

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2013**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, August 1, 2013 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 six members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Meier, Mr. Holt, Mrs. Schildmeyer, Mr. Culbertson, and Mrs. Bedinghaus. Mr. Asbach was absent.

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

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – Absent

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – In Council's boxes this evening you'll find the end of July Revenue Cash Fund and Expenditure reports. The ones I gave you last week just got up through that so this is through the end of the month. Tonight as the Auditor's office was requested to prepare Ordinance No. 30, 2013. This Ordinance has three different parts to it. The first, and most of this was discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting and the COW, except for the last part which I will go over. The first section is authorizing the Auditor to transfer \$51,200.00 from the General Fund transfer out to the following Cash Accounts. Number one being the C-9 Trust Fund Cash Account for \$50,000.00 and the Building Permit Cash Account for \$1,200.00. The second section authorizes and directs the Auditor to move certain appropriations. We are taking from 6-A-1 Police Overtime \$2,000.00, 6-A-9 Evidence Processing \$2,000.00 and 6-A-13 Police Equipment Outlay \$2,000.00 and that will be moved into Police Maintenance of Equipment for \$6,000.00. This is going to be used because they did not get the new Police cars this year and they've had very high cost in maintenance. So he is hoping this will get him through a month or two. The next part is police incidentals, \$25.00 to Sustenance of Prisoners, 6-A-17, we're moving \$25.00 into that one. Then from the Swimming Pool Fund we're moving from 4-SP-9 Equipment Maintenance, \$2,300.00 to the Swimming Pool Fund for SP-4 Swimming Pool Supplies \$2,300.00 and that is to pay for chlorine if needed. Based right now on the weather they might not need it but they're out so this is in case we have to buy additional chlorine. And then section three authorizes and directs the Auditor to provide additional appropriations to the following; out of the General Fund 2-I-7 Court Expenses \$200.00, this money is to help pay for somebody if Curtis for some reason cannot make Mayor's Court then we can pay Mike Peck to sit in on Mayor's Court. 17-01 Building Code Expenses \$1,200.00, this is the money that we have to send back to the County. They get 1% of residential, 3% of building permits commercial. 13-01 in Criminal Acts Forfeiture Expenses, \$28,727.90 in 17-01 Drug Offender Fine Expenses, \$3,977.35. And as I put into an email to Council yesterday, Chief Steve Moeller came in and asked for these additional

appropriations and what this is money that the Police Dept. has brought in for these acts and they have to by law go into their own Cash Fund. So in order for him to spend it, it needs to be appropriated. If we don't appropriate it at the beginning of the year because we really don't know how much they're going to bring in. so that's what this money is. It's money they have that they can spend on certain things and he has some things that he wants to write purchase orders for. Does anybody have any questions?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Equipment?

Mrs. Brickweg – I'm just guessing on this but I remember from when I was on Council, I think they have to spend it in like similar things what it says. The Drug Offender Fine is spent on helping to catch other drug dealers or drug acts and so I'm assuming the criminal act forfeiture needs to be spent in the same scenario. I'll ask Steve and have him email everybody but I remember him explaining that in the past.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I would think that Evidence Processing and Police Overtime all could be considered a help in catching drug offenders or whatever because that is a substantial amount of money and I don't disagree it shouldn't go back to him but I would like to know what they can spend it on.

Mrs. Brickweg – I'll send him an email and ask him to email everybody what things they can spend it on.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Walden – That Ordinance that we do twice a year where the St. Bernard Ordinances are updated to be in line with the change in State Laws, Council may remember back in June we passed a fairly extensive Ordinance changing our own laws, and the difference is the laws that are affected by Ordinance No. 31 are changes that need to be made to have our local laws comply with the changes in the State Law. The Ordinance we passed in June was changes just to St. Bernard Law that would not be affected by State Law. Some of the Ordinances were simply out of date and no longer needed so we got rid of those. But that's why this Ordinance is necessary after the June Ordinance and again it just arrived to Heidi early this week which is why it was not discussed at the COW.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – I have the monthly Treasurer's report for through June;

Receipts for the month of June 2013:	\$ 1,008,357.56
Receipts for the year through June 2013:	\$ 6,575,019.89

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Ms. Van Valkenburg – I did want to make sure that all Council members received a copy of the documents from the Chief of Police about the car repairs that were mentioned last week. I hope you all received them. I put them in your mail boxes. I think it was on Tuesday. I know Chief Moeller was down talking with the Finance Committee talking about those things Tuesday evening. I'm sure you have the documentation for that.

As I remember, Mr. Asbach did ask me to discuss here at the meeting tonight the information I had last week at COW concerning the work of the Planning and Development Dept. Just briefly, because I did discuss this last week, through the end of last week, basically there were 148 permits issued for OBC and 1,2,3 family construction. Just also briefly an update on the HIP Program through July 25th, 75 home inspections on Sullivan Ave., basically that street has been completed now.

