

**ST. BERNARD CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2007**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard City Council was held Thursday, November 1, 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. Walden – Before we begin with the regular order of Council tonight we have a guest, Magistrate Roz Florez, who is running for Judge this year and I'll ask her to step forward and introduce herself.

Ms. Florez – First of all I would like to thank St. Bernard for your support in 2005. I have grown to love this community. I live in Clifton so I go back and forth between the two. I am running this year in 2007 for Municipal Court, I hope I can count on your vote again in 2007. As a Magistrate, I am now in Domestic Relations Court and I am enjoying it but I need to move along in my goal plan and that is to go on to Municipal Bench. I wish good luck to all the other campaigners who I have met along my journey, I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving, I hope I can count on your vote on Nov. 6th. 2007. Thank you all, have a good evening.

Mr. Walden – Thank you Ms. Florez. Again, before the regular order of business we have the swearing in of our two new Tax Review Board members tonight, Lou Steiner and Gabe Sanders. Before we do that, I will accept a motion from Council to approve the swearing in of these new members.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Meier to approve the two new members of the Tax Review Board. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Geiser – Before we begin, do they understand, I'm just curious, putting on the record as far as which one is going to serve how long and which term because if you remember we had a staggered board. For one it's going to be three years, two years, and one year, so if that could be explained before we swear them in?

Mr. Estep – That is in my report.

Mr. Geiser – Do you (Lou Steiner, Gabe Sanders) solemnly swear, that you will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and Laws of the State of Ohio, the Charter, Laws and Ordinances of the City of St. Bernard and that you will faithfully, honestly and impartially discharge the duties of the City of St. Bernard Tax Review Board so help you God.

Mr. Steiner and Mr. Sanders – I do.

Mr. Geiser – Congratulations.

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 – With the appointment of the new members of the Tax Review Board and the recent revisions to the tax provision pertaining to the board, Sheri Williams and I discussed appointment terms.

In the revised version of the tax provision, the terms are defined as three year terms which are staggered. One member is to expire on July 1 of each year.

Tom Carberry has been on the Board the longest. It was decided that his term will expire first. Lou Steiner was the next member selected for appointment. His term will expire next. Gabe Sanders was the last member selected and his term will expire after Lou's. The expiration dates will be as follows"

Tom Carberry's term will expire on July 1, 2008

Lou Steiner's term will expire on July 1, 2009

Gabe Sander's term will expire on July 1, 2010

Each member can be reconsidered for re-appointment after their expiration date. This expiration schedule will ensure that the members do not extend the three year appointment term as set forth in the provision.

Halloween at the Pavilion was a big success and we had about 300 children attend. I want to thank the Holiday Activity Committee, Police Department and Service Departments for their support. I am always happy to report that we had a safe night trick-or-treating in St. Bernard. I believe it was even mentioned on one of the radio stations that we have one of the safest Halloween nights and one of the only ones where the Police cars go around and give out candy and glow sticks.

Hamilton county Health District will be giving flu shots on November 14, 2007, in the old Dial-A-Ride office between 10:00a.m. and 2:00p.m. The cost is \$15.00; however, if you cannot afford the fee, you will not be turned away. If you are on Medicare – B you will be given the vaccine free of charge.

HCHD is in the process of setting up home flu shot visits so if you are house bound please leave your name, address, and phone number at 242-7770 (ext. 25) and Laura will have your name added to the list. You will be contacted shortly to set a time for a flu shot to be given to you in your home.

This year, St. Bernard will be having its Christmas kick-off a little earlier than usual with a special event. The Queen City Hi Railers will be setting up a modular operating 3-rail train display in the Municipal Building. It is really a great display so everyone; children, model train novice and enthusiasts will enjoy this. They do this in several parts of the town all over the place.

The trains will be running on:

Friday, November 30th from 6p.m. until 8:30p.m.

Saturday, December 1 from 2p.m. until 9:00p.m. and one

Sunday, December 2nd from Noon until 5:00p.m.

