

THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 11th, 2025

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on September 11th, 2025, in Council Chambers.

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

A Moment of Silence was held in honor victims of the September 11th Attacks in 2001.

A motion by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve the written minutes of the August 28th, 2025, council meeting. Motion passes 6-0. Minutes will stand as submitted.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you Mr. President. I wanted to get a road construction update for Greenlee Ave. Adleta is finishing up the water facility work this week. They're scheduled to begin curb replacement next week. Right now, they plan on starting on the east side beginning at Ross Ave. and moving south. They'll complete all the concrete work on that side of the street; curbs, ramps, sidewalk, driveway aprons etcetera, before moving to the west side of the street. They may start as early as Monday but there could be a couple of day delay, but they will be starting next week. The contractor for MSD is on has been on site to make 3 sewer tap repairs that have caused sinkholes in the street. MSD doesn't do a great job of letting us know exactly when they're going to be here in advance, but they are currently on site, and I am certain how long that work will continue. Sullivan should be having their speed cushions installed tomorrow. They are roughly 30 feet wide, so you won't be able to drive around them, two inches tall and they're have 36 inches to travel over. The plans from the public improvements committee meeting have changed from three sections back to two because these devices are much larger and it might create some issue for snow removal in that short section. Parking may be eliminated on either side of this speed hump as well. I have been in communication with the residents regarding the revised plan we are still working on the location for the second speed cushion on Langley and the exact date for that installation is to be determined. The pool loop paving and restoration is complete and we're ready for heavy rains and runoff. The work looks great and complements all of the other work that we have done at Vine Street Park. Also, the municipal lot that is shared by the Village, the Eagles, and Fifth Third Bank will be closed for milling and paving on Tuesday the 16th and Wednesday the 17th. I'd also like to thank Tim Williams for his service to the village. He served as the interim Director of Public Service and Safety after Tim Werdmann's departure. Tim served the village well and he has been able to accomplish many unfinished tasks and help with goal setting. I appreciate everything he has done whether it was

well received or not but I'm excited about the transition to our new Director of Public Service and Safety. Mark Wendling officially starts on Monday, so life is good in Saint Bernard and I'm excited for our future and that concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Absent, no report. Out on medical leave currently. She is able to respond to emails.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenberg- Thank you Mr. President. Just a quick update, the next Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting will be held Wednesday, September 17th. We will be discussing the ordinance requested by Ms. Helmes for mandatory resident and business regulation and that concludes my report.

Treasurer, Ms. Darrenkamp- Absent, no report.

Service and Safety Director, Mr. Williams- Absent, no report.

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

- Tax collections for August 2025: \$561,994.00.
- August 2025 is down 7.91 % or \$48,301.00 from August 2024.
- Refunds for August: -\$6589.51
- Delinquent tax collected with Capital Recovery: \$192.25
- Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office: \$3,156.63.

I do have a few things, so tonight before you I have Ordinance 24 2025. This is to amend section 182.17 of the tax code. This is basically just to simplify and remove some unnecessary language that pertains to the state tax commissioner and not the tax administrator. I have been wanting to take this out for a while. I thought originally that I needed to cover the state because they do collect for the city through the Ohio Business Gateway and the Municipal Net Portal. I don't need that language and it's kind of redundant and it's a little confusing. So, basically all this ordinance is taking out the provision that refers to the tax commissioner and just leaving the provisions in that are regarding the tax administrator, which is myself. Are there any questions? There is a Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting on Wednesday the 17th and to reiterate, it is regarding adding a provision in the tax code where we make it mandatory for residents and new residents to register and businesses to register. We don't really have a provision in the in the code that makes it mandatory right now. Also, we have the third quarter of 2025 estimated tax bills will go out the second week of October and that concludes my report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Finance, Mr. Moreton- Thank you Mr. President. Our next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled also for this upcoming Wednesday the 17th at 6:00 PM so we'll have to find a time to

move that so that it doesn't conflict with the Laws Contracts and Claims Committee meeting. The Mayor's Court is also being held on Wednesday, September 17th. I do not think we are allowed to have two committee meetings happening at the same time. I will get with the rest of the Finance Committee members and with Heidi to find time to move the meeting and have it posted in time. Regardless, we will find a time on Wednesday the 17th. We will be joined by Lashay Roche from LISC to discuss the finalized plan for the home repair loan program that is known as Revive and Thrive. Separately I would like to ask that a presentation from the Hamilton County auditor Jessica Miranda be added to the agenda for our council meeting on the 18th? She'll be sharing the many resources hosted by the auditor's office and good to know facts about the officer's responsibilities including property valuations certifying levies which are especially timely, dog licensing and rental registration. Thank you that concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- Last Wednesday, the Service Committee met to continue discussions of the revised draft of the hall rental contract, focusing on refining liability insurance requirements and cost structures for hall rentals. The committee considered whether to maintain the current draft policy requiring liability insurance or instead adopt an Assumption of Liability and Indemnification clause for cases when alcohol is present during the rental. Concerns were raised about the feasibility of renters obtaining liability insurance within a 30-day notice period, along with the additional costs that such a requirement would impose. There was general consensus to move toward including an Assumption of Liability and Indemnification clause that holds renters fully accountable, while still requiring proof of insurance from any third-party vendors providing alcohol. The committee also reviewed a cost analysis spreadsheet provided by Safety-Service Director Mr. Williams and proposed adjusting the fee structure from the original \$200 deposit and \$125/hour rental rate to a more streamlined \$200 deposit and a flat \$200-\$250 rental fee. This change aims to strike a balance between cost recovery and affordability for residents. Special consideration was given to funeral-related rentals, with the possibility of waiving the rental fee while still retaining the deposit requirement. Additional discussion focused on the practicality and necessity of having on-site staff during rentals, particularly to ensure rules are followed and the space is properly maintained. Concerns about post-event cleanliness were noted, as well as uncertainty around staffing availability on weekends. The committee agreed that clearer terms and conditions should be added to the contract to define renter responsibilities and prevent misuse. Next steps for the committee include preparing a draft incorporating the changes discussed and coordinating the incoming Safety-Service Director to gather input and finalize the policy draft before scheduling another follow-up committee meeting. 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 tomorrow is Tim Williams last day and I would like to thank him for being such a great interim Safety -Service Director. He just didn't fill in but used his time to tackle each problem that came across his desk. He would listen to citizen concerns

and even mine. He gave council progress reports and kept us in the loop. I'll miss Tim but wish him well in the future. Looking to the future I am excited that our new Safety-Service Director Mark Wendling is starting on Monday for what I hope is a long productive stay with us in The Village. He has great credentials and I expect great things for St. Bernard. With Mark starting Monday and our new Zoning and Code Administrator A.J. Schweier already doing an excellent job with new ideas I have great confidence in our future. Thank you, Mr. President this concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- Thank you Mr. President. I do not have a report this evening, but I would like to reiterate that the police and fire department do have their steak fry tomorrow night down at Vine Street Park. It will be a great time with great food and great company. Come and support this good cause.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- Thank you Mr. President. As was mentioned earlier, there is a Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting on Wednesday, September 17th at 6:00pm in the conference room downstairs at City Hall. I would also like to thank Mark for joining our team and I believe it will be a great fit for us. That concludes my report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- Thank you Mr. President. The next St. Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Society's presentation will take place Monday, September 15th at 7:00pm. The presentation will be on Proctor and Gamble. Saturday, September 20th there will be a concert in the Pavilion with music by Dangerous Jim from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. The Halloween Camp Out will take place October 10th and 11th at Ross Park. More details to come. That concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- Absent.

No audience participation.

The next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

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

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

Meeting is adjourned.