

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2016**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, October 20, 2016 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mrs. Valerie VanValkenberg-Walden – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was a moment of silence observed for former Service Director, Ray Schrand, who passed away Wednesday morning.

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

Mrs. Bedinghaus made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mr. Culbertson seconded the motion. Council agreed 6-0.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – Before we begin the rest of the meeting I would like to introduce two nursing students from Xavier University. They are doing a report on St. Bernard. I happen to run into them a month or so back and they were very impressed with the amenities we have here and they took a little tour on the Dial-A-Ride with the courtesy of Mr. Eddie Buermann driving around town. So at the upper part of the audience we have Miss Julie Harris and Jenna Dooley. I asked them if they wanted to come to the podium to give an update and they said **NO**. Going back a couple meetings when we were asked about the dance and fitness studio and how we were doing with the funding and I checked with Paul and as of right now we're about \$1,000.00 in the black. Pretty good. That will be cyclical. More like a roller coaster. We sell the punch cards so they can attend like twenty sessions. Then all the ladies and the guys that go over there, they buy a punch card and that's when the revenue is going to go up but while they're using those punch cards there won't be much revenue coming in until the end of the month when they have to re-buy them and we pay the instructor. Then it will go back up. The attendance is good in all the, every activity, I'm trying to think of one that's low. I think we had one low group for the boot camp and that went from two people in the morning to twelve in the evening session so the time of day had something to do with when it will be better attendance

I'd like to thank the department heads for your goals. They were turned in. I asked all the department heads in the last meeting to turn in at least three goals and I appreciate that and I can choose from the way they read that they put some time and effort into it.

Tomorrow a flier will go out for our part-time fire fighters. The application and criteria for employment is complete. We will be offering \$20.00 an hour for part-time paramedic EMT. We reconfigured the committee and we're moving forward with that. I think part of this job as Mayor is to run the city as efficiently as possible and any cost effective measure we can run into along the way that doesn't reduce services and change jobs I think that's the right thing to do for the citizens because that's what we're all elected to do.

At this time I would like to ask Council to move a property line over six feet from the Franklin Park side. I put a drawing up there from Paul Myers, he made it, and there's a couple of reasons for this. I didn't ask to go into Executive Session

because we're not talking about the sale of property. You know where Bobby Hausfeld lives, his frontage is 58 feet. The parcel next to it is 52 feet and then the parcel next to it I believe is like 78 feet. So in order to give Bob Wilking, he's a life long resident who wants to continue living here, he wants to build a home there with a basement. To be consistent with Bob we need 6 feet over from the park side and that would also allow us a larger plot. We're talking to another person who wants to put a slab, they are not interested in a basement. So this lady is looking for a builder. She's interested in moving to the corner lot and we want a little bit larger plot on the corner. What we're going to do with the park is move the park to the back, get it off of Tower Ave. There's a lot of traffic up there when school's coming in and when the kids are leaving. This would get that park off of a main thoroughfare and back into Franklin Alley. I think it would increase the safety for children. The esthetic value for the area without a doubt having two or at least one new home and that would also give us a fenced in area with the back of Hackney's property, Bobby Hausfeld property and the two adjoining properties facing to the west of that. That would be completely enclosed on three sides and the city, we could put up a fence with a gate where parents could then sit in there with their kids and not worry about them running out in any traffic. So we're looking at that. The next step would be to go to the CIC for permission to make this sale. And I know that four people are in here on CIC if you have any questions or concerns you might want to throw them out now but I'm not asking for the sale now but I'll entertain any questions from Council about moving this property line. And I have Paul Myers here to back me up.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – John when you do move this property line the park becomes, in the back like you said, is it going to have the same amount of equipment, like swings and slides, whatever we have there now? Or will it be smaller?

Mayor Estep – Actually the square footage will be a slight bit smaller but the way, if you look at it on the perimeter going around that park there's a lot of unused area that's considered part of the park. We figured that in when we did the square footage, square area. But when we move it over it's going to be a little bit less but we should have the same amount of equipment and we're getting new equipment in and we're going to refurbish the old and we're going to just change the way it's set up. I'm getting a volunteer group together and they're all going to help us move it over so it won't be any cost to the city or anything.

Mr. Culbertson - I guess this is directed at Paul. Does this fit in line with what you had thought, the vision you had for up there, up at that piece of property? I know it's empty. I don't know how much it's been marketed or if there's been any answers to it as it sits

Paul Myers – There hasn't been that much interest in the property frankly but the vision was to have a park and two properties there. The only thing that is different here is the configuration. So it's, six months ago it was a park and two properties and that's what it is in the proposal.

Mr. Kalb – Do we have the money to relocate the park is my question? Right now the park sitting there, how are we going to move the park to a new location with the budget cuts?

Mayor Estep – Andy we're going to have a volunteer group that's going to help do that.

Mr. Tobergte – Paul when we talked this afternoon, you hear any more about the sewers and stuff with that granite and the foundation for the water towers up there.

Paul Myers – That will be a challenge. The property that is currently next to Bobby, not so much. That area will encroach, if you move the property line six feet, they get six more feet of that space. What that base is made of I don't really know and I can't find any records of it. It's either heavily reinforced concrete or granite block. Neither of which are very conducive to just moving things around. The problem will be that you need to get on that corner lot, a sewer. That will probably be handled by the placement of the slab on top of that base. If you get out far enough then you're out in the open dirt, not a problem. Otherwise you're going to be jack hammering out the sewer but that's..... is it doable? Yes. A little more expensive.

Ms. Hausfeld – I've lived up there all my life. It's always been for 48 plus years Tower Park. Now you're talking about moving it. I know it's just behind homes but my concern is I know what goes on some times at that park, just like all of our other parks in town, I know that we have to call the cops now and I have my neighbors up there that are always yelling at kids or calling the police when they need to. Let's face it, it's not the way it was when we all were much younger. The kids are not, there's some bad kids unfortunately that make it hard for everybody and I just see a problem. While I'm all for the new homes, don't get me wrong, I see a problem when taking a park from a corner lot and you're hiding it behind all the other houses there. Let's face it, there's some not so nice older people that prey on young kids and this would be an ideal place to prey on somebody. Most of our other parks are out in the open or visible like right there to where I just I guess I'm visualizing this being enclosed with homes behind it homes one the side of it and homes on the other side of it where you're only going to have one way in and one way out where now you can come in and out from different sides. That park is used a lot as it stands now. Now grant it I do believe it needs to be upgraded but I'm just speaking out loud here. I see a problem when you're taking a park from a corner lot and you're moving it in between homes. Off of the beaten path. And that's my concern and I watch and get out hopefully next week and talk to some of the neighbors up there and see how they feel. I know myself I live across the street a couple of doors down but I know there's always been neighbors that live right across the street from it that have concerns with me before in retrospect I called the police to see what was going on up there. So I have a concern with this park being enclosed the way you guys are talking about enclosing it and especially with all the kids up there and stuff like that. I know we've got great crossing guards that will watch out for us but how's she going or how are they going to watch out for stuff if they are behind homes. Right now they can watch out for it because it's on a corner lot, it's open, people can see it from all aspects of it. I have a concern when you're taking a park and enclosing it in amongst other homes.

