

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 1, 2018**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, February 1, 2018 in Council Chambers.

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

A moment of silence was acknowledged for the Mayor's daughter, Allison, who passed away unexpectedly last week.

Roll call showed that all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Bob Culbertson, Mr. Kalb, Mrs. Bedinghaus, Dr. Chastain, Mr. Ray Culbertson and Mr. Siefert.

Mrs. Bedinghaus made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Dr. Chastain seconded the motion. Council agreed. 7-0.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – Just a couple of things, we're reaching out to Luke Fickle to hopefully be a Grand Marshall for our parade. He's the new football coach down at University of Cincinnati and we've been in touch a little bit with Mr. Smitherman, a Council person from Cincinnati to hopefully be our guest speaker after the Memorial Parade. Those are the two things. I welcome the Scouts tonight. This is always one of the best nights down here and we're glad to have you.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's office provided Council and the Administration with end of 2017 Expense and Revenue spreadsheets and Cash Fund Report. At the end of 2017 the Village's expenses were \$12,958,546.93 and the revenues were \$11,976,028.24. In 2017 the Village spent \$982,518.69 more than it has brought in.

The Auditor's office has prepared Ordinance 6, 2018 for tonight's meeting. This Ordinance increase's the minimum wage, per Ohio law to \$8.30. The part time seasonal positions being increased are for the first year of work for pool attendants, craft assistant and swim lesson assistants.

The Auditor's office also prepared Ordinance 7, 2018. This Ordinance authorizes additional appropriations to:

- 12-01 Drug Offender Fines \$2,800.00
- 13-01 Criminal Act Forfeiture \$14,500.00
- 21-01 Mayor's Court Computerization \$3,300.00
- 22-01 Clerk of Court Computerization \$10,000.00

This is revenue in cash funds that has to be used for specific purposes. The Ordinance also transfers \$798,076.00 from General Fund Transfer Out to:

- 05-1000 Master Plan Cash Account \$150,000.00

15-1000 TIF Cash Account \$45,000.00  
18-1000 Cap Project-Storm Sewer Improvement \$3,076.00  
31-1000 General Bond Retirement Cash Account \$300,000.00  
51-1000 Employee Health Plan Cash Account \$300,000.00

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Peck – I prepared the amendment to Ordinance No. 4, 2018 and after the amendment I put the change in a new Ordinance. I think Mrs. Bedinghaus has both. So, I'll have to make that as soon as Council wants to do that they'll have to make that amendment tonight and vote on it.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – I had car issues this evening so I apologize for not getting here in time and also I didn't have an opportunity to get my report done so I'm sorry and I will have that at the next meeting.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – I have the St. Bernard Fire Department report for the month of January, 2018. There were 89 EMS details with 52 patients transported; mutual aid was given 11 times to Elmwood, which I am addressing, just so you are aware, 3 times to Norwood; mutual aid was received 1 from Norwood; details of interest were 4 unconscious patients, 3 auto accidents and 1 non-breather.

Fire runs for the month of January, 2018; a total of 50 fire details; mutual aid was given 2 to Elmwood, 1 to Norwood, 1 to Springfield Twp.; mutual aid was received 1 from Norwood, 1 Elmwood, 1 Springfield Twp. and 1 from Cincinnati; details of interest, 3 building fires, 1 industrial tank fire, 1 pedestrian struck. I have some great news regarding the Planning & Development Department. The Service Director and I reviewed two different companies who provide service to various municipalities who choose not to employ their own building commissioner. There was one individual who we interviewed and felt would be the answer to our problems, Gerry Stoker, the President of XPEX. He understood our issues that we have had and assured us that we can maintain a full service building department without employing a full time director.

XPEX is a full service company that provides rapid adept building inspection and zoning activity service/support. They will do a detailed review of plans for compliance with State Commercial and Residential Codes, issue and distribute occupancy certificates, archive and retrieve inspection reports, documentation, and issued permits, as required by local and state regulations, develop and maintain monthly and annual reports as required by the State of Ohio Board of Building Standards. Basically, they are a full service third party provider who will give us the guidance needed to overhaul this department to provide the necessary customer service for both our residential and commercial clientele. I am very excited to have Gerry on board and he has been a true pleasure to work with. I do plan on bringing him to Council for a proper introduction.

Robert Ostertag will still be employed by the Village as the rental program director and HIP Inspector under the direction of Gerry Stoker. The Law Director has reviewed the contract with XPEX and does not feel that an Ordinance needs to be passed.

I have been receiving complaints from Council members on behalf of the residents that they represent regarding the new digital billboard on I-75. Gerry Stoker researched the electronic sign and the permit that was issued in September 2017 for the new electronic sign, which is placed in the general location of an old existing

billboard sign that was removed. This new electronic sign application should have been forwarded to the Board of Zoning Appeals for approval for the use as a "Multiple & Variable Message Sign" This type of sign is not permitted unless a variance is granted by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

He spoke with the owner of the property, Arthur Leesman, and the owner of the sign, Norton, and they were unaware of the issue, but both are very willing to work with St. Bernard to meet our guidelines and apply for a variance. St. Bernard has not performed a final inspection on the sign and will not final the permit until we work through the current variance issues. I am committing to be involved with this process to see that the residents' concerns are addressed and the proper buffer or shield is installed. This should not have happened but we will work through this and I will tell you that this will not happen again.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – Since the generator has had an offer of \$8,000.00, I had to inquire about the legality of selling it instead of auction. After discussion with Mike Peck, it appears we need Council's authorization to auction anything over \$1,000.00. That being said, I need to put an Ordinance on the table for COW about the auctioning or selling of the generators, old bus, and ambulance each of which should get more than \$1,000.00. I have added the ambulance as selling because I understand that if it is sold from municipality to municipality you do not need authorization. This is a precaution. I also need an Ordinance on the table for Tower and McClelland Ave. It is an easement that needs to be passed in order for them to connect to the sewer system. This I would like to be passed by emergency as they are waiting for an inspection by MSD.

The Dial-A-Ride service has been discontinued as of January 31, 2018. It was a wonderful service but became a financial burden for the Village. We lost \$60,000.00 a year and with our current situation it was a luxury we could not afford. I am sure it will be missed.

On January 28, 2018, Ava Nobbe's idea of a "Little Free Library" became a reality. It is located within Bertus St. Park. If you would like to check out the national site's location and a small acknowledgement about Ava please visit

[www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org), go to "Map" tick Zip and type in our zip code of 45217.

When the map appears, hover your cursor over the red balloon and read the tribute. Feel free to use our Little Free Library as much as you like. The way it is supposed to work, take a book out and put another book in, this way it will be ongoing.

Thanks Ava Nobbe and congratulations on your endeavors.

Ah! Another bumpy ride season. Yes, we are getting ready to address the dreaded potholes. We will try to locate all of them for you and repair them as quickly as possible.

To My Community

As we all know, life is short. But yet we still say "Remember when?" If you are not making peace, sharing love and creating laughter, you may be falling short on your remember when's. If you say to yourself, "life sure seems to be dragging", maybe you are not on a true path of living your life to the fullest. Make others feel better with peace, love and laughter and you will find that your life becomes memorable.

TAX COMMISSSTIONER, Mr. Moore – A couple of three things here tonight, first off I'll have the January figures for you by the COW in a couple of weeks.

Secondly, it's February 1, kind of the unofficial start of tax season. I'd like to remind everyone that this year taxes need to be filed by April 17, 2018. We follow the federal guidelines and that's when you have to file with the IRS. Again, just as a reminder, all persons over the age of 18 must file a return unless you have an exemption from the Tax Office. You need to file even if you didn't have any

income or you worked in another city and paid that city, you will get full credit for that, that you paid the other city, but you do still need to file. Next, we did do a mailing today. We got it out this afternoon. It went to about 2,800 addresses, again, just reminding them of dates and times and so forth. And then last but not least,.....OH, I skipped something. This year if you need to get a return, a St. Bernard return, we're going to have them at the Library for the first time. The Library gave us permission to put them down there so if you're going past the Library or go in there will be a stack there so you don't have to download them from the internet to the website or come in to the office. They'll be at the Library. And then last, I do have Ordinance No. 10, 2018 on the table tonight for your consideration.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte - (read by Scout Bryce) My first Town Hall meeting for 2018 will be Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00pm in Centennial Hall.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – The next Block Watch meeting will take place on Thursday, February 22 at 6:30pm at the Safety Center. A presentation will be given by a spokesperson from the Better Business Bureau. This is another reminder that all future Block Watch meetings will now take place on the fourth Thursday of each month instead of the third Tuesday.

SERVICE, Mr. Siefert – (read by Scout Dominic) The Service Department Report for January, 2018; there were 5 trucks placed at residences, 11 dumpsters placed at residences, 83 special pick-ups at residences and 179.95 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. The recycling report; 30.98 tons of recycling material and 4,300 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – (read by Scout Colt) I would like to invite everyone to the next CIC meeting which is February 20 at 6:00pm in the lower level.

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

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Kalb – (read by Scout Conner) The Business and Industry Committee will be having a Committee meeting on Thursday, February, 8 at 7:00pm here in Council Chambers to discuss proposed Ordinance 9, 2018. This Ordinance deals with outdoor dining areas and sidewalk cafes in the Heritage Hill Overlay District which is Vine Street between Bertus Avenue and Washington Avenue. All are welcome to attend.

MARKETING, Mr. Chastain – Neither the external nor the internal Marketing Committees have met but the next external meeting is Wednesday, February, 7 at 6:00pm in Centennial Hall. I'd like to designate this as an internal/external meeting if possible and invite Bob and Allan and I hope we can all work together to help St. Bernard puts its best foot forward in the broader community in the future. Marge Niesen has an "old-time" baseball game set up for Sunday, May, 20 at 2:00pm on the field at upper Ross Park Stadium. It will be members of our own Police, Fire and Service Department against Cincinnati's Vintage Baseball Club using old time rules and there will be interactive opportunities for young folks on the field after the game. Marge says if the Scouts want to help that they help earning badges or anything she will find a way to make that happen. She had desired a car show to

integrate within that day so we could have people come from outside the city and see St. Bernard has a ton of workers but no one to organize that and run it so it is on hold at this point. It's not going forward unless someone steps up to run it.

The Clerk has submitted the COW report as follows:

Committee of the Whole  
January 18, 2018

1. Council approved the unofficial written minutes of the Special Council meeting of December 21, 2017, the Inaugural meeting of January 1, 2018, the regular meeting of Council of January 4, 2018 and the Special meeting of January 11, 2018, 6-0. Mr. Kalb was absent.
2. There was discussion concerning Ordinances No. 2, 3, and 4, 2018. Mr. Peck clarified the Water Works policy on vacant apartment collection of fees. As long as there is water running into that building you will be billed for each unit whether it is vacant or not. An amendment to Ordinance No. 4, 2018 will be made before the second reading. More discussion on if number of collections per week could possibly make a financial difference. It was determined that it was not cost prohibitive to make a change in trash collection. There was much more discussion on the budget and the necessity for a five year plan.
3. Mayor Estep
  - a. Reported on the progress of the Health Care Committee. Said that other companies will be invited to present alternative coverage for the Committee to consider.
4. Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg
  - a. Presented year end budget revenue and expenses and explained the budget deficit for 2017.
  - b. Asked that Ordinance No. 6, 2018 regarding compensation of part time employees, with all corrections, be considered for passage. Council voted 6-0 to put Ordinance No. 6, 2018 on the table.
  - c. Asked that Ordinance No. 7, 2018 regarding providing additional funds and transferring funds be considered for passage. Council voted 6-0 to put Ordinance no. 7, 2017 on the table.
5. Director of Law, Mr. Peck
  - a. Would like to discuss the Council minutes at the next COW.
  - b. Asked to have outside Counsel, a professional negotiator, be hired for important contracts this year.
  - c. Preferred to have private discussion with Mr. Tobergte regarding Senior fees.
6. Safety Director, Mr. Stuchell (read by Mayor Estep)

a. Requested that Ordinance No. 9, 2018 be put in the Business and Industry Committee.

