

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 16, 2015**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, April 16, 2015 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mr. Michael Peck – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call showed that all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Kalb, Mr. Asbach, Mrs. Schildmeyer, Mr. Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus.

Mr. Asbach made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mr. Culbertson seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – The Mayor’s Monthly Court Report Receipts for March, 2015: Mayor’s Court Costs/Fines/Fees/Miscellaneous receipts were \$3,688.16. Bonds forfeited \$175.00. Total to the City was \$3,863.16. Total to the County was \$16.50. Total to the State was \$1,334.50. Total Disbursements were \$5,214.16.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – On the agenda tonight is Ordinance No. 21, 2015. This is allowing additional appropriations to General Fund 01-PS (Phone Services) of \$1,224.00. That is the Call Command money that we received back CASF and so we received a check from them and we’re putting the money back into the line item. There’s another one; 21-01, Mayor’s Court Computerization for \$200.00 and as I stated before this is money that was brought in under that line item and we need to appropriate it to be able to spend it and they need some software that they need to purchase.

This Ordinance also allows for the moving of certain appropriations from General Fund 202T Service Dept. permanent part time employees at \$13,000.00 to 2-12 plastic liners and recycling bins.

We do not have Ordinance No. 22 on the table tonight, I need to review that with Curtis. That is the Ordinance that is about the cashier’s pay. I want to go over that with him and see if we have to amend it or create a new one. I wasn’t sure since you already passed one this year.

Finally, the State Auditor has been in here a few days last week and a few days this week and it’s going pretty smoothly and the other thing that we’re pretty busy working on is summer applications.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Walden – Also before Council tonight is Ordinance No. 23, 2015. This is the Ordinance conveying the property at 4811 Vine St., known as the Imwalle property from the Village to the CIC so the CIC can further develop that property.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have prepared the monthly Treasurer’s report to Village Council.

Receipts for the month of March, 2015: \$ 1,349,435.72  
Receipts for the year through March 2015: \$ 2,981,562.12  
Copies have been distributed to Council Members, Clerk of Council and the Administration.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Ms. VanValkenberg – I would like to join the Law Director in urging you to pass Ordinance No. 23, 2015 conveying the real property known as the Imwallie Funeral Home at 4811 Vine St. to the CIC so that it can be developed.

Additionally, just to let you know that we did recently have one fireman resign. We have recently gone through a number of interviews. We supplement the remaining eight potential candidates with two others. The two others that were next on the list and we have completed those interviews and we are in the process of making an offer.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – As I stated at the last COW meeting, this Saturday, Channel 5 and Atumba Credit Union is having a “Shred It Day” open to the public. It’s from 9:00am until 1:00pm in Bridgetown, West Chester and Florence, Kentucky. It is on our website if you want to go out there and look at the addresses that are out there.

Also, with First Safety Bank, St. Bernard “Shred It Day” will be sometime in October. I have it down to two dates so hopefully by the next COW or Council Meeting I’ll be able to give the exact date for St. Bernard “Shred It Day”

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – As all of you know, April 15<sup>th</sup> is past. It’s the busiest day of the year in the office. We’re exhausted but we’re here. I want to thank all the tax payers for their cooperation on filing on time. The usage of the online tool is up again this year and everything went much smoother this year. It seems to get better every year as we try to work out all the kinks. Now we begin the process of receiving the mail. We get boxes of mail the next couple of days, opening them and processing them and so we ask for your patience if we need to send you a letter. Again we thank you for your cooperation and we’ll get it processed as soon as possible.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – A final reminder that this Saturday we will be picking up trash from the streets of St. Bernard from 9:00am until 12:00noon. Thanks to JuJu Beans coffee and friends, St. Bernard LaRosa’s, Scherpies Produce and New Shoots Landscaping for supplying the refreshments.

