

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 20, 2013**

The St. Bernard Village Council Meeting was held Thursday, June 20, 2013 in Council Chambers.

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

Roll call showed that five members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Meier, Mr. Asbach, Mr. Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus. Mrs. Schildmeyer and Mr. Holt were absent.

Mr. Doug Newberry presented Andy Gruenwald, son of Charity and Marty Gruenwald, with two awards from the Cincinnati Soap Box Derby, the first for Super Stock Division Champion and the second for Rookie of the Year. Andy is also now eligible for the world championships to be held in Akron.

Mr. Stegman – On behalf of Mayor Burkhardt we wish Andy good luck and would like to send him off to the championship with our best wishes.

Mr. Asbach made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mrs. Bedinghaus seconded the motion. Council agreed 5-0.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – (read by Mr. Stegman) Just a few updates from the Mayor reminding everybody about the 4th of July. The booths are open from 5:00pm until 10:00pm. Fireworks will start at 10:00pm. Please no coolers are permitted in the park that day. Again, good luck to the gentleman going to Akron, Mr. Gruenwald. Also a reminder to everybody, the Volunteers of America are inviting people up for the dedication ceremony on Thurs., June the 27th, it starts at 10:00am and goes to about 12:00noon. We will have a shuttle here from City Hall and the Municipal Bldg. because there is not a lot of parking up there so we will be shuttling back and forth for that day and there will be some light refreshments and stuff up there during the dedication. Anybody that wants to go up there, please feel free to. Also the Mayor got a letter from Great Parks of Hamilton County. They have changed the name of the Hamilton County Park District to the Great Park of Hamilton County. They are just sending out a letter to make sure people, there's a lot of things that have changed up in our district parks, so get up there and take a look and see all the changes that have been made. Look at the new name and all the new activities that are going on.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's office has prepared Ordinance No. 25, 2013 for tonight's meeting. This Ordinance is additional appropriations of \$8,000.00 to Codified Ordinance, \$1,500.00 to the City Law Library, \$153,826.99 to the Streets and Sewer Projects and \$900.00 to the T-ball line item. With the streets, that is money that we have received and needs to go into that line item so

that that can be done. T-ball is donations that the Rec. had received where the people had donated and they wanted it to go straight to the T-ball fund. I also wanted to let you know that I provided the Treasurer with some reports. We had some issues with our revenues and I worked them out with our software company. The way the software company had it set up we were doing adjustments and they weren't going back to the period with there, it was where that mistake was made, or it was posted to the wrong line item so it kind of messed up the revenue report. But basically the two biggest ones were, one was just posted to the wrong line item and the bonds, we were working through which way to correctly put them in our account, because like I explained to you two weeks ago. When we put them in the way the software company said to, it gave us twice the amount of income. I knew that when the report printed, we don't have \$40million dollars so we've been making the adjustments but the problem is I made those adjustments in May which affected the March one. So we changed it and we set up a system where it's not going to do that anymore so we don't have to worry about it. But he said he's going to go ahead and redo his but I gave him all the reports and then once I get back to work again I'm going to redo the Excel Spread Sheets. Those are correct because I used the adjustments that I made in there but the regular ones from the system, if I printed everyone now it would match, but the one you have is different so there's no difference in money but it was just different line items that we adjusted.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Walden – I appreciate the Ordinance No. 25, 2013 containing some funds for the City Law Library as was discussed last week at the COW. I am looking into seeing if we can get some of those resources on line instead of getting the physical books which would help reduce that cost. I'm still looking into that. I had hoped to have the Ordinances that I'm working with the Police Chief for the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee tonight but as I told Ray, I have been in the office about four hours this week and everything else was in Dayton and various other locations so I'm going to need one more week to get those to Ray and Mayor's Court went very well last night so I wanted to give an update on that and also thank Mike Peck. I'll be in trial up in Dayton on the 17th and Mike has kindly offered to step in and do Mayor's Court that night.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – I have provided this evening the security at Fifth Third Bank and also the monthly Treasurer's report to Village Council and I have a note as Council will see on the bottom where Peggy explains basically when she found where the switch was given to me on the report where they weren't matching up.

