

**VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The St. Bernard Village Council Meeting was held on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Council Chambers.

The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Moment of Silence was given for Brigid Kelly, former Norwood Council member, State Representative and Hamilton County Auditor.

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

A motion by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to dispense with the reading of the written minutes of the last council meeting. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes stand as submitted.

**REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS**

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- We recognize Brigid Kelly. She was a huge advocate for Hamilton County and during her tenure as state representative always looked out for Saint Bernard. She said the ultimate example of what a public servant should be, and her passing has left a huge hole in the heart of Cincinnati. This evening, I have Meyer Steel. Is a 6th grader at Saint Bernard Elmwood Place Elementary. He likes to read, enjoys the outdoors, collecting things and likes to memorize digits of  $\pi$ . So, tonight is our annual Scout Night here in the village. I would like to welcome our Scouts and their families this evening. Tonight, I had the pleasure of meeting the scouts and to answer their questions and hearing their suggestions about how we can improve the community. I am proud to say that we have the next generation of future leaders amongst us this evening. The Easter Bunny will be traveling around the village on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> to see all of the kids and their families before the much-anticipated Easter egg hunt. We will start around 9:15 AM, so be ready when you hear the sirens, but you can also use the Bunny Tracker to see where we are. If you miss us, please try to advance to another location. If you're unable to do so, please call the Easter Bunny's escort Paul Schildmeyer at 513-290-5937. This Saturday at 9:00 AM the Easter Bunny tracker will go live, and we will share the link on both the village and recreation department Facebook pages and on the village website, please spread the word and share the link so that everyone is ready. Don't forget the Easter egg hunt from 1:00 to 2:00 PM at Vine Street Park. This is rain or shine, so if there's an inclement weather, it will be moved inside the pavilion. We Thrive is back in Saint Bernard. We will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the main hall of the municipal building. Please consider getting involved as we will focus on the health and wellness of our community. You have any questions about this program? Please feel free to contact either me at 513-543-3780 or Councilman Gus Stuchell at 513-543-9044. Council Member Ray Culbertson and I recently met with the new board for Alpine Terrace and the new property management company, Towne Properties, and I have to say

that I am optimistic about this new partnership. We both have been fielding complaints and concerns from both residents of Alpine Terrace and those surrounding their complex. Both the board and Towne Properties want to make this better for everyone and we are committed to assisting in their efforts. We are working with them on a proposal for taking over a garbage collection for Alpine Terrace and as of today, I have made an agreement to remove furniture in large items that will not fit in the dumpsters for a fee until the contract is signed. The Immanuel United Church of Christ guided Reality Youth Group Sunday, April 7th from 12 noon to 2:00 PM will be hosting a spaghetti lunch fundraiser and will be bringing back the Bookworm Diner, with yours truly Mayor Jonathan Stuchell as the guest reader. Immanuel United Church of Christ is located at 210 Jefferson Ave. corner of Jefferson Tyler. This is a free will offering event. I encourage the passage of Resolution #2 as the Village of Saint Bernard's commitment being an equal opportunity employer. The mayor is requesting a short reading tonight as he and the Scouts are heading to Dairy Queen.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- The Auditor's office has prepared Ordinance 7 2024 for tonight's meeting. It has an additional appropriation into General Fund 2-I-9 Professional Services of 10,000 and Master Plan of 5-M-P-9 Streets and Sewers for \$4,300. This was all discussed at the COW.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- I'd like to introduce Braden Miller, who will be reading my report this evening. I have prepared Ordinance 8 2024 which amends section 105.01 of the Saint Bernard codified ordinance. Ordinance 8 2024nSection 105.01 will conform with section 102.02 of the charter and I would urge that you pass ordinance 8 2024. Also, before you is Resolution 2 2024. The resolution reflects St. Bernard's ongoing commitment to Wage Equity. I recommend the passage of Resolution 2 2024. Lastly, I would ask that we go into executive session this evening to discuss ongoing litigation.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- Absent.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Paul- Absent.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- February 2024 end of month receipts:

- Tax collections for February 2024: \$610,728.
- February 2024 is down -.32% or -\$1,957.00 from February 2023.
- Refunds for February: \$46,798.
- Delinquent tax collected with Capital Recovery: \$437.
- Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office: \$22,716.

