

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 20, 2017**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, July 20, 2017 in Council Chambers.

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

Roll call showed that six members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Kalb, Mr. Asbach, Mr. Chastain, Mr. Culbertson.

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

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – I want to make a little comment here and this is not directed at any one person or anybody in particular but I've gotten a lot of comments from people that come to meetings, that watch the meetings on television and I think we're almost becoming the Gong Show of the area. We're here to do public business, not to make innuendoes and the language is getting a little out of hand. I'm not saying profanity but it's unacceptable. And I think it should mean unacceptable would mean the language you used when you're about ten years old talking to your parents. I think we're adults, elected, not elected, citizens, whoever, if you can't come to a public meeting and have enough control over yourself that you can't make a statement without using certain words that everybody stops and pauses, once you use that word, I think the microphone should be removed from that person whether it's a visitor, whether it's elected official, and we should be held at a higher standard here. Myself and anybody in the Administration that you lose your privilege to speak at that meeting, for the rest of that meeting. I'm not directing to any President of Council but I think there's a lot laid on your shoulders, the President or Pro-tem, you do a great job. And I know it's a tough job, I've been in that seat. But I think you have to draw the line and I think you have to have some teeth in it that backs you up and I think Council would hopefully back you up and support that, that once you hear that, "Point of Order", I'm sorry you used unacceptable language, you can no longer use the microphone at that meeting. I think we have to get our Council and our other public meetings under control. With that being said I'll move on unless Council has something to say or comment on that.

Mr. Culbertson – I know we have rules for audience participation governing language. I don't know exactly what the consequences are but is there anything in the rules of Council that addresses it like it does to the audience?

Ms. Hausfeld – I'm going to vent. I'm going to talk from my heart like I always do and John, you're our Mayor, you're not my dad.

Mayor Estep – I know that.

Ms. Hausfeld – And I have always spoke the truth. I have always spoke from my heart and if I happen to say a tiny little cuss word or a tiny little nono word, guess what, deal with it. You know there is much more bigger things that's going on in

this City that you're supposed to be in charge of and you don't have the handle on it but you're going to come back to us and slap our hands for saying a stupid little word. That is, in my opinion, totally ridiculous. There is much more things that you as our Mayor need to start making decisions on instead of slapping our hands like we are two years old. I beg your pardon. I am forty nine years old and if I want to say a word I'm going to say a word and I'm going to speak my mind. If you don't like it, tough luck.

Mayor Estep – I was just trying to bring some professionalism to our public meetings so we'd look a little bit better in the public and in our community and outside our community.

Ms. Hausfeld – We are here to do a job. Not to look 100% professional. And I got news for you, there's a lot more people out there that like the fact that people are speaking their minds versus just going along with the good ole boys system.

Mayor Estep – I have the rest of my report. I just wanted to get that out there. We did make progress in our CIC meeting this week and we have some tentative plans in place for Cleveland Ave. We'll be sending some sort of a question to the rest of the CIC members to approve them. September 1 begins our \$50.00 fee for any dumpsters or trucks placed at a residence. Halloween Campout will be at Ross Park. It's something new this year. It's October 14 and check with the Recreation Department for more details. You must be a resident. They will allow residents after September 1 and I believe after that time you can be a sponsor for a non-resident to get a campsite. The campsite, I believe is \$10.00 per person. And the last thing, we will celebrate Christmas this year. I know there are some things going around town that we cancelled Christmas due to our financial situation but we will have Christmas and part of it's going to be a nice donation from one of the people that attended the CIC meeting the other night from Blue Pearl. He made a nice \$2,000.00 donation and we'll be using that to help with the, I think we're going to use it for the petting zoo and the trolley cars. I talked to Peggy about it and that should be something good.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's office provided Council and the Administration with the June revenue and expense spreadsheet and the cash fund report. The revenues year-to-date are \$5,364,871.34. The expenditures year-to-date were \$6,437,620.87. As I reported at last week's COW meeting the cash revenue for 2017 is down by over \$1,000,000.00. And the 2017 budget was already over \$300,000.00 over the original projected revenues. With this in mind I suggest Council and the Administration pay close attention to the difference between expenses over revenues instead of the yearly comparison. Currently the Village has expenses of \$1,720,749.53 over the revenues. After the presentation from Blue Pearl at the CIC meeting the June (inaudible) one of the partners of Blue Pearl presented the Mayor with \$2,000.00 that he wanted to donate to the Village. I was not comfortable with this transaction so I spoke to Mr. (inaudible) and explained that if he wanted to donate the money to the Village he would need to donate it to be used for a specific purpose. I suggested a few ideas and he decided to donate it to the Holiday Activities fund to help pay for some of the expenses for the Christmas celebration.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – I met with committee this month and I think we have it narrowed down regarding our criminal nuisance Ordinance and also vacated property. My goal is to have a drafted Ordinance for each of those by next

committee which will be in August. Is that better? As I was saying the Nuisance Ordinance, the Criminal Nuisance Ordinance I have various examples that narrow it down to a Nuisance Committee. My goal is to have the Ordinance drafted by or at least an example and also annoyance to vacate property. We have the Park Ordinance tonight for Council vote and I'd like to thank Chief Moeller and also the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee for their help in formulating the Ordinance. Chief Moeller actually drafted the Ordinance. Also I had a question about a Garbage Ordinance regarding (inaudible) there are a series of Ordinances I reviewed (inaudible) who just recently did this. I would like to be put on the COW agenda next time to discuss those Ordinances. I think Tommy you have additional comments as well. Also I'd like to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending court action against St. Bernard.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the (inaudible) the Star Ohio had a balance at the end of June; \$1,964,198.03 and that was down slightly by \$200,000.00 from that withdrawal that we made in June to move over to the checking account. First Safety Bank balance, First State Bank \$5,637.18.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I would first like to acknowledge two employees who have served the Village of St. Bernard and are now moving on to other opportunities.

First, I would like to thank Walt Moeller who has served in the Building & Planning Dept. for his excellent service to the Village. I wish him the best in his new position with the City of Cincinnati.

I would also like to thank Officer Jessica Gregas for her service to the citizens of St. Bernard. Jessica was an incredible officer who always gave 100%. She will be missed and I congratulate her on her new position with the Green Twp. Police Dept.

I will have the St. Bernard Fire/EMS report for both the months of June and July at the next meeting. Also, I hope to have the requested estimate for having Hamilton Co. assume dispatching services for the Village by the next COW meeting.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Meredith Hughes, our newest board member for the CIC who is a real estate attorney. She brings a lot to the table and we look forward to working with her. I would also like to thank Alan Siefert who was considered as a candidate for the open board position. He would have also been a great addition to the CIC and I hope that he will give future consideration to offering his services. I truly appreciate what the board members do for the CIC as we are striving to make changes that will benefit the Village.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – We are writing the final contract for Waterworks to bill for our trash. It will be \$10.00 per month fee. As of January 2018, the Waterworks will charge monthly instead of quarterly for water and sewage. Since Mike wants me to elaborate just a little bit more on this, the wording in the contract had to be added that we were not going to contract who is moving in and who is moving out. That would entail a lot of phone calls to the Waterworks, to stop billing that meter and then when somebody moved in to start billing it so according to the contract that Waterworks has with most cities they put it on the Water Bill and let it ride and pro-rate it. So if you moved out in July you would be billed for January thru July for the water and then the next person that moved in would pick up from there. So I thought that would be the most fair but that had to be changed so they are working on that contract.

We had a meeting with our web designers this afternoon. The design has been reviewed and agreed upon. Now the process of putting the content on the pages

and links for our sites will be added. I have ask them if they could speed up the process and they said yes we could by working on it in steps. So we agreed to take this step. I don't know how long yet but it's coming together and I think you'll like it.

Mike Wiedmann and I attended the recycle incentive program meeting and they would like us to start collecting yard waste. This will increase our tonnage and count toward our total recycling efforts but our \$22.00 per ton will remain in effect. So basically when we turn in our recycle stuff we get \$22.00 now no matter how much more we turn in and even though it raises our level of recycling incentive the \$22.00 will remain in effect. However, in order to get this accomplished we will have to have an additional truck and another driver incorporated into our routing as yard waste needs to remain separated. We get a check each year for our efforts.

Our guys at the Service Department have taken on repairing our sewer catch basins. Some we can do others take a contractor. The average price ranges from \$2,800.00-\$3,500.00 depending on the damage. As of today, we have repaired five on our own. The finished efforts are commendable. Thank you.

I have a meeting scheduled July 26 with the railroad and Assistant City Manager of Cincinnati for the Graffiti along I-75. I fully intend also to bring up Vine St. And Railroad Ave. tracks and their potholes. Again these are not the Villages' responsibility.

To My Community, speaking of basins, we also have our own basins. You may not realize that you are allowing other people's waste to gather and clog yours. A good drain opener is positive attitudes pulsating through the muck. You may find you need help. A good home remedy is meditation and prayer. Through meditation we find peace. Prayer brings love.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Moore – Absent.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte– First I would like to make a motion to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting for pending litigation.

Mr. Culbertson – I'll second that.

Motion passed 6-0.

I would like to thank Heidi Culbertson for thinking outside the box on the mailing for the upcoming police test, she used postcards. This saved postage along with the cost of envelopes and the labor and listening to Ray complain about stuffing the envelopes.

On Saturday, August 5, the tenth annual St. Bernard Soapbox Derby will be held on Tower Ave. Hill. I will again pay the overtime cost the Village will incur for this event. Thanks to Greenlee Garage, Jerry Day Auto Service, Service, Police and Fire Departments and Pat and Gerry Wiedman for sponsoring cars for our youth to race. Anyone interested in racing can contact me at newshoot@fuse.net or 543-6801.

Also my next Townhall meeting will be Tuesday August 8 at 7pm in lower level of City Hall.

