

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2019**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held June 13, 2019 in Council Chambers.

President of Council Pro Tem, Mrs. Cindi Bedinghaus – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Ray Culbertson made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Dr. Chastain seconded the motion. Council Agreed 7-0.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – I would like to thank Council tonight for being supportive of adding the hours at the pool for our residents. Also, thank you for adjusting the wages of the fitness center workers. I don't know that it's quite official yet, but I do know you're in favor of it, long over due again. When we cut their hours, we cut their wages so I'm sure that they'll be thankful. Again, thank you to all who helped in the renovation of Franklin Park. A special thanks to Bob Hausfeld, the Service Department and Sun Belt Rental for all your generosity. They are located over on Spring Grove Ave. and they have been kind enough to loan us their equipment without any charge.

On a personal note, I want to remind everyone about the benefit for Cincinnati Children's Hospital given in memory of my daughter, Allison Estep, next Saturday, June 22 at the St. Bernard Pavilion. Admission is only \$10.00 and that includes music by Marty Gruenwald and food by Queen City Sausage, JTM food group and Hartmans and Klostermans as well. There are plenty of prizes, so bring a cooler, a friend and a chair for a wonderful celebration for a great cause.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's Office prepared Ordinance 10, 2019 for tonight's meeting.

**FROM GENERAL FUND**

01-5-A-19 General Fund Transfer Out \$402,000.00

TO CASH ACCOUNTS:

05-1000 Master Plan Cash Account \$400,000.00

17-1000 Building Permit Cash Account \$2,000.00

Section 2. That the Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to provide additional appropriations to the following:

01-2-K-7 Computer Systems \$24,000.00

01-2-O-8C Building Maint. – City Hall \$130,000.00

01-2-O-10 Park Maintenance \$25,000.00

01-5-A-8 Training \$2,500.00

01-58-7R Ross Park-Reds Project \$25,000.00

02-33-1A SCMR Overtime \$7,000.00

04-SP-1 Swimming Pool Managers \$1,000.00

04-SP-2 Swimming Pool Employees \$4,000.00

05-MP-9 Streets and Sewers \$229,100.00

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – Briefly, tonight as you recall the Kasich Administration was not kind to local governments regarding the local government fund. This has been an issue addressed by the Ohio Municipal League and the Hamilton County Municipal League. Thankfully, Governor DeWine has proposed in his budget an increase of 9.1% to that fund in 2020 and 1.8% increase to that fund in 2021. Given that, they have also proposed a Resolution supporting that increase, so, I'd like to put that on the table for the next COW to discuss and I'll prepare that and speak with the Auditor about our particular numbers with regard to the hit we took when the numbers were cut to local funding.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the summary of accounts up at Star of Ohio which is with the State. The Village's total there as of the end of May was \$3,994, 178.76. Copies have been given to Council and the Clerk.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I have the St. Bernard Fire Department report for the month of May, 2019:

Fire incidents; 7 structure fires, 1 other fire, 7 auto accidents, 3 hazmat incidents, 9 service calls, 4 fire alarms, 1 CO alarm, 8 EMS assists for a total of 40. Mutual aid given; 4 to Norwood, 3 Elmwood, 1 to Cincinnati, 1 to Little Miami and 1 to Springfield Twp. Mutual aid received; 3 from Springfield Twp.

EMS incidents; 51 transports, 40 non-transports for a total of 91. Details of interest; 4 non-breathers, 2 unconscious and 5 overdoses. Mutual aid given; 9 to Elmwood, 6 to Cincinnati and 1 to Norwood. Mutual aid received; 1 from Lockland. Also, all units participated in Auto Extrication Training.

On behalf of the CIC, I would like to congratulate Todd and Lauren from Skyline on the purchase of their new building in the shopping center. They were the first business to commit to our redevelopment efforts for that property and we are very excited for them.

Lastly, I'd like to thank Mr. Paul for his assistance last week while I was out of town for a couple of days. I had been dealing with the new interim manager of Dollar General about the carts full of cardboard that were being stored in front of the Chinese Buffet. Recently corporate brought him in to get that store back up to standard as they had both fire and health code violations in their storage area so they hadn't had any new deliveries for a period of time until they corrected the problem. With that being said, multiple truckloads of merchandise were then delivered and there was no room for the carts in the back so they were placed out front for pick-up. I gave the manager an ultimatum as the landlord and as a Village official and I was assured that the carts would be gone by the end of the day, Wednesday. After being alerted by Mr. Tobergte that they were not removed, I made multiple attempts to reach the manager by phone, and they don't answer the phone there, so, I contacted Mr. Paul and he went over in person and told them how it was and that he better get results immediately or fines would start mounting. So, thank you Mr. Paul for the great job you do and for assisting in getting that eyesore removed.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – WOW! The Village is being bulldozed over all at once. The school is progressing on time. The Ross renovations are underway and things will be moving at a fast clip. The Delmar project is nearing the finish line and is coming in under budget. This is exciting to say the least.

