

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 16, 2017**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, March 16, 2017 in Council Chambers.

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

Please remain standing for a moment of silence for Charlie Tackett, Mary Jo Barnes, mother of Policeman Charlie Barnes and Firefighter Joe Barnes, and Helen Neeley, mother of former mayor Barb Siegel.

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

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

Brandon Craig – I am with Housing Opportunities Made Equal. In your fair housing nonprofit wanted me to come and speak a little bit about what was made aware of to us recently. I'll try to keep it brief because I also share an interest in basketball. I'd like to get home soon. Our concern, what it is we want to stress the municipalities is that there are a lot of actions that can be taken both by residents of the city, by City Council, by staff or what have you, that can have a detrimental effect on a group that worked with a protected class. That would be a group that works with people with disabilities or with people who have families with children who work with people who have different race, different genders, different religions, what have you. There are always concerns when there is additional scrutiny or additional action taken against such a group or when there is special attention paid by other residents in the area that would cause that group to feel less welcome or less wanted in a community verses someone not of that particular class. We want to stress the importance of the roll of the city and the roll of the officials. And, some things that we will do with the City of Cincinnati, with Hamilton County, we've done with Butler County and a number of different groups around is the importance that the city should be the welcoming agent to dispel some of the issues raised and then in a lot of cases also remove some of the barriers that prevent a group from being able to provide the services that they wish to do. To bring in a couple of examples just from our experiences from some of the outside groups there is a great example in Florida in Newport Beach, Florida there was a committee who they decided they wanted to limit by using some zoning laws which would otherwise be basically neutral. The effect though was that they only enforced it against group homes and not against the resort housing or the housing for people coming into visit and that type of thing. When they take that step, what it ends up doing was actually making what was otherwise normally the safely neutral action into a discriminatory action. Because it was targeted enforcement and it had the effect of removing one group of people based on a law without removing others. That's a type of discrimination that we want to make sure cities understand and are being aware of. Additionally, as residents were to make complaints or where residents were to raise issues, it is certainly well within the cities rights and duties to ask questions. The importance of it being that it should be done in a neutral way. This particular case in Newport Beach there was in fact issues raised by owners of property who wanted to rent their property out that the law would apply to them. In an outside communication they were given a choice

that rule didn't apply to you. It's not meant to be for you, it was meant for the other group. We are also seeing some where they have done this with drug treatment centers where again these same type of targeting enforcement was done but also the communication that was made from being on the record from being off the record. When using this evidence that it was done to target enforcement. We always want to bring that to light to peoples' attention that again that the city officials and truly residents should be the welcoming agent for any group that comes into the community. The other part I wanted to offer, the idea that, especially if it's done for one it should be done for everyone, and so actions that are not routinely done for anyone else, should not be done for one group based on them being a protected class or for being a member of a protected class. The example we've seen a lot of now is older divisions opening up, things like child care facilities or those type of things, they are asked to do more to show that they are meeting the same requirements versus any other business would be required to do. And those are again steps that would deter someone from bringing that type of organization or that type of business to the community or that type of housing to the community. More recent time example in this area is in Montgomery. There were a lot of issues raised about a group home facility up in Montgomery, this was really an expensive group home facility that catered only to seniors with like dementia. And the only citizen who could afford to pay to live in that group home were the seniors who were the parents of people in Montgomery and in that area. And what was kind of creating a problem in that community was that you had people who did not want the facility there. They were concerned about having seniors with dementia and those type of things able to live in that area, be able to walk around, that type of thing, and getting folks into insurance and we don't want to dismiss those concerns, we don't dismiss those very valid feelings. The reality is the group home met all the requirements, the group home should be allowed to be there and what ended up happening in that situation was that in fact after a threat of a court filing the group home was in fact allowed to open and what people didn't realize was in fact the people, the group home was going to serve, in fact, in some cases residents of Montgomery or parents of residents of Montgomery and so we're leaving some of those fears and address some of those concerns. It is still a valid thing to do it just should be done in a way that does not potentially make a person feel unwanted, feel deterred from coming to the community. The other part is we want to make sure that some of these services are going to address people within the community themselves. And so, if they to feel targeted or they feel like they're being pushed away or pushed out of the community that is official fair housing violation and that is not something we want any community to have to deal with. Again we address these issues and same type of issues with other areas. We hopped on to the Montgomery situation very late in the matter. It was actually involved pretty early on for us in our involvement. But we address these issues with the City of Cincinnati and when they change their zoning policies that would have made a person look into get an easement to put a ramp in or something like that, have to pay and do all these other steps beforehand when it's a legal accommodation. We address that with them because they were doing the planning process, brought it to their attention and those policies were changed and so we want to make sure that everybody is still complying with the law, following the rules, doing what is proper and that we don't have anyone feeling like they're being told not to be a part of the community. I think there's a lot of services that are provided by the city in St. Bernard. I somewhat learned this by watching the wonderful videos of Council meetings and seeing what all the things that are there that I did not know about but I don't live in St. Bernard which may explain why I don't know. I think the opportunity for anyone who comes into St. Bernard to be

able to see some of those things and enjoy the facility, enjoy the opportunities within the community is a good thing and that should be something that is encouraged. And make sure we keep doing that in a way that also encourages people who have concerns to address them in a proper way but also in some cases to say to the city the rule is not to police that before it happens but to address those issues as they may come up. I think my position is, and again I wanted to keep it short because, you know, we all have interests that we have. But I wanted to make sure that I stress that we're here kind of as an advisory position of just giving the message out to some issues that were raised and the concerns and we just wanted to make sure that everyone was welcoming as I'm sure the city has already been and also making sure that if there are issues or there are concerns that they are addressed properly and that they're not addressed in a manner that would deter someone from coming into the community. With that I will just open it up for any questions anyone might have.

Mr. Stuchell – One issue is, if there were something to come up in the neighborhood itself, as the group home opens and starts operation, if there were any issues that were coming about with the current residents, if we ever got ourselves into a situation when we needed someone to act as a liaison to assist us in that and trying to work with the residents would you, could we reach out to you as well if it required a more localized education of the neighbors of this home?