7. Service Director, Mr. Paul

a. Explained the changes in Ordinance No. 5, 2018 concerning the right-of-way on Jackson Ave. Council voted 5-1 to put Ordinance No. 5, 2018 on the table. Mr. Tobergte voted no.

b. Informed Council that Ordinance No. 8, 2018 was a formality. This property, notably "Howells Basin", was the property of St. Bernard/Elmwood Place since 1939 and this would now be utilized. It was stated this would not cost the City anything. Council voted 6-0. to put Ordinance No. 8, 2018 on the table.

8. Tax Commissioner, Mr. Moore

a. Expressed satisfaction in the new hire in his department. Explained to Council the content of Ordinance No. 10, 2018 regarding the Village's compliance with Chapter 182, the collection and administration of the net profit taxes section, and urged passed of this Ordinance. Council voted 6-0 to put Ordinance No. 10, 2018 on the table.

9. Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe

a. Stated that the balance at First Safety Bank was \$5,640.49

10. Finance, Mr. Tobergte

a. Reported his next Town Hall meeting will be Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7:00pm.

11. Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson

a. Said the times of the Block Watch meeting has been changed to the 4th Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be Thursday, February 22, at 6:30pm.

b. Thanked the Service Department for their diligent service cleaning the streets during the recent snow.

12. Service, Mr. Siefert

a. Would also like to thank the Service Department for their efficient snow removal.

13. Public Improvement, Mr. Bob Culbertson

a. Announced the next CIC meeting would be Feb. 20 at 6:00pm in the Lower Level of the Municipal Building. There will be two new members voted on. One elected or one appointed official to serve on the Board.

14. Audience Participation

a. A resident was duly concerned about the reason the City was in the Real Estate business. Expressed that Council should have a plan for future sales and uses of city owned property. Was curious if any other governing body could be accountable for actions of the CIC or Council.

b. Another resident wanted to express her appreciation to the Fire Department for care given to her in a concerning situation.

c. The Health Care Committee was also discussed and the employees have been working to find a viable answer to all issues.

d. An explanation was given on how the budget should be prepared.

Ordinances for the next Council meeting.

Ordinance Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 2018.

The next Council Meeting will be February 1, 2018.

The next COW Meeting will be February 15, 2018.

Respectively Submitted,

Sue Kathman, Clerk

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Dr. Chastain to read Special Resolution No. 1, 2018 in its entirety. Motion passed 7-0.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2018. DECLARING THE OUTDOOR CODE OF ST. BERNARD, DESIGNATING ALL BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS IN THE COMMUNITY HONORARY PARK POLICEMEN; AND ASKING ALL OF THE YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG LADIES OF ST. BERNARD TO HONOR THIS CODE.**

WHEREAS, the Boy Scout and Cub Scout Programs encourage Community betterment as well as individual member improvement; and

WHEREAS, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are special citizens who know their duty to their fellow men and will face opposition to do what they know is right; and

WHEREAS, St. Bernard youth is interested in a better St. Bernard of the future; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF OHIO BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS VOTING:**

Section 1. I will treat the outdoors as a heritage to be improved for our greater enjoyment. I will keep my trash and garbage out of America's waters, fields, woods and roadways.

Section 2. I will prevent wildfire. I will build my fire in a safe place and be sure it is out before I leave.

Section 3. I will treat public and private property with respect. I will remember that use of the outdoors is a privilege I can lose by abuse.

Section 4. I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals, grasslands and wildlife; and I will urge others to do the same. I will use sportsmanlike methods in all my outdoor activities.

Section 5. I will observe bicycle safety rules and obey all traffic laws when operating my bicycle or walking through the streets of St. Bernard.

Passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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President of Council

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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Mayor

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Special Resolution No. 1, 2018. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Special Resolution No. 1, 2018 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to read this evening's Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach – Clerk may we have the second reading of Ordinance No. 2, 2018.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2, 2018. AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CINCINNATI DIVISION OF WATER FOR THE COLLECTION OF FEES RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION IN THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Tobergte that Ordinance No. 2, 2018 take its regular course.

### **REMARKS**

Mrs. Bedinghaus – For Ordinance No. 2, 2018, Ordinances No. 2, 3, 4, just so everybody is aware are all relative to the Garbage Ordinances. Each one of these is for, in particular, certain things relative to the Ordinance and No. 2 is just to enter into the contract for the solid waste as was read.

Ethel, 4919 Tower – I am stepping up to talk about the fees. I am on Social Security. It is very hard for me to pay this \$15.00. It is four of us in this unit. Each of us is on Social Security and Disability. \$15.00 hurts us. Some of us have to go to Food Pantries to make the month out. \$15.00, I don't see where we can get it from. So, I'm wondering what do you all do with people that cannot afford this.



With one house might have five and six people living together and this apartment you have four units and this house they pay \$15.00, we have to pay \$15.00 for each unit. I don't think it's fair. So, could you give me an answer please.

Mr. Paul – The only thing I can say is the way Cincinnati Water Works works their program is to charge by unit. A four family, I looked at, I drove around the city and looked and actually there's a lot of people that put out trash that their trash fits in a Kroger bag. Some of the four familys' generate more trash than a household, some households only have elderly living in them also. The fairest way to do it was the Water Works way by charging the \$15.00 per unit. That's the only answer I can give you. It's what they are doing. I would think that anywhere you go, anywhere you live, you would have to pay a trash fee.

Ethel – No. I had a house here. I lived in St. Bernard for 20 some years. I had to give up my house because I had to go on Social Security so you cannot tell me you can go anywhere and you have to pay, no, that is not right. Please may I have this just one moment, okay, just one moment? Do you realize you worked all your life and you come into the end of your life and this is put on you. You might have somebody to help you, we don't. So, what do you do with cases like this? In our building it's four of us and we hardly put trash out. We why, because we don't have food enough to put garbage out. So, what do you do if we don't have the money? Are you going to put us in jail?

Mr. Paul – I don't have an answer for your income. My statement about you pay where ever you go is true. Rumpke charges people, charges residents. I realize that St. Bernard has never done it before but now they find themselves in a financial situation where they have to and if you want that service, that will cost you. That's what it's going to cost you to maintain the same service. As far as a four family and there's only four of you living there, there are homes where only one person lives there with the same amount of trash.

Ethel – Your answer is not the same. When you have five or six people living in one building there's going to be more trash in one house. House, not units. House.

Mr. Paul – I can't, with the way you're saying, there's a house with one person in it and that that trash is going to be .....

Ethel – If you got five of six people living in that house there's going to be more trash.

Mr. Paul – I agree.....

Ethel – There's four of us.....

Mr. Paul – But it's done by unit and if you lived in Cincinnati or if you lived in Amberly Village or Cheviot is a good one, they charge \$18.00 per unit. St. Bernard has chosen \$15.00. So, we're cheaper that way. But I would feel that anywhere you went you would have to pay a trash fee.

Ethel – No. But I'm not going to argue because I didn't come here to argue or to make a scene or anything like that. But it's also if landlord request to pay it. Would that be feasible?

Mr. Paul – Yes. Cincinnati charges per unit so if the landlord decides to divvy it up \$15.00, if it's a four family, it's \$60.00 a month whether he decides to pay it or if he raises your rent. That's up to the landlord. That's not up to the city. And your question about what are you going to do if you do not pay it, what happens is when Cincinnati's program goes into effect it is to divide that money that is collected for the water is divided into three portions, trash, sewage and water. Sooner or later, what happens if you decide not to pay the trash, those numbers that they're collecting will be divided up. Sooner or later you will be delinquent on your water bill and your water will be shut off. That is a long process. It is not something that's going to happen in weeks. It takes months for that to occur. Also, if you have access to the internet you can look and judges and courts have ruled that if a community chooses this route and chooses to charge their residents trash, by law they have to pay that fee.

Ethel – Okay, where does this money go?

Mr. Paul – It goes right back to the Service Department for trash collection.

Mr. Asbach – Ma'am, if we could hear from others. I failed to say it but there is a five minute rule that all the back and forth, rather you ask the questions and then we can answer. I don't want to take anybody's time away, but there's a lot of people that may want to talk. So, we have to limit your time.

Ethel - I'm going to sit down.

Kay York, 4919 Tower Ave. - I'm against this trash. I am a senior. I make \$792.00 a month which I have to budget like everybody in here does whether you have a job, out of work, unemployed, in between jobs, getting a job and sucha, sucha. I have a tenant landlord, tenant book. And under, I haven't really, the laws from the statute November 4, 1974 and under it the landlord duties is to put, is to take care of the trash for the tenants. And it says, provide trash in or for your apartment buildings or where ever you rent, to whom you rent four or more they have to bring a dumpster and a trash can. It does not say the tenants have to pay for the trash at all. I've got some copies here if you want to look at it. I called up there today at Columbus and they said for the what you're trying to ask down here for to raise you have to contact the, I got it here, the Ohio State Legal Service Association which they have moved from 555 Butler Ave, Columbus, Ohio. Now they are located at 1108 City Park Ave. Suite 200, Columbus, Ohio. And if you want to make sure we have to pay, you have to get someone or somebody to contact them to make it. Whether it's the city or like us, St. Bernard is in the city and that's all I've got to say.

James Bell, 588 E. Mitchell - I wanted to make a few comments about the proposed trash tax. Basically, as I understand it, it's a flat tax of \$15.00 per household. A flat tax by definition is a regressive tax. In other words, the people who have the least amount of money pay more money than the people who have the most amount of money. That's unfair. If it were a percentage, for example, if you paid 1% of income, for example, then the people who had the most money would pay 1% of that and people who had less money would pay 1% of that and you'd have your budget covered. So, it's unfair. The other piece that makes it unfair, makes it unwise, if I put out a half bag, I'm paying \$30.00 per bag. The family next to me that is putting out ten bags is paying a \$1.50 per bag. That gives me the encouragement to make as much trash as much waste as I possibly can in

order to make it an economical fee. I don't think that's what you want. I don't think you want to encourage waste. If we put it out and paid for it by pound, for example, the people who made more waste would pay more for the waste. The people who made less waste would pay less for the waste if you're paying by pound. It's a flat tax. It's not going to be fair. We could also encourage more recycling, for example, so that we don't make as much waste. If there was a, say for example, the person who recycles and puts out less waste, maybe they get a discount because they recycle. I don't know what the contract is you have with Cincinnati. Maybe that's not the best contract for you. And if that's the decision that you've already made, perhaps you can have an opt out option. So, I can take my trash to the dump myself and I don't have to pay \$15.00 if I can pay \$7.00 at the dump.

Rick Ortlepp, 4322 Sullivan Ave. - My question is, is the waste being picked up by the City of St. Bernard employees or Rumpke?

Mr. Kalb – Currently, if the Ordinances are passed the way they are now, St. Bernard would continue to still do trash collection, all the extra pick-ups for large appliances to dumpster and everything like that. It would be kept in-house by our own people.