They are doing some follow-up inspections, they are also doing follow-up inspections on Vine. They've issued eleven seven day letters based on Vine St. follow-ups, twenty four thank you letters on Sullivan with four pending. Thirty five sets of orders issued on Sullivan. Additionally it also had that they had worked on the rental program. Inspections through July 25th beginning with 91 days worked, the number of inspections was 189, the number of letters mailed was 364 and also as we discussed what Mr. Oster had been paid was at the bottom of that sheet that I handed out last week and his breakdown of how he spent his time. Apparently 90% is spent with getting set up, actually doing the set up, the follow through, the clerical and 10% is on inspection time. With mechanical inspections, approximately 20% of the time is for set up, follow up and clerical with 80% being inspection time.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – Absent.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – Each member of Council has received the annual comparison that I give out at the end of each month. For the month of July the Tax Dept. brought in \$609,000.00 and you can see the comparison to the last couple of years. Any questions contact me or call me.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Meier – The Finance Committee met this past Tuesday evening. We met with Dept. Heads and Dept. of Building, Planning and Development, the Police Chief and the Service Director. On Building, Planning and Development, originally we had some concerns but we have sufficient funds in property management. As long as anything unforeseen doesn't come up we should be okay with that and we're on track with contracts as well. As of right now we are actively pursuing properties, at risk properties, that are becoming available throughout the City. There is one that is just waiting to hear that we have a confirmation that we have a contract back on. We did discuss a little bit about the funds that are in the CIC, they've got a little bit over \$300,000.00. Most of that is already committed to projects that are ongoing for property acquisitions, renovations and rehabbing. As of right now there are more properties coming on the market than we have funds to apply. So Paul is trying to get as much as he can. Trying to prioritize purchases where they can have the biggest impact. We did discuss with the Police Chief, again not to be repetitious, we did discuss the maintenance of equipment. In the budget for 2014, we did budget for the acquisition of three new Police vehicles. The thought behind this is that rather than buying all five at one time, which we don't have the funds for, we can fund three of them in 2014 and two additional ones in 2015 and that way we're not going to be hit, we shouldn't be hit with, the large purchases of police vehicles every five years. We can kind of role through them. The additional funding for the maintenance of equipment, that is, the Police Chief may not necessarily spend that, it just depends on whether something comes up, it's there in case they have any additional problems with transmissions or things of that nature that they experienced early this year. But Chief Moeller has been pretty pro-active in taking care of his budget and he is controlling it as best that he can. On the Service, Mr. Stegman went through his budget. The only thing, and we already discussed that, already discussed the quoting for the pool. It's been really not a good pool season, we've had a lot of rainy days, pool days. When we do get the rain, those are the times that we have to add the additional chlorine because obviously as the rain is coming down and filling up the pool that's additional water that hasn't been

treated. On the good side we really haven't had a lot of really, really hot days with a lot of overtime for the pool so they're managing that as best as they can. With the chlorine it's something that if we buy it this season and don't use it we will have it the beginning of next season. If you've noticed there is a silver pick-up for sale over in the shopping center. The transmission is shot on that vehicle. Phil is looking to find something, that's the one they used for daily transport back and forth. He's trying to find something to use, something less expensive that is not necessarily going out and buying something new. That particular vehicle has come from a drug bust so we have taken possession so if anybody knows any drug offenders that have pick-up trucks, please let Chief Moeller know and possibly we can acquire another vehicle that way. On street projects we are applying for the SCIP grant for the project on Jackson. We applied at a very low percentage. In the past you'll hear Council talking about matching funds, a lot of communities will only match 10% of the cost of the project. St. Bernard has been very fortunate that in the past years we have been able to match up to 50% of the projects which is why we've been so successful in getting these grants. We applied for the grant for Jackson last year at a very low level knowing that we wouldn't get it just so we could get an idea what kind of priority and what kind of points we can get. Mr. Goede from JMA who does the engineering for the City has, feels pretty confident that with a 40% match next year we would be successful getting the SCIP grant funding. That particular project would be about \$780,000.00 so at 40% the City would be looking at about \$312,000.00. There's already \$78,000.00 in the 2013 budget to do the engineering on that particular project if we were to be successful. That being said we don't have \$312,000.00 in the budget next year for that project. As we get closer to the end of the third quarter and we can get a better look at where the revenues are, we can see whether it's something we can afford to do or not. In the meantime we will apply for the grant, it's something that we could have in hand. If we can't do it, we can't do it, but if things work out to where we can we definitely want to have those funds available.

SAFETY, Mr. Asbach – Absent.

SERVICE, Mr. Holt – No report.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mrs. Schildmeyer – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mr. Culbertson – No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mrs. Bedinghaus – No report.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mr. Tobergte – For the month of July there were 1,703 regular Dial-A-Ride riders which brings the yearly total to 11,945. The Medical Bus had 10 riders which brings the yearly total to 116. My next Town Hall Meeting will be Tuesday Aug 13th at 7:00pm in the lower level of City Hall.

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

Committee of the Whole
July 25, 2013

1. A motion was made and seconded to strike Mr. Lee Wright's comments from the July 2nd Council meeting because of their political nature. Council voted 7-0 on the motion and also to approve the minutes of the July 2nd Council meeting with the correction.

