

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 18, 2015**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, June 18, 2015 in Council Chambers.

President of Council Pro Tem, Mr. Steven Asbach – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Asbach – At this time I will turn the meeting over to the Auditor who will present the 2016 budget that will be sent off to the County.

Mrs. Brickweg -

This is the Public Hearing for the 2016 Tax Budget of the Village of St. Bernard. This Budget will be submitted to Hamilton County for their review & action.

I have provided Council and the Administration with the break out of the budget. There are extra copies on the table by the door if any audience members would like one.

The 2016 Tax Budget reflects the Village's General Fund which is the basic operating fund of the Village.

**REVENUE (ESTIMATED FOR 2016)**

Est. revenue from the Village's Earned Income Tax	\$ 10,200,000.00
Expected General Fund receipts from Property Taxes	<u>\$ 1,100,000.00</u>
Total Local Tax Receipts is estimated to be	<u>\$ 11,300,000.00</u>
Est. revenue from the State & County from revenue sharing & certain taxes & permits	\$ 254,200.00
Other expected revenue for the Village of St. Bernard comes from:	
Charges for Services	\$ 280,000.00
Fines, Local Licenses & Permits	\$ 98,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 297,800.00
Other Sources	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Estimated General Fund Revenue for 2016:	<u>\$ 12,230,000.00</u>

**EXPENDITURES (estimated for 2016)**

Within each class of expenditures in the Tax Budget, estimated costs are itemized for personnel, contractual services, supplies & materials, and equipment or capital outlay.

Classification:

Security of Persons & Property (Police & Fire Depts)	\$ 4,690,591.78
Public Health Services	\$ 59,881.00
Leisure Time Activities (Parks & Recreation)	\$ 164,356.52
Basic Utility Services (Service Dept.)	\$ 1,354,450.00
Transportation (Dial-a-Ride)	\$ 188,728.00
General Government	\$ 2,513,164.96
Transfers from the General Fund to other funds:	<u>\$ 3,258,827.74</u>
(e.g. Streets, Swimming Pool, Debt Service, Master Plan	

& Employee Health Plan)

Total expected General Fund expenditures for 2016:	\$ 12,230,000.00
Estimated Surplus for the General Fund at the end of 2016:	\$ -
This is a balanced budget.	

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to accept the 2016 proposed budget that Peggy presented to Hamilton County. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach – We will now go back to the regular order of business.

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

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach – I notice that we do have a few extra people in the audience this evening. I want to assure you that if you are here for the cat issue that was in the Enquirer today, there is no legislation on the table. There will be a Laws, Contracts and Claims, the matter has been placed in Laws, Contracts and Claims and that meeting, when it is decided when it will happen, there will be a representative from the SPCA here and that will also be listed on the Village Website if you would like to attend that meeting at that time. But there is, I assure you there is no legislation on for this evening.

## REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – I’d like to remind everybody that the Grand Opening of the St. Bernard Branch Library will be Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30pm at the new Library at 10 McClelland Ave. Everybody is invited. Also I’d like to introduce Mr. Frank Davis who has written a wonderful poem about St. Bernard and I’d like to have him read it.

Mr. Frank Davis - Thank you for this opportunity to share this poem of appreciation with you now.

“The Village Within”

St. Bernard?

Oh, yes! It’s a village, it’s a village within Cincinnati.

Yes, it is a village. And yes, it is a village located within Cincinnati.

So, yes, it’s the village within. Yes, the village within.

A police officer cruising by with a friendly wave;

This, too, is the village within.

A little girl in a window, waving as a cyclist rolls along;

This, too, is the village within.

City workers keeping our town clean-rain or shine, ice, wind, or snow;

This, too, is the village within.

Spotless, shining swimming pool shimmering aqua blue;

Ball diamond alive with the crack of a bat;

Playground full of laughter, nestled beneath shady trees;  
Pig roast replete with families and fun;  
Parade down Vine and through the neighborhood;  
Joggers, dog walkers, baby strollers;  
Teens in the gym at six-forty a.m.;  
Young scholars walking home with crossing guards keeping watch;  
Librarians in a new abode, home away from home for patrons one and all;  
A cobbler, a chiropractor, a barber, a banker, all these and more;  
A beer, a milkshake, a pizza an egg roll, all these and more;  
A gallery, a grocer, a wine merchant, a travel agent;  
The view from Tower Hill looking all around, the view from Vine looking north  
and south;  
Schools elementary, middle and high, public and private.

Teachers who won't stop, parents who won't stop;  
Firefighters, EMTs, police, council members, mayor and staff who won't stop.

All this and more, much more, is St. Bernard;  
Clean, quiet, safe St. Bernard – "The Village Within."

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Thank you for sharing that with us. That was very nice.

Mayor Burkhardt – I'd like to thank Frank for writing that poem. It does impact  
all of St. Bernard.

