

**ST. BERNARD CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2008**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard City Council was held Thursday, September 18, 2008 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mr. Curtis Walden – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. At the request of the Clerk, I would ask that everyone speak up as loudly as possible tonight as under the circumstances the Clerk can record as much as what is being said as possible.

Roll call showed that all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Peck, Mrs. Bedinghaus, Mrs. Brickweg, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Meier and Mr. Zix.

Mr. Walden – Before the regular order of business I would like to have a moment of silence for the Cushard family who has suffered a great loss this week.

Mrs. Brickweg made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Ms. Hausfeld seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – Last Saturday, September 13th the City of St. Bernard hosted it's first, and hopefully, annual Soapbox Derby on Tower Avenue. With the help of Don Tobergte and Elaine Sipe the derby went off without a hitch. The Service Department went above and beyond preparing the course and making the day a success. The Fire Department had its Smoke House available for spectators and the Police Department even ticketed racers that exceeded the speed limit for Tower Avenue. A big thank you to Diane and Mark Statt for opening the St. Bernard High School concession stand and Phil Stegman for opening St. Bernard Eagles. Also, the residents on Tower and surrounding streets were very cooperative and we appreciate your support as well.

On a much more serious note, Sunday, the remnants of Hurricane Ike blew through our City. The subsequent damage to trees, property and the extended power outages were unprecedented. The entire City of St. Bernard has been affected. Some are still without power, including City Hall after a transformer behind the building exploded today.

As I drove around in these extreme conditions I was very proud of the spirit and the cooperation and compassion I witnessed as neighbors helped one another remove debris to helping store refrigerated and frozen food. The adversity caused by the storm rallied our City of many individuals into one large family.

I have nothing but praise for all departments; from Dial-A-Ride taking at risk residents for food and ice, Service Department clearing debris from streets, Police increasing patrols to insure residents' safety and the Fire Department going door to door checking on residents. Also, the Administrative Staff at City Hall continued to meet and to do whatever they could to offer support. I am extremely proud of their commitment and pledge to help now and in the future. Our infrastructure may have suffered

some damage, but our civic pride, commitment to duty and our compassion for one another is as strong as it ever was.

As most of you are aware, one of our employees and close friend, lost a family member in the fire that was a direct result of the power outage caused by Ike. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Cushard-Mersfelder and Cox families.

A memorial fund has been set up for Amanda Cushard and should be forwarded to the Great Oaks Foundation, 3254 East Kemper Road, Cinti, Ohio 45241. Combined with the loss of life the Cox family also lost their home. We are accepting any and all donations at the Police, Service and Fire Departments as well as City Hall. Please stop by City Hall for an itemized list of clothing needs. If you would like to make a cash donation please contact First Safety or Fifth Third Bank.

The Annual St. Bernard Senior Picnic that was scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th was cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

The St. Clement Festival is this weekend at Vine Street Park. This would be a great way for the community to come together and relax after this very difficult and stressful week we all have endured.

AUDITOR, Mr. St. Clair – First of all I would like to apologize to the Clerk of Council. I did not have time to prepare a written report for this evening. The reports for the City's investments and balances of various bank accounts have been prepared for Council, the Administration and the Treasurer. Before Council tonight and as discussed at COW we have Ordinance No. 46, 2008. This Ordinance gives some additional appropriations to Auditor Incidentals in the amount of \$4,494.00, Health Dept. Clerk \$800.00, Service Dept. Equipment Outlay \$105,000.00, Fuel and Oil Line Item \$55,000.00 and Fire Dept. Equipment Outlay \$18,478.00. Also there were some appropriation adjustments from the General Fund; City Law Library \$500.00, appropriations for expenses were for the same amount. Also in the Service Dept. area, Professional Services \$5,000.00 in that line item and Gas Well Monitoring and \$4,000.00 for Park Maintenance and in the Parking Lot line items.

The SCMR Fund was \$62,500.00

The Swimming Pool Fund \$8,000.00 would be decreased the line item for Swimming Pool Electric by \$8,000.00.

