

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2014**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, September 18, 2014 in Council Chambers

President of Co0uncil, Mr. Michael Peck – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call showed that all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Kalb, Mr. Asbach, Mrs. Schildmeyer, Mr. Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus.

Mr. Asbach made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes. Mrs. Schildmeyer seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – No report.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – Absent.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Walden – There is a first time for everything and I don't have a report tonight either.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – Absent.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Ms. VanValkenburg – The Police Dept. for the month of August; officers were involved in 805 calls for service, of those calls, officers responded to 36 accident reports and took 36 offense reports. Officers cleared at total of 31 offenses. Officers made 68 misdemeanor arrests and 3 felony arrests. Officers responded to 61 parking complaints and issued 15 citations for parking violations. Officers issued 21 traffic citations, 1 DUI arrests and 55 warnings. Officers responded to 75 calls for suspicious activity, vehicles or persons. Additionally, the breakdown for the month of August with mutual aid runs; 1 run to Norwood, 27 to Elmwood, Cincinnati, 7, mobile crisis 1 and Clermont County 1, and OSP is 1. I'm not sure OSP, is 1 I'll have to check on that and get back to you.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – Tonight, Resolution No. 3, 2014 is on the table. This is an Ordinance to go ahead and move forward on doing a thirty year loan for Ross Ave. I urge passage of this tonight if possible.

Also, today our new street sweeper showed up today. We have two days of training so you should be seeing the sweeper back out on a regular basis cleaning our streets.

Hamilton County recycling has a couple of events. There are five events coming starting this Saturday. One Saturday it is in Milford, Harrison, Goshen, Lebanon and in Blue Ash, every Saturday starting this week. You can go on the Hamilton County web site hamiltoncountyrecycling.org and it will be under the shredded event.

Also, on October 4th from 8:00am until 2:00pm you have to go out and register for the hazardous household waste event. That's over at Norwood Plaza. If you can't go out on your computer, you can call. They will require that you have a code when you come out there. You can call at 946-7766. If anybody doesn't get all this information call me also and I can give it to you. Just call the office.

I stated at the last COW that we came upon a leak. The company, American Leak Protection came out Friday. I got good news and I got real bad news. The plumbing in our pool is solid. There is no leaks in that but at the hydraulic valve, at the bottom of the pool, at the deep end, leaked which incurred giving us a water bill of \$14,000.00. Normally it's about that for the whole year and we've already paid \$6,000.00. There is a bright side. With the sewage, because it went into the ground water, it didn't go into the storm. I'm trying to go to MSD to file for not paying the sewage that went into the ground. That's a three to four month wait. We will go ahead and proceed to pay a fair amount of the bill that we feel by calculation that we've used in the past. We will probably end up paying a little bit more, what that little bit more is, I don't know. So we'll have to wait until they come back from MSD to tell us what they're going to take off of our sewage bill. We did go ahead and get all new valves and got them into the pool so we're good. But with this leak protection also, it showed that we had some voids on our deck, our decking. With the high pressure equipment that they used they showed that we have some voids in the deck and he said it was not an emergency but something you would go ahead and get cuts in your cement and get the voids taken care of. So that's just something that's coming down the road.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – No report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – No report.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – I have the St. Bernard Fire Dept. monthly report for August; there were a total of 21 fire runs, 100 ambulance runs, 14 mutual aid runs, 5 motor vehicle accident runs. The Fire Dept. also repaired 8 fire hydrants. They participated in Proctor and Gamble's take a child to work day. They assisted in the Recreation Dept. in the annual Duck Regatta. They conducted the physical ability test for prospective new hires. They designed a new tornado plan for St. Bernard High School. They evaluated the various fire and tornado drills for both local schools and they assisted Head Start in receiving final approval for their new location in St. Bernard Elementary.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – The Village of St. Bernard recycled 204.59 tons and achieved a 15.88% recycling rate for the first period of 2014. Our community should soon receive a direct deposit in the amount of \$5,515.54 due to this recycling.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mrs. Schildmeyer – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – No report.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – No report.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

Mr. Asbach – The COW report has been submitted to the Clerk.