Receipts for the Month of May 2013:	\$ 887,315.00
Receipts for the year through May 2013:	\$ 5,566,662.33

I had noticed several cumulative totals on the revenue report had decreased last month with no adjustment reflected on the current month column. The Auditor has agreed to make any adjustments to revenues in the current period and not effect prior periods. In this way, the total revenue for each closed accounting period will not change and the revenue reports will match-up.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Ms. VanValkenburg – The Building Dept. is currently conducting ongoing inspections on \$10,000,000.00 of commercial projects carried over from 2012. They are also inspecting new permits issued since January 1st for over \$16.4 million. HIP inspections May 1st through June 20th, there have been 60 home inspections on Sullivan Ave. 47 follow up inspections on Vine St., 11- 7 day letters were sent on the Vine St. follow up inspections, 24 thank you letters were

issued for homes on Sullivan and 3 sets of orders were issued for homes on Sullivan with 21 set pending. On the rental program, May 1st through May 30th there were 23 inspections, 46 letters mailed and June 3rd through June 20th 21 inspections with 62 letters mailed.

Chief Don Moeller asked me to pass along his thanks to lifelong resident Tom Cunningham for providing the St. Bernard Fire Dept. with identifying license plates for all of our fire vehicles. The license plates say STBFD and look great. The St. Bernard Fire Dept. greatly appreciates his generosity and support. Every community needs people like Tom who can be found supporting all local events in our Village. So again thank you to Tom Cunningham.

We would also like to congratulate Firefighter Jason Martin on his successful completion on the University of Cincinnati's Paramedic Program. Jason graduated with honors and was on the Dean's List every semester. He also received an academic award for maintaining an "A" average throughout class. He passed the National Registry exam and practical's on June 17th and is anxiously waiting for his state certification card so he can start riding the ambulance as a paramedic. The effort involved in completing this program is no small feat. For the last 9 plus months, paramedic school has taken up almost all of his free time with class, clinical rotations and studying. The St. Bernard Fire Department is looking forward to a long and successful career from Jason and is happy to have him in the department's paramedic program.

And then last but not least I'd like to let the community know about something for 4 to 6 year olds to teach basic fundamentals of street and bicycle safety.

Safety Town is a program that's presented this year by the Springdale Police Dept. in cooperation with the Springdale Fire Dept., Princeton City Schools and the Girl Scouts of Western Ohio.

Registration has begun but this is a series of one weeklong sessions in July, July 15th through July 19th, July 22nd through 26th and then July 29th through August 2nd. It's midday for about an hour and a half from 10:00am until 11:30am up at Tri-County Mall. As I said it's just bicycle fundamentals of street and bicycle for 4 and 6 year olds. The usual costs for registration is \$15.00 but St. Bernard residents are being offered a discount so its registration is only \$10.00 for us on the week of July 22nd through 26th. It's first come first served so if anybody is interested, the number for contact is actually on the City's website so check it there.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – We had our bid opening for the Chalet/Heger project on June 19th, Wednesday. The low bid was Fred Nieman and Company for \$1,750,431.07. Mr. Goedie has gone through the bids to make sure all the dollars and cents were right. We'll be signing a contract next week with Fred Nieman and Company. It wasn't brought up at the COW but the \$153,000.00 was just something to finalize the number for the \$615,000.00 we need for our portion of the \$1.2 million project. The Board of Controls has met and okayed to proceed and a letter will be going out to the residents. Once we get a contract for the construction of how it's going take place, how long it will take place, how they're going to actually do it so the residents can feel like they understand what's going to take place up there. So a letter will be going out as soon as we can get the contract signed and everything else.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – The Tax Dept. is still in the process of working on the April 15th tax filing. This is not unusual, this pretty much happens every year. We've been receiving phone calls from people asking, have you gotten my tax return, has there been any problems. When the tax returns and documents and the money comes into the office we process the money and the credit card

