

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2019**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village was held Thursday, July 11, 2019 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mr. Steven Asbach – 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.

Mayor Estep swore in Charles Moffitt, as a new Police Officer for the Village of St. Bernard. Officer Moffitt's father pinned his badge on him. A very poignant moment.

Mrs. Bedinghaus made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mr. Burkhardt seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – Not a whole lot on the agenda tonight. With the new officer, Mr. Moffitt, I think we got a good guy there and it's a rare occurrence to have your father come in to your swearing and I'm sure his father had a proud moment there. I see we're making a lot of progress at Ross Ave. And they are doing a lot of tearing it up so pretty soon on August 1 we'll have the volunteers down there. Three to four hundred volunteers working on the park and I'm excited to see this come to fruition.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – I provided the June revenue and expense spreadsheets and cash fund report to Council and the Administration. The revenues for June were \$5,721,780.10 and the expenses were \$6,121,194.24. Compared to June of 2018 the revenue is down \$1,022,194.88 and the expenses are down \$57,609.32. As we discussed at the last meeting the earned income is down and the large payment we received last year was invested, so we have that revenue in the reserves in case we need to use it.

The Auditor's office prepared three Ordinances for tonight's meeting. Ordinance 11,2019 transfers \$400,000.00 from 5-A-19 General Fund Transfer Out into 31-1000 General Bond Retirement Cash Account. This is the fund account used for

debt payments. It also provides \$9,000.00 in additional appropriations to 01-58-9, Community Events. This is revenue the Village received through sponsorships.

Ordinances 12 and 13 increase the pay for Fitness Center Part Time Employees. Ordinance 12, 2019 provides a \$1.00 an hour pay increase to those employees hired before 1/1/2005 to bring the pay to \$13.00 an hour. Ordinance 13, 2019 increases each step for those hired after 1/1/2005 it brings the first year step to \$9.87, the second step to \$10.99 and the third year step to \$12.17 an hour.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – Absent.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – I have the statement from Star Ohio. The value there at the end of June totaled \$4,002,311.60.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I have the monthly report from the St. Bernard Fire Department: Fire Incidents; 8 structure fires, 3 other fires, 9 auto accidents, 5 HazMat incidents, 12 service calls, 6 fire alarms, 1 CO alarms and 10 EMS assists: Mutual Aid given; 5 times to Norwood, 1 to Elmwood Place and 2 to Little Miami. No mutual aid was received under Fire.

EMS incidents: there were 67 patients transported, 36 non-transport; Mutual aid given; Elmwood Place 16, Cincinnati 2, Norwood 2; Details of Interest; 1 non breather, 8 unconscious, 15 auto accidents and 4 overdoses. Mutual aid received 1 to Lockland, 1 to Little Miami and 1 to Elmwood Place.

Just a brief explanation on the number of mutual aid runs to Elmwood Place, the ambulance that we sold to their Village blew it's engine and they were trying to decide whether to replace the unit or retire it. The decision was made to retire it and it is being done as we speak. So, in the meantime while they were trying to get their back up ambulance up and running again. St. Bernard and Little Miami were basically splitting the runs for that period of time. So that is being repaired.

I would like to congratulate C.J. Moffitt on his appointment as a patrol officer for the St. Bernard Police Department. We are very excited about his enthusiasm and look forward to seeing him out on the street.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – Delmar Ave. Project has been delayed. The proposed finish date is now Tuesday the 16. It will be paved and then sealed to complete the job.

A zoning board meeting is scheduled for July 23, at 5:00pm for private property on Franklin Ave. I believe the DAG construction company wants to use that area as a drop zone for their materials. The board usually receives the paperwork a week before the meeting so I do not know all the specifics.

Ross Park is on schedule. We are weeks away from touching home plate. It is truly exciting. Even the leaders get caught up in it. Makes you feel good. You may want to volunteer on August 1. Come on down. It will be like an adult arts and crafts.

Tools are supplied.