Also I would like to recognize a citizen who this week, Mike Derrenkamp, who  
the other night witnessed a fire at his neighbor's house. Not only called the Fire  
Dept. but went over and woke the residents and got them out before anything  
else happened. It was contained to the attic but that's just neighbors watching  
neighbors. That's the Village, that's St. Bernard.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's office has prepared Ordinance 29  
for tonight's meeting. This Ordinance authorizes the Auditor's office to transfer  
\$550,000.00 from 01-5-A-19 General Fund Transfer Out into Cash Account 05-  
1000 Master Plan in the amount of \$50,000 and 51-1000 Employee Health Plan  
in the amount of \$500,000.00. The \$50,000 is to cover the money appropriated  
for the CIC to purchase property. The \$500,000 is for healthcare. The  
Ordinance also provides \$639,750.34 in additional appropriations to 51-07  
Employee Health Care Expenses. This is the amount of money that was  
remaining in the Healthcare Cash Account at the end of last year.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Walden – Mayor's Court was held last night. We  
passed in and out in about two and a half hours around 230 cases. We're  
continuing to move fairly efficiently and all is going well with Mayor's Court.  
We've been working with Phil on a number of projects this week and I think we  
are making progress on all of those areas.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the report for the Fifth Third  
securities as of the end of May. The total with the bank is \$2,195,000.00. We  
do have a CD that is maturing the 6<sup>th</sup> and it has already been moved over to the

Star Plus Ohio account. The total for that account at the end of May was \$725,467.45.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Ms. Van Valkenburg – No report.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – Tonight Ordinance No. 30 is on the table. I'd like for Council to pass this by emergency. This Ordinance is for me to enter into a contract to continue to build the parking lot behind LaRosas so we can get working on that quite quickly so we don't have any problems with it with you guys going on break next month.

Also, I would like Council to pass tonight Ordinance No. 35. This is the Ordinance to buy the fifth police car. Tonight I supplied everybody with the final numbers for the insurance for the total of the police cars at \$9,180.00 to help pay for the fifth car to be put on board. I hope those two Ordinances can be passed.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – No report.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – Last Saturday 27 residents and business owners came out to clean-up our village streets. I was pleasantly surprised to see the number of youngsters out with their parents picking up trash. Thanks again to St. Bernard Skyline, JuJu Beans, and Newshoots Landscaping for supplying the refreshments.

The next cleanup St. Bernard Day will be Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup>. We will meet behind City Hall at 9:00am. I will be supplying and grilling out hamburgers, JuJu Beans will supply coffee and hot chocolate again.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson – No report.

SERVICE, Mr. Asbach – No report.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mrs. Schildmeyer – Hamilton County Library is quickly coming to an end with the scheduled completion this month. Grand Opening is June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Streetscape project is progressing with Adleta now working on the East portion of the improvements.

Presently there are (2) lots available for new housing at Tower and Franklin.

Streetpops, at 4720 Vine, is working on their remodeling project.

New Salon and Barber, at 4813 Vine St. is nearing completion and should be open soon.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – There will be a Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee meeting next week on Thurs., at 6:00pm prior to the COW meeting to discuss the feral cat issue.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – On behalf of St. Bernard and the Business and Industry Committee I would like to congratulate Jerry Day Auto on their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary today with his business here in St. Bernard.

Also, the St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce had their first annual meeting this past Wednesday to work on electing officers and setting a regular meeting date. I was unable to attend due to being at work but I will have a report on that at the

next Council meeting.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

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

ST. BERNARD C.O.W. Minutes  
June 11, 2015

**NEW OR REFERRED ITEMS:**

1. Approved the minutes of the June 4th Council meeting.
2. Discussed the police cars. \$200,000 for Police cars will be sufficient for the purchase of an additional Police Car (Total of 5) and outfitting all of them. It will take 6-8 weeks to install the equipment after the cars arrive. Monthly payment: \$4600 for 48 months.

Mayor, Bill Burkhardt: Absent; No report

Auditor, Peggy Brickweg:

- 1) Received Letter for the wording on the ballot for the ‘Special’ election in August for the Renewal of the Tax Levy. Do not know the cost to the village for the Special Election. Will try to find out.
- 2) State Auditor is still completing the assessment of the Village books. Fixed Assets need to be updated.
- 3) Public Hearing for the Village Budget to be sent to Hamilton County will take place on 6/18/15 @ 7 PM in Council Chambers.

Law Director, Curtis Walden: Absent; Report given by Valerie Van Valkenburg

Discussed an ordinance for the new compressor for the fire department from the grant money. Council agreed to put Ordinance on the table for vote on 6/18/15/

Safety Director, Valerie Van Valkenburg:

- 1) On Jury Duty for next 2 weeks. She may not be able to respond quickly to anyone trying to get hold of her. She will respond when she is able

Service Director, Phil Stegman:

- 1) Discussed ordinance #30 relative to the parking lot behind LaRosa’s to go out for bids. Council approved to put ordinance on the table for vote on 6/18/15.
- 2) Communicated to the citizens that the reason for not having the Fire Works this year is relative to the lack of a safe place to shoot them off.
- 3) Garbage cans have arrived and are for sale
- 4) There are several areas around the village that are experiencing ‘Feral Cat’ issues. Phil will continue to look into the issue. Council agreed to have the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee review the current ordinance that addresses ‘Animals and Fowl Code’ and report back to council on their recommendations.

Tax Commissioner, Ed Geiser: Absent; no report

Treasurer, John Ungruhe: 4<sup>th</sup> of July/Holiday Fund: \$5,6023.98

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Finance, Don Tobergte:

- 1) Confirmed the budget that each Council member has tonight will be voted on 6/18/15 and will be sent to Hamilton County.
- 2) Clean Up St. Bernard will take place on Saturday 6/13/15
- 3) There has been a suggestion from a few citizens to have a farmers market. St. Bernard

Square is not an option. Further discussion needed to see if there is a viable spot for this to occur.

4) Some residents on Kessler Ave. have expressed their interest to have Kessler Ave. become incorporated into St. Bernard.