payments immediately. We try to do it within a day. But then there is a time lag between when we actually get to process the documents into our tax office. We put them into batches and process them into big groups. We categorize them and try to do the tax returns and issues we know right away there are issues and we do those first. Our goal is to try to get this done by July 1st. That would be a great achievement but unfortunately due to absences and illnesses we're probably not going to meet that. As of tomorrow we're going to have all the money processed into the system, and that again is a great achievement. We still have some business returns and some individual tax returns that we don't seem to have any problems with them. If you receive a letter, again it's because of the time lag. My first year here we were processing through August and September. Our hope is to get these done within the first week or two of July which would still be a great achievement and again if you have any questions, give us a call and we will try to get to them as fast as possible.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Meier – The Finance Committee recommendations on the preliminary budget have been submitted to the Auditor and I think everybody on Council has received copies of, and again this is a preliminary budget, it has to be turned into Hamilton County. Included in extraordinary items in the budget that are included are initial funding. We need to replace some Police cars next year, the Service Dept. is going to have to replace a pick-up truck, there is money in there for elections for next year and there is also some additional money put into Civil Service in anticipation of having to have some additional testing as we look at retirements and promotions and hiring folks. Those things have been taken into account. Roughly what we are projecting is a very conservative one half of one percent in revenues which should come to about \$500,000.00 and so that's the number that we're working off of. As we get to the end of the third quarter we'll have a better idea of where the revenue numbers are actually going to come in and so the Dept. Heads should look in October to begin working on the budget for 2014.

SAFETY, Mr. Asbach – No report.

SERVICE, Mr. Holt – Absent.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mrs. Schildmeyer – Absent.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mr. Culbertson – The Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee will be meeting on Thursday, June 27th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers. The Committee will be meeting with the Law Director to discuss recommended changes to our Codified Ordinances at the request of the Police Chief.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mrs. Bedinghaus – No report.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mr. Tobergte – First I would like to thank Mrs. Sandy Endres for her years of service driving a Dial-A-Ride bus. Also, congratulations to Mr. Gruenwald, he has learned well from his mothers driving instructions. Adding to the Safety Director's report, I've been working with Officer Derek Setters to have a bicycle safety class here in St. Bernard. Tentative dates are July

13th or the 20th. Derek is going to firm that up this week. It will be free of charge. Target has donated two bicycles to give away and Block Watch is donating \$500.00 toward the purchase of bicycle helmets for all participants.

Mr. Asbach – The COW Report has been submitted to the Clerk.

St. Bernard C.O.W

Minutes

6-13-2013

Minutes of the June 6th Council meeting were approved by a 4-0 vote without any additions or corrections.

Paul Myers reported on how the HIP Inspection Program works including how streets are selected. They cannot target specific addresses unless there is a specific complaint. Streets must be selected randomly. The department attempts to work with homeowners to get repairs done. He will get numbers report on inspections next week.

Mayor, Bill Burkhardt:

Service Department groundbreaking took place this week.

Auditor, Peggy Brickweg:

An Ordinance for additional appropriations is needed for the Law Director's library as well as additional invoices from Taft.

Requested Finance Committee make recommendation for direct deposit of employee paychecks be made mandatory.

Law Director, Curtis Walden:

Hamilton County Municipal League sent letter regarding HB5 requesting municipalities pass and send copy of Resolution opposing H B5 to HCML & representatives.

Safety Director, Valerie Van Valkenburg:

No Report

Service Director, Phil Stegman:

Chalet & Heger opening bids will be Wednesday June 19. Project should start in August and be completed by end of January.

Ross Park restroom project bid opening will be Wednesday June 26. Project will start in October and be completed by year end.

Thank you to all residents who are calling about metro busses running through town. Metro is working on the problem which is mostly out of service busses returning to the garage.

Tax Department, Ed Geiser:

Presented tax collection year to date spreadsheet to Council.

Discussion was held on gambling winnings.

Treasurer, John Ungruhe:

No Report

Finance, Kevin Meier:

Reported on preliminary budget for Hamilton County.

Safety, Steve Asbach:

No Report

Service, Michael Holt:

Michael is glad to see the groundbreaking take place for the new service department building.

Public Improvements, Diana Schildmeyer:

No Report

Laws, Contracts & Claims, Ray Culbertson:

No Report

Business & Industry, Cindi Bedinghaus:

No Report

Highways & Transportation, Don Tobergte:

Block Watch will be meeting the 1st Tuesday - learning about methamphetamines is on the agenda. CPR class on Wednesday, still room to sign up.