In addition, on Saturday, December 1, Elegant Carriages will be here from 6:30p.m. until 9:00p.m. to take residents on a carriage tour to see the holiday lights in the City. Residents who live on the carriage route will receive a letter advising them so they can decorate their homes a little earlier this year if they wish. It is very likely that St. Nicholas himself may break away from

his work at the North Pole to visit children in St. Bernard that evening so they should be getting their Christmas list ready for him. This promises to be a fun event with something for everyone. Don't forget to mark your calendar so you don't miss the fun.

This year St. Bernard Elementary will sponsor the Art Connection event on December 5th and 6th at 7:00p.m. in the St. Bernard High School Auditorium. The theme, Stars and Stripes was chosen to highlight the Social Studies curriculum objectives and the scripts are co-written with the students and artist-in-residence, Mr. Michael Lippert. Mr. Lippert would like to include St. Bernard residents who are veterans or those that are currently serving in the armed services. If you would like to participate, please contact Susie Steiner through the St. Bernard Elementary office at 513-482-7110.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th. The poles are open from 6:30a.m until 7:30p.m. Please exercise your right to vote and good luck to everyone running.

AUDITOR, Mr. St. Clair – The October Auditor's reports are prepared for tonight's meeting. 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 October:	\$ 369,053.86
Payroll year to date:	4,259,609.68
Other expenditures for the month of October:	\$ 866,211.07
Other expenditures as of October 31 st :	5,317,213.61
Total expenditures through the end of October:	\$ 9,576,823.29

Before Council tonight is Ordinance No. 45, 2007. This Ordinance makes appropriation adjustments as requested by the Safety Director and the Service Director at the last Committee of the Whole. It increases appropriations for Firemen overtime, training overtime, Fire Department equipment and park maintenance with corresponding appropriation decreases in ambulance supplies, Fire Department utilities, furniture and fixtures, Service Department equipment and plastic liners. While not discussed at the COW, but this Ordinance also provides for transfer of funds from the General Fund cash account to the Employee Health Plan cash account. Based on current usage, this transfer should be sufficient to cover the Health Plan expenditures until the end of the year.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Geiser – Ordinance No. 46, 2007 has been prepared for Council tonight. This was requested at COW. This regards the corridor study for Ross Ave., with the Grant Funds coming from the State of Ohio. Attached to the Ordinance are two contracts which I do not know if each member of Council has because they are somewhat lengthy, there is an 11 page professional service agreement that was entered into with TEC, the engineering firm, and also there is a 13 page contract with the State of Ohio Governor's Highway Safety Office. Those should be attached to the original that the Clerk, Mrs. Kathman has. If you do not have those and you would like to see those, I do have a copy you can take a look at. The State of

Ohio contract, the standard language that the State requires, however, the TEC contract with the engineers is somewhat specific to our issues and details what the works going to be done so if anyone would like to see it they are welcome to take a look at that. Also I would like to put on the agenda for the next COW a report getting back to Council that was brought about overtime for salaried employees that was discussed at the COW. I had discussed my findings with the Chief of Police and I'll bring that to Council to date @ the next COW.

TREASURER, Mr. Kathman – I have the receipts for the month of October.

Receipts for the month of October:	\$ 1,417,588.25
Receipts for the year through October 31 st :	\$ 10,902,796.11

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – As the Law Director stated, Ordinance No. 46, 2007 will allow us to enter into a contract with TEC engineering to conduct a corridor study for the Ross Ave. area. As you remember, we submitted application through TEC engineering and applied through the Ohio Dept. of Public Safety and the Governor's Highway Safety Office. We were awarded the Grant for \$20,000. Again this is a reimbursement grant. At the conclusion of the study we were to receive a list of recommended improvements and also corresponding estimates that would go along with those improvements. Just as a reminder, we cannot apply for any further grants or improvements without this study being done, so it is necessary. I'd also like to thank Joe Kempe, Ed Geiser and Carol Ungruhe for getting this very lengthy information to you all. I really appreciate that. Also, the St. Bernard Fire Dept., for the month of October, had 20 fire runs, 72 emergency medical responses, and 5 inspections. Month to date, we have collected \$9,736.29 in EMS billing, for a year-to-date of \$89,284.07 with a billing inception to date of \$400,749.72. Also, if anyone wishes to have the St. Bernard Fire Dept. perform the fire safety check on their home, please call 242-2727 and request to speak with a Fire Dept. Officer in charge.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Kempe – I have no report tonight but I would request Council to go into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and also in behalf of Gerry Wiedmann to discuss purchase of property.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mrs. Williams – The newly appointed members of the Tax Review Board have been given the most recently updated tax provision that includes the revised version of section 181.13 Board of Review.