Safety, Ray Culbertson:

Block Watch Meeting 6/16/15 @ 6:30 PM

Service, Steve Asbach: Absent; no report

Public Improvements, Diana Schildmeyer: No report

Laws, Contracts & Claims, Cindi Bedinghaus:

Will have a committee meeting to look at the Feral Cat issue after receiving the current ordinance that addresses that issue.

Business & Industry, Andy Kalb: No report

Highways & Transportation, Patty Hausfeld: No report

New Business:

Cindi discussed that the businesses in St. Bernard were sent an agenda for a meeting for the Chamber of Commerce to be held Wednesday June 17, 2015 @ 9:00 AM in Centennial hall. Mr. Clint Cornell will present the idea of having Tristate Urgent Care and The Tristate Center for Health & Wellness develop a medical office in St. Bernard. The plan includes a tentative opening in early 2016. Council and other village officials were not aware of this potential plan. Phil stated that this is not a done deal. This person is coming to present to COC the idea and see if there is interest from the business community. The place for this medical office would be the old police station.

Council voted to go into Executive Session to discuss Employee Compensation.

Audience Participation: None

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to excuse the absent member. Motion passed 7-0.

Ordinances and Resolutions for the next council meeting: Ordinances # 29, 30 31, 32, 33, 34, 35

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Next Council Meeting: June 18, 2015

Next C.O.W. Meeting: June 25, 2015

## COMMUNICATIONS

To Council

The people who participated and myself would like to thank Don Tobergte for the Clean-up St. Bernard days. He thanks everyone in person and then he sends a letter and thanks everybody again. He deserves a Big Thank You for his time and effort. Don and his wife do a wonderful job of making it a fun time for all. He gives out all the thanks and doesn't expect anything in return. I would also like to thank the businesses which help out. There's a lot of thank yous in this letter, I know, but thank you again.

Anonymous

Motion by Mr. Kalb, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to receive and file the

communication and give a copy to Mr. Tobergte. Motion passed 7-0.

June 17, 2015

City of St. Bernard Council,

On Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 around 11:00pm, Mr. Mike Derrenkamp of 4315 Sullivan Ave. was sitting on his back porch watching a hockey game when he noticed fireworks coming from his neighbor's yard. Upon a closer look he discovered it wasn't fireworks at all, but a real live fire in the attic of Tony Quallen's house on Tower. Mike did not hesitate, he called the police and fire department on his cell phone as he pounded on the front door, screaming for Tony and Jessica to wake up that their house was on fire.

Mike's continued pounding and shouting did wake them up and got them out of the house just as the police and firemen arrived. The firemen were able to contain the fire to a small area in the attic with minimal damage. Thanks to Mike and the firemen a real tragedy was avoided. My son and his fiancée are alive and well. The house can be fixed.

I would like the City of St. Bernard to recognize Mr. Mike Derrenkamp as a real neighborhood hero. Had he ignored the fireworks display no telling how terrible a tragedy would have occurred. I thank Mike for saving their lives.

God bless Mike Derrenkamp!

Sincerely,

Peg & Don Quallen

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to receive and file the communication. Motion passed 7-0.

Dear Mayor Burkhardt,

I know you most likely receive many messages from citizens telling you what an exceptional job that Mr. Stegman accomplishes as our Service Director. I want to add mine to the list. The utility contractors tore up a fairly large section of my yard when putting the new gas line in. Then one of their trucks damaged another smaller area when he drove up into my yard. At the time, they told me the lawn repairs would be done in a few weeks. It has now been a few months. The treacherous ruts, depressions, mounds, bare spots, rocks and stones have made it very difficult to mow the lawn, and posed a hazard just walking, especially for someone like me with arthritic knees.

I, therefore, asked for Mr. Stegman's assistance. He was at my house last Thursday with the contractor's Rep in tow within a couple of hours of receiving my request. After assessing the situation, the contractor stated their crew would be here today to make the repairs. Based on their past promises I had no faith that would happen. I am happy to report they were here today and did a very good job. One of the guys who came today told me that their company has three concrete crews and only one lawn crew working throughout the city, thus the reason it is so hard for them to keep up. I am absolutely sure that Mr. Stegman's steadfast dedication and follow through is the only reason that my repairs have now been done.

We have had some good Service Directors in the past but Mr. Stegman is the very best of them all. Phil is extremely hard-working, reliable, and truly cares about the citizens that he serves. Please let him know how very much appreciated he is. And thank you for selecting Mr. Stegman and the other excellent staff that you have brought to serve St. Bernard. Keep up the great work.

Gratefully,

Kathy Monahan  
112 Bank Ave.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to receive and file the communication and give a copy to Mr. Stegman. Motion passed 7-0.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to read this evening's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 29, 2015. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFER FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 29, 2015. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 29, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 30, 2015. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND TO ENTER INTO A PROPER CONTRACT FOR THE MARTIN STREET PARKING LOT PROJECT IN THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 30, 2015. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 30, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 31, 2015. FIXING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION FOR THE DEPUTY AUDITOR STARTING JANUARY 1, 2016 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Culbertson – I'd like to make a motion to allow this to take it's regular course.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I'll second that.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Culbertson – I would just like to see this take it's regular course as not all members of Council were in Executive Session, nor the Mayor, and I would like to allow them the opportunity to participate in the discussion of these three Ordinances.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – So will we have time to go through these before we go to break?

Mrs. Brickweg – If you go the total regular course, no you will not. If you

suspend with the third reading at the next meeting you will. This Ordinance hasn't changed in three months so what point in particular I don't know. Nothing has been changed.