2. Mayor, Bill Burkhardt
 - A. Reported that the Communities of Distinction video project is nearing completion. He thanked Mr. Paul Meyers for being the point of contact for the project. He also thanked Becky and Dan Boyd, from Bowling Green, Kentucky, for taking time out of their busy schedules to bring their dog, Red Bull, a 190 pound 3 year old Grand Champion St. Bernard, to star in the video.
 - B. Reported that several residents are interested in expanded fitness center hours, so over the next few weeks there will be a “recommended hours” posted and reviewed at the end of August.
 - C. Reported that the process in which residents register to qualify for Village services is being reviewed. There were a few issues with pool and fitness center passes and are working on a solution.
 - D. Announced that St. Bernard is being considered for a “Slider Course” event for the upcoming 2014 Winter Olympics. Similar to the Soap Box Derby, Tower Ave would be turned into a slider/luge course to prepare and look for potential Olympic worthy luge athletes. More info to come.
 - E. Said that the 4th of July festival was a total wash out. Alternative booth placement sites will be considered for future years. On a bright note, the Rozzi Fireworks show, was fantastic and hope everyone enjoyed them.

3. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
 - A. Gave Council several reports and spread sheets for their review. Also a quarterly revenue report.
 - B. Asked Council for an Additional Appropriations Ordinance because certain line items were low. Council voted 7-0 to put the Ordinance on the table. There will be a need for another Ordinance in the future after a Finance Meeting to determine what will go in the line items that aren’t on this Ordinance.
 - C. Reported that the balance in the CIC account is \$310,841.90
 - D. Said that the State Auditor has suggested that we go to some sort of card system to pay for the pool passes, fitness center, Dial-a-Ride and others. This will be reviewed and reported on at a future meeting.
 - E. Reported that we received another fine, from the 70’s and 80’s, when OPERS money was not paid for certain employees.

4. Law Director, Curtis Walden
 - A. Thanked Mike Peck for covering the last Mayor’s Court for him.
 - B. Explained Ord. #28, which needs to be passed to put a lien on the property at 528 Mitchell Ave. to recover the \$8,000.00 that the Village spent to demolish the condemned building. Council voted 7-0 to put the Ordinance on the table.

5. Safety Director, Valerie Van Vulkenburg
 - A. Gave a report to Council on the activities from the Building Department. The report will be given in more detail at the next Council meeting.
 - B. Reported that there has been a lot of maintenance on the police cars to date. The cars were kept longer than usual and have needed more to maintain.

6. Service Director, Phil Stegman
 - A. Asked for a Resolution to go out for SCIP funds for 2014. Council voted 7-0 to put the Resolution on the table.
 - B. Asked for an Ordinance to enter into a contract for road salt for this year. Last year the cost was \$62.61 per ton and this year it is only \$47.65 per ton. Council voted 7-0 to put the Ordinance on the table.

7. Treasurer, John Ungrhue
 - A. Gave Council a copy of the current investments report.

8. Finance, Kevin Meier
 - A. Announced that the committee will meet on Tuesday July 30th at 7 PM with the department heads to go over certain line items that are low.

9. Highways & Transportation, Don Tobergte
 - A. Thanked Target for donating the two bikes for the bike rodeo. He also wished Andy Gruenwald good luck this weekend in the Soap Box Derby in Akron.
 - B. Announced that his next town hall meeting will be Tuesday August 13th at 7 PM.

A motion was made to start the August 8th COW meeting at 7 PM in Executive Session for pending litigation. Council voted 7-0 on the motion.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

July 16, 2013

Dear Members of the St. Bernard City Government and St. Bernard Residents,

I would like to recognize and thank our St. Bernard City Service Department for outstanding service and professionalism.

During the holiday week of July 4, 2013, the Service Department went above and beyond to help me and my family in a difficult situation when a tenant in my single family home abandoned the home with all of her belongings left inside. Despite miscommunication and maltreatment from a third party that manages the property for me (after I had to relocate to North Carolina for work), the Service Department continued to work pleasantly with me to come to a resolution.

Specifically, I would like to thank Mr. Phil Stegman, Service Director, who not only made several phone calls during his “off time” on the eve of the holiday to rectify this issue, but also followed up with me after the waste was removed. At 8 months pregnant, I cannot convey how much weight was taken from my shoulders with this simple follow-up call. Not only that, Mr. Stegman noticed an open door to my property and followed up with both the Police Department and the previously mentioned management company to ensure that my property was safe. “That’s our job,” he reassured me when I asked him how I could thank him and his team. In this day and age, it’s refreshing to see such professionalism and courteous customer service.

Finally, I cannot thank enough the City Service employees that removed this waste for me. I did not see the load, but was told that it was an enormous job. For doing so, without complaint, on the Friday of a holiday weekend, you should be commended.

Again, no words can truly express my gratitude. Thank you all for continuing to make St. Bernard a desirable place to call home. I do miss it!