The Teen Center hall will be closed July 20<sup>th</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup> for that portion of the Ross Renovation. The lights were donated for this and free labor! I think it was a mistake to take Main Hall out of the renovations. Just my opinion.

To My Community,

We look at musicians, artist, and actors, all trying to get their versions of love and life on the pages. We listen, look and watch thinking I like that or didn't think much of it. Somewhere though, that person has a fan base. People who love them

no matter what is created. Little do we realize that we too are putting to canvas and parchment our very own stories. Fill that verse with love and sing it out. Paint the planting of a happy seed and show the true colors that surround you. Lastly, always act out of good and kindness for this is the gift that keeps on giving.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mr. Moore – I put the May figures in your mailboxes. If anybody has any questions or needs any explanations, I'll be glad to do it.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – The Finance Committee did meet tonight to go over the summer budget. We also recommend passage of Ordinance Nos. 9 and 10, 2019.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I would like to congratulate officer John Desotelle who has completed his training and now patrols on his own. Officer Terry Hochshelde following right behind him and should be patrolling on his own within the next week or two.

The next Block Watch meeting will be Thursday, June 20 at 6:30pm at the Safety Center.

SERVICE, Mr. Siefert – I have the Service Department report for May, 2019. There were 31 trucks placed at residences, 25 dumpsters placed at residences, 293 special pick-ups at residences and 224.50 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. For recycling there were 37.77 tons of recycling material, 5 pounds of brass and 3,660 pounds of scrap metal.

I'd like to remind all residents to mark your calendars as the Historic St. Bernard German Luau will be returning on Friday, August 2, Saturday August 3 and Sunday August 4. I'm still looking for a few community groups, organizations and/or local businesses to operate game booths to raise money for your cause but also to show community pride and advertise who you are to residents and visitors, alike, please contact me at (513)214-9257 or you can email me at [ward1@cityofstbernard.org](mailto:ward1@cityofstbernard.org).

The next German Luau meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18 at 7:00pm in the lower level of city hall, all are welcome.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting that was scheduled for June has been cancelled. So, residents be aware of that. Our next meeting will be July 16 at 6:00pm in the lower level. Also, to let the residents

know that 88 E. Mitchell was sold last week so that is no longer a CIC property and we look for the improvements on that property shortly.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Burkhardt – No report.

MARKETING, Dr. Chastain – Just please remember the “We Thrive” meeting is Wednesday, June 19 at “I Am Coffee”, that’s 4720Vine St. It runs 6:30pm until 7:30pm. They may be on the back deck if the weather is nice, I about missed them one time when they were back there.

Also, please, remember the first St. Bernard Fresh Market is Saturday, July 20. It runs 9:00 in the morning until 1:00pm. The stronger that gets out of the gate the better it’s going to be in the future.

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

Committee of the Whole  
May 23, 2019

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

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Siefert to approve the written minutes of the May 9, 2019 regular Council meeting and the May 14, 2019 Special Council meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put Ordinance No. 8, 2019 on the table for the June 13, 2019 Council meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

Mayor, Mr. Estep – Reported he spoke at the St. Bernard/Elmwood Place Graduation and it was very attentive and respectful.

The Memorial Day Parade will be Monday, May 27. The line forms at Bertus and Vine at 9:00am. The Parade will begin at 9:30am and at approximately 10:15 we will honor our veterans with a ceremony at Vine and Washington, weather permitting. Ceremony will be in the main hall if it is raining.

Thanked all who are involved in the Franklin Park refurbishing endeavor.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg – As of the end of April the revenues were \$4,136,163.58. Compared to 2018 we are up \$61,509.45. The expenditures were \$3,916,605.90. Compared to 2018 we are down \$238,754.96. Reported she was working on the 2020 projected budget. The Public Hearing for approval is scheduled for June 27 (the COW) at 7:00pm.

Nick Hendricks has accepted a new job and he will be replaced by Jake Johnson. Asked Council for \$2,475.00 for training and software. He will train the end of July. Starting will be in August and he will train with Nick for that month.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to place an additional appropriation on the table. Motion passed 4-0.

Law Director, Mr. Peck – Spoke about Mayor’s Court changes, we are not ready for an Ordinance yet regarding increasing the fines and costs.

Encouraged the use of the program “Wills for First Responders”. Another free session will be held in July.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe – Will have the First Safety report next Council meeting.

Safety Director, Mr. Stuchell – Just to let you all know that the 2 new police officers, John Desotelle and Terry Hochscheld have started working with their field training officers and our 3 new firefighters, Hunter Morgan, Seth Donovan, and Braeden Walls started this week as well. Thank you all again for helping welcome them to the community.

An update of CIC business, the meeting originally scheduled for this week has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00pm.