Mayor Estep – You've got a good point there Patty but I think looking at the other side of it, with two new homes there and Bobby on the other side you're going to have more people with eyeballs on it and if you have that high fence from Hackney on the East side of it you could also work with Bobby to put a high fence on the back of it on the South side and then the two new residents if we get two there they can put a six foot or eight foot privacy fence and then you could have a higher fence on Franklin Alley side with a gate that keep it more to the door and you could lock that gate at night. They'd have to go through somebody's yard and climb

an eight foot fence and they'd have to go through some obstacles where they'd probably be noticed by people or they'd have to cut through Bobby's yard, that's not going to be good. And on the other point I think most of our parks are off the beaten path. The one up one Bertus, that sits off, and I think if kids are going to do something their going to find a place to do it. I'm not saying I have. If kids want to do something, they're going to find a place to do it. I don't think we can be responsible for monitoring every foot of every park that we have all the time. I don't think we can put that on the cross walk guard and say that she should be monitoring that park. Her focus should be on crossing the kids across the street. And she does a great job. I'm just thinking it would take more traffic off of that Tower Ave. Because that's pretty busy at arrival and departure for the kids. I think there's more positive than negative.

Ms. Hausfeld - I just want it to be noted in the record that John agreed with me for once. But I still unfortunately disagree with you. Sorry.

Mr. Tobergte – Paul do we have to resurvey, change two deeds, do you have any idea the costs of that?

Paul Myers – Nope.

Mr. Tobergte – John said you're the answer man.

Paul Myers – Yes the Village or CIC, those are the property owners so that would be either the Village or the CIC. And since the CIC normally comes to the Village it seems redundant.

Mr. Tobergte – Do you have any estimate like surveying it would be a couple grand, maybe?

Paul Myers – Survey and the title when doing the recording, yes, probably a couple of grand.

Mayor Estep - I think we have some money in the line item from CIC, don't we? Can't we take it out of that?

Mr. Tobergte – There's no money in the CIC line item.

Mayor Estep – No money in there at all?

Mr. Tobergte – Well we got money in the checking account for the CIC but I mean city budget city line item projection is 0.

Mayor Estep – That's why I said is there money in the CIC line item. I thought there was.

Mrs. Brickweg – There's no money in line items but they have over \$100,000.00 in the bank. They have money in the bank they would have to pay to the CIC but their line items in the Village that have nothing in them.

Mayor Estep – But we could get the money out of CIC for it?

Mrs. Brickweg – The CIC could lend us that, yes.

Mr. Asbach – I'm up here and I can say something now. Just a question for Mr. Peck. If we're looking to do this, is this done by voice vote or do we need to pass an Ordinance to have this happen? To change this?

Mr. Peck – Without having researched it, I'm not sure, but if you're pressing me for an answer now I would say do it by Ordinance. That's the safer path.

Mr. Asbach – That's where I'm going while we're talking about it tonight. I don't want to give a voice vote.

Mr. Peck - I was going to bring it up.

Paul Myers – You would probably need an Ordinance because what you would be doing is trading property, the Village and the CIC will trade those two parcels. So you'll need an Ordinance to make that happen.

Mr. Peck – As I was saying, I'll put it on COW and prepare an Ordinance for the next Council meeting.

Mayor Estep – Then that concludes my report.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's Office has prepared Ordinance 22, 2016 for tonight's meeting. This Ordinance provides additional appropriations to: 01-8-A-2 Safety Center Building Maintenance \$5,000.00 – many things breaking at the new Safety Center, including garage door repair and air conditioning issues.

01-58-3 Dance and Fitness Studio \$2,255.00 - this is revenue the Village has received from the sale of class cards.

01-2-C-4 Professional Services \$10,000.00 – this line item is running low. It is used to pay for items such as bank and bond charges, GASB financial statements and the company that does the Villages fixed assets and inventory.

And moves the following appropriations:

01-58-7A Concerts \$2,400.00

01-58-7C Recreation Incidentals \$600.00

TO

01-58-3 Dance and Fitness Studio \$3,000.00 – this money will be used to pay the instructors and equipment needed.

01-2-I-9 Professional Services \$3,000.00

TO

01-2-I-9B Bank Ave. Litigation \$3,000.00 – this line item is down to \$77.45 and the law director knows he will be receiving some additional invoices for Bank Ave.

01-2-O-9 Equipment Maintenance \$2,000.00

TO

01-2-O-8G Build Maintenance – Garage \$2,000.00 – this is line has \$713.81 in it and this is needed in case something would break.

01-2-O12 Plastic Liners & Recycle Bins \$2,600.00

TO

01-2-O-2B Part Time Seasonal \$2,600.00 – this is to cover the payroll of part time service department employees. They are no longer working.

04-SP-1 Pool Managers \$6,500.00

TO

04-SP-2 Pool Employees \$6,500.00 – the pool employees line items has \$1,008.47 in it and the Village still needs to pay lifeguards working at the indoor pool through the end of the year.

The Auditor's office provided Council and the Administration with the September, 2016 revenue and expense spreadsheets. The revenues year to date are \$9,175,128.13. The revenues compared to 2015 are down \$1,340,061.68. The Village still has not received the second half of county property taxes. If we receive near the same amount as the first half property taxes the revenues will be down \$940,061.68.

The expenses year to date with bond and grant money removed are \$9,650,650.12. Compared to 2015 the expenses are up \$611,930.10. As I have said over and over in the past I am very concerned with the reduced revenue and the amount of expenses. These numbers do not include the \$250,000 paid for Long John Silvers since it has not been closed on. If Council takes into consideration the estimated second half property taxes and the cost of purchasing Long John Silvers with the September revenues the Village has spent \$325,521.99 over the revenues. On a good note we received notification from Hamilton County that all of that properties that we had discussed before were approved for tax exempt. So we should be getting the money back and just as a reminder on this one since Paul is here, when you transfer that park property make sure you do it correctly so we're not paying taxes on that either.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – I received an update from the Hamilton County Municipal League and I'll forward this via email to Mr. Moore. But the issue has arisen again at the state level of whether the state is going to invalidate the collection of municipal taxes so that's something we need to keep our eye on. But I'll get with you and talk to you about it but again I'll stress that we do have a voice at the Municipal League. They do hire lobbyists for us. This is something we need to keep our eye on because it could have a negative effect on us.