I would also like to thank the following sponsors of the first annual St. Bernard Bunny Fun Run and Business Hop. Farmer’s Insurance, Zumba Fitness and Tital Fan Club, Fieldhouse Collective, Take 10 Cincinnati, Skyline, LaRosa’s, Dairy Queen, JuJu Beans, St. Bernard Chiropractic, Flowers and Earth, Wigland, Village of St. Bernard, Ay Design/Art on Vine, Lost Corner, Crosleys, Scherpies, Wok Inn, New Shoots Landscaping, and Atmosphere Salon and Lounge, Get the Picture, Meiners and the Woodstone Creek Winery. Along with Melissa McManus and Dylan Raw for all their hard work. We raised \$1,392.01 for the stray animal adoption program.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – This is a final reminder that the next Block Watch Meeting will be Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm in the lower level of City Hall.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – The Service Dept. for March, 2015; there were 15 trucks placed at residences, 38 dumpsters placed at residences 123 special pick-ups at residences and 204.54 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. 36.20 tons of recycling material, 2,820 pounds of scrap metal. Along with the recycling; from the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District, the Village of St. Bernard recycled 221.32 tons and achieved a 15.80% recycling rate for the second period of 2014. The Village should soon receive a direct deposit in the amount of \$5,844.62 for that work.

Also, as I stated a couple of weeks ago at the COW, the Service Dept. has requested, it will be easier to let you know what is not acceptable for the recycling; on Thursdays and Fridays when you set those out to the curb, once again the things not acceptable are plastic that are not bottles, such as cool whip containers, butter tubs or food trays. Plastic bags, motor oil jugs or other chemical containers, Styrofoam, lids//caps, window or drinking glass, light bulbs, coat hangers or steel scrap and paint cans. If everyone would cooperate, the Service Dept. would appreciate it.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mrs. Schildmeyer – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus –No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – Tonight my Committee met and we talked about different things to help support our businesses here in St. Bernard. One of the main topics we started off with was discussion of the Chamber of Commerce and ways to go about getting that restarted and it sounded like its already in the works. Also we wanted to, I asked the business owners things that went well, things that didn't go well and ways we could change things and make things better and I do appreciate all the residents and businesses that showed up and gave their information. Some of it was good to hear, some of it was hard to hear but I'll be meeting with Bill Burkhardt and Paul Myers down there and we'll see what we can do to help streamline this process and make our Village more business friendly.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

Mr. Asbach – The COW report has been submitted to the Clerk.

Committee of the Whole  
Apr. 9, 2015

1. Council approved the minutes of the Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.
2. Mayor, Bill Burkhardt
  - a. Had the Fire Chief give the following report- That the bid on the SCBA equipment, that we received grant money for, came in lower than expected so he amended the grant to include a new air compressor. He also said that we received an ISO rating of 2, which is much better than we were in 1997 when we were a 4. This puts us in the top 2% in the nation and this should help with commercial and residential insurance when the rating kicks in on July 1<sup>st</sup> this year. He also apologized for the mistake on the overtime that we passed an Ordinance for last week. He and the Auditor had a miscommunication on the amount left in the line item. There was \$70,000, not the \$30,000 that was thought to be the right figure.
  - b. He also had the Recreation Director explain the requested increase for cashiers at the pool this year. After some discussion there was a motion and second to put an Ordinance on the table, 6-0, for the 1<sup>st</sup> year to be \$10 per hour with a dollar increase in years 2 & 3 for a max after the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of \$12 per hour.