We are scheduled to close on the Skyline sale next week and I am very excited for Todd and Lauren as they take on this project. This has been a long process but I am convinced that it was well worth the wait for both parties.

We will also be closing on 88 E. Mitchell within the next week or so as an application was approved by the board. I am pleased to see that this historic home will be restored and sold as a single family, owner occupied residence. The CIC will only have one remaining residential structure left to sell and it will be made available after our next meeting.

Lastly, the title examiner is still reviewing the 9 taxable parcels that make up the old Long John Silvers and the old fire house. I still expect that to take a couple of weeks and then we can contract with a surveyor once the reports are back.

Service Director, Mr. Paul – Asked for an Ordinance on the table for the roof repairs at \$126,737.00 into line 208C.

Also, a server for the Police Department that was necessary and expensive. The previous system caused a loss of data. We will control the new system and it will be safer. This expenditure will require another appropriation into 2K7 to replace the \$24,000.00.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Siefert to add Mr. Paul's two requests for additional appropriations to the Ordinance requested by Mrs. Brickweg. Motion passed 4-0.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Mr. Moore – Should have May's figures by the next Council meeting.

The State Auditor was in this week and made no corrections.

Finance Committee, Mr. Tobergte – The Finance Committee will be meeting Thursday, June 13 at 6:00pm. We will be discussing the county budget, the requests for additional appropriations for a garbage packer, part-time Service Department employee, Fire Chief car, and the possibility of needing more money for the landfill line item. Also, John talked to me and asked about the possibility of giving the Fitness Center employees a \$1.00per hour raise. This will all be discussed at the June 13 meeting.

Service, Mr. Siefert - I have the April 2019 waste fee numbers from Greater Cincinnati Water Works. The Village will receive \$29,102.32 for the month of April.

I'd like to remind all residents to mark your calendars as the Historic St. Bernard German Luau will be returning on Friday, August 3 from 7:00pm until 11:00pm and Saturday, August 3 from 1:00pm until 11:00pm and Sunday, August 4 from 1:00pm until 9:00pm. If you are a group, organization or local business and would like to operate a game booth to raise money for your cause or for charity and would also like to show community pride and advertise who you are to residents and visitors alike, please contact me at 513 214-9257 or email me at [ward1@cityofstbernard.org](mailto:ward1@cityofstbernard.org).

Marketing, Dr. Chastain – The Hamilton County Department of Public Health WE THRIVE group presented the results of their St. Bernard community health assessment on May 14 over at the library. I want to thank Dominique Walker and her team for taking the time to work with us over numerous months to put that together and for continuing to work with the Village as we develop plans and try to improve things here in St. Bernard.

Also, thanked numerous residents for attending the presentation and engaging in dialog with WE THRIVE for the purposes of improving the community. It's tough

when outside entities present us with opportunities for improvement that have a tendency to resist that, push back against it but it's a path of progress. I'm glad some members of our Village leadership embrace the WE THRIVE input and continue to work with them to move us forward toward being a better place to live. I met with Paul Schildmeyer and the St. Bernard Press Market Team, Leala Helton and Jennifer Rutherford continue to be amazing and they have at least 14 vendors and 2 food trucks on top of that already committed to the July 20 and September 21 event at the pool pavilion. Those are both Saturdays and they are running 9:00am until 1:00pm. And I think there might be some type of community yoga before that. Feel free to email me if you have questions on the yoga and I will find out. They are still loading up the October event morphing it into a Fall and Halloween thing.

Things are going very well with the July 20 event. It is also important. If the vendors are successful word will spread fast and the event will easily grow in the future years. Please show up and support this. It already looks like a cash positive event even with first year start up costs. That is impressive. It will have a bright future if we support it as well as the women that are making it happen.

#### Audience Participation

A compliment and thank you to the workers and volunteers for the great job at the Franklin Ave. Park.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to excuse the absent members. Motion passed 4-0.

Ordinances for the next Council meeting.

Codified Ordinance Update  
Additional Appropriation Ordinance

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, June 13 at 7:00pm. in Council Chambers.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Siefert to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.



## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to read this evening's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8, 2019. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ST. BERNARD, OHIO, REVISING THE TRAFFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSES CODES TO COMPLY WITH STATE LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Siefert to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 8, 2019. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to adopt Ordinance No. 8, 2019 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9, 2019. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN ROOFING & METAL CO. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 9, 2019. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 9, 2019 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10, 2019. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Siefert to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 10, 2019. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 10, 2019 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Tobergte – For the agenda for the COW meeting; the Mayor would like to see a \$1.00 an hour raise for the fitness center employees. Chief Simos asked to discuss the possibility to replace some of the cruisers. Also, the garbage trucks are in bad shape, if we might discuss that also.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Brickweg – Reminded everybody that at 7:00pm there will be a Public Hearing before the next COW meeting to go over the budget so it can be submitted to the County.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

None.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, June 27 at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.