Also in Ordinance No. 47, 2008, what this Ordinance does basically is give the case workers for St. Bernard a raise from \$10.00 which was passed back in 1994, to \$15.00 an hour and ordinance No. 48 also allows the Police and the Safety Director to make the adjustment for when they hire a dispatcher with a certain amount of experience that they could start them at a pay rate higher than the starting pay.

Mr. Walden – May I say welcome back to the Director of Law, Kate Bedinghaus.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – I wanted to let council know that all the requests for legal opinions on the various issues are being researched and I hope that all requested opinions should come together and be ready within the next couple of weeks.

Also, I believe at the last Committee of the Whole, the issue of further extending the recall list for laid off firefighters was brought up and a legal

opinion was requested. I originally looked into this back in January and found that the language in the Ohio Revised Code and the City's Codified Ordinance is a reinstatement right of the fire department employee guaranteeing them by law the right to a position if it is re-created or re-established within three years. Therefore, it basically appears to be an employee protection rather than a law to act as a limit. Additionally, this week I further discussed the reasonableness of an additional six month extension with Tim Burke, the attorney who originally gave the civil service commission an opinion on this matter, and I believe we agreed that there does not appear to be a legal prohibition regarding an additional six month extension to the recall list.

TREASURER, Mr. Sipe – No report.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Chatman – The storm that blew through our City last Sunday had a devastating affect on all aspects of our lives. The subsequent damage and loss of power put our Emergency Services to a test unlike they've ever seen before. From last Sunday to the present, our skills resources, professionalism and compassion were tested. It is my belief that we passed that test.

Times like this both brings out the best and the worst in people.

Overwhelmingly, I saw the best in our citizens and the best from our Emergency Service personnel. To the citizens I say thank you for your patience during this difficult time and to our Police and Fire Department I would like to say a hearty thank you for answering this extreme call to duty. Please understand, that as Safety Director my thanks is geared toward Police and Fire. However, they in no way are meant to slight the roles that individuals played as we looked out for and helped one another.

I especially would like to appropriately include the hard work, long hours and dedication exhibited by our Service Dept. Thanks to their hard work, St. Bernard has already begun to look like the City it did prior to the storm while neighboring cities, some with more resources, some with less, don't look nearly as well cared for as St. Bernard.

On that note, there exists the predatory element among us who look at events like this to victimize us while the vulnerability of the storm's effects are high. I am asking every citizen who needs repairs done to their homes, to only contract with reputable companies and or those whom family and friends refer to you. As always, be extremely cautious of anyone who comes to your home soliciting their services. St. Bernard has ordnances against this activity and all door to door activity must be registered and obtain permission from City Hall. If you have the slightest doubt about anyone knocking on your door, Do Not open your door and contact the Police Department immediately.

Lastly, I have a program that I talked about called "Caught Doing Something Good" several months ago and I believe I mentioned this gentlemen's name at the COW. I do have an award to announce. The gentle man is not here, but I will be giving this award to Mr. Keith Adams of Fluid Media. He is the gentle man that I spoke about several months ago who has assisted the City, in particular, the Police Dept. to get the web site up and running. Anyway he will be receiving an award.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Schrand – I would like to take this opportunity to thank Don Tobergte for taking time out of his busy schedule to go around

town chipping up tree branches with his own equipment. He has been a big help to us.

The Service Department started Sunday afternoon and has been working until dark to get streets open and wires cleared so when Duke Energy came to town they would only have to fix broken wires and not remove trees and limbs.

I believe we got our electricity turned on one day earlier because of their hard work.

I would like to thank Walt Moeller for his work in helping to get temporary power to City Hall. We were able to help more citizens because we were open 1 or 2 days earlier than we would have been.