I also prepared several Ordinances, researched several Ordinances and gave them to the committees. On Laws, Contracts and Claims I know we're probably going to meet in the near future regarding parking of recreational vehicles. I think it's the seventh one that's here that's probably run the gamut on how we can handle the issue. So I did tell everybody who was at the committee so I guess we'll discuss that later.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I received the Star-Ohio accounts which I shared with the members of Council and the Clerk. The total amount we have at the end of September; \$1,715,374.15. First Safety Bank balance currently \$5,632.43.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – Just some reminders with the upcoming trick or treat for our motorists we ask you please slow down in residential neighborhoods and obey all traffic signs and signals. Drive at least 5mph below the posted speed limit to give yourself extra time to react to children who may dart into the street. Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs. In dark costumes, they'll be harder to see at night. Look for children crossing the street. They may not be paying attention to traffic and cross the street mid-lock or between parked cars. Carefully enter and exit driveways and alleys. Turn on your headlights to make yourself more visible – even in the daylight. Broaden your scanning by looking for children left and right into yards and front porches. For our Trick-or-Treaters. Be bright at night – wear reflective tape on costumes and treat buckets to improve visibility to motorists and others. Wear disguises that don't obstruct vision, and avoid facemasks. Instead use nontoxic face paint. Also, watch the length of billowy costumes to help avoid tripping. Ensure any props are flexible and blunt-tipped to avoid injury from tripping or horseplay. Carry a flashlight containing fresh batteries and place it facedown in the treat bucket to free up one hand. Never shine it into the eyes of oncoming drivers. Stay on sidewalks and avoid walking in streets if possible. Look both ways and listen for traffic before crossing the street. Cross streets only at the corner, and never cross between parked vehicles or mid block. Trick-or-treat in a group if someone older cannot go with you. Ensure that an adult or older responsible youth is available to supervise children under age 12.

I have the St. Bernard Fire Department EMS report for September. The total EMS runs 98 with 56 transported. Mutual aid given, 6 runs to Elmwood and 1 to Golf Manor. Mutual aid received, 2 from Elmwood, 2 from Golf Manor and 2 from Lockland. Details of interest, Auto accidents 16, overdoses 6, psych 5, unconscious 3, gunshot 1.

I also have the Fire Department run report; a total of 48 fire details, mutual aid given Elmwood 2, Norwood 2. mutual aid received Elmwood 2, Norwood 2, Springfield Township 2, Cincinnati 2. details of interest, fire alarms 8, auto accidents 7, structure fires 4, EMS assists 4.

At the next COW meeting we will have our new ambulance on display with a demo of the power load cot system.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – I would like to remind everyone to bag or can your leaves. We will get the leaf vac out in a couple of weeks, as it is being repaired. We will always be able to take bagged or canned leaves on your appropriate days.

It is unwise and unlawful to put yard waste down our storm sewers. It can clog them. Abide by the law.

I have two more estimates to receive then I will have completed our claim for insurance. This would be Johnson Alley and the drain at the pool. Johnson Alley sewer system is intact and has been given clearance to proceed.

To My Community,

It's a change of seasons into fall. I have been thinking a lot about change. Just when you think you've got it, something changes. We need progression and that takes change. If I cannot even change my mind, then I probably can't change much. I do not think I am weak when I change because life is going to change with or without me. It is one of those guaranteed or steadfast things. So if I see that I cannot change the course of life, then I will work on myself to become aware of the change and then accept it. For that's the key to steadfast or guaranteed things, acceptance. If I can do that, I can advance further on my path.

TAX COMMITTEER, Mr. Moore – Just one thing tonight, I put the number income report, the September tax report, in your boxes. If you have any questions or if any explanations are needed I'll be glad to give them.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – I have been working with Kathy Wuebben developing a adopt a block program to help keep our village streets litter free. If you would like to adopt your block or street you can call me at 242-9499 or email me at newshoot@fuse.net and we can supply you with garbage tongs and garbage bags. In the first 2 weeks we have 13 people signed up.

The second annual haunted house will be held Saturday, October 29th at the old Save a Lot Building. This year there will be two haunted houses. The spooky house for smaller kids will be from 6:00 until 8:00. The haunted house for the brave will be from 7:00 until 10:00pm. The free pumpkin painting will be from 6:00 until 8:00pm. WesBanco will once again be doing face painting. I have ordered a large crate of pumpkins this year.

The Finance Committee will meet Thursday, Nov. 3rd at 6:00pm to discuss the recommendation from the Safety Director concerning the Chief's salary.

My next town hall meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 1st at 7:00 in Centennial Hall.

The next CIC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 15th at 5:30pm in the lower level conference room here at City Hall.

Next week I'll be working with Mayor Estep and Tommy Paul to work on the 2017 budget.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – During the month of September, 2016 officers were involved in 829 calls for service. Of those calls, officers responded to 27 accident reports and took 24 offense reports. Officers cleared a total of 9 offenses. Officers made 93 misdemeanor arrests and 3 felony arrests. Officers responded to 74 parking complaints and issued 16 parking citations. Officers issued 27 traffic citations, 2 DUI arrests and 62 warnings. We responded to 63 calls for suspicious activity, vehicles or persons.

I would also like to thank Capt. Troy Mirick for the presentation he gave for the Fire Dept. On Tuesday night's Block Watch meeting. And I'd also like to thank officer Setters and Lieutenants Ungruhe for the update on crime and other concerns of the Village.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – I have the Service Dept. Report for September, 2016. There were 37 trucks placed at residences, 30 dumpsters placed at residences, 246 special pick-ups at residences and 233.37 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. On the recycling side there were 38.03 tons of recycling material.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – I apologize for not showing up for the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee meeting tonight. We were going to be discussing the other, the Ordinance for parks and grass. We will continue that discussion on Nov. 17th at 6:00pm prior to that Council meeting and at that time that we discuss those two Ordinances we will also discuss the storage of vehicles including recreational vehicles in residential areas.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – I would like to welcome "Hair of the Dog Grooming Salon" to St. Bernard. It is located at 4516 Greenlee Ave. And

owned by Anna Steinmetz. They offer full service dog grooming. Please support this new local business.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Schildmeyer – Absent.

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

Committee of the Whole

Oct 6, 2016

1. Council voted 7-0 to approve the minutes of the Sept. 15th Council meeting.
2. Council discussed Ordinances # 20 & 21, which dealt with a fence and wall being built on the Village right of way. After much discussion and an explanation from Walt Moeller of the building department, it was decided that both Ordinances will have their second reading at the next Council meeting. Mr. Moeller also addressed a proposed Ordinance that is a low income rehabilitation loan that was discussed earlier in the Laws, Contracts & Claims meeting. This program would help those that don't have the means to complete HIP orders an opportunity to take this loan to upgrade their property. More work needs to be done before Council can pass this Ordinance. Mr. Moeller was also asked about Resolution # 4, which is a "Then & Now" Ordinance that is needed because Mr. Myers didn't fill out a PO for the proposed pocket park for Vine and Baker. Mr. Moeller said that work on the plans was stopped when Council decided not to go with the park. Mr. Myers will be asked to be at the next Council meeting to answer questions about the Ordinance. Council voted 7-0 to place the resolution on the table for the next Council meeting.
3. Mayor, John Estep
 - a. Said that he sent an email to the President of Council, asking her to be here tonight, to talk about the way that Council meetings were being run. Since she was not there he will address later.
 - b. Said that he and Paul Schildmeyer met with the Reds and did some site visits to upper and lower Ross Park along with others. They even looked at switching the Eagles for the old police station, but the cost of utilities might make them rethink that.
 - c. Said that he met with the Jacob Bobo and there are some people interested in the marketing when he is gone. Because of the budget that position will be looked at closely for next year.
 - d. Said that there was a department heads meeting and everyone was made aware of the budget situation. The department heads were given until Oct. 14th to make cuts to this year's budget so that Mr. Tobergte, Council and the Administration can work on a budget for 2017 to make sure that nobody loses a job. That's the last thing that anyone wants. He thinks we need to start trying to use the word under budget more often.
4. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
 - a. Discussed a proposed Ordinance for additional appropriations and moving money for certain line items. Council voted 7-0 to place the Ordinance on the table at the next Council meeting.

