

ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 14, 2019

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, November 14, 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, Mr. Schildmeyer, Mr. Ray Culbertson and Mr. Siefert.

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 – The election is over and the majority of people will retain their role while some will change. It has been a rewarding experience to serve as the Mayor of St. Bernard again. I'm going to mention a few of our accomplishments but in all of these the key word is WE. Because we opened “Street Pops” and “JuJu Beans” we were able to renovate the empty library into a thriving dance and fitness center, only because of the support of the PAC group and especially Laura Mosley. We opened the first brewery in St. Bernard, Wiedeman, which has brought many people and a lot of positivity to our community. A new school is going up just across the street that should be another plus for many children. I can't overlook thanking Cincinnati Children's Hospital. They deserve an extra thank you for the renovation of our Teen Center and I know the CAP group really appreciates everything they have done for them. We have received so many compliments for the renovation of Ross Park and the groundbreaking ceremony to name it Frank Robinson Field. We can only thank and be grateful for the support of the Red's Community Fund, Proctor and Gamble, the Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati Children's, the MWAS, the three hundred volunteers that brought this \$1.3 million project to fruition and many others. It's no secret that we are in the cusp of signing a contract with a huge bakery to move into the northern end of the shopping center. I hope this progress continues for the next four years and longer. We've a very special place with services for our citizens and employees that separate us from other communities. I hope we never forget all the

good things and amenities we have here, so we don't just become another blue-collar enclave in the Valley.

On another note, I just want to remind everybody that on December 12 at Crosleys is our annual, I think it's 21 years now, we have a Christmas for needy children down at Crosleys. \$20.00 donation along with an unwrapped toy. Beer and food all night and all the toys are donated to St. Clement and the local families here in need. If you don't want to participate all night you can always drop a toy off at Crosleys that night.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – I provided the October revenue and expense spreadsheets and cash fund report to Council and the Administration. The revenues through October were \$10,813,059.49 and the expenses were \$10,685,968.92. Year to date the Village has spent \$127,090.57 under the revenues.

The Auditor's office prepared Ordinance 20, 2019 for tonight's meeting. It transfers \$503,000.00 from 01-5-A-19 General Fund Transfer Out to:

- 05-1000 Master Plan Cash Account \$100,000.00
- 17-1000 Building Permit Cash Account \$3,000.00
- 31-1000 General Bond Retirement Cash Account \$100,000.00
- 51-1000 Employee Health Cash Account \$300,000.00

It provides additional appropriations to:

- 01-PS Phone Services \$10,000.00
- 01-62 Medicare \$25,000.00
- 01-2-K-8 Utilities \$25,000.00
- 01-2-L-1 Civil Service \$180.00
- 01-7-A-1A Fire Overtime \$30,000.00
- 01-7-A-8 Fire Equipment \$5,355.00
- 01-58-3D Dance Studio \$4,000.00

It also moves \$30,000.00 from 01-6-A-3 Police Dispatchers to 01-6-A-1A Police Overtime.

I will be preparing the end of the year appropriation Ordinance for the December Council meeting. I am not able to attend the next COW so I will e-mail the Ordinance to the Department Heads and Council Members when it is ready.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – Absent.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the statement from Star Ohio for our savings up there. At the end of October, it totaled; \$3,778,968.73 and copies have been given to Council members.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I have the monthly report for October, 2019 for the St. Bernard Fire Department;

There were 4 structure fires, 1 non-structure fire, 5 auto accidents, 4 hazmat incidents, 8 service calls and 17 other incidents. Mutual aid given 1 to Cincinnati, 1 to Little Miami, 1 to Norwood, 1 to Colerain. Mutual aid received; 1 from Elmwood, 1 from Norwood, 1 from Little Miami, 1 from Springfield Twp., and 1 from Wyoming. EMS incidents; 53 transports and 19 non-transport. Details of interest; 5 non-breathers, 2 unconscious, 1 overdose. Mutual aid given; 8 to Elmwood, 1 to Norwood, 1 to Cincinnati. Mutual aid received; 1 from Little Miami and 1 from Lockland.