Also mark your calendars, I am cosponsoring with Block Watch a 'shred day' in October. Once we get the date finalized we will get it out there.

And I also like to thank Jessica and Walt for their service to the Community.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – First I would like to thank Jessica and Walt for their service to the community and I'd also like to let the residents know that the next Block Watch meeting will be on Tuesday, August 15 at 6:30pm down at the Safety Center.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – The Service Department report for June, 2017. There were 18 trucks placed at residences, 32 dumpsters placed at residences, 289 special pick-ups at residences and 207.51 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. For the recycling report; there were 38.21 tons of recycling material and 10,890 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – A quick update to the residents; the Dollar General, currently known as The Family Dollar here in the shopping center, is going to remodel the St. Bernard store and reopen it as the Dollar General sometime late this fall.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mr. Chastain –

Ms. VanValkenberg-Walden – Ok, you're right **MARKETING COMMITTEE**.

Mr. Chastain – No report.

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

Committee of the Whole

July 6, 2017

1. Council approved the minutes of the June 15th Council meeting.
2. Council was informed that we need a new ICRC rep and asked to consider being the rep. More info will be gathered on the responsibilities for the next meeting.
3. Mayor, John Estep
 - a. Thanked everyone for working the 4th of July celebration, and especially the three departments.
 - b. Congratulated Scherpies Produce & Deli for their 30 years in business.
4. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
 - a. Reported that there could be about \$400,000.00 left in the line items at the end of the year if everything stays on track.
 - b. Gave Council a recap going back to 2012 showing revenues verses expenditures.
 - c. Received info, from the Hamilton County Auditor, that property values have gone down which will in turn affect our revenues.
 - d. Reported that there is \$177,499.18 in the low interest loan line item in the Building Department. She will research to see if she can move some of that money into the general fund.
 - e. Reported that our audit is complete and we did very well.
5. Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell
 - a. Thanked the Fire Department Local 450, Don Tobergte and Block Watch members for selling the beer tickets and beer at the 4th of July celebration.
6. Service Director, Tom Paul

- a. Said that he had signed a contract with Simple Recycling. There will be bags and info delivered to all residents in the near future.
 - b. Reported that next year all traffic signals will need to have a battery backup system. This could cost up to \$20,000.00.
 - c. Said that the sewer repairs around town are costly and luckily the last few were not ours to repair.
7. Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Rick Moore (his report began the meeting)
- a. Gave the June numbers to Council and reported that a major business was using a tax credit that will make our revenue numbers less this year, by about \$600,000.00.
 - b. Asked for an Ordinance for \$100,000.00 to be put into the refunds line item for a business that has reported a loss and asked for the refund, Council voted 5-0, Mr. Kalb wasn't present yet, to place the Ordinance on the table.
8. Treasurer, John Ungruhe
- a. Gave Council the 5/3rd securities report which is \$890,000.00
9. Finance, Don Tobergte
- a. Reported that at the finance meeting two weeks ago, ways to increase revenues were the main topic. It was discussed to increase the business dumpster fees which will start in December and maybe another increase in January. A \$10 or \$15 fee for garbage pickup was also discussed and it is the Mayor's decision to implement. Council will need to pass an Ordinance to allow the Auditor or Water Works to place the fee on resident's water bills. It was discussed about charging for dumpsters or trucks to be placed at resident's houses. The Mayor said a fee of \$50 will be charged, but if this doesn't work it may be revisited. Council voted 6-0 to place an Ordinance on the table for the trash fees. He and the Mayor will meet to see if any other cuts can be made to the departments.
 - b. Made a motion to cut the salary of the President of Council and the Clerk of Council in half. The motion was seconded and Council voted 6-0 to place the Ordinance on the table.
10. Service, Steve Asbach
- a. Discussed changing the Council meeting back to the first Thursday of the month and the COW meeting to the third Thursday of the month. Council voted 6-0 to make the change in August. Beginning in August the Council meeting will be Thursday August 3rd and the COW meeting will be Thursday August 17th.
11. Public Improvements, Patty Hausfeld
- a. Discussed a situation that she brought up to the Mayor, Safety Director and Law Director and was not happy that she was not told about the outcome. She felt that she should have been given the respect to have been called with the results of the investigation and not heard it before the meeting tonight.
12. Laws, Contracts & Claims, Cindi Bedinghaus
- a. Asked Council if they had any changes for the new Park Ordinance. Since there were none, Council voted 6-0 to place it on the table.
13. Business & Industry, Andy Kalb
- a. Also congratulated Scherpies on their 30 years in Business in St. Bernard.
 - b. Made a motion to cut Council's and the Treasurer's pay by 25% beginning in 2018. Council voted 6-0 to place the Ordinance on the table.
14. Members of the audience asked the following: 1. Asked Council for more time to fix up 517 Rose Hill for the orders from the building department and was told that this was not a Council decision to make. 2. The owner of the St. Bernard Pub discussed her permit for a new HVAC unit and she was told that she needed to have a platform around the unit. She said it was not needed per the code and was going to check with the State. 3. A resident asked if we changed the way we collect taxes and asked about the refunds on the books. He was told by the Tax Commissioner/ Administrator that they were credits not refunds. 4. Two other residents asked about the 43 or so properties that are owned by the CIC and were in favor of selling them even if we got less money for them.
15. Council voted 6-0 to excuse the absent member.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to read tonight's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 15, 2017. AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 547 TO THE ST. BERNARD CODIFIED ORDINANCES. TO UPDATE THE LAWS RELATING TO PARKS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 15, 2017. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 15, 2017 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 16, 2017. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 16, 2017.

REMARKS

Mrs. Brickweg – Since Rick's not here I'm just going to comment for him. This is for an unexpected refund that we had to pay one company but on the good side the Village received unexpectedly a little over \$95,000.00 and a refund from Workers' Comp. And it's part of a billion dollar project payback that the State told that they have to pay back to the communities. So pretty much that will help pay for this appropriation.

Motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to adopt Ordinance No. 16, 2017 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 17, 2017. FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD COUNCIL MEMBERS, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, TREASURER AND CLERK OF COUNCIL STARTING 01-01-2018 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to have Ordinance No. 17, 2017 take its regular course.

REMARKS

Mr. Tobergte – Um, I'm not sure how to say this, but I know I've already turned my petition in. I've told Peggy this would not affect me but I'll donate the money back. I got no problem. I think if we're asking, looking for cuts everywhere, we should start with us. I know how disappointing it is means that everybody doesn't have their petition in this won't affect them. I don't know if there were games being played or what.

Ms. Hausfeld – I wasn't sure what I was going to do when I came here tonight because I've heard talk there's ways but I was going to make up my mind when I found out what you guys, and I say you guys because I'm talking Don and Andy, the Mayor and Peggy I think are the only four that were at this meeting, if there's somebody else, and Rick. When I found out that there was nothing decided again that night and I had mixed feelings, I will tell you that I have been involved for twelve years now, with the exception of the two years I was sick, and in that twelve years there has not been a raise for any of us. And I'm not worried about a raise but I don't think we make that much money that's going to make a hill of beans to a million dollar cut. Now I know every nickel and dime is going to help but I don't believe it will be what five or six thousand from Council members that would be given back. Ok I understand that. My thing is, and I said this back in January, if we're going to do cuts, we need to do across the board. And I've been told you can't do anything with the different unions. You have to open up their unions. Has anybody asked to open up any of the departments unions contracts to even consider doing anything with them? Has anybody considered doing anything with, I'm sorry, my little six thousand some odd dollars a year isn't a hill of beans compared to some of you are making a lot more than that and I'm talking the elected officials, I'm talking the appointed officials and I don't hear anything from anybody and I understand you have to start somewhere but our little whatever amount of dollar it is, it's not going to be a hill of beans in a big pot of bean soup because it's not going to matter. And we've been discussing since January making some major cuts. And here we are at the end of July and we're still, almost the end of July, the last meeting in July and we still haven't even done anything. So we're starting with the lowest people on the board which, like I said, I don't have a problem giving up that money, but I haven't heard not one person that makes a lot more money than six thousand dollars say, hey listen, it starts with me too, let's do this, let's do that. Let's do it across the board. I haven't heard anything like that and that's only my feeling and I know it could be interpreted however you want to interpret it and if you guys remember when we were elected to this position we were elected to four meetings a month and I wasn't in favor of going to two meetings a month. So I still think we need the four meetings a month especially in the financial situation that we're in. This every two weeks I don't think is working, my personal belief. And I'm even going to take it one step further, the Treasurer, uh I'm sorry, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the President of Council they're the low men on the totem pole too. If anything have them start coming to all the meetings. Sorry guys I'm sure you don't want to come to all the meetings but you know it's, I'm just saying it's kind of ridiculous unless we're going to do something totally across the board, totally some dollar amount that's going to amount to something to get us out of some of this financial problems.

Mr. Culbertson – And I understand as Don said we have to start somewhere and I missed the meeting two weeks ago, are we even insinuating that we're going to go to the employees after this and ask everybody for a 25% pay cut or just in the

discussions. I know that I'm hearing at the meeting did any ideas come out of the meeting?

Mr. Tobergte – At the meeting, all the Department Heads came back with figures that were given everybody. Only one did I think. I suggested, you know, Rick suggested, spend down, cut everybody's budget 8%. I wanted to see what the numbers are to make sure everybody was fine because I know at the swimming pool there's going to be money left over there, John said get rid of the crossing guards so there's money left there. There's more money left over than we thought there was going to be. Until we get some numbers then John was going to start going back to the Department Heads. That's what we discussed at that meeting.

Mr. Culbertson – Hasn't it also been asked of the departments and the unions in particular already for not a pay cut but a pay freeze and we were told "no". They weren't willing to entertain that? That was just recorded four weeks ago. Jonathan or John or somebody.....is that accurate or not?