Sincerely,
Stacey A. Maignan

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to receive and file the communication and send a copy to Mr. Stegman and the Service Dept.

Motion passed 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to read tonight's Resolution and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 6-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 06, 2013. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDS AND IF FUNDS ARE AWARDED TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 6, 2013.

REMARKS

Mr. Meier – This particular Resolution is the one that would allow Bill to apply for the SCIP grants that I was talking about in my report which would be for the project on Jackson if we would receive it.

The motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Holt to adopt Resolution No. 6, 2013 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 28, 2013. AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 528 MITCHELL AVENUE TO REIMBURSE THE VILLAGE FOR THE COST OF BRINGING THE LAND OR REAL PROPERTY INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 28, 2013.

REMARKS

Mr. Meier – On this particular Ordinance what this is there is a property that had been condemned and ordered to be demolished. The owner of the property was not able to do that so the City did that. So the City incurred an \$8,000.00 cost. By passing this Ordinance that secures the City's \$8,000.00 in the event that the property is sold we can recover that money.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 28, 2013 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 29, 2013. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH NORTH AMERICAN SALT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROAD SALT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Holt to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 29, 2013. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt Ordinance No. 29, 2013 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 30, 2013. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, MOVE AND TRANSFER FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 30, 2013. Motion passed 6-0

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Holt to adopt Ordinance No. 30, 2013 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 31, 2013. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ST. BERNARD, OHIO, REVISING THE TRAFFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSES CODES TO COMPLY WITH STATE LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 31, 2013. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt Ordinance No. 31, 2013 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Dianna, do you know when they are going to start that project across from the Eagles?

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I don't know an exact date. I know that it's graded now but do you happen to know, Kevin.

Mr. Meier – I know that they're pretty anxious to do it and we could probably check with Paul and get back by next Thursday.

Mr. Tobergte – I talked to Paul Myers and he is expecting early fall to get started. They bought the old Chili Time building and that's where their sales office is going to be on the lower level. They'll get that set up first and then the way Paul explained it they're going to try to sell a couple before they start the actual construction so they're hoping early fall.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Do you remember what we got for that?

Mrs. Brickweg – We didn't sell it we gave it to them.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Well I thought we did but then I thought it was bought up and they were sold to them. That didn't happen?

Mrs. Brickweg – It was bought up but I didn't see any money for it.

Mr. Tobergte – A couple of things. First a reminder, next week the COW meeting will start at 7:00, not 7:30pm and we'll go into Executive Session right away to discuss pending litigation. Also, Valerie you read that report on the inspection that again, you were going to check with Paul and find out how far along we are with the rentals. How many we got in compliance.

Ms. Van Valkenburg – A couple of things I've done here in the office but I will get with him tomorrow.

Mr. Tobergte – And Curtis, I think back in early June, I asked you about the CIC with Paul and you were checking with the, first with the Attorney General and then they said you had to go to the ethics board. Did you hear anything about that yet?

Mr. Walden – Unfortunately Don, the history I have encountered with the ethics board, I have not gotten a definitive answer from yet but I still am in contact with them.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just wanted to clarify one thing with the silver pick-up truck, it's probably going to be auctioned. It's not for sale. I didn't want people to call and say they want to buy it. Two things I wanted to remind everybody, on the website, the City's website is 4222 Tower. That home is now done being rehabbed and it's for sale for \$140,000.00. It has a couple of pictures on it. It looks pretty nice. So I want people to look at that. And the other thing that I started Monday is the surveys for the fitness center and on line to fill out about the idea of increasing the hours and what residents would like to see with the fitness center so I encourage people to go on line to fill that out. If you don't work out at the fitness center so we can get more of a wide range of people answering the survey.

Mr. Tobergte – Also, I talked to Peggy today, the Fire Dept. overtime is getting low. Valerie can the Fire Inspector be on 24 hour tours instead of 8 hour shifts to help compensate for the 2long term off time.

Ms. Van Valkenburg – I will check into that.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte – Just a reminder, the Police and Fire Benevolent Steak Fry is Friday, August 23rd at Vine St. Park. Dinners will be served from 4:00pm until 8:00pm and liquid refreshments from 4:00pm until midnight and tickets will be available soon from any Police or Fireman.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Joe Lengerich – I want to address the Health Care issue because I think the employees are getting the run around on this thing and

obviously you people appropriate the money and I don't think you've been totally informed about what is going on. I could ask Peggy, where are we trending on the money right now because what I'm hearing it's getting bad. Before I get started.

