

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**MAY 9, 2019**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held May 9, 2019 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mr. Steven Asbach – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll called showed that six members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Bob Culbertson, Mr. Mrs. Bedinghaus, Dr. Chastain, Mr. Ray Culbertson and Mr. Siefert. Mr. Burkhardt was absent.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the regular order of business. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Stuchell welcomed the families of the newly appointed officers and congratulated the officers.

Mayor Estep swore in two new police officers; John Desotelle and Terry Hochscheid and 3 new firefighters; Hunter Morgan, Seth Donovan and Branden Walls.

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

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – That was a nice swearing in. I don't know if I can remember five new employees being sworn in at the same Council meeting. That is a complement to the Village and the Council members. I don't have a lot to report. I just want to thank everybody who showed up for the ground breaking last week at Ross Park. It's a once in a life-time event and I really appreciate Council's support on that \$200,000.00. I know we went to our meeting the following Thursday, we meet every other Thursday and the committee was really excited that Council stepped up to the table. I just want to remind everybody, the \$200,000.00 from Council, it's a 1.2 million dollar project for our community, for the future, for our kids, for everybody who is going to walk that half mile trail, for everybody who is going to attend those Knot Hole games. It's going to generate revenue, it's going to bring people into our community, it's for the future and I hope we stay the course

and I appreciate the Castellini family and the Reds and everybody that was involved last week. It was a wonderful night and I appreciate the support of the Recreation Department as the liaison. The Service Department went above and beyond to set up for and tear down, putting up that tent. I don't know how many hours that took and how many people. Wiedemann Brewery and Bobby Corry from Heidelberg for supporting the after party. It was a great night and I guess everybody enjoyed it and I didn't hear one negative comment. I saw it on the news, I saw it in the Enquirer. Again, I can't think back on an event that had such a positive press and feedback from all of our residents and people from other communities that came by that night. I can't wait to see everything that is going to take place here.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg (read by Mr. Ungruhe) - The Auditor's Office prepared Ordinance No. 7, 2019 for tonight's meeting. This Ordinance authorizes the transfer of \$400,000.00 from 01-5-A-19. General Fund Transfer Out with \$100,000.00 going to 04-1000 Swimming Pool Cash Account and \$300,000.00 going into 31-1000 General Bond Retirement Cash Account.

It also establishes a new line item, 01-58-7R, Ross Park-Reds Project. This line item will be used for the renovations the Cincinnati Reds and other businesses are doing to Ross Park. It will only be used if needed.

The Ordinance provides additional appropriations to:

01-2-E-6	Tax Collection Fee	\$5,000.00
01-2-L-3	Civil Service Medical Exams	\$2,500.00
01-2-L-8	Civil Service Psychological Tests	\$2,500.00
01-58-7R	Ross Park – Reds Project	\$200,000.00

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – Absent.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I printed off the Star Ohio balances as of the end of last month, April 30, 2019; The Village's investments there totaled \$3,985,676.97.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I have the monthly report for the St. Bernard Fire Department for the month of April; there were 9 structure fires, 4 other fires, 9 auto accidents, 2 hazmat incidents, 6 service calls, 5 fire alarms, 1 CO alarms and 9 EMS assists. Mutual aid given; 5 to Little Miami and 3 to Norwood.

Mutual aid received; 2 from Elmwood Place, 2 from Springfield Tsp., 2 from Norwood, 2 from Little Miami 1 from Wyoming and 1 from Deer Park.

EMS incidents; 40 transports, 33 non-transports. Details of interest 5 non-breathers, 3 unconscious, 10 auto accidents. Mutual aid given; 7 to Elmwood

Place, 3 to Cincinnati, 1 to Little Miami and 1 to Norwood. Mutual aid received 1 from Elmwood Place and 1 from Little Miami.

All units participated in Flashover Simulator Training with Norwood, Little Miami and Amberly Village Fire Departments.

As discussed at the last COW meeting, on behalf of the Village, the CIC is currently working with a title examiner to look over the nine taxable parcels that make up the old Long John Silver's and the old fire house property. Before a transfer of property occurs, it was recommended that the public right of way that runs from Clay St. to Vine St. be vacated so that the parcels can be consolidated for future development. The CIC will be contracting with a surveyor and we will report back to you all when this has been completed so that an appropriate Ordinance can be prepared for the vacate.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – Tom, congratulations, your Small Government application has been approved for funding! This is for McClelland Ave. Just as a refresher, the project cost is \$287,500.00, which includes engineering and administration. We applied and were funded for \$143,750.00 grant and a \$143,750.00 loan.

