

**ST. BERNARD CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2007**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard City Council was held Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Council Chambers.

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

Roll call showed that all members were present: Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Asbach, Mr. Schildmeyer, Mr. Burkhardt, Mrs. Brickweg, Mr. Meier and Mr. Zix.

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

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – (read by Mr. Kempe) To begin with the Mayor would like to observe a moment of silence for Casey Strotman who passed away this week.

This moment was observed.

The community Halloween party is Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Children should gather at the pavilion for our annual costume contest at 5:30 p.m. Costume judging will be at 5:45 p.m. We'll have prizes for the costume winners and candy for all children. St. Bernard's Trick or Treat will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. that evening and houses receiving children are asked to turn on their porch light at dusk.

Our City nurse, Laura Schmitt, is working out a date with Hamilton County Health District to give flu shots to St. Bernard citizens. Since the dates aren't firm at this time we will make a Call Command message giving the dates and times as soon as we get them. The program's administration will be as last year with first and second tier recipients. First Tier Recipients are those that are house bound due to health issues. Within the next week to two weeks, residents who are house bound due to health issues should call Laura Schmitt at 242-7770 (x25) to get on the list for the first round of flu shots. If Laura is out of the office, please leave her a voice mail so she can get you on the list. Shortly thereafter a health care professional from HCHD will coordinate a home visit to administer the vaccine. The first round of vaccine goes to those at greatest risk of flu. There may, or may not be a fee for the shot depending on an individuals insurance coverage. More information on this is outlined in a handout prepared by the Health Department which will be at the front window of City Hall.

Second Tier Recipient get the next round of vaccine at a clinic that will be held for ambulatory residents tentatively set for the second week of November. Again, we will confirm the dates with a Call Command Message as soon as it is confirmed. There may, or may not be a charge for the vaccine depending on an individuals health care coverage.

Finally, to conclude my report, it is my pleasure to introduce Mr. Al Kanters who is the new Executive Director of CIC. I know he has already been out meeting the business community so I want to take this opportunity to make sure everyone gets this brief introduction.

Al's temporary office is on the lower level of City Hall. His phone line is being installed next week and we'll make the phone number available to everyone soon. His email address is [cic@cityofstbernard.org](mailto:cic@cityofstbernard.org).

AUDITOR, Mr. St. Clair – The September Auditor's reports are prepared for tonight's meeting. A quick evaluation of where we stand budget-wise is to take the YTD expenditures, which is for nine months, divided by three and compare that number to the balance on hand for the remaining three months of the year or simply multiply the MTD expenditures by 3 to compare to the balance. The receipts report and the report showing year-to-date revenue and expenses by fund are derived from the Auditor's report and they are given to Council and the Administration. A few of those fund reports dating back to 2001 are available on the table with the ordinances.

Payroll for the month of September:	\$ 379,560.52
Payroll year to date:	3,890,555.82

Other expenditures for the month of September:	641,754.05
Other Expenditures as of September 30 <sup>th</sup> :	4,451,002.54

Total expenditures through the end of September: \$ 8,341,558.36

Before Council tonight is Ordinance No. 39, 2007. As discussed at the COW and as requested by the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission and the Service Director and to get the CIC up and running, this Ordinance increases appropriations for Civil Service medical exams, polygraph tests, psychological tests, and legal consulting as well as Service Department professional services. Corresponding appropriation decreases in Civil Service stationary and printing, incidentals, entry tests, and garage utilities. This Ordinance also provides additional appropriations in the Master Plan Fund for the Advance Avenue/Errun Lane improvement project for \$39,000 and for the CIC Executive Director salary for his three year contract \$288,000 and for the CIC other expenses for three years \$190,000. To cover these appropriations in the Master Plan Fund we are transferring \$517,000 from the General Fund Cash Account to the Master Plan Cash Account.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Geiser – Before Council tonight in addition to the Ordinance that the Auditor spoke about is Ordinance No. 40, as was discussed at the COW. This is the Ordinance that enters into an agreement and allows us to have special Council to represent the City of St. Bernard before the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals. This is a firm out of Columbus and I did review some of their history and membership and the individual who is going to represent us is specialized in the tax area. I would like to thank Sheri Williams, the Tax Commissioner, for helping get this Ordinance together. Attached is the actual Ordinance that the City will enter into. Also, before Council tonight is Ordinance No. 41, 2007. This is accepting a public storm sewer easement from the JM Smucker Company down in the industry area of St. Bernard.

TREASURER, Mr. Kathman – I do have the receipts report for the month.

Receipts for the month of September:	\$ 751,190.53
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Receipts for the year through September 30 <sup>th</sup> :	9,485,207.86
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SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – The St. Bernard Fire Dept. monthly report for September, 2007 consisted of 21 fire runs, 61 emergency medical responses and 15 inspections. Currently to date we have collected \$391,013.43 from EMS soft billing.

Also the St. Bernard Fire Dept. will be conducting home safety inspections starting Fire Prevention Week, Monday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. If citizens would like to set up an appointment for their home inspection, please call 242-2727 and request to speak to the Fire Dept. officer in charge.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Kempe – I recommend adoption of Ordinances No. 39 and 41 before Council tonight.