The Board of Review section of the tax provision provides some detail as to their roles and responsibilities as members of the Tax Review Board. Each of them should feel free to contact me, Walt St. Clair, Ed Geiser, or Tom Carberry if they have any further questions.

I want to thank them both for their willingness to serve on the Board. The Mayor searched for well educated individuals with substantial experience in areas of banking and finance, accounting, tax, law or business that would provide them with the competence to understand the nature and application of our City income tax while still remaining impartial. It is encouraging that the two individuals appointed are so well matched with the defined qualifications. I want to thank them.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – The Finance Committee will meet med Nov. with the Dept. Heads in preparation for the 2008 budget ordinance creation.

SAFETY, Mr. Burkhardt – The Sept., 2007 Police report shows 882 call for service.

SERVICE, Mr. Meier – The Service Dept. report for the month of October, 2007. There were 30 trucks, 8 dumpsters, 154 special pick-ups at residences, 224 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. In the recycling there were 17 tons of recycling material, 12 tons of cardboard, 61 lbs. of scrap aluminum, 200 lbs. of aluminum cans, 27 lbs. of copper, 10,700lbs. of scrap metal, 28lbs. of stainless steel. In addition there were 25 appliances that were picked up. The City received \$1,119.20 for recycling in Sept., 2007

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Asbach – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Ms. Hausfeld – Just to let everyone know, I did meet briefly with Gerry Wiedmann this week to discuss some legislation for the building dept. It pertains to tents, PODS, temporary structures. Also he was telling me we have to look at updating our legislations on driveways and right of way openings.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Schildmeyer – I did talk to Christie Jackson at Wes Banco this week and I'd like to be put on COW too in order to discuss her ideas for the parking lots up there at Wes Banco and the St. Bernard owned parking lot.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Brickweg – One area that I want speak about tonight is I got a couple of phone calls this week from people asking me if the City of St. Bernard is going to get an exit ramp off of the new, when they do the new I-75. It is going around town that we are, that's not true, we're not. The main goal for when they planned the highway expansion was to actually eliminate some of the exits so the traffic could flow better. I'm sure where that started but we're not getting an exit ramp on to Vine St. I also wanted to let people know, if you've seen markings or you see some Ohio people out there on the highway, they are going to start putting up some flags, they're trying to measure to see what areas they need, before they come out with the final plan in December and they're also doing bore studies so they what they're going to be getting into.

I'd also like to thank Jonathan for getting the study for Ross. I know the people out there are really going to appreciate this and I don't what to go over a lot, but just so that some of the people on Ross know, part of this study is going to identify existing conditions with condition diagrams, roadway features and physical conditions. It's going to collect average daily traffic data, especially during 7:00 to 10:00a.m., 11:00 to 2:00p.m. and 3:00 to 6:00p.m. It's going to review the signal and the timing of the lights and do a crash analysis with collision diagrams for 2004 to 2006 and hopefully they can give us a report on how we can make it safer on Ross Ave.

