

THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

August 14th, 2025

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on August 14th, 2025, in Council Chambers.

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

A Moment of Silence was held in honor of Judy Behm Doerger.

A motion by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to approve the written minutes of the July 24th, 2025, council meeting. Motion passes 6-0. Minutes will stand as submitted.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you. Mr. President. I'd like to start by thanking our village for attending and supporting our event of the year, the 2025 Saint Bernard German Luau. The weather was absolutely awesome, and the attendance was phenomenal. We're appreciative for our service, police and fire departments for their assistance and for all the community partners who worked with us and for working our booths to serving our patrons. I have to say that we couldn't have a better team for our recreation department who made the entire event happen. The highlight was seeing the true joy in our parade Grand Marshall, former Mayor Charlie Vondermuellen and as he was driving around greeting everyone. The best mayor had an incredible day leading the parade and then he received a mayoral proclamation declaring August 2nd as Charlie Vondermuellen Day in the village of Saint Bernard. I'm also asking that you please keep Charlie in your prayers as he has been in the hospital. So, let's raise him up in true luau fashion. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Thank you. Mr. President, I would like to ask Council to put an ordinance on the table for additional appropriations. What these are is the first one is we've hired a code enforcement officer, but we need to put money in the line item for the code enforcement officer. I'm suggesting that we use M-P-14 and to get through the end of the year in the amount of \$30,000. The next one is 2-K-7 for computers in the amount of \$50,000. We discussed this at a meeting, but I forgot to put it in one of the ordinances when we had them. So, it has been discussed and approved. I need to put it in an ordinance. The next one is A-1-P-S phone systems for \$25,000. I like I said previously I wasn't in on the budget, but the correct amount was not put in the original budget for that. And that O-12-O-2B which is our part time seasonal line item. We've been using them a lot more and have hired more because we have one less full-time employee and I would like to ask for \$30,000 to be put into that. I don't think all that will be used up, but that will least give us the flexibility to keep the part timers longer and I think that's all we need at this time. Are there any questions? If not, that concludes my report.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to place the additional appropriation ordinance on the table for the next council meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- Absent. No report.

Treasurer, Ms. Darrenkamp- Thank you, Mr. President. Our star Ohio account as of month end July 31st of this year balance is as follows \$10,410,977.62. And that concludes my report.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Williams- Thank you Mr. President. Have a few things, but I'll try to make it brief. First, AJ Schweyer is our new employee that has come on board as our Zoning Administrator. I think everybody saw the e-mail that I had sent out last week. He is on board and he's off and running. He's working very hard on backlog of property maintenance issues and that will be a high focus of his for the next few months. He's also doing some other really important things, and we had a meeting earlier this week with our contract building inspector to make sure that communication was good between the other agencies of the department and building inspection. We're coming up with a policy and procedure for that so everybody's on the same page. I think that's exciting. He's working very hard on that right now. We're also working with our reconstituted Planning Commission. As we talked about before, we still left a training session for those folks that have volunteered to come up to the board over here tonight. So, we're really excited about that group and getting things up and going again. Pool Lane, it's under construction right now. That's been talked about for a while. That was the first week that I got here. There was discussion about trying to fix Pool Lane. But there were some drainage issues out there and so that took a lot of time. We had JMA engineers come and take a look at it. They did some hydraulic analysis of the water that's running down through the hillside. I want to mention our computers need some upgrades and they are up and going and that's what our auditor mentioned. We had discussed it, but it didn't quite make it into our business. But that's required because the Windows 10 is being phased out. Windows 11 is coming in and almost all of our computers could only work with the Windows 10. So that process is moving along, and we should have all our computers updated by the end of the year, if not by early January. Also, I wanted to just point out I'm in command of some of our staff. When I first came on board and we were talking about how building inspection and our code enforcement and so forth, Mayor and I discussed that there'll be very customer friendly. Previously, customers had to go to the basement to be able to find that staff, so we wanted to move that stuff upstairs so they're easily accessible. Which is a public account just like our tax office is just like the clerk's desk is. And so I went to some of our public sector service staff and said, hey, can you help us so that we can transition a lot of old offices to the basement and then be able to open up spaces so we can have a really nice functioning area to work on building permits and to work on other types of account issues. I want to point out that particularly Josh Gearhart, Jeff Propes, Jeremy Hausfeld and Brian Keppel have done an outstanding job. It was a monumental task. It really was. And it took I think all of them plus staff in the office, administration staff to be able to make that happen. And so, if you get an opportunity to walk through, if you haven't already, they've

really done a nice job. Jeremy built a new table which we did not have in the past so just make sure that everybody understands that they do things above and beyond all time and then we don't always see that, but I certainly very much appreciate that work in this situation. That concludes my report.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- JULY 2025 end of month receipts:

