

THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

October 9th, 2025

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on October 9th, 2025, in Council Chambers.

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

A Moment of Silence was held for former Mayor Charles Vondermuellen.

A motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Estep, to approve the written minutes of the September 18th, 2025, council meeting. Motion passes 7-0. Minutes will stand as submitted.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you, Mr. President. Yesterday we said goodbye to our dear friend Charlie Vondermeullen, who passed away September 23rd at the age of 87. Charlie was a lifelong resident of Saint Bernard who served as Mayor, President of the Council's Third Ward Council member and Auditor, as well as serving on various committees within our local government and St. Clement Church. He was also our most recent German Luau Parade Grand Marshall and had Saturday, August 2nd proclaimed as Charlie Vondermuellen Day in the village of Saint Bernard. He was a true gentleman who will be truly missed for the person that he was. Thanks to our residents Police, Fire and Service Departments for helping pay tribute to this awesome man. You will never be forgotten Charlie. I will also be swearing in our newest police officers, Jared Thatcher and William Tuttle on Monday, October 13th. Both gentlemen are recent graduates of the Police Academy, and we are thrilled that they are chosen St. Bernard to start their careers. I look forward to them getting acquainted with the village and our residents. I will be scheduling a ceremonial swearing in during a council meeting in the very near future. The CIC is looking for a resident who is interested in filling an open seat on the board. If you're interested, please call me, Jonathan Stuchell at 513-543-3780 and we'd like to give you an opportunity to come to our next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 28th at 6:00pm here in Council Chambers to make a pitch for yourself. We're also asking residents to sign up for our new village system. The Village is happy to announce the implementation of our new mass notification system. We will be phasing out from our current call command notification system, the new system will improve and enhance our communication capabilities of emergencies, announcements and community events and will include voice and text notifications. It does require each resident to create a new account from a resident portal. The link is available on the village website Facebook page, and on our most recent edition of the newsletter. You will be able to subscribe to your preferred methods of notification either voice or text. If you wish to subscribe to emergency SMS text only, you may also enroll in that manner, and those links are available. Unfortunately, we are not able to transfer our current list of phone

numbers. So again, we're asking that you please assist us in adding your proper information and if you are willing to enter your address, we will be able to utilize the Geo based technology where if there is an emergency in a specific area, we'll be able to track based upon address. So, we're looking forward to getting this up and running before the end of the year and that concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Thank you, Mr. President. On the agenda for me tonight, I'd like to discuss placing an ordinance on the table for the next Council meeting. This would be for creating a new line item. It would be called 23-01 Opioid Settlement Expenses. The city currently has received \$29,578.83 from different pharmaceutical companies which the Police Department and the Fire Department will be able to utilize these funds, but we need to create the new line item first. Then I have the transfer of funds from 5-A-19 in the amount of \$1,200,000 with \$200,000 going to Master Plan cash account and \$400,000 going to General Bond cash account and \$600,000 going to Employee Health Plan cash account. Then thirdly there is an additional appropriation, the first one being 2-K-8 to Utilities. I'm sure you've all seen your utilities go up. Well guess what ours have to a big time. So, I need an additional \$30,000 for that. I have 6-A Police Chief for \$8,000. 7- A for Fire Chief \$18,000. 61-A Workers Compensation for \$10,000. I'm not sure we're going to need it, but we get a bill in December for the next year, and it looks like it might be close, so I just want to put a little padding in there just in case we don't know what's going to be. S-C-M-R Employee Overtime for \$1,800 and then the additional appropriation for the \$29,578.83 into the new line item for the Opioid Settlement account. 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 7-0.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- Thank you. I'd like to place on the table for next for the council meeting Ordinance 26 2025. You do not have it in front of you tonight. I will get it to you soon. We had hoped to discuss it in the Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting, which we thought would be Tuesday, but there was a snafu, and we were not able to have the meeting. As you may recall, I talked about it at our previous meeting. Actually, Miss Helmes talked about it as well. It will reflect some changes to the Tax Code and Registration of rental property so that we're keeping a record of that. Well, people and businesses that kind of thing. But I had talked about that, and it is section 182 of the tax code that will be revising. I'm just going to consult with the Laws, Contracts, and Claims committee to finalize. I have not heard any objections to the draft I sent out, so I hope to have that to you Monday night, ahead of next Thursday. I also would like to go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending litigation and that concludes my report.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to place Ordinance 26 2025 on the table for the next council meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