The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District will be holding a Compost Bin Sale on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm at two locations:

Kenwood Kroger Parking Lot  
5575 E. Galbraith Rd.

Northgate Mall  
9501 Colerain Ave.

This compost bin, called the Earth Machine, is an 80 gallon container which normally retails for \$80 plus shipping and handling, but will be sold for only \$35 on a first come first serve basis. This machine will reduce waste by turning backyard compost material into excellent mulch for gardens and flower beds. This sale is open to Hamilton county residents only and proof of residency will be required. A copy of this announcement is on the bulletin board in City Hall and on the City's website.

The work on both Advance Ave. and Errun Lane is nearing completion. On Advance Ave., the sidewalks and drive aprons have been constructed and the street will be milled and paved next week. On Errun Lane, the curbs and the base surface of the street have been constructed and the final asphalt surface will be paved next week, as well. All work should be completed by the end of next week, weather permitting.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mrs. Williams – No report.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – The Finance Committee recommends passage of Ordinance No. 39, 2007.

SAFETY, Mr. Burkhardt – No report.

SERVICE, Mr. Meier – The Service Dept. report for September; there were 29 trucks placed at residences, 11 dumpsters, 106 special pick-ups and there were 200 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. In addition, we had 15 tons of recycling materials, 7 of cardboard, 360 lbs. of scrap aluminum, 48 lbs. of copper, 5,000 lbs. of scrap metal. In addition we picked up 19 appliances. During the month of August, the City received \$1,637.38 for recycling, and for the first six months of 2007 the amount that the City has received is \$7,182. 74.

In addition, I did have questions from residents about the street cleaning schedule. I will see if we can get that put up onto the City's website, but on McClelland Ave. that is a Monday route that the streets are cleaned. If anybody else has any questions about when the street cleaner comes to their

street, they can give me a call here at the City, or like I said, I will try and get it put up on the City's website.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Asbach – The committee met this evening. We discussed the Bertus Street Park plans. After much discussion we will work with Al Kanters on this project. We would like to ask citizens to get involved, to be part of the committee to work on these improvements. Please call me at 242-4844 or email me through the City website to be a member of the committee. We would like to work with the residents and possibly get a lot of this work done through different groups or organizations so that work will continue.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Schildmeyer – No report, Mr. President but I attended the meeting earlier with Public Improvements and I personally would like to thank Norm Miller for doing all the work on setting up the project. He's worked hard, and I think the residents have seen him up here on Council presenting this project over the last two or three months, and he's put a lot of time in it, has done a good job and actually it looks like we'll be taking bits and pieces of that and working it into different programs throughout the City. I do want to thank him from all of us up here on Council.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Brickweg – On Tuesday morning I attended the I-75 aesthetic committee where we reviewed options on bridge color, design, bridges, noise walls, community identification, the lighting, landscaping and retaining walls for I-75. We were given items to pick from and we went over to see which community wanted what and they will be coming out with a report to show everybody what was chosen. They're going to print a brochure and they will also plan to make a mobile display that can be used at public meetings. When it came to the noise walls, St. Bernard, it looks like we're going to have noise walls on the East side of the highway the whole way, but before those actually come about, they will have a meeting with the community to see if that is what the community wants. He said it is in the beginning stages and St. Bernard is part of the first part of the highway. When they started, our meeting should be sometime in January. They also approved each community to be able to put an identification seal in the wall. Something we might want to think about what we would like our seal to look like. From the ones they gave to pick from, they're kind of basic, but I'm kind of thinking that maybe we can go with something like the crest that we have down at Vine and Ross, but not as elaborate. Those seals will be periodically displayed on the noise wall on the highway. I also asked them if there was anyway, if the City could pay for to have an identification seal over where the highway goes over Vine St. I thought it might look nice when people are going down Vine St. that they could see that. He said that that is an option, he will look into getting the cost for us. I will get back with everybody else when they decide when the meeting will be.

Mr. Burkhardt – The COW report has been submitted to the Clerk.