Many residents and some members of Council commented on before that they wish P&G were more involved in our community. They are now giving us a tremendous gift. Will our response be “thank you for this gift, but we're unwilling to fund the remaining 18% of this project”?

I have spoken before about acceptance, it is paramount to a happy existence. We have a team that, I have high hopes, is moving the Village in a positive direction. The direction of new businesses, renovations of schools and parks, and the development and sales of properties and Village activities. This is all being done at a rapid pace. We also need a new roof, our streets and sewers need attention. We need funds for deductibles, electronic systems and upkeep for our dilapidated necessary vehicles. I believe care needs to be taken when we spend money. I also believe care needs to be taken when trying to save money. If you think we have funds in savings but the conditions, structures and equipment are not functioning and are in need of repair or replacement, then you don't have a savings. What you have is an account for solutions. The trash fee was passed to keep our trash service solvent and to maintain current level of services. I do not believe for one moment that it has anything to do with our park renovations. The Ordinance before you tonight in my opinion needs to be passed. Revenue for the businesses alone should be incentive enough, for if they are making money others will surely follow. People will not come and stay for a lifetime if there is nothing special about us. Focus on the outcome. I believe we are headed to greener pastures.

To my community:

Speaking of greener pastures, Oh wait, a quick story. My sister-in-law texted one morning that she was thinking of me when she read an article about CAVE people. I text back and told her that I did miss my backpacking days. She responded that CAVE people are actually “Citizen Against Virtually Everything”. I do so enjoy humor. On to green pastures. Life's green pastures. Do not be the one who thinks, yes but who's going to cut and trim and at what price? Invest in life with love and laughter. You will soon find yourself on the other side. Do not be critical when you look back, as life is no easy task. Fertilize it with a decent blend of love, laughter, peace and harmony. Otherwise you will find your green pasture is filled with cow patties, not quite the right stuff for our life's pastures.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Mr. Moore – First of all I put the April figures in everybody's mail boxes today as usual. If there are any questions, let me know. I've been asked to read this, why the Tax Department was, I don't know but I've been asked to read this by someone.

Students from the St. Bernard Elmwood Place work study program participated in several activities here at City Hall to enhance their communication and employment skills. They helped weekly in the Building Department, provided mailing assistance in the Tax Department and filled Easter bags for the Recreation Department. We hope that their experience here provided a positive foundation towards their future employment endeavors. They are: Nathan Keiner, Elyjah Washam, Trenton Bender, Mykel Cunningham, Dewey Deaton, Anthony Williams, Tyler Scott, Jordan Brown, Cameron Blevens and Michora Horton.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – The St. Bernard Soapbox Derby was held on Saturday, April 27. There were 23 racers including 17 first time racers.

I would like to thank the following groups and residents, St. Bernard Fire, Police and Service Departments, Jerry Day Auto Service, Gerry and Pat Wiedmann, Heidi and Ray Culbertson, Tom Rolfsen, Bob and Marisa Culbertson and Charlie and Marilyn Vonder Mullen who help me sponsor cars for the race.

After one of the crashes the driver told me that next year she is going to listen to her Uncle Bob not her Uncle Ray!

I would also like to thank Paul Schildmeyer and Tom Paul for the countless hours spent on the Ross Park Reds project.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – The Block Watch meeting will be Thursday, May 16 at 6:30pm at the Safety Center.

This is a final reminder that this Saturday, May 11 is Shred It Day. This will take place in the Safety Center parking lot from 9:00am until 11:00am. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to John and Terry on their appointment to the Police Department and Hunter, Seth and Braden to the Fire Department and welcome them to the Village of St. Bernard.

Like Don just said, thanks goes out to Tommy Paul and Paul Schildmeyer for all their work on this Reds Project and the ground breaking. I appreciate everything you guys are doing.

SERVICE, Mr. Siefert – I have the Service Department report for April, 2019.

There were 26 trucks placed at residences, 27 dumpsters placed at residences, 387 special pick-ups at residences and 215.13 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. In recycling; there were 29.07 tons of recycling material and 5,300 pounds of scrap metal.

I'd also like to congratulate and welcome the new members of our Police and Fire Department.

I'd like to remind residents that the next German Luau meeting will be Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00pm in the lower level of city hall. All are welcome. If there are any local non-profit groups and organizations that would like to participate or operate a booth at the German Luau to raise money for their cause, but to also show community pride, please contact me at 513, 214-9257 or email me at ward1@cityofstbernard.org.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting will be on May 21 at 6:00pm in the lower level. I just want to kind of reiterate what others were saying. I think the Reds kickoff was a big success and thanks to Tommy and Paul on that. It was great to see a lot of former residents coming back to the Village and speaking highly of the Village. I'd also like to thank Don for putting on the event of the Soap Box Derby and doing good things for the little ones around town.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – No report but I also would like to welcome the new members of our Village. The Fire and the Police who were actually sworn in tonight and I also want to thank everybody who participated in any way with the Reds. Paul and Tommy, I know you've done a lot. Jonathon, John, you guys all had meetings. It's just been a great effort by everybody and I think this is going to be a huge asset to this Village.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Burkhardt – Absent.