Treasurer, Ms. Darrenkamp- Thank you Mr. President. In September of 2025, the revenue that we collected was \$12,721,521.62 and the expenses were \$12,434,026.44. That concludes my report.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Wendling- Thank you Mr. President. You'll notice the curb and driveway apron replacement on Greenlee Ave. is nearing completion. Adleta, the construction company completing the work, should be back on Monday to finish and clean up prior to milling and paving the roadway. That is scheduled to be milled and paved the week of October 20th, and the affected residents could reach out to my office at 513-242-7770 if there are any concerns. As previously reported, we received three bids for the municipal building's HVAC service and maintenance contract. That also includes the Safety Center, the old police stations and couple other buildings. We viewed them and are in the process of scheduling interviews with the firms. Thank you to Chief Young, Josh Wainscott, and Jeff Probes for assisting with the process. The Service Department is getting a new standard dump truck. It is a 2025 Ford F-550 with stainless steel 7-foot by 9-foot bed and an 8-foot by 9-foot hood over the cab which can accommodate our existing spreader which will be installed shortly. Everything else is hooked up and ready, and it is sitting outside in front of the building tonight. It's really nice, so if you haven't seen it, take a look at it. Finally, I'm in the process of drafting policies and procedures for the village. The goal is to present a comprehensive document that will include personnel, finance, and administrative policies, and that concludes my report.

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

- Tax collections for September 2025: \$1,791,906.00.
- September 2025 is up 9.85 % or \$160,730.00 from September 2024.
- Refunds for September: -\$19,459.29
- Delinquent tax collected with Capital Recovery: \$2,196.56
- Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office: \$4,991.74.

Important reminders:

3rd quarter 2025 tax bills were mailed out this week. If you have any questions or need to adjust your estimate, please give me or Sharon a call. 2024 tax extensions are almost over. Individuals must file by October 15, 2025. Businesses must file by November 30, 2025. St. Bernard has mandatory tax filing for all residents 18 and older. You must file a St. Bernard tax return regardless if you don't file a federal tax return or you have St. Bernard tax withheld from your paycheck. Seniors, who have an exemption from me, do not need to file. Failure to file a St. Bernard tax return may lead to a tax assessment or a citation to court. Please contact my office at 513-242-7710 if you have any questions or need more information.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Moreton- Thank you, Mr. President. Our next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for this upcoming Wednesday, the 15th at 6:00 PM in the lower level of City Hall. I'm also proud to hear that the service department now has a new dump truck, a result of a decision made by the Finance Committee and the hard work from the many folks in our administration, including our Mayor and former Safety Service Director as well as of course, our service department to choose a leasing option through Enterprise. I would also like to thank all of those who attended the Community Connect last week. We had a great conversation about some exciting economic development around the village and other good news. Lastly, as a Greenlee resident, I want to thank the crew for working on the Greenlee Ave project for their quick work on the new curbs and aprons. It's really exciting seeing progress come together so quickly. Thank you that concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- The Service Department will begin leaf collection on Monday, October 13th. Residents may begin setting out their leaf piles starting Friday, October 10th. Collection will continue through Friday, December 5th. Residents are reminded to place leaf piles at the curb or grass verge, ensuring they do not extend into the street or block the sidewalk whenever possible. Lastly, as already reported, I am also pleased to report that the Service Department has received its first new dump truck and plow through our vehicle leasing agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management. This long-awaited piece of equipment will be a valuable addition to our service department, especially during dreaded late-night snow calls.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- Thank you Mr. President. There was no need for a Public Improvement Committee Meeting, but I would like to report on the opportunity I had to tour our village with our new Zoning Administrator A.J.Schweier. We spent two hours last Friday driving to all the corners of St. Bernard. We when to a few places he'd hadn't been, but I was impressed with the knowledge he has already gained of our village. He explained parts of code I had no knowledge of and how some Ordinances might need to change to be practical for our village now. We talked about how life might be brought again to Greenlee Garage and Bramkamp Printing. It has been years since both businesses have been open. Lastly, we looked at properties that have been in violation for years. I'm convinced these will soon comply with our ordinances and St. Bernard will be a more beautiful place for us all. I encourage anyone who is having problems or has ideas about code enforcement to contact A.J. He said his door was always open, and he wants to make our Village even a greater place to live. Thank you, Mr. President this concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- No report. Condolences to Charlie Vondermuellen's family.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- Thank you, as Ms. Van Valkenburg mentioned, in our last meeting we discussed changes to the tax code. That discussion is what has prompted the Ordinance 26 2025 which we put on the table for next week. At this point we do not have another meeting needed or scheduled to date, so I will keep the public informed on that. That concludes my report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- Thank you Mr. President. The annual Halloween Campout will take place this weekend at Lower Ross Park. On Saturday, October 11th there will be a Halloween costume contest, trunk or treating movies, a fire pit, and much more. The costume contest is open to anyone in the community, not just the campers. This event starts at 7:00 PM. On Saturday, October 19th, there will be a Fresh Market at the Vine Street Pavilion. The hours are 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The next Saint Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Society meeting will take place on Monday, October 20th starting at 7:00 PM in the main level of medical building. The program will be on gravestone symbolism presented by Jay Kathman. That concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- No report.

No audience participation.

Motion made by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to enter into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending litigation. Motion passes 7-0.

Council enters into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Council returns from executive session.

The next Council Meeting will be held on October 23rd at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting is adjourned.