Don asked about who will be the replacement Dial-A-Ride driver - Bill Rebholz

Next Council Meeting: June 20, 2013

Next C.O.W.: June 27, 2013

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor William Burkhardt
Village of St. Bernard
110 Washington Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45217

Dear Mayor Burkhardt:

Thank you for writing with regard to HB 5. Your letter has been forwarded to me for my review. We appreciate that you took the time to share your views about this important piece of legislation.

HB5 is currently being debated during the 130th session of the Ohio General Assembly. Please be assured Governor Kasich will keep your views in mind if HB 5 is passed by the General Assembly and forwarded to the Governor for his signature. I encourage you to share your concerns with your legislators, as your input will be important as they review this legislation.

Once again, thank you for writing to Governor Kasich. Please do not hesitate to contact the Governor's office if we may assist you in the future.

Sincerely,

Dave Ward, Director of Constituent Services

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to read tonight's Ordinance by title only. Motion passed 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 25, 2013. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Asbach – Due to the lack of votes, I make a motion that Ordinance No. 25, 2013 take its regular course. Mrs. Bedinghaus seconded the motion.

REMARKS

Mr. Stegman – I know I'm not on Council but I do want to make a comment. This won't stop me from signing a contract with Fred Nieman. On Ordinance 20 we had passed that for me to enter into the contract. But I would still like to, I felt comfortable to have the funds in the account but with Ordinance No. 20 that we passed I could enter into a contract and we can put the funds in there at a later date because it did not exceed the amount of \$1.2 million that the Ordinance said that I can enter into the contract with so we're good there. I was a little concerned that's why I rushed to put it on tonight's additional Appropriation Ordinance but I didn't know that we weren't going to have enough people here so I just wanted to let you know that we can continue on.

The motion to let Ordinance No. 25, 2013 take its regular course passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Asbach – I'd just like to remind everybody because of 4th of July being on a Thursday, the next Council meeting will be Tuesday, July 2nd at 7:30 with the Public Hearing on the 2014 budget prior to that meeting.

Also, just a quick question, Phil, listening to the amount that you read for the low bid, it's my math, but I'm coming up with \$537,000.00, is half of that. I know that half of all that we were projecting is \$1.2 million for the project. Are we in fact still going to have to pay the \$615,000.00 or will we be able to pay our portion of the lesser bid?

Mr. Stegman – We only have to pay exactly what it comes out. We could put the exact number, half of that exact number of the bid, but if there's any cost overruns and this, that, and the other we're good up to \$615,000.00. We won't spend any more than we have to. It's not to say we have to pay \$615,000.00 but I would rather have it all in there, the matching funds, and then if something is a cost overrun, usually any contract could go over 10%, we try not to but there is a little bit of cost overrun but we would put the whole thing in, but we won't spend it all probably.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Valerie I appreciate this report from the Planning & Development Dept. and dollars associated with that.

Mr. Culbertson – Just to let everybody know that we are quickly approaching capacity at the St. Bernard Commons. Currently there are 36 units occupied, leaving 5 still available. If anybody is interested in any of the remaining units, please contact the resident manager Denise White up at the St. Bernard Commons Building.

Mr. Meier – Two weeks ago Mrs. Bedinghaus reported on the Wood Stone Creek on Vine St. Just to let people know that acting as president of the CIC today I did sign the closing selling that property. So we sold it for the same amount we purchased for it so we didn't make anything or lose anything on the sale of the property. Pretty interesting place that they have there. He actually has a license to distill spirits. So single malt, something called Scot, it's not made in Scotland but single malt, he'll be doing vodkas there. He has other types of bourbons. An interesting story that he bought some of the lath, if you remember the Bellhouse Brewery, he bought the lath barrels of the red leg ale that they made and then he just distilled that and he came out with beer or snapps. So there's some pretty interesting things he has there. He is able to do wine tastings there and because of the licenses that he has he will be able to participate in any events that the Village has whether it's a festival or something else he would be able to participate in that. Interesting enough he actually has brochures and welcome centers on the interstates, so there are a lot of people that as they're traveling they see these different wineries and distilleries that they will actually take time to stop and go and visit them. I think Paul and his crew did a great job in getting him here to St. Bernard. I think it's the kind of destination business that we're all looking for.