Reminder: St. Bernard tax returns are due on April 15, 2024. This is the same date that your Federal and State tax returns are due.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance, Mr. Moreton- It is my pleasure to introduce Colt Maddox. He's a junior and just found out today, a huge accomplishment, is also the valedictorian of his grade, which I just think is

incredible. He's looking forward to pursuing his Eagle Scout Honor and hopefully getting that next year. And we'll be reading the Finance Committee report on behalf of myself today. Today, I'll be reading the report from the Finance Committee in place of Councilman Moreton. The next scheduled Finance Committee meeting is set for Wednesday, April 17th at 6:30PM in the Lower Level of City Hall. I am excited to share the details of our April Community Connect. It will be hosted at 5 Star Mediterranean from 5:30-6:30PM on Thursday, April 4th. Please join in the conversation while enjoying the amazing Mediterranean food our local restaurant has to offer. Attendees will also be highly encouraged to stop by Dairy Queen afterwards to welcome in the warmer weather.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- Tonight I have the pleasure to introduce Landon Cole and he will read my report. Landon has been involved with the Boy Scouts for over 5 years. He's a 6th grader at St. Clement Elementary. His favorite sports are basketball and baseball, and his favorite subject at St. Clement is history with his favorite teacher. Tonight, I have the sewers and drains project report. All sewers will be completed by the service department. No sewers will be repaired by outside contractors. The service department's leaf truck operated from October 2nd through December 12th, a total of 420 cubic yards of leaves and compost. The service department street sweeper removed a total of 335 yards of debris from our roadways and 92 tons of salt was spread by service department workers to improve winter road conditions. 50 gallons of used oil was recycled to local businesses for used as fuel. Lastly, I want to remind everyone of our upcoming Cleanup Saint Bernard Day on April 28th from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. I'm asking all participants to meet in the lower lot of City Hall prior to the start of the event with trash bags. Pickers will be distributed for use. At the conclusions of the event, I would like to invite all of those interested to come by the pavilion at Vine Street Park for a grill out and thanking you for contributing to make our community a cleaner place to live. Whether you participated in the event or not, all are welcome.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- Tonight I have Domonic Strotman reading my report. His parents are Kevin and Teresa Strotman. Domonic goes to LaSalle High School and his sports are track and field. I what I like about Dominic, I've met him at the St. Clement Food Pantry, where he volunteers on a regular basis, and he's been a scout for about 10 years. There was no need for a Public Improvements Committee meeting this month. I would like to report on the St. Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Society meeting last month. Bard Jennings presented a great program on the Cincinnati Union Terminal. There were about 50 people in attendance. The program was both informative and entertaining. I would like to encourage all to attend future monthly meetings. I enjoy the programs every month but especially enjoy connecting with so many people with such long histories in St. Bernard. You can sense the pride that these current and past residents have in our community. I believe this same interaction with our newer residents can expand this pride to this and future generations. Knowing some of the issues that have been developing in our village in the last 10 to 20 years, I believe a greater knowledge of our history can grow this sense of pride in all of us. This can solve many of these problems. The meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the main level of the municipal building. Let us strive to cultivate the same sense of pride in our village as the Boy Scouts do in their members.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- Mr. President, tonight giving the safety report is Ryan. Ryan is a 5th grader at Saint Clement, and he enjoys science. He loves to play soccer and tennis, and he has been in scouts for around five years. Tonight, I give you Ryan. With Spring, hopefully right around the corner. I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone to be aware of bicyclists and to offer some bike safety tips. Protect your head. Always wear a helmet. Test your bike each time before you ride it. Check the brakes, wheels, tires, and seat. Saty visible and wear light or reflective clothes and avoid biking at night. Use lights and reflectors if you must bike at night. Stay alert. Look for obstacles in the road and other cars. Do not wear a headset or use your phone while bicycling. You need to hear what's going on and stay focused. Always keep your hands on the handlebars at all times to help me maintain control. Learn the rules on the road and obey all traffic laws. You have the same rules as a car. Go with the flow. The safe way is the right way. Ride with traffic and not in the opposite direction. Be predictable, don't weave in and out of traffic. Ride far enough away from parked vehicles, about four feet in case someone starts to open the door to exit the vehicle. Thank you and have a safe, fun spring and summer.