Mr. Walden – If I could offer, I was asked by one of the Councilman this week to check on whether or not if the Ordinance only passed by four votes it would therefore not become effective within thirty days that will mean that the raises had been accomplished before the cut-off date of August 5<sup>th</sup> when petitions are due to be filed. I spoke to the Ohio Attorney General about that and was told the best they could do offer a witnessing in about three months. So I cannot tell you that a vote immediately before the cut-off would be valid and I cannot tell you if it would be invalid at this point but I just wanted you to know that is what I've been told by the Attorney General.

Mr. Asbach – Mr. Walden if the emergency clause is in the Ordinance does that not cover the third day?

Mr. Walden – My understanding is, if we don't have five votes then it does not become effective immediately. It will take thirty days for the Ordinance to become effective.

Ms. Hausfeld – I kind of agree. We have been talking about this for how long?

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I'll take back my vote. Let's vote. If you guys are ready to vote, let's vote. I know I'm in favor of this position receiving this bump. I'm fine with that. I was told the vote's unfair. If you guys are ready to vote, I'm fine with voting. Let's take a vote.

Mr. Asbach – Mrs. Schildmeyer if you are going to rescind your second.....

Mrs. Schildmeyer – I will rescind my second, yes.

Mr. Asbach – Is there any other motion on the table.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 31, 2015. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Culbertson voted no.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 31, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 32, 2015. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BREATHING AIR COMPRESSOR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 32, 2015.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Tobergte – Valerie I know the Chief is up there. Is there any value in the old compressor? Are you planning on selling that, scraping it or what?

Chief Meyer – Yes, Mr. Tobergte, there is value, I don't know what it is and the plan would be to sell it and then I would like to keep the money in the Department for some other things but obviously it may go back to the City. But yes, there is definitely value in it and there would be no reason not to sell it. I didn't get a chance to read the Ordinance, I was out of town last week and I apologize. Is the rat pack that I addressed in my letter also in the Ordinance?

Mr. Asbach – It states, “related components” the compressor and related components.

Chief Meyer – If that covers it that's fine because those we absolutely do need. Again it's grant money, 95% federal grant money so OK, I just wanted to make sure.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to adopt Ordinance No. 32, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 33, 2015. FIXING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION FOR THE DEPUTY TAX COMMISSIONER STARTING JANUARY 1, 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 33, 2015.

## **REMARKS**

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I will not be voting for this particular Ordinance tonight as this is a roll in the Tax Dept. that I wasn't favor of when that was adopted and so I will not be voting for this Ordinance.

The motion to suspend passed 6-1. Mr. Culbertson voted no.

Motion by Mrs. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 33, 2015 as read. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Tobergte and Mrs. Bedinghaus voted no.

**ORDINANCE NO. 34, 2015. FIXING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION FOR THE MAYOR'S ASSISTANT STARTING JANUARY 1, 2015 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 34, 2015. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Culbertson voted no.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to adopt Ordinance No. 34, 2015 as read. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Hausfeld voted no.

**ORDINANCE NO. 35, 2015. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT TO PURCHASE ONE NEW POLICE CRUISER WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**AND TO FINANCE THE CRUISER THROUGH MAINSOURCE  
EQUIPMENT FINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 35, 2015. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 35, 2015 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Stegman – I would just like to thank Kathy for writing that letter. In certain cases we'll try to do that but I know I'm going to receive a lot of calls wanting to know if they can get their yard done immediately now but in certain cases, the position that she was in I tried to help her out in that way and we are making it around town fairly quickly now so still bare with us. Unless you have a special case please call me but, and if there's a problem with what they've done, I have received some of those, please call me and we'll get them back out to redo what they've done and fix the problem. Thanks again for the letter.

Mayor Burkhardt – I'd just like to remind the citizens that the renewal tax levy will be on the ballot for August 4<sup>th</sup>. This levee money is used to keep us moving forward on our street projects. It's very important. We have one coming up next year on Jackson. It's the sewer and street sidewalks and everything. That's what this money is geared for to keep us moving forward. If you've seen lately, I believe it was Medera and Cincinnati, are having major issues. They're so far behind on their street and sewer projects but we've been extremely lucky to be able to keep up with ours and hopefully the citizens will vote for the levee and we'll keep moving forward.

Ms. Hausfeld – I just wanted Phil to give an update as far as the garbage cans and how many we have left, if we have any left?

Mr. Stegman – I believe the last count was 75 we've sold and we had 250. Every week we're selling between 10 to 15 maybe 20 a week.

Ms. Hausfeld – I just wanted to mention it again just in case anybody didn't know that we got the black ones in and they are very nice.

Mr. Tobergte – Phil is there any update on the railroad buildings?

Mr. Stegman – Yes, I was in contact with ODOT who is working with me. There's still a battle now and even ODOT is in the middle of this battle where I have documentation where CXS saying that Ohio Rail owns that property and every time you contact Ohio Rail they're saying it's CSX property. So we're trying to figure out if we should go ahead and send a letter off to both asking for permission just to let us go ahead and take the building down and I don't know if we'll get a response because neither one of them are saying it's their building. It's a problem.

Mr. Tobergte – Some heavy equipment up there is getting pretty close to that building.

Ms. Hausfeld – So I wanted to assure you and thank you for getting that railroad track out further on Vine St. taken care of. My mother actually thanks you every time we drive over that because she's not going like *THIS* every time. So thank you for taking care of that.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – If anybody was at that Chamber of Commerce meeting where that gentleman was talking about the Urgent Care and the Medical Office Building, because the first time we all heard about it is when I had the letter that was given to all the businesses that he was coming to talk to them and nobody else had known about it. I just didn't know if he was there talking about it and what is the next step. What did he have to say?

