getting it. She also congratulated Captain Paul Halbisen and looked forward to working with him.

Mr. Elder – Stated that the MLK virtual meeting and celebration was held on January 18th. The wonderful breakfast was provided by Joy Bells Kitchen and that Chari Mullen was the key note speaker and did an excellent job. He also congratulated Paul Halbisen on his upcoming position. He ended by stating that in February, the NFL would be announcing its newest members to the Hall of Fame, and he believes that Fremont's own Charles Woodson will be among those inducted.

Mrs. Elder – she echoed everyone sentiments concerning Captain Halbisen.

Mr. Gross - Stated that the cups for Dora came in and the start date will be January 29th. They meet with 12 establishments giving them the information and materials needed and they are ready to roll this out at the end of the month. He ended with the information that the new Sunset Meadows Division infrastructure is underway.

Mr. Liebold – Stated that Councilman Sleek is back on the meeting, but his transmission was lost again.

Mr. Otte - Thanked Councilwoman Ruiz for the biography she did on Chief Foos. He thanked Chief Schneider for his dedication to the department and also welcomed Captain Halbisen.

Mrs. Weis – Also thanked Councilwoman Ruiz for her kind words shared, she echoed sentiments of Captain Halbeisen and the Jackson Annex.

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Captain Halbisen addressed the council and stated that Chief Foos has some big shoes to fill, but he will do his best and looking forward to gaining relationships with everyone on council and the community.

Assistant Chief Schneider – Stated he enjoyed working with Chief Foos and looking forward to work with Captain (Chief) Halbeisen on March 1st when it becomes official.

On a motion to adjourn by Otte, seconded by Liebold, motion carried 7 yea votes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Clerk of Council

Council President