Mr. Tobergte – I was talking to Paul Myers today about the rental properties inspection system. He is still up in the air about how many rental properties we have. I know Eddie pulled some information now and some he can't. Curtis could we pass an Ordinance to allow Eddie to provide information to Mr. Myers or whatever, what the rental properties are in St. Bernard? Would that be possible, is that contrary to State Law?

Mr. Walden – I would be happy to look into that and I can do that this week.

Mr. Tobergte – Thank you.

Mr. Geiser – The Tax Dept. is only permitted to give out statistical information. So with the statistical information we give out that's limited to what we can do. I'll work with Curtis.

I wanted to bring up the fact that Mrs. Kathman read that letter back from the State which was very encouraging about HB 5. I didn't know if all members of Council had read the email that was sent this week about what's going on, the update on HB 5, but those that didn't I just briefly wanted to tell you that the House Ways and Means Committee, the Chairman was open to listening to testimony from both sides of the arguments for most of the summer. The Cities have gotten together and put a substitute bill up. I looked at it today, but it's a critical time now and what the email says is that the person that put the HB5 through is trying to ram it through the Legislature and bypass the House Ways and Means Committee. I was looking at it today and I wanted to talk to Council and the Mayor. What else can we do? They had some sample letters we could send to our Legislators, I don't know where our Legislators stand and I will get with Bill and Phil tomorrow or next week and try to figure out if we can follow with additional letters because the time is critical. If you get a chance to read it I encourage you to read the summary of what the cities are putting through as a recommended bill compared to what the State is currently looking at in HB5. It's a stark comparison and it's important and it's a critical time now that we try to fight this issue. Any ideas, and again I'll meet with Bill and Phil this week and Curtis and try come up with some ideas and do what we can because I feel we have to do something.

Mr. Stegman – Just to add to what Eddie said, there was an email sent out by the City Clerk to all Council and Administration, in the body there you can click on there is a template that has this letter. It gives you everything you need to say basically, put it to the Representative, change it from a City to the Village of St. Bernard and enter your name. I did one today and got two letters out to the Representatives, so yes it is very important that we get as many people to send these letters off and as often as we can. If anybody in town would like to see the template of that letter and would like to also send that off, stop in and see how we can print one off for you to show you what it says.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just have a couple of things, needless to say I wasn't at work today, in this email does it have a list of the different Representatives and their addresses?

Mr. Stegman – There is another click-on where you can go to see who the House Representatives are or the people that you might want to send it off to.

Mrs. Brickweg – I was just thinking that would make it easier for residents to do it.

Mr. Stegman – Yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Brickweg – Thank you Steve, I forgot to announce about, yes we are having the Public Hearing on July 2nd at 7:30 and I started working on that report Monday

and Tuesday night. I wanted to give Phil a big thank you, up in our neighborhood, I especially was having issues because sometime I do work late at night and I go home and we have people in the park playing basketball at 10:30pm or 11:00pm. It was black and I was not comfortable getting out of my car because a few things were said to me a couple of times so right away I went ahead and made the changes to the sign that said our park closes at dusk because when I called the police officer, or when Curt called the police officer they said they couldn't do anything because our park closes at 11:00pm. , which made no sense to me because there are no lights in it. But I wanted to thank them because when I worked late Tuesday it was really nice to be able to come home and not be harassed in the dark.

Mr. Tobergte – With Steve announcing the Council Meeting, just an early reminder, July 4th is a Holiday, there will be no garbage pick-up on Thursday. The 4th will be Wednesday the 3rd and then Friday the 5th.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mr. Culbertson – I don't know if Phil, have we done anything with the awnings down there, last time I looked they were torn up on top and they looked.....

Mr. Stegman – They were taken down today.

Mr. Culbertson – Thank you for doing that.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to excuse the absent members. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, June 27 at 7:30pm.

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