

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2015**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, September 3, 2015 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 all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Kalb, Mr. Asbach, Mrs. Schildmeyer, Mr. Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus.

Mr. Asbach made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mrs. Bedinghaus seconded the motion. Council approved 7-0.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – I have before Council tonight a Mayoral Proclamation, proclaiming September, 2015 as prostate cancer month. I will give that to the Clerk to put into the minutes.

*MAYORAL PROCLAMATION*

*Whereas, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer in men and the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men, and*  
*Whereas, everyday approximately 240,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer in the United States alone every year – one man every 2.63 minutes, roughly 30,000 die each year from the disease – one man every 17.52 minutes, and*  
*Whereas, 1 in 7 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer, African American men are at the highest risk for the disease with a rate of 1 in 4 men, African American men are 2.5 times more likely to die from the disease, and*  
*Whereas, education regarding prostate cancer and early detection strategies is critical to saving lives and preserving and protecting our families, and*  
*Where, all men are at risk for prostate cancer and we encourage the citizens of St. Bernard to increase the importance of prostate screenings.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William C. Burkhardt, Mayor of the Village of St.

Bernard, Ohio, do hereby proclaim September, 2015 as

**PROSTATE CANCER MONTH**

And do commend this observance to all our citizens.

Signed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2015

William C. Burkhardt

Village of St. Bernard

The Mayor's Monthly Court Report Receipts for August, 2015: Mayor's Court Costs/Fines/Fees/Miscellaneous receipts were \$3,771.05. Bonds applied to outstanding tax obligation, \$300.00. Bonds forfeited \$75.00. Total to the City was \$4,146.05. Total to the County was \$24.00. Total to the State was \$1,019.00. Total Disbursements were \$5,189.05.

The Safety Director and I met with the Police Department TOE negotiating team on Tuesday. As soon as I have something concrete to share with Council, I will do so. Also, we have received the background checks on the police candidates. I believe we will be reaching out next week to offer a position on the St. Bernard Police Department.

Also, I know there are questions on the Fire Department Contract, I would hopefully ask Council to discuss that before we bring it off the table to vote on it. The Fire Department is here and will be more than happy to answer any questions you might have.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor’s Office has prepared Ordinance 46, 2015 for tonight’s meeting. It provides for the authorization to transfer:

FROM GENERAL FUND  
 01-5-A-19 General Fund Transfer Out \$700,000.00

TO CASH ACCOUNTS:  
 31-1000 General Bond Retirement Cash Account \$400,000.00  
 51-1000 Employee Health Plan Cash Account \$300,000.00

To provide additional appropriations to the following:

01-2-E-3 Tax Refunds \$20,000.00  
 01-2-K-6 Insurance \$5,000.00

To move certain appropriations as follows:

FROM GENERAL FUND:  
 01-2-O-2C Part Time Permanent \$5,500.00  
 01-6-A-1 Police \$10,000.00

TO GENERAL FUND:  
 01-2-O-10 Park Maintenance \$3,000.00  
 01-2-O-4A Service Dept. Supplies \$2,500.00  
 01-6-A-1A Police Overtime \$10,000.00

The Auditor’s Office is working on the August Expense and Revenue spreadsheets. With this also being a payroll week I will provide you with the analysis and have the spreadsheets ready early next week. The revenues through August were \$11,585,164.65 . August revenues when compared to 2014 are up by \$494,967.18. This huge increase will balance out next month because the Hamilton County Property Tax was received in August this year and in September of 2014. In 2015 the property tax for this period was \$398,910.46 and in 2014 for this period it was \$405,260.32. Taking all this into account the Village is up \$716,787.63 year to date. The year to date expenditures without the bond funded and Ross Ave project, compared to 2014 as of September 3<sup>rd</sup> were \$78,914.55 .

Just to make sure you understand, if we included that property tax money we would be up over \$1.1 million. So we are having a wonderful year. I just wanted to express that to you.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Walden – I guess following up on the Mayor's report and to the Auditor's report, in my little corner of the world, Mayor's Court has brought in \$12,281.00 so far this year to the Village and that is more than \$3,000.00 ahead of this same point last year.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – Absent.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Ms. VanValkenburg – Absent.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – This year, 2015, the one day hazardous collection will be Saturday, Sept., 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am until 2:00pm at Norwood. A Call Command went out about this. It is on our web page, it's out on our Face Book. This is the one day when you are allowed to drop off, but you have to register on line or call Hamilton County, [hamiltoncountycle.org](http://hamiltoncountycle.org), go onto their website and then you'll find the day of the collection. Just register. You must register for them to be able to accept your material over at Norwood.

Also, on the Call Command, Monday is a holiday so Monday's trash pickup will be picked up on Tuesday and Tuesday's will be picked up on Wednesday. Please do not take trash to the curb on Monday due to Labor Day.

The parking lot up by LaRosas is going to be finished by the end of the week. So next week we will be able to start using the parking lot up there. It looks very nice, if you get a chance go by. They just finished the paving today. They'll be putting the striping on it and lights will be hooked up hopefully by the end of the week or the beginning of next week.

Duke is also going to be putting the new light stances up along the East side, coming soon. Hopefully it was going to be tomorrow but I'm not holding my breath, it will probably be early next week.

Also, if you have a chance go up to WesBanco and Ellerbusch you see these other tubes, they are right by the trees, you'll see the new box that is being put in. Those are receptacles for when it becomes Christmas time we'll be able to light up the trees for Christmas. Those receptacles are going in right now if you want to take a look at those.

