

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

March 5, 2026

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order in the form prescribed by The General Rule of Council. President Jamie Hafford called the meeting to order. The following members answered roll call: Weiss, Ruiz, Otte, Briggs, and Liebold.

Chief Derek Wensinger asked Sergeant Matt Ranazzi to say a couple of words concerning his nomination and then presented Detective Ryan Reed as 2025 Officer of the Year. Detective Reed thanked everyone for the award.

Before the readings, Mayor Sanchez and Safety Service Director presented the 2026 Budget Review via Power Point to council and the public in the absence of Auditor Paul Grahl. The complete council meeting can be viewed on Youtube.com via Everyday Productions.

Liebold made a motion to excuse Councilmen Elder and Sleek from the meeting, seconded by Ruiz, motion passed. Minutes and Agenda were approved.

Second reading of an ordinance to make appropriations in the amount of \$67,500,865.00 for expenses and expenditures for the 2026 Fiscal year January 1 thru December 31 for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of an authorizing fund transfers in the amount of \$18,335,494.00 for calendar year 2026, for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring and emergency.

First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 133 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Fremont entitled "Fire Department" and declaring and emergency.

First reading of an ordinance to accept the application for annexation for the part of the southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 5 North, Range 15 East, Township of Sandusky, County of Sandusky, State of Ohio containing 0.9710 acres, more or less approved for annexation by the Board of Sandusky County Commissioners in Resolution 2025-0355 and to adopt the recommendation of the Zoning Inspector for the interim zoning of the area to be "R-2 Residential District." Economic Development Director, Bob Gross, explained the ordinance annexation concerning the new Wendy's to the council.

Committee Reports

Danielle Briggs made several comments concerning Fremont Rec. since the commuter system was down, all youth sports registration have been moved back for processing. The last day for the Ice Rink is March 15th. The 2026 Community Center Series is finalized and looking for more sponsors, and the summer Activity Series is currently planning and looking for additional partner agencies. Any questions you can contact Superintendent Cody Bischoff.

Angie Ruiz congratulated Detective Reed for receiving Officer of the Year and she thanked Captain Halbeisen for his explanation on the new fire truck.

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City Economic Development Director, Bob Gross that the city of Fremont finished fourth in the Site Selection Micropolitan Awards from 540 surrounding cities. He stated that in 2025 there were 115 projects and 14 projects were in Sandusky County, which lead to 4,895 jobs being created. A capital investment of 3.3 billion dollars in Northwest Ohio. He stated that the long process of Site Authentication has been a long process, but we have checked out last box and we will be at a Shovel Ready Site that will give us an advantage to move forward.

Haley Foos, Water Billing Manager explained to council and the public that late last year the department was notified that the billing software doesn't store information for auto pay which required that those individuals had to reapply for the process and enroll. The information were sent out to the public how to transition over to the new system. Approximately 2,000 users are on the system.

On a motion to adjourn by Weiss, seconded by Ruiz, meeting adjourning at 8:45 p.m.

Council Clerk

Council President