The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, May 19, 2016 in Council Chambers.

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

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

Mayor Estep swore in the new Tax Review Board members: Mr. Robert Culbertson, Mr. Joe Kempe and Mr. Michael Schlosser.

The St. Bernard/Elmwood Place School Board; Superintendent Dr. Mimi Webb, School Board President Ms. Linda Radtke, Director of Facilities Bruce Helwagen and Treasurer Ms. Hauser presented information regarding the possibility of a new campus for the District with major funding from the State. They fielded many questions from Council and the audience. It was stated that the vote for the additional tax levy would be in November. More information can be obtained by attending the Board meetings which are typically on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:45pm.

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

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – I spoke with Mr. Peck this week about looking at the Ordinance on high weeds and grass in the neighborhood and we're going to look into the Ordinance maybe at the Laws, Contracts and Claims sometime if we could. I had a guy come in this week and I didn't know how to answer his question if there is an answer. He's interested in buying one of the St. Bernard dogs. I told him I'd bring it up to Council and I don't know who owns them or who could sell them. I guess we should just bounce it around sometime.

We'd like to welcome two more new businesses and we had a ribbon cutting ceremony for StreetPops and the Art On Vine. They are thrilled about being here and it was very well attended and went well all day.

I contacted a regional person from Small's Hardware. He wanted to know how many thousand square feet would be available in the new shopping center and I
gave his information to Bill Chester, that's the firm that's working on the renovation down there so we're working on that. Don't forget the Memorial Day Parade. It's on May 30th. It begins at 9:30 at Bertus and Park Place. We've got some new people in the parade and it should be pretty nice and we just hope for good weather. In closing we received many compliments on how clean the Village is and how pretty the flowers look. So kudos to the Service Department and everybody who has helped.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – Before I give my report, something you just said. I've always asked for Council and the Administration to think about this, the dog. To find out how much they are and what different businesses and different, like the Service Department, the Police Department, adopt them and paint them. It gives the citizens to some here and look at. Very similar to the pigs downtown, the squirrels in Glendale. I really think that's something that we should look at and make it fun. Like play with it, play with the St. Bernard. If you are going to think about that I just want to throw that idea out there. It's kind of been falling on deaf ears for many years.
The Auditor’s office prepared Ordinance 10, 2016 for tonight’s meeting. This Ordinance provides additional appropriations to:

01-7-A-2 Fire Overtime $82,100.00

01-67 Accumulated Sick Pay $150,000.00

05-MP-4 Property Management $100,000.00

The Fire Overtime consists of $2,100 which is grant money the Village received for training. The $80,000.00 is for overtime to mostly cover two employees out on long term injury leave. At the last COW meeting this overtime was discussed at great length. As I stated then Council and the Administration has three options:

1. Go below minimum manning levels.

2. Hire back three fire fighters with the use of safer grants, which will pay the salary and benefits of new fire fighters for two years.

3. Stay at the current manning levels and pay overtime when needed.

It always amazes me when overtime is discussed at great length and all the options are not researched. The $150,000 is for any accumulated sick payout which could be requested per contracts.
The $100,000 for Property Management is needed because when the Safety Center and it’s parking lot, the Service Garage and the new parking lot next to the old police station were constructed they were listed as commercial property instead of municipality property. I went down to the Hamilton County offices and filed an appeal for each parcel. It may take up to another 18 months to hear back from the State. If the State approves our appeal we are eligible to receive back up to three years of tax payments for each property. The additional appropriation is needed because this mistake is costing the Village approximately $200,000 a year. I was asked at the COW if the new parking lot behind LaRosa’s was filed correctly and it was not. I e-mailed Paul Myers everything he needs to appeal this property and how to handle all new purchases and developments in the future.

The Auditor’s office provided Council and the Administration with the April, 2016 revenue and expense spreadsheets. The revenues for April were $1,131,696.12. The revenues compared to April 2015 are down $394,187.96. This comparison is not very accurate because the Village has not received the first part of the property taxes from the county which it usually receives in April. I talked to the county property tax department and they informed me they hope to have them out by the end of May. The delay is caused by new software they are implementing. To have a more accurate comparison you can take into account that in April 2015 the Village received $392,921.62 in property tax revenue.

The year to date expenditures as of the end of April, 2016, with grant and bond money removed were $4,077,976.01 comparing the same expenses to 2015 they are up $127,786.20. Most of this increase is due to the fact that April, 2016 had 3 pay periods compared to 2 pay periods in April 2015.

The Department Heads are currently working on their 2017 projected budgets for Hamilton County. I placed a legal ad announcing a Public Meeting before the June 16th Council Meeting, starting at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers to present the projected budget.

The Village and the CIC are hoping to wrap up the 2014 audit in the next few weeks. Unfortunately there was an additional delay because the State Auditor working with us suddenly passed away last week. I have filed an extension for the
preparation of our 2015 financial statements that are due May 31st. and I will begin preparing them as soon as we get the final audit for 2014.

I would like to be placed on the COW meeting to discuss bringing back St. Bernard ID cards for residents. I would also like to discuss the current formats of the revenue and expenditure spreadsheets.

**DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck** – Last night we had Mayor's Court. Matthew Brew, a fine attorney, was there to cover for me. I went to the Red's game. Last night he handled 28 tax violations, 13 cases for payment, 1 case for dismissal, 1 case for sentencing, 1 case for pre-trial and trial and then 20 cases for arraignment. He did a fine job and my understanding Mayor's Court went smoothly.

Also, recently, I was able to comply with a request from one of our city officials regarding whether it's a conflict with regard to ethics rules of the State of Ohio for a person being on Council and also being on the Community Improvements Corporation Board. I have received or rather found an opinion from the Attorney General's office and not gone through with a fine tooth comb but the basic point of the opinion is as follows. A person may serve simultaneously as a member of the legislative authority, City Council, and be a member of the governing board of the Community Improvements Corporation that has been designated pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code as ours has been. So I'll defer to this opinion. I've given the opinion to the city official. The opinion, I'm happy to provide it to all of you as well so there is no conflict according to the Attorney Generals office.