Mrs. Brickweg – Thank you Joe. I actually reported this at the Finance Committee meeting. The balance left as of August, all the bills went out this week, \$406,989.38 and I informed the Finance Committee so I'll inform all of Council now and Joe, we were looking seriously trying to go with the Center of Local Government to stay self insured or with their insurance. Joe and Jason actually got us some names and we've been sending them all of our reports. Well it came back last week that they do not want St. Bernard to be a part of them. Basically he said that the one million dollars that the City is putting up for it is nowhere near what would cover it. So I asked her would we possibly be able to get a private insurance company and she said not with them. She said to be honest if we get one outside of the Local Government they might offer us a great deal the first year but we're going to get killed the second year. She's like there's no way, and to be honest the one thing she asked me when she called me back and she said are you telling basically in the last two years you've almost cut your budget totally in half, which is true. She said can you get more money out of Council and I basically told her "no" I did not think so. So we've been turned down and that whole pool, a lot of communities are in it, but we're not offering to give them enough money to be in it. I let Council, or the Finance Committee know that last night, the Finance Committee is going to be meeting next Thursday to see where we can go from here. I'm sorry I meant the Health Care Committee is meeting at 4:00pm next Thursday.

Mr. Tobergte – Did they give you any idea what they would expect us to pay?

Mrs. Brickweg – She gave me a chart which I've been filling out but it really, I was going to call her back and ask her what all the different numbers were. No she did not. She just said that they were not willing to take us for the million dollars.

Mr. Tobergte – It would be interesting to find out what they expect us to pay if we joined, I'd be curious.

Mrs. Brickweg – OK, I can send her an email and ask her how much it would cost us for us to be a part of their insurance plan. I'll do that tomorrow.

Joe Lengerich – That's why I came down here tonight because I'd like to have some clarity. I'm no longer on the Committee because I got so frustrated with it because I feel we were just given the run around. The Mayor this, the Council that, back to the Mayor this, the council that. I feel we were lied to late in last year and I guess my question to Finance is, if you're going to stick to the million, you're going to kill about half of your employees. I can speak for the

Service Dept., I know about six guys that are probably going bankrupt if the premium that you're talking about, at four fifty a payday would come through, and that's about what they're quoting. Peggy, if we stick at only a million, I won't be able to pay my bills. I mean my wife, she can't work, she's disabled, I mean the prescription drug plan alone that you're going to throw on us will add two hundred dollars and have additional cost just to meet, just for the prescriptions and then you add the premium, you've got the \$127 premium you've already put on it, and I mean, just speaking for myself, I mean. We drive one car. I put my kids through Catholic School, I've got one left. We got fantastic jobs, we're just people like you, trying to raise families, living in this community, want to improve it just like you. Got great services because obviously we do our job but I'm here to ask you is there any leeway on that million dollars because you're going to kill some people. I'm sure I can't speak for the Police and Fire because we make a little less than them but it's going to kill and I know City Hall employees make less than us and I don't see, nobody is going to take us private. When USI, who was our broker out to find people to quote us for insurance, they went to four people, four groups, and they had to beg United to give us a quote. The other three wouldn't touch us. United only quoted us as a favor to Mr. Nurre who's one of the guys from USI. I doubt now with the history we've got this year, because we've had a bad year obviously, that they're even going to pick us up. We're probably looking at being self insured. You're going to give your employees insurance and I think you owe it to us. I think there's an obligation in the contracts and we've got great insurance of course but we bargained it. We've given ---- up for it, excuse me, we've given stuff up over the years. I know three times in negotiations we gave up pay raises, we took cuts in longevity, we got it back over time but I mean the City has never, one time in my life negotiating for a contract did they ever ask for Health Care concessions and that was during Estep's administration and we gave it to them. They went higher for prescriptions and co-pay and we gave it to them. Now this time Mr. Burkhardt came to us and said we're going to have an issue with health care. So we got the committee back together which should have been together all along, it should have been, this committee has been together for fifteen years and it never got together because nobody ever worried about the cost of health care. So we sat down and we argued for months. We met weekly and came up to a fifty dollar premium and we said we'll get together in three months and we'll raise co-pays, we'll raise deductibles, we're talking deductibles going up to a thousand dollars a family, prescriptions going up, I think it's from six dollars to ten and twenty, office co-pays forty. I mean, I don't want to get into the details but significant increases, all volunteered by the dept. The men stepped up, the women, and then at the end of the year you all know that you ask us six hundred thousand was just taken out of the budget so we could get this bond. I'm not against that but I thought it was pretty crooked, unethical to take it out of the Health Care line item. That money was there for us, for our health care. And it's not being abused. I've been to a lot of these meetings and what goes around the town is that we abuse it and we're spoiled, that's bull. We're not