Law, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- I'd like to introduce Liam Schildmeyer. His parents are Ben and Mindy Schildmeyer here in Saint Bernard. Liam is a 6th grader at St. Clement. He's been in Troop 354 for about 5 years and his rank is Scout. His favorite sports are soccer and football. Liam will be presenting the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee report. The last laws, contracts and claims meeting was held on Tuesday, March 19th at 7:00 PM in Council chambers. Items on the agenda included one short- and long-term rentals, the current trees, weeds and litter ordinance, potential golf cart community ordinance, and Council Attendance Policy. At this time, the Committee has elected to table any discussions regarding a potential golf cart community ordinance. The committee discussed proposed changes to the current ordinances that refer to short and long-term rentals, and trees, weeds and litter for these topics. The Law Director is currently preparing proposed revised language to review at the next committee meeting. The committee also came to consensus and language pertaining to a council attendance policy. The Law Director is currently preparing language for view at the next meeting on this topic as well. The next law is Contracts and Claims Committee. Meeting has been set for Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:00 PM in Council chambers.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- Tonight, reading the marketing report is Garrett Horn. Garrett is the son of Gary and Angie Horn. He's a member of Troop 354, and a St. Clement 6th grader. He enjoys playing basketball and soccer. I give you Garrett. This year the Saint Bernard German Luau will take place on Friday, August 2nd and Saturday August 3rd. The music headlines on Friday night will be the widely popular Naked Karate Girls. On Saturday night it will be Velvet Crush. Both bands will be playing from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. The Garden Club would like to let everyone know that eight beds are left for this upcoming season. If interested, please contact Ken Price at [kennethprice916@yahoo.com](mailto:kennethprice916@yahoo.com). Finally, I would like to thank Mayor Stuchell for meeting with me and the Alpine Condo Association along with the new management company, things are moving in the right direction.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- Tonight I have the pleasure of introducing Cooper Steele. He'll be reading the report for the business and industry. Cooper is currently a 9th grader at Saint Bernard High School. He is the son of Cody and Monica Steele. He has two brothers. His hobbies are soccer and video games. He's been in scouts since the 3rd grade. His goals? He's still

not really sure and I understand that. He likes to read on his side. Thank you. Mr. Estep is the chair of the Business and Industry Committee. He is in the process of meeting with the officials of the two schools to attend the council meeting to share what is going on in their districts. Get well soon, Miss Abrams.

Committee of the Whole, Ms. Stegman- Minutes were submitted yesterday the 27<sup>th</sup>, and I have no communications this evening.

#### SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2024

DECLARING THE OUTDOOR CODE OF ST. BERNARD, DESIGNATING ALL BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS IN THE COMMUNITY HONORARY PARK POLICEMEN; AND ASKING ALL OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF ST. BERNARD TO HONOR THIS CODE.

WHEREAS, the Boy Scout and Cub Scout Programs encourage Community betterment as well as individual member improvement; and

WHEREAS, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are special citizens who knows their duty to their fellow men and will face opposition to do what they know is right; and

WHEREAS, St. Bernard youth is interested in a better St. Bernard of the future; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF OHIO BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS VOTING:

Section 1. I will treat the outdoors as a heritage to be improved for our greater enjoyment. I will keep my trash and garbage out of America's waters, fields, woods and roadways.