Rick Ortlepp – Okay. Second question would be is how often, how many times a week are you going to pick this garbage up?

Mr. Kalb - Again everything stays the same, currently the way it is, so it would be twice a week. Either on your Monday, Thursday pick-up or your Tuesday, Friday pick-up.

Rick Ortlepp – Okay. So, then the next question is why do we pick up twice a week. This is the only community I have ever lived in where they pick up garbage twice a week. So, if anything you ought to make it once a week and if you want to charge something \$7.00 instead of \$15.00 or whatever. Pick it up once a week. I bet if you asked everybody in here, they'd be in favor for that, have the garbage rate of half of what you're proposing. In my opinion it should be put up for a vote by the citizens of this community and not just an arbitrary decision that we're going to still pick up twice a week and we're going to charge you \$15.00 a month for that.

Dr. Chastain – I want to address the twice a week thing because I got phone calls about that as well and this is Mike Wiedman will get up the foreman and back this up. It actually positively does not even come close to cutting the garbage collection cost in half. It's almost a zero sum gain. We currently collected, I believe, four days a week. We split it in half and we got .....

Rick Ortlepp – Excuse me then why don't we take it to once a week then?

Dr. Chastain – We can't do it once a week.

Rick Ortlepp – Why does the City of Cincinnati do it once a week? I lived in Cincinnati all my .....

Dr. Chastain – I don't have any idea how many service workers they have. Let me finish out. Right now we have a certain amount of service workers and we pay them to be there and do work. The only way we're going to save money is if we go

to a once a week pick up for everyone which would take two days to do it and lay someone or two people off. Okay?

Rick Ortlepp – That's how you save your money.

Dr. Chastain – Time out. Let me please finish. The issue is that if you're trying to get all that same tonnage, the same tonnage, whether you do it once or you do it twice, it's the same dump fee and it also causes you to have to go more times per day over to the dump and empty out the packers. Mike has told us that the likelihood, it's very likely that we're going to drive into overtime trying to get it in that one or two day, however you look at it period. It's going to drive into overtime. So, yes if you lay people off there would be a savings that's going to be chewed up by all the overtime. So, the people have analyzed the numbers have said maybe you save a little, maybe it cost more, it's kind of come see, come sigh in the middle. There's not a true real hard core savings that anyone can put on a piece of paper. So, going through and cutting the service level isn't really going to be a savings that we're going to need.

Rick Ortlepp – What if we have Rumpke pick up the garbage here, once a week?

Dr. Chastain – If Rumpke comes in and picks up once a week, there are two ways it can happen. It will save us maybe between \$60,000.00 to \$100,000.00 when we lay those four people off. So, that's four jobs gone. Then there's \$240,000.00 that we have to pay to Rumpke and he's going to get \$240,000.00. We can't afford to pay for garbage collection anymore. We don't have \$240,000.00. We're trying to find \$630,000.00. So, then it goes out to the citizens and the citizens pay and I'm a citizen too and I pay Rumpke and Rumpke's got it at \$10.00k a month or \$120.00 a year. And what I said at the last meeting was, Columbus signed a contract with Rumpke, the minute that contract was up they raised the rates 50%. So, if we're sitting there and it's costing you \$120.00 a year for your garbage and they raise it at the rate of 50% you take half that you're right back at \$180.00 that we're trying to put on you now. It's not a good situation, okay, no one is happy about it. The people that say that this is a rare, rare thing, I got tired looking today. Chicago has this fee, Austin, Texas has this fee, Greenville, South Carolina has a fee, Tuscon, Arizona, Atlanta, Georgia, Minneapolis..... In Ohio there's Akron, Cleveland, Euclid, Parma across the board. There is a good point about less, being less but Austin, Texas, they range from \$18.00 to \$43.00. So, the people that have one bag are at \$18.00 and if you need 96 gallons you're at \$43.00. Bloomington, Minnesota, their range is from \$15.00 to \$24.00 depending on your weight and the size of your things. Spokane, Washington, from \$17.00 to \$45.00. So, that's something we could implement in the future but we're at the lower end of that right now at \$15.00.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – Real quick to Kelly's point here, you know, I understand where the fee is and we can spout other cities but, you know, the thing that I keep driving back to is we have one of the highest property taxes, you know, in Hamilton County and some of the cities that you named I'd be hard pressed to go look at those income, property taxes and see what those are. So, yeah, I understand they have trash fees, other cities around here have trash fees but when I sit and compare what we're paying in property taxes, you know, we're still, you know, increase that fee and put it on top of already high property taxes. You know, what I'd be arguing about this whole time is trying to come up with a solution that, you know, profess our services, you know, and the fee, I think, you know, we need to

look at and to the one gentleman's point, in my eyes it's a tax. And if I go with that as my theory, if this is a tax on the residents then it should be put out to a vote to the residents.

Dr. Chastain – If we have to put it to Rumpke and we all have to pay \$10.00 a month, it's no longer a tax is it? It's going to Rumpke. It's a fee for garbage collection. If this doesn't pass we're being backed into a corner financially as a Village. And it's been a sinking ship for a long, long time and there's no way to beat around the bush, we've got to come up with \$630, 640,000.00. So, if this does go down or if it gets pushed to referendum and it doesn't make it until the November we still have to come up with that money and then it becomes even more likely that we go to Rumpke. Then it's not a tax, the money is going to Rumpke.

Mr. Tobergte – I got quite a few phone calls, I talked to Tommy, I talk to him once a week. If we go to once a week, can we do the three days as Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday? Then you don't have to worry about overloading the trucks and double trips to the dump. Next question is I'm not sure where you came up with this \$630,000.00 number at. These fees are going to bring in probably \$300,000.00, that would balance our budget. I don't know where you're coming up with \$630,000.00 yet, Kelly.

Dr. Chastain - (inaudible).

Mark Rapier, 213 Cleveland – First question and I know we (inaudible) of our condos. What are they going to pay?

Mr. Paul – The condos pay for dumpster so they will be charged by the dumpster.

Mark – So, they're not going to be charged the \$15.00, right? They're not going to have to pay the \$15.00 per unit?

Mr. Paul – No, they purchased the \$700.00 dumpster, 12 of them somewhere down the road. They were as everyone else were free and those who have dumpster service keep their dumpster service. One thing I'll point out about Alpine. Somehow or other they were not being charged all along but I believe that it started out as a residential. If you look at 144 units, the figures are there. But it would be a logistic nightmare for 144 units to put their trash in the small section of Alpine Terrace. I can't imagine the tonnage aligning that street. So, that, it just wouldn't be feasible.

Mark – Okay, with that being said, what's the \$15.00 being charged to me for? Is it to pick up my trash?

Mr. Paul – Yes.

Mark – Okay, so why can't you charge them, even though it's a dumpster, \$15.00 to pick up their trash? What's so special from a dumpster or my garbage can which I believe I paid St. Bernard for this garbage can? Kelly you want to keep on bringing up all these other cities, all these other towns on what they do. Let's make it a little bit easier for everything to fit in the packer. What did the City or Cincinnati do? One garbage can. You set out two, they only pick up one. Everything would fit in these garbage trucks. I mean you guys, it seems like this

whole thing is once again we're paying our mistakes from the past. We're trying to make the budget from last year. That's the problem. But now you want to put it on to us. You don't want to put it to all residents even though I'm getting charged \$15.00 to take the garbage out and Chalet is doing, or Alpine, whatever they're doing nothing different. Their garbage is being taken out. So why are they special?

Mr. Paul – Alpine will be charged by the dumpster. They will have the fee as will every other business.

Mark – Aren't, isn't everyone in Chalet who owns a condo, aren't they a resident of St. Bernard? Yes or no.

Mr. Paul – Yes.

Mark – Everyone who's in a four family apartment, aren't they residents of St. Bernard?

Mr. Paul – Yes.

Mark – Then what's the difference?

Mr. Paul – They have dumpster service.

Mark – But they're all residents, they're all paying \$15.00.

Mr. Paul – It was brought to Council's attention that if you have a dumpster, you would have dumpster service. These people have been paying for their dumpster service for years. You have not. That being said all I can say is if you have a dumpster service, you have dumpster service.

Mark – So they're getting a special, they're getting a special then?

Mr. Paul – As you got all your life. They had to pay.

Mark – I didn't get anything special, sir.

Mr. Paul – You saying that they got something special. They did not. They were charged all along for their dumpsters.

Mark – I'm being charged to take my garbage out when I pay my taxes all the time, sir.

Mr. Paul – If you look at your taxes, we won't get into that but high taxes in St. Bernard are more than likely not caused by the city.

Mark – So bottom line is we need to look at all the directions. Not just let's go, let's just charge the residents for our mistakes. \$15.00. Let's look at having only one garbage can out there. Let's do it once a week with one garbage can. City of Cincinnati is doing it. They didn't like it at first but guess what, they're getting accustomed to it. Now everything might fit in that packer. It might not be an expense of to go to the dump every time. But you guys got to think outside the box like I told you the last time. You guys just think one thing. Let's get the money. Let's get it quick. Let's cut the pool hours. What good does that do? It tells a lot of

people that have to work 9:00 to 5:00 jobs, the pool is going to be closed when I get off work. I'm going to cancel my membership. You guys thing about upping the membership? Did you guys happen to check around at other pools and see how much their memberships are? All the years I grew up, we belonged to a swimming club. I just checked how much theirs is. Number one your first year it's over \$1,200.00 to join. After that it's \$800.00 a year. You guys charge what \$100.00?

Mr. Asbach – Mr. Repier, five minutes is up and the pool discussion is another topic other than trash. It all ties in I understand but if we could wrap it up.

Mark – One last thing, you guys voted on the first reading. It really hurt me to see all but one vote to go ahead vote yes on that Ordinance reading when there was so many mistakes in it. That's the reason why St. Bernard is in so much trouble. Everyone of you except the Culbertson voted yes on that Ordinance, even though Mr. Peck said there were many, many mistakes in it. That's what's wrong with St. Bernard. You guys vote on anything. Shame on you for voting on that Ordinance when there were so many mistakes. Vote on the Ordinance when it is correct.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I did talk to Gerry down at Water Works and I proposed this a couple weeks ago that you can have a tiered rate system where you can have for one family, a one unit family, a certain fee. You can have it for a second family, if it's a two family, another fee, you can have three and four family, you can tier it in that manner. There is one city that does it and its Blue Ash. So, I would rather see a tiered system and a single household go to one level, and you could either do a one unit family, a one family and a two family the same. And then you could do a three and four family the same. You can then go to a five family, six family, I don't know what point in time you get a dumpster. Or you could just take it and you could slice it and dice it with one family would be a set amount and then you could raise the two family by \$5.00 or whatever it is. So, we really, we have another option to tier it and that is the way that I'm leaning to go. I'm not, when this first came up I was like Mr. Culbertson. I'm not in agreement in putting all of this on to the citizens. But if we're going to do something, I'd rather do something soft and do it in a tiered rating system for the one family, two family. And that's what I would propose to do.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – This is for Tommy Paul. You just made a statement that Chalet has been paying all along. Who are they paying?

Mr. Paul – No one. They are going to start paying, yes. They bought their own dumpsters. Yes. At \$700.00 and they have twelve of them. While the fee got left out of them not being charged, I don't know.

Tom – Were they being charged, the condo owners, were they being charged by the Chalet by the garbage disposal all along? Is that in their contract, is there a fee for garbage?