a young work force no more. That happens over time. Fifteen years ago when we were young, self insurance was beautiful because if you don't use it you don't spend the money. Now we're an older work force. So you're telling me I give you fifteen years of service and I need something done, that's going to cost me because I had to go to the hospital. But now you don't want to pay for it. I give you fifteen years of service, that's how self insurance works, the only way you curb the cost, people retire and you hire younger people in. I can speak for my department, the last six, seven hires have been in their forties and fifties. Why in your right mind would you hire somebody like that? You want young people. You want your old people to retire and you want your young people to come in and replace them. They can work and they're going to be healthy. Anyway, I guess my thing is I don't even know why we're having a meeting Thursday. I'm going to attend. I'm not on the Committee. I'm going to be out there attending but if we don't have some clarity from Council, if you're going to stick on this million, it's not going to work. I'm telling you right now I know what I'm talking about on this. I'm not in the weeks, nobody is, we're not going to go fully insured, nobody is going to cover us, if they are you're going to put anywhere from five, six maybe seven hundred dollar a month premiums on us. Our prescriptions are going to triple, quadruple and I don't care, I don't care about the, she takes nine prescriptions she has to take, she's got eight stints in her heart, after she had her heart attack she went full diabetic. You think she likes that, you think I like it, I want her to be healthy, I don't want to spend a dime of health care on my wife. I can't help what happened. But you'll bury me. I'm all for improving the town but I think it's time to slow down on buying these houses. I mean let's fix what we got, let's do Vine St., let's do something with this shopping center we're paying fines on now and nothing happening, and take care of our employees. They just read a letter on, I didn't even know about that, I know the Fire Dept. shows up when you call them, don't they, you feel protected by your Police. I mean they give you the service, we're a big part of it and I just think we should be treated fair. The way this is going it's going to be another end of the year, September is coming, you'll get your numbers, you're going to say sorry we gave you a million, and you're going to bury some people. I'd like something from somebody to say there has got to be some leeway on this million dollars. I'm ready to cooperate with whatever we got to do. The Center for Local Government was my last hope. Now I'm almost, I'm losing sleep over it, you can ask her. I don't know what to do. It'll bury me. I won't be able to afford it. Have you been to my house, it ain't getting no improvement, I won't have the money to do it. I would hope before we go to this meeting Thursday I could get some clarity from somebody some support that that number could go up if we could get to a number. Maybe United will come back in and they'll say one point two. Can we come up with the one point two? And one last thing and I'll stop, this has been laying on my mind for months, the employees have always stepped up when asked, I get so sick and tired of hearing how we're spoiled, we're over paid, we don't deserve what we get, we're going to bet on the City now, we're not going to spend on the employees now, they've had it too good,

that's bull. Do you get told that at your job. I came back to this town because I wanted to work here, I wanted to come back to where I grew up. I was offered a good wage. Barb Siegel said you'll never want for nothing. I'm glad you came back, welcome home, you're going to have a great wage, great salary and job security the rest of your life. I didn't take that as gospel, things can change, but I sure believed it. I don't believe it no more. Health care is the issue, don't, isn't health care an issue in all your lives? When somebody in your family gets sick don't it scare the crap out of you? And then the bill hits, are you worried about what the bill is going to be? I can't believe a nurse said to me, from what I've heard you say in the past, to me that's a sin. We should all have what I got. Why do you want to take away from what the good people got, I don't mean good, why do you want to take the good stuff away because you don't have it. I hear Bill all the time, I pay this, I don't care, we should all have great insurance. How we get to that point, I don't know. But what I'm asking is for some clarity for Thursday because if we're stuck on the million, I can guarantee there's no way Mr. Nurre is going to be able to go back to United and get us anything reasonable. We're going to have twenty, thirty, sixty for prescription drugs, we're going to have probably a two thousand dollar out of pocket deductibles, co-pays are going to go way up, and we agreed to all this. I felt the rug was pulled out from underneath us. Bill agreed to that fifty dollars and said we'd come back in three months and we'd raise all those things up. The six hundred thousand was pulled. We came back and said OK we'll take it to one twenty seven, what do you need. That was two hundred twenty four thousand dollars the employees pulled out of their pockets to try to fix the difference and Council came up with another three hundred thousand and we appreciated it. But it didn't fix the problem because the next vote to implement the changes that would help curb the usage because you have to have a super majority in this Council, in this Committee, the City Hall employees voted no because they said they couldn't afford it, I understand that, it was the wrong decision in my opinion but I understand that. So now we're sitting here trading water for eight months, bills are soaring, costs aren't curbing at all because we didn't implement the changes because anybody with any common sense knew it should have been implemented, so that's a little history on it and I don't know if any of you got all that. I don't know if Bill comes back and tells you anything that comes out of these meetings. I'll start coming back and reporting things to you but I'm asking, I'm begging, can there be any leeway on this million dollars because for me personally and I know four other men in my dept., you're going to bury us with this. The numbers Peggy is talking about coming in, and those are going to be the numbers that we take to the million, right, we're going to be buried, I mean, I can't speak for the Police and Fire but I can tell you, my wages, I know City Hall employees make less than me, you're going to hurt some people hard. So I mean I don't know what else to say because I'm looking for some, I'm begging for, is there any leeway on that number because you're going to hurt some people hard.

Mr. Meier – Joe I can't give you an answer because I don't have any information. I don't know when your committee.....

Joe Lengerich – That's the frustration of it.

Mr. Meier – meets. I don't know what was sent to the Center of Local Government.

Lengerich – I was hoping to have something positive for the employees and get you on board but obviously it's bad news.

Mr. Meier – Like I said we had meetings back in January and I got ripped from day one, every time I came in here and afterwards and finally I said look I don't care how you spend it. You guys have your committee you can do what you want to do and nobody has spoken to me about it since and.....

Joe Lengerich – A million is not going to be enough.