Also, there's an Ordinance on the table tonight that wasn't discussed at the COW. I wanted to explain this a little bit. I got a call from Duke and KandS Energy. Up at the corner of Greenlee and Rose Hill they are doing a huge two meter pits in the sidewalk and the hillside of the resident of 4324 Greenlee. Duke is going to erect a small wall because they cut back into this gentlemen's property so much to try to put it back to keep the hillside from sliding. They're asking the Village to let them put a small hip wall in there and I explained that this is the normal Council maneuver. But since it's in the City right of way, and it's the utility company paying for this, I did reach out to the owner of the property and explained that to him and if we normally have to attach it to their property. He had no problem with it. So all I need Council to do is pass this so that we can go ahead and do the proper paper work to attach it to his deed. He will accept the responsibility for if anything happens up there. He's knows that it will be at his expense to remove the wall.

I would like to be put on the agenda for the COW to discuss a \$2,400.00 need for, I want it to go sign the contract for Perfection to put the three new units on the Municipal Building next store. The price is right around \$2,400.00. I still have

enough money in the line item to go ahead and sign the contract but it will pretty much zero out any money that I would need for supplies and stuff here at City Hall. So I will ask Council for that at COW.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – Absent.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – The 8<sup>th</sup> annual St. Bernard Soapbox Derby was held on Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup> with 20 racers. Thanks to the St. Bernard Police, Fire and Service Departments for sponsoring cars, along with Jerry Day Auto, Greenlee Garage, Gerry and Pat Weidmann and Mr. Gil Richards.

My next Cleanup St. Bernard Day will be Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am until noon. Thanks to JuJu Beans and Newshoots Landscaping for supplying the refreshments.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – The next Block Watch meeting will be on Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the lower level of City Hall.

I'd also like to take a moment to thank the Police Dept., Fire Dept., Service Dept., Recreation Dept. and Phil Stegman for all their work on the excellent event we had last Saturday down at the park. Kicks for a Cause. The people that ran that event couldn't be more pleased and happy with the support they got from our Depts. and Phil Stegman. Thanks a lot.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – No report.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mrs. Schildmeyer – I'm happy to announce that Adam Hackney has graciously agreed to serve on the Board of the CIC as well as Robert Culbertson who will be our new Treasurer.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – No report.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Ms. Hausfeld – The daily bus passengers for August, 2015. There were 1,211. Total to date is 10,223.

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

Committee of the Whole  
Aug. 27, 2015

1. Council approved the minutes of the Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.
2. Mayor, Bill Burkhardt
  - a. Gave Council a copy of the changes to the Fire Department Terms of Employment and asked if there were any questions.
  - b. Said he was reviewing other municipality's personnel policy manuals for potential changes to our policy.
  - c. Said that he will begin work on the Police Department Terms of Employment next week.
3. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
  - a. Discussed additional money needed in the tax refunds line item as well as other transfers and additional appropriations. Council vote 7-0 to place an Ordinance on the table with these items.

- b. Said that CIC audit is still in progress and when that is finished they will get back to finish ours.
4. Safety Director, Valerie Van Valkenburg
    - a. a. Said that the Fire Department will be hosting three classes in the month of September. 1) Health Care Professional refresher on Thursday Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2) Heartsaver CPR on Tuesday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. 3) First Aid on Thursday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>. All classes are for St. Bernard residents only and will be held at the Fire Department from 6:30-9:00 PM. To register, call 242-2727 and ask to talk to the Fire Department Officer in charge. This information is also on the website and posted at City Hall. The Fire Chief said these classes are for ages 14 and older.
  5. Service Director, Phil Stegman
    - a. Said that he has turned over the deed paperwork on the old Police Department building. Council will have to decide if they want to turn the property over to the CIC at some point.
  6. Finance, Don Tobergte
    - a. Reported that the Police Chief said that the new traffic flow at St. Clement doesn't seem to be an issue.
    - b. Said that the next "Clean up St. Bernard Day" is Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> from 9-noon. Meet in the side parking lot by the lower level of City Hall.
    - c. Thinks that we could get more for the shopping center than what was proposed.
  7. Safety, Ray Culbertson
    - a. Reported that the next Block Watch meeting will be Tuesday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the lower level of City Hall.
  8. Public Improvements, Diana Schildmeyer
    - a. Reported that the CIC met last night and a full report will be given at the next Council meeting.
  9. Laws, Contracts & Claims, Cindi Bedinghaus
    - a. Asked the Law Director about Ordinances for the cat issue. A meeting will be scheduled when there is more info.
  10. Audience participation: A resident talked about the items discussed at the CIC meeting and said he was against everything they are doing. He said that there were 40 plus properties that belonged to the CIC and something should be done with those before anything else is done. Another resident asked about marketing the Village. She still thinks that we need to do that to grow the Village.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Steve Asbach  
 President of Council, Pro-Tem

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to read tonight's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only.

Mr. Peck – Clerk, could we please have the second reading of Ordinance No. 45, 2015.

Mr, Asbach – Before we read that I know the Mayor had asked if we had any questions so we should make our remarks now.

Mr. Peck – Before it's read?

Mr. Asbach – Yes.

Mayor Burkhardt – I know there were no questions at the COW meeting but I know not everybody is totally thrilled with their understanding of a certain part of the Terms of Employment. To be fair to the firemen I think if you've got questions, now is the time to ask them.

Mr. Culbertson – Mayor, has anything changed from a month ago when we were in Executive Session?

Mayor Burkhardt – No.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I would like to express that I am extremely disappointed in this Council if we do not give them a vote tonight. We have had this for months. Nothing has changed in weeks. They deserve a vote. They deserve to know how we feel. Nothing has changed. We have the money, we can pay for it. They have not had a raise in four years. Our first responders deserve this. Peggy told us tonight how we are having a gang buster year. And we had a great year last year too. So I am extremely disappointed if we do not give them an answer tonight. And I'm extremely disappointed if you didn't do your homework to make sure where your questions were before tonight.