Mr. Paul – No, there is not. You mean the people who run Chalet charge their units? (overlapping chattering) According to the president of association they do not.

Tom – So, they haven't been paying like you just mentioned to the last guy. You made it appear like they had been, okay.

Mr. Paul – I apologize for that, they haven't been paying. I did make the statement I don't know how they got left off but they got left off. My statement was from now they will be charged a dumpster fee.

Tom – Well that wasn't your statement. Your statement was they being paying for the last years (inaudible) here's another thing, there's twelve buildings, there's twelve apartment, individual condo owners. That's 144 property owners, or condo owners and if they each paid \$15.00, that would be \$2,160.00 a month to the equivalent to what you're going to charge like this lady for four apartments, \$60.00 and so to make this fair it should be \$180.00 a month per dumpster for that place and what is the charge now?

Mr. Paul – I believe it's \$750.00 a quarter.

Tom – For each one.

Mr. Paul – Per dumpster.

Tom – Do you know what that comes out to?

Mr. Paul – No.

Tom – I figure it out and I'll come back up later.

Dr. Chastain – I just want to kind of answer a little bit of Mr. Rapier and also Don. Mr. Rapier we're not talking about last years' budget. I think, and Peggy can tell us. I think we ended up pulling \$700,000.00 out of reserves to get by last year, I don't know the exact number. This year Don when we first started to balance the budget everyone was happy because we were really close. We're about \$19,000.00 to the negative. And we set down to work out with it and then the health care came in and we had to up that line item \$500,000.00. It may have dropped to \$400,000.00 I don't know but that was \$500,000.00. Then we had a tax refund that we had to pay out at \$219,000.00. That took us to about \$738,000.00 and then with the Dial-A-Ride, I'm being generous, they were rounding it to about \$100,000.00 so that's where that \$638,000.00 came to where we're kind of short. If the health changed then there's a \$500,000.00 increase that can come out.

Mrs. Brickweg – First of all you didn't even put the tax, the tax income I was, the tax refund I was told to take out of reserve. That's what Council told me to do.

Dr. Chastain – It got split between two years. So, a piece came for, it was pulled last year and then.....

Mrs. Brickweg – Yeah well that was \$100,000.00, it was \$200,000.00 and something this year and we took close to a million out last year. So, I was told when we paid that tax refund, which we just did to pull the money out of reserves, which I did. And that was per Council's wishes.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – With the trash fee, counting Dr. Chastain, the trash fee wasn't going to balance the budget. If we counted out us pulling out to pay the refund. So, I believe people voted to pass the budget with that understanding that we were still going to be in theory in red even though, you know, we took it into account last year. Peggy, I think last year you said we took almost a million dollars



out of reserves and, you know, I've been against this trash fee and I feel like I shared last week, we pick on the Service Department every time we get a chance to. So, I challenged everybody back last year to come up with ways to save money, you know, by making, you know, cuts in other areas, you know, and I was disheartened, you know, to find out that, you know, we're passing this fee, this \$15.00 and my other question is once I heard the \$15.00 was, ok give me a justifications for the \$15.00 and all I heard was, well Rumpke charges \$15.00 for Elmwood and I said okay, but, you know, where are we, you know, we need to look at, you know, this fee and make sure it, we are going to go down this path and ram this fee through that we at least make sure this fee is going to cover it so we're not coming back in a year or two years and say, hey we need equipment, we need this so we need to increase this fee even more because if somehow, you know, this fee does get passed, this \$15.00 I'd hate to be sitting up here next year and two years and come back to the residents again and say well we were a little bit light we need to put it up to \$20.00. I just want to make sure we're doing our due diligence and not just trying to pass a fee to balance the budget.

Connie Wolper, 4346 Tower – That's somewhat covered what I was going to ask. The fee this year, for the first year would be \$15.00 a month, is that correct? Okay, what's it going to be next year and the year after that and the year after that. And is this going to be a way to, you know, in other words, will we have any way of stopping an increase or being able to voice our, at least voice our objection if you decide to, you know, keep raising it?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – This, with this Water Works contract, this is a five year contract. But the Village has to pass a new Ordinance each year for the amount. So, this year we can do \$15.00 and then next year we have to pass another Ordinance. So, yes it could increase or not. Now if we decide not to do it any more there is \$100.00 a month penalty for every month that you are not abiding by that contract. So, if you only do it for a year, then we would owe \$100.00 a month back to the Water Works for not fulfilling the contract which is about what \$4,800.00. So, there is a penalty fee if we don't follow through on the five years.

Connie – So you have to do it for five years?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – According to the contract, we do or we have a penalty.

Mr. Asbach – I have to do what I did to Ms. Ethel, if there's anyone else, they need to speak first before anybody speaks a second time. Sorry.

Dennis Beck, 4518 Lawrence St. - It's been a long time since I've been in this chamber and I guess I keep hearing about a financial situation and can someone remind me when we raised our income tax. What year was that?

Mrs. Brickweg – Are you talking on when they did the additional mils? 2005. And it's been renewed a few times.

Dennie – So, in 2005 we as residents voted to do that as I recall. And now we have another financial crisis caused by people in this chamber and we're passing that on to the residents. In November I wished I had saved the campaign literature. I don't remember reading anyone saying, we're going to raise trash fees. I don't remember anyone coming to my door and saying we're not going to replace a firefighter, we're not going to replace a police officer. That was nowhere in the literature.

Suddenly after the election, it is. That's kind of disturbing. It's also disturbing that I get phone calls all the time, one last night, telling me the Dial-A-Ride stopped, but I didn't hear any phone calls telling us maybe we should all be here to talk about this. We have mismanaged our money. The city became a property broker. How much property do we own and at how much total cost? I think we need to analyze that.

Tim Fox, 4814 Greenlee – He said what I was going to say. How much property does St. Bernard have that sitting here vacant, that they bought and bought and bought and bought and bought? Sell that stuff. There's money and why don't you fine people that are tearing this place up? Parking on the curb, sidewalk. It's terrible to see this stuff. That's what you need to fix. Instead of charging people for the trash which they've never done before. People be, new residents and stuff that come in here, all they do, the part time residents a lot of them, they don't care about this city. They tear it up. These people that have lived here forever, we have to suffer for it. I'm tired of seeing it and a lot of these people on Council know because I was down here about four years ago fighting for it.

Mr. Kalb - I would agree with you but Mr. Beck but we did pass those tax increases back in the day and they were supposed to maintain services and get us through a certain gap and then Council, prior to when I got on, became a property broker and bought a bunch of property and now I'm stuck with the bill. I did vote for one and I will still say that I voted for Long John Silvers and I regret that decision but I voted for one \$240,000.00 property out of the five million that was purchased by this Village. And all that property was given to the CIC prior to again me being here. So, I have no control. I'm dealing with the consequences of the past as well. I don't like a trash fee at all. But when I have \$1.4 million dollars of bond debt that was handed to me by previous people both down the bowl and up here who passed these ordinances and bought this property and turned it over to the CIC I'm stuck with that. I can't go back and, that property's not mine to sell which is, I would love to sell the shopping center but Council does not own the shopping center, the CIC does. So, my hands are tied. So, and like I said, I agree with you, the property management has been the biggest downfall of why we're in this current situation but I can speak for many of us up here now. Four of us up here at least, didn't vote for any of that. So, we're dealing with the consequences of previous administrations, previous Council members, previous whatever and we're trying to come up with solutions to solve that. But in the end I'm stuck with that payment, I can't not pay on a bond for a property that was bought prior to me being here unfortunately. If I could go back and change all that, I would but I can't. I'm stuck with that bill.

Mrs. Brickweg - I was going to be quiet but I can't. I'm sorry. That all sounds fine and dandy and to say you regret buying Long John Silvers I hope everyone of you who voted on it regret it because you were told that we couldn't afford it by both Rick and I but you ignored us and bought it anyway. You also had an entire year, an entire year to cut a budget and you didn't. And then you get to October and you say aaaaa it's the end of the year, don't even worry about it. Don't, don't hand me that. You've had a whole year to make some changes and I sat here over and over telling you, and you all just stared. Okay. You had a whole year that you could have made a difference that could have helped for this year. And when they ask a question and everybody stares at you guys about the property, they own about 40 to 50 properties to a total of five million dollars. Problem is they over paid for the properties and they're not even worth that amount of money any more. But that's

what, that's what nobody wants to tell you, but that's the truth. But I don't want to hear any more excuses because when you ignored me for an entire year and did nothing to change the budget, it's inexcusable, sorry.

Joe Thomas, 221 Bank - I live in an apartment and my landlord told me to come here tonight and protest because this increase is going to be passed along to me, he said it's going to be part of the water bill. That's just going to be a rent increase for me. I mean I don't like that because I don't generate enough trash to pay \$15.00 a month. A family of four or five they'll generate four or five tons of trash and they're only going to pay \$15.00 a month, so why should I pay \$15.00. And also, some, this lady here, what little money she makes from Social Security can't some kind of break be given to her? Are we seniors getting the shaft all the time. I get tired of that crap. I really do. Alright, and who is my Councilman? I live at 221 Bank.

Mr. Siefert - I am.

Joe – Thank you, I never heard from you, you've never called me or come to my door and said I'm your Councilman. And by the way I didn't come here tonight to hear Council bicker among themselves. Okay. If you want to bicker, do it behind closed doors. If you want to yell and cuss each other out. Okay. And as far as the Dial-A-Ride, I just heard about it tonight. What's going on. Oh, there's no more Dial-A-Ride. What happened to it? Bye, bye. Same thing with the Med Ride. No more Med Ride. Way I look at it, I don't want to pay \$15.00 a month. That's just it. And it's going to be passed on. Even though it's going to be part of the water bill, it's going to be passed on. But I would like to see these ladies here get a brake, the seniors. And that's about all I have to say. Thank you sir for introducing yourself as my Councilman. I appreciate it, okay.

Marianne Brannen, 4902 Chalet - I'm here about the Dial-A-Ride bus.

Mr. Asbach – Actually, Marianne that's not the time to discuss that. This is on the Trash Ordinance No. 2. That will have to be later. This is just discussion on Ordinance no. 2.

Marianne – That's fine, I can wait.

Terry Mays, 4234 Greenlee – I just wonder, what, and this is just a small thing, if you're talking about trash, what is the new building up here on Greenlee and Ross paying? What are they pay. I'm just curious. Are they dumpster? The new building that has the apartments, the senior building? They don't pay anything, please, Don?

Mr. Paul - I don't believe we pick their trash up.

Terry – You don't. I see a dumpster there, I thought.

Mr. Paul – I don't know that they're St. Bernard dumpsters.

Terry – Okay. I only have one other thing on my mind right now. I just heard that we only have, we're six short firemen. Do we have a safety hazard here now since you're not going to replace them? I don't understand. What's happening here? Don't you people know you don't have any fireman anymore.? Well answer, are you going to replace the fireman.

Mr. Bob Culbertson - I think the issue that we're facing as a Village and I'll be blunt with everybody here, is to replace the firefighters, to keep the Service, to keep the Dial-A-Ride, the Village is at a point right now where financially we can't afford it. You're going to drain the reserves and go bankrupt. And what Council, Administration has to do is make sacrifices in certain areas to balance this budget and the issue becomes is where is or the less painful ones for the residents, you know, and somehow balance the budget. Otherwise, you know, if we continue down the path that we were on, and replace the positions, you know, we're going to end up, you know, part of the City of Cincinnati. Which I don't think anybody would like that to happen. So being newly elected to Council, my job is to look at the budget and come up with new ways to try to balance that budget. I know this was one way that was put forth was this fee. I've heard about possibly increasing, you know, the pool prices to try to offset that. Some of these things are going to be give and take and, you know, I think this Council as residential we need to hear from everybody to understand, you know, the priorities that they have and have us be best informed to make those decisions on your behalf.