We are applying for a FEMA disaster grant to help with all the clean up work and overtime we have had to expend. Hamilton County FEMA has sent us paper work that we had to fill out to apply for this Grant. The biggest problem with it is that they are in a rush to get it out and it is due by noon tomorrow so we're going to be a little busy tonight and tomorrow.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – I would just like to thank the Service Dept. and everyone for their hard work during the wind storm. St. Bernard is very fortunate to have two highly experienced electricians at City Hall. Ray Schrand and Walt Moeller have been a valuable asset to City Hall and this was demonstrated this past week with the work they provided to have a workable amount electricity restored to the City during the wind storm outage and the subsequent power loss due to the squirrel.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – I also would like to echo the comments of the Administration in thanking each and everyone of the Depts. and the citizens for joining together. The Finance Committee will meet after the after the next COW meeting to review a time line of the upcoming budget.

SAFETY, Ms. Hausfeld – I too want to echo my thank you to not only the Police, Fire and Service Depts. but Donny, I had a lot of customers come into Walgreens and reiterate a thank you to you as well because they've seen you out there working very hard along with the neighbors and friends and just passer bys that stopped to make sure everybody was OK.

My heart also goes out to the Cushard and Cox family. I worked with Judy for many years at Roger Bacon so I know her pretty personally and just to remind everybody to keep your hearts and prayers and thoughts with the family because this is a very hard time to go through.

In keeping with the emergency preparedness kit, there is a list of items that I just want to reiterate, especially working for Walgreens. I was off for three days. I went back and my front wall was completely wiped out. It is very important to keep things on hand because you just never know when something is going to hit. One of the big things is batteries. I had people coming in even today asking for batteries and we are completely out. C and D especially. Transistor radios, flash lights, batteries for them as well.

Candles, matches, lighters, first aid kits, non-perishable food items, canned fruit, cookies, peanut butter, I have never stocked so much grocery items than I did today. Toilet paper, paper towels, disposable gloves, emergency whistles, blankets, cold weather gear, just in case it happens in cold weather, pet needs, water and more elaborate, there are a few people that I know that

had generators, weather radios and five year shelf life food, water, blankets with solar inserts that help heat the body and something that I never thought that I would sell so many of are landline phones because so many people have cordless phones and stuff and I'll tell you what I had all these cheap \$5. phones, I never ever in my wildest dreams thought I would sell through them and they were sold before I went back to work yesterday. It is very important that you keep this stuff in a safe place where you can find it when you need it and maybe you can help someone else out that didn't think ahead.

SERVICE, Mr. Tobergte – I also would like to thank the Service, Police and Fire Departments for all their hard work during our first hurricane. Also I would like to thank the Service Department, Recreation and Administration for all the work they did in preparing for the Soap Box Derby. The event was a big success. All the participants were asking if we could do it again next year. I will be meeting with Mr. Newberry in the near future to discuss plans for next year. I will keep Council and the Administration advised of future meetings.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Meier – I don't think we can give enough thanks to the Police, Service and Fire Depts. for the work that they've done these last few days. I think we can be very proud of our City and its employees. Aside from that we did have a quick meeting with the builder this last week. We did a walk through, or a drive through the City. They are interested in working with us on renovating properties. Due to the storm, the second developer, we weren't able to get that done this week. We'll have them scheduled next week. Next Thursday I will provide a more detailed report for everybody.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mr. Peck – There is going to be a Laws, Contracts and Claims committee meeting at 6:30 before the next COW, that will be next Thursday. We will discuss a couple of ordinances, one is the cell phone use while driving. It's an open meeting and we will discuss whatever issues the committee might have and everyone else. Its open to everybody and I would especially like to ask the Safety Director to come.

Other than that, great job to all the City employees. I had a 30ft piece of tree come down and so I got the saw out and started cutting it and I jumped at the chance to get the Law Director down there to do some work on the tree too. I'm sorry, the Tax Commissioner. Next thing I know three guys, young men, are out there with chain saws cutting the tree down for me. They were cutting it apart for me. This is just another reason why I knew I picked the right place to live in St. Bernard when this type of thing takes place.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mrs. Brickweg – I would like to reiterate the thanks to all the depts. and the one little story I had. I had gone to my parents house on Sunday and was listening to them complain and my sister complain about where is their fire dept., where is the police? My parents had a massive hole in the side of their house and Kurt told them to call the fire dept. because that is what would happen here and they were told that the fire dept. couldn't be there for a least a week. I politely told my mother that I guess she lived in the wrong area of town and then Kurt had to go over on

his off day and fix it. It just showed me again and the others in my family the special services we have that other people don't have.