Mr. Kalb – One of the only questions or concerns that I had, and its well known that most of the employees have gone years and years without raises and they've also sacrificed and gave up other things to help balance the budget over the years. So I definitely take all that into account. I am in favor of giving the raises. By no means am I against the raises. My only concern was, and that question was that the budget we passed sending down to Hamilton County, we had to cut like \$300,000.00 or \$400,000.00 out of that budget to balance it with the thought process of adding that money back in. Now, tonight, obviously it sounds like we're, our revenues are still going well beyond what it had been normally thought. We need to look at our revenues but there are items like the ambulance that was taken out to balance the budget, the pick-up truck and a few other smaller items taken out to balance the budget. With this, roughly, we'll say \$70,000.00 for next years' budget, as of now we're technically over budget so I think it's only fair to the employees as well as the residents that we make sure we have the money to pay that because that additional increase, as far as the raises and deferred time. That's my thing. I haven't heard any statements or plans on how that money is going to be paid. We balanced the budget, sent it down to Hamilton County, but we all know when we talk about how it's a fake, "fake" budget. We take items out and then add items back in that puts us back over budget again. So we know going in to this that next year we're over budget and then adding the additional cost is obviously going to put us even farther on. I'm looking for more of an explanation of how we're going to go about paying for this, just so it's fair to the employees as well as the residents that we're not putting our Village into a financial hardship that next year, two years down the road we're cash strapped and we have to, I'm trying to save jobs and have job security is what I'm trying to get out here. I want

to make sure we have the money to pay for the raises and stuff before we go ahead and do it instead of passing it and finding the money afterwards.

Mrs. Brickweg – Andy I'm not sure why you think we're over budget.

Mr. Kalb – You projected 2016, and when we came in it was like, I'm using numbers here that aren't correct but \$900,000.00 or \$1,000,000.00 over and then we increase revenue projections which got us down to like \$2 or \$300,000.00 over. And then we went through and cut a few items out to balance that budget to send it down to Hamilton County. One of the items I know we took out was the ambulance that we desperately need but then that was going to be added back in. but if the budget was balanced and you keep saying it's a fake budget and I hate using that wording, it's not a fake budget, it's a real budget, a projected budget, but our projected budget was neutral with no extra money to pay for anything with knowing in the background that we needed to add items back into the budget. So I'm just looking for more of a, not really a guarantee, but I want to make sure there's money in the budget for these raises so we don't put ourselves and our employees in a hard spot down the road. And I haven't heard any plans and I do apologize for not coming to this earlier but that's one of the things that, I missed the last Executive Session, I wasn't there during the Executive Session where it was voted to put it on the table to ask questions. In the next meeting we only got the Union Contract the night of the meeting so I didn't have time to go over the Union Contract and then last week at the meeting we didn't have enough members to do anything so that's why I waited until now to bring up my concerns and questions.

Mayor Burkhardt – Last week the Chief was here and he offered to go get you the information you wanted and you told him not to so to me we could have had the answers last Thursday. As far as the budget goes we go year to year because you never know what you're going to bring in each year. So we project a budget off of past practice and that's how you get your mid-year budget. Then when it comes time for the budget at the first of the year, we have a better handle on our projections for the past year, and as you can see, I think the projections are looking very well. I think it's time for them to have a raise and I think the Terms of Employment are to me, it's not generous by any means but it is what they deserve. I've got all kind of numbers here from what they've given up over the last three to four years. So if you'd like to hear how much money they've saved the City over the last three to four years, I've got them right here if you want to hear them.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – We keep hearing about how we can't afford this, we can't afford this, I think we're hearing that yes we can afford this. But I would like to say how we can't afford not to keep our first responders, we cannot afford to keep the best of the best in St. Bernard to take care of our residents. I don't want to hear how we can't afford this because we're hearing that we can afford it. I want to hear how, I can't afford for my house to catch on fire again. I can't afford for them not to be able to come and help me when I needed to go to the hospital again, because they have done all that for my family. So we can't afford not to give this to them.

Mr. Kalb – I totally agree with you and that's why I want to say that the numbers that we're hearing from Peggy tonight were not necessarily the first time we've heard the numbers trending in the good direction because they have been trending in a positive direction all year long but obviously we've had a big jump here in the

last month. I haven't really heard until tonight that we had the money for next year because the budget we sent down to Hamilton County was balanced by taking items out of it which we knew we were going to put back in. I haven't heard with a definite answer that we do have the money for that and going back to the Police and Fire and Service responding and helping the Village out, it puts the employees at a greater risk if we do things we can't do. If we do things and we can't afford it down the road versus holding off or getting more information and that's what I look at. I'm not, these guys have been giving up over years and years, all three depts. everybody has given up and sacrificed to this Village and it is time to give a raise, I'm totally in favor of giving a raise. I just haven't heard until tonight a definite clear answer that we have the money for sure. I think we owe it to the employees that that money is going to be there for their raise. Not a, well we got to decide to cut something out or we got to reduce recreation to make that raise. I think we owe it to the employees and to our Village residents that we for sure know that we can afford these raises. I am in favor of giving it, it's just I haven't heard an answer of if we can afford it or not.

Mrs. Brickweg – Andy, I think the other thing that I will try to explain is that we do not spend that entire budget at the end of the year. Even though I feel very comfortable with the projection because we never spend the entire thing anyway. There's a lot of money that goes back in. I don't have that number on top of me because I didn't know I was going to need it tonight but everybody did get a spreadsheet at the end of last year showing you that it was showing additional appropriations and what was left over. I'm very comfortable with the projected budget when you consider that we don't spend the whole budget. Even though we might say we might have expenditures of \$12 or \$13 million, we're not going to spend \$12 or \$13 million. That's the worst case scenario. I don't have it tonight but I did give it to all you guys at the end of the year, so you did have those numbers, what was left over.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – If you look at our report tonight Andy, last year we brought in \$800,000.00 more than in 2013. That was not projected. We are now on pace to do better than we did last year. I don't know how you say we can't afford this. We brought in \$800,000.00 last year more than we thought we would and we still afforded everything.