Section 2. I will prevent wildfire. I will build my fire in a safe place and be sure it is out before I leave.

Section 3. I will treat public and private property with respect. I will remember that use of the outdoors is a privilege I can lose by abuse.

Section 4. I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals, grasslands and wildlife; and I will urge others to do the same. I will use sportsmanlike methods in all my outdoor activities.

Section 5. I will observe bicycle safety rules and obey all traffic laws when operating my bicycle or walking through the streets of St. Bernard.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to adopt Special Resolution 1 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

Mayor Stuchell honored and presented all the Boy Scouts with a certificate and pins. Congratulations to the Boy Scouts.

## RESOLUTION NO. 02, 2024

### A RESOLUTION HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION ON WOMEN & GIRLS' PAY EQUITY COMMITMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to suspend with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Resolution 2 2024.

Council Member, Mr. Moreton- As part of the discussion on this resolution, I do want to offer some more detail and perspective as to why I believe that we should include the pay gap statistics pertaining to the intersectionality of race and gender within this resolution. And I do want to acknowledge, and I know that at the last meeting I did hastily ask our Law Director to remove that section of the resolution in an effort to make the resolution more passable. In line with some great advice that I did once receive, to not let my idea of perfect be the enemy of good progress. Although I still do believe in that advice, and I am dedicated to passing some version of this resolution. I should have let the discussion continue a little bit longer with my fellow council members so that I could gauge their sentiment as well. First, though, I do want to share why I believe it's important to keep this language we do. We have the opportunity here to set a precedent on how we go about discussing complicated issues, and I believe that it is important for us to leverage people's experiences. I am genuinely grateful that we can still have a discussion with dissenting views. I also believe that we should trust science and data and research and be sure to hold them in high regard in our conversations as well. I wholeheartedly trust that what we heard at last meeting, that the women of our administration have been paid fairly and I do hope and believe that that is the case across all of our other departments as well. I do fully trust and believe that, but just to reiterate the intent and purpose of this resolution is not to accuse our village of contributing to the gender pay gap. It's not to accuse our village of contributing to the race pay gap, its purpose is to unify our village leadership under this shared understanding that these gaps exist in statewide averages and that we commit to be a leader and beacon of inclusivity in this regard. I believe that the true purpose is indicative in this language, giving the context and goal of the Hamilton County Commissioner of Women and Girls. But when we look at the numbers, the fact of the matter is that the gender pay gap is further exacerbated when you factor in race. This proves the intersectionality of the issue, and if we truly want to publicly position our village as an inclusive space for folks regardless of their gender, then it's important to understand the margins of the issue as well. And the interconnectedness and be sure to acknowledge it now. My belief is that we should keep the language pertaining to this intersectionality, but and after discussing this more with my fellow council members, I would like to vote to go back to the previous version that was read at the Committee of the Whole with the proper amendments. However, if you choose to disagree with me, I still would like to push for the amended version without that one warehouse section to pass, because I think this is really important to show our sentiment as leaders of our community. I would like to discuss and know your option to that one section either adding it in agreement with me, or respectfully decline.

Council Member, Ms. Hausfeld- Just from what I'm hearing tonight, because now you're wanting the old version versus this version, I do believe that this should not be up for a vote tonight. It should be discussed in Committee of the Whole where everything else is discussed. Then you

bring it back. And if this is your wish to bring the old version back, then I think you should bring that old version back to where we can discuss it, as a whole, and then if there are changes or whatever that needs to be made, I think the Committee of the Whole where we should discuss it, not a council meeting.