- c. Said that he had met with firefighter Young on the 6 man staffing and Mr. Young gave Council a report on the importance of this policy.
3. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
    - a. Gave Council the monthly reports and to date we are up \$182,062.95 over last year at this time.
    - b. Said that the State Auditor was in on Wednesday and Thursday and things seemed to going well.
    - c. Reported that we received an inheritance payment of \$32,530.04 from 2012.
    - d. Said that the summer employees are getting things in order.
    - e. Said that the Police Chief didn't have enough money in a certain line item and had to use his miscellaneous line item to buy food for a prisoner. Council was okay with that.
  4. Service Director, Phil Stegman
    - a. Asked Council about the purchase of garbage cans that were discussed a few weeks ago. Council voted 6-0 to place an Ordinance on the table for the purchase.
    - b. Asked Council for an Ordinance to transfer the property at 4811 Vine, the Imwalle property, to the CIC. After some discussion Council voted 6-0 to place an Ordinance on the table for the transfer. There will also be a clause saying that half of the sale price goes to the Village and half goes to the CIC.
    - c. Asked Council to pass an Ordinance for the purchase of software for his department if it's needed. Council agreed to the purchase and Ordinance if needed.
    - d. Reported that the Village will have a "Shred it Day" and he will announce the date soon.
    - e. Said that he received a check for \$1,000 from the BSF Company to cover the cost of the Village Call Command. Council voted 6-0 to add this to the other Ordinance for the transfer of funds for the garbage can purchase.
    - f. Said that there was a construction meeting on the Ross Ave project and if the money from Water Works comes in, that money would be added to the Transfer Ordinance already on the table.
    - g. Reported that he closed on the LaRosa's parking lot which will give the Village about 40 new parking spaces.
  5. Tax Commissioner, Ed Geiser
    - a. Gave Council a copy of the Annual Receipt Comparisons report.
  6. Treasurer, John Ungrhue
    - a. Said that he received a notice to be part of the OhioCheckbook.com website to put the Villages spending on the website for Ohioans to see. Our software doesn't conform to this site.
    - b. Reported that the balance in our Star Plus account is \$725,348.32.
  7. Finance, Don Tobergte
    - a. Reported that "Clean up St. Bernard Day" will be April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM until noon and you should meet in the lower lot next to City Hall by Vine Street. Sponsors for the event are Ju Ju Beans, LaRosa's, New Shoots Landscaping and Scherpies Produce & Deli.
    - b. Said that the Fun Run was a big success.
  8. Safety, Ray Culbertson
    - a. Reported that the next Block Watch meeting will be Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 in the lower level of City Hall.
  9. Business & Industry, Andy Kalb
    - a. Reminded everyone of his committee meeting next Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM in Council chambers to discuss ways to keep as well as attract new businesses to St Bernard.

Council voted 6-0 to excuse the absent member.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Asbach  
President of Council, Pro-Tem

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to read tonight's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 21, 2015. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO MOVE APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 21, 2015. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 21, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Peck – Before we proceed, just to be clear, Mrs. Brickweg, you said that Ordinance No. 22, 2015 was still under review?

Mrs. Brickweg – Yes, Mr. President, I have prepared it but I need Mr. Walden to review it and then we will put it back on the table.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23, 2015. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD TO CONVEY REAL PROPERTIES KNOWN AS THE IMWALLE FUNERAL HOME AT 4811 VINE STREET, TO THE ST. BERNARD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III SECTION 1 OF THE AGREEMENT AND PLAN BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, OHIO AND THE ST. BERNARD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 23, 2015.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Tobergte – Curtis texted me about 11:30pm last night to talk about this Ordinance. I ignored the phone ringing and looked at it this morning. We talked, he suggested I come down and talk to Paul Myers. I tried to talk to Paul but after about five minutes, tirade from Paul, I left without much information. Bill filled me in a little bit but Paul is very upset about the 50% going back to the Village but I told him that we would have to agree to disagree and we had a few choice words so I just left. I suggest we leave that in there.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 23, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I understand when I was on vacation last week, Chief Kerry Meyer was able to announce that as of 2015 the St. Bernard Fire Dept. will be rated at 2 on the insurance organization rating system. I think that they should have a commendation for that and thank you guys for that and thank all the Fire Dept. for us because that will help to lower both residential and business fire insurance policies so thank you for that.

Mr. Stegman – For a number of weeks I kept on announcing it. I guess I should announce it, Mr. Tobergte reminded me next week is tire week. Anybody that has whole tires they can put them to the curb. The Village will pick them up and dispose of them through the Hamilton County Recycling Program. They will be giving us a dumpster again this next week and that will only be picked up next week. We won't pick tires up the whole year, it's only that week.

Mr. Tobergte – A couple of weeks ago Council met in Executive Session to discuss a salary structure for the City Hall employees. Hopefully everybody got a chance to look over it. I talked to Bill, we're going to meet in Executive Session again next week, in two weeks, we're not meeting next week, to discuss that further. Maybe I'll get my tongue fixed by then.