Mr. Kalb – I do agree with you 100% on that because we did bring in way more money than was projected. But then we also, like last year we projected \$9.7 million, well this year, well for 2016 we are projecting \$10.2 for income tax and we would still barely be at that balance point. So we have accounted for the additional revenue coming in and that's where I have that slight concern. Revenue is rolling in but we've already increased our projection from \$9.7 for this budget season to \$10.2, \$10.3 for next year's budget and the budget was still \$2 or \$300,000.00 short of being balanced. I feel way better with the Auditor saying that we have the money, I feel very comfortable. I trust her judgement because she deals with the money all the time so that's a good enough answer for me. But we have to look at the bigger picture, and I'm not saying you're wrong by no means, but we have already increased that projection by \$10.3 and it was still slightly "unbalanced" because we had to cut certain items out that we know we can put back in for next year.



Mr. Culbertson – Peggy can you repeat that number again that you said that our revenues are up year-to-date verses last year. I believe it was \$7 hundred and something thousand dollars.

Mrs. Brickweg – Yes. I would like to say something. All I'm doing for you is explaining how the budget system works. I do not want to be thrown under a bus saying you support the contract because my husband is part of it. I've already been thrown under that bus before. I'm not doing that again. I'm just giving you the hard core facts and numbers, period. It was, to make it easy, right now the revenues are up over \$1.1 million. But as I said, there's a little bit of that with the Hamilton County coming in in August verses September. If you take all that into consideration, the revenues, year-to-date are up \$716,787.63. The expenditures are up \$78,914.55.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I have thought long and hard about this for the last four weeks and I totally agree with the raises. Totally agree. In fact, I know that over the last three years everybody has taken a hit, all the employees and they absolutely deserve it and I think what they're, the raises that are happening are taking them from that mid-level to the upper lower third up to the mid-level and the higher third. I think that's great. They deserve it. Our employees deserve it. We need to keep them. My concern was with the deferred comp. This deferred comp is going to cost about \$93,000.00 over the next three years. So we're giving raises to quite a few of the employees up there and I totally agree with that, but it's that extra deferred comp is where I struggle because if we give them the deferred comp, then there will be other ones that want the deferred comp and before we know it we're out of whack again. But I totally agree with the 2% raises. Totally agree over the three years for the five year steps.

Mayor Burkhardt – The Service Dept. already gets the deferred comp. They get 75 compared to the Fire Dept. at 50. They've had it for about three years now.

Mr. Peck – May we now have the second reading of Ordinance No. 45, 2015.

**ORDINANCE NO. 45, 2015. ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT AGREED UPON BY AND BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD AND LOCAL NO. 450, ST. BERNARD FIREFIGHTERS, UNION I.A.F.F., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Asbach – It sounds like all the questions have been ironed out. I will make a motion to suspend with the third reading of Ordinance No. 45, 2015

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I will second that.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Tobergte – Procedural move. Since this was postponed do we have to bring it back on the table or anything?

Mr. Peck – The second reading was postponed so, no.

Mr. Asbach – While I have been against the Ordinances, to the contract I should say, since it's on all the records before it became a Village, at this point it's kind of a moot point, so while I've been against them, I still don't like it, I still think we

should have gone Terms of Employment but I will be voting for this tonight because, as I say, we're under budget at this point so I just want to state that.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I also want to reiterate what Steve said. Before I was not in favor of the contract but again that all went through and that's water under the bridge. So contract we are that's the way we have to go to the Terms of Employment so I will be voting for this.

Council agreed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 45, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Burkhardt – I would like to thank Council for their vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 46, 2015. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, MOVE AND TRANSFER FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 46, 2015. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adopt Ordinance No. 46, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 47, 2015. APPROVING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RETAINING WALL ON THE SIDE OF 4324 GREENLEE AVENUE ON VILLAGE PROPERTY BY THE OWNERS KENNETH AND LINDA HENNEL. REQUIRING EXECUTION AND RECORDING OF AN INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 47, 2015.

Mr. Asbach – I know this will shock a lot of people because I always vote against these but since this is something that Duke Energy or KS Energy caused I don't think we should penalize the property owners. They need this wall to be able to open the doors to their gas pits so I will actually be voting for this.

Mr. Tobergte – Phil you better go buy some more salt quick.

Mr. Stegman – I did twist Mr. Asbach's arm on Tuesday when I found out. He was the first one I asked to talk to to make sure he understood what was going on.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Ordinance No. 47, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Kalb – I just want to remind all the residents that the St. Clement Parish Festival is next weekend, the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. On Friday it's from 7:00pm until 11:00pm, Saturday it's from 3:00pm until 11:00pm and on Sunday from 1:00pm until 8:00pm. I want to invite all residents to come down and enjoy fun, food and games and a big shout out and thank you to the Service Dept. who are already working hard to make this happen for the Parish.

Mr. Tobergte – A question for Peggy, my answers to, I talked to the Chief today, he's buying a new computer, a Surface Pro for the building plans for when you fight a fire. I was curious, why did that come out of the training budget? Tuition and Training budget instead of Equipment budget?

Kerry Meyer, Fire Chief – Yes, the training, it's for pre plans, it is going to be used tactically on the scenes but it's going to be used more for training the guys that when we pre plan say a certain building over at Emery Industry, we will have a training class on that building, where the equipment wants to be, where the hydrants are, where the hazards are and stuff like that. That's why it came out of training because it will be used probably more as a training tool but a tactical tool although it will be a tactical tool as well.