Mr. Tobergte – I was able to attend the meeting since it was raining. I don't remember, Peggy, you can help me with names, Tri-State I believe.....

Mrs. Brickweg – I think it might be Tri-State Urgent Care.

Mr. Tobergte – They have four locations already in Cincinnati. Area 1 is on Ridge Rd. I think Peggy looked up all their locations.

Mrs. Brickweg – There's one in Loveland, Clifton and Fairfield and the one on Ridge is if you're looking at that street that runs behind businesses and runs right behind PetSmart is that old beat up apartment building.

Mr. Tobergte – They were talking about doing urgent care, wellness program, having regular doctors there too, possibly in the future if they do develop a spot, they're looking at possibly doing a dentistry and chiropractic offices. It sounds like a all in one shopping crew.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – So what are the next steps in order for this to be decided or what's going to happen next?

Mr. Tobergte – My understanding, there was a doctor that came and he had a group of investors that backed the whole operation and they have to get all their plans together, figure out costs and get back to his investors. He's talking about possibly in 2016 opening if possible.

Mrs. Schildmeyer – At this point it's a view on whether they want to approach him or not. It's still in that early stages of them even saying that they want to come here and then us even saying that we want them here. I think this is very early stages.

Mrs. Brickweg – That was the one question I had. My husband and I drove by the, we've seen two of them now, and by the condition of the buildings I was not impressed at all so he asked me out of curiosity, who makes that final decision. I said I know the Village still owns the Police Station. I know it's on Vine and I know we have rules on Vine but I really didn't know what answers to give him.

Mayor Burkhardt – Right now Paul is just working with a group. At some point he would come to Council I'm sure because the City still owns the property, even though he's trying to do it through the CIC. Eventually it would come back here with a proposal, I'm sure.

Mr. Stegman – We would actually have to turn that over, turn the Police Station over to the CIC before they would enter into any type of contract because as the CIC they are allowed to negotiate that way so Paul would come back or maybe myself and ask to have it transferred out. The Police Station over to the CIC before they could enter into a contract.

Mr. Tobergte – Phil, are we trying to get a date on when they actual dividing up of that lot is going to be?

Mr. Stegman – Yes, I finally had a company come in and fine where the water line leads down to the pool. It feeds to the left of the building down along the grass area. That was given to the person that's dividing the property up and hopefully within the next week or two we can get it down to the County and get it split.

Last week I made a comment on Council floor and I just want to finalize. I did get a letter from Nancy Rozzi from Rozzi's fireworks providing in the letter the only places that we could shoot fireworks, commercial fireworks off, one of the places I had talked about was by P&G, by Railroad and Vine. With that area right there by shooting them from that area, we would have to totally close that area down. That whole Vine St., Beech, Railroad, that whole corridor would be shut down for the fireworks and that's not a very safe thing to do and I don't know that we can shut down Vine St. for the half hour or forty five minutes for the fireworks. I also have specifications for the distances. The other one was up between the school. Years ago we did some, on January 1<sup>st</sup> some kind of bi-centennial. But the weight of those shells were very small. They're six inch shells which you need 420 ft. of clearance from any building. With going over to the school you're only talking about a two to three inch shell which you're only talking 10 ft. But the weight of the shell going up is not very high. If you're wanting to downsize the fireworks just to have fireworks that much, then it is feasible. But it's not going to be a six inch shell between the school. I've got that and the safety regulations according to the NFPA, 113023. And I do have a copy of the letter where she states the only two places in St. Bernard could actually physically keep commercial fireworks going in the Village of St. Bernard. It's not a financial thing, it's because we have developed all the property that we were able to shoot. The other thing with P&G, we don't have permission, number one, and the other thing is when you move that far to the left you're not going to be seeing it where we used to see it from Ross Ave. It will be further left so you'll be looking like you're seeing the fireworks over the top of Clay St. It would shift that much further over the projection of those shells because they couldn't throw them back towards P&G and the Service Dept. I just wanted to let people know because I know it's been a hot topic on Face Book and this has been going on with Rozzi. This wasn't the first time that correspondence, I've got correspondence going back to January and February earlier this year to find out if there's any place to shoot these fireworks. It's not a knee jerk reaction. If anybody wants to see all the emails going back and forth since the first of the year I'll be glad to show them to them but I do have a letter here if anybody after the meeting wants to see it.

Ms. Hausfeld – I remember seeing the fireworks that were put on over by the school a few years ago but I thought those fireworks back then were pretty decent. They might not be as great as they normally are but it's just an incite because I can remember watching those up there and I thought they were decent

back then.

Mr. Stegman – Well the other thing on that too is there's also another crowd, I mean you can't have a crowd that close. I mean when they did that it was in the winter so the crowd wasn't there. Even if you would have your festival at Vine St. Park, they did have people go into the pavilion to see it but you have to have so many feet for participation of people being in the park. That would be minimal. I think the Chief understands what I'm referring to if anyone wants to speak to him after the meeting too.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Tobergte – Bill, there has been talk with business owners and residents about trying to get a Farmer's Market going. I talked to Paul Myers, he's does not want to use the shopping center parking lot. He's afraid it would muddy the water with the people he's got talking building down there. There's a meeting, I think it's Sunday afternoon at 2:00pm at Meiners I'm going to go to. We need to get together and try to figure out if we can get a spot somewhere to do the Farmer's Market type deal.

Mayor Burkhardt – What about using the pavilion, block it off.

Mr. Tobergte – That was suggested but I don't know if you want to do that in the middle of summer while the pool is open. It's fine with me.