Brandon Craig – Yes, yes. And we are always there to provide training, to provide assistance, to provide coordination. If there came a point where there, you know, one or two people who were really the ones that was resistant of the group home or what, you know, was a bad interaction, we also work with a free mediation with those. And so we would be able to come in and do those for free. They have been trained, sensitive training, we use them all the time. The number of services that we can also provide as far as education, as far as mediation, as far as resolutions that will assist and help. In addition if there are reasons for which the group home residents need additional resources or additional things in order to be able to live in the unit, we are certainly a vehicle for someone to use to give resources to as well. We want to make sure that we're helping, you know, in any way we can with everyone in the community.

Ms. Hausfeld – On that same aspect, do you have a business card that you can handout?

Brandon Craig – I have several, and I can always bring more.

Mr. Stuchell – Mr. Craig was actually going to provide me with some additional information that we will be able to print out and actually have on hand here in Village Hall and again I was glad to be able to use you as a resource for making ourselves a better community and also allowing word to get out that we are a welcoming community.

## **REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIAL**

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – Well thank you Brandon for that concise report honoring the six different tipoffs and the Xavier Musketeers above all. We will follow the rules and we will remain transparent and we want to do everything we can to continue to make our community as welcoming and positive that we can for everybody.

On a little bit of a separate note we've continued our interviews with the nurse for the city, for the village and I think we found someone and we'll be introducing her next week at the seniors at noon.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's office provided Council and the Administration with the year to date revenue and expense spreadsheets and the cash funds report as of the end of February. The revenues were \$1,401,228.27. When compared to 2016 the revenues are down \$166,130.18. The expenditures were \$2,301,449.79 compared to 2016 the expenditures are up \$340,589.99. The reason the expenditures are so much higher this year is because in 2016 the Bureau of Worker's Compensation was starting a new billing schedule and the payments were spread out into four payments which did not start until April. The payments for 2016 were \$151,134.64. This year the entire payment of \$179,603.64 was paid at one time. Taking that into consideration the expenses are still up \$160,986.35 and I cannot stress enough that Council and the Administration need to find ways to reduce expenses.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – As Mr. Moore will probably tell you in his report, we went and discussed hiring a lobbyist to represent St. Bernard up in Columbus based on the new budgetary changes. I also met with the Hamilton County Municipal League executive board on Monday. Representatives from Cincinnati were there as well as Blue Ash and Sharonville. In addition to centralized filing which I think will cost at least St. Bernard \$35,000.00 a year if not more. They are making changes or suggesting changes to the local government fund distribution formula as well. I was shocked to learn that St. Bernard is number four on that list behind Cincinnati, Blue Ash and Sharonville regarding how much they're taking from us. That will be almost \$36,000.00 additionally based on that same local government fund, a 27% change from 2017 to 2019. The only other community losing more was Evendale. That's another big problem with this budget and I'll discuss that with Rick as well. I'll prepare a packet, I can prepare a packet for Council but given these changes I'm going to continue discussion with the lobbyist, Tip Geirhart, who has tremendous connections up in Columbus and can serve our community as well. June is the time when they are going to be either passing whether the budget will be changed or not so it's going to be a limited amount of work they'll be able to do but I think it may be a thing we should really pursue. I'll update Council and provide it.

As far as the weather, hopefully it will be getting warmer because I know we're going to want our Parks Ordinance pretty soon so Mrs. Bedinghaus if you want to put that maybe on in a couple of weeks for your committee, I'll have it together.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – Receipts for the month of February 2017 totaled \$614,633.14. The statements came in from Star Ohio, our balance there is \$2,222,384.21 at the end of February. Our First Safety Bank account that statement also arrived, \$5,635.76 is what is in that account.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I have the Fire Department report for the month of February. For the month of February we had a total of 36 fire details. Regarding mutual given to other departments we had mutual aid received once from Springfield Twp, once from Cincinnati. Details of interest, 4 trash fires, 1 building fire, 1 flammable liquid spill and 1 chemical release. As far as the number of EMS details for the month of February we had a total of 77 with 45 patients transported. Mutual given 5 times to Elmwood, 1 to Cincinnati and 1 to Norwood. There was no mutual aid received. Details of interest, 4 non-breathing patients, 3

unconscious patients, 3 auto accidents, 1 overdose and 1 psychiatric emergency. I would also like to congratulate Firefighter Brian Dover on his retirement from the St. Bernard Fire Department after serving the community for 34 years.

I would also like to again thank Brandon Craig, the Compliance Manager for HOME(Housing Opportunities Made Equal) for making his presentation to the citizens of this community.

I am also going to ask that Lt. Brian Young come to the podium to give an update on the upcoming smoke detector blitz that will occur during the month of April.

Brian Young – Good evening. This is still kind of preliminary, we're still in the process of getting this all squared away but I attended a meeting on Tuesday, we're going to participate in the smoke detector blitz through the American Red Cross. This will be on Saturday, April 29, 2017 obviously. Either 8:00am to noon or noon to 4:00pm we're not sure yet. We're still trying to work out the logistics. Basically anyone who needs a smoke detector you can ask at the Fire Department. There will also be a number that we'll get out to residents shortly or you can contact American Red Cross currently. The goal is to put out amongst us enough in our neighborhoods to put out 10,000 smoke detectors in that day throughout the Cincinnati area. We're also negotiating getting back into an MOU with the American Red Cross to provide free smoke detectors to all residents whenever they need them. There will be more to come on that and I have a phone call in to Lisa Herzog who is heading this program up. I did not get a phone call from her today but hopping to get something back tomorrow. Again, April 29, if you need a smoke detector contact the Fire Department. You can call us 242-9555 ask for the officer in charge, tell him you're in the smoke detector program. He'll get one out to you. If not look for some door hangers, they're going to do a pamphlet drop probably the week before. There will be some reminder information and contact information on that as well. I'll let you know more when I have it. Chief Kerry Meyer should have more next Council meeting and we should have a little more firm plans for that.

