

FREMONT CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 6, 2010 – 7:00 PM

Mayor James Rynberg called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM and Councilmember James Breinling 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 and James Breinling. Councilmember Larry Breuker was absent.

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

Public Present: Doug Berends, Bud Meawenberg and Jim Sloan

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 Conley to authorize and approve the following Consent Action Items:

- Minutes of the Regular Council Session held June 21, 2010
- Fremont Chamber of Commerce' request for extension for use of Veterans Memorial Park Amphitheatre for "Thursday Evening Summer Concert Series" until August 5, 2010
- Authorize purchase of downtown signage from Lakeshore Signs for \$9,693
- Accept CLM Design's proposal of \$3,650, for landscape design services for the northwest corner of Main St. and Stewart Ave.
- Authorize submittal of a request for art-design services to Ron Head for \$1,000, for the above noted corner

Accounts Payable Check Register Report dated June 30, 2010 totaling \$94,077.42

Motion by Councilmember Conley, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to approve the 6/30/10 Accounts Payable Check Register Report totaling \$94,077.42; motion approved.

Confirmation of Conflict of Interest Authorization for Fremont Downtown Rental Rehabilitation Program

The Fremont City Council held a public hearing on October 19, 2009 to receive public comment on a number of issues relating to the Fremont Rental Rehabilitation Program. Council disclosed and authorized one of its employees, Phil Deur, the Chief of Police, and his wife, Kim Deur, to receive funding and participate in the Fremont Rental Rehab Program to rehab the upper level space in their building located at 25 W. Main Street downtown Fremont.

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority requires, as part of its Conflict of Interest Regulations, that a legal opinion from the City be provided to MSHDA/HUD that states that there would be no violation of state or local law if the exception were granted. In the City attorney's opinion letter on the subject, he advises that in order to satisfy all requirements and to make sure there is no conflict of interest, Council should confirm the basis for their decision.

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Conley and approved, to confirm the following for the record:

1. That no one at the October 19, 2009 public hearing voiced any objections to the requested exemption.
2. That everyone in the target area for the rental rehab program has had the same access to the program and funding and that no preferential treatment was given to Phil and Kim Deur.
3. That Phil Deur, Chief of Police, has no decision making authority over the Fremont Rental Rehabilitation program.

Request for Re-Zoning of Property

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on June 22nd to consider Mr. Bud Meuwenberg's request for re-zoning of his parcel located at 301 N. Division Ave. and 312 N. Mechanic Ave. The Planning Commission denied his request to change it from Multi Family to Industrial and recommended the City Council confirm their recommendation.

Planning Commission member Jim Sloan noted he was absent from their meeting and read a personal statement recommending Council consider Mr. Meeuwenberg's request.

Mr. Meeuwenberg noted the property was rezoned in 2007 without his input and that he will most likely demolish the buildings, lowering the future property value and taxes on his parcels.

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Conley to confirm the Fremont Planning Commissions recommendation to deny Mr. Meeuwenberg's request for rezoning; motion approved.

Re-Appointment to the Fremont Planning Commission

Motion by Councilmember Conley, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to re-appoint Lon Vredevelt, Dennis Caplis and Jim Sloan to the Fremont Planning Commission, each for three-year terms ending June 30, 2013; motion approved.

The Following Communications were transmitted for Council Information:

- Staff Report: City Projects
- Letter from Comcast Regarding Channel Lineup Changes (6/15/10)
- Fremont Fire Department Minutes (6/28/10)
- Dayton Twp Board Meeting Minutes (5/13 & 6/10/10)

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM; motion approved.

James M. Rynberg, Mayor

Todd M. Blake, City Clerk