Terry – Well I guess we're going to have to start talking to Cincinnati and I guess we're going to move into Cincinnati because nobody here is doing any management.

Mr. Tobergte – To clear a few things up what Kelly said, originally we were \$600,000.00 off but Tommy, John, me and the department heads met, we made a bunch more cuts, we came up with a (inaudible) to sell, we came up with a generator so we got that down to a smaller amount. That's why the garbage fee would balance the budget with a little extra. Some of the things we did try, we did take a vote last year to cut Council, President of Council, Clerk of Council's salaries but Andy and I were the only ones that supported it. So, we tried to cut our salaries but it was not supported.

Wilma Jennings, 4721 Vine St. - I don't how you consider the beauty shop but I have five apartments and what happens when I now have two that are empty. Do I pay every month for the empty ones?

Mr. Bob Culbertson – From my understanding at the last meeting we had that even if they're vacant you would still pay for it as long as the water is on. If they shut the water off, if you winterize it then you would not pay that fee.

Wilma – Well I only have one meter so I can't turn off everybody's water. So, is there a way of doing maybe by meter? That would certainly help these ladies. It would help me. It would be \$90.00 a month for me. So, am I misunderstanding that? I'm not going to pay for .....

Mr. Bob Culbertson – My understanding is it's per dwelling not per water meter. Tommy, so what would happen in that case if she has.....

Mr. Paul – According to the program, you can opt out. They keep an eye on the meter. If the water usage remains the same they would then probably go to the Tax Department to find out if anybody is renting there. That would be a process also so they suggest that as long as the water is running that you keep paying per unit.

Mrs. Brickweg – I think if I'm hearing correctly the question is, she has one meter so I'm assuming you get one water bill. How would they, if the charge is coming through the water bill, wouldn't see just be charged one?

Mr. Paul – I believe the way Gerry explained it to me it was the water usage. So, if it's a four family and they take a look at the history of the water usage and it drops then they know something happened. They know ones vacant, two's vacant that's the way he explained it. But he said most communities just continue to charge per unit until the water is shut off.

Wilma – Also, I was out of St. Bernard for a long time and I had Rumpke now as a senior and single they give special rates for one bag. One can. Is that feasible?

Mr. Bob Culbertson – From my understanding the way that she would prepare doesn't matter the usage, how many cans, how much trash you generate. The way the fee stands now it's one fee for anything you put out there. If it's ten cans, if it's one can, if it's twenty bags, I'll use my wife and mine as an example, we put out a bag maybe two bags a week. We actually share a can with our neighbors, but we would still be paying \$15.00 each.

Wilma – Okay, one time I got a \$2,000.00 water bill because one of my tenants' toilet was running and didn't tell me. So, that's going to be kind of silly. I mean I can't ..... so, thank you.

Terri Jackobs,4236 Zetta - I don't know if anyone else is confused but does the Water Works have to do with trash puck-up?

Mr. Tobergte – They are just a billing device. They, for us to send the bills out that would be very expensive for postage alone. They'll just attach it to the water bill and charge us, I can't remember exactly percentage 1 or 5% of what the fee is. They get, they charge us. Peggy and I looked at the numbers for us to send the bills out it would be more than 5% of the fee. I guess the way it's billed.

Terri – It sounds like robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Mr. Asbach – I'm sorry to make you come but we have to have it on the record.

Member of the Audience – Did you or did you not say that Rumpke doesn't come in here to pick-up?

Mr. Kalb –Correct. Currently, we have our own people doing it and the idea is to continue on having our own employees our own Service Department to pick-up the trash.

Same member – Then I'd like to know why every other Monday Rumpke comes (inaudible) over here to pick-up between 12:00 and 3:00?

Mr. Paul – There are businesses that chose not to use St. Bernard, they use Rumpke.

Same member – They do come in here?

Mr. Paul – Yes, they pick-up those who pay for them.

James Bell – I'm wondering if these other cities that you looked up if you looked up Boulder, Colorado?

Dr. Chastain - I tried to do a quick search and started writing down the names I saw had a fee and there were so many of them I had to stop. So, no, I didn't look at Boulder, Colorado.

James – Boulder has a fee. They have a really, really, really high fee for water and a really, really, really high fee for trash because they try to discourage water waste and try to discourage a lot of trash. But they make so much recycling that they're able to sell it and they get back, that's a revenue source for them. Selling recycling and everybody recycles. I mean it's just part of how you do it. And you don't waste water, you get..... so, I guess I'll get to my question is, is there anything that can be done that would reduce the amount of waste and reduce the amount of water they use. That might solve some of this problem here. If we didn't just make so much waste.

Dr. Chastain – Tommy do we get compensated at all for the recycling, are we making.....

Mr. Paul – Yes we do. I was actually trying to see if I had the paper with me. Right now at this stage if we recycled, I'm going by my memory, I think 10% more we would go to the next category. Right now we get compensated \$16,00.00, \$22,000.00 a year I believe. Or no I take that back. It's \$16.00 or \$22.00 per ton and that's the category we're in right now. So, we do make funds by recycling. But the recycling would go to the citizens. The more they recycle the more we have a chance to make.

James – Is there a way to set up this fee or tax or whatever you want to call it so that it encourages recycling, discourages water waste, discourages solid waste. Boulder, Colorado's is a zero solid waste town. They compost everything, they recycle everything and what little bit of trash there is, it's negligible relative to the amount of recycling they make. Is that possible here?

Mr. Kalb – I would assume it would be possible. You would have to utilize ideas that everybody else is saying, have like a small can and they have to use we'll say a small one bag of trash. Anything above that you have to pay additional. Therefore, people would be more encouraged to put more stuff in recycling but currently there's no plan like that. It hasn't been discussed but yes there's probably a way to implement it by limiting the amount of trash you can put out.

James – When you look at Boulder, I mean, there might be three, you call them dumpsters, three dumpsters for recycling, one little dumpster for trash because everybody recycles, I mean, when you go to the grocery store, whole foods or whatever, Kroger, you pay for, if you get a plastic bag you pay a dime for it. If you bring your own bag in there, you know, you recycle that bag, it's free. There's strong encouragement to waste very, very little and recycle or reduce or reuse everything. And it works. Boulder probably make more money selling recyclables then they charge people for taking trash away. Just as an idea.

Mrs. Brickweg – In answer to Mr. Chastain, yes, we do get revenue for recycling and last year, 2017, we got \$12,540.92. It's on the revenue report.

Mark Rapiere, 213 Cleveland – Mr. Paul I just got one question for you. You said you were not sure if a, like the lady was talking about her apartment with the one water meter, that just that person gets charged or the tenants get charged. You said you weren't sure about that.

Mr. Paul – No I said if it's a four family unit, each unit gets charged \$15.00 regardless of the water meter. It has nothing to do with the water meter. It's the unit. And the way I understood the program is that if the water usage drops then they realize that there's a vacancy. Otherwise, they recommend that we charge \$15.00 per unit.

Mark – So who is, when the Water Works sends the bill out to say Mrs. Smith's place there, who are they going to send the bill, are they going to send if it's a four family are they going to send the bill directly to Mrs. Smith and she's going to have to separate it?

Mr. Paul – Yes, whoever owns the building would receive the bill.

Mark – How do they know how many apartments are in there?

Mr. Paul – They sent out a list and I and my foreman went over it to make sure that they had it correct and they did. They know exactly how many units there are, how many four families, we have one, five and one six. Multiple four families and a lot of three families.

Mark – How many, is my house a two family?

Mr. Paul - I don't know.

Mark – You don't know?

Mr. Paul – I don't know where you live.

Mark – But you're saying you did your homework with everybody and my house for some reason on my water bill and my gas bill I got a floor one, I get a floor one on mine. So, what that's saying is that there's a floor two also. This is, Council all I'm saying is this on what you guys got to do your homework before you guys vote on this stuff. I don't think Mr. Paul understands. I don't think he knows all the answers. And he's not giving you all the answers.

Mr. Paul – I do not know where you live.

Mark – That's what I'm saying. You said you did your homework on all four families. You just don't like people asking you questions, direct questions, Mr. Paul, just like the last time I did with the street sweeper. That's enough Mr. Paul.

Mr. Paul – I do not know where you live, sir. If I had your address, I would get the paper and tell you if it's a one unit, two unit or three unit. I did do my homework. I do not know where you live.

Bob Wilking, 5132 Broerman – I've lived out here since 1954 and what the problem is listening to these people tonight, people in St. Bernard are spoiled. No

doubt about it. Give me, give me, give me. Hey, I can remember when they used to give you trash bags. They used to come in your back yard and pick-up stuff. They don't do that anymore. They took it away. Fine. Where else are you going to go to get the services you got here in St. Bernard? And everybody wants, give me some more, give me some more government.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – I'm going through this agreement here and I think you guys gave out some bad information tonight about if the water's turned off billing stops. It says, Cincinnati will continue to bill waste collection charges when water is turned off to a property unless specifically directed in writing by St. Bernard to suspend billing. So, who here from the city is going to do that?

Mr. Ray Culbertson – It would be Mr. Paul. They would contact Mr. Paul and he would look into it and coordinate that with the Water Works to suspend the billing.

Tom – Alright, my second thing is, I want to put on record that dumpsters are being charged \$700.00 per quarter which comes out to \$233.00 a month. Is that correct? That was the figure you put out. Is that a real figure or is that off your head?

Mr. Paul – Right now they charge Alpine, it's not on this list, \$765.00 a quarter.

Tom – Per dumpster?

Mr. Paul – Per dumpster.

Tom – Alright, that's good. That's all I wanted to know.

Rick Ortlepp – Would it be possible if it's being billed by the Water Works, which would also help based on the number of people that may be living in the unit, wonder if some percentage of the water usage per unit. In other words, if you only had one person living there, which is using very little water, very little trash, that would be more fair than a unit that would use four times the water which is also probably putting out four times the trash. What about some percentage of your, of the water bill being for trash collection. That would be more fair based on the number of people that would live in each unit or household.

Mr. Kalb – Maybe we could look into that for sure but we keep hearing different things from everybody. Say my parents have a pool and now they're filling their pool up. Now you're getting a percentage of the water when only two people live there. So, there's not really, I would agree that 90% of the time it would work most of the time but there's always going to be exceptions to the rule. There's always going to be a huge house with one person and a small apartment with 10 people in it that makes a lot of trash. There's not an exact perfect way that's going to work for everybody. I would agree with you though, we can look into that method of possibly doing it by percentage but, and you're going to have people coming down who water their grass a lot and have sprinkler systems and things like that that are going to say that, you know, now they got to pay more for trash because they live by themselves but they water their grass. So, there's always going to be caveat out there.

Mike Wiedman, 4508 Park Place – First of all I'd like to thank Mr. Paul for being the consultant here this evening. That's tough. I appreciate you trying to answer all



the questions. Just to say it doesn't, I'm not an investigator but I can feel what this room is all about. What they want to do and what they don't want to do. I understand that. But if and when I'm going to pay this \$15.00, \$12.00 whatever this fee is going to be I want to pay for the great services I have now. I do not want to pay a different company because a different company doesn't offer nowhere near what is offered now.

