

FREMONT CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 15, 2008 – 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 Councilmembers Dick Conley, Jane Drake, James Breinling and Larry Breuker.

Staff Present: City Clerk/Finance Director Todd Blake (Interim Manager), DPW Superintendent Brian Hettinger and DPW Worker Greg Dunbar

Public Present: Faune Benson, Marianne Boerigter, Susan Breinling, Casey Korenstra, Paul Mellema, Kathleen McDonald, Doug Berens

Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

Resolution R-08-26: Honoring Water Supervisor Doug Hartger Upon His Retirement

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to approve Resolution R-08-26 honoring Mr. Doug Hartger upon his retirement and 36 years of service; motion approved.

Introduction of new Public Works Employee Gregg Dunbar

DPW Superintendent Brian Hettinger introduced the new DPW employee Mr. Greg Dunbar. Mr. Dunbar is filling an opening created within the DPW from Mr. Hartger's retirement. DPW Employee Rusty Boeskool will be promoted to the position of Water Supervisor.

Consent Action Items

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Breuker and approved, to authorize the following Action Items:

- Minutes of the Regular Council Session held December 1, 2008
- Request for use of the Market Pavilion and Downtown Parking Area for NCCA Arts Festival on Saturday, June 13, 2009
- Agreement for Collection of Fremont Public Schools Tax Levy on 2009 Summer Tax
- Acceptance of FAFG Grant of \$45,000 for Fremont Lake Water Quality Evaluation Program in coordination with the Fremont Lake Association and Grand Valley State University
- Approval of Updated Five Year Development Plan for Fremont Municipal Airport
- Change Order No.1: To Contract for Airport Parallel Taxiway Project with Hallack Contracting, for a decrease of \$18,796.69
- Authorize City Certification of Airport Parallel Taxiway Construction Project Final Acceptance
- Change Order No.5: To Contract for Street Reconstruction Projects with Bond Construction, for a decrease of \$3,360.86

Accounts Payable Check Register Report dated December 11, 2008 totaling \$287,584.57

Motion by Councilmember Breuker, seconded by Councilmember Conley to approve the December 11, 2008 Accounts Payable Check Register Report totaling \$287,584.57; motion approved.

Ordinance O-08-07: Amendments to Chapter 16 "Refuse Collection / Resource Recovery", Section 16-11 "Commercial and Industrial Collection"

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Breuker to adopt Ordinance O-08-07 amending Chapter 16 "Refuse Collection / Resource Recovery" Ordinance, to permit the City's contracting for commercial and industrial refuse service; motion approved by the following unanimous roll call:

Yeas: Rynberg, Conley, Drake, Breinling, Breuker
Nays: None
Absent: None

Amendment to Refuse Collection / Resource Recovery Agreement

City Clerk Blake submitted a copy of the proposed billing for downtown building and business owners, to incorporate downtown refuse services into the City's existing residential refuse service contract with Allied Waste. The City plans to implement a quarterly billing for said services to coincide with the City's existing utility billing system. This cooperative effort between the City, DDA and businesses will not only reduce overall refuse costs to downtown business owners, but enhance and improve access in the alleyway areas behind downtown buildings.

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to approve the revised Refuse Services Contract with Allied Waste, to include commercial refuse pickup in the Downtown area and extend the existing contract an additional year to March 31, 2011; motion approved.

Annual Review of Non-Union Employee Salary Schedule for Calendar Year 2009

City Clerk Blake reported the U.S. CPI-U from October 2007 to October 2008 is 3.8% and submitted the non-union employee salary schedule with a proposed 3% adjustment for 2009.

Council requested City Clerk Blake submit a comparison of cost of living adjustments for 2009 by other local governments in Newaygo County.

Re-Appointment to the Fremont Planning Commission

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Conley to re-appoint Councilmember Jane Drake to the Fremont Planning Commission for a three year term ending November 2011; motion approved.

Re-Appointments to the Fremont Community Joint Planning Commission (FCJPC)

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Breinling to re-appoint Lon Vredevelde and Peg May to the Fremont Community Joint Planning Commission for three year terms ending December 31, 2011; motion approved.

Re-Appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Drake to re-appoint James Helgemo and Russ Price to the Fremont Zoning Board of Appeals for a three year terms ending January 1, 2012; motion approved.

Council requested updated committee membership lists with education and attendance information.

Reports

City Clerk Blake reminded Council there will be a press conference held at Gerber Products on Wednesday, December 17th at 11:00 am.

Mayor Rynberg reported the City of Fremont is now a member of "Sister Cities International", and Council should discuss its commitment and plans for its partnership with the Switzerland community. Councilmember Drake recommended combined committee efforts with the Yahaba Friendship City Program.

Councilmember Breinling announced the Deer Task Force Committee will meet on December 23rd to review results from the 2008 season.

Public Comment

Painting contractor Paul Mellema reported re-painting of the City's administrative office areas is complete and requested Council consider amending his contract for an additional \$830 to cover the unanticipated dry-walling required, following removal of the vinyl wallpaper.

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Drake to amend the painting contract with Paul Mellema for an additional \$830; motion approved.

The Following Communications were transmitted for Council Information:

- Staff Report: City Projects
- November Budget Comparison for General/Water/Sewer Funds
- Letter from Mayor McGeehan, City of Holland re: Mayor's Exchange 2009
- NC Officer's Association Minutes of 9/3/08 Meeting & 12/3/08 Meeting Agenda

- Varnum Law Watt's New? Michigan Energy News (November 2008)
- Fire Department Minutes from 12/08/08 Meeting
- MML Action Alert 12/11/08: "Auto Loan Assistance Hinges on Senate Vote, Contact Key Senators Today!"
- MML Issue Advisory 12/10/08: "Mid-Year Cuts Don't Include Revenue Sharing!"
- MML State Affairs Report 12/09/08:
- Map of Proposed High School Site Evaluation
- GMHS's The Source 12/5/08 & 12/12/08
- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of 10/28/08 & Agenda for 12/09/08 Meeting
- MSU Land Policy Institute 12/12/08: "Report shows survey results on public opinion about shared public services for Michigan Municipalities"

Closed Session: To Discuss Union Negotiations and Pending Litigation

Motion by Councilmember Drake, seconded by Councilmember Conley to close the Regular Session at 7:45 PM to enter into a Closed Session, for the purpose of discussing union negotiations and pending litigation; motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.

The Closed Session ended at 8:30 PM and the Regular Session reconvened.

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Breinling, seconded by Councilmember Conley to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM; motion approved.

James M. Rynberg, Mayor

Todd M. Blake, City Clerk