b. Gave Council the monthly spreadsheets and said that the revenues year to date are \$9,175,128.13. The revenues compared to 2015 are down \$1,340,061.68. The Village still has not received the second half of the County property taxes. If we receive near the same amount as the first half the revenues will be down \$940,061.68. The expenses year to date, with bond and grant money removed, are \$9,650,650.12. Compared to 2015 the expenses are up \$611,930.10. These numbers don't include the \$250,000.00 paid for the Long John Silver property since it has not been closed on yet.

5. Law Director, Mike Peck

a. Explained to Council that a Resolution or Ordinance can be placed on the table by two Councilpersons. These Ordinances should be discussed at the COW meetings and a motion made to place them on the table.

b. Gave a report on the number of cases that were handled at Mayor's court.

c. Said that he attended the Laws, Contracts & Claims committee meeting tonight and said that Ms. Bedinghaus would give a report on the items discussed.

6. Safety Director, Jonathan Stutchell

a. Reported that he gave the finance chair his recommendations on the pay increases for the fire and police chiefs.

b. Reported that the main pumper, damaged during the big storm, will be out of service until at least mid-December. The new ambulance will be delivered next week, but the power load cot is on back order so the ambulance will sit until that is delivered.

7. Service Director, Tom Paul

a. Discussed why he thought the cleaning of the police station should be under the police department line items. After some discussion he said that it would stay under his line item.

b. Reported that MSD finally came out to see the damage that the storm did on Johnson Alley. They could not believe what it looked like and apologized for the delay. Our insurance person has been in to look at all of our damage also.

c. Reported that the part time helpers are done and that with the amount of people they have the Village properties will be cut before any CIC properties.

d. Said that they will be collecting latex and water based paints for Matthew 25 Ministries behind City Hall from 9 until noon this Saturday Oct. 8th.

8. Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Rick Moore

a. Said that he will have the September numbers at the next Council meeting.

b. Said that work is still being done on the internal audit. Renter's records are being updated since they have 200 units unaccounted for right now. They are also looking at businesses because they found a few that were paying taxes to Cincinnati instead of St. Bernard, but that has been corrected.

9. Treasurer, John Ungruhe

a. Gave the monthly receipts report. Receipts thru August 2016 are \$8,096,840.63.

b. Gave a balance of \$5,632.43 as the total for the First Safety 4th of July fund.

10. Finance, Don Tobergte

a. Said that he has been working with Kathy Wuebben developing an “Adopt a Block Program” to help keep our streets litter free. If you would like to adopt your block or street you can call him at 242-9499 and he can supply you with garbage bags and tongs.

b. Reported that the Second Annual Haunted House will be held on Saturday October 29th at the old Save-a-Lot building. This year there will be two haunted houses. The spooky house for smaller kids will be from 6-8 and the haunted house for the brave will be from 7-10. The free pumpkin painting will be from 6-8.

WesBanco will once again be doing the face painting. Don will buy 250 pumpkins this year.

c. Reported that the next step for the townhomes on Tower Ave will be a Zoning Board meeting in early November. Mr. Myers has a lot of plans that he is reviewing.

11. Safety, Ray Culbertson

a. Reported that the next Block Watch meeting will be on Tuesday Oct. 18th at 6:30 at the Safety Center and they will discuss fire safety.

12. Service, Steve Asbach

a. Discussed that since the majority of Council voted to make the COW meetings the first Thursday of the month and the Council meetings the third Thursday of the month the Rules of Council should be changed to reflect that change. A motion was made and seconded to make the changes.

13. Laws, Contracts & Claims, Cindi Bedinghaus

a. Reported that her committee met to discuss a number of items. Mr. Peck will get with Mr. Evans for his recommendations on the weed and litter removal ordinance. Storage of vehicles, boats and RV’s, was also discussed and a town hall meeting will be held to get the input of the residents before a decision is made. They were presented a first draft of items for park Ordinances from the police chief. There are some items that he would like updated. The committee will meet on 10-20-16 at 6pm before the Council meeting.

14. A resident told the Auditor about a wrong date that was on the Resolution that was passed tonight.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Asbach

President of Council, Pro-Tem

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to read this evening's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only.

RESOLUTION NO. 4, 2016. A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF ONE INVOICE COVERED BY "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATION, A PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING \$3,000.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 4, 2016.

REMARKS

Ms. Hausfeld – Didn't we have Paul here to explain something on this one? Was this the one? I know we asked Paul to be here for some reason and I thought it was to deal with the Ordinances? No? Okay.

The motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt Resolution No. 4, 2016 as read. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Hausfeld voted no.

ORDINANCE NO. 20, 2016. APPROVING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RETAINING WALL 209 HARVEY COURT ON VILLAGE PROPERTY BY THE OWNER, BIAGIO LAMASSA, REQUIRING EXECUTION AND RECORDING OF AN INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the third reading of Ordinance No. 20, 2016.

REMARKS

Mr. Asbach – As I stated at the last Council meeting, I have, while I approve the improvements to these peoples property I still would like to see them go about it the proper way so as I have done since I can't remember I will be voting no on this but I understand that this needs to be done in case we need to do any work that they are responsible for replacing their wall/or fence so I just wanted to make that clear.

Mr. Kalb - I will also be voting no on this Ordinance as well, they did not, I mean they built it without prior approval from the Village and it is on City property and if we allow one to do it then we have to allow everybody to do it. Again I encourage improvement to Village property but you need to receive building permits saying you go about it the proper way.

The motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 20, 2016 as read. Motion passed 4-2. Mr. Asbach and Mr. Kalb voted no.

ORDINANCE NO. 21, 2016. APPROVING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FENCE AT 401 JACKSON AVENUE ON VILLAGE PROPERTY BY THE

OWNERS, CAROL A. & DANIEL S. CANNADY, REQUIRING EXECUTION AND RECORDING OF AN INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the third reading of Ordinance No. 21, 2016.

REMARKS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Ordinance No. 20 and 21, 2016 are somewhat similar based on they put up the fence on this case and on the other case they put up the wall. I do have to comment on this No. 21. I'll be voting on it because I still feel that some of this is the Village's problem as my understanding is when the individuals came up for their permit and said that they had looked up on line where there property line was and this is where they were going to put the fence it was agreed upon and signed off by our Village and then they went and put up the fence and when after it was constructed we went up and said oh you're too close to the street or whatever you want to call that's enough. So we have to have some kind of a plan or some thing in place where we go up and actually look at the property and have a line drawn or we do something. We can't guarantee with these individuals looking on line because we know that some of the stuff that are looked up is not actual. It was our fault to say yes it is, we signed off on it, so I believe that these people belong to have this Ordinance passed and again, they are going to be held accountable for if anything happens on that property and I understand that but I just really encourage us to look at how we do that process anymore because again anybody then will be able to comment and Andy said it, anybody said well before we know it we'll have everybody doing it. But we did sign off on this one.

