

# **VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD**

## **INAUGURAL CEREMONY**

**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

The St. Bernard Village Inaugural Ceremony was held on December 1st, 2023, in Council Chambers.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer from Father EJ Stein.

Roll call showed six members were present: Mr. Moreton, Mr. Stuchell, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Culbertson, and Mr. Estep. Absent: Mr. Schildmeyer.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you, Mr. President. Welcome and congratulations to our new council members and welcome back to our senior members as well. Never in a million years did I see myself in this seat, and I couldn't be prouder to continue to serve as your mayor. But most of all, I can't believe that I'm actually sitting here looking up at my son Gus, who's getting ready to be sworn in as a member of council. So, it's going to be different, especially when anyone says Mr. Stuchell. So, this evening I'd like to introduce Judge Mike Peck, our former Law Director and President of the Council. We're pleased that he could be back here with us again on this special day. So again, we'll turn this over to Judge Mike Peck.

Judge, Mike Peck- Well, congratulations everybody. I'm not used to standing at this podium. Usually, it's meant for a folks who are defendants of mine when I was sitting up there as the law director going to prosecute them. My background is from Saint Bernard. I was a council member here to start, I believe, in 2007. And I was a council member for two years, ran a couple more times before I got elected, and then was a President of Council for four years and then Law Director for four years after that. I'm a judge in the Hamilton County Municipal Court and it's a job that the Village of Saint Bernard now has prepared me well for, and I have all of you to thank. All the citizens of Saint Bernard and all the folks up here who have been serving for so long. Mr. Estep, the Culbertson brothers and Mr. Schildmeyer, the Hausfelds, especially Patty. Now you have some new folks up here and it is fun to see Gus Stuchell taking the seat at council and now you don't have to call him dad. You can call him, you know, mayor or Mr. Stuchell, and he's got to call you Councilman. I see Mr. Edwards, who I've known for a long time take his chair and I know he'll serve Saint Bernard very well. We have a new face also, Mr. Morton and you're a brand-new member of council. You served anywhere else? No. How old are you, Sir?

Council Member, Mr. Moreton- 24

Judge, Mike Peck- Ohh, wow. Is he the youngest? Well, congratulations. Good company though, because that's my story. Steve, how long have you served us?

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- I am starting my 37<sup>th</sup> year.

Judge, Mike Peck- Alright, congratulations! I just want to thank you for having me back here to swear in the elected officials. I greatly appreciate it. St. Bernard is a very special place for me and my family, and it always will be. Ok, if council will please stand.

All members of council stand to be sworn in. Each member raises right hand and states their name stating the follow:

“I do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, in the Statutes and Rules of the Village of Saint Bernard and faithfully discharge the duties as an elected member of this council, so help me God.”

Judge, Mike Peck- Congratulations!

Audience applauds.

President of Council- At this time, I will open nominations.

Council member Mr. Culbertson nominates Mr. Schildmeyer for President of Council Pro Temp, seconded by Mr. Moreton.

Motion made by Mr. Stuchell, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to close nominations. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Estep, to elect Mr. Chris Schildmeyer as President of Council Pro Temp. Motion passes 6-0.

Council member, Mr. Culbertson nominates Ms. Caroline Stegman for Clerk of Council Pro Temp, seconded by Mr. Estep. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to close nominations. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to elect Ms. Caroline Stegman as Clerk of Council Pro Temp. Motion passes 6-0.

Judge, Mike Peck- Now, if I could have the Mayor and the Clerk of Council please stand.

The Mayor and Clerk of Council stand to be sworn in. Each person raises right hand and states their name stating the follow:

“I do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, in the Statutes and Rules of the Village of Saint Bernard and faithfully discharge the duties as an elected position for which I was elected, so help me God.”

Judge, Mike Peck- Congratulations!

Audience applauds.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Thank you, judge. At this time, I will turn things over to the mayor, Mr. Stuchell.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you. This evening, we will be appointing Director of Safety and Service, Tom Paul, Tax Administrator Leighanne Helmes, Recreation Director Paul Schildmeyer, our assistant directors, Kim Martin, Jeff Stegman, Chris Sauer and Jennifer Johnson, Mayor's Assistant, Cheryl Abrams and of course Sharon McCullough.

All members of the administration stand to be sworn in. Each member raises right hand and states their name stating the follow:

“I do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, in the Statutes and Rules of the Village of Saint Bernard and faithfully discharge the duties as an elected member of this council, so help me God.”

Judge, Mike Peck- Congratulations!

Audience applauds.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach reads the report of standing committees' assignments as follows:

Finance- Chair- Mr. Moreton. Committee Members- Mr. Schildmeyer and Mr. Edwards.  
Service- Chair- Mr. Stuchell. Committee Members- Ms. Hausfeld and Mr. Schildmeyer  
Public Improvements- Chair- Mr. Edwards. Committee Members- Mr. Estep and Mr. Moreton  
Safety- Chair- Ms. Hausfeld. Committee Members- Mr. Culbertson and Mr. Stuchell  
Laws, Contracts and Claims- Chair- Mr. Schildmeyer. Committee Members- Mr. Estep and Mr. Stuchell  
Marketing- Chair- Mr. Culbertson. Committee Members- Ms. Hausfeld and Mr. Moreton  
Business and Industry- Chair- Mr. Estep. Committee Members- Mr. Culbertson and Mr. Edwards.  
Committee of Committees- Mr. Schildmeyer as President Pro Temp followed by Mr. Culbertson and Mr. Moreton.

Assignments are effective as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Motion made by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to receive and file the report of standing committees. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to set the committee of the whole meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00pm and the regular council meetings to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. Motion passes 6-0.

The next committee of the whole will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in Council Chambers. The next council meeting will be held on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm in Council Chambers, due to Christmas and New Year.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to excuse the absent member. Motion passes 6-0.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- At this time, I would like to call a special council meeting for Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in Council Chambers for the consideration of Ordinance 41 and 42 2023.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

Meeting is adjourned.