Mr. Meier – I can't give you an answer because I don't know.

Mr. Peck – One moment, just so we can have a clear record, if we could speak one at a time.

Mr. Meier – Every dollar that we would add above a million has to come out of somebody else's budget because we don't have, we're not in the situation that we've been in in the past where we continually had a surplus year after year. We don't have that surplus. Health Care costs has gone through the roof for everybody. It's not something that the City is doing to you, it's not something that Council is doing to you. That's just the way it is with Health Care costs.....

Joe Lengerich – I disagree because you took six hundred thousand out of the budget last year.

Mr. Meier – We took six hundred out and put three hundred thousand back and that.....

Joe Lengerich – You did do that to us.

Mr. Meier – was Health Care costs increase. The same procedures that you paid for in 2013 costs a lot more than what they would have been in 2010 or 2005. It's.....

Joe Lengerich – The work staff has gotten older, I know you wanted to do for the employees, I'm just saying, I'm not sitting here saying we deserve two things, its not going to work. We're going to have to pay self insurance, nobody is going to cover us. Let me ask you this, if we can't get affordable, if United comes back and says sorry, we could have done it last year but we can't do it this year so we have to

pay self insurance, you saying now there's no employee Health Care Plan? You said you were out of the insurance business.

Mrs. Brickweg – Can I give you a number? Two things. Kevin as of the end of July we've already spend \$1,005,180.00 so right there you can see how your number isn't going to work and you can call her and, two things, if you have any questions on the Health Care Committee, then ask them. I mean we haven't been meeting because we've been running around trying to find somebody that will cover us and giving them every report they want under the sun. So it's not like we haven't been trying but I will tell you a lady that called me from Horan said that she actually looked up the minutes of our meeting, I'm not sure why, and she said the things that were quoted by certain people on Council were totally false. There's no way anybody in this community could have got the plans at the prices that were being spoken of at that meeting. And I told her that's what we all came back and decided, yeah we knew that was true. But I'm, what Joe is telling you guys is the truth. You're already at the max right now and we're in July so I guess the decision basically is going to be what is Council going to appropriate? I hope we can get an outside source for insurance but I mean right now it's not looking good. We're doing better now. A lot of major issues were in the beginning of the year so it has slowed down. But it is up to you guys, it is up to Council, that's Council's job to appropriate the money so I mean to say that it's not your job, it is.

Mr. Meier – First of all I didn't say it's not my job. What I said is we don't have it we.....

Joe Lengerich – So that means.....

Mr. Meier – Let me finish now, OK? What I'm saying is the majority of our budget is tied up with personnel costs already. I think we're about one hundred fifteen thousand ahead of last year. Is that what you reported? OK, so if we're about one hundred fifteen thousand ahead of last year, if you project that out, we had a twelve million dollar budget, OK, we're looking about say twelve two. I was expecting about twelve five. We've got others. Bank Ave. is still draining us. Where is it going to come from? Joe if we spend, and it's not coming in as revenues then we have to take it out of another line item. What I'm saying is the majority of those line items are already tied up with employee personnel costs. You can't just cut utility expenses and you can't eliminate all of recreation and close the pool. We still have gasoline for vehicles. We still have costs of maintaining vehicles. Those are hard costs that we have. Costs of doing business everyday. I don't know where it's going to come from. It's not that I don't want to give it to you, I can't tell you, if you need another half million dollars, we've already taken three hundred thousand out of property purchases and cut it to zero. Where is it going to come from?

Joe lengerich – That's what I'm asking, I'm saying do we have to keep acquiring all this property? Just because a house goes up for

sale on Cleveland for twenty four thousand and it's a piece of crap do we have to buy it? I think, why don't we improve what we've got. For thirty years, and I'll say it, for thirty years we've done nothing for improvement to this town. I'm sorry, I don't care who I make mad, and now we're going to fix thirty years of doing nothing in one year or two years or three years.

Mr. Meier – There's more property out there than we can acquire and.....

Joe Lengerich – Exactly. Can we stop at this point and then we can sit down with the hard numbers and maybe you can say OK we're stopping, I do have that two hundred thousand and you've got to come up with three hundred thousand, now we can work on something.

Mr. Peck – At this point

Joe Lengerich – I'll go to Finance next time, I mean I want something from Council. I'm just telling you and you're going to have a riot on your hands when this Health Care, if you take it away from us, and I'm going broke because I can't make hospital payments. I'm making a premium payment and I can't make a house payment and now I can't pay my kids tuition. We're not millionaires, I don't know why you all think we're these super millionaires that make all this money. We're just like you. I bet most of you make more money than me. Thank you for your time.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Joe I'm hearing what you're saying and Kevin is talking and the rest of us well at least I'll speak for myself, I'm taking it in because we're just now hearing it's getting ugly and when Peggy says we had a really bad part of the first part of the year and it's all behind us, we don't know that. So this is a very scary thing for all of us because it could be all the money that we have. What Kevin is saying is true, we have hard numbers. We can't just cut without cutting jobs and nobody wants to do that so we have to look at this and maybe the Health Care Committee needs to work together and everybody getting on board with this wellness program. I don't want you to think that we're not listening to you because we are and we're hearing what you're saying but I'm digesting what you're saying.