Mr. Kalb - I'm not going to say the same thing that Cindi did but I'll go along with it. I will be voting for this Ordinance this evening because there was a little bit of miscommunication, things were approved going about it the right way and there was a slip up. Don't really know where that slip up is, I'm assuming steps to make sure that doesn't happen in the future so I don't want to hold this resident responsible for something that could have been our fault on this one so I will be voting for this Ordinance this evening.

Mr. Tobergte – Since Paul and Walt are here can you give us an explanation what's going to happen different from now on? If anything? Are we going to require survey being done now or.....

Walt Moeller with the Building Dept. - Actually I explained it at the COW but we'll give some credit here. What we're doing from now on is that we can do the building of fences if we're not able to get out and do an inspection of the whole Friday thing we will have to wait until Monday to actually start building those things. So we will actually physically be on site prior to anything being permissibly being erected which I explained the reason I think they build them over the weekend, nobody sees them, and then they are already in the ground. So, yes we will be doing that. 90% of the time when there's a conflict between property owners we do require them to get a survey of their properties so they know exactly where and we do have them explain it and we look at it prior to construction or approval of the permit to start with.

The motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt Ordinance No. 21, 2016 as read. Motion passed 5-1. Mr. Asbach voted no.

ORDINANCE NO. 22, 2016. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND MOVE CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 22, 2016.

REMARKS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Tom I have a question for you but in looking at the Safety Center and the Maintenance Garage, I remember you mentioning to us at COW one of the items that were broken on both buildings had to do with the sensors for the doors and that they were more residential sensors that were put on there and not industrial. So is there.....

Mr. Paul – What had happened was residential ones actually are not at fault. We had put in place commercial ones and tested it and actually mounted them to the wall. With residential we figured the vibration was causing the door to stop because if anybody walks through that or anything happens the door just doesn't close. It will just stop. The ones down at the Service Garage are also residential but they were under water so when the insurance claim gets filed I will file and hopefully file for commercial ones. But Kerry reported, the Fire Chief reported to me two days ago that commercial ones failed. So whatever is happening in that door, he's coming to look again, he's not charging us as he comes back, the loan or commercial things were free for us so he eliminates what's happening to that door and it is computer driven so it's probably a computer board, electronic board that's probably failing, which never happened before, go figure, another computer board in the heating and air conditioning, it was actually on the heating side not the air conditioning side that was blowing the fuse. So that has been repaired. This \$5,000.00 will be well spent because hopefully everything will be in order. But I do intend to look further into commercial eyeballs because they're mounted on to the building instead of the rails.

Mr. Tobergte – Peggy, the part-time people, that's for the second alleged payroll, correct? The last payroll we took out the foreman andOkay, thank you.

The motion to suspend passed 6-0

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt Ordinance No. 22, 2016 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Paul - I forgot to mention that I need to put into COW to discuss Johnson Alley.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Brett Vogel, President of St. Bernard Fire Fighters Local 450 - I'm here speaking with you in regard to the Village Administration's plans to bring part-time firefighters into the fire house to fill positions which were previously filled by your staff of career firefighters. First I'd like to apologize for coming to you with this information on such short notice. I wish I'd had more time to present this information to you on an individual basis. However, it recently came to my attention that a part-time firefighter employment plan maybe implemented in as little as two weeks. I think based upon the mayor's earlier comment that that is actually a little bit faster on us than two weeks. I think we're getting a little ahead of ourselves with this however considering that I think it violates certain aspects of Ohio Revised Code 4117. In addition to that it's not as simple as paying them \$20.00 an hour. Our current union contract stipulates that Local 450 is the sole bargaining agent for all St. Bernard firefighters. Therefore there are numerous articles of the contract that would apply to these employees. Not limited to pay but also sick leave, earned vacation time and if these employees would be paramedics then the paramedic bonus. We've been career fire department for over one hundred years. Make no mistake St. Bernard has not been doing things the wrong way all this time. On the contrary we've been leaders. Not only in our County but in the State. By industry standards, leading our department in the direction of part-time staffing would equate to a massive step backwards. As career firefighters we take great pride in the work that we do and the community in which we serve. Our positions at the fire department are not just a pay check to us but a huge part of our lives. Part-time firefighters are a bad deal for the citizens of St. Bernard for the following reasons. Revolving recruitment costs which will be much larger than it appears at first glance considering it must happen on a continual basis. Turnout gear which approximately \$3,000.00 per set has to be purchased for each individual employee. Uniforms, approximately \$400.00 per employee. That seems like a low estimate to me. Orientation, training, continuing education costs, by way of example the City of Fairfield, who assigns a Lieutenant to oversee the orientation of these new part-time employees for that city, they figure to put each new recruit through an orientation class cost approximately \$530.00 per employee. Plus the cost of the Lieutenant's time to conduct the orientation. Educational training at the fire department will most certainly have to be simplified in order to accommodate the lack of experience and knowledge that these part-timers will surely possess. This will affect the level of training received by your career firefighters due to these trainings need to be watered down. The hiring process which is made up of advertisement, written testing, background testing, polygraph testing, those two I think are really important considering these employees will be coming into your houses and potentially caring for you and your family. Add to that pre-employment medical examination testing. There is significant turnover rates for part-time employees. Fairfield City for example recorded losing 38 part-timers in less than four years. Colerain Township Fire Department loses approximately twenty part-time firefighters per year. All these departments, Harrison, Delhi, Anderson Township, Green Township, Crosley Township just to name a few in our County are either looking to or have already eliminated part-time employment models from their fire department. If part-time employees are so great why are these departments eliminating their part-time staffing? Part-time employees want full time positions. A recent survey of combined fire departments in Ohio showed that receiving full time work elsewhere is the number one reason for turnover. A part-time firefighter who sees little or no opportunity for full time employment at their department will be a less satisfied and less motivated employee overall. I spoke to a fire chief of a large department in our County today. This department has had part-time employees since 1981. Therefore they have a lot

of experience in dealing with type of fire department structure. This chief has the ability to staff 33 personnel per day over five stations. This staffing is made up of 20 full time firefighters and 13 part-time fire fighters. He told me that in recent time the part-time program has become a scheduling nightmare. Mostly since the introduction of Obamacare and the restraints associated with this program on part-time employees. Furthermore, he said that there is such a lack of consistency as it pertains to part-time staffing that he believes that the part-time staffing model has served it's purpose. He just hired six full time fire fighters last year and with the recent completion of their new union contract he will have the ability to add nine to twelve full time fire fighters in the near future. He stated that it is his intention to move his department in the direction of being all career.