The Business and Industry Committee recommends the passage of Resolution 9, 2009 endorsing the renewal of the Clean Ohio Fund Bond Package. The Clean Ohio Fund has enabled the assessment, clean up and revitalization of 173 abandoned and polluted industrial sites since the program began in 2000, leveraging private investment to redeveloped sites resulting in nearly \$2.6 billion in private investment and potentially 14,750 new jobs. This is a renewal and it will not increase taxes. Other municipalities that have endorsed the Clean Ohio Fund are Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton and many others. If anyone would like more additional information they can go to www.cleanohio.org.

One another note, I contacted Graeter's this week in regards to an article in the Cincinnati Enquirer stating Graeter's is looking for a site to build an additional factory on. Robert Graeter stated the three important factors deciding where they will locate their new plant. They are looking for financial incentives, access to highways and availability to labor. I have passed the information on to Mayor Burkhardt, Gerry Wiedmann and Al Kanters so our City can send the requested introductory package. If St. Bernard could get Graeter's to build their new factory here we would not only gain employees but possibly a long awaited bakery.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Again, as a citizen, a lifelong citizen of St. Bernard, I think this past week has identified and solidified for me what a great town it is to live in. I can fully understand why I never moved out. I would like to thank everybody, the police and fire and the City workers for a great job as well as all the citizens.

Gerry Wiedmann met with a few people down at Ludlow Grove this past week just to go over some ideas of a retaining wall for the expansion of the highway. There will be more information coming about that in the future.

Mrs. Brickweg – The COW report has been submitted to the Clerk.

At the beginning of the meeting there was a moment of silence for all those lost on September 11, 2001.

NEW OR REFERRED ITEMS:

1. Before the start of the meeting ProSource gave a presentation on Document Management Solution software. This would allow City Hall to scan documents and store them on the city's server.
2. Council approved the minutes of the September 4th council meeting.
3. TEC Engineering, Inc. presented the findings on their traffic study of the East Ross Avenue corridor. They studied safety issues and made the following recommendations:
 - A. Replacement of the existing incandescent bulbs with LED signal heads.
 - B. Installation of signal head back-plates on eastbound (EB) and westbound (WB) signals.
 - C. Convert the layout of East Ross Avenue from four 9 foot lanes to two 14 foot lanes and an 8 foot parking shoulder in the westbound direction (eliminates on-street parking along eastbound East Ross).
 - D. Install exclusive left turn bays at Tower Ave (EB and WB), Greenlee Ave (WB) and Broerman Ave (EB).
 - E. Increase restricted parking zones adjacent to intersections.
 - F. Provide curb extensions where feasible at intersections utilized by pedestrians.
 - G. Additional pedestrian friendly signs and crosswalks where necessary.

These are just recommendations and any and all can be tweaked to work for the community. If the city was to do all the recommendations it would cost between

\$80,000.00 and \$100,000.00. The city could be eligible for 2010 SCIP grants to help pay for the project.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS:

Mayor, Bill Burkhardt:

1. Bill announced that the city was awarded the SCIP grant for the Rosehill Ave street work.
2. Bill reminded everyone that City Hall will be open September 13th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
3. Bill invited everyone to attend the Soapbox Derby on Sept 13th from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. It will start near Franklin Alley and run down to The Eagles along Tower Avenue. Don invited everyone who is interested to help set up for the event to arrive at 5:00 AM.
4. Bill asked council to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel in the Tax Department, council voted in favor 7 to 0.