Now that the election is over, we will continue the dialogue with the Village of Elmwood Place regarding the establishment of a contract for EMS responses. The CIC's Heritage Ohio Downtown Assessment Resource Team visit will be on February 19-20. The stakeholder representation from our Village will include:

- Merchants and non-rental business owners in the downtown
- Selected Village staff and elected officials
- Realtors, property owners, and residents
- Large institutions and industrial leaders, such as school system, library, etc.
- Civic group volunteers
- Media representatives
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STAKEHOLDER – this group is assembled from your community; the goal is to have a reflection of the community around the table. For instance, someone from the city, county, school system, library, downtown business owner, downtown building owner, resident, chamber, convention and visitor's bureau, realtor, an attorney, an accountant, etc. These people should be chosen intentionally and asked one on one to participate in this process. These individuals agree to dedicate one year to setting up the organization and forming the first board of directors. Each person will agree to dedicating 6-10 hours per month, will attend 80% of scheduled meeting and will be present for the DART visit. From this group will

form the board of directors, each person will be given the opportunity to apply for a board term in the tune of 1, 2, or 3 years.

We will be contacting prospective members and we welcome those who would be interested in getting involved to please contact me.

Lastly, I would like to thank the community for their support during the election. I am very excited to be your Mayor-elect and look forward to doing great things in the community. I have enormous respect for all the candidates that ran and congratulations to those who won. Thank you to the other candidates who gave a great deal of their time with the intent to better the community.

Judge Melba Marsh has agreed to do the swearing in on January 1 and will be our guest at the inaugural dinner.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – Seems to me, winter is not waiting its turn. We had a couple of days of fall then frozen. This time of year, we allow you to rake leaves to the curb and we vacuum them up for you. If they happen to be frozen that cannot be accomplished. We will do our best to get them all. If you have a small amount could you place them in a can for us to pick up. Thank you.

We were close to being on schedule with everything but now I am sure we will fall a little behind. Rest assured we will get there. If you find something service related that you just can't take anymore, call me. I will try not to irritate you even more. I may be able to help or explain just what's going on there. We are here for you.

I will not be here for the next COW meeting. I would like an additional \$5,000.00 put into line item 2-O-8C. The protective wood screening is rotten and needs to be enclosed. This will be joined to the new roof and the idea has been approved by Firestone. Also, since I will not be here for the COW I need an Ordinance for the contract with Hamilton County auction site.

The tracks at Railroad and Vine will soon be repaired. We will detour traffic for approximately 3 days. Vine St. will be closed from Ross Ave. to Spring Grove. Railroad Ave. will also be closed. This will be as early as next week, weather permitting.

To My Community

When we are walking down the path of our life, we seem to think we have quite the burden. We continue then after numerous steps we turn around to see where we have been. Wow! I made it through. Sometimes we begin to stress about the current pothole riddled footpath. We navigate slowly. Deep breathing, stretches, smiling and quiet mind tend to allow a higher power to take the lead. By accepting and letting go, you can find tranquility.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mr. Moore – I put the October numbers in your mailboxes. As usual, if you have any questions or need any further information, let me know.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – I would like to thank our residents who put forth the effort to run for Council, and the residents that took time to exercise their rights to vote. Congratulations to those elected. After each election I try to get all elected officials together for a dinner after the inauguration ceremonies. I have already reserved the upper level of the municipal building for this dinner. Mr. Stuchell has offered to help with the planning. Hopefully everyone will be able to attend this year.

Mr. Stuchell and I have begun working on the budget.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I have the Police Department report for the month of October; there were 8 hit skip auto accidents, 47 traffic warnings and 48 traffic violations, 2DUI/OVI offenses, 44 parking complaints, 3 stolen vehicles, 9 noise complaints and 37 reports of suspicious people or vehicles.

The Police Department would also like to let the residents know that to combat thieves who steal packages around the holiday season, the St. Bernard Police Department is again offering to be your front porch for the holiday season.

From Nov. 15 to Dec. 31 people can have their holiday gifts shipped to the Police Department to pick up later. That way there's no chance someone could come along during the day while people are away from home and help themselves to their deliveries. We will keep them in our secure inner lobby.

People must ship the packages to their name and use the address 4200 Vine St., St. Bernard, OH 45217.

The packages need to be picked up within two days of being delivered, otherwise the department will send it back.