Mr. Paul – I went to each department union and at the time what they were asked is would they open up their contract and the answer was "no". The Department Heads including myself said we are down to people. We have cut everything. Peggy went through and eliminated more and then asked each Department Head were they happy or did they think it could work and I reported to her that I think I could make mine work. Now whether Kerry and Steve responded to her I'm not sure but that's what all that was about. So no one is willing to give up anything at this point.

Mrs. Brickweg – First of all the meeting was, it was just a meeting during the day to go over the budget. So that's what that meeting was. Since that meeting most the Department Heads, the Police, the Fire said they think they can live with what was in the column of the expense spreadsheet that I gave you. But as I explained at the meeting, that is typically left over between (inaudible) because they say I had this much left over at the end of the year double count it if we're counting it now. What was discussed at that meeting is John is supposed to go to the main departments and ask them to open up their contract. Tom did go to them but that was before we found out we were a million three in the hole. (inaudible) so I hope I answered that. I do want to say you can vote either way you want but you might as well vote on it tonight because the next meeting is not until August and all the petitions are due in so it's null and void. So you might as well vote on it tonight or table it or whatever you want to do with it but putting it down for two more weeks makes no sense. Were there any other questions that I didn't answer.

Mr. Kalb - I was wondering if the members, I did suggest a 25% pay cut for the Council members and Treasurer and I do know that, and I've been going back and forth with this myself, in the end I have a hard time, me personally, I have a hard time going to anybody asking them to give up anything if I'm not willing to do it myself so that's why I'm still going to be voting in favor of this Ordinance tonight because even though it's probably more and it's up to the unions and it's up to this Council and it's up to individual members to give money back maybe but we're a million over and you're right, six thousand dollars doesn't do nothing to that million hole but if I'm going to go and ask other people to sacrifice for their families then I should be willing to do that myself. So that's where I stand.

Mr. Asbach – As I have stated in the past when this was talked about at COW, I've been doing this for thirty years and when I started it was \$3,000.00 so after thirty

years Council has raised \$3,600.00. I just don't see the need for cuts. Council gets a raise maybe every ten years and I'm just totally opposed to going backwards. I don't think that the \$6,600.00 is excessive. I can't remember, I know it's been as I was saying before the meeting, I believe it's over maybe ten to twelve years again since there has been any kind of increase. I just, in my gut, I just think it's wrong and especially for the President of Council and the Clerk. We talked about them at both the meetings, those positions have nothing to do with the vote and just as Ms. Hausfeld said, we were elected to serve four meetings, she and I voted against going to two, you guys voted to cut those positions down to one meeting, that's half the meetings they were same as we're half the meetings. Nothing's changed, so that's why I'm totally opposed to the cuts.

Ms. Hausfeld – I don't know if everybody is aware, I just found out from Peggy before this meeting that there are a few people that have turned in their petitions. I know Donnie said something, I don't know if you guys know what that's all about until Peggy had told me this. If you already turned in your petition to run no matter if we vote on this or not, there are certain people and I know there's at least two of you turned in your petitions already, this wouldn't affect you until two years more. Does that make sense or is that right Peggy?

Mrs. Brickweg – What I said today was Don is, if you turned them in, yes, they would have to give back the money, very similar to what I've explained to the city hall employees that are appointed or elected that you can't lower their pay. They can give back but you cannot lower it so those two individuals, yeah.

Ms. Hausfeld – My point, and I might be totally wrong, my point is if you've got two individuals that would stay at the rate that we're at now and you have the other five of us at a cheaper rate, I say keep us all on the same rate the way it's always been and I'm sorry I know you don't like that terminology Don but it has always been that way with our Council since not one of us deserve more than any other and if we want to make a contribution back, that would be our way of making a contribution back. Does that make sense?

Mr. Ungruhe – Just for the record, I do come to every meeting. The only meetings I miss are the ones that are rescheduled and I don't get informed of them. And as far as the Clerk and them coming, they only come to the meeting because they are supposed to and you control that so if you want them here all you have to do is put that in the rules and they would have to be here. That's all I have.

Mr. Chastain – My position, I didn't even know it was paid. So now you're saying because my paperwork is in I'm going to be paid more. I don't see that this was very well thought out. I came in here ready to vote for it because I wanted to give back before we go asking people for money but I don't think this was well thought out at this point so I think that I'll probably vote against it but again not because I want the money, I'm already guaranteed to get the extra money. So I think I'm going to vote against this at this time because I don't think there's been enough discussion. I don't think it's been thought through all the way.

Mr. Tobergte – Kelly the only problem is if it doesn't pass tonight it won't come up for two more years.

Mr. Chastain – I just don't think seventy five hundred dollars for two years is that big a deal. It's symbolic means anyway to try to get buy in for more people is what

it was. As I'm looking at different numbers, I'm not even sure we have to be so drastic at this point. We talked a lot about the bond, I just found out, like this bond is like shrouded in mystery, it's actually insured. So Moody will never down grade that bond based on what our reserves go to because that insurance company that will step in and pay it. They will down grade that bond if that insurance company's rating goes down. The rating on that bond is actually the rating of the insurance company. So the only thing protecting your reserve the only thing that really comes in play with the reserves is fiscal responsibility. How far are you going to take it. Moody will not assume a list of things they will down grade on and reserves is not one. One big tax payer reason is for a down grade of that insurance company but that bond is insured. They will not down grade until we go to try to get that again but if we take it down and come back up it won't be a blip on the radar.

Mrs. Brickweg – That is like the complete opposite of what they told me. That was from the bank that did it. I don't know why they would lie about that.

Mr. Chastain – The banks and the insurance company are worried. So the call that you would get would be the insurance company going, you said that we had eight million dollars, blah, blah, blah, nothing in the reserves because they are on the hook if we can't pay. The bond is insured. They're on the hook to pay the principle and interest every time the payment comes up so if we can't make a payment they have to pay it. So they won't down grade in the rate they, you know, again if we take it down and bring it back up, responsibly, then that's fine. I'll give you the list. I have the document that describes the list of Moody's criteria that concern them and that they might upgrade or downgrade on, it's both sides and they're more concerned about the insurance company than they are our reserves fund.

Mrs. Brickweg – Because this is like the complete opposite of what we were told and afterwards can we get together because I would like to know the insurance company because I don't have any of that in the paper work that they supplied me. We'll just get the meeting over and then I'm going to give that banker a little phone call.

Mr. Tobergte – Steve since it's not going to pass do you want to change to suspending? Change the motion from to go regular course?

Mr. Asbach – I'll make a motion to suspend with the second and third reading.

Mr. Kalb – I'll second that.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay - I want to thank Steve for changing because I was going to get up here and ask of the seventeen Ordinances that passed this year, how many went emergency and how many went the normal course. So I'd still like that answer, out of seventeen, how many went the normal course?

Mr. Asbach – I'll get that under Old Business.

The motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Kalb, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Ordinance No. 17, 2017 as read. Motion failed 2-4. Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Asbach, Mr. Chastain and Mr. Culbertson voted no.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Asbach – I have a question for Mr. Paul. If we increase, if we go with the garbage being separated and we increase our recycling will that benefit us with the County, will we make more money for the County or will we

Mr. Paul – What it does mean, we get paid right now \$22.00 a ton. So the higher you go on that, I don't want to confuse you, the higher we go we're staying at \$22.00. They are not raising everybody because of this. But yes there will be more funds available but we will be at the same \$22.00 a ton rate.

Mr. Asbach - I just thought that from time to time we got money back from the County as far as a

Mr. Paul – We do, it's yearly, yeah.

Mr. Asbach – I guess, will that

Mr. Paul – Increase, yeah.

Mr. Tobergte – Tommy when I was in the office the other day we talked about that. You said we wouldn't get any more money.

Mr. Paul – What I meant was per ton. We will not get, we get \$22.00 per ton now, so we will not, that will not be raised due to this grass thing but our tonnage will go up which means we get more \$22.00 a ton. So if we go up another ton we get \$22.00 more dollars.

Mr. Tobergte – When we talked the other day it was, there's not benefit for us to do this because we weren't getting any more money.

Mr. Paul – No, what I said was that we will go up on the scale. Right now we're number 21 out of 48. I think Mariemont is number 1 in their recycling program. So their scale that people get paid is the higher you go. It does not benefit us to make more tonnage, we remain at \$22.00 a ton.

Mr. Tobergte – So if we, say we do 100 times per more yard waste.....

Mr. Paul – Yes, we'll get \$22.00 per ton.

Mr. Tobergte – You just said (inaudible)

Mr. Paul – There's upscale. The higher you go on that scale the more per tonnage you make. Because they added yard waste it does not increase our \$22.00 per ton but it increases our tonnage. So if we turn in more tonnage we make more \$22.00 a ton.

Mr. Tobergte – Have we looked at a cost, what it's going to cost for two men plus a truck versus making ?

Mr. Paul – That's the problem. That needs to be discussed.

Mr. Tobergte – So it's not set in stone. We're not going to do it yet.

Mr. Paul – No they're just requesting it.

Mr. Asbach – Then my other question is, to answer Mr. Rolfsen's question, four out of seventeen Ordinances so far have gone regular course. Almost a quarter of them.

Mr. Tobergte – John, I know you talked a little bit before about the project you're working on Tower Ave. I got a couple of phone calls can you explain. what happened up there so everybody knows, I got a couple residents from the Ward calling me today wondering what was going on.

Mayor Estep – You mean Mr. Wilking's? Okay. His builder showed up and he expected a large dump truck with a driver. He wanted to continue excavating his project and he couldn't do it until a truck was there and just let it sit. So I volunteered to drive it. I said I'm off today I'll drive the dump truck. We weren't sure if I was covered by insurance so I called our insurance company. He said you certainly are. So we continued the excavation and I made several trips down there . We continued getting all of it out and I may help tomorrow. It was either that or we would have billed the CIC \$80.00 an hour. So instead of going out and getting a larger truck with a driver and being charged \$80.00 an hour we thought we'd chip away at it today and we got a lot more finished than what we thought we would. So we saved a little bit of money today and hopefully maybe even finish it tomorrow.