SERVIC DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul - I am constantly looking for ways to stream line my budget within my power. I have changed servicers of our portable phone system and gathered all the phones that we were paying for and stopped the services. This will increase savings a lot in the beginning then balance out to be a little over a hundred a month. Next I looked into printers and signed an agreement for a savings of \$400.00 a month. With the combined effort of Walt Moeller, Heidi Culbertson and myself, we have saved over \$2,000.00 to date with computers and technical issues. Thank both of you for your help and knowledge.

Our report for the OEPA was calculated and filed. Our numbers are as follows: 4 sewers repaired by us, 28 sewers repaired by outside contractors, 128 sewers were cleaned resulting in 308 cubic yards of debris.

Our leaf truck ran from October 10 to January 6 and removed 675 cubic yards of debris.

Our sweeper gathered up 190 cubic yards.

We spread 262 pounds of fertilizer on our properties.

We received a check for \$4,295.86 for participating in recycling. This amount can increase if we the people do better and recycle more.

A traffic count was conducted at Vine St. And Ross Ave. Vine St. totals were 9,606 and Ross was 8,972.

To my community; Mother Nature teaches us it is wise to be prepared and foolish to worry. Peace to everyone. Short enough, Ray?

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Moore –Thanks Tommy for not upstaging me. First of all I put the February figures in your mail boxes. If there are any questions I'd be glad to answer what I can. I'd like to follow up on what Mike said about the HB that is in front of legislature up in Columbus. We're going to look at Resolution No. 2 tonight so vehemently that we're against this. I'd like to just reiterate without beating a dead horse. I'd like to reiterate why we're against it. First of all the cost for the central collection of net profit patches that we go to Columbus be processed turned around and sent back to us. Off of that the State would take a 1% fee and as Mike said that would have an immediate effect on the Village of a loss of \$35 to \$36,000.00 in income coming here. The other thing, this is probably just as important as the loss of income, this bill would allow no auditing power on the part of the City. In other words when the payment went up to Columbus if there were questions, if there were problems they would call Columbus and Columbus would answer those questions. They would set up a committee or whatever up there so they would not call the local tax office if they had a problem. That's a complete loss of control. Not that we get a lot of calls regarding this but we do get some. And when we do get them it generally involves a fairly significant amount of money. I think to have that local contact and that local presence is very important especially in a village of our size. I think last but not least as we look at this, I know Mike and I when we met with the lobbyist, is that this is just the first step that they're looking at probably in the long run not only looking at net profit but they're looking at centralized collection of withholding which only means eventually a loss of home rule. And as we talked last year, a loss of home rule would be devastating for the Village. So I think, you know, you can look at this Resolution, hopefully vote on it tonight and I would highly recommend that you do pass it. To follow up on our meeting with the lobbyist, what Tip said was he would work for us for the next three months at \$2,500.00 a month. Because what he said was they're probably going to vote on this at the end of June so that would give us April, May and June for him to work for us. I met with Mr. Tobergte yesterday and he had a good suggestion. He said why don't we contact some of the local cities, downtown and villages around Cincinnati, see if anybody would want to go in with us and share costs, etc. Because one of the things the lobbyist did say was, Tip did say to Mike and I was, you know, it would be of greater impact if there was more than one City or Village that the lobbyist represented. So, what I did was I sent out an email to about seventeen villages and cities around Hamilton County. I did not include Cincinnati because I knew they had their own lobbyist. I only got one response and that response was, yes they would like to go in with us. We're going to talk to them about it and see if they would share the cost and so forth. But I think this is a very, very important issue that we need to really stand up for and really need to fight coming out of Columbus because again I think in the long run, and I'm talking two years down the road, they are really looking to eliminate home rule and we tax because there is the home rule law in effect for the State of Ohio. I sent you guys an email, I think Heidi sent it, that was just to the Ohio Tax Commissioner what his view of this bill is and then underneath that is a fellow named Gary Lewis and what his response is. I would highly recommend that you read it. Especially read Mr. Lewis' response because he really lays it out that this is what this is and what it will be in the future. So I would highly recommend we read this and kind of absorb it and take it into consideration.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – John, Tommy and I met Friday, March 3 to discuss cost savings ideas.

The Finance Committee will meet at 6:00 on Thursday, April 6 to discuss this year's budget.

Commissioner Chris Monzel will be here in Council Chambers on Thursday, March 30 at 6:30pm to discuss last year's flood. All residents are invited to attend. I would like to thank Brian Dover for his years of service to our Village. The Finance Committee recommends passage of Resolution No. 2, 2017

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – I have the February Police report. During the month of February, police were involved in 731 calls for service. Of those calls, they responded to 25 accident reports and took 17 offense reports. Officers cleared a total of 15 offenses and made 84 misdemeanor arrests. They responded to 80 parking complaints and issued 18 citations for parking violations. Officers issued 35 traffic citations, 0 DUI arrests and 61 warnings. Police responded to 38 calls for suspicious activity, vehicles or persons.

I'd like to remind the residents that the CIC meeting is this Tuesday night at 5:30pm in the lower level of Village Hall and that same night the Block Watch meeting is at 6:30 pm at the Safety Center.

I'd also like to echo the congratulations to Brian Dover as he retires from the St. Bernard Fire Department.

And finally I'd like to wish Coach Brian Neal and the Roger Bacon Spartan boys basketball team good luck as they play for the regional championship this Saturday night and a possible trip to the state final four.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – I have the February Service Department report. There were 15 trucks placed at residences, 24 Dumpsters placed at residences, 81 special pick-ups at residences and 165.2 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. The recycling report; 31.34 tons of recycling material, 70 pounds of scrap aluminum, 5 pounds of copper, 20 pounds of lead and 8,110 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Mr. Peck, you would like to have a meeting with Laws, Contracts and Claims regarding the Ordinance for the parks. I was going to have it on the 6<sup>th</sup>, would it be possible to have it at 5:30pm? Will it take very long if we have it at 5:30pm and it would run into the Finance Committee meeting? The 6<sup>th</sup>, our next COW?