To make sure the correct package goes to the right person, those coming to the station to get their gifts must bring ID.

Lastly, the next Block Watch meeting is Thursday, November 21 at 6:30pm. At the Safety Center. Please, I urge all residents to come on down to that meeting and participate. Those meetings are a lot like what the last Town Hall meeting was. A lot of inter-action between the officers and the community on current events.

Please plan to attend.

SERVICE, Mr. Siefert – I have the Service Department report for the month of October, 2019. There were 26 trucks placed at residences, 22 dumpsters placed at

residences, 297 special pick-ups at residences, 171.08 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. The recycling report; there were 35.71 tons of recycling material and 3,360 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting will be on November 19 at 6:00pm in the lower level. Just to remind the residents, on December 7, we're going to be having the annual Christmas in St. Bernard event. That will start at 6:00pm. I encourage all the residents to come out and enjoy the festivities. And again, I would like to congratulate everybody that ran and put in the hard effort to put yourself out there for an elected position and congratulations to those who won the position.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Tonight the Laws, Contracts Committee met and we focused on Chapter 509, specifically targeting those with sound amplifying devices and musical instruments and talk about for a time frame that might be different or should we recommend a difference in the time frame with that music to be played outdoors and so forth. At this point in time the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee is not going to change any time frames within those can be played. So, the Ordinance will remain as it is.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Burkhardt – No report.

MARKETING, Mr. Schildmeyer – The only thing I have to report is for those of you who subscribe to the Newsletter, it will be coming out in the next week or so. It's a little bit late and that is mainly due to me taking over for Kelly and understanding how to do it and I wanted to thank Nicole Klungle for introducing me to that and helping through that. So, it should be out in the next week or so.

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

Committee of the Whole
October 24, 2019

A moment of silence was held for former Treasurer, Mr. Tim Bollmer who passed away earlier this month.

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

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to approve the written minutes of the October 10, 2019 Council meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Rosalind Fultz, from Congressman Chabot's office addressed Council on the services provided by his office. She mainly focused on assistance with issues and problems concerning all federal departments, agencies, and programs, including branches of the U.S. Military. The Congressman's web site is www.chabot.house.gov and the address for his office is 2408 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, phone 202-225-2216. He has two local offices at 441 Vine Street, Room 3003, Cincinnati, OH 45202, phone 513-684-2723 and 11 S. Broadway St. Third Floor, Lebanon, OH 45036, phone 513-421-8704. You are invited to follow Congressman Chabot on Facebook and Twitter.

Auditor: Mrs. Brickweg – Requested and additional appropriations Ordinance for the phones, \$10,000.00, utilities, \$25,000.00, Medicare, \$25,000.00, \$180.00 for civil service, the dance studio \$4,000.00, fire department overtime, \$30,000.00. Also, an additional appropriation for a grant they received from Workers' Comp for \$5,355.00 that needs to be put in their line item so they can spend it. Police department overtime may or may not need additional appropriations. The agreement with Friar's Club is causing some of the police department shortage. A lengthy discussion ensued following this request concerning preparing a realistic budget in the future.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put an additional appropriation Ordinance on the table. Motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the First State balance. At the end of last month, it totaled \$5,650.40.

Safety Director, Mr. Stuchell – Representatives from St. Bernard and Elmwood Place met to discuss an agreement on EMS responses to reduce the number of runs or make them equitable. An average cost is \$350.00 per run. A written agreement between the municipalities would need to be drawn up and brought to Council for approval. Chief Young gave a report on how that figure was attained. By assessing a charge for each run they are hoping to reduce the number of responses to Elmwood. Mutual Aid agreement is that we are to respond for a run that would qualify when their squad is out. Or when there is a level of response, they can't provide we're going above and beyond or when they are acting (inaudible). We are trying to remain a good neighbor but at the same time recouping some financial compensation for what we are providing. Their Council is willing to fix the

problem and they are working on a levy and are trying to find a solution. There will be further discussion with them on this issue.

We are exploring dispatching options within the police department. We are looking at Hamilton County again as an option. That will be forthcoming.