Mayor Burkhardt – The pavilion is used mainly for recreational. I mean shutting it down for one day wouldn't be a bad thing. It's just an option that we can look at.

Mr. Tobergte – Ideally, the parking lot down at the shopping center right there on Vine St. would be best.

Mayor Burkhardt – We'll look at it. I'm sure there's some other spots.

Mr. Kalb – Mr. Tobergte, are there any Ordinances prepared for Executive Session for employee compensation at all for this evening?

Mrs. Brickweg – Yes, I emailed them to all of you and I have copies of those, yes. There are two of them.

Mr. Kalb – Is that something that we want to, are we interested in doing that tonight or should we do it at COW next week?

Mayor Burkhardt – I would just do it at COW next week.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Betty Rapp, 4417 Tower Ave. – Everybody's worried about fireworks, why don't they have a get together on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July like the German Luau used to be?

You don't necessarily need fireworks.

Mr. Stegman – I'll be the first one to answer that question since I've been

involved in a lot of these. Betty there is nobody that comes down to a festival until 8:00 or 9:00, an hour before the festivities of the fireworks. That's when the participate in the booths. I mean there's never a crowd until the latter part waiting for the fireworks to show up. For years we started at 4:00, if we had 100 people in that park up until about 7:00 it was amazing to have that many people.

Betty Rapp, - Oh I didn't know.

Mr. Stegman – Like I said, I've been going down and working the booths for many, many years and it's just a poor turnout for the festival until later in the evening when they know the fireworks are about ready to start. I do love that German Luau idea and I'd be the first one to start on trying to bring it back but it's the same thing. People trying to get people to work the booths and trying to man it, St. Clement is so close to September when they have their festival down at Vine St. and August is when the German Luau was there.

Betty Rapp – Another question. Dianna are you and Ray going to have another Town Hall meeting?

Mrs. Schildmeyer – Betty we absolutely will have another one. It will be late summer, early fall. Away from the election so it doesn't look improper. I think we need to stay away from election time. Please come.

Dr. Millie T. Shaffer, Co-founder and Director of Neighborhood Cat Helpers – I realize you want to transfer a more intensive meeting in regards to what we actually use the term temility cats, feral cat is not actually not a good name for what we deal with. I had prepared something I've been tending on meeting with you ever since I tried to help St. Bernard with some cat issues in 2013. I think you need to know what happened and I guess the question I have for you is, and I've been meaning to contact you and these are issues and problems that I think you need to know and understand. I can give you a few copies for you to read or you can contact me by email but there are some real issues here and they are very unfortunate because you end up with a lot of stressed residents who care about these animals and of course you have officials and some residents that only want them killed. I think it's very important that St. Bernard pull itself into modern day programs and we're willing to help do that but what happens is if you want the help of these organizations that can save you money, our services cost nothing, when I think you're going to have to hear what we have to say, you may not approve of everything but you take a serious look at your animal ordinances. I have since pulled them. There are some real problems there so there are some serious discussions needed but you are out of step with most of the communities in the greater Cincinnati area. We have worked in many communities. We have fixed many cat out of control population in those areas. It didn't cost the communities anything. I can give you city officials and residents who will be glad to tell you about what we did. We have done it with 2,500 cats and kittens. The reason you are having the problems you are have is so many groups do not want to come into St. Bernard. This document will give you some reasons why they don't. We pulled out and left. The place we were on Delmar Ct. we were trying to fix because of all the things that happened there we finally just pulled out. You'll see where we predicted, that was in the newspaper recently, we predicted that if we pulled what would happen, happened. We'll be glad to share with you our years of experience and training

and hopefully sharing information that you see what's happening in the communities all around you. We can get some positive programs going that will benefit your community, save you money and solve these problems. They're all fixable. They're all fixable. When is your meeting? I didn't know the meeting was going to be changed so I came here to speak but anyway, go ahead.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – It is Thursday, next Thursday, at 6:00pm.

Dr. Shaffer – Where is it going to be?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Right here in Council Chambers. Will you be able to come?

Dr. Shaffer - I'm going to try to come. Let me leave you these documents. I think the unfortunate thing for you, I don't know how much of you followed some of these, you could get blindsided so easily and you don't have a chance to really think about what are the issues here that need to be identified why these things are not getting resolved or why they're going on. Also I think it's very important that all of you take a look at your animal ordinances and look at the things that can solve these problems. We all want the problem solved. I don't want to live with 100 cats running around my back yard. OK? That's why we do what we do. We were nurtured and brought into being in existence nurturing a Pet Smart in 2004. We have been at this for 11 years and it's been a big learning curve but I could tell you stories where we've gone in and within two blocks there's 100 free roaming cats. We fixed them. Everybody went away happy. But there's no real quick fix as far as just going in and turning it around overnight but all these problems are fixable and you can do it. But you're going to need the assistance and the expertise of people that have been doing these things. There is a national organization that can help. It's for everybody's benefit, including the cats. I guess what I could do is just leave you some of these. I can send these to you by email but it ended up being a rescue from hell and that was not why we came into that neighborhood. All the barriers that were put in our way finally we said we have all these communities that want our help are cooperative, the residents are cooperating, why are we wasting time in St. Bernard? We got to change that. So let me give this to you and I will come and I will be glad to give this little presentation but if there's an email I can send this to I'll actually send all these, I have a whole big packet on my St. Bernard experience.