Mr. Stegman – I would also like to add a little bit. Kerry did call me and ask me if I had any money in that line item. There is money but most of that money is still allocated and he told me what it was used for and I told him to go ahead and take it out of his training and if he had money left at the end of the year in the computer we would send it over but it's something they needed right away and it wasn't appropriated for this year's budget under the computer line item.

Mr. Tobergte – When I talked to Kerry today he didn't mention anything about training. It was just when you pull up to a fire you pull this out and you have the building plans and I was just curious why it came out of training.

Kerry Meyer, Fire Chief – That is correct. When Mr. Tobergte called me I did not mention the training and I really didn't think about it. When he asked what it was for I kind of, I thought it was more important about what it actually would do on the scene but that's the reason it came out of training.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Norm Miller 219 Washington Ave. – Tonight I want to talk to four of you. Three are Council-at-Large and one is my Ward Council. Last meeting there was a fellow here talking and he was invited to five minutes to talk. I think that is about as ridiculous as you can get. So I'm asking one of you four, you represented me in the City of St. Bernard to do away with this or suspend it for tonight and I want to talk and I don't want to be interrupted and I don't want this five minute sit down and shut up. So any one of you four got enough to come up and say that lets suspend with this five minute business?

Ms. Hausfeld – Norm, I am your representative and for as long as I sat out in the audience or up here I don't have a problem for however long you guys take because I personally would rather hear from you guys verses sit down and shut up. That's my personal view. I can't speak for the other six up here.

Norm Miller – All seven of you represent the citizens of St. Bernard. You want us to come down here and participate in the system. But some of your meetings are five minutes long, ten minutes, a good Council meeting is a half an hour. What's the big hurry. Five minutes and you have to be somewhere?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Could we give Mr. Miller more than five minutes?

Mr. Peck – The rule is, these have been the Village rules forever. Please limit your comments to five minutes but you can speak twice. You just want to make sure other people can speak. My reading is you get ten minutes but five minutes a piece. But it's your rules if Council wants to give somebody more time.

Norm Miller – I can't say what I want to say in ten minutes.

Ms. Hausfeld – If I need to make a motion, I'll make a motion to let Mr. Miller speak.

Mr. Asbach – I'm not trying to hush you but this would be something that would be better served at COW. You can be put on the agenda and you can talk as long as you want to talk, if there are issues, that's just my opinion. That's the meat and potatoes meeting as we call it. I'd be more than happy to put you on the agenda and you can talk however long that night. These were put in as Mr. Peck said, these rules were put in place a while ago. I'm the one that said it last week at COW. The problem is we've got these rules to go by and when everybody keeps interrupting while their talking, you never know when the five minutes is up. So, it's up to you but if you're talking about more than ten minutes.....

Norm Miller – You're here before the meeting starts and you should listen to this guy. They could stay here for fifteen minutes and talk and you haven't got no problem but a citizen that you want to participate in your meetings five minutes and sit down. It's gotta stop. We come here to be part you all represent us.

Mr. Kalb – .....

Norm Miller – Get on it and I'm going home. I don't give a damn one way or the other.

Mr. Kalb – Could we put it on the COW to discuss Council Rules and then can the Law Director look up what other, like what's the standard as far as other Villages and Cities and Townships and stuff like that. maybe we can discuss this and maybe look into this for future meetings.

Mrs. Brickweg – Pretty much that rule was put in back when I started coming to Council. I'll be honest with you. It was to shut me up. Yes, Council can vote to let him speak and it has been done before. That's pretty much why it was put in there. So, yes, Patty you can make a motion and Council can vote to let him speak.

Ms. Hausfeld – I make a motion to let Norm speak.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I'll second that.

## **REMARKS**

Ms. Hausfeld – I do have one comment. I'm sorry Mr. Miller. Since there is somebody that wants to speak, can we let him speak and then you can take all the time you want. Do you mind?

Norm Miller – You're asking me about a Fireman speaking?

Ms. Hausfeld – He may not be as long as you're going to be so it would be fair to let the audience.....

Norm Miller – I understand, just kidding.

Ms. Hausfeld – You can kid me all you want Norm, I can take it. As long as it's nice, I can take it.

Mr. Peck – Can we vote on the motion that's before Council? The motion to extend the five minute period for Mr. Miller. Please call the roll.

The motion passed 7-0.

Brian Young, President of the St. Bernard Firefighters, Local 450 – I just want to publically thank my negotiating team, Brett Fogel, Mark Sicking, John Goecke, Christine Pasley and everyone at the Department and Union gave help with these negotiations. With that being said, Chief Meyer, Mayor Burkhardt and Safety Director Van Valkenburg, we've been dealing with this for about eight months. There have been lots and lots of long hours, conversations, arguments, whatever you want to call them and Council as well, I appreciate your time. I'm glad we were able to come to a conclusion. It think it's long overdue. I think it's fair. I think it's fair for both sides and I'd be remiss without thanking my family especially for the long hours I put in as well as the guys that supported me, their families, we've all spent lots and lots of long, hard hours away from our families. So again, thank you.

Ms. Hausfeld – Brian I want to thank you for taking the time to at least make sure I was on the same page and going over certain things that I didn't understand. So thank you.

Kerri, Tower Ave. – So last Friday I went and had a flip flop fixed down at that shoe repair shop and the man that owns it is super nice and we got to talking and he said that he's lost a ton of business just over six months due to the Streetscape and even after they're done because a lot of his patrons are elderly and have a hard time walking because they said something about parking behind the Inwalle and stuff. He said they can't make it and he said he wishes there would be like a five of ten minute pick-up spot just right in front for like the elderly and I don't think that's too much to ask because I think he has a great business that's hard to find any more and you know we still need to be providing something for the people that have been here and constantly given business to the Village. So I was just wondering if we could do something about that because I'd rather not lose a business over parking.