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

Committee of the Whole
October 25, 2007

1. Council approved the minutes of the October 18th Council Meeting, 6-0, Mr. Asbach absent.
2. Mayor John Estep
 - A. John is working on getting the three appointments together for the Tax Review Board. He will report back to Council when this is complete.
3. Auditor, Walter St. Clair
 - A. Walt asked the Dept. Heads to look at their budgets before the end of the year, to make sure they are ok with their balances.
4. Director of law, Edward Geiser
 - A. Ed informed Council that the case at the State Review Board was postponed until Nov. 14, 2007.
5. Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell
 - A. Council voted 6-0 to put an ord. on the table to enter into a contract with TEC engineering for the Ross Ave. traffic study.
 - B. Council voted 6-0 to put an ord. on the table to transfer funds and adjust appropriations with in the Fire Dept. to cover overtime and purchase a new pick-up truck for the dept., also to cover education.
6. Service Director, Joe Kempe
 - A. Council voted 6-0 to a transfer to the Fire Dept. ord. for Park maintenance for the grass infield at Ross Park and bathroom doors at the parks.
7. Tax Commissioner, Sheri Williams, absent.
8. Laws, Contracts, & Claims, Patty Hausfeld
 - A. Patty will be meeting with Gerry W. and Ed G. to discuss some items in her committee next Tuesday.
9. Public Improvements, Steve Asbach, absent.
10. Business & Industry, Mike Schildmeyer, no report.
11. Safety, Bill Burkhardt, no report.
12. Highways & Transportation, Peggy Brickweg
 - A. Joe agreed to go talk to WesBanco to talk about their ideas on their drive thru and parking lot. He will report back to Council.
13. Service, Kevin Meier
 - A. Kevin asked Council and the Administration to give him their ideas on his proposal to create a fund for low interest loans for seniors that need help with home repairs.
14. Finance, Greg Zix

A. Greg informed Council that his committee would be going over the 2008 budget in mid Nov.

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

COMMUNICATIONS - None

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

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

ORDINANCE NO. 45, 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 Ms. Hausfeld to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 45, 2007. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to adopt Ordinance No. 45, 2007 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 46, 2007, AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ST. BERNARD, FEDERAL FUNDS AWARDED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE, AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TEC ENGINEERING, INC. FOR A TRAFFIC CORRIDOR SAFETY STUDY TO BE CONDUCTED ON ROSS AVENUE, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH THE GRANT FUNDS ARE TO BE UTILIZED; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Schildmeyer to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 46, 2007. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 46, 2007 as read. Motion passed. 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Burkhardt made a motion to go into Executive Session following the audience participation. Mr. Zix seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Hausfeld – I probably shouldn't do this under Old Business but I'm going to, sorry Tom. It is Tom's birthday today and we're doing it under old business, you guys can read into it what you want but I just wanted to wish him a happy birthday.

Mr. Kathman – Thank you Patty.

Mr. Asbach – This is a question for Jonathan, and I’m not sure if its too late. I know we’re getting to work, might be too late, but I’m getting a lot of people up around Jefferson and Greenlee request, even though we have those bright red flashing lights up there for the stop sign, a lot of people are asking if there is any possibility that we could paint “STOP” in the street. People may see that a little better and stop more at that traffic light because apparently a lot of people must just blow through there and a lot of residents around there have requested that we do that, if at all possible. I know we’re getting late in the year, I told them I would check and see.

Mr. Stuchell – I’ll look at that and then talk to the Service Director and see what we can do.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Meier – Yesterday when I was helping out at the Book Fair I talked with Mrs. Stover and along with what John was saying about the “Arts Connection Performance”, if I can get the dates, I’ve got the dates here and what I’ll do is I’ll contact ICRC to arrange to have both of those performances televised. I know the kids get a big kick out of seeing themselves on television so I’ll make the contact for the Arts Connection Performance and also for the St. Clement Christmas Performance so we can get those kids on TV again.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Ms. Hausfeld – I’m going to do this under ‘audience participation’ because this doesn’t have anything to do with me up here. My boss at Walgreens just wanted me to thank John and Glenna and Joe and the Holiday Activities Committee. Walgreens did a photo shoot last night at our Halloween Contest down at the pavilion and we did over 32 kids and they were absolutely thrilled with getting their picture taken. My boss just wanted me to thank you guys.

Mr. Estep – Just to return that, Patty, you did a nice job over there, nice costume, and the kids were thrilled getting their picture taken. Thank you.

Mr. Burkhardt – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7:30.

Council went into Executive Session.

Mr. Walden – The Nov. 1st, 2007 Council meeting is back in session. Council was in Executive Session discussing contract negotiations and the purchase of property. At this time I will entertain a motion for adjournment.

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