Joe Lengerich – (inaudible)

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I agree with that but it wasn't us that didn't choose to pick the Health Care.

Joe Lengerich – (inaudible)

Mrs. Schildmeyer –It wasn't us that didn't choose the Health Care so I mean until the Health Care can get on board with

Joe Lengerich – (inaudible)

Mr. Peck – At this point let us

Mrs. Peggy – I would like to

Mr. Peck – At this point let us see if anybody else in the audience would like to address Council. We can return to this.

Charlie VonderMuelen – I'm glad I'm not sitting there tonight. Anyway, just on a lighter side I just came down here with gratitude and thanks to the St. Bernard Fire Dept. While we've had this heavy rains my driveway was like a lake and the dam I built around my cellar door had a leak in it and so the water was just pouring in and they came out on that Saturday and bailed me out. I mean they pumped me out. They were there for a good hour and a half, two hours. The clean up that they did, I just can't say enough, OK. And also I thought while I'm coming down here I might as well hit everybody because the Service Dept. has helped me out too. I had a tree fall this year and as I cut it up I had a big old trunk left I was just going to roll down to the driveway but it was so big I couldn't move it. I called the Service Dept. up, they picked it up, hauled it out. Same thing with my hot tub, hot tub quit working, old, didn't work, called up the Service Dept., they came up, picked it up and got rid of it. The other thing is the packer driver spent some time with my grandchildren showing them how the packer operates. That's kind of a plus, I kind of enjoyed seeing them doing that. The Police Dept., you know you hardly ever want to talk to those guys because you don't want to be in trouble, but I had my relatives come down from northern Ohio and we were sitting on the front porch and we're talking and my sister-in-law got a very anxious look on her face and I asked what was wrong. She said, Charlie that Police cruiser has just gone by your house three different times already tonight. They're patrolling, that's something she didn't even know about and that's a plus. Also the summer swim lessons, I'd like to show my gratitude and thank the people who run that because my grandchildren couldn't, they wouldn't even put their toe in the water when they started and now they can swim the whole length and they used the diving board. So I'd like to thank them and also the people down at Craft. These are people you don't really hear much about. Those ladies are down there Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The kids go down, they have free crafts for the kids to do. I'm just down here to say I want to show my gratitude, my thanks and you probably won't see me again for a while. I have friends that say, hey Charlie why do you hang around here, why don't you go out some place else and get yourself a condo and go some place else. In reality, why would I? With all the services we have here, I just hope that with all the new houses that are going up we get some more people in here and they all appreciate the services that we have. Thank you.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just wanted to respond to something Dianna said. I know I explained how it is but you get a report. Everybody gets a report every month so the expenses are out there and I do a spread sheet too and it shows you month-to-date expenses and year-to-date

expenses so I don't want everybody to think everybody was just shocked at these expenses. You've been getting them once a month, I will actually make a point of saying something to Council and the Finance Committee when it's running low. That's why I just wanted to make a point at the Finance Committee last week, it's running low but just so everybody knows everybody is informed of what the expenses are monthly if not twice a month.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Peggy I wasn't shocked. I was digesting what Joe was trying to explain to us. I don't want anyone to think that I'm not paying attention which I think you just kind of alluded to. I don't know if you meant to or not. I wasn't shocked at the numbers I was digesting what Joe was saying to us and trying to listen to him and hear his point.

Mrs. Brickweg – I wasn't alluding to that, it was when you said you were surprised that the numbers, and that's what I'm saying.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I never said I was surprised at the numbers.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just wanted everybody to know that the numbers were out there.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – We were listening to Joe's particular situation.

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

Mrs. Brickweg – I know you don't want to give an answer but we do have a meeting on Thursday and the Committee is going to need to know something and so if your answer is one million flat, that's fine, that's your answer but like Joe said, the meeting is going to be useless if we don't know what Council's wishes are. So you have an entire week to think about it. You can email Elaine, she's the head of the Committee. You can email me or anybody on the Committee what your feelings are or what your suggestions are but you're welcome to come to the meeting at 4:00pm next Thursday. But the meeting basically next Thursday we're supposed to tell our Committee that our hopes of going with the Center of Local Government have failed. That's why we're starting again but I'm not sure what we're starting with so I would really appreciate all of Council to drop somebody something so we know where to go forward from.

Mr. Culbertson – I will remain silent on this issue, I'm a participant on the plan so I will not be able to vote nor do I want to comment on the situation.

Mrs. Brickweg – All I'm asking for is what you're willing to go for in the budget because you vote on the entire budget so if you're willing, I understand you're part of it, but so am I and so is everybody that works here just like when I was on Council and it's not that you're voting on the insurance, what I'm asking everybody is

what the City is willing to put in that line item so we know where to go from. And I know what you're feeling but you could say about what you would go for.

Mr. Meier – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, August 8th at 7:00pm.

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