

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2020**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held on January 9, 2020 in Council Chambers.

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

Judge Michael Peck, former Law Director, swore in Councilmember, Mr. Bob Culbertson, who was absent for the Inaugural meeting.

Roll call showed that all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Ray Culbertson, Mr. Schildmeyer, Mr. Bob Culbertson, Mrs. Bedinghaus, Mr. Siefert and Ms. Hausfeld.

A motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Stuchell – We held our first department meeting last Thursday and have committed to working as a team to more effectively operate our village departments. There will be monthly department head meetings on the Wednesday before our COW meetings where there will be a heavy focus on monitoring our budget. I can't thank this group of people enough for their dedication and I couldn't do this without them.

We had a second meeting last night with Andy Knapp, Director of the Hamilton County Communications Center to discuss moving away from doing our own dispatching. We are working through issues and hope to have a decision made by our next COW meeting. I want to thank Chief Simos, Safety/Service Director, Tom Paul, and Safety Chair Ray Culbertson for their time and assistance as we work through this.

Safety/Service Director, Tom Paul will be discussing the Fire Department Monthly Report and I will be meeting with the Mayor of the Village of Elmwood Place next week to discuss the increased EMS responses by the St. Bernard Fire Department. With that being said, I would also like to welcome Elmwood Place Mayor Paul Furnish, who is in the audience.

The Dial-A-Ride bus will hopefully be up and running in the month of February. I distributed a survey to the St. Bernard Senior Citizens Club this week and we are

trying to determine the second day of operation that will be most beneficial to their membership. Thank you to Don Tobergte for his assistance in exploring sponsorship opportunities.

Please join me in the first "Coffee with The Mayor" on Saturday, January 18 from 9:00 to 11:00am at City Hall. Come enjoy a cup of coffee and a donut while you share your thoughts. I look forward to meeting you and if you can't make it this time please know that there will be future dates that will be announced.

Summer job applications are available at City Hall or on the Village website. They need to be completed and turned in to City Hall by the end of February.

Sports signups for the Recreation Department will be held on Saturday, January 25 and Saturday, February 1 from 11:00 am to 2:00pm at the Recreation Office in the Municipal Building. Sign up forms are available at City Hall Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm if that is more convenient. Activities include Knothole Baseball, Girls Softball, Swim Lessons, Mommy and Me Swim Lessons, Tee Ball, Stingray Swim Team, SAY Soccer, and Lollipop Soccer.

I would like to be put on the agenda for the COW meeting to discuss the Mayor's Court Clerk and requiring training for Council and the Administration on the Ohio Sunshine Laws.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickwet – The Auditor's office provided Council and the Administration with end of 2019 Expense and Revenue spreadsheets and Cash Fund Report. At the end of 2019 the Village's expenses were \$12,797,998.13 and the revenues were \$13,164,548.81. At the bottom of the expense spreadsheet there is a breakout showing the difference from the original budget and the revisions for 2019.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS \$1,149,860.00

I removed the Water Works Revenue \$229,099.62 since we were reimbursed to do that so even though it wasn't an appropriation, we received the money for it. And when you take out these decreased appropriations which totaled \$541,290.28 that left the Village with \$371,470.10 in true original appropriations.

ORIGINAL BUDGET \$13,126,053.61

YTD SPENT \$12,797,998.13

DIFFERENCE \$328,055.48

2019 EXPENSES \$12,797,998.13

2019 REVENUE \$13,164,548.81

DIFFERENCE -\$366,550.68

I'm hoping that everyone that keeps asking all those questions, the break out at the end of the year, this will help you understand the additional appropriations, the decreases and what was actually spent.

The Auditor's office has prepared Resolution 1, 2020 for tonight's meeting. This is the Meals and Entertainment Resolution the state requires to be passed every year to cover when items such as cookies, drinks, candy, etc. are purchased for Village events.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mrs. Valkenberg/Walden – I have been meeting with the Tax Commissioner regarding some collections of outstanding taxes. We need to move forward to get those collected. And I will be meeting with Mrs. Bedinghaus.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the Star Ohio statements from the State. At the end of December, the total there was \$3,790,817.11. The rate at the end of the month was to 1.73%

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – I have the Fire Department Monthly Report for December 2019: Fire Incidents; 7 structure fires, 1 other fire, 4 auto accidents, 2 hazmat incidents, 10 service calls, 11 fire alarms, 1 CO alarm and 10 EMS assists, total for the month was 46. Mutual Aid Given; 2 to Norwood, 2 Little Miami, 1 to Springfield Twp., 1 to Elmwood Place. Mutual Aid Received; 1 from Norwood, 1 from Springfield Twp., 1 from Little Miami, 1 from Elmwood Place and 1 from Cincinnati. EMS Incidents: 51 transported patients and 38 non-transported patients for a total of 89. Mutual Aid Given: 16 to Elmwood Place, 1 to Norwood, 2 to Springfield Twp., 1 to Lockland. Mutual Aid Received: 2 from Norwood and 1 from Reading. Details of Interest: 3 non-breathers, 1 unconscious, 7 auto accidents and 1 overdose.

Tonight, I would like to give my Village's resolutions for the new year.

My most desirable wish is cleanliness. If people would just use the trash bins provided it would help immensely. We are going to make better efforts to up our part in this wish.

Next, would be less weeds and more paint. This takes manpower and efficiency.

We will do our best and hope any surprises can be taken care of promptly so that we can carry this out. It is not always easy as other duties can take precedence and staffing is not always at capacity.

With the new position of Director of Public Safety and Service, comes more responsibility. My wish for this is that you receive the same quality of services that

you are accustomed to receiving. We will tweak the system as we look for improvements that can be made. My goal is to give you the very best. Lastly, that all departments and the citizens come together and help one another to accomplish these resolutions.