Mayor Estep has to look at the draft Ordinance and Ms. Bedinghaus can set up, at some point, let me know, set up a committee meeting and we'll go from there.

**TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe** – I have the balances for the investment funds for the City. First off I have the Fourth of July Memorial Fund down here at First Safety. The balance at the end of April totaled $5,629.62.

The balance at the Fifth Third securities at the end of April were $1,215,000.00.

We moved the money over into the Star Ohio Fund as Mr. Tobergte requested so we get a little better interest rates.

The balance there at the end of April was $2,710,567.46.

**SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stutchell** – I'd like to update Council on a couple of incidents being investigated by the Police Department that have occurred this week. On Monday evening around 9:00pm, police received a call from a resident regarding an incident that had occurred earlier in the evening at Vine St. Park on the play equipment along Church St. The older daughter reported to her parents that a man in his 30s was standing up on the sidewalk along Church St. And called
down asking if the girls wanted to go get some candy. The older sister did not recognize the man, took her sister's hand and walked away from the individual. She gave a description of the man and vehicle and stated that the vehicle proceeded up Church St. to Vine.

The second incident involved a report from 2 girls arriving at St. Bernard Elementary School around 8:20am Wednesday, May 18. Two girls advised the office at school that they had just left the rear exit of JuJu Beans and were walking towards the school when 2 men in 2 separate vehicles called to them by name. They got scared and ran to school to report it. Police were dispatched to the school and the Vine St. Park parking lot. An officer was positioned on Washington Ave., in front of City Hall and arrived in the parking lot within seconds of the call. Upon extensive investigation of the reported incident, it has been determined that the call was generated out of confusion of the children in the parking lot. What the girls believed to be their names being called by adult males, was actually their classmates calling for them to hurry to school. It is believed that with the reported incident at the park earlier in the week, combined with the confusion of their names being called out, lead the girls to believe that there were men calling their names. We continue to encourage everyone to call the police for any suspicious activity. If anyone was in the area of Vine St. Park play ground around 6:20pm Monday evening and may have seen the man on the sidewalk on Church St. please contact the Police Department. I would like to express my gratitude to the Police Department and to Chief Moeller on how they handled this case.

Also, with respect to the Police Department, I would like to tell you all how proud I am that we had 2 officers that attended National Police Week in Washington, DC. Officer Derek Setters who is part of the Hamilton County Police Association Honor Guard participated in the annual memorial service to honor all of the fallen officers. Officer Doug Roll also attended National Police Week.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date fell as Police Week. Currently, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have payed the ultimate sacrifice.

I also have the St. Bernard Fire Dept. EMS and Fire Run report for the month of April.

There were a total of 24 fire details including mutual aid to Norwood 1
              Cincinnati 1
              Gulf Manor 1

There were 90 EMS details with 57 patients transported
Mutual Aid was provided to the following depts.  Elmwood 14
I would like to congratulate FF Steve Brannen who served the St. Bernard Fire Dept. Since Sept. 29, 1986 on his retirement. I know that he will be missed by his Fire Dept. Family and I wish him the best.

At this time I would like to turn the meeting over to Fire Chief Kerry Meyer. Chief Meyer presented certificates to St. Bernard's inaugural CERT Team. Carol Brown, Ray Culbertson, James Rutherford, Jonathon Stuchell, Kathy Wuebben, and Craig Wuebben. He also thanked Captain Troy Mirick for training the team and for all his work.

Captain Mirick then explained the reason behind the CERT Team.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Meyer for developing the CERT Team and also a big thank you to our instructor, Capt. Troy Mirick who did a great job with our group. We also need to acknowledge the members of Unit #1 who assisted him during the training exercises. Lastly, I can't say enough about the five other members of the CERT Team and how grateful I am that they are willing to volunteer their time for such a great cause and give back to their community.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – More food for thought for the dogs. Phil looked into it and actually it costs over six hundred dollars to have them repaired and make them look new again. So you might want to keep that in mind when you talk it over.

The grass cutting complaints have seemed to have leveled out, although the list is still rather long. John and I got the sanitation officer Robert Evans involved with two of the issues and with his help the time to get these cut was 11 and 15 days. If I were to have sent a letter, the time would have been 30–45 days. This concept seems to work. The Service Department at this time has approximately 44 lawns to mow. This does not include our parks. In my opinion, this is why the curbs and sidewalks have been neglected. When I looked back at the grass issue files it is appalling on how many there are on file. I have two solutions in mind. One would be to hire a private lawn service to tend to these lawns or appropriate overtime funds and have our guys cut them on weekends, so that we may proceed to care for our other city matters.