Mrs. Brickweg - I'm glad you brought that up because I talked to our insurance company today because I had to talk to them about the possible law suit and I asked them the question because I found it odd that various people including Bob Hausfeld called because Bob was driving a truck and we discussed it and you were covered but as he explained to me and he wants me to explain to everybody, even though you are covered we have policies in our community that the departments don't drive other departments' vehicles which lowers our risk management, which keeps our rates down. So when we put ourselves at risk there's a possibility of our rates going up. So it was with him that I spoke and I knew you called but the fact that other employees are just calling our insurance company well that should be Tom. It's Tom's job to do or mine and he was a little surprised and so basically from now on the phone calls should be just between us instead of every employee calling our insurance company asking what they can do. Because I don't want to raise our risk but he said he wants our policies to stay firm that we shouldn't go in between departments because the one example that I was asked is like can I take out the fire truck, you know, and no I can't so.....

Mr. Tobergte – Heaven help us.

Mrs. Brickweg – You're right, you're right. So I did want to say that we probably need to stay on the same page here and I'm just going to say this. I don't know how but if you guys worked on this for eight hour today, thank you for doing that but I wish somebody would work on the budget for eight hours and fix it. That just blows my mind that, it's great to do that but there's so many things also that need to be done that it will take eight hours to do as the Mayor and we need to do it. Like

Patty said, nothing has been done in the (inaudible). Thank you for doing that but maybe you can work eight hours tomorrow on the budget.

Mr. Tobergte – I want to talk about the Halloween Campout. Are we still doing the costume contest?

Mayor Estep – No I believe this will be in place of that. I believe but I have to work it out with Paul.

Mr. Culbertson – Peggy I guess I'm a little concerned that the insurance company would give information out to any employee. I mean is there a procedure with insurance. Do we have contacts, I mean why would they entertain a phone call from?

Mrs. Brickweg – Well, first of all the Mayor, but apparently based on, insinuated that, not that they talked to me, but I'm going to be very honest, we use Dreihaus. I had nothing to do with it. Phil Stegman did it, I don't sign off on it. The Dreihaus's are cousins of mine and that's one reason I will not ever sign off on it. But they insinuated he talked to Peggy, no response from Peggy, and so he thought that they had my permission. Which I told them no and that's when he said maybe we should set up a policy. That only certain people can call and talk but that's what he thought. He was under the assumption that I gave them the number and that I had approved it. I didn't even know anything about it until later this afternoon.

Mr. Culbertson – I'm fine with the Mayor calling. I would think he would be one of the contacts. I just don't think that any employee can call and question the insurance.

Ms. Hausfeld – As I've been going out door to door I have gotten a couple of things. Tom I want you to know that those pot holes on the tracks have been a big topic of conversation. Not just from my mother this time but I've had several people ask me, when are we ever going to listen to my mother and get those fixed and I said I've been trying, they know I've been trying because they do watch the Council meetings so they will be very happy to know that you are going to talk to them again and see what you can do. The other thing is one of the, you guys have been looking at ways to increase revenue, some of their suggestions when I was over on Ross and Kemper and Cleveland is the speeding that goes on on Ross Ave. They said that they have actually seen it as high as 50 MPH. They said if our police officers would, not that it would be a huge help but, pretty much, what you're going to have to do is to get it at certain times because they're, we all know how many cars have been hit over there because they been to Council in past years and complaining but that would be just some suggestions is having the police more visible on Ross Ave. And writing more tickets because there are people that are not going the speed limit and they're going to cause wrecks or injuries to other people. So that was one of the ways of increasing revenue. Sorry, got a bunch of little notes. I attended the CIC meeting the other night. I was ten minutes late. Roughly. And I walked in on the presentation from the Blue Pearl and for those of you who don't know the Blue Pearl, it's a business up here on Vine St. and people of the board, people of Council, people of the city have been questioning what they do and this and that. I did miss the first ten minutes but I will tell you I was flabbergasted that I listened to Gene, whatever his last name was, I didn't catch his last name and in my opinion it was total scare tactics. He was telling us we were going to turn out like Elmwood, telling us all kinds of this and that. It was all kind

of scare tactics and I was totally floored to listen to a business come to our city and try to scare us into I guess letting them in this piece of property that they are in right now. The only reason I'm bringing it up now is because I did bring it up in front of these people that were at this meeting that in my opinion were trying to scare us into allowing them to stay where they are and I'm sorry as a city, as a citizen, as an individual I don't like anybody to use their authority to try and scare me into something. So I'm just letting that to be known out there. I was also on my walk talked to a lot of people on Cleveland Ave. I have always been told in the meeting that John and I had earlier last year with the people up there, or no, I'm sorry, it wasn't John, it was the Mayor Burkhardt, we had had a meeting with Paul and he assured me that there was things in the works and this and that so I do know that the people that I talked to on Cleveland Ave. are totally wanting something done. Whatever the outcome they said would be better than what they have now, which what they have now are five homes sitting there empty. At one particular time there were animals living in them, there were squatters living in them and everything else. So I am totally thrilled to report back to these people, let them know that the CIC is legitimately working on that right now because it's been several years that these places have been sitting empty and I do know that they, it can only increase not only their value but everybody's value of their homes and make St. Bernard a better place having more homes filled no matter how you go with it. Tearing them down, redoing them, whatever you guys decide to do with them. So I'm thrilled about that. Another thing is is as far as Time Warner Cable somebody was asking me if Fiber Optics carry these meetings through cable and I said I would ask because I don't know so I told them that we would look into it and find out when it is so if anybody has that information I would be glad to give it back to these residents. Sorry. Couple things that I noticed going around and I also got a complaint, 312 Jefferson, 312, I think it's 312, I'm pretty sure it is, if you go over there the grass is horrible. The place looks like, no it's, I was at 312 that one time so it must be like 313, 315, for some reason I put 312, but I can show you where it is. I can tell you where it is, I know who lived there years ago, I don't, nobody lives there now. I've been told that squatters also live in there and so I'm just letting the city be aware of that is a problem home and something, I noticed the grass but was told about the squatters and everything else. Also I've been told 407 Jackson is a problem home. And the people that live around there are highly upset and want something done there as well. I'm almost done. It's amazing when I get out and I walk and talk to people how much more stuff I got to report. Playing in the streets, I know we just passed a Park Ordinance and I know years ago we passed an Ordinance that did not allow for the basketball rims to be placed on the street and stuff. What I don't know is if we addressed playing ball, playing football, playing toss in the middle of the street. I guess I would even go to skateboarding, remember I asked about skateboarding a couple of months back.

Mr. Peck – If I may, it's against the law to impede traffic but I don't know if we want to have a law not letting children play in the street. Sometimes I tell my children, play in the street but it's not an everyday thing. But if they do impede traffic it could be a problem and there is a law against that.

Ms. Hausfeld - I guess I'm bringing it Jonathan to your attention because I've been told by people that there are people over on Kemper that keep playing and tossing football in the street and some of our police officers will go up and they'll record our Ordinance and say sorry you guys have to go to a park or you got to do this, you got to do that and they will stop for that particular minute. Other police officers go up, from what these residents are telling me and they're playing football

in the street with these kids. So I've been told these kids while playing football in the street, the footballs are hitting the cars, they're dinging the cars and it's not right for the residents who are trying to keep their homes up and their property looking good and their cars and stuff damage free. So that was another problem that I was having when I was talking to people around that area and it's probably the same group of kids from what I can tell but I heard it from a few different residents. I think that is it at this point.

Mr. Tobergte – You must have talked to Chief Moeller because he keyed on Ross Ave. this morning running radar.

Ms. Hausfeld – I have not talked to Chief Moeller.

Mr. Chastain – What is the Blue Pearl and why is it dangerous that they are here? Why?

Mr. Stuchell – As far as the Blue Pearl, it is a business that would more or less utilizing that structure more like an incubator in a way for a startup company who is currently working on several patents for various products. I don't know exactly what it is. I mean they are in the stages of actually getting approval so they're very secretive intentionally, obviously trying to protect what they have invested. So ultimately the utilization of that property is for a startup business. Again they're in the research and development portion of it now. I don't have a lot, it's hard to say, ok, they're making widgets or they're going to sell something, I don't honest to God know other than the fact that they believe in their product, whatever they're developing, they believe that they can get it to patent and approved that they will be able to make a financial impact for the Village. So ultimately what was agreed upon within the CIC was that they would be able to utilize that particular structure. They were given an agreement more like the dollar to dollar investment type of agreement. From back into it and as far as improvements I don't think that they're ultimately concerned about the improvement of the structure as much as they're concerned about basically getting approval on their patents. So, you know, as of right now some people are very skeptical of it. The presentation that we had last May could be taken several different ways but ultimately they really believe in what they are doing. I really hope that they are ultimately as successful as they made it sound. I mean it could be a big win for the Village. But then again too it's always a possibility that it wouldn't work. I mean it's hard to sit there and criticize and think well because we know so little about what they're trying to produce and what the future impact would do because what they're claiming is going to be something that would rival P&G potentially. So I can't say I know exactly what they're doing other than the fact that it's coming up within a couple months hopefully we'll know more and be able to report back of their success and what it is that we think it is.

Mr. Chastain – So at this point we're going forward and supporting that business.

Mr. Stuchell – As of right now, yes.