Mr. Siefert – Really quick, are we running the numbers, Tommy, is the dumpster \$750.00, is that what it was?

Mr. Paul – That's not for everyone. I didn't fill out, I don't know who did the calculation but I do believe it's by the weight. We have just raised .....  
Mr. President, do I have the floor?

Mr. Asbach – You do.

Mr. Paul – Thank you. Businesses have just increased. We used to charge, on this list, which is not mine, \$150.00 per quarter. I have upped it to \$225.00 per quarter. Now you have Chili Time that does \$450.00, they have just been raised to \$650.00, I believe. I don't have the new list with me. Somehow or another Alpine Terrace was left off this list. That is not my fault. I did when I found it out, I did some research and found that Alpine Terrace did not charge their residents for a trash fee but they did purchase our dumpsters. We were there picking them up. Somewhere along the line they were considered residents like residents, like a home. And that's the only thing I can think of but they never charged for their trash, we just picked it up free but they purchased our dumpsters. Our dumpsters are special. They're rear loaded so we can back in and pick them up. A dumpster averages \$75.00 a month. So, with that and then the tonnage comes in to play and that is on the new list but I don't know, I don't have that in front of me. And Heidi just sent out the bills for the businesses to pay for the dumpsters.

The motion for Ordinance No. 2, 2018 to go regular course passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach – Clerk may we have the second reading of Ordinance No. 3, 2018.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3, 2018. AUTHORIZING THE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION FEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR OF 2018.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to have Ordinance No. 3, 2018 take its regular course.

## **REMARKS**

Mrs. Bedinghaus – On this Ordinance No. 3, this is the second part of the three part Ordinance that I was speaking to. This one in particular has the \$15.00 fee in this Ordinance.

Mrs. Brickweg – We were just asked a couple questions from some people who were coming to Council do not know the answer like what this proposed so I just want to take the time to try to explain it. This will be read again at the March meeting but normally the rules are that you're not allowed to speak about it at the third reading. Council can break from the rules and allow the residents to speak.

I'm not on Council so I don't know if they'll do that. But normally you have to speak at the second reading and then the third one is more of a formal reading where they pass it.

Mr. Tobergte – Ms. Brickweg I already talked to Council, we are going to allow discussion at the third reading on these three Ordinances.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – On this trash collection fee, you know, what I would ask Council to do is, you know, the \$15.00 with everybody throwing out this number, is to really come up and figure out why we came up with that number. It doesn't make sense. You know, I think, you know, we're in a hurry, you know, I felt to pass a budget, so we just picked \$15.00 because other cities and villages did it. It helped plug our budget gap. I got to express concerns about, you know, what's going to happen next year if we need new equipment for trash collections. What happens next year if, you know, revenue don't come in as expected or we don't forecast as expected. Is this fee just going to continue to increase? My other concern that I would ask Council to look into is maybe putting a cap on the limit that it can be and set a, you know, this is the max rate that it could ever be established at so some of these residents don't have to keep coming back every year to fight it. At least to probably mirror the five year contract to where maybe it can't raise more than 1%, 2% or 3%. I'm saying those are just some of my concerns.

Mr. Tobergte – I'd like to ask Mr. Peck, if we have to revisit this every year, can we put a max limit on it?

Mr. Peck – You would have to amend the Ordinance allowing the fee in the first place, I believe that would be Ordinance No.4 because this Ordinance by definition only last for a year.

Mr. Tobergte – That's what I'm saying

Mr. Peck – You wouldn't be amending this Ordinance, you'd be amending Ordinance No. 4 to put in a cap and you better do that tonight by the way. Otherwise you're not going to be amending it.

Mr. Asbach – Ordinance per se, Ordinance No. 3 has to be passed every year.

Mr. Peck – Yes.

Mr. Asbach – So, they could technically vote it down next year.

Mr. Peck – They could lower the fee next year, they could raise the fee next year or eliminate the fee next year.

Terri Jacobs, 4246 Zetta – Mrs. Bedinghaus had mentioned a more tiered program, are you going to investigate into that?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I had proposed that a couple of weeks ago and there was no support behind that so this is how the Ordinance reads. So, unless there is support to look at that and to redo this Ordinance then that will not be a part of this Ordinance.

Terri – It seems like I'd be really, really leery about entering into a five year contract for all the residents to pay these fees when it doesn't seem like everything is ironed out completely yet.

Mr. Kalb – As Mr. Peck said before, Ordinance No. 3 has to be voted on every year so the fee could go up, down, stay the same be eliminated, that could be something if we get more support next year's Ordinance for the fee could be a tiered level maybe but as Cindi said this evening the Ordinance states for \$15.00 tonight. But in the future, next year, whatever when this Ordinance has to be passed again, if it passes to begin with, then a tiered system could be implemented at that point.

Terri – But if you're locked into a five year contract and you want to eliminate the fee in the third year like Mrs. Bedinghaus said then you're still going to be responsible for paying for two more years on the contract.

Mr. Kalb – That is correct. It's \$100.00 per month for every month that we do not fulfill the contract. So, it all gets passed tonight and then January 1 of next year it's decided to no longer have a fee, St. Bernard would have to owe \$4,800.00 to get out of that contract.

Terri – I think I'd be thinking real hard about that.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – I have a couple questions and it just slipped my mind that a couple of residents brought up to my attention. Tommy, on this, is the understanding that this fee does not pass that layoffs will happen in the Village?

Mr. Paul – I, that could or could not be true, depends on whether you want to touch the reserves or not. So, if you didn't want to touch reserves then you would be approximately \$200 to \$300,000.00 short on the budget that we had balanced.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – So, you're saying there would be layoffs?

Mr. Paul – Yes, if you do not touch the reserves.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – I'd like to know if your Ordinance like 3, does 4 override 3 because what I see in 3 is, there's nothing in there about dumpsters. It's saying for residential property, it's saying each dwelling should be billed monthly, there's nothing about anything out of there for like the Chalet incident but in 4 you have it, so you pass Ordinances and then the next thing is changing something from 3. If you read it you need to know what I'm talking about, okay. It's Section 1 and 2 and 3 and 4-e. So, you're passing an Ordinance and then you're passing the next one that negates part of the first one. That doesn't seem like good business practice to me.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – Directed to Mike, Mike Peck how would you advise us on that?

Mr. Peck – Ordinance No. 4 establishes a waste, residential solid waste collection fee for residential property. Ordinance No. 3 sets the fee every year but Ordinance No. 4 you want to use the word controls, it's part of our Codified Ordinances. That's the one that will remain. Ordinance No. 3 is only for this year and sets the fee for \$15.00 per month.

Ethel - (inaudible) I heard so much talk to have not to be told this. Do you all understand that we have good people here, good people. Could you keep doing this to us, do you realize you're going to lose the good people and you're going to have so much property and vacant houses. When you look around a lot of the young people are not working. It's the older people that put a lot into St. Bernard. It's the older people that stays in St. Bernard it's trying to keep it like it is. When you all do these things to older people you all killing St. Bernard.

Mr. Tobergte – Before we move on, with all the discussion, all the uncertainties, playing devil's advocate, should we just table Ordinances and start over? I thought I would just throw that out there. Table the Ordinances as they are now, put them in Committee and make sure we get all of our ducks in a row before we pass them. I guess I'll make the motion we table Ordinance 3.....

Mr. Asbach – You can't make the motion, there's already a motion on the table, that would have to be rescinded in order in order for you to make your motion and Ordinance No. 3 has already gone regular course. We could table them, we'd have to table them all at once. Your call though. Mrs. Bedinghaus made the motion being regular course and discuss it more at COW before the third reading. Sounds like that's the way we'll go? There's a motion on the table to go regular course. That will go regular course, I already have it on the agenda for COW. We'll discuss it there and then the final vote you can either table or pass in March.

Mr. Tobergte – Are we allowed tabling those Ordinances for the third reading?

Mr. Asbach – Not necessarily tabling but you can vote it down.

Mr. Peck – Just so for the record, you can table it any time before it's passed. As to the procedural question, Mr. Asbach is right. There is a motion on the floor now.

The motion to have Ordinance No. 3 take its regular course passed 4-3. Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Bob Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus voted no.

Mr. Asbach – Before we have the second reading of Ordinance No. 4, 2018, Mrs. Bedinghaus do you have a motion for Ordinance No. 4?

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to amend Ordinance No. 4, 2018 to read from, it is actually in the section 923.22 residential solid waste collection fee section b., it did previously read, a residential property owner of a multiple dwelling unit where a unit of a dwelling is vacant and not used for residential purposes may request from the Service Director an exemption from the per unit charge for the unoccupied unit. That verbage is being changed to under the amendment section b., all residential properties are subject to the residential solid waste collection fee except for residential property for which monthly dumpster service is paid. The reason for this change is because of what Mr. Paul and myself, and I talked to Gerry down at the Water Works is that when you do have a vacant unit you can't just call and say my unit is vacant please don't charge me that \$15.00 for that dwelling and that Ordinance before we amended it, that is basically how it was reading. So, that cannot be, they cannot do the paper work like that, they cannot keep their book work like that so we have to amend it to read it as I have just read.

The motion to amend Ordinance No. 4, 2018 passed 7-0.

Mr. Asbach – Clerk may we have the second reading of Ordinance No. 4, 2018.

ORDINANCE NO. 4, 2018. ENACTING CHAPTER 923.22 UNDER PART NINE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, OHIO TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION OF FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING.

Mr. Tobergte – I make a motion we table Ordinance No. 4, 2018 as amended.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I'll second that.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Kalb – I'm in favor of having more discussion at the COW meeting but if we table one of the three and the discussion at the COW meeting to then continue on with it then we have one tabled and two to vote on so I'd be more comfortable with either having with the two already passed we could still table the Ordinances going into the third meeting or before the third reading but if we tabled just one and then at the COW we decide that we wanted to move forward with this then we only have one of, only two of the three Ordinances to vote on and it can't, you know, they're all, they're separate Ordinances, they're all kind of tied together.

Mr. Tobergte – We can still vote to table it but bring it off the table at the next meeting then. At the Council meeting we could vote on it.

Mr. Bob Culbertson - I think the issue is are we able to amend between tonight and the third reading.

Mr. Peck – It would be a lot cleaner if you kept them all in the same disposition at the same time and table them as one piece because these all run together. They're interlocking. If you want to table them, please, I would ask you to table them at the one time. That's all.

Mr. Tobergte – After the second reading we cannot change them correct?

Mr. Peck – No you can't change them, but you can table them.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – So, if we table them, we would then have to bring them back, enter them, and start over if we decided to make changes.

Mr. Peck – This way if you table them and don't bring them off the table they're done. And then we start over at scratch with new Ordinances. Whenever you guys see fit to do that.

Mrs. Bedinghaus - Based on the information that Mike Peck just said I would like to rescind my second motion for the table and keep them all together.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to have amended Ordinance No. 4, 2018 take its regular course. The motion passed 4-3. Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Bob Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus voted no.

ORDINANCE NO. 5, 2018. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE VACATION OF A PORTION OF JACKSON AVENUE PURSUANT TO R.C. 723,05, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Dr. Chastain to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 5, 2018.

**REMARKS**

Mr. Tobergte – I, as I voiced my opposition to this Ordinance at the COW meeting I will be voting no again. This is giving a resource the Village has of property to the school at no cost, that's all we've been hearing that everything is given away, given away. Here's an opportunity to get some money back from land that we own. I just don't think we should give it to the school for free.