Mr. Peck – Yes that would be fine.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – So, the next Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting will be at 5:30pm regarding the park Ordinance and then we will go into the Finance Committee meeting.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – On behalf of the Village and especially the Recreation Department I would like to thank the following businesses who have supported the Recreation Department this year to help offset the cost of these sports. They have donated money, they have had advertisement placed down at the field and we would like to thank Siegel Roofing and Central Insulation for getting that, for taking that off this year. I'd also like to congratulate the Roger Bacon Spartans and the game will be this Saturday at 7:00pm at Trent Arena if anybody wants to make the trip.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Schildmeyer – Thanks to Brian Dover, job well done. Congratulations on your retirement.

On a personal note, thanks to all who reached out to our family when we lost my father-in-law who anyone who knows me knows how dear he was to me. So thank to all who reached out to us, to me, it really touched us.

And Go Spartans! As alumni, I'm excited. So yes, Go Spartans!

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

Committee of the Whole

Mar 2, 2017

1. Council approved the minutes of the Feb 16th Council meeting.
2. Council approved the wording for the five minute rule. Mr. Asbach will get with the City Clerk to have update in the Rules of Council.
3. Mayor, John Estep
  - a. Said that the cleanup of Girl Scout Ln. is almost complete and they are working with Mr. Stevens and the Dollar Tree to get the dumpsters all in a row and fenced in to keep the trash confined.
  - b. Reported that Mr. Paul Myers said that there needs to be a Planning Commission. There will be five people, the Mayor, one Council person and three residents. They would serve 6 year terms with a new person rotating on every two years. The meeting was announced for May 27th, but that date may change.
  - c. Said that they had a meeting on Memorial Day and Easter.
  - d. Announced that he is looking for a part-time nurse that will work 20 hours a week and needs to be an RN.
  - e. Reported that he is close to an agreement with the fire department on the part-time firefighters.
4. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
  - a. Told Council that she needed an Ordinance for the repairs on the boiler at the old police station. After some discussion it was decided to take the money out of MP-4 to pay for the repair. The cost was about \$2,000.00.
  - b. Reported that she cashed in \$200,000.00 to make payroll this week.
5. Law Director, Mike Peck(report given by Mr. Stuchell because Mr. Peck had Court)
  - a. Said that he will review the proposed resolution for the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management Plan and present it to Council before passage.
  - b. Said that he and Mr. Moore will meet with a lobbyist to discuss the centralized tax collection by the State.
6. Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell
  - a. Reported that he closed on the property across from the St Bernard Eagles today. The work on the first two unit townhome, approximately 2200 square feet per unit, will start in the near future.

b. Reported that Brandon Craig, compliance director for the Home, Housing Opportunities Made Equal, will be making a presentation to Council at the March 16th Council meeting to advise us on how to comply with the Federal Fair Housing Standard Act. This stems from the presentation about the group home.

7. Service Director, Tom Paul

a. Said that he was doing a traffic study at Vine and Ross Ave. with all the new construction at that corner.

b. Reported that the pool filtration system has been repaired because of the flood last August for about \$3,700.00.

c. Reported that the improvements to Vine St. Park, milling off about two inches of old dirt and replacing it with new, will cost about \$24,843.92. This work might improve our chances to receive money from the Reds Community Fund in the future. This work will also help with rain outs.

8. Tax Commissioner/ Administrator, Rick Moore

a. Said that he would have the February reports at the next Council meeting.

b. Talked about the meeting with Mr. Peck and the lobbyist. The proposed House Bill would run our net profits through Columbus and the State would charge a 1% fee. That would cost St. Bernard about \$35,800.00 and if they include withholdings is would be more like \$100,000.00.

c. Gave Council an article about the street repairs in Norwood. He said it was very interesting and asked everyone to read the article.

d. Asked Council for a resolution to show our opposition to the proposed bill on centralized tax collection. Council voted 6-0 to place it on the table.

9. Treasurer, John Ungrhue

a. Reported that the balance on the investments at 5/3rd was \$1,015,000.00 and he would have copies at the next Council meeting.

10. Finance, Don Tobergte

a. Reported that the finance committee met tonight and went over the spending and revenues for the first two months of 2017.

b. Said that he had been contacted by last year's flood victims concerning the slow or no response from MSD and Mr. Portune. He talked to Mr. Paul and he was working with him on reaching out to our County Commissioners. He contacted Mr. Monzel and Mr. Portune, who were Commissioners at the time of the flood, and Mr. Monzel will be getting back to him next week with some possible date for a town hall meeting concerning the flood. Once a date and time is confirmed, he will get the word out.

11. Safety, Ray Culbertson

a. Said that the next Block Watch meeting will be on Tuesday March 21st at 6:30 at the Safety Center. The meeting will no longer be at City Hall.

12. Laws, Contracts & Claims, Cindi Bedinghaus

a. Reported that her committee will meet in the near future when Mr. Peck has the park Ordinance ready. A resident talked about the Service Director being the head of the Planning Commission and also asked about cuts to the budget like the fireworks along with all the overtime for the departments. Another resident suggested guest speakers talk at the end of the meeting instead of the beginning. She also talked about the budget and the cost and benefits about spending money. It might help our cause with the Reds if they see that we are investing in our community. She also asked Council to keep fighting the centralized tax collection and suggested getting people to sign a petition if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Asbach

President of Council, Pro-Tem

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to read this evening's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Tobergte – Before we read the Resolution, Mike Peck and Marge Niesen pointed out to me in the title of the Resolution "the proposed throwback rule in the FY 18-19", Marge suggested that and Mike agreed that we change that to FY 2018-2019.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2, 2017. THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD STRONGLY OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET BILL, HB 49, WHICH PROPOSES CENTRALIZED COLLECTION OF NET-PROFIT MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX AND THE PROPOSED THROWBACK RULE IN THE FY 2018-2019 BUDGET WHICH WOULD RESULT IN LOSS OF REVENUE AND RESTRICTIONS AND REDUCTIONS IN THE ABILITY TO ENFORCE THE TAX CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 2, 2017. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Resolution No. 2, 2017 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Asbach – I just have a quick question for Mr. Tobergte. When is that meeting with Mr. Monzel on the 30<sup>th</sup> at what time?

Mr. Tobergte – 6:30pm here in Council Chambers. Rick, I know we talked yesterday about that email, are you still going to put that on the Village website so people can see?

Mr. Moore – Yeah, I'm working with Heidi to get that put on.