Mrs. Van Valkenberg – Excuse me but there is a time restraint, I'm going to have to ask you to wind it up.

Brett Vogel – OK. Ultimately St. Bernard's fiscal stability is of the utmost importance to Local 450. My members families depend on St. Bernard remaining fiscally strong. It is for this reason amongst others that I will now say as I stated in the past, we at Local 450 representing career firefighters want to work together with the Administration and Council to help as much as we can with the financial problems facing our Village. That being said this challenge cannot be solely placed on the Fire Department. It will require participation from every department in the Village. We at the Fire Department are ready, as always, to help and hope that the rest of the Village will stand ready with us. Are there any questions that I can answer for you at this time?

Ms. Hausfeld – Brett my question is probably not for you but you maybe able to help me out if I don't get the answer. My question would be to the Mayor and the Safety Director. A couple of weeks ago, a month ago, whenever we had the meeting, you guys said you were going to look into this. And then I asked if I could be at the meeting and I was told no and you said you put together a committee, and the last I heard of that committee it fell apart or something happened to the committee and I kind of thought it was like you were putting together another committee and now tonight, correct me if I'm wrong ,Mayor, you said you're going to put out a letter tomorrow for part-time firemen? I would like to know, one, how you guys came up with your decision and I would like to know for two, because I'm a simple person, I need things in black and white, so I kind of want it written down what you think a part-time firefighter is going to save the city compared to full time lifetime devoted employee to the city especially when, I mean you can have a revolving door even for the full timers, I understand that. But to me as a Councilperson we have to fund, like he said, all the equipment, all the training, all the dollar amounts are coming from us to I would like to know, one, how you guys came up with this decision and two, I would like to know what you think it's going to save the citizens and the city as far as part-timers compared to full timers. And I know you can't give that to me tonight but I just think everything right away, I mean, I heard about this a couple of weeks ago, it was like three meetings ago so that was like six weeks ago and then all of a sudden I heard the committee fell apart and then now we're sending out letters tomorrow and I didn't even realize, and I know you guys are still looking into it but you didn't give us anymore information as far as why it's a good thing, why it's a bad thing. I kind of what to hear the pros and the cons of what you guys, how you guys came up with your decision because it's going to help you to depend on what I'm going to do as far as funding it or not funding it.

Mayor Estep - I'll begin by saying you firefighters do an admirable profession. I have all the respect in the world for you. This is not about personalities anything like that. It is an Administrative decision and it's on the cooker I guess for about six weeks that you have all known about it. You've had plenty of chances to ask questions. We've had meetings. We did have a committee and it fell apart and we reassigned a committee. We've done our research. The Captain, the Safety Director, myself, Terry Chin, Bobby Hausfeld are on the new committee. We did have some facts and figures in there. There are some costs to starting this. The turnout gear, there are a number of things that Brett mentioned. I met with Brett a couple of times on this and every meeting has been very good. I have a lot of respect for Brett. The costs just off the top of my head, if you would hire three part-time firefighters to replace one full time, the research that we did would give out \$55,000.00 for those three and replace a full time firefighter with another one is about \$122,000.00. So it cost some money. It's about saving the citizens here and doing the best job we can for them. We're elected to do what's best. Not to get reelected. That's what we're doing this for. Will it work, we don't know. It's working in plenty other departments in the immediately area. And as Brett mentioned it's been working in one place since 1981. So there must be some good to it. I don't think it's all good and if I was in Brett's shoes as the president of the Union I'd be fighting just the way he is. I have a lot of respect for him the way he is doing it. And a lot of respect for the firefighters as they do me. I was down there last week for firehouse chili. It couldn't have been nicer. I think they understand and we all understand that our revenue is not going to keep going up. I believe the cost of living, the cost in health care, a lot of those are going to go up. And we're going to have to do something now and be proactive and the bottom line is this is going to create jobs, not cost jobs. I don't want to come to Council a year from now and say we're \$200,000.00 down and we have to lay somebody off. We don't want to lose one person in any department. I don't want to reduce the level of services in any department. But I think there's ways that we can do a little bit better job of being cost effective in several areas. And this is one that we're looking into.

Ms. Hausfeld - I understand that, it's your decision as far as the Administration, but it's our decision as far as where the money is coming from and this and that. And for you to just throw it out that you're sending a letter out tomorrow, am I the only Councilperson that just heard that the letter is going out tomorrow? Did anybody else know before tonight that there was a letter going out for part-time firefighters? John here again, we're part of the body that makes decisions too and we find out with the general public that you're definitely doing this and you're definitely sending a letter out tomorrow while we knew nothing about it. You know, there again you're doing things and you're not even letting us know until we come to Council so yes, there are questions. And like I said, I'm a black and white person. I want to see it in black and white as far as what you think how you guys came to your decision as far as a full timer compared to a part-timer because according to Brett, and correct me if I'm wrong, some of you, the firefighters you have in place right now would still go towards part-time firefighters, correct?

Brett Vogel - I believe that yes it will. Based upon the language in Article 1 of the contract.

Ms. Hausfeld – So I'm not sure if everything was thought through and I really want to see black and white what you think it's going to save the city as far as dollar amounts. I don't want to see anybody laid off. I had a brother laid off in 2005 and it

wasn't pretty. Along with some very good friends that were laid off in 2005. That's not my objective here but I also want to be fair and not just have a mind set that we are going to part-time firefighters without giving it 110% thought through and letting us know, because we're the ones that are going to have to fund all the turnout gear and everything else we need for these firefighters to make sure they have the equipment that they need to save us some day. And like I said, I don't want to be in that second floor and not be able to be saved because you got people in there that don't know what they're doing.

Mrs. Brickweg – You're shocked, I'm shocked. I knew nothing about this and I'm the one that has to implement everything so once again it just gets frustrating being thrown under a bus every darn week. I knew nothing about this with a letter going out tomorrow, I guess one of my main questions is when do you plan on implementing this because there are many things. I guess I'm going to list a few questions. With what Brett just said about the contract, we've researched it, have we legally researched, has Mike Peck researched it because I think that's very important. I don't want to see us getting sued but at the same point some of what the Mayor said is so right about Obamacare. We can't now let anybody have over 24 hours a week otherwise they're listed on our insurance. The city has had that policy, the benefits, how will I implement the contract, I don't even know their part of the pension, that's a whole different pension. I would just appreciate it if this is really going forward that I might know since a lot of it is going to fall on my plate and I have no idea. Hold on, I'm not finished. The one thing that really bugs me the most, I talked to Jonathan, I talked to you and I talked to many people. You guys have had the opportunity to go for grants (inaudible?) I don't know how many times. Free money. Free money for a three to five years for a fireman. But yet we don't even look into it. So that just really bothers me. And the other thing is a starting fireman and you guys can correct me if I'm wrong I don't have the contract in front of me but it's about \$42, to \$43,000.00. Even if you maxed out the benefits which is very hard to do because we're self insured, at the most \$72,000.00. \$122,000.00, I have no idea where that number came from. That is just so far out there.

Brett Vogel – That is a five year firefighter, that's a senior firefighter is \$122,000.00.