Committee of the Whole
Sept. 11, 2014

1. The meeting opened with a moment of silence for the victims of the 9-11 attacks in 2001.
2. Council voted 7-0 to approve the minutes of the Sept. 4th Council meeting.
3. Auditor, Peggy Brickweg
 1. Reported that the revenue from the property taxes was \$394,117.92.
 2. Said that the County hasn't sent back the rates from the budget that was submitted in July. When they do come back we'll need a resolution to accept those rates.
 3. Sent out packets to all Village employees about the new system to get your pay stubs. The info needs to be returned to the Auditor by Oct. 15, 2014.
4. Service Director, Phil Stegman
 1. Discussed the Ross Ave. project which will cost \$434,000.00. We can get a 0% interest loan from the County to pay for the project. It is a 30 year loan that would have payments of \$14,500 each year. There would also be a cost \$43,000.00 for engineering. The paperwork has also been started for the Jackson Ave. street project. Council voted 7-0 to put the resolution for the Ross Ave. project on the table.
 2. Said that there appears to be a leak in the pool. Someone will be in tomorrow to put a camera into the pipes to see if the leak can be located.
 3. Asked Council if the money in the pesticides line item could be used to have the Village buildings sprayed. Our person in the service department that usually does this work is off and has had surgery. Council approved the use of the money by a 7-0 vote.
 4. Reported that the railroad had contacted him about work on the crossings at Murray and Vine and Beech and Vine. We need to do the repairs and the State will pay the cost for the repairs.
5. Finance, Don Tobergte
 1. Thanked the Women's Club for asking him to talk at their meeting.
 2. Said that at that meeting a few people asked about the CIC buying an apartment building on Bertus Ave. and tearing it down to build a playground. That is just a rumor.
 3. Asked if the people on the CIC could be listed on the Village website.
6. Service, Steve Asbach
 1. Made a motion to have an Ordinance updating our Codified Ordinances. Council voted 7-0 to put the ordinance on the table.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Asbach
President of Council, Pro-Tem

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to read tonight's Resolution and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 3, 2014. A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ST.

BERNARD ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE BORROWER) TO REIMBURSE ITS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE ROSS AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT NO. CB46R, WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAX EXEMPT DEBT OF THE STATE OF OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 3, 2014.

REMARKS

Mr. Kalb – Resolution No. 3, 2014 tonight authorized the Village to take out a \$434,000.00 zero % interest loan for the resurfacing of Ross Ave. This road has reached the end of its useful life and is in need of replacement. Over the past few months I have agreed with the need to resurface Ross as well as the going out and accepting the zero % interest loan, that will allow the Village to get this project completed with a smaller impact on our ever tightening budget. The only concern that I have raised on multiple occasions is the length of the payback period. My fear is that if we pay this loan back over 30 years that we will be paying for a road still when we are looking for funds to replace it again. Peggy has looked into the terms of the loan and there is no penalty for paying it back early. My recommendation is going to be that the Village pay the loan back over 20 years which would be approximately \$21,700 a year instead of the proposed \$14,500. Now I know this Resolution is only to authorize the acceptance of the loan so the payback amount would be a year by year debate when it comes to the budget talks. I'm looking for Council's thoughts on the payback period of the load since we're getting ready to start working on the 2015 budget.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Resolution No. 3, 2014 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 40, 2014. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ST. BERNARD, OHIO, REVISING THE TRAFFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSES CODES TO COMPLY WITH STATE LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 40, 2014.

REMARKS

Mr. Walden – Inaudible.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 40, 2014 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte – Phil, do we have any new numbers on the Service Dept. on how much money we need down there yet?

Mr. Stegman – We had a meeting somewhat this morning and we were running those numbers. There's some hesitation on what we're going to pay and what we're not going to pay so I don't want to give you a number yet. It's \$15,000.00, no more than \$15,000.00, over the \$70,000.00 that we were short. Like I said, it's not locked in stone yet.

Mr. Tobergte – I went down there yesterday to pick up my cooler from the Block Party meeting and I noticed that the driveway is cracking and looking pretty bad already over by the driveway. Is that going to be replaced?

Mr. Stegman – That is under dispute right now as we speak. There's quite a few things under dispute as we speak.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I would just like to announce that this Saturday, September 20th at Vine St. Park there is a brain aneurism 3K Walk. The registration starts at 9:30am. The walk is at 10:30am and afterwards there will be a fair between 1030am and 1:30pm with some vendors such as Papado 31, Pampered Chef 31, Scented Candles, and Origami Al. It's \$10.00 for registration. You can register on the day of the event, which again is this Saturday, at Vine St. Park and we hope to see everybody out there.