Auditor, Walt St. Clair: Walt asked for the following appropriations to be on the table at the next council meeting: (council voted in favor 7 to 0)

Adjustments:

1. \$8000.00 from Swimming Pool Employees to Pool Utilities
2. \$500.00 from Law Library to Court Expenses
3. \$5,000.00 from Professional Services to Gas Well Monitoring
4. \$4,000.00 from Park Maintenance to Parking Lots (to pay for utilities)

Additional Appropriations:

1. \$4,494.00 to auditor incidentals (to pay for the underwriter fees for the 1.5 million dollar bond).
2. \$18,473.00 to Fire Equipment for a grant the city received and deposited into the general fund.
3. \$105,000.00 for a new Packer (this money will be spent in 2009 and is already in that budget, but money is required to be in the line item to enter into a contract, which the city will do this fall).
4. \$800.00 to the Health Department Clerk
5. \$55,000.00 to City Fuel

Law Director, Kate Bedinghaus: absent – Walt read her report. Kate asked council for an ordinance to pay the city's Juvenile Clerk \$15.00 an hour. This would replace the 1994 ordinance paying the Clerk \$10.00 an hour. Council voted in favor 7 to 0 to have an ordinance on the table for the next meeting.

Safety Director, Rodney Chatman:

1. Rodney thanked the Fire Department in advance for having the Smoke House at the Soapbox Derby. He also thanked the Police Department for having an officer on detail and running radar.
2. Rodney apologized to council for being the first person to ask for a legal opinion regarding the recall list back in the winter when it was first extended. Rodney informed council that he talked with attorney Tim Burke and read over Kate's report from the last time. Both stated that Ohio Revised Code stated three years for a recall list but this is only a minimum of time. Greg stated that he would like to get another opinion from Kate. Peggy stated that unless Ohio Revised Code changed the opinion would be the same and Rodney agreed. Greg still requested Kate's opinion. Kevin suggested that council put an ordinance on the table for the next meeting extending the recall list to March and that the ordinance be read for three meetings. This will give the city time to get another legal opinion. Council voted in 6 to 1 in favor (Greg voting no). Rodney informed council that Civil Service is sending the two remaining Fire Fighters on the recall list a letter asking them if they would be interested in returning if a position became available.
3. Rodney informed council that he would like to hire a Police Dispatcher with over 18 years experience, 9 years with SWAT. Since this person has a lot of

Service Director, Ray Schrand:

1. Ray informed council that the city has a new Dial A Ride bus, which he had outside of City Hall.
2. Ray informed council that he received a bid of \$5,000.00 to put in a Handicap accessible door at City Hall. Council asked Ray to continue looking into this and to look for grants to pay to change the doors at other city owned buildings.
3. Ray informed council that the city has received \$5,518.00 so far for recycling.

Tax Commissioner, Ed Geiser: Ed informed council that he will be attending a meeting on E-Filing.

Treasurer, Jamie Sipe: no report

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Laws, Contracts and & Claims, Mike Peck: Mike announced his committee will meet September 25th at 6:30 PM to discuss various ordinances the committee is working on.

Public Improvements, Kevin Meier: Gerry Wiedmann provided council with a list of all the properties for sale in St. Bernard and a list of properties that are bank owned. Council asked for this list in regards to the city purchasing run down or foreclosed property to fix up and re-sell or demolish. Kevin explained how he would like to use any money the city may receive from the state initiatives for either helping home owners with the purchase, if they promise to stay in the home, or for demolition of property. Council liked the idea of this project but would like to see how it will run. The committee will meet September 18th at 6:30 PM to discuss more details.

Business & Industry, Peggy Brickweg:

1. Peggy asked council for an ordinance (per Gerry Wiedmann) to convey 4710 Vine Street (left of the Police Station) to the CIC. Council voted in favor 7 to 0.
2. Peggy requested a resolution for the next council meeting in support of Issue 2 "Clean Ohio". Peggy explained that this is a renewal and that money from this is used to help municipalities clean up abandoned polluted sites. Council voted in favor 7 to 0.

Safety, Patty Hausfeld: no report

Highways & Transportation, Cindi Bedinghaus: no report

Service, Don Tobergte:

1. Don asked Ray to explain the increase in salt and the need for additional funds for the Fuel Line item. Ray informed council that the price of salt has gone up from \$45.00 a ton to over \$125.00 a ton. He also explained how difficult it is to get a contract for bulk salt. Ray has found a company to purchase salt for \$125.00 a ton but the city has to purchase it now. He also informed council that due to the high price of fuel the city fuel line item has no money in it. Council voted 7 to 0 to purchase the 700 tons of salt (using the street maintenance line item) and for \$55,000.00 additional appropriations for the fuel line item.
2. Don reminded everyone again that anyone interested in helping set up for the Soap Box Derby should arrive at 5:00 AM, September 13th.
3. Don stated he is still waiting to hear back from Roger Bacon in regards to having their students help design new Dial-A-Ride buses.