To my community;

To be truly balanced in life, one must accept the trials and tribulations as well as the successes and accomplishments. When failures rear their disappointing effects do not alter your life's story to make you appear more accepting to others, for those who are balanced will see right through you. Then you will have succeeded in degrading yourself. There is no sneering at a person who tries and fails and if you do choose to demean, you have failed yourself. Most times silence is golden.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mr. Moore – I put the June numbers in your mailboxes. If you have any questions or need any explanations let me know.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – Chief Simos will be supplying me with the mileage, hours and the condition of the cruisers for the next COW meeting to discuss the cruisers. Chief Young called me Tuesday to inform me that engine 91 needed some repairs that appear to have been caused by the flood a couple of years ago. He is going to need additional appropriation as his equipment maintain line item is getting low. He is going to keep an eye on the line item and inform us later about how much money he needs.

On Wednesday, July 17, 55KRC's Brian Thomas is bringing his listener lunch to Weideman Brewery. He usually starts around 11:30am.

To borrow Mr. Paul's line; to my community. When you call our police department, they will respond as soon as they can. Sometimes they are on the highway dealing with an accident or they could be dealing with a violent situation in our Village. Please be patient, they prioritize the calls with the information that you give our dispatchers.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – The next Block Watch meeting will be Thursday, July 18 at 6:30 pm at the Safety Center. I too would like to congratulate CJ Moffitt on his appointment to the St. Bernard Police Department and I welcome him to St. Bernard.

SERVICE, Mr. Siefert – I have the Service Department report for June 2019; there were 29 trucks placed at residences, 29 dumpsters placed at residences, 319 special

pick-ups at residences and 191.88 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. 29.71 tons of recycling material, 1,213 pounds of scrap aluminum, and 13,210 pounds of scrap metal.

I'd like to remind all residents to mark your calendars for the return of the Historic German Luau.

Friday, August 2, from 6:00pm – 11:00pm

Saturday, August 3, from 1:00pm – 11:00pm

Sunday, August 4, from 1:00pm – 9:00pm

You can pre-purchase your Limited Edition German Luau Power Pack which includes a 2019 German Luau t-shirt, beer mug and beer bucket for \$40 cash. Pre-sale pickups for the Limited Edition German Luau Power Pack will be on Monday, July 29, Tuesday, July 30 and Wednesday, July 31 from 6:30pm – 7:30pm at the Recreation Office. These are limited so get yours before they are gone!

The next German Luau meeting will be on Tuesday, July 16 and July 30 at 7:00pm in the lower level of city hall, all are welcome.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting will be on July 16 at 6:00pm in the lower level of city hall. I encourage all residents to come out for that meeting and also to come to the variance hearing to understand approximately what's going to be happening behind Franklin Park. From what I'm hearing with the equipment, the actual using it for office trailers is something I'm strongly against and I encourage all residents to come and speak their minds at that meeting.

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

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Burkhardt – No report.

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
June 27, 2019

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

The Public Hearing for the proposed 2020 budget was held. The presentation by Mrs. Brickweg had no questions and this budget will be submitted to Hamilton County for approval. It projected a balanced budget.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to approve the written minutes of the June 13th Council meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor, Mr. Estep – Thanked everyone for attending the Allison Estep Memorial Fund raiser for Children’s Hospital.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg - I provided the May revenue and expense spreadsheets and cash fund report to Council and the Administration. The revenues for May were \$4,914,143.09 and the expenses were \$5, 288,002.92. Compared to May of last year the revenue is up \$226,217.91. This includes \$194,650.68 received from the Water Works for the Delmar Road project. The expenses are up \$34,803.21.

Law Director, Mr. Peck – This is a Resolution proposed by the Ohio Municipal League and the Hamilton County Municipal League. The proposed budget at this time allows for a restoration of some of that money back in the budget. Now that we have a new Governor and hopefully he signs the budget which includes this but its, they’re encouraging all local governments to pass this Ordinance which supports that, and also indicated in here a loss of revenue that we suffered, \$250,000.00 or over \$250,000.00 and Mrs. Brickweg gave me the stats on that which provided this Resolution so, it’s fairly short and sweet and to the point. So, I suggest to put this on the table for our Council meeting and hope we pass it at that time.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to put Resolution No. 4, 2019 on the table for the next Council meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the statement First State Bank, our balance there for the Fourth of July Fund at the end of May totaled \$5,648.50.