Mrs. Brickweg – Ok and nobody starts as a senior you start at the bottom. So I'm just, if we're going to give the numbers out there lets give them the right numbers out there because that's what I do. I just wanted to say that. I just think it's a shame that we pass up on free money and go to this alternative. That's just my opinion but I would like to know about this since I have to implement this.

Mayor Estep – A lot of those question could be answered by the Chief. He couldn't come here tonight. He took his daughter to a Carrie Underwood concert. That's fine. So any questions you want to write them down and give them to me I'll get them answered by him. We talked about this and everybody had opportunity to question or say where are you. I don't know, I apologize if we don't tell you everything we do. Every decision we make. You use that word plural and again and getting thrown under the bus and this happened again, I don't think anything has happened prior to this that I can think of at least that I've implemented and we didn't tell everybody about it, give advanced notice to. But I can extend that, the flyer is just going out. We haven't implemented it. We're going to check out the stations, Kerry is. We're checking with Mike Peck on certain legalities. As far as

benefits, there aren't any benefits, they're not full time. They won't go through Civil Service. These are some of the things that I'm aware of. So if you have other questions just write them down I'll get them to Chief Meyer. I think he has a better handle on some of this than I do.

Mrs. Brickweg - I guess I have a question. Is Chief Meyer 100% approval of this?

Mayor Estep – Yes.

Mrs. Brickweg – Okay. Has Chief Meyer spoken to Mr. Peck?

Mr. Peck - (inaudible)

Mrs. Brickweg – So you haven't talked to him and answered any questions yet? Okay. I don't want to be mean. You were in my office today. All you had to do is talk to me about it and I could have maybe voiced this to you. And when I say thrown under the bus it just seems like two weeks ago it was something else and it's just like I'm here every day. I don't know why people don't speak to me and why people avoid my office. I have no idea. I don't think I'm that mean.

Mayor Estep – I'm not going to get into this but I don't avoid your office Peggy. I think I stop in quite frequently and I do I mean.

Mrs. Brickweg - I know and I don't want to get into it but when you were in there today it might have been nice if you said hey we're going to be sending out this letter or what's your opinion or what about the benefits or what about the pension. And I'm not looking at this as many other people it just is frustrating but people don't communicate. You know and you do stop in and you ask how my day was going but you could have at least told me you were going to discuss this tonight and then I wouldn't have to do this right now. I could have gave you my questions and I could start looking into it because I do have a lot to do with that.

Mayor Estep - I wasn't sure it was going out this early. I stopped in early, I had a field trip and I spoke to Kerry on the phone the latter part of the afternoon sometime and he told me the letter is ready, I could, it looks good so at the time know for sure I'd didn't know and I didn't realize it.

Ms. Hausfeld – My only concern then our own Law Director just said that he hasn't gotten any questions from you guys as far as the legality and stuff and different aspects of hiring part-timers. But yet we're going ahead to send out a letter? Are we jumping the gun. I mean shouldn't we have all of our ducks in a row before we go to hire somebody? I'm not saying you're going to hire them tomorrow but what you're saying now is a letter saying that we're going to go to part-timers and we're going to hire some part-timers. I would think you would have your ducks in a row before you send out that letter.

Mayor Estep – We really do. It's a flyer. We checked with several departments on the legality of benefits or the Obamacare, you can't have more than 1,000 hours a year. We've done a lot of research and we have a lot of it down so. It's not that we haven't done some research and we're pretty sure of this and if it doesn't work, it doesn't work. We have to do something to save some money.

Mr. Tobergte - I have the firefighter contract here, the firefighter one is \$42,576.51 starting salary.

Mrs. Brickweg - I was close. I do have just a couple. Is part of this plan to be implemented next year? Because my question is if it is, from what Brett is saying, has Kerry taken that into consideration with his budget? The turnout gear, the training and everything like that because most of his numbers are very similar so what really needs to be. We need to think about that and then the only other question I can ask Jonathan. Are you in support of this

Mr. Stuchell – If we can safely cover the Village, yes I am.

Mr. Tobergte - Again, I talked to Chief Meyer, he said it is in his budget and is accounted for. The Fire Inspector will be stepping down. There will no longer be a full time Fire Inspector. He did take that into account. He didn't say anything about turnout gear or nothing like that. He did say that there is some turnout gear down there that we might be able to use, he's not sure.

Mr. Culbertson – This is for the Mayor, I'm understanding this rolling to, based on what I'm hearing tonight, to replace, I guess, firefighters as they are retiring or is that, are we looking to offset overtime with part-timers. Could you give me the exact direction of why we're in a hurry to bring part-timers aboard.

Mayor Estep - I think it's a combination Ray. I know there's one guy retiring in February for sure and I think a lot of their vacation has already covered or scheduled. But in the meantime I don't think it's going to save a lot of money at first but down the road it possibly could save a lot of money.

Brett Vogel - I just have a couple of questions for the Mayor. First off, Mr. Mayor, you mentioned there was a Captain on the committee. May I ask you who the Captain is?

Mayor Estep – No I said there was a Captain on the committee. There is no Captain now.

Brett Vogel – Second of all, when you were talking about the monies for the part-time verses full timers you were comparing a senior firefighter to an initially hired part-time firefighter I think more of an apples to apples although you can't do that in this situation, a new full time firefighter compared to a new part-time firefighter. Those numbers as far as I can figure it are closer to 89.6 for a new firefighter and 76.8 to fill a position with a new part-timers. Other than that I thank you for your time. I'll be at the fire house tomorrow on duty if any of you have questions for me.

Mary Yeager, 2215 Adams Ave., Norwood - I am here because I wanted to introduce myself. I am running for State Representative for District 31 which includes St. Bernard. There was no candidate this year so I decided to take the opportunity to come here so that Council and people would get to know me. A little bit about myself, I'm a CPA, Certified Public Account, Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Examiner. Strong financial background. I actually did see a friendly face, I worked at UC for a little bit with John. It is actually a pleasure to see him. I am 38, the mother of five children between the ages of 13 and 8. I decided to run because primarily because what I thought the State could use is the financial background in particular, Kasich has said that personal income taxes

slated in January but they have been talking about getting rid of it. I believe that's wrong. My background includes bookkeeping and tax preparation, working for small businesses with individuals, government entities and I'm currently working on a special project for the Lakota School District. I have a broad financial background with a lot of different groups and individuals, fiscal governments numbers and fiscal business numbers. That's why I hope to bring that especially being in Norwood we're in fiscal emergency now. Trust me I've been watching our city the last, when I started to come to Council meetings in 2010. I've been watching it the past six years. I'm having some frustration with it. That's the primary thing I hope to bring and with that my nine year old daughter's endorsement which I appreciate the most. She said mom if everybody knew how well you managed money, everybody would vote for you. Anyway I do have cards here that have my information, I didn't know if I could put it out there if people wanted to pick up a card that way they knew where the web site was. Channel 12 giving an interview, they picked up our race so that is as well online so you can get a chance to know us. Thank you for your time.

Mrs. VanValkenberg-Walden – If you would like to give the address of your website.