Mr. Tobergte – Rick said we talked about the lobbyist and we contacted Congressman Chabot's office and they were saying it's better not only for cost but effectiveness that we have more than one entity to divide issues from the beginning. If the issue comes from one entity they say okay whatever but if you have five, six seven other communities involved it will help weigh the issue down. A couple other things, just as a reminder, the COW agenda, I would like to discuss the possible change in committees. The marketing committees maybe stuff like that and also salaries for appointed and elected officials. A question for Peggy or Jonathan, (inaudible)dollars last year and this year. I was under the impression we passed that it was a yearly (inaudible) was self-sufficient with the income coming from the rental fees. I'm wondering if why we're not collecting the fees. I'm assuming the rental property is still enforced.

Mr. Stuchell – I need to get a tally on what has been collected, you said.....

Mr. Tobergte – According to reports I gave out today, tonight in 2017 \$200.00. In 2016, \$200.00.

Mr. Stuchell – I will find out. I don't have a correspondence for that. I'll find out in the morning.

Mrs. Brickweg – We just report what we get but I will say I agree when that was all brought up to your attention I think I was even on Council at the time (inaudible) it never has been nowhere. Yeah, to push it.

Mr. Tobergte – We talked about cost cutting, I know John, we discussed possibly charging businesses to contractors, they put garbage out for free, charging them stuff like that. Is that still an idea or is that dead?

Mayor Estep – No, just for the short term. We just talked about it a little bit I think we have to look into it deeper and we are talking more about the guy who collects the rental fees, if it's not self-sufficient. That was the goal to have him down there, we're going to have to take a hard look at that. If he's not pulling his weight and making them pay what he's supposed to we'll deal with it downstairs.

Mrs. Brickweg - I just wanted to ask out of curiosity, were there any or do we have any cuts that we can start? I mean we keep putting this off and now we're going into April

Mayor Estep – We can meet with the Service Department. We talked about, I think the way to go is through attrition. I don't want to see anybody lose their job. But we do know that the nurse, she quit so we talked about a part time nurse and we are moving in that direction with that. The guy that cleans the streets, we are talking, we met with Mike Wiedman and we're not going to replace that position. We're in negotiation, I don't want to go into any detail but our goal is to not replace that person and if we need to supplement that with a part time person and we are looking at Bob downstairs.

Mrs. Brickweg – I'm not saying you should lay anybody off, there are so many cuts that are in that budget that don't even pertain to people. I'm just saying were there ever any ideas of raising revenue like Councilman Asbach has asked about the

garbage. We really need to start doing something because if I give you guys these numbers don't forget we were almost a half a million over last year. So you can even add to that so I do worry that we keep pushing it down another month, but I'm not saying anything about people losing their jobs. I know there were other things on that list of a hundred that had nothing to do with people losing their jobs. I just wanted to know if anything came from that.

Mayor Estep – We did talk about the future garbage collection. I'm not really in favor of that. I mean they just passed a school levy and there's a lot of seniors who are on a fixed income and I'd like to take that into consideration so before we jump to that, start charging for garbage pick-up. I'd like to see if we can find some other ways to cut some costs and we did get a street sweeping down there at the shopping mall. We got that contract. We're doing that which is a little added revenue. We're trying to get more dumpsters. We're doing business with them rather than have the people send it to Rumpke, we're trying to do that. We can make a little headway so we're trying, it won't happen overnight but we are moving in that direction. And I agree with you Peg, we're going to make some changes and we're not very popular right now but you gotta do what you gotta do.

Mr. Tobergte – Peggy, Rick and I are meeting almost every other day now. We had a good day today but we are down a hundred and eighty thousand dollars or a hundred and thirty thousand isn't it Rick, over January and February last year. We had a good day today but we'll see what happens. I'm doing the best I can.

Mr. Kalb – I have a few questions for Rick. The money being down to a hundred fifty thousand dollars, do you see it coming from any certain spot or is this just overall, the whole Village we're down so much or say companies.....

Mr. Moore – I think it's a combination of things. I think one, we've lost some businesses that haven't been replaced. Roger retired we lost Dave's Pub. We've had some things at Long John Silvers that have disappeared and nothing has replaced them. It's not a significant amount of money but it's still money. I also think that in the last quarter of last year we were about two hundred thousand ahead so I don't know how much of that was carried over, you know what I mean, that they paid it last year and now it didn't come in this year. So I think it's a combination of things to be honest with you. I mean it's, you know the vast majority of the money obviously comes from businesses here in town so I think that's, you know, where it is. I hope that answers your question.

Mr. Kalb – It did. Thank you very much. Moving on to Tommy Paul now. We talked about, about two months ago I got a quote from Rumpke anonymously for a certain business in town just to see out of curiosity what they would charge for trash collection and I know it was significantly higher into that anymore to see if we could increase our business trash collection fee to help offset that at a minimum the overtime on the weekends?

Mr. Paul – We are looking into raising the fee for the dumpsters that we collect. We are trying, people are under contract. So until the contracts are up we can't accrue them but we're going after it, they know that we want to do it so there are a couple that are getting on board as soon as their contracts expire. I think the next thing would be to set a figure. I'll get with John and Don and set a figure on what it would take for us to collect it. So I would think any revenue would help. If you're

talking about looking at Rumpke doing things, they'll do once a week and there's, I don't think they can match us. So that probably won't happen.

Mr. Kalb – I found when I was looking into, our stores pay a lot of taxes here in the Village I think we should keep that service and be able to provide a trash collection that is less than what is comparable around us but we just want to make sure we're competitive and just underneath what say a Rumpke or Forest or whatever any other companies are so we're not so far out that we're only covering our expenses for dumping at least labor cost for those.