Safety Director, Mr. Stuchell - (read by Mr. Paul) Mayor Estep will be swearing in Patrol Officer C. J. Moffit at the next Council meeting. He will be starting before the retirement of Officer Doug Roll so that he can get acclimated with the department and start his field training before the actual vacancy occurs. The CIC has received the final report back from the title examiner and there are 2 actual parcels that are owned by ODOT where the former fire house was located. Mr. Paul confirmed for me with his contact from ODOT that those parcels will

remain with the state so we will be moving forward with the survey of the entire old firehouse and Long John Silver property. As reported previously, we need to confirm the boundaries of the parcels due to the public right of way that runs from Clay to Vine St. That parcel will then be vacated by the Village so that a consolidation can be completed and recorded.

Service Director, Mr. Paul – We've spoken about McClelland Ave. and the grant. We also need to discuss the loan for that grant. I have a sample Resolution that we had just received this, by the way, right before the meeting, or right before the closing of City Hall, so I have a sample Resolution that I will put into everyone's mailbox. The grant would be for \$143,070.00, 20 years, that would be \$70,200.00 a year, once you make up the Resolution and you pass that.

We got a lot of complaints on Delmar and Sullivan, the tree there on the corner. It's leaning. We've been monitoring that and Eddy Kahlmeyer came to me and he said, it's closer and I get to giggling but I can't help it. But, this morning I looked and it's touching a wire so I actually called Cincinnati Bell and they'll come out and evaluate on July 10.

The packer will be arriving Tuesday at 9:00 AM. Believe it or not that was ordered November the 9, 2018.

The roof contract has been signed and approved and they will be starting shortly, and I had a meeting with Verizon, Tuesday. I have a meeting with Verizon on Tuesday at 11:00am for the cameras. I don't know what their corporate said. They want a phone conference. We'll be looking at cameras for all the parks, a couple of intersections and that should be wireless going down to the Police Chief and anyone else that needs to monitor that. We have had numerous things thrown into the pool recently. There have been four incidents within the last three weeks. I have placed cameras down there and I have one tested here at City Hall and I like it. They are not very expensive and we went ahead with it. The bottom of the pool has been damaged. So, there is actually a knuckle, about an inch divot in the concrete where the heavy bench went in. They have a couple names. I gave one name to the Police Chief. I'll give him another name here tomorrow morning which I received and hopefully they can contact those individuals and see what's happened with breaking in.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Mr. Moore – Memos have been placed in mailboxes which said that money has been received as far as revenue. So, I have lowered my estimate for the income for 2019 by \$500,000.00 down to 9.7 and I think it's just a cash flow or a cash situation because we got the money early last year and we were pretty conservative with it and talking to Peggy we still got it. So, I don't think there is any reason to panic.

Finance, Mr. Tobergte – John called me for a question; a dollar an hour raise for the Fitness Center employees. All three departments have not had a raise for six years or so.

Discussion on the issue of raises ensued. Council members expressed their support for these raises.

Discussion on the issue of police cars was then brought to the floor.

The next issue was the packers for the Service Department. Mr. Mike Wiedemann told Council that he would get an estimate for new packers.

Mr. Paul could not find the grant Mr. Tobergte was inquiring about.

Mr. Tobergte said that Chief Simos' overtime line item was getting low and might have to transfer some money out of the regular line item to go to that toward the end of the year.

Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I'd like to congratulate new firefighter Hunter Morgan on his graduation from paramedic school. I'd also like to thank Mayor Estep, Councilman Tobergte and Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg on all their work for getting the budget together.

Service, Mr. Siefert – I have the waste collection fee numbers from Cincinnati Water Works for May 2019. The total that will be sent to the Village is \$22,959.09. 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. and yes, we will have the famous Luau beer buckets available for purchase. Please tell your family, friends and neighbors and let's make this event a success!