Mr. Kalb - I will also be voting no on this Ordinance, as well, as I have been kind of going with Don in the past on these Ordinances about getting, let the record show that, going with Don about getting some money back for all these properties that have been given to the CIC and so on and so forth even though we're not giving this piece to the CIC it's going to the school there should be some compensation for us giving a piece of our property away to another entity.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Tommy can you help me understand because this is a piece of property that the school has now. It just wasn't appropriately signed over to them. Help us understand that this has already belonged to the school so .....

Mr. Paul – So basically, what has happened in the past is Jackson Ave. extends into the school parking lot right now. That in affect when that happened it was supposed to be signed over to them and it never was. Therefore, there's nothing in writing stating that it has been given to the school. So, by right Don is correct in the fact that the property is still ours. And somehow or other we allowed the school to occupy that street.

Dr. Chastain – Mike or anyone in the know, if we try to hold them hostage and say you can't have it unless you pay us something and then that's going to have some kind of arbitrator where they use eminent domain, how does that go?

Mr. Peck – There is certainly legal theories they could use to give us a fight, I guarantee that.

Mr. Kalb – I agree that in the end they need this property to move forward but they're already asking to use other properties for parking lots, they're already talking about using this, they're already talking about doing that, we're getting no compensation for any of that. All these trucks are going to come and tear up the road. They're going to park in our parking lots, they're talking about the dust possibly interfering with the pool filters. There's already foreseen cost that we can see from this construction and here's a piece of property that we own that they need. We should have some compensation for that.

Mr. Ray Culbertson – Mr. Paul my understanding of this correctly, again this is, well technically it's our property, it was understood that it was their property many, many years ago. It just wasn't transferred correctly. That plot, or that.....

Mr. Paul – The way I understood it is that years ago the city fathers allowed it. It was due to be signed over and never was. The same as the Howells Basin, same thing. They're sitting on parcels that were never, although Howells Basin differs that Jackson because the State gave it to us as long as we gave it to the school board. So, that's kind of easier than Jackson Ave. Jackson Ave was just they built there and that was the end of it and nothing was signed over.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – So, could we wait on this to see Mike what you can find out?

Mr. Peck – Find out what?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – To find out .....

Mr. Peck – Find out whether we can charge them money for the claim?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – And what would happen from there on? I mean I don't want to get into any kind of a.....

Mr. Peck – I would suggest you vote on it. I mean it's your call. I'll look into it but my understanding it's definitely more that 21 years they've been occupying that property, right?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Right

Mr. Peck – If we've let them occupy that property for that long.....

Ms. Bedinghaus – And I guess that's why I first asked Tommy that they're occupying this based on the conversation up here I didn't know if that should be one of our options or not. I'm just checking out our options and seeing what your recommendation is. That's basically what I'm doing.

Mr. Peck – And I will do what you ask, obviously, I serve at your pleasure but I think I'll leave it at this, I think they have a good legal argument if we were to try to charge money.

The motion to suspend does not carry 5-2. Mr. Tobergte and Mr. Bob Culbertson voted no. Ordinance No. 5, 2018 will go regular course.

Mr. Asbach – Is that right, it needs 6 to go?

Mr. Peck – That is correct, it need 6 to go.

Mr. Asbach – So, this Ordinance will go regular course.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6, 2018. FIXNG THE COMPENSATION OF THOSE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD WHOSE FIRST DATE OF SERVICE IN THE POSITION IS AFTER 1/1/2005, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 6, 2018.

## **REMARKS**

Mr. Tobergte – This Ordinance raises the pool attendants, the craft assistant, the swim lesson assistants to the new minimum wage.

Dennis Beck, 4518 Lawrence St. - I just had a question. I find it strange we're paying cashiers the same as we're paying life guards? It seems like the life guards have a much higher responsibility.

Mrs. Brickweg - I think it was last year or the year before they came before us and the issue that the Recreation Director asked Council to raise it because most of the time the life guards and the cashiers intertwined each other and he just said it was much easier to do that.

Dennis Beck – I was just questioning that because I know it's \$350.00 to become a life a life guard.

Mrs. Brickweg – And that's why .....

Dennis Beck – Okay, my other question was, is it true that we're going to out-source the manager of the pool? Okay that's what someone told me on my street that we were going to a manning company and we weren't going to manage ourselves, so I was just curious about that.

Mr. Tobergte - I may offer Mr. Beck, the certification fees are reimbursed for the life guards.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No.6, 2018 as read passed 7-0

**ORDINANCE NO. 7, 2018. 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. 7, 2018. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 7, 2018 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8, 2018. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE VACATION OF A PORTION OF HOWELLS BASIN PURSUANT TO R.C. 723.05, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 8, 2018. Motion passed 7-0.

**REMARKS**

Mrs. Bedinghaus – This Ordinance Tommy is the one that you were talking about that back in 1939 said this piece of property was given to the Village to give to the school but that never happened. So, this is for that to happen and the school is sitting on that property right now.

Mr. Paul – Yes, that is correct.



Mr. Kalb – As she said, this was given to us to give to them a long time ago so it's, I'm not looking for compensation on this one. I will be voting for Ordinance 8.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – What is the Howell, started looking at this map, what property are we talking about? I mean I'm not against it I just would like to know what you're voting on.

Mr. Paul – I may be able to help. As you see, as you're looking at the map, Burnet Ave. Is on the left. So, right now the school building is sitting right in the center of Howell's Basin. What will happen is, written in 1939 or 1934 the State gave the City Howell's Basin which is in the circle. There's parcels within that circle, the parcels are listed on the very last page of the sections that the school will get. You match them up and it'll put them, we're giving the school what the State wanted per parcel. So, there's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 parcels and couple partials that will be given to the school that the State wanted us to give and the rest will remain in St. Bernard's property. The whole circle is not given to the school. Just so you understand that. If you look at where Howell's Basin is written, those parcels there will be the ones given to the school. The streets and part of City Hall across the street parking lot still remains ours.

Tom – So, you're talking about St. Bernard School, the public school.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Yes.

Tom – And is there anything on this. Is this vacant or something.

Mr. Paul – No, the school is built right on top of it.

Tom – Okay, they don't have title to it.

Mr. Paul – Right.

Tom – Okay.

Mr. Paul – It was supposed to be signed over.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Kalb to adopt Ordinance No. 8, 2018 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10, 2018. AN ORDINANCE REVISING CHAPTER 182 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD REGARDING THE COLLECTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE NET PROFIT TAXES SECTION OF CHAPTER 182 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 10, 2018. Motion passed 7-0.

## **REMARKS**

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Rick could you just take a little time to explain what this Ordinance is so everybody is aware?

Mr. Moore – If you remember this is the law, HB 49 that was passed by Columbus to centralize collection of net profit taxes and we're against it. We've joined the law suit, the class action law suit that's taking place right now. There's about 170 cities that are in the class action law suit that's kind of crawling forward. However, the irony of this is that we had to pass an Ordinance putting us in compliance within the law that we don't agree with. So, just to be on the safe side, I felt like we should go ahead and pass this Ordinance so that we are in compliance. We've got until the end of the month. But I figured since this would be the Council meeting to pass it on and then this will put us in compliance and then we'll see where the class action law suit goes and where we go from there.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I just wanted to make sure that a lot of the citizens understood what this was so, thank you very much for your explanation.

Mr. Tobergte – My question, this law already took effect?

Mr. Moore – Yes. In fact, because we joined the law suit we were given an additional 24 days to pass the Ordinance to become in compliance. So, some of the cities that did not join the law suit had to have passed this, an Ordinance similar to this by January 31, by yesterday to be in compliance. So, it is law, yes. In fact we've gotten only a handful of, what will happen is the companies say they want to join and do this through Columbus and they make a choice to opt in or whatever, then Columbus notifies us that from now on we will be receiving the payments will go to Columbus first and then down to us. So far, I think we've only got 3 or 4 that have said they're going to do that. Now there are still a lot of companies that pay through what's called the Ohio Business Gateway but there are only 3 or 4 who have formerly said we're going to go according to the new bill.

Mr. Bob Culbertson – On this, companies have an option on what, or who they pay whether or not we join the law suit or .....

Mr. Moore – Yes they do. They don't have to pay OBG. I would assume Bob that the vast majority of them won't. This is more designed for those companies who have multiple locations throughout the State. You know, an Emery, a Procter and Gamble somebody like that, that they can then just, the idea was that this would simplify it for them. They wouldn't have to send out 8, 10, 12 checks every month. So far though its only net profit. It does not affect withholding payments.

Tim Fox 4814 Greenlee – How does this effect if you ever pay on your tax then? Like I got a credit of \$150.00, how's that going to be if they're taking .....

Mr. Moore – It doesn't affect individuals. It only affects companies. But to that point, one of the reasons we're violently, violently is a strong word, we're vehemently opposed to it is that we cannot question refunds or question, the State essentially takes over the processing of the return and we can't question it. That's why we're opposed to it. But it does not affect individuals.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 10, 2018 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Tobergte – I want to congratulate Ava Nobbe, she had a ribbon cutting ceremony last Sunday to open the Little Free Library in the Bertus St. Park as Tommy talked about. Ava and her family did a nice job building the library and providing the first books. Please feel free to stop by and pick out a book to read and help keep the library going by donating a book or 2. Thanks to the Nobbe family for working to better our community.

I also stopped down at the after school program yesterday. It was very well organized with a place to eat the free pizza and a separate area to work on school work.

John, looking ahead to plan the summer budget, our Council meeting in July is the 5<sup>th</sup>. With that being the day after a holiday I would suggest we have a Public Hearing meeting on June 21 before the COW meeting to pass the summer budget. That would mean that you would need to have the budget to Council on May 7<sup>th</sup>. So, if you need help, let me know, I'm still trying to help.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Kalb – Just in case this didn't get out earlier, I am having a Business and Industry Committee meeting next Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm here in Council Chambers to discuss Ordinance No. 9, 2018 about the sidewalk street café and outdoor eating areas. So, next Thursday night at 7:00 in Council Chambers and I will get with Heidi to get that posted on the web page.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Mike at one point in time I thought you were going to put something in Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee. I can't remember what it was, do you remember? Okay, just wanted to set up a meeting if there was something. Because I thought I .....

Mr. Peck – Well there might be.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Reverend Dr. Dan, Pastor of United Church of Christ, Jefferson Ave. - I want to start with the statement, when I was in college I was encouraged to run for Student Body President. In the process of doing that I realized I wasn't great for bureaucracy and got so fed up with the system. I didn't even file a petition to be put on the ballot. With that all saying I appreciate everything everyone of you do and sits through this and patient and taking your time and serving the community, it's phenomenal. So, don't want to come up with the problem. I want to try to come up with the solution. As Pastor of the Emanuel United Church of Christ, what can we do as a congregation, what can we do as a community to restore Dial-A-Ride? One solution that comes to my mind if the city would sell the bus to Emanuel United Church of Christ for a dollar, we would then be able to possibly come up with a job for somebody to do that and for us to maybe do the custodial person to carry that on. I'm open for suggestions, I don't want to come here with a bunch of problems, I tell my people don't come to me with a problem, come to me with a solution. I don't really have a solution, but I'm also not going to tear you apart with saying I realize there's a problem and I realize you can't spend money you don't

have. I'm saying you help me to help you and to help this community. This community needs the Dial-A-Ride. There's so many people that aren't going to be able to function, aren't going to be able to do the things that they used to do just to get day in, day out business going on. I'm guessing from what I'm listening to it's like a \$60,000.00 deficit for the year to do Dial-A-Ride or that's kind of one of the figures. So, with that to work with, I'm willing to as a susedo member of the community to try to help you to find some way that we can get that moving ahead. I kind of put myself out there on a land by saying sell us the bus for a dollar, whatever, I've not talked it over with my congregation but I know my congregation and the people that I know that's a part of this community would be willing to look at some things for us to do to save that commodity. Being in this community for six years, I love this community, the police force, the fire department, all the people that we talked about, this is amazing service and do amazing things so, basically bottom line is we're here to help.

