

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL INAUGURAL MEETING  
JANUARY 1, 2016**

The Inaugural meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held January 1, 2016 in Council Chambers.

Fr. Fred Link - The Invocation was given by Fr. Fred.

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

Ms. Maya Parks - Beautiful singing of the National Anthem.

Mayor Elect, Mr. John Estep - Introduction of Judge Melba Marsh and Inaugural Address.

Judge Melba Marsh - Inaugural Address.

Judge Melba Marsh - Oath of Office was given to St. Bernard Council Members: Mr. Tobergte, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Kalb, Mrs. Schildmeyer, Mr. Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus.

Judge Melba Marsh - The Oath of Office was then given to Mayor Estep.

Motion by Mrs. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Culbertson to nominate Mr. Asbach as President of Council Pro-Tem. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to close the nominations for President of Council Pro-Tem. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Kalb, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to elect Mr. Asbach as President of Council Pro-Tem. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to nominate Mrs. Kathman as Clerk of Council. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Kalb to close the nominations for Clerk of Council. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Asbach to elect Mrs. Kathman as Clerk of Council. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the regular order of business for the remainder of the meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to open nominations for President of Council. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Kalb, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to nominate John Metz for President of Council.

Motion by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Kalb to nominate Valerie Walden for President of Council.

Motion by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to nominate Steve Rutenmuller for President of Council.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to close nominations for President of Council.

Ms. Hausfeld - Before we vote I kind of talked to Valerie beforehand and I just want everybody to be on the same page. So I told Mike that I would call upon him. One of our concerns, just to let the public know, years ago it was always the President of Council would succeed the Mayor if he took ill or resigned or any, for any purpose. Like I explained the other night at Council depending on what's true and what's not true, do I know I will screw it up if I try to explain it so I'm going to let Mike explain it so that everybody knows what's going on as far as if anything does happen. We have been told it's not the President of Council, so I just want it to be perfectly clear what's going on as far as if anything did happen. I'm not saying you're going anywhere, I just want to make it perfectly clear. But, you know, in the past, people do get sick, people do resign, we just wanted to make sure we knew what was going on.

Mr. Peck - I read Valerie's memorandum on this and I think she's correct but I have not researched it myself. Our Charter refers to a law, and I don't have it on the top of my head, regarding vacancies, and it indicates that a non-partisan election, and I believe St. Bernard is non-partisan, the Legislature, you guys, the Council, the majority of that Council fills the vacancy of Mayor. That's my understanding based on what I read.

Ms. Hausfeld - And that's because we are non-partisan?

Mr. Peck - Yes, if it's partisan then it's a committee, but if it's a non-partisan town, like we are, then it's the Council.

Ms. Hausfeld - OK, then also, one other thing, Mike I know there was some talk and I actually brought it up, what happens if the vote for the President of Council goes three, three and one and I know there was a joke by us, that the lowest member got voted off the island. But since then I believe you guys are saying that we revote on it until we can come to a conclusion.

Mr. Peck - That rule is not listed. The law says it has to be a majority quorum out of seven so it has to be four. There's nothing stopping you from voting as many times as you need. But if you don't want to vote any more you can stop and then later on the Mayor has to appoint someone.

Ms. Hausfeld - OK. Thank you for clearing that up.

The vote for President of Council was as follows: Mr. Tobergte - Valerie. Ms. Hausfeld - Valerie. Mr. Kalb - John. Mr. Asbach - Ms. Walden. Mrs. Schildmeyer - Mrs. Valerie Van Valkenburg. Mr. Culbertson - Valerie. Mrs. Bedinghaus - John.

Mr. Asbach - Looks like we have Ms. Valkenburg/Walden to take this seat and I'll go back to my regular seat. Congratulations.

Judge Melba Marsh - The Oath of Office was given to Auditor, Mrs. Peggy Brickweg, Director of Law, Mr. Michael Peck, Clerk of Council, Mrs. Sue Kathman and President of Council, Ms. VanValkenburg/Walden, Service Director, Mr. Tom Paul, Safety Director, Mr. Jonathan Stuchell, Tax Commissioner, Mr. Richard Moore.

Judge Melba Marsh - The Oath was also given to the Recreation Director, Mr. Paul Schildmeyer, Assistant Recreation Directors, Terry Behrle, Lisa Whitehead, Jamie Hendricks and , Mayor's Assistant, Cheryl Abrams, Deputy Auditor, Nick Hendricks and Tax Clerk, Sharon McCullough.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to put Ordinance No. 1, 2016 on the table today. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1, 2016. AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATION FOR EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 AND ESTABLISHING NEW LINE ITEMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 1, 2016. Motion passed 7-0.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Tobergte - The only change for the budget that was discussed at our last meeting is we added \$4,000.00 to City Hall Temporary Employee Fund. This is to pay the people that are helping with the transition period. I would like to thank Phil Stegman for helping during this period. The budget has an estimated income of \$13.7 million dollars and expenses of \$13.2 million dollars.

Motion by Mr. Asbach, seconded by Mrs. Schildmeyer to adopt Ordinance No. 1, 2016 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach - The selection for Standing Committees from January 1, 2016 until December 31, 2017 is as follows:

Finance Committee - Chair, Don Tobergte. Members, Cindi Bedinghaus, Steve Asbach.

Safety Committee - Chair, Ray Culbertson. Members, Dianna Schildmeyer, Cindi Bedinghaus.

Service Committee - Chair, Steve Asbach. Members, Ray Culbertson, Dianna Schildmeyer.

Public Improvements - Chair, Patty Hausfeld. Members, Don Tobergte, Andy Kalb.

Laws, Contract and Claims - Chair, Cindi Bedinghaus, Members, Ray Culbertson, Patty Hausfeld.

Business and Industry - Chair, Andy Kalb, Members, Don Tobergte, Patty Hausfeld.

Highways and Transportation - Chair, Dianna Schildmeyer. Members, Andy Kalb, Steve Asbach.

ICRC Representative - Dianna Schildmeyer.

Committee on Committees - Steve Asbach, Cindi Bedinghaus, Ray Culbertson.

Motion by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Kalb to receive and file the report.  
Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to set the time and date for regular Council meeting for the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm.  
Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach - The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 7th, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Fr. Fred Link - Benediction was offered.

Ms. Maya Parks - Beautiful singing of "God Bless America".

Mr. Asbach - The next COW meeting will be January 14th, 2016 at 7:00pm.

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