Jackson Ave. Is progressing. I have given the contractors permission to do a curb to curb progression on the street as to our former way of one side then the other. On a curb to curb, they will commence the restructuring as they progress forward, hence shortening the construction time by about two weeks. As on Sullivan and on Church, there will be parking issues for about a week. These issues would have
been the same regardless how the work occurred. The curb restoration will occur later in the process.
We are working on our new dump truck that has been budgeted. I have gotten the bids on the bed but not the chassis as yet. This is due to the Ford 2016 have sold out and the new 2017 are coming. We are now looking at 2016 Chevy chassis. We wanted Ford because of Woody Sanders being so close to home. Mike and I are also discussing a stainless steel bed instead of the regular metal as it will last longer. Stainless beds are about $2,600.00 more.
I would also like to approach COW for an Ordinance to purchase a new packer. As to date, we have spent $4,000.00 on the old one. They will give us $12,000.00 trade in value. I have given you paperwork to explain the purchasing so we can discuss this.
A bit on a lighter note. I do have angels watching over me. It seems that when things get rough or high in this matter, laughter is still the best medicine. A friend made my day by presenting me with a pair of trousers that had measurements on them, all the way up to the inseam where I discovered a big hole. On the card it read "if the grass tickles you here it is way too long." Thank you my dear friend, for the laugh we did.
To my community,
I hope everyone is enjoying our beautiful March weather in May. I believe that the universe is giving us a reminder that we cannot control everything. It is also a gentle nudge for us to turn inward and look to see what really takes the chill off. Things in our life that make us happy and want to smile and say I love! For to dwell in that atmosphere, is truly serene.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Moore – A couple of things. First of all I want to thank Mr. Kempe and Mr. Schlosser and Mr. Culbertson for agreeing to serve on the Tax Review Board. I appreciate them taking time out of their schedules to come in and be sworn in tonight. My most fervent hope is that they never have to meet because if they do it means that somebody disagrees with a decision that I, essentially, have made and that they are going to have to decide.
Secondly, I did put the April figures in your box. If you have any questions about it, I'll be glad to answer them. I would also ask if I could spread the year out a little bit and give you more years to look at so you could see a little better trend and I put that in your box this morning. I think I went back to 2004 and I hope that helps you out a little bit. If there are any questions about the April figures I will be glad to answer them. As I said in COW, we had a pretty good month.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – I want to thank Peggy for supplying a spread sheet showing 2015 final budget, 2016 budget and room for the proposed 2017 budget. This will help in preparing the 2017 budget. I have received the projections from Mr. Moore and Mrs. Brickweg for 2017. For this year's budget the projected revenue were $13,700,000.00 with original expenditures of $13,200,000.00. The projected revenue for 2017 are $13,200,000.00. Mr. Paul, Mayor Estep and I will be meeting next week to prepare a budget for 2017 together. We will report at the June 2nd COW meeting.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – I have the police Department report for the month of April 2016. During the month of April, officers were involved in 714 calls for service. Of those calls, officers responded to 31 accident reports and took 34 offense reports. Officers cleared a total of 25 offenses. Officers made 68 misdemeanor arrests and 4 felony arrests. Officers responded to 47 parking complaints and issued 8 citations for parking violations. Officers issued 27 traffic citations 1 DUI arrest and 41 warnings. Officers responded to 53 calls for suspicious activity, vehicles or persons.

I also have a Police safety message. The St. Bernard Police Department and Village Council supported partnership with Ohio parents for drug free youth to launch a public awareness campaign which targets parents of teens. The Parents Who Host, Lose the Most campaign educates parents about the health and safety and legal risks of serving alcohol to teens. Parents have the best of intentions when hosting a prom or graduation party in their child's honor. Hosting a party where alcohol is served is not a wise idea. Underage drinking parties are a health and safety problem with serious ramifications. Parents have the opportunity and responsibility to help our youth reach their full potential. We urge all parents to join our partnership and encouraging your neighbors and friends to provide safe, healthy alcohol free entertainment opportunities for youth during the upcoming prom and graduation season.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – I have the Service Department report for April 2016. There were 27 trucks placed at residences, 30 dumpsters placed at residences, 132 special pick-ups at residents and 198.27 tons of garbage was taken to the landfill. For the recycling report; 34.25 tons of recycling material, 65 pounds of scrap aluminum, 2300 pounds of scrap metal and 186 tires.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.
LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Going back to the Ordinance on the high grass and weeds, Tom is that something that you need to join the Committee to discuss when we look at that Ordinance?

Mr. Paul - I wouldn't mind doing that. Yes, I probably have knowledge about what's happening and I could probably help.

Mrs. Bedinghaus - I think we'd do better if we could get together as quick as possible because we are in the high, correct? So I didn't know if the Laws, Contracts and Claims committee can meet on the 2nd at 6:15?

Mr. Paul – Sure.

Ms. Hausfeld - (in audible)

Mrs. Bedinghaus - I would like to set up the meeting, 6:15 on June 2nd.

Mr. Peck – Tentatively, yes, but I will let you know.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – So tentatively we will, as soon as I hear back from Mike and Patty I will get it on the website. But that's what I'm going to shoot for. Also tonight there is Ordinance No. 11, 2016 which is an update on our current Ordinance for feral cats and animals and such. Most of it is very similar to our current Ordinances. There are a few changes in it. A couple of changes are in the definition where we actually define a feral cat, a stray cat and then there are two other sections within the new Ordinance that I'm going to ask Mike Peck to explain a little bit because it has to do with the feeding of feral cats and he can better explain it than I can. So Mike can you explain that part of the Ordinance?

Mr. Peck – The biggest difference is in Section G which is kind of like an exception that allows, and I'll just note that we went to like the research I believe Mr. Walden started, and provide a lot of information the Committee reviewed. But it was to make it more enforceable and in step with current practices regarding these issues. And also we see a long term reduction in stray and feral cat population. This definitely reflects that. It forbids the feeding of feral cats if they cause a nuisance first of all in the community. As far as it being contrary to the health of the community, but then it allows feeding of such cats, stray and feral cats only if they are caught and they are tagged within a portion of the year signifying that they have been spayed and neutered and been immunized. That, according to the research that we have long term reduces the feral cat population and the stray cat population in the community. Speaking with representatives from
the Service Department, they have indicated that we're going in this direction and that its more enforceable and more in line with what is already happening in the community and so we've tried to draft an Ordinance that reflects that. It also indicates that any destruction of traps for these cats can be punishable as a misdemeanor as well. Those are the main things.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Does anybody have any questions about this.

Mrs. Van Valkenberg-Walden – I believe the word tipping should be within the quotes.