Ms. Hausfeld – On one hand I want to thank Phil for getting me the numbers and letting me know how to take care of a problem. I know Donnie has been complaining up here about the gravel in the sidewalks. Well I've been complaining about the black concrete in my block and I was afraid my eighty year old mother would fall, well it wasn't her, it was me. I messed up both of my knees again and I did talk to Duke and KS construction, I think it's called, first thing this morning and within a half of an hour they had five executives out there to talk to me and take pictures and within like two hours they had all the black concrete dug up and replaced by the end of the work day. I just want to appreciate and thank Phil for doing what he does. There was one comment, talking to the supervisors, the one guy said, he didn't know that the concrete out by mom's house, it's not concrete, I don't know what you call it, blacktop, that's it, he didn't realize that it was put down like that and I said I've been telling Phil for a while now and you're telling me Phil never said anything, and the guy said Oh no please don't tell Phil because he's been calling us left and right. So I just urge the citizens, and this is the only reason I mentioned it, if you do have a piece of blacktop that's out in front of your house that is either coming up, buckling or whatever the circumstance may be, I just don't want any other citizens to fall because it hurts. I know Phil will do his job and take care of it if somebody does call and report it to him. So if you guys have a problem, please call Phil at City Hall and I'm sure Phil's not happy with me saying that but he will take care of the problem so thank you Phil.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Thanks Patty for bringing that up. I noticed too after Don made comments about the gravel up on Vine St. , last week when it was so pretty I think a lot of people were out on a walk and I can't say that any piece of the blacktop that I walked over wasn't uneven. There were sunken holes especially all the way down Greenlee, even on Broerman Ave. It's not flat at all so I think that we should

look at all of those because I don't think that there are any of those that are real smooth. I think they are all a hazard.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Aren't they replacing all of that, eventually? That's my one question. It's not all going to stay blacktop. Correct?

Mr. Stegman – No. They're in the midst now, matter of fact they're coming up Ross now on Cindi's side of the road from down by Kieley Pl. They're on the way up the road replacing all of those. Yes, with the weather we had they are way behind and they are replacing it but I have complained about some of the low lying asphalt. The high ones, low ones, stuff that's moving, I tell them, I finally got them to replace all the, and that's coming back now too now that they're digging them back out, the plywood. Before this black asphalt it was plywood all over the community. So I complained and complained about that. They finally got asphalt down and now it's sinking after the course of so long being there. They are out doing full restoration now, the problem is they have to energize the lines and everybody wouldn't let them into their homes to do the taps during the winter. The seniors were saying they couldn't turn my heat off until it gets warmer so they are finally getting those done. They are out in full force trying to get all this asphalt out and put concrete in. If there is one that is really bad, please call me. I know people are calling me every day about when are they going to get rid of the asphalt but until they charge all the lines they will not start full restoration. But if there is a bad one out there like Patty's, call me and I will report it. Not saying it will get done because like I said I reported Patty's and it took the fall for them to report to their supervisor about it.

Mr. Tobergte – Phil, did they do that sample step in front of the old Police Station yet?

Mr. Stegman – No, that's going to be done starting Monday and I'm not going to have them put it in the parking lot up there now, we're going to put it down by the swimming pool between the old Police Station and the empty lot there at the bottom of the hill. That will start on Monday.

Mr. Tobergte – Still on Vine St. by the Police Station.

Mr. Stegman – I said last week I was going to try to put it in the parking lot but we're moving it towards the bottom of the hill.

Mr. Tobergte – Valerie do we have anything on the traffic cameras set on Greenlee?

Ms. VanValkenberg – I will look into that. it was my recollection they had some problems with them.

Mr. Tobergte – Thank you.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Hausfeld – I did have a phone call and Phil you can answer, I just remembered this when Donnie was asking about the stuff he was asking about, with doing Vine St. and the Streetscape some residents were concerned that we were going to literally paint everything yellow like, they can't do it? They were just voicing their

opinion and saying that they hoped we would not do that. OK, I can let them know that then.

Mr. Stegman – There will be no paint on Vine St. at all. Even the crosswalks will be heat sensitive type crosswalks and all the striping is all heat sensitive so there will be no paint on Vine.

Mr. Tobergte – Are you referring to “no parking” paint yellow?

Ms. Hausfeld – They were just saying they don’t want it all .....

Mr. Tobergte – On the curb.

Ms. Hausfeld – Yes.

### **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Betty Rapp, 4417 Tower Ave. – A while back Valerie you were supposed to get information on the renter’s fee. Did you ever look into that?

Ms. VanValkenberg – I’m sorry, on what?