**Committee of the Whole**  
**September 27, 2007**

1. Council approved the minutes of the September 20<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting 7-0.
2. Steve Asbach is looking into the possibility of sending a representative to the Records Retention Seminar, and Ed Geiser has agreed to be that representative. Steve will report back to Council
3. Council and the Administration discussed the use of the Call Command, after some discussion the Administration felt they could use as they saw fit. Council felt there should be some guidelines. It will be discussed further at the next COW meeting.
4. Council discussed the need for more Post Office employee parking. Gerry Wiedmann will look into it further.
5. Greg Zix will bring a sample of a more in-dept city brochure to the next COW meeting.
6. Mayor, John Estep, no report.
7. Auditor, Walter St. Clair
  - A. Council voted 7-0 to put an ord. on the table for an additional appropriation and appropriation adjustment for the Civil Service Dept. and the Master Plan Fund. The Master Plan Fund is to cover work on Advance and Errun Lanes.
8. Director of Law, Edward Geiser
  - A. Council voted 7-0 to put an ord. on the table to hire legal council for the Tax Dept.
9. Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell
  - A. The Safety Director informed Council that we should hear something soon on the Grant for the traffic study on Ross Ave.
10. Service Director, Joe Kempe, absent (Mr. Wiedmann reporting).
  - A. Council voted 7-0 to put an ord. on the table to approve an easement with Smuckers for the sewer work completed by MSD.
11. Tax Commissioner, Sheri Williams, no report.
12. Laws, Contracts, & Claims, Patty Hausfeld, no report.
13. Public Improvements, Steve Asbach
  - A. Steve's committee will meet next Thursday at 6:30 p.m. before the Council meeting, to discuss Bertus St. Park.
14. Business & Industry, Mike Schildmeyer, no report.
15. Safety, Bill Burkhardt, no report.

16. Highways & Transportation, Peggy Brickweg

A. Peggy will be going to the meeting on Tuesday for the I-75 aesthetics work to be done when the construction is over for the widening project.

17. Service, Kevin Meier, no report.

18. Finance, Greg Zix, no report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Burkhardt  
President of Council, Pro-Tem

**COMMUNICATIONS** – None.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 39, 2007. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND ADJUST CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 39, 2007. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 39, 2007 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 40, 2007. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH CHESTER WILLCOX AND SAXBE LLP FOR THE RETENTION OF SPECIAL COUNSEL TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF ST. BERNARD BEFORE THE OHIO BOARD OF TAX APPEALS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Asbach to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 40, 2007. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to adopt Ordinance No. 40, 2007 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 41, 2007. AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND ACCEPTANCE OF A PUBLIC STORM SEWER EASEMENT FOR J. M. SMUCKER, LLC TO THE CITY OF ST. BERNARD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Meier to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 41, 2007. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 41, 2007 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Asbach – As I said last week at the COW, I called up to the Attorney General's Office about this House Bill 9 and all of Council attending. Basically what the person in the Attorney General's Office said was that, I know that Mr. Geiser stated that he was going, if anyone else is going, all they have to do is make sure that they sign up for all the elected officials. I guess they'll have a sign in sheet, that's how she made it sound, I don't know if Sheri, Walt are going but that's basically all that has to be done. At the COW we can make a motion to make whoever is going our designated person to attend and then they just have to sign the sign in sheet for all of our names is basically what they told me. So if you have any further questions or if you want to clarify, I have her number. I'll get with you later. Secondly, just a question for Jonathan, you mentioned that house visits are starting for the Fire Dept. Are they still planning on handing out the information as far as educating people on the 911 system?

Mr. Stuchell – Yes, they have actually made up stickers. They will be passing those out when they go house to house.

Mr. Schildmeyer – Also under Old Business, in working on the streets over there on Errun and Advance and Minmor and all the places that we've redone, I just wanted to make sure that we've checked to see if we've repainted the caution areas and the yellow areas that were in there before and if we're planning on doing that. I've had some questions and that we should not forget about it, we want to keep those areas. I think there are some on the corners that are done already up on Minmor and up in that area, some of the cul-de-sacs, I think they were painted. There are some yellow areas back in there that were kept open for non parking so that people could make turns and I think there was some concern in that with some people that I talked to. So if you will, just check that out, thanks Jonathan.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Burkhardt – ICRC let the candidates this year speak, like they do every year. I just want to ask everybody if its OK if I announce the times and dates for the citizens if they care to watch, if that's OK with everybody? They are all on Channel 8 of the ICRC if you get Time Warner Cable. The first one is Sat. Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, Wed. Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm., Tues. Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am., Sun. Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm., Mon. 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. and Mon. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Mr. Asbach – Along those lines, I think that channel 8 depends on what Tier you have. I know the Tier that I have, the Council meetings are on Channel 15, so just so you know.

Mr. Burkhardt – OK, it does say, Digital Channel on Channel 8 and no Cable Box Channel 15. Thanks Steve.

Mrs. Brickweg – Can I suggest maybe we put the schedule on the City's website.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Norm Miller, 219 Washington Ave. – Just for the record, the Mayor was introducing our new man here, Al, and I don't know if its ever been public here, but I don't think it's ever been on television so, if your television camera can get this fellow, if you can get a shot, if he's hanging around your town, at least you know what he looks like.

Al Kanters – I just wanted to thank Council for making the decision to fund the CIC so they can hire me to come on as Executive Director and start to move forward on the great plans that you guys have worked on for years and put together for the future of this community. I'm excited, I'm motivated, the people I've met I think are going to make this job very, very successful. I really think we can accomplish a lot of what we want to accomplish. If we can have quick and succinct Council Meetings like you had tonight with seven votes in favor of everything we do, it'll be done quickly.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just wanted to welcome Al. I'm glad to have you here. It's about time we got this done. I look forward to seeing what you can do for our City.

Mr. Burkhardt – The next COW will be Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

Motion by Mr. Zix, seconded by Mr. Asbach to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.