Mr. Peck – We should amend that in there.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Any other questions from Council? So the Laws, Contract and Claims Committee is going to recommend for passage of Ordinance No. 11, 2016 tonight.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY. Mr. Kalb – This Saturday, May 21st, between noon and 6:00pm, AYDesign is unveiling a new gallery on Classic Cars. Weather permitting there will also be some classic cars on display in the parking lot across from the old PD at Baker and Vine.
As Mr. Estep said earlier, we do have two new businesses here in St. Bernard. Streetpops had their grand opening of their new production facility and store front located at 4720 Vine St. back on May 7th. They are open daily from noon to 6:00pm so stop in and welcome this new business to St. Bernard while enjoying one of their many streetpops.
I would also like to welcome Salon Artiste located at 4813 Vine St. They are a full service salon that provide quality service in a relaxing environment that pampers to your salon needs. Their hours of operation are Monday from 12:00 until 5:00pm, Tuesday thru Saturday from 10:00am until 6:00pm and are closed on Sundays.
Please support these new St. Bernard businesses.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION. Mrs. Schildmeyer – I don't have a report on my Committee but I just have a question for you Tom and I'm not going to put you on the spot right now. I was asked about the grass cutting that happened on Zetta and how much the Village is charging the property owners for us taking over that. You don't have to do it now but ……

Mr. Paul – No, I have it already. We posted it and actually the Mayor helped us out a lot on that one and the bushes were trimmed but there is a company coming in now and they will be cutting it every two weeks to charge to the bank. The US
Bank owns it. What took so long is finding out which US Bank because they keep pushing you around but with Robert's help, as I said, within, that one was within 11 days, the one on Mitchell is more like 15. But within 11 days there was a response and now they will be cut, they did come in after it was cut, they did come in and cut it, even though it didn't need to be, and they're going to be there every two weeks.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Do we charge them for the time that we cut it?

Mr. Paul – No. That was done voluntarily.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – OK, I'll let the residents know.

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

Committee of the Whole
May 5, 2016

Council approved the minutes of the April 21st Council Meeting.

Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
Discussed additional appropriations for certain line items. She also said that she would keep an eye on the Bank Ave. litigation line item. Council voted 7-0 to place an Ordinance on the table for these items.
Said that she talked to the State Auditor’s office because our papers are due but we have nothing from the State Auditor on our 2014 audit.
Asked the Fire Chief to explain the need for $80,000 in his overtime line item. Council agreed to add this to the additional appropriation Ordinance that was voted on.
Told Council that the April revenues will be off because we have not received our property taxes from the County yet.

Law Director, Mike Peck
Reported that Mayor’s court was last night and there were 40 cases for tax violations, 25 cases for assignment, 22 cases for payment, 1 case for pre-trial, and 1 case for trial that resulted in a conviction.
He commended Officer Derrick Setters for his investigation and accident reconstruction as well as his testimony in court.

Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell
Told Council that he received a letter from a resident about the traffic on Ross Ave due to the construction on the Norwood Lateral. He said that while the work is being done there will be “No Parking 3pm-6pm” signs placed from Broerman Ave to Greenlee Ave.

Service Director, Tom Paul
Discussed the high number of properties that have high grass. Calls will be made and letters will be sent by Robert Evans.

Told Council that he received bids for a new Dial-a-Ride and there is enough money budgeted to order it with a back-up camera. Council voted to put an Ordinance on the table for the purchase of that bus.

Reported that we received the grant for the Moeller Ave. street project. The project will be $390,000.00 and we will be responsible for $156,000.00 plus $39,000.00 for engineering fees. Said that the NJPA (National Joint Purchasing Association) is part of the State Purchasing that will be used for the new packer. They offered $12,000.00 for the old one.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Rick Moore
Reminded everyone that the new Tax Review Board members will be sworn in at the next Council meeting.
Said that they had a very good April, near the old record, and that May might be lower because of the large amount in April.
Thanked Leighanne Helmes for her work going after the tax violators.

Finance, Don Tobergte
Thanked everyone that helped with the Cleanup St. Bernard Day last Saturday. There were over 400 gallons of paint that were taken to Matthew 25 Ministries.
Reported that his next Town Hall meeting will be Tuesday May 10th at 7pm in the lower level of City Hall. He also said that the next CIC meeting will be Tuesday May 17th at 5:30 in the lower level conference room.
Reported that he called each member of Council about the demolition of the old Moon Tavern. The lead removal and sewage cleanup alone will cost $29,000.00 and the money we received from the Port Authority was $25,000.00, which is their max. The balance will come out of the streetscape bond money. Paul Myers is having drawings made up for a bid on the pocket park on this property after the demolition.

Safety, Ray Culbertson
Reported that the next Block Watch meeting will be Tuesday May 17th at 6:30 in the lower level of City Hall.

Laws, Contracts & Claims, Cindi Bedinghaus
Discussed the changes to the feral cat ordinance. Council voted 7-0 to place an Ordinance on the table with the changes.

Business & Industry, Andy Kalb
Reported that Street Pops will have their Grand Opening this Saturday May 7th from noon-6pm. They are located at 4720 Vine St and there will be food trucks in the parking lot for the celebration also.

A resident asked if the Village was treating the old Moon Tavern for bugs. He also asked about the properties that were not filed properly, there was an explanation given by the Auditor as part of the Additional Appropriation Ordinance earlier, and was told that she filed paperwork to get that tax money back when they are filed properly.
COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

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

ORDINANCE NO. 10, 2016. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 10, 2016.

REMARKS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Could you just explain a little bit more for me for the property management part because what I heard is that we owed $200,000.00 a year and then I heard in three years or something so what do we owe and when should this have turned back to the municipality instead of commercial? I just want some clarification.