Mrs. Brickweg – Just to add a little bit to that. I was also at the presentation and I am going to agree somewhat with Patty. When somebody puts a slide up and tells me St. Bernard could become the next Elmwood. I don't think that's a very professional thing to do. I was a lot taken back by that. The other thing I was taken back with is we've had multiple CIC meetings where the contract has been

discussed with the Blue Pearl because they have the building free for two years and it appears that somebody from those meetings ran right to them because they knew everything that was discussed and he was offended that we discussed it. So I kind of wonder about a little bit of professionalism there. Also, that if you're having a board meeting, people on the board are asking questions and somebody at that meeting runs to the person who's in the building and says this is what they said and then he comes back. I was just really taken back by that. Now I hope it does work out, I will say when somebody tells me it could be as big as Proctor and Gamble, I don't know. I'm hoping they will be but I'm like, God that would be amazing. That's where it all kind of started is they have a building for free for two years and it was done through the building department but the majority of the people on the CIC have never even seen the contract and so that was one of the discussions and it was done last Saturday night, oh I'm sorry, Tuesday night he asked if somebody could live there because he said it needs to be kept safe. I told the lady to get a security system instead of letting his son live there for free but that's just my opinion but the board will be voting on that but that's what it is and that's where the whole discussion came from because and I tried to explain that to them too. Don't take this personally but the members of the CIC were not told everything so that's, there was just not a lot of openness, and that's what led to this. If it is successful, that will be awesome but like Jonathan said they won't know about the patent until November.

Mrs. VanValkenberg-Walden – It's the three story building, store front, it's right across the street from LaRosa's.

Mr. Culbertson – Just to be clear. This is the CIC property so really at this point it doesn't have anything to do with us on Council. It's in the CIC's court.

Mr. Chastain – Really quickly, maybe I'm missing something. The trash fee that is coming up, that is going to be billed through Water Works, I thought that had to come through here. Was there a loophole found that we don't have to approve it.

Mr. Paul – It's going to come through Council but first we have to get the contract.

Mr. Chastain – Ok, ok. Thank you.

Mr. Tobergte – Mike I thought we had to approve the contract with the Water Works.

Mr. Peck – Right, I think that and I don't think I got back with you about that. I did contact the City of Parma and they just went through the process and I'd rather go their route because it's hectic and they have a series of Ordinances. So Council did approve it. And it changed their Ordinance and Council actually set the fee and they also had an Ordinance entering into a contract with another entity to receive the fee. So I'll bring those, I put those on the table for the next COW and we can discuss those further.

Mr. Tobergte – Then the fee we talked about for trucks and dumpsters, can we have it for that too?

Mr. Peck – I don't believe so. We're not entering into any contract for that. I don't think we need an Ordinance for that.

Ms. Hausfeld – One last thing, I promise. Thanks to Sue I just got the Fiber Optics channel and times so I wanted to put it out there for the residents. Sorry, I can't see. Channel 838 and this is for Fiber Optics, Sunday at 9:30 am, Wednesday at 9:30pm and Friday she's got 9:00pm question mark so we're not quite sure about Friday but as of Sunday at 9:30am and Wednesday for sure at 9:30pm. And that's for Fiber Optics channel 838 for the residents that want to watch Council.

Mrs. Brickweg - I want to ask Council this question because now after the meeting last Thursday it appears that we're know we're a million, we don't see anything really happening right now, but after last week I really want to know your feelings. I asked it two weeks ago and everybody said they needed time to think about it. I need to know what Council's wishes are on how low you're ok with the reserves going and I need an answer because if we take the million out and that's what it's looking like we're probably going to take out this year, possibly a million, so I would like to ask you all individually to please let me know. I've given you two weeks to think about it and you should have been thinking about it probably since February so I need to know.

Ms. Hausfeld – Before I answer that (inaudible) I'm going to ask the Mayor because I got a phone call saying that we did away with Crossing Guards. Is there any truth to that? Are we doing away with it? I know we talked about it in the past where the school could possibly pick up the slack but I was told that a particular person got a call the other day saying that here job was no longer needed and if that is the case then, if there are cuts like that I think it's something that we need to know so that when we get phone calls we can answer to them instead of always having to come back and say a week later oh this is what I found out. I didn't know, actually I just talked to Donnie yesterday or today and I talked to Peggy today and I asked if there was anything that was solved out of that meeting last week and from what I understand there wasn't so I guess I'm asking if there's anything else that you have done as the Mayor besides the Crossing Guards that we maybe should know about when we're answering that question.

Mayor Estep – On both those topics, one, I had Tom, first I went to the Superintendent of St. Bernard/Elmwood School and told her we do need Crossing Guards and for years when we had the money to pay for them the City or the Village, a City at that time, picked up the tab for that. I think it's more the school's responsibility to take care of their students. I spoke briefly with Mr. Eisner, I couldn't go into any detail we were at a funeral at the time so I told him we would be making a date. Since then I asked Tom to get with Chief Moeller and make a list of the Crossing Guards, both schools, and tell them that these are the Crossing Guards we had in the past and the locations of the Crossing Guards and it's up to them to see how many they would hire for the future and that's up to them and they have taken it on their own. So we're not responsible for the Crossing Guards, the cost of them anyway. On the budget, I met with Kevin Newton, I believe that's his name, he is a management partner. I've had a couple phone calls with him, it's a professional company. Gerald Newfarmer, the former City Manager for Cincinnati, met with him a couple of times. I've talked with him a few times, we met Monday, he's helping me. At this point there's no fee for it. If it comes to an audit of our budget, he could tell us what we could get rid of or we could maybe survive without, there would be a fee to that. We haven't gotten to that point. So far everything that we discussed about going to the unions we need a firm number. I spoke to Mr. Moore yesterday, he didn't come tonight, he's got the flu or something and I'll be getting with him this week some time to get a firm number on what we

have to go to the unions and ask them for to make up this million dollars. I was hoping I could ask Peggy, and it is a lot, she's done a lot with the budget, I will give her credit for that, she did find some money that's normally turned in and that helped some. That got us down to about a million I think and since then, once I get the numbers a little bit more firm, from what we need from each union then we'll go to them and ask them how they'll go about doing that and that will be on the shoulders of the Department Heads. That Department Head will have to run that department on that money and if not that Department Head will come to Council and ask Council for those funds. And if Council approves them then it's between Council and that Department Head. It will go as planned. If Council chooses not to approve those funds, it will be Council that is cutting that service or person. So I hope that answers your question Patty.

Mr. Asbach – Just to answer Peggy's question, you know I'm looking at 2.8 right now, I would prefer not to go under 2.4. I'm thinking 2.5 but I think it's hard for me to sit here that really doesn't know the day in and day out but looking at the numbers, I mean that's just my gut feeling.

Mayor Estep – Just to expound on that a little bit more, one thing, when I did meet with the guy from Management Partners the bright side is the best path is to reduce through attrition and that's our goal, to reduce through attrition. An example would be, we didn't replace the Fire Inspector and we had another fireman who retired, we didn't replace him. We have a Service Department person that runs the street sweeper, we're going to absorb that duty through that department. When we just had a police officer resign and go to another job. We're not going to replace that person at this point. We had a person from the Building Department resign and take a job with the City of Cincinnati. We're going to make it through without that person down there. With all the personnel, that's the high dollar, the last thing we want to do is go to a union and ask them to say I can't run my department, you're going to have to lay off two or three bottom people. That's not much of a savings. The longer we can hold off and hopefully get somebody through attrition that retires, somebody at the higher end of the pay scale, it's going to behoove us to do that. The other thing, with the revenue coming from the garbage, our garbage collection, that's another positive. Everything that we discussed Monday at our meeting, he was in favor and he thinks we're on the right track. But the last thing he says we need to do is to have a knee jerk reaction and go to these union in July and lay people off when we may be getting more money in the last three months of the year, especially in December. I'd hate to see somebody lose a job in July and we find out in December that we recouped some of those funds and we're looking better for next year. But again, that's going to be between that department head and their budget and Council.

Mr. Culbertson – To touch upon what John just said, I love the idea of doing a reduction through attrition. I sit up here and I don't want to see anybody laid off at all. Especially when we have money in the bank. It just doesn't seem fair. But is there a plan, is there a number, you said a police officer left, you're not going to replace her, are we just doing this on the fly as they leave or do we have a number of, we can go down three police officers, we can go down three more firemen. We can go, is there been discussion long term and not just looking at this right now as of July 20 and this is what we're doing.

Mayor Estep – No we haven't gone into those details yet Ray to be honest. Not long term, we're looking at short term to get through this year. Part of it will

depend on what Council would help us through. So we're looking more toward short term instead of long term at this point.

Ms. Hausfeld – Peggy would that being said and please whatever if you've already mentioned it, out of everybody that he said, Mayor Estep has just mentioned as far as leaving, retiring, resigning whatever, has any of their salaries been reduced already out of that million dollars or do we still have to take that into consideration. I'm just asking. Sorry.

Mrs. Brickweg – No you're fine. It's just a little confusing here when I'm hearing things it's like somebody make a darn decision. The firemen that are gone, they've been gone. So the new ones, no. Plus they're using vacation. Like Walt is not going to be off the payroll until the middle of August. Jessica is not until next week. So they're still getting paid. They're using vacation time. I'm just going to say it. John you're the Mayor and I know I've said this before. The Mayor is the leader of our city. Council appropriates money, Council makes laws. Nobody want to make a darn decision. We all keep playing each other. And you know who is suffering is the citizens. And it's really easy to say I don't want to go below that. Well that's great but you need to tell me how not to go below that because your budget is above it. Okay. I don't know what you want me to do. And at that meeting on Thursday, unless he changed his mind and told you something that he didn't tell anybody else, he told us that he thought the budget was going to, it was a little bit up for July, a very little bit, but that it was going to stay and that it would still be down a million this year and that he was projecting ten million for next year. So unless he's changed that, ok, then I don't know, that's what it is. But I need people to step up and do their job. I mean. You know what it's like, I mean I have a job where I did payroll today and I had to go to the bank and make a withdrawal to pay. You know. And it's like, and by doing that, and this is what I was kind of saying, by doing absolutely nothing, there's a very good chance that we will have to take a million dollars out of reserves. So to say, you know Ray to say, I don't want to go anywhere. What do you want me to do.