Finance, Greg Zix: Greg announced that his committee will meet after the September 25th COW to go over the timetable for the 2009 budget.

Audience Participation:

A member of the audience requested that the paper the city provides new residents state that council meetings can be viewed on “either’ channel 8 or 15, depending on the type of cable they have. He also suggested that the city work faster to clean up the demolition materials on Vine Street. He stated that he heard rumors that the I 75 expansion would be coming through Harvey Court and it was explained that it would not and that he may have heard the idea of the homes in the Canal Bed which run behind Harvey Court.

Phil Stegman suggested that the city looking into getting grants to fund the purchase and installation of handicap accessible doors.

Bob Hausfeld suggested that the city look at the American Disability Act to learn more ways to make the city more handicap accessible. Bob also suggested that the Police Department advertise for dispatcher positions instead of word of mouth. Bob asked the city to consider bringing back the \$1.00 home sales program, where the city purchases the home and sells it for \$1.00 to people promising to fix it up with a criteria. The Public Improvement Committee will discuss this idea at their next meeting.

Walt Moeller asked council if they would like to have a presentation by Cincinnati Bell regarding a new phone system City Hall may purchase. Council agreed that they do not need a presentation and if the employees using the system like it, the administration should make a recommendation to council.

Ordinances and Resolutions for the next council meeting:

- 1. Adjustment and additional appropriations
- 2. Increase in pay for Juvenile Court Clerk
- 3. Ordinance to increase the recall list to March
- 4. Ordinance to convey 4710 Vine Street to the CIC
- 5. Resolution for Clean Ohio

Next Council Meeting: September 18th 7:30 P.M.
Next C.O.W. Meeting: September 25th 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Brickweg,
President of Council Pro-Tem

COMMUNICATIONS – None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Meier to read this evenings Resolutions and Ordinances by title only.

REMARKS

Mr. Meier – We are missing one ordinance tonight. At the last COW we had voted to put an ordinance on the table to extend the list until Oct. 16th and the first reading would have been tonight. That ordinance is not here tonight. Based on the opinion that Kate gave us, what I would like to do is, to put that back on but instead of extending the list to Oct. 16th, I would like to extend it for six months as we originally discussed.

Mr. Tobergte – I thought we amended that ordinance and passed it pending Kate’s opinion.

Mr. Meier – The first reading of that ordinance was to have taken place tonight. The second reading would have been in two weeks and the third reading would have been before Oct. 16th.

Mr. Tobergte – We had it in Council two weeks ago.

Mr. Meier – The motion I made was to put it on the table so it could run its full course and the first reading would have been tonight.

Mr. Burkhardt – I believe we've extended it six months. The ordinance you're talking about would have taken it all the way to March.

Motion to read the Resolutions and Ordinances by title only passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 9, 2008. A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A FULLY-FUNDED RENEWAL OF THE CLEAN OHIO FUND BOND PACKAGE WHICH WILL BE PLACED ON THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 BALLOT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 9, 2008. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Resolution No. 9, 2008 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 45, 2008. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ST. BERNARD TO CONVEY REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 4710 VINE STREET TO THE ST. BERNARD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III SECTION 1 OF THE AGREEMENT AND PLAN BETWEEN THE CITY OF ST. BERNARD, OHIO AND THE ST. BERNARD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 45, 2008. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 45, 2008 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 46, 2008. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO ADJUST CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 46, 2008. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Meier to adopt Ordinance No. 46, 2008 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 47, 2008. AMENDING SECTION 4 OF ORDINANCE NO. 30, 1994 TO RAISE THE POSITION OF PART-TIME CASE WORKER'S COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Meier to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 47, 2008.