Betty Rapp – On the renter’s fee when you have to pay for them to come and inspect your property

Ms. VanValkenberg – What specifically are you .....

Betty Rapp – You were supposed to find out how many rental properties there are.

Ms. VanValkenberg – That has been reported some time ago and I frankly don’t remember the number off the top of my head. And it is in fact an estimate. We cannot get exact information. We’d have to go through tax records to get that and we’re not allowed, The Tax Dept. cannot share that information with us. We have given it our best estimate. I will get that information back for you.

Betty Rapp – Well are you inspecting them now or.

Ms. VanValkenberg – Well, of course, I’m not doing it myself.

Betty Rapp – Well I didn’t mean that.

Ms. VanValkenberg – I will follow up with them. I know at this point in the year we are looking at the HIP Inspections too so it’s an ongoing process. I will follow up on this and I will be happy to speak to you about this next week after I talk to the people downstairs and see where they are with things.

Betty Rapp – OK. Another question. Donnie, how much money does Paul Myers want to give back to the City for Imwalle’s?

Mr. Tobergte – He wants to keep it all for the CIC. He doesn’t want to do a 50-50 split at all.

Betty Rapp – Are you guys going to let him do that?



Mr. Tobergte – No. The Ordinance we passed tonight is a 50% split in it. Valerie I think what she was referring to, back in January I asked for a report of where we stand on number of rental properties that were listed in the program, rental program, how many inspections we have done and follow up inspections and stuff like that I think that's what she was referring to.

Ms. VanValkenberg – I will follow up with them downstairs on that.

Mikellav Williams, 224 E. Ross Ave. – At Ross Park we have numerous people who come to the park, just like at Vine St. At both parks we have inappropriate things happening there. I just wanted to bring it up to Council like we need more cameras and we need more checking times, basically. Because I've been jumped there plenty of times and at the same time I have gone in the park so many times and found so many wrapper of inappropriate use of condoms and stuff just sitting all around the park. I think that needs to be talked about because of, there are young kids and teenagers and everybody that goes there don't need to see that stuff.

Ms. Hausfeld – Thank you for bringing that to our attention. I know in the smaller parks in years past it has been the same way and I know that I personally have said stuff because I have seen things and I know that the police were, especially when the spring and summer comes, they do patrol a lot more and they do get out there and I don't even know, do we still have like the foot patrols and or bike patrols or any of that stuff?

Ms. VanValkenberg – I think with the coming of the warmer weather we may have people more interested in doing that.

Ms. Hausfeld – I realize that but I just wanted to let him know that there should be more of a police presence especially now that we're in the warmer weather. Hopefully that will take care of some of those problems.

Melissa McManus – I own Atmosphere Salon at 4732 Vine St. First of all that kid is amazing. So give that guy a lot of credit. He's really smart and wise for his age. I'm going to second that on Imwalle. That's actually what we cut through, a rainy day cut through, the steps going up I actually called and reported that there were some kids doing drugs. Obviously they split up and ran when we came by and it was obviously what they were doing because you could smell everything. Probably should have not said publically that I called on them but hey that's what I did. Sorry, that's not smart. I am 100% agreeing that there's a lot of stuff that happens that shouldn't be happening. I did have a question about you guys talking about Streetscape stuff, at some point I know the power lines are going to have to go under the ground. I personally need to know when because I have to book my clients and I'm on Vine St. so I need to know 100% when I have to tell my clients, I'm sorry the electric is not going to be working today. Is that a worry or not, I need to know.

Mr. Stegman – That will not be a worry.

Melissa McManus – OK

Mr. Stegman – You need to stop by my office and I can show you the plans and why you won't have to worry because when we energize from the new lights the old poles will still be there, so it won't be like the City goes blank.

Melissa McManus – I wasn't sure because somebody said, if they're going to bury it, actually it was last week, I thought oh my gosh that's a wonderful question for me to ask, like do I really need to be closed that day or what but OK.

Mr. Stegman – We will be in full communication with the businesses when we're in to that process.

Melissa McManus – OK, OK, good to know because people ask me all kinds of information and I'm kind of like, I don't know but now I can give them some feedback. That's good to know so thank you. I think that's it.

Mr. Asbach – Due to there being five Thursdays this month the next COW meeting will be Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. We are off next week.

Motion by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.