

FREMONT CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 4, 2010 – 7:00 PM

Mayor James Rynberg called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Dick Conley gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Present at Roll Call: Mayor James Rynberg and Councilmember's Dick Conley, Jane Drake, James Breinling and Larry Breuker.

Staff Present: City Manager Bryan Gruesbeck and City Clerk/Finance Director Todd Blake

Public Present: Doug Berends

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Conley to approve the meeting agenda as amended; motion approved.

Consent Action Items

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breuker to authorize and approve the following Action Items:

- Minutes of the Regular Council Session held December 21, 2009
- Accept Engineering Proposal of \$52,900 from Paradigm Design for design and construction engineering services for the new DPW Building
- Accept Blight Ordinance Hearing Officer Proposal from Duane Cruzan of \$40/hour and authorize City Manager execute agreement
- Approve Southeast Downtown Parking Lot Preliminary Site Plan Modification to include changes to the dumpster enclosure and driveway inlet/exits

Accounts Payable Check Register Report dated December 30, 2009 totaling \$91,171.19

Motion by Councilmember Breuker, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to approve the 12/30/09 Accounts Payable Check Register Report totaling \$91,171.19; motion approved.

Public Hearing: On the Proposed MEDC Grant Application for the Southeast Downtown Parking Lot Improvement Project

Mayor Rynberg opened the public hearing at 7:03 pm.

City Manager Gruesbeck recommended the City submit a grant request of \$220,000 to the MEDC, for a Downtown Development Infrastructure Grant under their Block Grant Program. The Grant will help fund the City's Downtown Southeast Public Parking Lot project planned for 2010, with an estimated cost of \$507,000.

The project is consistent with the local community Development Plan and will include new paving, new curb and gutter, landscaping decorative lighting, an art node, decorative banners and streetscape furniture.

Fifty-one percent (51%) of the workers to be hired in a proposed new restaurant Downtown will be of low and moderate income persons. No person will be displaced from this project, of which will be beneficial to both patrons and the workers.

No project costs are to be incurred prior to a formal grant award, completion of the environmental review and formal, written authorization to incur such costs is received from MEDC's Community Development Department.

Proper notification was made to the public to afford opportunity to examine and submit comments on the proposed application, of which was made available at the City Offices prior to the hearing.

Following brief discussion, Mayor Rynberg closed the public hearing at 7:12 pm.

Resolution R-10-01: Approving Submittal of the Grant Application to MEDC for the Southeast Downtown Parking Lot Improvement Project

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to: 1) approve Resolution R-10-01 approving submittal of the MEDC Grant Application for \$220,000, to help fund the Southeast Downtown Parking Lot Improvement Project, and 2) adopt the Fremont Community Development & Housing Plan; motion approved.

Re-Appointments to the Fremont Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to re-appoint David Crosley to the ZBA for another three year term ending January 1, 2013; motion approved.

Council requested staff look into residency requirements for ZBA appointments, because Ed Thomas now lives outside the City in Sheridan Township.

Reports

City Manager Gruesbeck reported he will be meeting with School officials to discuss repurposing of the existing high school, following construction of the new one.

Mayor Rynberg reminded Councilmembers of the free telecast seminars in January, sponsored by the Foundation and Calvin College.

The Following Communications were transmitted for Council Information:

- Staff Report: City Projects
- NCEDO Executive Director's Report for September/October/November
- NCEDO Economic Development Specialist Report for September/October/November
- MML Legislative Link (12/18/09)
- Fremont Fire Department Minutes (12/29/09)

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Conley to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM; motion approved.

James M. Rynberg, Mayor

Todd M. Blake, City Clerk