MARKETING, Dr. Chastain – No report.

Mrs. Kathman – The COW report has been emailed to Council and the Administration and reads as follows:

Committee of the Whole.  
April 25, 2019

Roll call showed that six members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Bob Culbertson, Mr. Burkhardt, Mrs. Bedinghaus, Mr. Ray Culbertson and Mr. Siefert. Dr. Chastain was absent.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to approve the written minutes of the April 11, 2019 Council meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor, Mr. Estep – The transfer of the Long Johns Silver property has not moved forward yet.

Mr. Tobergte stated that Mr. Peck had informed Council of an agreement draft stating a return for the Village on the sale of property. The percentage was yet to be determined. If the property is building ready needs to be verified. Council was given a Master Plan describing how the property would look with something on it. There are nine different taxable properties that exist. However, there does seem to be a public right of way sidewalk between Long John Silver and the old firehouse. This sidewalk area would have to be vacated by the Village before anything could move forward. The sale and development cannot happen until this is done. The CIC secretary is researching all the deeds to determine what needs to be done. The transfer of property to the CIC does not have to wait for this. The CIC cannot act on anything until the transfer is made.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to have the CIC work on vacating the parcel of property in question. Motion passed 6-0.

The ground breaking for the Ross Park Improvement will be next Tuesday, April 30 at 4:15pm. at the upper field. The ball game is at 5:00pm and a celebration in the tennis court area with food and drinks. Everybody is invited. Representatives from all the organizations involved will be attending.

Children's Hospital will be refurbishing the Teen Center.

On May 19 a minor face lift on the Franklin Park will be started by many local volunteers from 9:00am until 1:00pm with an after party at Wiedmann at 1:00pm. The Village is going to move the fence at Franklin Park back six feet to make the swing set safer for the kids. Bob Hausfeld will give the Village the six feet back.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg – We are in the process of hiring three firefighters. Medical and psychological exams need to be completed. Additional appropriation for \$5,000.00 for testing is needed. \$300,000.00 needs to be transferred into Bond Retirement Fund and \$100,000.00 into the Swimming Pool Fund.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put an Ordinance on the table for the additional appropriations and the transfer of funds. Motion passed 6-0.

Requested an additional appropriation of \$200,000.00 for the Ross Park improvement as a show of commitment by the Village. These funds may or may not be needed. A separate line item will be created to monitor this fund. After more discussion the decision was made to proceed.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to appropriate \$200,000.00 and create a new line item to the previously discussed Ordinance. Motion passed 6-0.

The income into the general checking account was substantial and \$500,000.00 was transferred into the reserves.

Director of Law, Mr. Peck – We are not ready for an Ordinance for Mayor's Court fees.

I did work on the agreement and Ordinance for the transfer of property. I understand it has already been discussed.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe – The balance as of the end of March in our Star Account at the state totaled \$3,478,224.94.

Safety Director, Mr. Stuchell – Questions were raised for the Police Chief about vehicles parked on the sidewalk particularly on E. Ross and Delmar Ave. The Chief explained that if a car is blatantly obstructing the sidewalk residents should let the police know. The Ross Ave. parking on the curb has been allowed in order to keep the cars from being side swiped or having their mirrors torn off. He will do as Council wishes but hopes they understand that the officers use discretion in these situations.

We are in patchwork mode as far as a dispatcher goes. And officers that are on light duty are coming back to fill in for that.

Mr. Stuchell will get a report on the rental program, the HIP program, and the loan program to Council. The loan program needs to be looked at more thoroughly. The Chief is working on a grant to tie in the Friars Club, Roger Bacon, St. Clement and the new stadium cameras to feed into the Police Department. \$12,000.00 would be needed for our 25% of the quote. Mr. Paul is also working on a grant to

connect the cameras at Vine St. Park, the new Ross Ave. Park, and a camera on McClelland and Vine and Washington and Vine that can also be tied into the Police Station.

Motion by Mr. Bob Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to pursue that grant. Motion passed 6-0.

Service Director, Mr. Paul – The opening for Ross Park is on Tuesday, April 30 at 4:30 and would like to have a big turnout. City Hall will be closed at 3:30 for this event.