Lastly, there was another accident this weekend involving Village property at the corner of Vine and Washington at 7:30am on Sunday. A black Chrysler Pacifica struck a stone wall and flagpole and was able to drive away. The video does not provide positive identification. Discussion on how to eliminate these types of accidents will be forthcoming. A study on speed, time of day and volume will be made. Previously we owned a stealth device which would not only display but would monitor and be able to track all the above stated needs. I will be looking for bids to see if we could rent these pieces of equipment for a period to let us know what we are talking about.

Service Director, Mr. Paul – As of today, the clock would have been clocked three times.

Vine St. parking has crept into our property, so I made several calls and what is happening is they are now processing and building this sewer that goes through the parking lot. They intend to, before the school nears completion, redo that parking lot. We are without our four parking spots for about two more weeks.

The roof also has two more weeks due to the fact that the metal flashing has to be fabricated and today Firestone came and approved the metal that the roofers have fabricated. I apologize for the heat in here, but the fumes would have been intoxicating.

Ross park renovation, Paul and I are trying to find out the budget. Bellevue had their budget meeting on Monday. The Urban Reds have withheld funds, paying funds and invoices due to the fact that not everything has been completed. That is the same in St. Bernard. We're waiting for the ditch to be dug along the tennis court, so they do not flood, and the fencing has not been completed. The ball has been mounted, so go see it. Also, a newly remolded St. Bernard dog will be put down on the other end.

I have moved forward with companies for the security cameras. You have the paperwork that was laid out. That company is going to start and most of that will be covered within this budget. I asked him if he would mind if we postponed some of the payments until next year and he does not mind, so, most of it will be covered within this current budget. We are going to add a camera now on Washington but these are to be used for identification or hindsight. So, that is a different type of camera. So, this will be included in the original invoice that we will receive but they will hold off on that work because we also want one at McClelland and Vine. I also told him there were businesses that would probably be willing to tap into this

system so they can also contact police. The bid rate is fair, this is better than a monthly payment, this is a one time deal. He did assure me that repairs were necessary if I could them put up on the pole the repair cost would be drastically cut. So I talked with Brian and asked if it was possible for the aerial truck and that is a possibility so they're all for that. I don't know whether there will be funds to get cameras at Ross Park. The meeting has not been held yet to finalize that project.

Applications for bricks are at City Hall or on the web site. They are \$100.00 a brick and to date we have sold 16. This money will be used for general upkeep or we're still waiting to see how much is left for the mound, because the mound is important. We're not going to get the cheaper one, we're going to the top of the line which is about a \$12,000.00 deal but that may be included with whatever is left over for St. Bernard. The bricks are wonderful, he's actually getting more everyday so if you want one just fill out the application and then Kistner monument, Don Moeller will be engraving them for us and we have a lot of bricks. A line item for the revenue of the sale of these bricks has been set up so we can track it.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Mr. Moore – I will have the October numbers in your mailboxes by the November Council meeting.

Finance, Mr. Tobergte – I would like to thank my wife Carla for her help with the pumpkin painting the past 6 years. That was our last time sponsoring the pumpkin painting. I did go out to the Clermont County Fair Grounds last Saturday to witness a pumpkin car race. If the new Mayor is okay with it, I will organize a race here in St. Bernard next year. Get a pumpkin and you can decorate it however you want. It has to have two axels and four wheels, a specific width and we'll be racing down Tower just like the pinewood derby. Prizes for the fastest, the longest running and most creative decoration. Hopefully I can get that going next year.

Concerning the Dial-A-Ride bus, he indicated there might still be interest in working with other local businesses to help cover the cost of this service. We will meet again after the election with the Mayor elect to determine the direction the Mayor wants to go.

I had a Service Department employee call and ask if we had any money in next years' budget to upgrade our playground equipment. He said years ago we received grant money to do some upgrades. I asked Nicole Klungle how to find what grant money is available. She offered to check at the main library where there is a grant list. She could not find any that the Village could apply for, but there are some private money grants that non profits could apply for. Mr. Stuchell offered to help

with that by going thru the CIC. I will work with Jonathan and Nicole to see if we can get help with the playground equipment.

Thanks to Nicole for volunteering to find the information on the grants.

Congratulations to Melissa McManus. Last Friday she celebrated her fifth year anniversary of her Atmosphere Salon.