Mr. Stegman – I do have Millie's email address. When I was working back in 2013 with her on W. Ross and a little bit up on Delmar Ct. so I'll be able to give her all you guys' email so that she can pass all that on. I just want everybody to know that the programs they are talking about is trap, neuter, and return. I know that there is a lot of our community that when they do this, they don't want them back. They want the trap and neuter part of it but they don't want the cats back. That would be the course that we would have to follow.

Ms. VanValkenberg – Is there any provision for vaccinating the cats that they want returned?

Mr. Asbach – I think we should just save this for next week during the meeting rather than start branching off.

Mr. Stegman – Millie I don't know if you heard me, I told them that I would supply your email to all the Council people back to you so that you could forward all your stuff to them.

Dr. Shaffer – I think the important thing is, these issues can be complex. I'm not kidding you about that part and on our part they are a lot of work. But when you stabilize that community and usually when the groups go in to neuter these cats and kittens, they try to get as many as they can, there are different things you do as part of this program. But yes, all the animals get medical, they get deflead, dewormed, they get all their vaccinations etc. but you got to fix the problems going on there. Is there a problem of odor? You've got to solve that problem. Is there a problem with you know, they have no place to go for a potty. You can fix those problems.

Mr. Asbach – Dr. I don't mean to cut you off but we do have a five minute limit but we'll get into it next week, I promise.

Kerri Messer, Tower Ave. – I must say that I do love the new additions, the lampposts, the library and maybe seeing the Farmer's Market which I do think is very nice and would kind of cover up and eye sore. I do have some concerns about more businesses being introduced. We have to get the word out and market ourselves as the great small town that we are. We offer several amenities and luxuries that other towns do not. But we must also offer convenience. Without new flourishing businesses of all sorts we can't achieve that. My other concern was the multitude of renters and not homeowners. St. Bernard is buying properties, rehabbing them and selling them, even present and past residents doing the same. Current residents want people investing in the community that want to grow with it and take care of the Village. For those of us who grew up here and know what it once was we know it could be again. Sweet small town, close knit families and friends. When homes are being bought and then rented out, when we should be selling to home buyers who love the neighborhood and want to raise a family here. Renters come and go but families that buy here are planting roots and growing with us. If landlords really cared about the community and not just possibly making a buck then they need to be held responsible for making sure renters are paying their St. Bernard taxes and if there are complaints constantly occurring that repeated inspections should be performed on those properties. There are plenty of home buyers out there who want to live in a peaceful, quiet and safe town. We offer that and more but we must market to do that. There's hospitals, businesses, colleges all around us with owners and employees looking to stay right outside of Cincinnati to make that daily commute short to and from work and to and from school without the hassle and the hustle of like downtown and the Clifton areas. There is also people that want to open a business in the same kind of small hometown. In both instances we must focus on how to get those potential residents excited about joining and investing with us. So, those are my concerns with the renters, not so much homeowners and then just marketing I mean what's going on with that. I mean we got pamphlets going to the different businesses. I mean I like Fresh Time up there on Ridge. I'll hand them a pamphlet and a basket. I don't mind doing grass roots things but I just want to know, I mean things are coming up but at the same time we got things that need to be figured out.

Mayor Burkhardt – I think we're working on that. We're trying to get the Chamber of Commerce back together. I think that's going to be a big part of

our marketing. Getting businesses out there and getting other businesses to follow. I think within the business community, that's where you get the other businesses to come in. We have to get all this started again. It all went away years ago and it's going to be a struggle to get it started up again. Once we get that started, Kerri, I think we will move in the right direction.

Kerri Messer – I just think we need to focus more on that. You have to have an audience to do that for. OK? And if you want to sell those houses you're going to build over there across from the old library for \$150,000.00 you better get in the right kind of people to do that. You have to have businesses. You have to have a walking community. I'm glad things are moving but I still feel like I'm beating a dead horse again. I'm just saying there are places that you can go and market things specifically. These are things the community are saying they want and need so we do have to outsource it. We can do ours again. It was that way once. So I don't want it to take years because it's been dismantled for that long for it to take years to come back. We don't have that kind of time. Look at Over-the-Rhine what they're doing. We should contact some of those people, I don't know. But it needs action sooner than later. Honestly.

Mrs. Brickweg – I would like to comment to that. I agree with her 100%. We've been talking about marketing for years and years and we do nothing. Is it possible, I know pretty much nobody wants to pay to have somebody to come in here and do marketing so is there a group of individuals, and I would be more than happy to volunteer my time, that would at least start something? I'll do it for free. But I think, I agree, I feel her frustrations, she keeps coming here and coming here and for many Council years I tried the same thing and you just get people that stare at you and don't, there's no answer. Nothing moves forward. I'd be happy to work with you.

Kerri Messer – If I were able to choose what I wanted my money to go to that would be one of the things I'd have to have my money go to. We're just sitting here. You can put up all the nice lampposts and all the things you want but at the end you don't have businesses, you don't have, you know, home owners it's never going to, I mean, you see signs everyday that don't get picked up. So if there's an Ordinance or a levee that I can vote to say yes to take the money out of my taxes to make my town better, I would do it. I work everyday to be able to live somewhere nice.

Mayor Burkhardt – The only thing I have to disagree with is that I think the City is moving forward. I think we are getting new businesses in here and I think things are looking in the right direction. It takes time. That's the sad part. It does take time. It took us 140 years to get in this shape and it's going to take us some time to get back out of it. I think we are moving in the right direction and you can't get businesses to move in here over night. It's a struggle and I think the new businesses that we have coming in, I think we're moving in the right direction.