Mrs. Brickweg – First, when, the mistake was made when it was being developed it wasn't reported to the State that it was a municipality doing it so it just went through as commercial real estate. So it is costing us, with the first tax bill that's due in February about $100,000.00 and the one that is going to be due in June is going to be about $100,00.00. So like off the top of my head I think that just the Safety Center alone is $58,000.00 twice a year. I have filed all the paper work. You have to go down with each parcel and you have to give all different reports and file three different things on each one. All of that down there they have that recent but they said the hold up is usually with the State. But there shouldn't be an issue but they will go back three years and give us the money back. So I'm hoping we should be OK, it's getting close, they've been really helpful communicating with me. But like I said the Building Dept. does need to get on the LaRosas property because I did it, its not really my responsibility but I did it because it was so much money
and I wanted to make sure it got done. But, so I sent the information to them about how it should be done in the future and I sent the packets and everything for LaRosas but basically I think after about a year it will get back to you and that's the tax bill on that is only about $2,900.00 a year so that's not as much because it's just a parking lot.

Mr. Culbertson - I have a question for Peggy. You said they'll go back up to three years. With the State Auditor coming in every year how come this wasn't discovered earlier. It's been going on for three years or am I misunderstanding to go back three years.

Mrs. Brickweg – It's a property tax bill and we just started getting the first bill because you know the property taxes are not in arrears so when I got my first one I realized we have an issue and I appealed it but it takes, for some reason, at the State level, it takes them a year and a half to accept your appeal. So it's not really anything that would have been caught by the auditor so until we got our first tax bill, and I just received our first tax bill for the LaRosas property. So we know we have to do that one. So as we get the bills I've been looking them up and I knew I had never paid property taxes on the Fire Department building before and then I got a bill for $58,000.00 so I knew something was up.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 10, 2016 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 11, 2016. AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 505 OF THE ST. BERNARD CODIFIED ORDINANCES RELATED TO FERAL CATS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 11, 2016.

REMARKS

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay St. - First I would like to ask, is this based on any state code or anything or are you just making this one up yourselves. Has it ever been upheld in court? The second thing is as I'm reading 505.02 when it says, "no person being an owner or having charge of cattle, horses, swine, geese, ducks, goats, chickens or other fowls" to me that sounds like I can have a horse on my property so I think
you need to look into that paragraph there because if I'm reading it and its saying I can have any of these as long as I keep it within my fence.

Mr. Peck - A lot of research did go into this. The Ohio State Code is what we saw but there have been other states that have this very similar Ordinance and Penal Code as well. That's what we patterned this off of. As far as the concern with regard to cattle, horse, swine, geese, ducks, goats, that has always been in our Ordinance. I did not address that. It certainly would apply as long as you keep those animals on your property you're allowed to have them. But I have not reviewed this portion of our Ordinance in relation to other portions of the Ordinance. Quite frankly it is not an issue I've looked into.

Mr. Tobergte - I can remember last year we did pass an Ordinance, no farm animals, no chickens and stuff like that so there is a separate Ordinance on that.

Mr. Peck – Thank you Mr. Tobergte.

Mr. Tobergte – You're welcome Mr. Peck.

Dave Strotman, Minmore – What if my dog gets out of my yard and sits up on Kemper, what happens then? I mean does he go to the SPCA? Would they return him to me or would they destroy him in ten days if I never find out about it or what happens to my dog?

Mr. Tobergte – Dave, usually any dog that's picked up goes down to the Service Dept. and the Service Dept. and the association or the union, whatever you want to call it, notify the CHIP reader, for the dogs are microchipped and they'll be able to find the owner that way. My understanding is they keep them down there a day or two and the call SPCA and they come pick them up and they go through their process.

Dave Strotman, Minmore – It just seems like the cats have more rights than the dogs and in America today which I don't find right.

Mr. Tobergte – Yes, Dave, you're right.

Kerri Messer, 500 Tower – As far as the cats go I've had issues with that in my own yard to where I've had to catch them and take them to the SPCA and they said they'll bring them back and they'll be fixed. I guess that's a little bit better than having five thousand cats in my back yard but as far as somebody feeding them,
am I supposed to like take pictures and them give them to you and you all, like I file a report on these people or how is that supposed to go. They get fined?

Mr. Peck – You could certainly call law enforcement because technically it’s a misdemeanor. It violates code. But I think you could also call the Service Dept. They also do handle cases like this as well. Absolutely, providing, as with anything within the neighborhood providing whatever evidence you have. It's very important.

Kerri Messer, 5000 Tower – OK.

Motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 11, 2016 as read. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Tobergte voted no.

ORDINANCE NO. 12, 2016. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN BUS AND ACCESSORIES, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) MINI-BUS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 12, 2016.

REMARKS

Mr. Tobergte – Tommy, what's the plan for the old bus? Are we going to trade it in or put it on the auction block or what?

Mr. Paul - I believe it goes to the auction.

Mr. Tobergte – What about the old Medical Bus? Are you keeping that still?

Mr. Paul – That runs, I think that may be the one going on the auction block and I have to think about that and see what's in my notes. I believe that the Medical Bus is going to keep because it's a Medical Bus and we're trading in the other one. The one that's non-diesel. They use a diesel now, the non-diesel one will be traded in because it barely runs and the Medical Bus still runs but they don't use it.

Mr. Tobergte – Trade it in or auction block?

Mr. Paul – Auction block.
Mrs. Brickweg – Just because I'm thinking about it at this moment, there was a little bit of confusion last week about when we need an Ordinance or not. I would suggest that you put on the COW agenda that we look at what the State suggests. That's the problem. The State suggests, the last time I read it, the State suggested $50,000, ours is $25,000. I think that's where the confusion is. Because our law is different than the States and the State pretty much recommends that that's what it should be so I'll look up and see what it is. But we should probably put it on the COW to be discussed.

Mr. Tobergte – We just changed it to $25,000 a year or so ago. I know Phil wanted to go to $50,000 but Council decided to stick with the 25,000 back then.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 12, 2016 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach – Before we read Ordinances 13 and 14, we were just given those today and I, myself would prefer to, while I'm all in favor of thirteen, I haven't had a chance to look at fourteen, I'm uncomfortable voting on them so I would as soon refer those to COW since they have not had their first reading. I don't know how anybody else feels.