The next German Luau meeting will be on Tuesday, July 9 at 7:00pm in the lower level of City Hall. All are welcome.

Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting will be on July 16 at 6:00pm in the lower level. I believe I brought this up the last time but it's not, we did end up selling the old Gold Star Block down at the Square to Skyline so they look for that construction to begin down there shortly.

Mr. Tobergte added that they hope to be open by Thanksgiving.

Business & Industry, Mr. Burkhardt – I have one thing, with the work that is being done up there, Mr. Hausfeld would like to have some type actual lease on the strip of land so we can get the fence put back up. Mr. Peck will look at it.

Audience Participation:

The Service Department will be off on the Fourth of July so garbage collection will be on the Holiday schedule. A Call Command will go out to remind citizens.

A request for an Ordinance to transfer funds from the General Fund. We need to pay the Bond Payment.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Dr. Chastain to put an Ordinance on the table to transfer funds. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to put an Ordinance on the table for a raise for the Fitness Center employees. Motion passed 6-0.

It was suggested to put an Ordinance on the books for when the pool is closed and there is no lifeguard on duty and when the park is closed for safety purposes. To make sure that everybody is swimming with a lifeguard present. Mr. Peck will look into it.

An inquiry was made if any alcohol permits were given for the last weekend event. Mr. Paul replied, “no, I have not”.

Also, a request that the Village Website clarify who may use the parks and for what purpose and clarify the guidelines of the park and post permit applications.

Also, wished Happy Pride and wants St. Bernard to have an Ordinance that makes housing opportunities equal.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Siefert to excuse the absent member. Motion passed 6-0.

Resolutions and Ordinances for the next Council meeting:

1. Resolution No. 4 for the local government fund.
2. Ordinance for transfer of funds.
3. Ordinance for a raise for the Fitness Center personnel
4. Possible Ordinance for other Fitness Center employees

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

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

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

RESOLUTION NO. 4, 2019. STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RESTORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS TO PRERECESION LEVELS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 4, 2019. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Resolution No. 4, 2019 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 11, 2019. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 11, 2019.

REMARKS

Mr. Tobergte – Just so the residents know, the additional \$9,000.00 for community events is money that Paul has brought in through sponsorships throughout the Recreation Department and the German Luau.
Motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to adopt Ordinance No. 11, 2019 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 12, 2019. FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF THE FITNESS CENTER PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD WHO STARTED IN THE POSITION PRIOR TO 1/1/2005 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 12, 2019.

REMARKS

Mr. Tobergte – As I stated at the COW, I'm against this Ordinance for signaling out four people to give a dollar an hour raise, an approximately 6 to 7% raise. We've got three departments with contracts who haven't had a raise in the past two to three contracts. We have part-time employees who have not had raises in the same amount of years. Swimming pool people haven't had raises. I think it's wrong to single out four people for raises.

I'd also like to amend Ordinance No. 12, 2019 to include all part-time employees to get a \$1.00 an hour raise.

There was no second on the motion to amend Ordinance No. 12, 2019.

The motion to suspend failed 5-2. Mr. Tobergte and Dr. Chastain voted no. Ordinance No. 12, 2019 will take its regular course.

ORDINANCE NO. 13, 2019. FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF THE FITNESS CENTER PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD WHOSE FIRST DATE OF SERVICE IS AFTER 12/1/2012, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 13, 2019.

The motion to suspend failed 5-2. Mr. Tobergte and Dr. Chastain voted no. Ordinance No. 13, 2019 will take its regular course.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Paul – I would like to remind Council that we placed in your mailboxes a new packer price. If we move on this, we can probably get it by the end of the year. It is necessary. The price will be a little lower due to the fact that we will have a trade in. Which will probably be valued in between \$6,000.00 and \$10,000.00. I would like you to consider that.

Mr. Asbach – That will be placed on the COW agenda.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

A question was raised about when the Laws, Contract and Claims meeting was that discussed referring the non-discrimination Ordinance to Mr. Peck for research. It was determined that the meeting was a public meeting and Mrs. Bedinghaus will ask what the status of that research was.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, July 25, at 7:00pm.

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