Mr. Culbertson – I did not say I didn't want to go any lower. I wish we didn't have to. I'm saying I don't want to see any layoffs is what it said. I didn't say I didn't want to go any lower.

Mrs. Brickweg - I don't want to see any layoffs either but we have to run the Village, and it's my department that has to do it but when I can't get the other people to do their job it's horrible, you know, I suggested different cuts and we need somebody to stand up and I'm going to be very honest Mayor, I need you to work with the Department Heads and work together as a team. I know you keep saying you don't want to lay anybody off because you did it last time. And I don't want to see people laid off either but you are the Mayor. You do have to do your job and instead of just saying you're going to make the Department Head do it, it is not I I I totally don't believe it's the Department Heads duties to lay people off. I don't think they even have the authority to lay people off because you are the leader of the Village. Maybe the Safety Director, sorry, he might have the authority to fire police and Tommy maybe in the Service. But I don't think they even have that. But, and I know if I sound frustrated, I am. It's just like every day I come in to work and it's like, God I hope I can we can pay the bills. And I'm just getting no guidance.

Mr. Chastain – I want to say a couple things supporting Peggy actually and then ask you a question. I consider you the financial watch dog for the city as the Auditor. I consider one of the dumbest thing that I ever heard when that bond was issued that they didn't take you back in those meetings because you are the financial watch dog. Also in support of your concerns, most of our income is front ended. Only 44% of our revenues came in the last half of 2015 and only 47% came in the last half of 2014, only 49% the year before that. So running average we're under 50%. So we're actually front end a little bit. So that's in support of you and your concerns but what I would like to ask you as the financial watch dog, what number are you comfortable going down to.

Mrs. Brickweg – In all honesty I wasn't comfortable doing what we did.

Mr. Chastain – So right now you wouldn't take one dollar.

Mrs. Brickweg – My fear is if somebody can't, my fear is if we continue, like at that meeting last Thursday, it was pretty much said, we'll just take the money out of the reserves this year. When I hear that or I hear that thought, when does it stop. I I don't see a plan in place and that's the plan, that's the part that scares me because when I took office there was seven million dollars in reserves. Granted we had a law suit that took a big chunk of it but I have never, I don't see, the only time we increased the reserves was when I begged somebody to increase it and we did it on our own. We increased it. So I, you look at the budget, there's not even in the budget where hey let's put some extra money in reserves. The budgets are spent to the very bottom and I'm like I don't run my house like that. So if I saw a plan and kind of what we were talking about at the meeting, if we could come up with a plan and to take out this year and start rebuilding it then I would be ok but I don't even see that plan. Am I making sense? So that's what scares me, if we just keep taking out and never put back in I'm going to be honest we're going to go into fiscal watch here eventually if we run out of our money. That is what facing us right now. And that is the part that really scares me that there is no plan.

Mr. Culbertson – That's really what I was leading into, was there a plan through attrition because it would be more, it would be easier to absorb the hit short term if we knew, long term we were correcting the problem. There's a bigger problem, a long term problem, not a, it's not just a short term problem.

Mr. Tobergte - I know Peggy, we got five people leaving. In the Fire Department the S plan. Part of their thing was to save \$20,000.00 a year on health insurance. Can we look at that. I mean we've got five people gone, is that \$100,000.00 savings there or not.

Mrs. Brickweg – As I reported to you last Thursday, with health care costs going up we are using the full entire budget. If you want to tell the employees that they need to pay more, you can do that. But we are using the full budget because everybody knows health care costs go up and the line item has never gone up. If we decrease in 2013 by \$600,000.00 so it's not been increased while costs are going up. So we're using the full amount.

Mr. Tobergte – So conversely to that can the costs savings for the S Plan be \$20,000.00.

Mrs. Brickweg – I said that when you guys all did that I said the problem with being self-insured, how anybody comes up with a number, not right or wrong, but they take the million dollars, divide it by the number of employees that are in a plan and they say this is what it costs. But like I said, if my husband and I are not sick or do anything that year you can't tell me I spent \$20,000.00 I doesn't quite work out that way. So there is no way to be able to give that number. I said that then and I said that the whole time.

Mr. Chastain – This is probably for Jonathan and Tommy, do the employees realize that if we dig in reserve now, a million, same thing happens, we want to use a credit next year, dig in next year, and we're using these millions essentially to pay salaries and to operate, and then we do it again, do they realize that eventually there's no job there. I mean do they realize the seriousness of not having a plan to trim a little bit. We have to have a plan, there has to be, you can't just and Rick didn't sound like you know next year is looking all that great either and we're still just kind of churning. So I don't know if you have any feedback from the employees. Is anything being talked about.

Mr. Stuchell – I think ultimately right now, you know as far as anything that's being volunteered, at this point, you know, has not come forward to say that this department has come up with a plan, some ideas have been floated, and as far as the seriousness of the situation, as far as, you know, the uncertainty, yeah I think ultimately, it's there. And you know as far as the, I think what they've thought is look for another job. You know as far as potentially, I think that if we sat down and basically said look if we want to maintain a level of service with x number of employees and we've got to cut, you know x amount of dollars, I think what the true discussion is right now is the, you know, give us an amount. And the discussion that I've had is that, you know, if you go to somebody and say we want you to cut, but yet we're not asking them to cut a particular amount they're not going to come forward and say we're volunteering a 25% cut until we come to them and tell them what % we need. Rather than being overly generous and say I'll cut 25% of my salary, I think they're looking for a figure on our end to basically absorb and figure out whether or not that is something that can be done. So, yes, I think they understand the seriousness of it. Again I think that's there's some discussion because of the uncertainty of as far as with their Village finances that they're looking for other jobs. And I don't blame them. You know especially if they have a family. But I do believe there are people there that are willing to work with us and at least entertain that discussion but we have to take the lead on what % and what amount we need to cut.

Mr. Paul – In my ear I hear that if they give back they're afraid that Council will appropriate spending it elsewhere. That came from probably all three departments.

Ms. Hausfeld – And Tommy I know you're just (inaudible) with us but over the years all three departments, including city hall, have given stuff back. There was a point, and correct me if I'm wrong you guys, there was a point that their insurance was paid for. And then we had to go and ask them to start paying their premiums and stuff like that. They're each department I know over several years has worked if not with this Mayor the last Mayor and they have given back. So I I don't think the departments are not willing to work, it's just like Jonathan said they kind of need to know a number and some of them may not be able to do anything because they are cut to the bare bones. And that's why I asked two weeks ago when they wanted to have a meeting again with the Department Heads and I sat in a meeting

prior to that when all the Department Heads were here and asked each individual Department Head, can you cut any more. And every single one of them stood up there and said, we're to the bare bones. There's not much more there that they can cut. So I I kind of said that I think it was two weeks ago when John was calling the meeting with John and the Department Heads, why when each Department Head had already reported back to their leaders or stood here on Council and said we are cut to the bone. So just to answer a little bit of what you were asking.

Mr. Chastain – I think this is a comment more than a question. Are we the sinking ship that Blue Pearl described or are we going to stand up and do something about it. I mean are they spot on, I don't know.

Mr. Stuchell – So it's going to take one of the statements that I feel like to me really hit home is that if indeed we were ever to have to absorb the loss of one of our major tax payers as Rick states that there's ten major tax payers that supports the Village and if one of them were to pull out over night, immediate financial impact would be there. And basically what June was stating was that, you know, are you looking for anything else you know, in case. I mean I came from Norwood before I came here. They weren't looking for anything when Fisher Body pulled out. Same thing, so basically are we looking at generating any new business. Was there ever an alternative plan as to how we would absorb that kind of loss. So, no, I mean, to me that definitely got me thinking. So.....

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Hausfeld – Well, Peggy kind of asked us all, but none of us said anything and

Mr. Asbach – One of us did.

Ms. Hausfeld – I mean.....

Mrs. Brickweg – I'm going to be honest. If there's no changes made I'm just going to inform you all right now that there's a really good chance that the money is coming out of the reserves. I don't know what else. I have a budget that's been voted on which means the money's been appropriated. So until somebody does something my hands are tied and that's why I say the Mayor better get together and do something. You know, it is what it is.

Ms. Hausfeld – Um I'm a little confused and I think you were too. And Kelly I don't know you very well but you've already brought a lot to the table so thank you. Um because what we were always told is if we take stuff out of the thing that we would be lowered and everything else and according to what you're saying we wouldn't be so I'm to the point where I was going to say, after he got done talking, I would be ok with taking out of the reserves as long as we had something in the budget starting next year to start putting even if it's \$100,000.00 away a year. Just like building up that reserve. I think I would be ok with doing that. But as of right now we don't have anything in the budget for next year to start saving for a rainy day so I'm kind of confused and I would like to see you two get together and find out the ins and outs of what he was explaining to us and I think you're both on the same page but I think somebody was told something and somebody wasn't. So I would like, this is just me, before I answer any more questions about taking out reserves or cutting people's job because I don't want to cut people's jobs, I would like you two to get together and come on the same page and let us know for sure if

taking it out of our reserves and not having any plans for the future putting stuff in our reserves if that would be detrimental or if we could work with that. Does that make sense?

Mrs. Brickweg – In all honesty, I was told three point one so we're not (inaudible) so that's like null and void anyway. So even we've already done that so with Kelly even being right it's done. We don't really need to but I'll look into what the banker told me for sure. But for that doesn't matter. Um the other thing that worries me somewhat is to me I look at the reserve the way I look at my savings account, my rainy day fund, ok, and when I, if somebody continues to spend the entire budget and if you look at the budget, I don't think the budget for next year contains any major equipment, anything like that so we, what happens if anything would happen or something would break down, we're not, we don't have, we drained the rainy day fund down and then we have a rainy day what are we going to do. And that is my fear. I do agree that (inaudible) we need to start putting in the budget to build the reserves back up but my fear is it just keeps going down, down, down. You know and I think that to me the idea of taking is eight hundred thousand or a million dollars out of our reserves in one year just to make ends meet somewhat blows my mind. And especially when nothing really is being done. But I do appreciate the idea of building them back up but as I said it really is kind of null and void, we've already gone down what they said.