I want to wish all the candidates in the years' election, Good Luck

Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I would like to thank Police Chief Simos, Lieutenant Nimmo and Safety Director Jonathan Stuchell for their participation tonight in the Town Hall meeting. It was very well attended and a lot of good discussions came from that. To continue on with that, Block Watch meets every third Thursday. The next one is November 21 at 6:30pm at the Safety Center and it's really a continuation of the Town Hall meeting that was tonight. A lot more details to come out in that meeting so I would love to see just as big of an audience at that meeting as we had tonight.

Service, Mr. Siefert – I want to thank all those that were involved in making the Fresh Market a big successful event this year. I know we had three of those and it seemed like every one that we had, we had more people come and there was a lot of excitement. I am anxious to have this event next year.

I have the statement from CCWW for the month of September, 2019 for the Village waste collection. The Village will receive \$22,840.31.

Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson – I would like to congratulate the Fresh Market on their very successful first year and can't wait for it to come back next year.

Also, congratulations to the Recreation Department on their Halloween campout. I know it was a little bit chilly but it didn't rain this year.

The next CIC meeting will be on November 19 at 6:00pm in the lower level.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mrs. Bedinghaus - (read by Mr. Ray Culbertson) Mrs. Bedinghaus had coming out of her committee with some suggestions to change the language in Section B1D and B1C which currently states that members shall stand for the invocation and the pledge. The recommendation came out to change the word "shall" to "are invited" to stand for the invocation and pledge in both Sections. Mrs. Bedinghaus has stated that she is not in favor of these changes but it did come out of committee. At this time we will open up for any discussion. Other Council members stated they had no problem making these changes. The request for an Ordinance making these changes was made.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to update Ordinance No. 18, 2018 which is our current Ordinance pertaining to this. Motion passed 5-0. The request for Mr. Peck to make the update was acknowledged.

Audience participation;

None.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Siefert to excuse the absent members. Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinances for next Council meeting:
Ordinance for Council changes
Ordinance for additional appropriations.

Mr. Asbach – As was stated at the last Council meeting, the next COW meeting will be Tuesday, November 26 due to Thanksgiving.

Motion by Mr. Bob Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

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

Mr. Asbach – At the top of Ordinance No. 20, 2019 there were changes made in the final numbers and Mrs. Brickweg has given corrected copies to everyone.

ORDINANCE NO. 20, 2019. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND MOVE APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 20, 2019.

REMARKS

Mr. Ray Culbertson – Just one question, Peggy the Employee Health Cash Account, that's the money brought in by the premiums of the employees?

Mrs. Brickweg – No, that's just money put in the expense account that's been budgeted.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Ordinance No. 20, 2019 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 21, 2019. AMENDING THE ST. BERNARD CODIFIED ORDINANCES SECTION 121.10 (b) (2), AND 121 (b)(3), THE PROTOCOL, POLICY AND PROCEDURES SECTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Burkhardt to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 21, 2019.

REMARKS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Just so everyone is aware, what is under the potential for change in this protocol and policies is the invocation from members of Council as well as other persons present within Council Chambers shall be to change the word shall stand to shall be invited to stand during the invocation. Same way with the Pledge of Allegiance that all members of Council, as well as all other persons present within the Council Chambers, that verbiage to change from shall stand to shall be invited to stand. At this time, I will not be supporting this Ordinance. I feel very strongly that shall stand to remain in our policy and procedures section. I believe that as a citizen of the United States that we need to stand and we need to honor what the flag stands for. I also believe that our country is also in favor of and is a country of faith and our prayer is non-denominational. So, I too agree with shall stand for both of those. So, I will not be voting for Ordinance No. 21, 2019.

Mr. Burkhardt – I too agree with Cindi. I think, especially with the Pledge, I just really believe we should stand for it.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Ordinance No. 21, 2019 as read. Motion passed 5-2. Mrs. Bedinghaus and Mr. Burkhardt voted no.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte - I did talk to Patty Hausfeld prior to tonight and I'm asking that the new Council meet after the COW meeting November 26 to discuss committee assignments along with changing seating arrangements. Patty said she will be there for that.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDINENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None.

Mr. Asbach – As was stated the next COW meeting will be Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00pm because of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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