Mary Yeager – The website is www.voteyeager.com and then to email or contact me is voteyeager@gmail.com.

Greg Lipp, Tower Ave. - Does Bobby's house have an address?

4422 same as my mom's.

Greg Lipp – Ok, it just seems like everybody is so familiar. I live across the street from Bobby's house 4411 Tower Ave. I've heard rumors until tonight that we are putting out applications for part-time firefighters so I'd like to know Mr. Estep do they have to go through the same background checks that we went through?

Mayor Estep – I'm not sure if it's the exact same thing. I've got to watch what I say, it's going to be picked apart. So I'm not sure if it's exactly the same background check. It may not be exactly for the part-time and they come with some of that information already. Can I ask you a question.

Greg Lipp – Sure.

Mayor Estep – Are you against it? Just a yes or no.

Greg Lipp - I can't answer with a yes or no. I can answer if you give me longer than five minutes.

Mayor Estep – Never mind. Can I ask you one more question? Yes or no answer. Are you a part-time firefighter somewhere else?

Greg Lipp – Yes, I am. Did you ask me to be on your committee so you'd know what's going on?

Mayor Estep – You know I did and we tried a couple of things and we went in another direction.

Greg Lipp – Yes you did. Do they have to take the same physical we have to take?

Mayor Estep – They will be given a physical.

Greg Lipp – Is it the same one we take?

Mayor Estep - I don't know which one you took.

Greg Lipp – Well we had the breathing analysis, chest Xxray. We have chemical companies here in town that they're going to be exposed to.

Mayor Estep – I'll check with the Chief and see which one they're given and which one he wants them to take.

Greg Lipp – Alright. What level of training are we requiring? Firefighter two?

Mayor Estep – I'll have to ask the Chief.

Greg Lipp – Paramedic?

Mayor Estep – We're asking \$20.00, we're offering \$20.00 for a paramedic. I think other places are a little bit cheaper, we're trying to out bid them a little bit.

Greg Lipp – Positive material technician?

Mayor Estep – I don't know all of them Greg.

Greg Lipp – Emergency vehicle driving? They're going to be driving our vehicles. How will I know their skill level as a Captain as their supervisor?

Mayor Estep – The Chief will have that information for you.

Greg Lipp – Well I've heard that you're looking to create a list and I'm here to tell you we have a list. There's seven guys on it right now that have been through Civil Service. Are these guys going to go through Civil Service?

Mayor Estep – No.

Greg Lipp – Why not?

Mayor Estep – They don't have to. They're part-time.

Greg Lipp – Okay. So why do you want to use firefighters to fix our staffing issues that don't meet our criteria? You're getting ready to hire firefighters under the same criteria that you hire people to cut our grass. And I like those guys that cut the grass. They do a wonderful job. I'm not knocking that. What I'm here to tell you is these guys are going to be going into people's homes, here in St. Bernard, taking care of our loved ones, our citizens, and their going to be watching my back while I watch theirs. As far as part-time verses full time, I can answer you this, if you can get a part-time guy there, and Mr. Kalb, back check me, if you can get a part-time guy there in house to teach him, to teach him how you do things and to work with you he can be an asset, he or she can be an asset. The problem is they aren't out there right now. And when you put your application out, you'll get a lot of first

responses but especially when they watch this on the internet, they're not even going to show up. Other departments have used this and some of them successful and some are not. There are departments out there that have lists with full time and part-time firefighters and it works for them because they worked with their city administrations and put this together in a system that works for them. They don't just throw it out and say here deal with it. I asked the Chief you said asked the Chief, he's got the answers. Other administrations don't throw people off the committee because they do not say what they want to hear. If you want to build a staffing at the fire house, personally I'm all for it. I think that's great. I'm at the fire house with five guys, five guys. So what we have to do is, we have to leave an apparatus back at the fire house and equipment and go with what we've got as people are waiting for help. I've been on encode, a non breather with five guys when we let go of that guy, when they transported him to the doctor they left me at the fire house by myself. And I had to start calling around to get help to get people in. I could go on and on with these. Thing is, if you're really serious about this, take that list that we've got now, and those guys have been through Civil Service, offer them a spot. See if they'll take it. It could be an on the job training, an on job interview, for those guys. Let Captain Brickweg and myself retire and people after us. You can't replace everyone of us with part-timers. It just doesn't work. There's an interview process for those guys to come in to work the rest full time. And they're already tested. You can skip the meetings you've been up till now. Mr. Kalb, did I leave anything out?

Mrs. Brickweg - I don't think John would have all the answers but I would think maybe the Safety Director would have some answers. If you would direct your questions to him. I mean I'm just thinking it's his job and you're his boss so I would imagine he knows.

Greg Lipp - I don't know who knows what. I don't like the way this is going right now. It's being run all the wrong way. As far as legal ramifications, you're offering jobs to other people when you've already got a Civil Service list that's out there. I'm listening, go ahead.

Mr. Stuchell – As far as, there will be a background check, there will be either a polygraph or a voice stress analysis. As far as the exact physical portion of it I'll have to verify what that all entails but I don't have it all with me. I don't have my packet with me. I apologize, as far as what the exact evaluation would be but there will be a physical side to it. I do not have all of that with me, I apologize, I don't have the entire packet where the revue committee has as far as what the physical side would be.

Dour Roll, 155 Church St. - This has nothing to do with what was just discussed but this is an earlier topic that I was paying attention to. The Franklin Park issue. I think it's great that people want to build a nice home in town, I think it's great when we have new homes in town. The Wilkings have been here for a long period of time. I remember about ten years ago when Mr. Estep's administration tried to take, I'm sorry, tried to develop Park Place Park and he kind of got a lot of flack from a lot of people saying you can't take out a park and all those things. Well it kind of fell by the way side until Bill got in and it was developed and I think it looks really, really super nice up there. What happened in the meantime with St. Clement basically didn't have that park for their kids and they went down to Vine St. Park and it has worked great as far as I know. I haven't heard no complaints. I think the same thing could apply in this situation. I don't think Franklin Park is a necessity.

It's basically there for the kids who get out of school. It creates a gridlock of cars in the morning and afternoon. I guess what I'm saying here, I heard Mr. Estep talk about efficiency, and I love that word, I believe an efficient measure would be to utilize Vine St. Park again for this issue. Number one, the park as far as I'm concerned doesn't need to be there, Franklin Park, it gives the Wilkings plenty of space to build their home. I believe it would be better to take the cars off of Tower Ave. Allow them to circle Vine St. Park, pick up their kids, build the concrete steps all the way up to the back and let the kids go into Vine St. Park. It would get rid of the gridlocked vehicles. Mrs. Tempel does a great job up there. She wouldn't be up there anymore obviously. We have a lack of Crossing Guards, it seems like we're always looking for new ones. So I'm sure that she could be relocated somewhere else. I just think that it goes to efficiency and it's maybe something that should be looked at. Maybe the track needs to be widened so you could get two cars passed for when they pick their kids up they can go out an exit, the park. Just a thought.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to excuse the absent member. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, November 3rd at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.