And then John I'll be the devil's advocate on this one. The nurse, you know, it's an unfortunate to see her leave and I think she did a lot of great things for this Village and a lot of, you know, things for our seniors especially, but is that a position that we truly need in the Village right now. Not to be, in my personal opinion, it's not great to lay anybody off as we said, but we kind of had that one fall into our lap you could almost say and we have a vacant position and not many other villages and cities has a nurse. They all contract out through Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati and things like that. Is that, I mean I know it's a touchy subject right now but that could be something, do we have to move that fast on replacing it, the position, or can we wait and see how things work out. Maybe we can fill in a few of the things that she did like blood pressure checks and things like that at Seniors. Possibly get the Fire Department maybe and I hate to throw you under the bus but, you know to show up for an hour to do things like that and maybe help offset that so we lessen the burden for our residents but the same time not hire somebody else that we're contracted for and pay money for year after year after year.

Mayor Estep – You brought up several points there Andy and that's alright. The Fire Department have been more than helpful to cover Wednesdays. When I interviewed the lady from the Enquirer she was like over seventeen communities and I said well we have a full time nurse. She said I've never heard of that. So you know I think we have some perks here that we take for granite or it's always been here and we think everybody gets those. If we get outside the bubble you find out, get outside in the real world we're getting a lot of things that a lot of other people don't have so it's a tough transition to just go from Jump St. to the end of the road. So we thought we'd at least transition to sixteen hours a week, four hours on Monday, Tuesday, the Fire Department will be here on Wednesdays for blood pressure screening, Thursday and Friday. We were going to go under contract with this lady. Twenty dollars an hour. We did look at outsourcing it to a company. They wanted about thirty two dollars an hour. So I think we found the best deal we could for twenty dollars an hour for an RN with dual certification that could possibly help with some other activities in group things for the seniors like medication, things that would lower their blood pressure. We may try it for a year. I don't know if that's the answer, I have a soft spot for the seniors. They had this service for so many years and to just cut them off and say we're not going to do this any longer, I have a hard time with that. They're the backbone of our community, they spent their life here and I don't want to turn my back on them. I know you don't. So we thought for fifteen thousand dollars a year we can try it for one year and if we could get more service from places like The Council on Aging, Cincinnati Health and things like that maybe we could transition to do away with the nurse. Fortunately once she resigned, she did a great job when she was here. She'll be missed by a lot of people and we're just in a spot right now that I think the best thing we could do temporarily for one year. But good question.

Mr. Kalb – I totally understand what you're trying to do and I agree with you wholeheartedly. I'm just, we're really overbudget and now we're trending, our money is coming in below what we projected too and if that trend would continue and as Rick said, it's only two months and I hate to make a snap from only two months and lay off any of these scenarios, especially looking at December we were up way more than we usually are in December and sometimes when you look over the whole spreadsheet like ten years you'll see how it ends up balancing out every year so I'm not going to say we're going to end up the year way over our projection but I would hate to get later in the year, July, August, September and not have turned the corner yet and then we're looking at laying, God forbid, make a decision that we don't have to do when we could have curbed it a while back so put that in the back of your mind.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I agree with John. The seniors are the backbone of this community. You're exactly right. They are who have built St. Bernard. How dare we even consider cutting out a nurse for fifteen thousand dollars a year. That's not even in my realm of possibility.

Ms. Hausfeld – I have two things. On their note as far as cutting out our nurse, I don't disagree with you but Peggy and Rick have been preaching to us, we have to cut and we have, if, if, if, suggestions should come from the Mayor and the Department Heads but we as Council we have to cut and I agree with Andy. I don't want to be in that predicament at that specific time and have to cut jobs. I don't want to do that. But we have to cut something. The money is not going to just magically appear at the end of the rainbow. It's not going to happen. And if we don't start cutting we're going to find ourselves where we don't want to find ourselves. And I don't disagree with Andy. Do we have to do it at this particular time? We're not saying we don't ever have to hire a part time nurse but it is a start. I mean I forget what the nurse made. Was it close to fifty? Forty nine? This is the first I'm hearing that you're, I was kind of flabbergasted when you said you were going to introduce her to the seniors on Wednesday when you haven't even told us anything about it until this just came up. I just found out you were hiring a part time nurse, I know you were looking into it, I just found out it was twenty dollars an hour, sixteen hours a week, roughly fifteen thousand dollars a year. But as far as us being informed, you were going to tell the seniors before you were going to tell us.

Mayor Estep - (inaudible)

Ms. Hausfeld – No you told us the details when he brought it up just now. That's my only concern and I don't disagree, Andy, I think we have to look at this budget and our finance meeting before COW meeting, I think, and it's just my opinion, I think it's ludicrous because you only give yourselves one hour to get stuff discussed and if somebody goes off on a tangent you don't get much discussed in that hours' time. We have extra Thursdays that we don't have meetings, we could meet and actually hash some more things out and, and, and I've been saying, it's not just our budget, it is the budget of the Administration, our budget, the Department Heads, the Departments and the citizens budget. So we have to start now figuring this out else we're going to be later on in this year with our hands tied and guess what we're going to be having to make some very hard decisions about cutting a new part time nurse that we just hired. Do you understand what I'm saying? If we don't have to hire this person at this particular time, the Fire Department is willing to help out with the seniors, we're not throwing the seniors

under the bus. I for one will not do that. But you got a Fire Department that's willing to come and help out for seniors the different things that the nurse did. I'm just saying do we have to do this right at this particular time?

Mrs. Schildmeyer – First of all this is an Administration call. It's not our call. The nurse's line item is in the budget. Correct? We're saving money. Our job is to appropriate money and to pass Ordinances. This is John's call, this is what John wants, I support him 100%. I think this would be a gigantic mistake to take fifteen thousand dollars away from the seniors. That's what you're wanting to do Patty? I don't understand this.

Mr. Kalb – I'm not suggesting that we take it away right now. I'm suggesting that we, maybe, slow down just a little bit, give us another month or two, see if our money makes the curve before we commit to something and you are correct, it is an administrative decision, which is why he doesn't have to sit there and tell us what he's doing. We already gave him the line item. He's allowed to hire whoever he wants to for the amount that he wants to. At the same time, we could vote by Ordinance to zero that line item out and then he can't hire anybody. So it is also our decision. So we can if we want to put it on the COW next week and then we could discuss it and we could put it into an Ordinance if we felt like it and zero that line item out and that forces the Mayor's hand. That's not saying that's what I want to do, I'm just saying both of us have hands in this and again we can't keep pointing to the Mayor. And the Mayor can't keep pointing here and the Auditor pointing here and Rick here, we all have a hand in this pie and we can, I'm just throwing that suggestion out. But to sit there and say it's entirely the Mayor's decision, it is. We gave him the money and he's allowed to spend every penny of that line item because we authorized it. But at any one point we could take that money away from him or her or whoever is in that position and then they can't spend any money without coming through us first. So we can make a decision and force the Mayor's hand if we so choose. It's not just the Mayor's call.