I don't know what the CIC if there's like a guide book or something, I don't know what it's called that you all go by, like rules, but I don't know what it's called, but anyway, I was told that eleven members need to be on CIC minimum, and if that's true I don't think we have that many and I'd like to actually like to be a part of it if

that's doable. Also I thought it was like three people vote that go with whatever decision they make about whatever they want to put where. But also in that guide book it says everyone gets a vote and then it should go back to Council to finalize it. So I just want to make sure that all this stuff is taken for additions that we want to make too.

Another thing, I just want to be, I hope you're going to be on top of marketing, you know if we're making more money than we were a couple years ago, great, but we have to keep adding things so again if marketing can be put into the budget that would be marvelous. And I do want to thank the Police and Firemen because I've just seeing a lot lately a lot of places and they're doing a great job but it also it's showing me a shift in the neighborhood that I don't really, I'm not liking at all. So if there could be more cameras like they discussed a couple of weeks ago and also if you'll look into getting that Police Dog and lastly, again with my marketing, if we can get in the things and that's why I would like to be part of the CIC to get things in here that people my age and you know, young couples, even the old couples that have been here, give everybody something to enjoy, you know, I would just like to be a part of that and get more people involved.

Mayor Burkhardt – Kerri, I will have Phil stop down at the shoe repair guy. I'm not sure what we can do down there but maybe along the corner on Bank right there, maybe we can get something for him as far as parking. And I'll talk to the Police Chief about the Police Dog.

Kerri – Um and the CIC thing.

Mayor Burkhardt – Yes, at our next meeting, I'll bring all that up about the CIC and we'll discuss it.

Kerri – There's only one every three months, so like you guys said we can call an emergency meeting or I think we need to do something sooner than later, I don't want to wait three months and be like, I mean I still want to do that, but like we need to be kind of like on top of the ball here. I mean even the shoe repair guy was like, I like it here but you know you guys are out of the loop. You're out of the loop with what everybody else is doing. I went down by Oakley, they did a wonderful job redoing that and the things that they are putting in are the things that we need to be marketing too and putting in. there's too many businesses, there's too many hospitals, there's too many people with, you know, places close to where they work that would really benefit money wise if you want to keep growing and keep making money you gotta bring in people that are coming out of pockets, not so much renters, I'm still upset with that, we need to get on top of landlords and make them, fine them a decent amount of money, not \$50.00 here, \$50.00 there, and yeah you're gonna pay it or you're going to go to jail.

Ms. Hausfeld – Along the lines of the cameras that she was talking about, that was discussed at the Block Watch meeting, the picnic they had and the Police Officers were telling us that there are grants out there to help with that so if somebody could check into that I'd appreciate it.

Mayor Burkhardt – I'll meet with the Chief. Thank you.

Mrs. Brickweg – Kerri, I'll look through my files at home, I do have some very old stuff on the CIC, like the by-laws and I want to say the Articles of Incorporation but I'm not sure that's exactly what I have. But I'll look for that and bring it in.

Norm Miller, Tower Ave. – I'm not talking off of any notes so don't pay any attention to what I say a lot. I've been in this town for 86 years, I'm the eighth generation of Millers. My family lived here. They raised children and grandchildren so I'm all St. Bernard. Don't get the misunderstanding I have no place to go but St. Bernard and I don't want to go any place but St. Bernard. But I want to speak to you tonight. What happened to St. Bernard? What happened to it? I remember and probably none of you were, maybe you weren't even born yet, or you were very young when I remember St. Bernard. I remember Vine St.. We had King's Drug Store on the corner, a doctor and a dentist above (inaudible) Starks was next door to that, some smaller grocery store then we had a big (inaudible).....next to that we had a pool hall, a barber shop and a dry cleaner, in St. Bernard all .....ice cream.....that was a hamburger store. ....we had our own .....

Mr. Peck – Mr. Miller before you proceed, we're having a hard time picking it up because you're speaking directly into the microphone. If you could back up just a little bit. Thank you.

Norm Miller – Is that better? We had a ladies store, ladies apparel, a deli next to that, a used goods store on the corner. All of these were in business and very comfortable with business. What happened after that? We had a political move in St. Bernard, politicians were behind it. They had investors invest in it and we came up with this beautiful strip mall we got there now. The one we're going to tear down, both sides of the street. St. Bernard took all of these businesses, 18 of them I names, took all of them and put them out of business. Then we got the strip mall, both sides of the street. That was beautiful. Krogers went out, the bowling alley went out, we had this theatre down at the end, the eye of entertainment, sit down beautiful restaurant, that went out. Across the street we had the drug store, they left. All this beautiful political move and I still say it was politics that did it. We didn't even know what was going on until it happened. They tore it all down and put all these businesses out of there and behind that there were several houses on Bank St. Tore them down and put them out of their house. Over on W. Ross on that side, homes, they tore them down. I lived in the west end down there and we had a play park. City swimming pool, boys and girls restroom, swings, tore that all out. It's all gone, what'd we get? We got a beautiful thing down there we don't know what to do with now. The CIC has got all these beautiful plans, they don't know what's in the plan. You get a picture and the first thing you know it's stuck on a sign, the sign rots away before they do anything and that's whats happening now. If you go further in St. Bernard we had a lot of beautiful places that we tore down. One of the most historical places was the old City Hall. Beautiful place. What'd we do? We tore it down. What do we got? A parking lot. We got brick walls around it, that's great. Then we went up, the Catholic Church, when we had the bad fire at the Catholic Church, if it wouldn't have been for the parish, the people that went to the Catholic Church, they'd have leveled that too. But the people spoke out just like we can't speak out because things are happening and we don't even know they're happening. We went on sometime later, I was involved in this, Bertus St. Park. You can't put houses on Bertus St. Park. The other Administration wanted to put homes there. Can't put them there, it was a dedicated park. Can't do that. St. Clement ain't got no place to play. So what happened, politics changed. The same people put 4 or 5 houses in there, but you can't do that, it's a dedicated park. That's how St. Bernard works. You go over on Tennis Lane, they had the same thing Bertus St. Park. They had a wading