Starting on June 1, Mr. Paul will apply for a grant for a new packer.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Mr. Moore – Thanked the Tax Department employees for their work making tax day go smoothly by staying late and opening on Saturday. April figures will be ready for the next Council meeting. April was a very, very, very good month.

Finance, Mr. Tobergte – Thanks to the following sponsors for the Soap Box Derby; Service, Police and Fire Departments, Pat and Gerry Wiedemann, Tom Rolfsen, Heidi Culbertson, Jerry Day Auto Service, Bob and Marissa Culbertson. Hopefully the rain will hold off until the race finishes.

Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson – Reminded that residences are encouraged to join the Light Ohio Blue Campaign from May 8 to May 16 to pay respect to law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Place a blue light bulb in your porch light or use blue flood lights or blue ribbons on your mailboxes or columns or posts. Wear blue on May 15. Commercial properties who would like to be involved email [staff@lightohioblue.org](mailto:staff@lightohioblue.org) to get in touch with a staff member and be added to the list of supporters.

Mr. Tobergte – May 11 is Shred It Day at the Safety Center from 9:00am until 11:00am.

Service, Mr. Siefert – The German Luau returns on Friday, August 2, from 7:00pm until 11:00pm. Saturday, August 3, from 1:00pm until 11:00pm and Sunday, August 4, from 1:00pm until 9:00pm. That Friday Washington Ave. will be closed Saturday and Sunday Vine St. will be closed. The buckets logo has been updated. Two stages with bands and DJs will be on hand. Thanked Heidi, Cheryl, and the St. Clement Festival Committee for their help. Dr. Chastain will coordinate the food trucks.

The next Luau meeting will be Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00pm in the lower level of City Hall after the CIC meeting. All are welcome.



Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting is May 21 at 6:00pm in the lower level. Discussion on what happens after the current deal is completed with the shopping center.

Audience Participation:

1. Questions about the parking situation at the new Ross Park facility were raised. It was felt that we should be okay with the parking that is available.
2. The neon sign situation has not changed. A court date for September is possible.

Ordinances for the next Council meeting.

1. And Ordinance for additional appropriations and the transfer of funds.

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

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Kathman

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to read this evening's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 6-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 7, 2019. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 7, 2019. Motion passed 6-0.

## **REMARKS**

A question regarding the attached addendum was explained by Mr. Paul Schildmeyer regarding the budget for the renovations. He assured that Roger Bacon had committed to the renovation of the tennis courts.

There were concerns raised about spending \$200,00.00 of tax payer money when so many things were recently taken from the citizens. The need for the Ordinance to go emergency was also questioned. The Mayor explained how this budget was like a floating budget moving certain perks in and out as deemed less or more important. Mr. Schildmeyer clarified that this was an evolving process and that Council had all information as soon as Recreation had it. Sponsors would come onboard for new components and the budget would change. Until last Thursday no one knew what we had. The project kept growing with new sponsors and components. P&G would only be onboard if we had an indoor project to house young children during the winter. All expenditures of the \$200,000.00 would be approved by Council and can only be used for the Ross Park project. Verizon is giving a bid to Mr. Paul for connecting the security cameras that we have already in place to the cameras being installed at Ross Park. They would be wireless. There is also a plan in place to make sure there will be no other expenses to the Village. This project will be self-sufficient and will operate on its own revenue.

Another question was suggested that we eliminate the trash collection fee instead of funding the Ross Park project. It was explained that the trash fee was needed to keep the existing budget break even.

The motion to suspend failed 5-1. Dr. Chastain voted no.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

It was stated that this Ordinance needed to be passed before the end of May to assure that all components be ordered to arrive on time.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to have a Special Council Meeting before the next COW to discuss this Ordinance and the Ross Park project.

Mr. Paul Schildmeyer noted it would be beneficial to have this Ordinance approved by the 23 of May which is the next construction meeting.

Motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to rescind the previous motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to move the Special Council meeting to Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00pm. Motion passed 6-0.

No notification has been made to the Bank St. residents about shutting down some of Vine St. for the Luau. But everyone will be notified as soon as the area is decided upon.

Residents were reminded about the project at Franklin Park on May 19 from 9:00am until 1:00pm.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

A complaint was made about having Village workers put up banners for profit businesses. The event the banner promoted will be held on Wiedemann Brewery property but will benefit charities as well. No fee schedule was adopted for this service. The Administration will continue to promote schools, churches and events that bring people to St. Bernard.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to go into Executive Session to consider personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance. The Executive Session is necessary to protect the interest of the applicant or expenditure of public funds to be made in connection with the economic development project. Motion passed 6-0.

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

The next Special Council meeting will be Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00pm. in Council Chambers. The next COW meeting will be Thursday, May 23 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to adjourn.  
Motion passed 6-0.