Ms. Hausfeld – And that's what I was saying. I don't want to take anything away from anybody. Sorry. But I know we as Council members, every single one of us, all seven of us, sat up here when we passed that budget that gave the Administration the okay to go spend it, every single one of us and including the Administration promised everybody, promised each other, that we would look to make cuts. And so far we haven't made cuts and we are now in March, middle of March and we still have not made cuts. So that is, I'm not, I'm not wanting to take anything away from anybody but it's our job to follow up with what we said we were going to do. And so far we haven't made cuts. That's all I'm saying about it.

Mayor Estep – I have a question for Mr. Tobergte. When we sat down with the Finance Committee, how much did we cut out of the budget to get down to where we were?

Mr. Tobergte – From the original request? Aaah, I'm going to say like a million dollars.

Mayor Estep – It was over eight hundred thousand dollars so to say that we didn't make cuts.....

Mr. Tobergte – From the original request,

Talking together.....

Mayor Estep – But we did reduce it and just on the nurse, you know, I looked at it as a savings. Money was in that line item and rather spend fifty thousand or whatever was in there, I thought if we could get somebody for fifteen to fill the void, we're not going to fill Laura's shoes, she did a great Job, we're not going to take her place, but I thought it would be an easier transition on the seniors but I'm okay with it, I'll hold off, we didn't sign any papers, if you want to talk about it at COW and then what I would like to do, I'd like to get a vote from every Council member up there and say do you want to give me the sixteen thousand dollars for this part time nurse for one year and if you say no then we won't have one. I tried to stay away from that battle. But if that's what you want

Mrs. Brickweg -

Mayor Estep – I'm almost finished, sorry Peggy, sorry Peggy. I'll hold off on that and I respect everybody's opinion up there. But if that's what we need to do we'll do that. And then, I don't want to put it on you and you don't want to put it on me. We need to take the politics out of some of these things especially when they are services for the citizens without a doubt the elderly. I'll talk to the perspective candidate. I'll tell her we're going to wait a week. We'll talk about it at COW and I think it's a good compromise and I respect that up there.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I can tell you right now, my vote is to keep the part time nurse.

Mayor Estep – We're not voting until next week.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I know but you know now where I stand.

Mrs. Brickweg – As I explained to you guys two weeks ago, you're going to be doing this every two weeks. I'll agree with Patty 100% and I will say every one of you agreed with it but have not done a whole lot about it. You are right, you took eight hundred thousand dollars, the dream budget we're still three hundred thousand dollars over. When you all agreed on that budget it was discussed that each month until we came up with it we were going to make those cuts. I have not seen anything near three hundred thousand. I'm tired of sitting here week after week looking like the horrible person saying we're not bringing the money in. And I'm not the person out spending the money. You're right Dianna if you vote on that budget, but when you vote on that budget everybody agreed to cut that budget. I'm not seeing the cuts. I think I'm almost to the point where I want to say I'm done with it. It's not my job. It's not Rick's job. We're doing our job. We're begging all you guys to do your job. And it's kind of funny you said politics because that's exactly what it is, it's called let in. Nobody wants to be the bad person in the room to make the cuts. So Council is going to point to the Administration and the Administration is going to point to Council. You're all voted on by the public. You have to do your job. You have all these citizens depending on you to do your job. And some of this is going to be really hard and it's not going to be a great thing that we're going to want to do. We might have to raise some revenues. We don't want to raise the revenues. We might have to make some cuts and I'm not even just talking about personnel, I'm talking about, you know, maybe a service or something, I don't know. But guys we're in the middle of March, okay, and we're actually trending the opposite way. We're over spending. And we're under revenue. So at some point some decisions have to be made and Patty your idea on the Thursday is

great but the last Finance Committee meeting lasted a half hour, I think, and it was done. The thing is nobody wants to make the hard call. That's what this is coming down to. It's the planning thing. And that's what scares the death out of me when you voted on that budget. I had a feeling this is what was going to happen. But I was promised it wasn't going to happen. It is my job as Auditor to ask you to please do it and I guess I'll continue to do it and pay attention month after month but somebody is going to have to make the call that you're not going to want to have to make.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – What I would like to have brought to the COW is to look into Hamilton County and make sure that if we do not replace the nurse what are our expenses going to be to Hamilton County to supply us with something. I don't know, some kind of service because that in itself might be just as much as the nurse so we might as well have somebody on our own. I just think we need to make sure that we have everything covered and that our expenses won't go up to Hamilton County that we supply some things.

Mrs. Brickweg – I can help a little bit with that. Right now we pay, well it's in the budget for six thousand, I think it ended up being, ugh, don't get me going, fifty five hundred, but we pretty well don't get anything for that. We just have to pay it. So I don't know, the only thing you know your vaccinations and things like that.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I just want to make sure that we're not missing something else that we definitely need here for the Village that would be supplied for Hamilton County. And right now I can't think of anything. But I just want to make sure that we do think about that and have that covered and do that calculation. That's all I ask.

Mr. Tobergte – Peggy part of the money for Hamilton County also they do all the food inspections where Robert Evans used to do that.

Mrs. Brickweg – We're still paying him too.

Mr. Tobergte – Not as much as we used to though. He used to be paid more than ten thousand.

Mrs. Brickweg – Not since I've been here.

Mr. Tobergte – Yeah. But I know, the Fire Chief is not here tonight, but when Laura did resign, I talked to him and he talked about possibly having the paramedics go out at night and check on the seniors like Laura used to. I don't know if that's a possibility still or not. I don't know.