pool, boys and girls rest room over on Tennis Lane, same thing, wading pool, they tore them all out. St. Bernard, you want young people to bring children in, what are they going to do, they're going to do what they do now, look at these ipads and all that sort of thing. Something has to change. We don't have any say. You seven up there, you represent me. And I never know what's going on. If you watch a Council meeting you watch a COW meeting, you get a whole ten minutes. make a motion, we adjourn. You get a good half hour, you get a Council meeting, make a motion, we adjourn. The town is going to pot and now we got to do something different. You're turning all this stuff over to CIC, that tells me we don't know what's going on. And that brings me to the next question. The CIC is talking about putting this here whatever you got in the old Police Station. Before we dig into the Police Station, we took the Fire House and all the talk about building this Police Station, the Fire Dept. on 3 or 4 occasion come to this City Hall, we don't need a new Fire House. We don't need a new Fire House. I was there when we built the new Fire House that's down there now and we were part of a committee and we helped plan that Fire House that it's workable. We don't need it but the CIC or whoever else is behind it, we need it. The Police Dept., we had a nice Police Dept. who's in the Police Dept.? Five days a week the Chief and the dispatcher. On the weekends the dispatcher and the rest is supposed to be out in the street. Your patrolmen, but we need this \$10 million Police Station down there that we're going to have trouble paying back. We want to do all these things we finally got the streets going on, that could have been a lot of money that we could have used for the City but we need this beautiful, beautiful whatever you call it for the Police Chief to sit in an office five days a week and a dispatcher on the weekend. Somebody up there, you're all guilty of it, you didn't try to stop those, you didn't try to stop any of it. Now we're talking about this medical business right in the heart of the City, right in the old Police Station, we need this? We need something like that right in the heart of the City. Who's going to benefit? Bond Hill is next to us, Elmwood is next to us, Winton Terrace, North Avondale, think about it, we're putting this in the heart of our City? Now I had a suggestion, laying in bed a couple of nights ago, the old Fire House is gone. They inspected all this area, the Chief's office and there's a room behind it, we had a sitting room 5 times the size of those offices, we had a full kitchen, a full dining room, we could sit eight at, we had eight beds in the back, we could all sleep in separate beds and we had a beautiful shower, wash room, toilets, beautiful. We had an apparatus floor, two pumpers, a big area, had two ambulances, why can't they take that idea and get it off of the books and put them down there. What better place when you come down Ross Ave. if they got that medical center down there and you take a left you don't even have to look at it. You put it right on Vine St. right at City park, that's what we're going to have. That's what you're trying to promote here. Somebody's got to talk against it. Your CIC is out of control. You give them stuff and you don't care what they do with it. You got a guy as head of the CIC, whatever he says seems like it's alright to him. If they put doctors down in the old Fire House you got the apparatus you could put a full gym in it. All they need is outlying committees, they're the ones who are going to benefit, not St. Bernard. P&G could benefit even, on their lunch break they may want to take, something has to change in the City right here. You represent us, you don't represent the CIC or anybody. CIC has about 5 or 6 votes and they can tell us whatever we're going to have. You don't have any say in it. You fund it, don't fund it. I don't think I got through to anybody but that's all I got to say.

Mayor Burkhardt – Thank you Norm. I've got a ton of notes and we'll discuss them all. I guarantee it.



Mr. Stegman – I do want to answer one thing that you did bring up Norm. The Fire House will be torn down because underneath the basement, when they start building on that expressway that will become an unsafe building and won't be able to stay standing. It will be torn down and the land will be given back to the Village but ODOT will be tearing the Fire House down and giving us the property back but it will not be able to stand as it is, after the highway gets done.

Norm Miller – I don't understand that at all. The Fire House sits on a slab. The basement has nothing to do with the Fire House. The slab is there .....fill the basement up. What does that have to do with the Fire House. It's on a slab. Is that slab going to shake and the basement shake? I lived in there too and I didn't, right next to the highway.....and the old Fire House and it didn't shake that building. You got something going there that somebody told you. They said that we could take that Fire House back. Take it back. Don't let the State decide. If they'll give it to us for a dollar, or give it to us for nothing let us worry about it..... You got somebody that says it's going to fall to the ground. Find out what it is. It's on a slab it can't fall into the basement.

Mr. Tobergte – Bill, last week I brought up about the developers at the shopping center, did you get a chance to talk to Paul about getting them to come to a Council meeting or the COW to discuss their vision?

Mayor Burkhardt – (inaudible)

Mrs. Brickweg – I do want to ask that question. I'm not going to beat a dead horse but when it comes to that Fire House it was only a little tiny corner of the basement. When all of a sudden did this become unsafe? Because this is news to me because I thought we did get the building back.

Mr. Stegman – No, we get the land back. ODOT will be tearing the building down and giving the property back to the Village. The engineer's studies came back, I gave those all to people who wanted it. ODOT had their engineers, that's why they went ahead and purchased this building. Even though it's the corner, that was one of the reasons why ODOT is taking it down because they're not going to give a building back with the expansion of the expressway if it becomes unstable property and they will not leave that building standing. They're taking it down and giving the property back to the Village.

Norm Miller – And it's not possible to talk to ODOT again and find out? You just accept ODOT, tear it down, now we got something we could use and would make sense, a medical building, it's on a slab, what's it going to fall into, the ground below it? I don't get it. ODOT's .....because they didn't want it to begin with. You talked them into it.