To My Community

This time of year can be troubling. We should investigate our internal closet for things that we may feel are causing uneasiness. A quarrel, disagreements or maybe just resentments. Remember also that most things should have an expiration date. You hang on for something too long it becomes rancid, before it makes you sick, make amends. Worn and tattered, if you are comfortable in your life then disagreements are just that, disagreements. Discard and travel on with an open mind. Envy forces you to become unaware of what makes YOU happy. So, replenish your supplies and start anew.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mrs. Helmes – I just want to say Happy New Year to everyone. I put in everyone's mailbox the end of year for 2019, the tax revenues. We brought in \$10,256,225.00. Refunds were \$252,535.00. I also want to let everyone know the 2019 fourth quarter estimate statements were just mailed out. It is required by law to pay estimated taxes if you are someone who owes two or more years. If there are any question. Please give us a call at the tax office, 242-7710. And I just want to let everyone know that the 2019 tax forms are now available online at our website and in the office. We will also be putting some of the forms over in the St. Bernard Library soon. We will also do a mailing of the tax return this year to every household in the city. In the past we used a post card and I feel that may not be reaching everyone. Also, we will be open soon for a couple Saturdays closer to April to make it a little more convenient for people who can't get here from 9:00am to 5:00pm. We will be open from 9:00am to 12:00 a couple of Saturdays.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to put Resolution No. 1, 2020 on the table for tonight's meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Along with Mr. Stuchell, I would like the Mayor's Court Clerk raise to be discussed at the next COW meeting. I have received a couple emails from the Fitness Center Employees asking about their raises. I would like to place that on the COW agenda.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I have the Police Department Report for the month of December, 2019: there was 101 parking complaints, 73 traffic warnings, 56 traffic violations, 6 noise complaints, 3 cases of theft from vehicles, 19 calls for suspicious vehicles or people.

The next Block Watch meeting will be Thursday, January 16 at 6:30pm in the Safety Center.

I would like to thank Councilman Don Tobergte for organizing the Inauguration Day Dinner. It was good to see everyone congregating in one area.

SERVICE, Mr. Schildmeyer – I have the Service Department report for December 2019. There were 13 trucks placed at residences, 17 dumpsters placed at residences, 136 special pick-ups at residences and 186.96 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. Recycling; 34.84 tons of recycling material and 5,300 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – A reminder from the St. Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Society that the next program is on January 20 at 7:30pm. It will be St. Bernard Quiz No. 4. How well do you know St. Bernard? Everybody please come out to that event and don't forget that will be held at the Municipal Building at 7:00pm on January 20.

CIC's next meeting is this coming Tuesday, January 14 at 6:00pm in the lower level. There will be discussions about an opening position on the CIC Board for an elected or appointed official. Those who are interested please contact the current CIC member and turn in your information so we have a brief bio, but we encourage those to please attend the meeting. We will also be hosting another CIC meeting on January 21 at 6:00pm in the lower level to vote on the individuals who want to run for that appointed or elected position on the Board.

Lastly, we are taking names and information for anybody interested on being a part of the Master Planning group. Note that this is a one year commitment. I believe they meet every month for a few hours. So, if you do have the time, I encourage anybody willing and able to please put your name out there and show up to the next CIC meeting next Tuesday at 6:00.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – As Valerie mentioned, she and I will be meeting after this Council meeting to discuss the two issues that are still in the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee based on the ethics commission for the Village as well as the non-discriminatory LGBDQ Ordinance and anything else that we know that's coming up just to bring her up to date.

MARKETING, Mr. Siefert – The Recreation Department will be hosting Sports Signups on Saturday, January 25 and Saturday, February 1 from 11:00am –2:00pm at the Recreation Office in the Municipal Building. They are also accepting applications for summer employment at the Aquatic Center, including lifeguard positions and support staff.

Trying to stick to those New Year Resolutions? Monthly and yearly gym memberships are available as well as fitness classes.

The January edition of the Newsletter was sent out today. Thanks to all who contributed. If you are not receiving the Newsletter go to the Village webpage www.cityofstbernard.org scroll down to the bottom and click on the yellow subscribe link.

There will be a German Luau meeting on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:00pm in the lower level of city hall.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Ms. Hausfeld – I have no report for Business and Industry as of this time but I'm happy to be back and I look forward to working with each one of you guys, which a couple of you guys are new for me and the Administration and the citizens.

Mrs. Kathman – There was no COW meeting held in December.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Mr. Asbach – Just a brief housekeeping thing, thanks to Mr. Tobergte for pointing this out. There will no longer be entertaining a motion to read the Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Per Council Rules, Section B-1L#3 states that each Resolution and Ordinance shall be read by title only, unless a motion to dispense with this rule passes by majority vote. So, we will no longer be requiring that.

RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2020. AUTHORIZING THE USE OF VILLAGE FUNDS TO PURCHASE MEALS OR REFRESHMENTS FOR VILLAGE EMPLOYEES OR OTHER PERSONS AS SERVING A PUBLIC PURPOSE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 1, 2020. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Resolution No. 1, 2020 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mrs. Brickweg – I would like to be put on the COW agenda to discuss additional appropriations that the Fire Department has received. They received some money from a grant and there was a nice bonus and so in order to be able to spend that we need to appropriate the funding and just to make sure we're on the same wave length here the bonus that I had asked to be put on, people have been asking me what they are and basically it's to go to a five (inaudible) the same as Bob, but that's the one that I was asking for.

Mr. Asbach – What are you looking to have on the COW?

Mrs. Brickweg – Additional appropriations for a grant and the donation money received by the Fire Department.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Bob Culbertson, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.