Council Member, Mr. Moreton-I will say that and I completely respect that. I absolutely want to have full conversation with this. However, with the way that the process is set up, we do have the ability to discuss it now. It's still this first reading and although I hear what you're saying about discussing this as Committee of the Whole, we did just vote unanimously to suspend the second and third readings. I don't believe we have the ability to go back now. Even if we had the ability to go back, I would disagree. I would like to have the discussion now. All council members have both versions of this resolution, and we talked about the changes 2 weeks ago. I believe we have the ability to pass an amended version tonight.

Council Member, Mr. Edwards- Having read both versions, I thought the second one was better than the first because I thought the first was divisive. And as it was pointed out that, people are always trying to find someone to blame for things, but on the other part of it, things like this really don't accomplish a whole. It puts us in a weird position like some people in Saint Bernard had told me. Well, even by bringing this up, it almost makes it sound like we're doing something wrong. And I know, well we don't do everything perfectly, but with the STEP program that we have, my understanding is that there's no discrimination, everything is above board, and I thought the perfect example of us doing it right was when we passed the COVID money where we couldn't give it to the service department. without giving it to the City Hall people. So, everybody is treated equally, and I think things like this, we can get into all kinds of different things, like resolutions on the board, or resolutions on other things, but we should just stick to what we need to stick to in Saint Bernard. Thank you.

Council Member, Mr. Schildmeyer- I do understand that the language can feel divisive. I always like to go back though, that it's only really divisive if there's something that's incorrect. Other than that, it's just factual data, so I don't have a big problem with the old language. Having said that, my recommendation is to go forward with this language. Because I think if we think this is important, it would be better to have kind of unanimous consent about a positive thing then then conflict about something that really should be positive all the way around. So that's my opinion.

Council Member, Mr. Stuchell- So I'm in favor of the original version just because like what Mr. Schildmeyer said, it's just the facts. And then by doing so would be acknowledging and recognizing they are just the statistics that are out there and addressing race and gender-based wage disparities in communities and we are not saying we are admitting to it happening in our community but by passing this resolution, we're just demonstrating a commitment to fairness and equality in the workplace here in St. Bernard.

Council Member, Mr. Culbertson- I'm in favor of the second verbiage, the second resolution that came out tonight. I'd rather see that than the original.

Council Member, Mr. Moreton- Thank you. Mr. Edwards, I just wanted to acknowledge the three points that you made. I just want to make sure that you understand that I'm hearing what you're saying and I'm understanding it correctly. So, the three things that I heard that it brought up is the

reasons why you might be in disagreement of this is that it's seen as divisive. I agree with what Mr. Schildmeyer said, that things can be divisive if they are opinionated. That's why I wanted to mention and really emphasize that we need to set a precedent here and how we have conversations. Because we need to really set an example for our community that we're going to leverage facts and science and very, very high regard. And like I mentioned here in the speech that I just read; we also need to leverage people's lived experiences. That is also true. But the way that it is written, it lacks opinion, and it is fully factual, based off of countless peer reviewed academic journals, articles, massive longitudinal studies. It isn't something at this point that could be debatable because it is facts and that those exist. I do not agree this is divisive, I see it as the opposite. This is unifying something we all believe in and practicing on a village wide level. We are paying people accordingly regardless of their gender. This is a resolution to be proud of that sentiment and that is more broadly in cohesion with all of the other organizations that have signed on to it too and municipalities. Before coming here tonight, because I noticed that it wasn't in that original packet, I did look at some other folks that have signed this as well and it does bring me to my second point. You have folks like the City of Cincinnati, the City of Norwood, the City of Montgomery, The Center for Addiction Treatment, The Council on Aging of Southwest Ohio, Women Helping Women, The YWCA of Greater Cincinnati. There are over 80 organizations and municipalities that signed this last year, and there are already 30 that have resigned it up again, including all of those municipalities that I listed off. And in terms of blame, that is the very last thing I want to do. I am not sitting here blaming our village of being guilty of this gender pay gap or the race pay gap. What I am trying to say, and this was something that was an open invite that I wanted to pursue because I believe in this. We have the ability to prove that sentiment with our vote tonight. In regard to the third point that you mentioned that it is not needed. I think the divisiveness of our opinions on this, and this conversation proves that it is needed. We need to be able to clearly state what our sentiment is as representatives and leaders of this village, of this municipality, and that's what this is entirely about. So, I hear what you're saying, and I understand that first thought, but I hope that I was able to offer some clarity on why I disagree with that, and I think quite the opposite on all three of those points. Mr. Culbertson, I am interested in your rationale behind your vote, because this is not going to be the last time something like this comes up.