Mr. Kalb – On behalf of the Festival Committee at St. Clement I would like to thank the Village for all they do every year to make our Parish Festival a success. First I would like to thank the Administration for allowing us to have the festival at Vine Street Park. Secondly I would like to thank the Police Chief and the officers for meeting our request every year by providing officers during the festival for the safety of the patrons. The visible presence of officers patrolling the crowd gives the workers and visitors a sense of security. In addition to paid details we would like to thank the extra patrols on duty personally by driving through the park after hours and checking on our festival security. I know when I'm down there at 2:00am and 3:00am in the morning cleaning up, it's nice to know they are watching over us. Last but not least the festival would not happen if it wasn't for the countless hours the Service Dept. setting up everything. Rain or shine, hot or cold, these guys make it happen year after year. I had the pleasure of working with the Service Dept. starting on the Wednesday before the festival each year and ending on Monday evening and I'm always impressed by their professionalism, hard work, and fun spirit while working. Finally I want to thank the many St. Bernard Businesses that support their community, not only for this event but also for the many other community groups throughout St. Bernard. It's the combined efforts of the residents, business, and Village employees that make St. Bernard the best place to live and raise a family.

Mr. Stegman – I really want to come out and get this out. On October the 18th First Safety Bank, Bob Sawtell, with New Shoots Landscaping, and they are looking for other businesses to participate to do "Shredded Day" here in St. Bernard. We just got that information today from Bob Sawtell, so if anybody is interested call those two people if you want to be part of the group that sponsors this. More details to

follow but it's good to get that out so people start getting their documents ready for "Shred It" and it's going to be October 18th.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS CCIL

Lisa Whitehead, 196 W. Ross Ave. – I come before you tonight to bring light to an incident that occurred in our Village on Friday Sept. 5th. My children were walking up Tower Ave. going to school when my five year old fell three feet because there was a hole. Thank goodness she was OK and only received bruises and scrapes to her arms and face. I received a phone call from the principal of the school to inform me of the situation and that my daughter was OK. He then went on to tell me that he contacted the Village because the school is not liable. He also informed me that Chief of Police interviewed my five year old and she was sent back to class. I immediately called my husband, who was at home at the time, and he went up to the school. My husband met with the principal, checked on our daughter, and proceeded to City Hall to speak with the Chief of Police. He was greeted by Heidi Culbertson who informed him that the Police Chief was out of the office. My husband left his name and number for the Chief to call us in regards to this incident, and we have yet to receive a phone call. However, we did receive a phone call from Phil Stegman. He said it wasn't the Village's liability either and he gave my husband the phone for Duke Energy and the contractor for JAS. My husband then called Duke Energy only to be told that they were not liable as well. JAS called us, offered us a gift card and said they would leave it with Heidi Culbertson at City Hall. The point that I bring forth this evening is not to discuss liability. I first wanted to bring the incident to the attention of Council. Second I want to assure that nothing like this ever happens again. As a life long citizen of this community I'm shocked that an incident like this would occur in the first place. I feel like we have an incredible Service Dept. whose job it is to ensure our streets, including our sidewalks are safe for all residents. If this is a contractor issue then why haven't these holes been covered properly with metal plates, not plywood? I walk this town and I see plywood covers are being used and that's only the streets that I walked. Can we please contact whoever is at fault and ask for higher standards of coverage? Thank you for your time.

Mr. Stegman – I would like to respond to that. The incident took place and before her husband could get there I had the contractor up there and we had steel plates put over it. It's still not the fact that it should have already had steel plates on it. I did have a heavy discussion with the contractor and told him that some of these openings need to be stronger to be able to take the weight of adults and for children and they need to be doing a better job of that. It was K and L, it is not Duke. Duke is not responsible for the sub-contractor they hire. That is where the taking is of who is liable. K and L Electric has taken responsibility for it and issued the gift card. We did immediately get the thing covered. It should have never been opened. We always try to keep a good eye on that. We hope the public call us on that when they see something like this so we can get it taken care of immediately.

Mr. Geiser – I have a question for Mr. Kalb and Mr. Asbach. I would like to know when the Roger Bacon Alumni parade is. I saw that they are changing the times. I didn't know, my kids look forward to that. When is it going to be and is it going to take the same route with all this construction?

Mr. Kalb. – As far as the parade goes, I believe the parade is starting a half hour earlier than usual because all the football games this year got moved from 7:30pm

to 7:00pm due to the GCL rule changes. As far as the route, I don't know anything about that so I will send an email and try to get that information and I'll bring it back to next week and I'll announce it.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, September 25 at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.