Mr. Kalb – Going back to that Thursday budget meeting that we had. One of my first suggestions was that I was ok with taking the money out of the reserves this year same thing we're on if we knew we had a plan for next year. The problem is the plan that we already had was balanced with no additional trucks or anything like that and then we had to down grade the income again already so now we're starting next year off in the hole if I'm correct, or close to it. Either way my suggestion in that meeting and I'll make it public was and I have no idea how those numbers work out was to ask for to raise that, I'm going back to December again, I'm saying that like five times, I said we should ask for to not take a raise going into this year knowing that we were going to be in a budget crisis, would be to ask for the raise that they got this year back and then whatever raise they're scheduled if the contract goes that far for next year. Going with my numbers back in December of last year and we've had a lot of personnel changes since then, was about two hundred thousand dollars in savings if you took all the raises out at that point last year and that wasn't considering the pension pick-up or anything like that. So if you add that two hundred whatever around about thousand and then you didn't get the upcoming raise going into this year that we've already budgeted into it then whatever, that's another one fifty maybe two hundred thousand, who knows, but now we're talking a four hundred thousand dollar chunk. This year is null and void but by the time we do anything, the budget stinks. We've known that already so it's not about this year. We're going to have to go out of reserves or you lay somebody off tomorrow. That's literally how it is, you can't, the 5%, the 2% is not going to make up no million dollars. The plan is, at least my plan was, to build the reserves up, so if we get those cuts then going into again the Department Heads, City Hall, Council, everything knowing that next year they were asking for say, knowing that next year that we would run a surplus, the surplus would go toward replacing all the money that we took out of reserves this year and last year so we wouldn't lose any employees. That was my plan and (inaudible) I don't know what those % are for each thing but I would ask for the raise back whatever the employees got this year and whatever the employees are planning on getting next year and that should have brought next years' numbers into the green or we would

have been not making money but having money available with the understanding though and that weight falls back on Council and some of us may or may not be here for that new budget. Yes we might have extra money available but that money needs to be ear marked towards replacing the reserves that we all agreed on to take out this year to get us through.

Mr. Culbertson – I have no problem discussing future increases. I do have a problem asking the employees to go back a year ago and give us your pay back or we're going to roll your salary back. I think we can come up with a, I think there's a better idea, again, of lowering our staffing through attrition. It can be done, it fits the problem long term and not make a knee jerk reaction here on July 20. A reaction has to be made but again I don't want to roll anybody's pay back for prior years. They've earned what they got now. If we want to discuss freezing it moving forward, great, but I don't think we're ready to go back to the employees and say we're going to take you back a year ago or two years ago or however long ago and roll your salaries back. I don't think that's fair to anybody. And future, when I say future increases to it's got to be across the board. It can't be just this department or that department. It has to be mutually agreed upon by everybody.

Mr. Kalb – And even though I do agree with you with the attrition aspect we also got to figure out what kind of plan, what safety level, what service level. The attrition method works but then at some point, what service are you losing through the attrition method. So we need to come up with a, again, Administration and Council figure out well yeah we could lose next year ten Service Department employees through attrition, well great, but then we don't do garbage pick-up and we don't do cutting the grass in the parks. Yeah we solved the budget problem but we really didn't because now we got another problem on our hands. Or we got four fireman that leave next year but now we only got three guys down there. So we got to have bigger plans in place than just allowing through attrition which is why I think in the short term we need to work on keeping everybody and everybody kicks in a little bit to get us through and then through attrition is well but you got to have a plan with the attrition so we don't lose services or if that's the plan then that's the plan.

Mr. Tobergte – From by breifcase the paper Peggy gave us for the budget hearing. Rick only estimated 10.2. but then you also got to remember no Building Inspector, and in this budget was also money for the street sweeper guy. We didn't take out. All the police officers, stuff like that so new years' budget is close.

Mrs. Brickweg – If I remember correctly, we don't have anything in there for any replacement of any equipment or anything.

Mr. Tobergte – No, nothing.

Ms. Hausfeld – Sorry I forgot one thing to keep. The old fire house, I had some things about how bad it looks and I know it's a petty thing and I know they're in and out working all the time but they could at least keep their grass cut and like upkeep. I know the last time I passed it the grass was high and the siding was falling off and stuff and I know eventually I think it's going to be torn down from what I heard from you guys but in the meantime they could still be there for a little while and I think they should be held accountable to make their place look decent too. And I'm sorry, I know that's petty but residents are like if you guys are going to pick on me for my house and my upkeep and this and that, that place should be

held to that standard too. So I'm just relaying the message. Even if the grass gets cut it might even make it look 100% better.

Mr. Paul – I'm pretty sure, I'll address the grass but the rest is a construction site. I don't know that you'll get very far but the grass they will cut.

Mr. Asbach - I have a question for Mr. Paul. Does that property not belong to the State? The State owns it, they're just using it. So you'll have to call the State to cut it. I'll make a call to my son.

Mr. Paul – Yes, it belongs to the State.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – I'd like some clarification, what you guys discussed earlier that sounded to me like city workers, city equipment on private property. I didn't understand what you guys were talking about up there on Tower Ave. Where you said the CIC was going to be charged eighty thousand dollars or something. Can you guys let the residents know what you were talking about.

Mayor Estep – There was a CIC property Tom that Mr. Wilking purchased, we were trying to.....

Tom Rolfsen – Right

Mayor Estep – We were trying to, the CIC was responsible I believe in the contract to remove, make it build ready. And part of it if they went to an outside source it would be eighty dollars an hour to have a driver and a truck. They didn't have a driver and a truck so we had a truck and I have a CDL license so I called the insurance company and asked them if I'm qualified, I'm a CDL driver and I'm an employee here, could I work on city property on that and they said yes. That's what we did at the time. Expedite this because it's been sitting up there, I'd like to get that house built and anything I can do to help Mr. Wilking I will. And we wanted around the corner Mr. Haan's place to go in next.

Tom Rolfsen – I don't understand, you took out the foundation that was left in there. Is that what it was?

Mayor Estep – They were digging for the new foundation to be put there.

Tom Rolfsen – And what did you find?

Mayor Estep – A lot of dirt.

Tom Rolfsen – So why are we responsible? It's not our property, it's his. If I build a house are you going to dig a foundation for me?

Mayor Estep – No I think in the contract told Bob, that he could, correct me if I'm wrong, I think the contract with the CIC was responsible for digging that out and getting it out of there.

Tom Rolfsen – If the property was going to beyond that foundation, ok? When I voted it was told, he's not building there, it's not going to be a problem and now

you're just telling me, you're just digging dirt, you're not getting the foundation, that's not the contract.

Bob Hausfeld, 4422 Tower – When I sold the, switched properties with the city, the city wrote in the contract that they would remove all the concrete and all the stone from the foundation. It never got done. So now this guy is up there working on it and it's causing him problems so a couple of us volunteered our time. So that's the big thing, we volunteered. It was free. Nothing. We used some trucks to help haul it away. So if we didn't volunteer our time, they were going to have to get a trucking company in there at eighty bucks an hour to rent. So, which I talked to the guy and with what we hauled away today would have been about three thousand dollars worth of dirt or stone and concrete.

Tom Rolfsen – Ok, so my next question is, what if you would have gotten hurt? Would that be Workmen's Comp?

Mayor Estep – I don't know Tom. I don't live my life going WHAT IF? WHAT IF? WHAT IF? I mean we're just trying to do something to help a neighbor and if we would have been injured we'd have crossed that bridge when we got there.

Tom Rolfsen – I think you need to take that into consideration Ok?

Mayor Estep – I will tomorrow.

Tom Rolfsen – The next thing is about the dumpsters. Do we provide dumpsters for the businesses here in town?

Mr. Paul – No we do not provide them. We order them through a discount. They purchase them and then we charge to pick them up.

Tom Rolfsen – How much do we charge to pick them up?

Mr. Paul – It's all very, Phil came up with a formula on how some are four fifty a quarter, some are a hundred. Most are a hundred and fifty a quarter. I can't remember that off the top of my head. But there's a list.

Tom Rolfsen – A quarter is three months, right?

Mr. Paul – Yes.

Tom Rolfsen – So if I have to get a dumpster it's going to cost me fifty dollars for one day now where they're getting one for three months for a hundred and fifty dollars.

Mr. Paul – I also just sent a letter out this quarter that starting next quarter they went up 50% for the businesses.

Tom Rolfsen – Right, so I could put a dumpster down there and pay a hundred and fifty a quarter. Instead of fifty dollars a day to have a dumpster at my house.

Mr. Paul – If it's available, yes.

Dianne Staat, 401 Cleveland - I just want to let everyone know that at the last COW George VonWalde was up here about his house on Rose Hill. I have organized some people (inaudible) to help on the house on Rose Hill. It is the second house on the right. Anybody that wants to help please just show up. If you can give an hour, if you can give two hours, whatever, we will appreciate it. We're going to try to get this done so the poor man can rest. (inaudible) to watch him. If you can help, please show up Saturday the 29th.

Ms. Hausfeld – Do you have an end time or are you just going to stay until.....

Dianne Staat – We're going to stay until it's done. The siding has to be put on the house, some has to be taken down because it was put up incorrectly. So right now I have about twelve people who are going to come so I'm hoping (inaudible) but our goal is to get it done.

Kay Schindler, 4245 Dartmouth Dr. - After listening to all this big puzzle going on this is a little piece but if I don't do it now I'll never do it. I was disappointed and confused when I learned that the owners of Skyline, Todd and unfortunately I don't know his last name, made an offer to move from his current location to the Northeast corner of Ross and Vine at the former location of the Long John Silver restaurant. He was turned down and I wondered why. And also I wasn't going to say this but I thought if someone else mentioned it, if you look at the former shopping center, if we don't do something soon, we are on the way to look like South Elmwood. Sorry but that's what I'm looking at.