Council Member, Mr. Culbertson- I'll go back to some other people and echo their thoughts, I don't like the divisiveness of it. Nothing changes other than the verbiage by going to the second one. I just don't like the divisiveness of the first one. We do what we think is right and I know we are going to continue to do that, but I don't like the negativity of the first version.

Council Member, Ms. Hausfeld- I know we are going to vote on it, but I would like to get the Mayor's opinion since he is the one who will be signing it.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- So, and this being a resolution, I would like to give consideration to the initiative from the county level as far as from the Hamilton County Commission of Women and Girls pay equity. I think this is just standing in an alliance. It's a matter of interpretation. So, whether or not you go back to the original versus the version that has trimmed out of some of what language might have been deemed as being divisive, I take this as an important stance and I think that if this is coming from the county level and trickling down to the local communities, asking for partnership and standing in an alliance to support this initiative, I think is the right



thing to do. I think we all, including myself, when we read a document and we read potential legislation, it's a matter of interpretation. We can take an initial side. I read the resolution for the first time, the original version and I will say that I may have been taken aback just a little bit but as I read it, I had opportunity to absorb it a little bit further and to realize the importance of this stance. And especially trying to be in aligned with the county government. I think it's important to take the initiative to make a stance. But at the same time, I can say that we can stand proud by the fact that we are an equal opportunity employer we do not discriminate due to race or color or sex or anything. I mean we give equal opportunity every opportunity we have when we have an opening in any one of our departments or anywhere. I feel that we invest in our employees. This is something I think we should stand by I do believe I think we're missing an opportunity and to be honest with you, I'd be highly embarrassed if you passed up this opportunity.

Council Member, Mr. Edwards- Connor was saying he prefers the language in the first one because of the facts, and Chris said the same thing. Taking it seriously, even though it's just a resolution, I went online and I got three articles from the independent woman's forum that said how they were there was mostly about choice about different people do different things That younger women now coming out of college, they aren't married and don't have kids are doing even better than young men at the same age, and that it's illegal already to discriminate. It might be something that's nice to pass, but whose facts do you believe? Those might be facts, but if you go somewhere else, there's some facts. I'm just have the stance that we shouldn't have even entertained this, but I'll vote against it if we vote for it. Thank you.

Council Member, Mr. Moreton- I'm familiar with the stats that you are citing because with anything that you go through, I think it's important to apply your critical thinking cap and look at something maybe from the opposition's perspective. I want to get a full rounded view of something before I form an opinion on it, and I trust that we all did that as well. I looked at those same facts. The difference there is between the controlled gender gap and the uncontrolled. And sorry for a little data lessen, but controlled means that you're taking into account different variables like what you said or what I believe you were saying, like the difference of choice, difference in education level and difference in experience. The uncontrolled gender pay gap is just comparing apples to apples. It is comparing all the average amount that a man would make versus the average amount that a woman would make, where the citations that you're quoting is the controlled group, and widely by statisticians, that is not the acceptable one and has since been disproven. In cases of getting insight from it because it doesn't take into account enough of the factors, it gets too convoluted and therefore you're not getting the true accurate insight from the data that is looked at. So, I don't mean to challenge your source here, but where I was looking at and I found that information was from peer reviewed academic articles and I am curious to hear where your source was, if it was a.com, if it was a forum, if it was actually backed by statisticians who conducted the research first. Because where I was looking at it was primary research done firsthand. They weren't even citing external sources.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- I think that we have beat this horse as far as we can beat it. I think it is time that we take a vote. It will be the amended resolution we are voting on. No one made a motion to bring back the first version on the resolution. If you want to vote this down, discuss again at the COW, and bring back the first version we can, but this one needs voted down first.