REMARKS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – There might be a discrepancy on the dates here. In the title it says 1994 but in the very first section it says No. 30, 1995.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to amend Ordinance No 47, 2008 to read in the first section; “WHEREAS, Section 4 of Ordinance No. 30, 1994 reads as follows:”

Ms. Hausfeld – I am just letting the public know that this is for the part time police worker that does Juvenile Court and this position has not had a raise since 1994 so just to let you know why we're upping her pay.

The motion to amend Ordinance No. 47, 2008 passed 7-0.

The motion to suspend the second and third reading of amended Ordinance No. 47, 2008 passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt amended Ordinance No. 47, 2008 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 48, 2008. AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 22, 2008 TO ALLOW THE POLICE CHIEF TO RECOMMEND AND THE SAFETY DIRECTOR TO APPROVE PLACEMENT OF POLICE DISPATCHERS WITHIN THE ESTABLISHED TIME INTERVALS FOR 2008 COMPENSATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 48, 2008. Motion passed 7-0.

REMARKS

Mr. Tobergte – I would like to ask the Safety Director are we changing this ordinance because of the one dispatcher we just hired or are going to hire?

Mr. Chatman – Correct.

Mr. Tobergte – I will be voting no on this Ordinance. I believe we need more dispatchers. I believe in paying people with experience. What I do not agree with is hiring people without advertising for the position.

Ms. Hausfeld – I too will be voting no. Not that I don't, I understand that this person has experience plus, but that's the whole reason we put step pay in. I think, I just, I don't like the fact that we're doing it for one person so that they get a higher pay. Not saying they don't deserve it, I understand they've got the experience, but that's the whole reason we put step pay in.

My heart just goes out to the other dispatchers that worked through their step pay and now they're making top dollar and have been there for a while and here comes a person starting in with us at that same rate. I'm just having a hard time with that so I will be voting no.

Mr. Zix – The Chief has voiced several times in Finance meetings the past several years, he has a hard time filling these positions. That's why I'm in favor of it, if you can get somebody in there, now that some of the hours are there, they're not great hours, they're weekend hours, they're night hours. To have somebody there that has experience, sometimes we have to pay the price to save money actually and this dispatcher will save us money, so I will be voting for it.

Mr. Meier – I will be voting for this ordinance. I think there are times when this City hires we need to go out and get the best people we can possibly get. This is an opportunity to get somebody which I believe has 18 years of experience. Under those circumstances I am definitely in favor of being able to get somebody with that experience. That experience will provide benefits directly to the citizens and for that reason I will be voting for this ordinance tonight.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I also will be voting in favor of this ordinance. I agree with both Greg and Kevin. Times have changed where we need to look at things a little bit differently and we need to realize that sometimes when we need a position filled, especially a hard position because of the hours and days of work, we need to go over and beyond a little bit of what has been the norm per usual.

Ms. Hausfeld – I do have a question for Rodney, I'm not sure he can answer it tonight. I know we hired police dispatchers that are, to my knowledge, and correct me if I'm wrong, I'm going to catch it for saying that, but you all know me by now I say what's on my mind, we have hired dispatchers that have been, we've hired police officers and do you know if they came in at a higher rate or did they come in at the step pay?

THE POWER OUTAGE CAUSED COUNCIL TO MEET IN THE MAIN HALL AND SOME OF THE AUDIO WAS LOST.

Mr. Chatman – I'm new at this position, what happened back then I don't know. I do know the spirit behind this has been, we take the experienced workerwaive that policy.....the first person in line for..... extreme shortagethey are typically they get time and a half and if we could find someone to move down from \$12 or \$16 an hour in pay, some folks are paying \$40 plusperforming that function, I'm in favor of that. I'm also in favor of the idea that \$12 is not going to attract someone of that caliberand to haveso that's the spirit behind this.

Mr. Burkhardt - The dispatchers there, they can no longer.....the step paymost of them were hired.....then the step pay came into effect. Then the other thing I want to add is, even in my trade as an electrician, we have step pay for apprentice and journeymen but a lot of times they'll get people that apply that are very

experienced and they are placed accordingly and a lot of times they come in as journeymenand if you're going to get experienced people that is the way you're going to have to do it.