Mrs. Brickweg – I don't care anything about businesses, I care about marketing. You market our town. There's nothing to do, Paul Myers job is to market for new businesses, I understand that and he can do that but under Mayor Siegel she had that packet, she went out and marketed this town. That was the last time this town has been marketed. What I'm saying is maybe we could put something together and I think even to add on to Kerri, let him deal with the

businesses but we need to market for people to come here and buy houses and show them the great location we are and not market to renters but market to home owners. So maybe and I don't want to throw anything into your court Andy but I'll be happy to help you, but maybe you can put it into the Business and Industry, we need to market and it's not, I don't want any feelings to get hurt, I'm not saying they're not doing their job but we all have to agree there hasn't been a marketing packet in probably, what, 20 years? Probably. So I think we need to start maybe instead of just talking about it but start looking at it and working on it and maybe start small with going more towards homeowners and try to figure out how we can get to the hospitals and P&G and get them information on their people maybe coming here and buying houses. That's just a place to start but I really do think we do need some type of branding and a marketing plan.

Mr. Tobergte – Bill, a couple of months ago we talked about this and you were talking about redoing that brochure. Are we still working on that?

Mayor Burkhardt – Yes, Elaine is working on the brochure.

Mr. Stegman – I'd like to throw a couple of cents into this because of the talk here. I think we're real close to that marketing stage. Talking with Paul downstairs about those ideas in marketing, we're so close that you don't want to start, you want pretty much a package done. The shopping center that we're working on, it's coming close. You want to have some of that stuff pretty much done before you go out and market. It's bad to go out and market something that is still there that's going to be replaced or our vision for it and a plan for it. Just like the doctor's building that we're working on, those are the kind of things that finalize the plan of the business side of it. I do get the idea of the marketing for the families and the housing stock but to be a complete package there's a couple of things, there was a five year plan when we started with the Vine St. Streetscape and we're filling up the businesses, smaller businesses coming into Vine St. There's a couple of little things that are still left that need to be done for us to go ahead and do a full marketing study and get that out there as a complete package instead of knit picking away at little items.

Mrs. Brickweg – First of all I didn't know Elaine was working on something. Not everybody knows everything.

Mayor Burkhardt – She's more than just a secretary.

Mrs. Brickweg – The comment there was not a secretary, the comment was I didn't know she was working on something because there was a lack of communication. I'm not sure what your comment meant there but I just meant I didn't know she was working on something. Maybe I was going to offer that maybe I could help her with that. But I would be more than willing to. I would like to make one suggestion when you bring up that medical thing if you talk about it maybe today. Maybe when we do get closer to that I would suggest to Council that you go visit the buildings and go inside the buildings and see if that is what we really want for here. I have been in the building and at that Urgent Care and I did not stay but I think it's sad that someone gets shot down like that when they are just volunteering to help. That's all I'm saying is I would like to.....well your comment was very rude.

Mayor Burkhardt – Why, because you talk about Elaine all the time and .....

Mrs. Brickweg – I do?

Mayor Burkhardt – As a secretary, she does a whole lot more than that. Everything that runs through that office runs through her. OK? I'm tired of everything, Oh, I didn't know she was doing this, I didn't know she was doing that. You were at every meeting and the meeting that Don brought that up.

Mrs. Brickweg – No I was not, no I was not.

Mayor Burkhardt – OK.

Mrs. Brickweg – I'm sorry I was not at the meeting. I'm sorry I'm not going to go back and forth but what I'm saying is the only reason I said that is that I would be more than happy to help and no I did not know she was working on it so I was just going to offer my help. OK?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I'm just going to add my little two cents. I think we need to move forward with marketing but I really think that we need somebody with expertise in marketing and what package, how to package it, I don't want to hurt anybody's feeling and Peggy I appreciate you wanting to help and Andy, Business and Industry, but again I really think it's going to take somebody with some expertise to do this right.

Mrs. Brickweg – As a suggestion maybe, and I do agree 100%, that's why I said we need a branding, we need a lot. Is that something that possibly that we should think about or Council should think about for next year in the budget to put some money aside to possibly hire somebody for branding and for marketing instead of getting into next year and going, oh we don't have the money for it. It sounds like we're still saying all the ducks will be in a row by then so what needs to be thought of now is we should probably budget and who should handle that project.

Ms. Hausfeld – Can we put this in the COW for next week to discuss it and maybe by then we'll have some numbers as far as what a marketing person would cost us and to see if we could afford to do it for next year. Just a suggestion. I don't know how people feel but I think it's a great idea, I don't disagree with any of the marketing part but until we know like what it's going to cost us or a ball park figure, it needs to be discussed a lot more than tonight so if we could put this in COW for next week maybe we can get some numbers by then hopefully, that would be great.

Mr. Culbertson – I would also like to discuss this further. I agree with Cindi with bringing in some professional help. Checking the cost of that but I know how tough it has been to add anything to the budget in the past but I would still like to look into this. This person maybe marketing and maybe Paul and the guys downstairs have some ideas, maybe they have already brought some things up like this and it's been shot down, I don't know. I would think that person would work hand in hand with them down there and be a part of their budget.

Kerri Messer – OK so the only thing I have been urging that she's talking about and it's going to be the VA situation is how I see it. I would definitely not do

putting a move on that. Until you actually go look at it because we have a lot of people here very upset about the VA situation and I can tell you that Urgent Care is going to be the same thing. So maybe get a marketer in here first before these decisions like maybe what that would be. It would probably be a really great idea.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> with the Laws Contracts and Claims Committee meeting at 6:00pm and COW at 7:00pm.

Motion by Ms, Hausfeld seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.