Roll call on suspension for Resolution 2 2024 was made. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to adopt Resolution 2 2024. Motion passed 4-3.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 7, 2024

##### AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to suspend with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Ordinance 7 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to adopt Ordinance 7 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 08, 2024

##### AMENDING THE ST. BERNARD CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 105.01, DIVISION INTO WARDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to suspend with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Ordinance 8 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to adopt Ordinance 8 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Does anyone on council have anything under old business?

Council Member, Ms. Hausfeld- On April the 2nd, which is this coming Tuesday at 6:00 PM, the safety committee is having a meeting, the Police Chief, Fire Chief and I believe the mayor will be here just to let the residents share their concerns out there as far as the police and fire departments and what's going on in the city. So, I just wanted to reiterate there, there is a meeting this coming Tuesday, April 2nd, 6:00 PM in council chambers with the safety committee. Thank you.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- Given the length of the meeting tonight, and the scouts wanting to get to Dairy Queen, I withdraw my request to go into executive session. I will bring back counsel at a later date to discuss pending litigation.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Anyone on council have anything under new business? Anyone in the audience wishing to address council this evening?

Tom Cunningham, 102 E Ross- I'm requesting at the Village erect signs on East Ross Ave. heading both eastbound downhill toward Bond Hill and westbound downhill toward the Vine that read No ENGINE BRAKE. There have been some large trucks recently engaging what is called a Jake Brake. Where they use the engine compression to slow down the vehicle and that emits a large stuttering noise and I've noticed that that is happening more frequently, and I've noticed these signs are up around other areas of Cincinnati and I don't believe our village would have a problem engaging with that. Second, I would like to request an increase in the street lighting on Washington Ave. between Tower and Vine. I've noticed one light up at the corner of Tower in

Washington and the rest of the block is dark as the tunnel. And I realize this has been years in the making and that I just recently realized this problem, but I'm hoping this can be remedied. And lastly, I have an idea to increase parking in the city parking lot at Vine and Burgess, and I've discussed this with Mr. Paul, and I'll be happy to discuss this with any member of council or the mayor that wishes to hear my idea. Thank you.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- We can discuss the parking further. The no engine brake signs is that's something that could can easily, easily be dealt with and we are actually already addressing the lighting issue on Washington. One of the things that we had discussed and have been in constant conversation with the schools. With what lighting is actually going to be erected on their property. So now, knowing that there is going to be a need on the village side to do something to increase for safety purposes on our side. There is such thing as light pollution and so when I suggested that we actually do more on both sides that would jeopardize their project and how they're certified. So, we need to do more on the village property whether that be looking at streetlights, something similar to what's on Vine or even actually installing lighting that is actually on our buildings. So, with the increase of our village events that we will be holding on Washington Ave. there is a desperate need for that and just for the general safety for the citizens that are traveling when there isn't an event either way. This is something we are already addressing.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- My assumption would be the Norwood Lateral would have something to do with the increased traffic. But the signs are something we can definitely look into putting up.

Tim Cunningham, 102 E Ross- I agree with you. When the westbound side is closed, I am assuming there will be even more traffic increase. About 10 years ago the ramp to Norwood Lateral and I75 was completely replaced, and it was the same situation, increased traffic.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell-I think erecting the signs will be easy enough, but I do need to check with the Law Director to make sure we are in line with our codified ordinances to prohibit engine brakes.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- I will look into it for you.

The next Committee of the Whole will be on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. The meeting will start with a public hearing to discuss grant projects in the village.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Moreton to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

Meeting is adjourned.