Mr. Tobergte - I agree 100%.

Ms. Hausfeld - I was going to say something too. I, you know, we're going to every other week meeting now and I may sound mean, but, sorry about your luck. I mean we need to see this stuff at the COW and not just given to us via email or here at the meeting and just expect us to vote on it. I'm glad Steve brought it up because I was definitely going to say something. It's going to make the Department Heads, I believe, since we are doing this every other meeting thing which you guys know I don't agree with, you guys are going to have to work harder to get this information to us early enough to where we have time to look over it, ask questions and get answers before we just vote on stuff. Especially because everything here is voted on emergency anyway. That's my two cents.

Mr. Asbach – These were never in COW and put on the table so we can defer them to COW.

Ms. Hausfeld – What we need to do is put them on the agenda for the COW next time.
OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte – Just so the residents know, the CIC did meet Tuesday night. Paul Myers announced he is working with a new developer for the Tower Ave. Town homes project. A Rene Duncan is the developer. Hopefully it will get started in August by the time we get that spot cleaned off. There are also two houses on Baker Ave. that are being demolished. One is down now. I drove passed there tonight. They're filling in the hole. The other one is the Moon Tavern. It's next on the schedule. Just so the residents know, the steel plate on Vine St., they had to dig into the street to disconnect the underground utilities to the Moon Tavern. Once they get done they'll hopefully put that back in tip-top shape.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – Since I only get five minutes I'm going to give you all my list here because I don't expect answers now anyway tonight, ok. First off I think it would be a service to St. Bernard residents that when you give a Police and Fire report, you break it down between St. Bernard and Elmwood runs. Second, with the kids, the thing that was just happening, we have cameras in the parks and stuff, I don't know why they're not working and stuff but there are two left on Vine St., can we replace the whole camera system and protect our kids in the parks? The next one is a couple of Council meetings ago there was mention that April 30th was the deadline for Elmwood to come up with paying for our services or runs to them and I haven't heard anything bought up in the last month and a half about that so its past the deadline. The other thing is you got up here, when the School Board was here, you were asking these questions like, do they list the things or do the put the topics or the agenda items. Does the CIC put the agenda items on their notice or does even Council here do it? I don't know why you're trying to hold them up to a different standard when you don't do it yourselves. Another thing you just brought up grass cutting 44 properties. Are those citizens' properties Tommy?

Mr. Paul – Some, most belong to CIC.

Tom Rolfsen 30 Clay – So we're cutting CIC's grass are we cross charging them for that?
Mr. Paul – To my understanding that would be like billing ourselves.

Tom Rolfsen 30 Clay – No the CIC is a separated entity, ok, so it's supposed to be self-funded according to the Charter so I don't believe that, ok? I think you should look into it.

Mr. Paul - I'll look into it Tom.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – The other thing is the $100,000.00 that you appropriated because somebody is incompetent or something due to negligence. I'm not sure I heard in the COW that they could give it back or they might not. It's not a done deal, is that right Peggy?

Mrs. Brickweg – Pretty much they said that they will go back three years. But if they don't get it done within three years, but if they don't approve it, no we not going to get it..............

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay - Right, so its not a guaranteed thing that you're going to get $200,000.00 back?

Mrs. Brickweg – No its not.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – The next thing is there was a $700,000.00 surplus on Streetscape, where is that money now?

Mrs. Brickweg – Inaudible.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – Alright. And the other one was, was any of that money spent on anything that wasn't in the original Streetscape project? That's the list for now.

Mr. Stuchell – Just to answer Mr. Rolfsen's about one of his questions. As far as in my report I did break down the number of fire runs that we had which again was a total of 24, providing Mutual Aid to Norwood one time, Cincinnati, once, Gulf Manor, once, we had 90 EMS details, which included in this report as well, 14 runs to Elmwood, 1 to Norwood, 1 to Springfield Twp., and 1 to Dear Park. We are actively going to meet in the next week with the Village of Elmwood to try to come to some sort of agreement for the services that we're providing for advance life support. With respect to the question about the cameras, the Police Chief, myself and the Service Director are going to be meeting with a contractor with reference to potentially trying to get the cameras up and working again so that they
can actually be monitored at the Police Station and not somewhere else. It was not in the wiring, they were set up, these are not IP cameras that we have existing so if we were to have them all activated they would have to be at a remote base. But we are looking at a way to try to get that up and running again so I hope that that will be something that will be done and we'll probably have to come back with some estimates and costs and what we can do to get that done.

Mrs. Brickweg - I just want to add something because I just thought about it about the Elmwood. I commend us going to Elmwood for the life support but I said it from the very, very beginning of the Council, it is such a tax issue the way that Elmwood uses our Police and Fire the way they do. I think we should bill them for all three. I think we should bill them for EMT and we should bill them for everything because they don't want to pay us, because why would they, they're getting it for free. But I think we need to look into the Police too. Any service we give them for free I think we should look into billing them so I would like to add Police to that also.

Mr. Stuchell – We have to look at what we're doing as far as with reference to the Hamilton County Mutual Aid Agreement with respect to that. What I was fighting for was respect to the actual emergency medical run because we actually do receive mutual aid from the Village of Elmwood Place for fire and yes we also receive mutual aid from them for Police as well. However, what we're doing with advance life support, we're not receiving advance life support from them so what we're providing to them is just flat out aid. We have an argument to make against the agreement. So we have to look at that. We can't just bill them for something that we signed a cooperative agreement with. And if we want to look at that and we want to talk about it further, I'd be glad to do it. But we have to look to the Law Director to also counsel us on that.

Mrs. Brickweg – Well I'd really like to see the percentage of them helping us to the percentage of us helping them. Because I hear the Police going out there all day long sitting here working at City Hall. So I think it might be interesting for the public to know the percentage that we're out there versus the percentage that they're here.