Ms. Hausfeld – Tommy, I know you and I talked about this several times, especially when my mother brings it up but since, and I don't know how much the Service Department is going out filing pot holes since we didn't have a lot of snow this year, but there's pot holes, those railroad tracks, they're bad. I know you said the railroad it's their responsibility and they're not taking care of it but on some aspect, I don't even care if you have to give the citizens the railroad's phone numbers to call. Somebody's going to get their car messed up. Frankly I'm tired of my mom, she was going to call you the other day. I saved you. I'm telling you. Just, just I don't know if the Service Department can do it or not, just fill in the

patches down there at the railroad by their place and I think up a little bit further up there they are bad too. But I know the one down by the old fire house is really bad. Mr. Paul – It's railroad property. We would be trespassing. I made calls after call. I have a business calling on behalf of some of this stuff also we're not making any headway. That being said I've learned a lot. There's graffiti on the overpasses and it's, we can't even paint that without being trespassing. It is amazing and they drag their feet and I still am in touch with the railroad because they're wanting to do Vine and Spring Grove and every time I talk to that person I bring up the stuff that's not being done when I ask. That's not getting us anywhere either. So we're kind of in a bind.

Ms. Hausfeld – Tommy I do want to thank you because I know you take care of it and I know it's frustrating because, trust me, the questions for me to have to tell you. But unfortunately I'm the one who has to listen to my mother every day going past that way. If she's complaining I know there's other citizens that have been complaining about it so I do appreciate everything you've done because everything I've ever asked you to do you've taken care of it. I was just hoping that somehow somebody would just put some patchwork out there and fill it in and don't know who did it.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Marge Niesen, 4705 Chalet - When you talk about the nurse, under the Charter, I was on the Charter Committee, we knew we were going to lose the Health Department so we made sure we wrote in a job for the Health Nurse. I asked the Solicitor to check. He said you may have to change the Charter unless it's phrased in such a way that you can change that job so please investigate that because you argue, argue, argue, argue and we may have to start from a different direction. I'm not saying don't do it, or do it, I'm saying right now you're under a Charter which allows us to operate the way we operate. And under that Committee we wanted to make sure we had a Health Nurse and in those days we could swing it and we wrote that in purposely so that we could provide that service. So please understand how, I've asked the Solicitor to check into and see and work together with you on that.

With regard to the tax. Understand that Ohio Municipal League is our lobbyist. We pay them to be our lobbyist so you need to decide how important, yes it's very important, we cannot lose this particular Resolution. I hope Council and the Administration will sign off on this as you did before to show unanimity in the Village because not only would they take it over but they do not take care of any enforcement at the State. So if a company doesn't send their money in, we won't know till it doesn't show up and Nick will tell you sometimes payments are late. We don't know whether it's the client that's late or the State that's late. Okay, are you going to fine them. How are you going to do it. You won't have the paper work because the State doesn't care about that. They've got the basket they just want to catch it. We have to really be firm about this. Now if you think it's worth spending the money, it will have to do some good. But will Ohio Municipal League, since you're going around behind them, we need to be sure that all the communities are together. In the past we had a task force. In Southwest Ohio and in each of the regions, we literally hammered on the State. They still got a grip on withholdings

first but they didn't take anything out of it. It just delayed us getting it. And they don't submit paper work so you have no idea whether the people made a mistake or not. Whether it was ten thousand off, two thousand off, twenty cents off, you don't know so it's very important and Rick is on the right track but we just need to really be sure when we spend the money that it's going to do the job you really want done. And if you have any questions, I've been through this before. And we won, sort of. But they always get a little piece of the pie every time. Good luck.

Mr. Tobergte – Mike about the Charter, Section 5.03, the Board of Health and 9.07 is also the Board of Health.

Mr. Peck – Right. And I will check that. We will put that on the COW agenda and I'll follow up on it.

Iris Wainscott, 4247 Bertus St. - I come before council tonight as the President of the Village PAC, of Positive Action Committee, to announce two upcoming events.

The first is the Ladies Takeover @ the St. Bernard Eagles on Friday, 3/31, from 6:00 – 9:00PM, which will be held in the upper level. The PAC has arranged for over 16 local businesses, organizations and clubs to participate. Come join us for a night of positivity and fun! You will be able to meet many women who head some fabulous programs here in St. Bernard, and obtain information about local volunteer opportunities. We kindly ask that you bring one canned good for admission. The canned goods collected will be turned over to St. Clement's Food Pantry. Your attendance will earn you 1 grand prize ticket. For each additional 5 canned goods that you donate, another grand prize ticket will be awarded. The grand prize is a 1 night stay at the Hilton Netherland Plaza in downtown Cincinnati along with a gift card to a local restaurant. In addition, we will have raffles, split the pot, and food and drinks will be available for purchase. It is a Fish Fry night! The second upcoming event is the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Bunny Fun Run, which will be held on Saturday, 4/15. The one mile course has been set. Come walk, run, or hop your way to the finish line. Race starts at 2:30PM, but plan to join us for pre-race fun after participating in the Village's annual Easter Egg Hunt. Registration has opened and can be completed in person at JuJu Beans or Atmosphere Salon. The proceeds from this event will benefit SAAP (Stray Animal Adoption Program), future good deeds of the Village PAC and Traumatic Brain Injury in honor of last year's winner, Noah Jessen.

You can learn more about these events, and future PAC events by visiting pages created on Facebook. You can also email the Village PAC at, [thevillagePAC@gmail.com](mailto:thevillagePAC@gmail.com) or by contacting me, Iris Wainscott, at 513-375-3208.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Iris and Suzy and all the PAC women, you guys are doing an amazing job. Jen Rutherford, you guys are just wonderful. Thank you for what you're doing.

Mr. Tobergte – Before we close, Peggy, before the next Finance Committee meeting, can you get us the years since they're two retirements in the Fire Department and what the line item for the salary should be? Also the pension stuff, should that be lowered?

Mrs. Brickweg – Actually the Fire Chief does all his own. I don't do those so we'll have to ask him to do that. Oh I guess, I'm sorry, you'll also have to try to figure, I don't know what's going on with the part time, the new overtime and how they're

going to replace it. I don't know what's going on with that so I guess maybe if John wants to get with Kerry they can get you the number for that. And I'll help you with what you need.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.