

FREMONT CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 18, 2010 – 7:00 PM

Mayor James Rynberg called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Jane Drake 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, City Clerk/Finance Director Todd Blake and Police Officer Matt Hendrie

Public Present: Laurel Breuker, Cherilyn Sturuss, Ashley Schaner, Eva Berndt, Erin Tubbergen, Anna Sokolowski, Stan Nieboer, Doug Berends

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Mayor Rynberg requested "Performance Review Procedure for City Manager" be added to the agenda.

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

Consent Action Items

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

- Minutes of the Regular Council Session held January 4, 2010
- Establishment of the Fremont's Healthy Living/Green Committee
- Accept MDOT's approved Service Club Sign schematic for placement in the road right-of-way

Accounts Payable Check Register Report dated January 14, 2010 totaling \$574,089.88

Motion by Councilmember Breuker, seconded by Councilmember Conley to approve the 1/14/10 Accounts Payable Check Register Report totaling \$574,089.88; motion approved.

Approve Updated 5-Yr Capital Improvement Schedule to Fremont Area Park & Recreation Plan

City Clerk Blake summarized the 2009 completed projects and the projects planned for 2010 through 2014. He reported the Fremont Area Park & Recreation Committee updated the 5-yr Schedule, approved it and recommended its adoption by the participating jurisdictions.

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Conley to approve the updated 5-Yr Capital Improvement Schedule for the Fremont Area Park & Recreation Plan; motion approved.

FY 2010-2011 Budget Timetable

City Manager Gruesbeck presented the schedule and asked Council to select a date for strategic planning, of which Monday, March 15th at 5:30 pm was selected.

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Drake to adopt the proposed timetable for the upcoming FY 2010/1011 Budget preparation and adoption; motion approved.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PLT) and Utility Billings

City Manager Gruesbeck reported a township resident, currently connected to the City's sanitary sewer system directly off Lake Drive, has requested the City consider amending the agreement for services. Most sewer-use agreements with township residents require a payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) be paid each year to continue connection to the City's system. Mr. Gruesbeck offered various options to consider, if Council deemed necessary.

Following discussion, Council requested staff prepare a draft agreement to amend all other agreements with township residents who are connected directly to the sanitary sewer system. The draft agreement should propose a charge based on three times the actual usage, which should be a dramatic decrease of what they currently pay with a PILT.

Performance Review Procedure for City Manager

Council discussed the past review procedures versus the most recent process and requested the City Manager to draft his review in a similar manner as recently done and work with Councilmember Drake on something to present at the next meeting.

Re-Appointments to the Fremont Zoning Board of Appeals

Staff reported they could not find any restrictions for a residency requirement, to serve on the ZBA.

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

Reports

City Manager Gruesbeck reported meeting with School officials to discuss repurposing of the existing high school, following construction of the new one. He also noted Council will receive a presentation and update at the February 15th meeting, on results of the water quality study recently performed on Fremont Lake.

The City also recently received preliminary approval from MDOT for placement of an “Art Node” on the southwest corner of Main and Stewart streets. Staff will now seek approval of an easement from Fremont Public Schools.

Councilmember Breinling reported there are 59 confirmed doe tags filled under the City’s outercity limits deer culling program this season. The Police Department will now coordinate the filling of 20 additional doe tags in the city limits under a controlled environment.

The Following Communications were transmitted for Council Information:

- Staff Report: City Projects
- 32-Month Recycling Report from Cart-Right
- Thank-You Letter from West Michigan Strategic Alliance
- City of Newaygo Newsletter (Jan-Mar 2010)
- Fremont Fire Department Minutes (1/11/10)
- NCCS Invite – MLK Day of Service (1/11/10)
- GMHS “The Source” (1/15/10)

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Breuker to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM; motion approved.

James M. Rynberg, Mayor

Todd M. Blake, City Clerk