But on the question regarding the Vine Street Streetscape, there is still a balance in that fund for $684,583.88. There is $148,464.36 encumbered. You also asked if things were, items were bought that were not in the original plan and the answer to that is yes.
Mr. Asbach – I'd also like to respond to one of the things. Tom it's my understanding that the COW agenda is on the website. I submit it to everybody on Tuesday. They have, in our rules it says you have to submit items by Tuesday by 3:00, so I put the agenda in on Tuesday afternoons usually around 5:00. I sent one to the City Clerk and to the best of my knowledge that goes on to the website. I will double check with here but that was the way that it was being handled. He was interested in COW also. I can't speak for CIC but that's the procedure for COW.

Mrs. Brickweg - I would guess the CIC agenda is not on there because we get that a couple of hours before the meeting. I'll suggest that we work a little harder on that and just get it on there but I would assume it's not on there.

Mr. Tobergte – For the CIC the dates are on there and times. I'll talk to Paul about getting the agenda on there. I know that's not on there but Jonathan, Kerry gives me a report about the Town Hall meetings but he also has on the bottom what we give the aid is also a section who we get aid from. If that's on your report or not I don't know.

Mr. Stuchell – Inaudible. My corrected report being that we received mutual aid from Gulf Manor and that was only for EMS.

Kerri Messer, 5000 Tower – So heh with the mutual with Elmwood, how long is that agreement for? Is that like infinite like we're always supposed and they're supposed to help us or how does that work? Is that a contract for a few years?

Mr. Stuchell - I don't have the actual, the actual Mutual Aid Agreement is a County wide agreement for anyone that wishes to participate. So basically once we're in it, I mean we do one of two things, either we pull out of it but part of the problem is it would have to be determined whether or not we're violating the agreement. One of the issues being the fact that we also benefit, we benefit from the Mutual Aid Agreement as well. Whether or not you go back and look at the percentages, what we give versus what we receive, in the Mutual Aid Agreement we do receive a lot. At least from the fire side because the fact that the way that the Hamilton County dispatch is set up, that we have what is referred to as automatic aid. So basically if we have a working structure fire, we have units responding from other municipalities and fire jurisdictions. But as far as Police, we would have to look at whether or not its even justifiable to bill. I'm going to go back and I'll look at the numbers because I don't have them all right in front in my stack of papers but as far as what we're providing medical wise, the issue comes about not so much with the number of times but based upon whether or not you can say there's revenue being generated from responding. Based on what we're doing because of how we bill our
residents here in St. Bernard, we don't have a separate billing standard for a municipality that we're providing mutual aid for. So we're actually still doing "soft billing". So based upon the fact whether or not we're receiving anything from those runs, we could try to hard bill but if we can't get anything from the soft bill most likely we're not going to get anything at all. So as far as what I have, and we've reached out and we've met with the Fire Chief from Elmwood, the next meeting is actually going to hopefully be with the Fire Chief and the Mayor to try to come to some sort of agreement on what would be a fair dollar amount to at least recoup our cost based on average number of runs. This last year we responded to Elmwood Place 146 times. The year before it was 46. Right now one of the various issues that they are having obviously is manning their house for even the BLS runs. It's gotten better, we're not the only departments providing response to that municipality but they have apparently approved additional funds out of their operating budget to provide staffing at their Fire Dept. throughout the night. However, that's only for BLS runs. It still take us off the table or other municipalities off the table. Now there have been others that have backed out and I have to go look because if another municipality like Wyoming, Lockland other areas that have responded there, and I have to look to see if indeed they pulled out of, or basically said we're not going to respond. Because again, our case would be if we said we don't want to respond any more because we're not receiving the same life threatening........................................

Kerri Messer – Or if they're in violation of theirs, if they're not holding up there side and helping us out the same manner as what we're doing like that's not cool either if that's part of the agreement.

Mr. Stutchell – Correct. But that's not actually in there, the agreement doesn't read about who is holding up who's end of the bargain. The agreement is that it's across the board agreement that you are going to give and you are going to receive service from adjoining fire districts for fire and medical services.

Kerri Messer – OK. Another thing was I haven't been here at Council in a while but the I just want to kind of catch up. First of all like the long grass situation, 4920 Tower Ave., I would like to report that one, my boyfriend just actually mowed that one today for them. I just got tired of looking at it. And then there's the neighbor next to them really appreciated that, they're nice people and said thank you for that and that they had contacted him and he was supposed to come tomorrow.
My other thing was that as far as like the Streetscape, not the Streetscape but the grass and things like that, instead of hiring somebody else and paying out more money, why wouldn't we be fining these people and you either pay it or you get jail
time or you know what I mean. Something like that as opposed to putting more money out of my pocket to pay for somebody else's grass. Fine the people. If we didn't have as many apartments and renters and all those garbage, if it was more person owned then they would take care of their business.

Mr. Paul – That's why we got the sanitation officer involved. Because he does fine. And when that goes on to the door and they receive it and its not cut, it has teeth. Where my letter was not. As far as, we're working on the Ordinance now and we're going to try to revise it with the help of Mike Peck and once it's revised that also will give us more push. It is appalling. So and amazing. Amazing grace, amazing grass.

Kerri Messer – As far as like my big thing when I was coming to the meetings would be about marketing. Is there anything going on to, you know, market to the hospitals down there? There's plenty of doctor's who could afford to live here and get all the amenities we get. That's who we should be marketing to. So is that happening? Are we, I don't care if you print another flyer with our new streetscape and give it's own head. Do something to, you know, market to the type of, you know, people who we want to bring in here. Is that happening?

Mayor Estep – Last year Council was nice to put some money in a line item to hire or to do marketing so we talked about it and I interviewed some people and we did hire a person from Lindner School of Marketing. Lindner School of Finance. I used a finance major, marketing major, Jacob Bubble is his name, we hired him for 30 hours a week. And I think we just bumped it up to 40 hours. His job is to brand and market St. Bernard. He started about a week ago. He has an office downstairs so he just started and we're hoping to see good things out of him.