Mrs. Brickweg – I will be voting for it for the two reasons. First of all it is going to save money with not having the overtime and there have been times when we didn't have the overtime that police officers were doing it then and I think it will actually put more men on the roads which is exactly where they are needed.

Ms. Hausfeld – Mr. Burkhardt, can I ask Doug a question? Doug, I'm sorry, I'm going to ask you a question. Do you know if the police dispatcher that is a retired police officer, did he come in at step pay or did he come in at top pay.

Doug Roll, Church St. – Top pay. Are you talking about Mr. Kroeger, he came in before the step pay started.

Mr. Tobergte – I have no problem paying a person with experience and that. I just don't like the system of not advertising for people to make application. That's my only complaint. I agree, I've had a couple of officers tell me, they would rather hire more dispatchers and we wouldn't have to hire more police officers that we're thinking of hiring now, if it's only to cover a desk, or be on the road. My only problem is not advertising.

Ms. Hausfeld – Donny I've been told the exact opposite of what you just said as far as hiring more dispatchers versus police officers and I've been told that by a couple of people.

Lou Steinert – To me, this is just another example of Council micro managing the administration of this City. What people within the administration get paid, the administrative department should be making the ultimate decision. Council should not be involved with the pay of an individual being hired by the administration of the City.

Phil Stegman, 19 Orchard – I applaud the administration for going out and getting qualified people. Donny I'm not saying people shouldn't be able to apply for this jobthis is giving them an extra leg up to hire that best person but their hands are tied right not with the ordinanceso they're changing that so it gives them an opening, even if they did that..... the best person for that job, puts them right in that job, they don't have to do as much training. I hope everybody passes this by the emergency

Mr. Tobergte – Phil, I agree with you 100% with that person but I think it should be advertised. The good old boy network got us in trouble in the City many times before and it's time to end it.

The motion to suspend the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 48, 2008 passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt ordinance No. 48, 2008 as read. Motion passed 5-2 Mr. Tobergte and Ms. Hausfeld voted no.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Burkhardt – It was brought to my attention from the Safety committeestop signs throughout the City

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Lee Wright, 209 Harvey Ct. – Mr. Wright was concerned about having to put his yard waste into bundles and wanted to know if their could be an exception to the rule because of the recent storm that had done so much damage to trees and other property.

Mr. Meier – I was talking with one of the guys in the Service Dept. Right now their main focus is on getting the streets cleared and then as far as the picking up the limbs and things that are in the people’s yards, that will happen over time. But their first priority is for the safety. They’re clearing lines so that Duke Energy can come in and restore power. They’re clearing anything that is blocking streets. I think they are going to come back. I think it will probably take a week or two before they can actually get back and get to everybody’s houses.

Lee Wright, 209 Harvey Ct. – So we can just leave it like it is?

Mr. Meier – Yes.

Mr. Tobergte – When I was out chipping, my chipper only takes a 6” log. I was leaving the bigger stuff lay for the city workers to come back and I was talking to them about that and they are going to pick up the bigger stuff.

Frank Wylds, 421 Cleveland – I want to start in letting everybody know that I want to thank everybody, Ray for getting out.....day after day.....all of you..... that makes me feel good

Lou Steinert, 308 Delmar – I would like to thank Peggy for what she did with contacting Graeters. I think Graeters would be a perfect fit for St. Bernard. We are very close to many kinds of transportation, so that’s in our favor. Graeters would probably hire inexpensive labor. There’s a lot of inexpensive labor in our area and I’m sure we could put together anything with tax incentives in it, 99 years for a \$1.00 and I would be

Mrs. Brickweg – The next COW will be September 25 at 7:30pm. I have nothing on the agenda. Does anybody have anything I need to put on the COW agenda?

Mr. Burkhardt – The ordinance for extending the list.

Mrs. Brickweg – OK, I'll put that on and if anybody else wants to add something else, send me an email.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte seconded by Mr. Peck to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.