Mrs. Brickweg – Is that something we could ask? That was what I was going to say next. I understand that that's what they say they're going to tear it down, but is there even an option? Because there was an option but there were options.

Mr. Stegman – I can ask, but all I can explain to you is we even went this route to save the Fire House. How much it would cost to build the floors underneath where the basement is, where the fitness center was and it came up to be about \$600,000.00 to hold those walls back for that Fire House to stand. So to save the

Fire House verses tearing it down and then moving, like I say, this was all brought up back then. I don't have all that paper work here in my hands but I can ask, but I'm sure they're not going to want to give back an unstable building back to the Village for us to use but I will ask the question.

Norm Miller – Why can't we get a St. Bernard engineer to make an evaluation and not use somebody else's? Get somebody else, don't say ODOT said this, I don't get it, what's going to fall in? if your house is on a slab is it going to fall into the basement? It's not over the basement.

Mr. Stegman – Norm, I did go out and hire, to look over the paperwork and make sure that what they showed us, we did hire our own. We didn't just go by ODOT standards. We went and had our own guy look at this too.

Norm Miller – You were hell bent on this Police Station down at the other end. You wanted to get rid of that Fire House. You guys..... you wanted to build this monstrosity there. That's the reason you did it. Not because ODOT said something.

Ms. Hausfeld – Norm, I just want to make it perfectly clear that you said all of us were the new Police and Fire Station. There are some of us that did not want that. One reason I fought against it is because I did listen to the Firemen that talked to me and said we don't need one, we have a perfectly good Fire house. The other reason I fought against it is because I worked, this is going to sound really weird, but I worked at Mitchell and Vine for several, several years for Walgreens and I know what a big pain in the butt it is to get in and out of those parking lots down there and I was actually against it because I thought it would be more of a pain in the butt for the Firemen, especially the Firemen to get their big trucks in and out. So there are people, and I'm not speaking for everybody up here, I'm speaking for myself, I definitely did not vote for that. When I found out, I did vote to buy the KFC property because that was an eyesore that was, I could call it every name in the book, it needed to be gone, but when I found out what they're intentions were and they started buying up a few homes, if you look back at the minutes, I actually voted against at least one of those homes, if not, two of those homes because I found out what the intentions were and I did not agree with that so to say we all did it, that's not true. That's just my two cents.

Norm Miller – I still think that 7 of you up there ought to stand still and get an opinion, we got an opportunity to put this, you all wanted this medical building right in the middle of town, this is a good opinion. Let's work for it. Don't say, well they're going to tear it down and it's unstable, the basement part, make a hole and fill it full of dirt. Put a parking lot on top of the dirt, but don't tear a great big beautiful building down.

Ms. Hausfeld – Norm, you just said I would disagree with and I'm sorry I will argue with you. You just said we were all for the medical building. I've never once said I was for the medical building. I've never once said that.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – None of us said that.

Norm Miller – I didn't say you, I didn't say nothing about you saying that. If you got it on your mind, somebody up there has got it on their mind, hell bent on putting it in there. If the CIC gets this you're dead in the water. They'll put it in.

Whatever this guy who you hired in, if he says it, they do it. That's what happened to St. Bernard.

Ms. Hausfeld – I said my piece. Any time you want to call me down to your house I'll be glad to come down and talk to you. 288-6200 is my cell phone number. Any time you want to talk about it I will be glad to come down and talk to you.

Norm Miller – I almost forgot what I came for. I want to publically, right now, invite everyone up to my house and I want to take you into my living room and look out the front window. Then you go home to your house, after you leave my house and go home and look out your front window. When you have time tell me what you see.

Ms. Hausfeld – Norm, just so you know, I don't know exactly when it was but Phil can back me up on this. One of our citizens was walking the streets and she doesn't live in my Ward but she knew that I would take care of it and I did call and complain about a few things across the street from your house and it was getting looked into so I'm not sure where that is right now yet but it is getting looked into I will let you know that.

Norm Miller – The only help I've been getting is from Phil, right here. He's the only one. He's come to my house on two or three occasions but I had the Mayor in my house..... The Mayor came and looked out my living room window. I said, that's what you see. The Mayor left and a little bit later Moeller, he came around the corner and he gets out his pad and he looks and looks and then he walks all the way down to Morels and I was cutting the grass and I didn't have it cut yet and he come back up the hill and I said what do you think about this? Well we're going to look at it. I said what do you think about the upstairs window. They put two new windows up there and they are that much short. They put cardboard or a piece of plywood over it. I've been looking at that for 15 years. I moved there and read my lips, I've been looking at that for 40 years and you got a guy going around tagging people. They said they were going to do street blocks. Blocks by streets. They must have missed that street. They said it's all done. Washington Ave. is done. It was supposed to be inspected. What's inspected for God's sake, we're paying him. All you have to do is look at my house and this guy was complaining about roaches and rats, they won't even live there, they're even leaving.

Mr. Stegman – Yes, I did go up and visit Norm and the grass was out of control and I tried to get that taken care of and it's gotten a lot better but I did share the orders that are on that home that Walt and the Building Dept. has wrote on that. I left copies with Walt or with Norm of the orders that are still residing on that property. It's not going unknown but I'm knowing, it is being looked at and orders are being written where they stand legally, I don't know. There are things happening up there.

Mr. Peck – Mr. Asbach when is the next COW.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW is Thursday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Norm Miller – Don't give up yet. You would think that if you were doing all the inspections that you were supposed to be doing. I was moonlighting down on Bank St. and had a tree fall on a side and I had three notices from a board that was

about that wide ..... I said I'll fix it when I get the house done. God knows the City already inspected it, what in the heck did they look at? He said ..... It's about a month and a half old. What the heck happened to the other forty years he was supposed to be doing something with it? He's getting paid and he ain't doing nothing the way it looks.

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

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

Motion by M, seconded by M to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.