Kerri Messer – Fantastic. You know where he's marketing to? I mean does he give you any of that?

Mayor Estep - I don't know. I mean we just, he's looking at the web sites. Everything with technology today. He's explained something to me that I don't quite grasp, to be honest. He's way ahead of me and a lot younger and he's just going on what he's learned so far. It's very early in the stage, he's only been here a week. It'll take a while. It's going to be hard to really quantify and I guess gauge his success especially so earlier on. So we are looking forward to getting good things out of Mr. Bubble.

Kerri Messer - I'm glad to hear that. That's awesome. And then are there any, I know you guys said something earlier about the square down there and about that
hardware. The last that I heard and I haven't been here in a while would be tearing it down like Family Dollar and building office buildings. Are they switching that up? Are they just going to fill what's there?

Mayor Estep – There are several things. We've talked with Bill Chester, he represents the Hankle Group and he gave a power point a few weeks ago to Council and CIC and there are several different things they're looking at. He's contacted several eateries and McAlister's Pub. He's talking to the hardware company. The tentative plans now at this time are at the North end to remove part of that building toward the Post Office and in return we'll have to give them partial parking behind there that we own. There's some discussion on continuing Ross Ave. into the parking lot there and have a service entrance around the back for the trucks. If you want to stop downstairs sometime and talk to Paul Myers he could probably give you a more up to date. Just a suggestion.

Kerri Messer - I'd rather talk to you. And then the old police building and then the Imwalle Funeral Home, are those separate things or is that part of what?

Mayor Estep – Those are two separate buildings.

Kerri Messer - I know that. I mean like what the people are doing with the school over there are they different from that or you know.

Mayor Estep – They are different. The developer for the shopping center is completely different. We're talking with or we signed a contract, a tentative contract with John Newberry who owns Wiedmann Brewery to put a tap room into the Imwalle Funeral Home, formerly Funeral Home with outdoor dining and a beer garden below and the police station, Paul Myers has contacted something. This is a really hard building to sell or do anything with due to the structure. Right now there is a company in there. Believe it or not they're filming some haunted, some scary movies or something, some haunted stuff in there. But we're working on that. It's really a tough sell with the way it's built. But those are good questions.

Kerri Messer – A shooting range, of course, which would be fun to look into. OK, I guess that would be good. I just wanted to make it so that marketing is coming up and I do appreciate all the stuff. It's looking great. It's just been so many years that stuff has been sitting. I just want to see it keep trucking before, you know, and bringing in residents and not so much the apartment. Are we still getting rid of that situation too, are you trying to get rid of renters and all that kind of thing? I mean I obviously see we're tearing some of the houses that's doing that but.
Mr. Paul - I think that was the purpose of CIC to grab up these properties and then rebuild them and sell them.

Kerri Messer – And then...........

Mrs. VanValkenberg-Walden – This is going to have to be your last question.

Kerri Messer – Yeah, it's been five minutes. I was wondering about if we could do maybe a dog park? That would be awesome. That would be something I would say to the CIC or if we have a place to do that?

Mr. Tobergte – A couple of years ago Michael Holt was on Council. We talked about putting where the tennis courts were. Tore the tennis courts out and turn it into a dog park for a while but nobody, it went nowhere. Everybody said they didn't want to do it.

Kerri Messer – So how else would we, should we just go to the CIC or who owns that?

Mr. Tobergte – The City owns the tennis courts. Could we discuss this at COW again or is this something................

Kerri Messer - I think that would be neat for all the people that do have dogs. Obviously we all have pets in our back yard but people do have dogs and that would be a cool place to, you know, have.

Mr. Tobergte – If I may quickly, I forgot to mention, Paul Myers will be here at the June 2nd COW to show his updated power point presentation. The development of the City that he has downstairs.

Mrs. VanValkenberg-Walden – And that's at 7:00pm correct?

Mr. Tobergte – Correct.

Mr. Kalb – To answer a question of hers, I know in the past we've put tax liens on properties for the grass cutting at the end of the year so I'm assuming we're probably doing the same thing for when we have to go and cut these properties because they're breaking the rules. We have put tax liens on properties in the past and I would encourage and hope that we are still doing the same as the past practices.
Mrs. Brickweg – We are still doing that but the list that we have from last year actually all got paid. So we did not have to do it last year but we do keep a running record and if we need to, we do.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – Every time you guys talk you give me more questions. Are we soft billing residents in St. Bernard when they take the ambulance on an emergency run?

Mr. Stuchell – Yes.

Tom Rolfsen, - So we're billing here, but we're billing Elmwood and you're not collecting from Elmwood but you're probably collecting from St. Bernard residents that are paying taxes for the service. To me that doesn't seem fair I think you should twist it a little more the other way.
The other thing is, when you're talking about the Funeral Home, you need the residents to know that you gave away a $1,000,000.00 building that the City bought for free, OK, so you know it's fine there's a business going in there but you gave a million dollars away that we paid for, the residents and the tax payers.
And the other thing, you're talking to the School Board, you're asking, well we want input from the people that don't want it, how much input has the citizen had on the CIC on Streetscape, on the Funeral Home, on the Police Station? I haven't seen any quorums where the citizens got to come in except a few of us that will come in here and have the courage to say something, OK, so I don't know why you're holding the School Board different then what you guys do. You go ahead and you do things and you don't get any input from the citizens, OK.

Mr. Tobergte - I work in this town four or five days a week. I get stopped continuously. People give me ideas, I bring them in. Sometimes they fly sometimes they don't so to say that we don't listen to people is not true.

Mr. Asbach – The next very busy COW meeting will be Thursday, June 2\textsuperscript{nd} at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Kalb, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.