Mr. Stuchell – With reference to the purchase of Long John Silvers and that is a Village owned property, but I do know that the owner of Skyline did approach the Village, did talk to the Planning and Development Director and not that we said no as far as being turned down per se but I don't know that I'm at liberty to say exactly what his offer was but ultimately that is something that if the Village was going to entertain the idea of selling it it would actually have to go out for competitive bids or be turned over to the CIC for them to be considered. I don't know it was actually turned down. I was not in the conversation but I don't believe it would have been as lucrative as what the purchase price was. It could be a wash. So that would kind of have to be considered and decided if it could be done. As far as the shopping center, we are working on trying to get that project accelerated and maybe even at this point working with a different developer and putting different demands on the contractor as well right now. That is a high priority and that is something that is a huge eyesore totally agreed, we definitely need to have it rehabbed and get tenants in. So that is a top priority for the CIC.

Kay Schindler – One other quick question I haven't been keeping up but the CIC has been brought up quite a bit tonight and I wondered who is running the city, you guys or the CIC? I'm not even sure what the CIC is so maybe someday you can bring that up and talk about it.

Mr. Chastain - Is that Long John Silver property being advertised currently?

Mr. Stuchell – I don't believe so. I mean it would be the city's I guess. It is ultimately their decision as to whether or not they would want to sell it. But as far as it being advertised, we're not, I don't believe the CIC is not advertising it. But as far as anyone else from the Village to have, I don't believe so.

Mr. Chastain – I wasn't going to bring this up. I was going to say that and this has gone long enough. I apologize but I had a business idea in my head the other night and I got on my phone and I was knocking around and I ran some numbers and I thought everything was good, the only thing missing is what is the retail space down at that shopping center. I started looking, nowhere. Nowhere. 45217 retail, 45217 commercial, St. Bernard, OH commercial, St. Bernard, OH retail, nothing. We got people that are, sitting there just like me eating some corn chips having a business idea needing to know what that space cost and it's not out there. I saw Mad Tavern I looked at, I thought it was overpriced but I mean I saw something on Kiley Ave. But those are individually owned properties and we've got these valuable properties that people want to have information on and we aren't providing information in any public forum that I know of. So I don't know if there is anything we can do to change it.

Mrs. Brickweg – I want to make a comment on two things. As Jonathan said at the CIC meeting it was discussed and their going round and about if they want to extend the developer's contract and they're looking for a new developer. I'll say it now and I said it then, I would not vote to extend that contract. They did a horrible job. And you just nailed it. But one member said it's better than nothing. So we should keep them until we find somebody new. I don't agree. So the Long John Silver's, my daughter worked there for many, many years. Todd contacted me very upset at the way they were treated. And basically, yes they were told no, they got an email and I don't know who it was from but they got an email saying no that we have other plans for it. So they contacted me to ask what the plans were and I said well I'd like to know those plans too because I don't know if we have any plans. So yes they were told no..

Mr. Stuchell – So as far as the, I just, the initial vision of that piece of property was to be blended with the property that would be turned back over to us once the old fire house is torn down so that we would have a larger area to work with. I just, that is being the plan, but what would go there I don't think it was ever stipulated, but having the larger piece of property to work with. As far as extending the contract with the current developer that was actually, the contract expires in August and we did meet with the developer and he did ask for an extension. We did take a vote that was actually done by email and after greater consideration when we had the last CIC meeting we went back to the board and I actually expressed, because my signature goes on it as President of the CIC, I am not willing to sign off on the contract extension that I once thought was a good idea. I'm actually in a position now where, if anything, potentially month to month until we find a replacement, another developer or if the current developer can prove to us that they can step it up but, you know, kind of being in the last quarter of the football game and haven't done anything up to this point, I am concerned. And I don't understand everything honestly about, you know, the brokerage business and how that is advertised and how they put it out there. There are other media options that they utilize for commercial developers but yeah when you were looking up an average individual trying to find what was available and you can't that's a problem. I mean we're finding some of the similar things as to how it's being marketed. You know, we could get in, I guess, excuses based upon the fact, and I guess these are valid to a certain degree because everything is based upon the traffic count. The fact that we're not passing 18,000 cars a day versus what we're at 13,000 range. We don't fit the formula for certain types of tenants. Like Chipotle or whatever. Doesn't mean it's still not a possibility but if you want to do the actual formula for their business models, we don't fit. So we have to come back to the drawing board

and do what was actually stated. It's time to fill a 100% retail space with again whether it be shops, restaurants, whatever you want to say and potential some outlots. We need to be a little more creative in the idea of going back to maybe some mixed use. The fact is that whether or not, if there was a demand for retail space, you know, we might be having people knocking down our doors. But maybe we've also made it so not affordable enough. I don't know but we need to go back and look at how it's being done. I'm not trying to say that is was a wasted year, but I have a different outlook on this and maybe we need direct vision. I want to get something done. I'm tired of, I'm tire of actually looking at the stalling and I'm sure the residents are frustrated as well. I want to get something done.

Bob Wilking, 5132 Broerman Ave. - I'm the one building the house up there on Tower Ave. Yesterday my builder was digging where the foundation was. Luckily Bobby had a contract that said the CIC was paid to have that removed. I went down to City Hall and I saw Paul Myers and Tom and they came up looked at it and said ok looks like we'll have it all removed for you. I will have a truck there for you in the morning. Oh, I said great, you know. He worked until 9:00 the night before, last night until he had everything ready. He was there this morning at 7:30, the truck was there, no key, no driver. It was no more than a pick-up truck. One of the city's red trucks. He was thinking of a dumpster. He called me at quarter to eight. He said I can't, what am I going to do? He said you're paying for this equipment sitting there, two diggers and I can't do nothing with them. To deal with this Village is like dealing with first graders. You know, he's doing that, he's doing that, that's bull crap. I'm sorry Peggy I didn't call you first, the first person I thought of was John. I called him and said what do I do? He said well I got a CDL let me see what I can do. He came up, between him and Bobby they got a lot done. And I'm very thankful for them to do that. It would have cost me a fortune for those two diggers sitting there and my man sitting there, you know. Not being able to use. So I appreciate what you did, sorry you got in trouble for it. I didn't know there was that much crap going on in this city. I lived here all my life, didn't realize it, you know, the nit-picking they do. But I thank John and I thank Bobby. That's all I have to say.

Mrs. Brickweg – Mr. Wilking I didn't ask you to call me or not. I just said that I was talking about people calling the insurance company. You would not have called me about that at all.

Bob Wilking – Oh, I thought you ran that department too. I just didn't know.

Mrs. Brickweg - I just didn't want everybody calling our insurance company.

Aaron Staat, 567 Rose Hill – I moved back to St. Bernard or Cincinnati in 2010 after being gone for 13 years. Bought a house in St. Bernard incidentally across the street from my parents' house. That's how much I love St. Bernard and my parents. However, I tell people all the time how much I love St. Bernard, how much I defend St. Bernard and how much I am a proud resident of St. Bernard and a lot of times I get, really what's so great about St. Bernard. I'm like, the people who live there. We have an amazing community. A diverse community. It's getting more and more diverse and we need to be celebrating that. We have elderly, we have young, we have black, white, Asian, gays, straights, everyone. We need to celebrate that. We need to take pride in the community and we all need to work together because what I hear tonight and what I heard at last Council meeting, the Council meeting before that is everyone taking their stances and picking at each

other and no one working together. It's time, we have the potential of being the most amazing community in the Cincinnati area. We have all the parts. We just need to put them together. So I implore Council, all the committees, residents to please do what you can to work together and fix the issues that we have because we do have, we are one of the crown jewels of Cincinnati and that can be St. Bernard.

Karen Wolfhang, 4288 Minmoor - I kind of want to say the same thing that he just said. Same thing. My son lived here and we moved across the street from him so it's a great family community. I've been going to the CIC meetings for quite a while now and I wanted to say that the CIC meeting the other night was a very good one. I saw a lot of progress. I saw the Blue Pearl people came. They're proud of their product whatever it is. I don't know what it is. They're in that building. They're tenants. We might know in November so that ship has sailed so let's wait and see what they come up with. It might be great. But the other thing I want to say was that the shopping center, I think that we have some really good people on the board right now. We've got a real estate attorney. We've got someone who works with law contracts with real estate. They're looking at other developers. They're moving on things. It's taken them a while and they're going to need a little more time but they're moving in the right direction right now, I think, so I just wanted to say that so that people know that the CIC is trying right now.

Mr. Culbertson – Thanks for your comments and the credit goes to Jonathan. Jonathan should not be left out.

Mr. Stuchell – Actually I'm pleased to work with the board. One of the things I think we were, the people on the board were underutilized and I do believe and make it kind of a board function. That's how I think we're coming together and may be able, don't all agree. We're learning how to be able to work together and that's what we owe the citizens. So it's long overdue. So thank you again.

Mr. Asbach – I want to make sure this is on TV with all the changes coming up. First of all I'd like to make a motion to excuse the absent. Member.

Mr. Kalb - I'll second that. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW will not be until Thursday, August 17 at 7:00 and the next Council meeting will be Thursday, August 3 at 7:00pm.. With us changing back to Council meetings are the first Thursday, and COW being the third Thursday. That was very important.

Ms. Hausfeld – Steve with changing that, will we have to have a COW meeting before that Council meeting in case something needs to be voted on?

Mr. Asbach – If Peggy needs an Ordinance passed we'll have to call a special meeting. But that's what was discussed at COW.

Ms. Hausfeld – That's just what I was asking. Ok.

Council went into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

The regular meeting was resumed.

Motion by Mr. Kalb seconded by Mr. Asbach to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.