- Tax collections for JULY 2025: \$592,956.00.
- JULY 2025 is UP .73 % or \$4,309.00 from JULY 2024.
- Refunds for JULY: -\$321.58
- Delinquent tax collected with Capital Recovery: \$563.94.
- Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office: \$17,287.29.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Finance, Mr. Moreton- Thank you Mr. President. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20th at 6:00 PM in the lower level of City Hall. I'm coordinating with the Senior Director of Housing from LISC to have the discussion regarding final steps for the No Interest loan home repair program. I'm also excited to announce that the necessary paperwork has been submitted to the Board of Elections to put energy aggregation in front of voters this November 4th election. I want to thank Heidi Culbertson and Auditor Brickweg for their support through some last-minute hiccups. Their support, along with our Mayor and Law Director earlier this month ensured that this decision is brought to the voters. Thank you. That concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- The municipal parking lot on Vine Street, located next to the former WesBanco lot, will be closed today through Sunday to allow the Service Department to reseal and recoat the lot.

For residents on Greenlee Ave., garbage collection will begin one hour earlier than usual to allow our trucks to navigate the route before road construction begins. Please plan accordingly. Lastly, our recycling truck is currently out of service, along with our fourth reserve garbage truck. As a result, all recycling placed at the curb will be collected with regular garbage until further notice. If you would like your recycling to be processed as recycling, you may drop it off at the Service Department at 5230 Vine Street during normal operating hours from 7:30am-4:00pm. Please note there is limited capacity for resident drop-offs. If you cannot drop it off but still wish for it to be recycled, we ask that you hold onto it and keep it contained until service resumes. We anticipate the recycling truck will be back in service by the end of next week. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate residents' understanding. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- Thank you, Mr. President. There was no need for a Public Improvement Committee Meeting, but I would like to call attention to The St. Bernard-Elmwood Place High School Reunion for Classes 1974, 1975 and 1976. Even though those classes are specifically mentioned all of the classes from the 1970's are welcome. The date is September 27th at Ross Park from 12 to 6 in picnic areas 3 and 4. They are planning on having a DJ and Jack's Catering at the cost of \$25 a person. To get more details and fill out a survey go to The St. Bernard- Elmwood Place High School Alumni page on Facebook. Most of you won't believe it, but 1974 was the year I graduated high school. Thank you in advance to those not guessing the 1960's. Thank you, this concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- Thank you. Mr. President. I do not have a safety report tonight, but I did want to remind everybody that the police and firemen steak fry is coming up on September 12th and it's \$20.00 at the gate. You can go to the police or fire department and buy tickets early as well. Thank you that concludes my report.

Marketing Mr. Culbertson- Tomorrow night, August 15th, is Family Night at the Aquatic Center. The event runs from 6-10pm. Please bring a cooler with your favorite drinks and the Recreation Department will provide the food. Saturday, August 30th, there will be a concert in the Pavilion. Performing that night will "Don't Tell Steve". The event will be from 6-10pm. On Monday, September 15th, there will be a Dog Swim at the Aquatic Center from 7-9pm. Finally, the next St. Bernard-Ludlow Grove Historical Society meeting will take place on Monday, August 18th at 7pm in the upper level of the Municipal Building. Wes Ryle will be presenting on the Mt. Lookout Observation program. Finally, I would like to thank and congratulate Kerry Meyer on his 35 years of dedication to this village and good luck in his retirement. Thank you that concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- No report.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- I had previously made mention to the Safety Committee and Public Improvements Committee requesting to have a meeting with the residents of the 4200 block of Sullivan regarding the speed humps that we installed with the potential of looking at maybe a more improved, more permanent option that would allow bicycles to traverse over a little bit better and more safely. Anyhow, I was looking at the 21st. I've had several other additional calls, people asking if there's still going to be an opportunity to discuss it. So, I didn't know if it would be possible for the committees, I don't know what your thoughts are, I was going to do a call command and then maybe even do a door hanger just letting people in that area know what we're doing and be able to have some sample options of what we might be able to do that could work maybe even a little more safely. What would the committee's availability be?

Council Member, Mr. Edwards- We can do it under Public Improvement Committee meeting. The 21st is good for me. John and Connor are good with that also.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- What is a good time on the 21st?

Council Member, Mr. Edwards- 6:00pm?

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Ok, 6:00pm on the 21st it is.

Council Member, Ms. Hausfeld- In regards to that meeting, can you do a call command? There are people on Greenlee Ave. that want to be included in that meeting also. They want to hear first hand on the speed humps. I just thought we could include whoever wanted to attend they could.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Yes, I planned on doing a call command. The Greenlee Ave. is totally separate. I mean, that's fine, but if we are going to do that then I need to let the engineer know so we can have them there. The speed humps on Greenlee Ave. are going to be different. The Sullivan Ave. speed bumps are temporary, and we are trying to find a permanent solution. I'll need to get the plans for Greenlee Ave. again because the speed cushions will be different and in five different locations. I'll reach out to the engineer to see if he can be in attendance.

No audience participation.

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

The next council meeting will be held August 28th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

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

Meeting is adjourned.