Mayor Estep – Thank you Pastor Dan and I'd like to continue the Dial-A-Ride, I'd like to look at the financial issues as well as the legality. If there is any legality if we would sell it or turn it over to them. Anything we could do to work with you to continue that service would be great. So, thanks again. I'll see you after the meeting. We could meet tomorrow if you like and let's continue and see what we can do. I appreciate that.

Mr. Tobergte – Mike did they make a mistake when you said sell it to the church for a dollar because off the top of your head is there a problem with that?

Mr. Peck – As we know it is city property, I think above a certain number like \$5,000.00 need to be put out for bids. So, that could be a problem right there. I'm open to solutions, as the Mayor said, we'll look into it.

Marianne Brannen, 4902 Chalet Dr. - I come about the Dial-A-Ride bus. I have petitions here. I drove the bus 23 hours a week and I have petitions here from people on the bus that live in the City of St. Bernard only. There's about 150 petitions. I'd like to turn it in. People signed. I know I could have got a lot more petitions from a lot of people in St. Bernard who does not ride the bus but who knows that the elderly need the bus. This bus might have started out like a luxury but it has become a necessity for the elderly people that cannot get to the store, to church, to visit a friend or go to a restaurant. They have canes, they have walkers, they're blind. So, it's become a necessity. They need the bus. They have no transportation, no family that lives around here. And I realize with evidently they must have put the bus in with the fitness center, because I can't understand about the \$60,000.00 because you have two drivers that drive the bus and I estimate if you paid us at the high price, which I don't get paid, I didn't get paid it would be like \$33,000.00 so, I don't understand where that \$60,000.00. The bus was already bought and paid for quite a while ago. There's 12,200 miles on it so, it's in very good condition. I made sure it had oil changes while I was working there. So, it's like they need the bus but I have these petitions. These are from the people that ride this bus. There's 150 of them. They live in St. Bernard. And I'm just saying for the elderly people that live here and supported the City of St. Bernard, paid their taxes, supported St. Bernard how you could be so heartless. I know you're broke, you need the money but there's no revenue coming in. You know nothing is being done so it's always put on the people. But to do this to the elderly people that really need the bus, I think it's very sad and I really think that you can come up with some kind of solution to bring the bus back. But I'd like to turn these in if I could. I

would appreciate stop and think about that. You know elderly people as they get old, they need help. They're like young people, young kids, you can't just shove them away and then you want to carry around and you're talking about charging \$15.00 for trash but find your own way to the store, find your own way to the bank and then you do it in the dead of winter, I don't understand that. So, I'm here really to represent them. I've learned a lot driving the bus. I learned a lot from elderly people, from my own mother. So, I'm really hoping that, you know, stop and think about this and, you know, talk about it and try to work something out. That's all I have to say and these I'd like to turn in.

Terry Mays, 4234 Greenlee – My wife and I go to the elderly meeting on Wednesdays. I'm really surprised that none of you guys ever come down and talk to the people down there except the Mayor occasionally and see what's going on in your city. They back you still but a lot of them have problems. One lady has already wrecked her car, she can't get around and this Dial-A-Ride is killing her. It's going to kill her down the road. And I really appreciate you doing something. That's one of my main reasons for coming here tonight. To get you to do something. I don't care if we have to lay somebody off. I hate to say that does it have to be the men or women working because some people don't work and I'm going to leave it at that.

Cheryl Abrams, 701 E. Ross – Like somebody said earlier, you people in St. Bernard are really spoiled. It was a luxury. No other communities have this service but there are services out there that will help the elderly. All you have to do is call Council on Ageing. They'll help you with anything. There are services that they will help you with that will get you to your doctor, that will get you to the bank, that will get you places and well within the 275 highway. Just call Council on Ageing, they'll help you.

Marie Shuman, 517 Rose Hill – I had, I'm a single mom, I have two little girls that my dad can't drive any more and I work 12 hour shifts so they go to school and I like them to walk together but if one is sick that leaves the other one to walk by herself. I know they quit driving for the children a long time ago but I would think that revenue, and I'd love to sit down with you Mr. Estep and Chaplain or Reverend, I'm sorry, and go over that. There's ways to make that work and if other people had to help out and do something I would be willing to pay a decent amount for a monthly fee whether it's \$50.00 a month to make sure my kids could get to school or picked-up from school because they're too close to school to have a bus service but they're far enough away, you know there's wierdos nowadays and the internet, I just don't feel comfortable with my girls walking by themselves to and from school which I don't know how it would work with the hours and stuff but I know I'd be willing to pay a decent amount, not \$.50 or \$1.00 an hour. I also talked to my elderly aunt who is 90. I don't think she can get on the Dial-A-Ride any more because she can't lift her legs high enough but she used it and I asked her if she would be willing to pay like on Fridays if she wanted to go get her hair done or the grocery or the bank if she would be willing to pay like \$10.00 for that day to be able to go three places and she said she would. I think there's way to make it work of we could go over that it would be great.

Nicole Klungle, 551 Church St. - I wonder if you might be able to when you're discussing behind the scenes, the Cash Ordinance, you might be able to put together like an information sheet to residents that would cover all of the contingencies that were brought up this evening. Like for instance if somebody has

four units in their apartment building but only one water meter how did that work, things like that. It might be helpful to nail all that down for people just so they know what's going on.

Second, I wanted to know, this is kind of boring but I brought it up in a previous meeting that you guys had not checked your audio minutes for a record of a procedural vote. When I looked at the written minutes for that meeting that were published on the website, the procedural vote was not recorded in those minutes but it did happen which makes those minutes inaccurate. And I'm assuming you all read Ordinance No. 25 before you passed it last year. So, you would know that there is a provision in there requiring a record of motions and votes to appear in the written minutes even though they are now optional. So, I'd like to publicly request that that be corrected.

Mr. Asbach – I will put that on the agenda to be looked at. It's Section 3 of the Council rules, is that what you're referring to?

Nicole – I believe it's Section 2. and it's in the Ordinance No. 25.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay – Jonathan brought up about the electronic sign and I was confused on it. It was approved by the zoning board or it wasn't?

Mr. Stuchell – So, what I reported was that basically what we discovered was that a permit was issued before it should have. Basically, it automatically after the plans were reviewed, it should have been referred to the Appeals Board but it did not happen. We issued a permit, construction started. So, basically trying to deal with this and correct the situation but the fact that we issued a permit, basically they're not going to allow us to go ahead and say, hey you need to take this sign down. We need to remedy the situation but there was an error that was made. So, but it should have automatically referred to the Appeals Board before any permit was issued. Again, variable message sign is not allowed.

Tom – Can you specify who authorized that, who signed it?

Mr. Stuchell – It's not too hard to figure out.

Tom – Just for the record?

Mr. Stuchell – Just for the record, Paul Myers.

Tom – My concern is I own two properties right across the street and I don't remember coming in and asking like I think you have to and I read the Ordinance and I read all the things and there's a \$1,000.00 fine a day for anything that's not correct or following a thing so, they could be liable for \$1,000.00 everyday that it's there.

Mr. Stuchell – But, basically, I read the same thing. The fact is, is that we approved a plan. It never should have been approved but it was approved, the owners of the sign company and the owner of the property were not made aware of that. Our Building Dept. failed so, we're going to work on that. This will never happen again, I can assure of that, but anyhow there will be measures taken to try to correct the situation. They will have to get a variance, there will be a hearing, we will try to work with the residents to try to see that the appropriate buffer was shielded, made, but again we have to work through that. I'm not trying to cover

anything up. It's basically, we made an error. I can't fire the person now, thank God, I don't have to deal with it but basically, that would have pretty much sealed the deal. But anyhow it's not a, it's over, we have to work through it.

Tom – I'm not blaming you Jonathan but what I, I've heard this before is somebody pulled a wall and it was after the fact that we approved it so we went along and it's never going to happen again and this happens and also in the Ordinance it says it can't be within 500 foot of a residence, okay and it's just on the property line of a resident down there so there's more than one violation here on it. But I know you're working on it and I appreciate it, okay, I'm just saying this has happened in the past and, you know, you can't just say, well the guy is not here anymore but, so I, Jonathan, I'm not blaming you for anything.

Mr. Stuchell – Thank you Tom but I sure am going to try to work on this because I read it and I'm not an expert on it. Again, it clearly should not have happened. But we will work to try to remedy the situation.

Patty Hausfeld, 4415 Tower – I have a couple things. Jonathan with you just saying that you would rectify the problem with that sign, I know I talked to residents down there and they are very upset just like Tom is, he owns property and nobody was informed of any of that so, when you do rectify it I just hope you would like personally send them a letter or even go talk to them down there and let them know what's going on so they're not blindsided again.

Second of all, as far as the Dial-A-Ride goes, I don't know if any of you on Council or Administration has driven it lately or rode it lately. Kind of funny, my mom and I rode it yesterday. It was most probably my mom's first time ever riding it just in honor of my dad because he was involved when it was first started and it's amazing when you get out and talk to the people or the people that use the different services. Dan, you are correct, how many people got on that yesterday and said that their livelihood is going to be affected because they don't have the means to get around. So, I really applaud you for stepping up and saying what can I do to help this and that the church would be willing to possibly take it over or help in that matter. There was at least 10 people that I talked to yesterday that rode the Dial-A-Ride and a lot of them or most probably all of them were elderly or like Marianne said on canes or walkers and so anything, and I was surprised the amount of people that said they would be willing to pay more than just the \$.50 or \$1.00 and that wasn't even looked at from my knowledge when I sat up on Council. As far as raising the price to offset some of the cost because it is an awesome tool for the citizens. Not only the citizens that I talked to but actually I talked to one of the business owners and they were telling me how affected that their business is going to be because the amount of people that do take the Dial-A-Ride to the different businesses to do their everyday shopping or their hair dressing or whatever, the bank, that it will be affected so, I don't know if you guys took that into consideration and I sat here tonight listening to all the garbage stuff and all the different ins and outs. When I sat up on Council last year, this was, the garbage collection was discussed back in August and it was dropped back in August so it's been an issue or an idea in people's heads for a while now so don't think that it just came about, but I too am, every time we turn around we blame the employees and I don't believe it's the employees that is the issue here. Yes, the employees cost money to have what we have but when your two financial people last year told us not to give big raises and not to buy property, five of you members did do that and you, I'm not the smartest book in the library, but when people that run our city and our financial people tell us, you can't afford stuff, then it's time to say no on

Ordinances and look in other avenues. and I just hope moving forward, I know there's nothing we can do now about the Long John Silver's and stuff but I just hope now looking forward, before you people vote on an Ordinance you have all your t's crossed and your I's dotted and you listen to the people that work with the finances every day and can tell you, yes we can afford this or no we can't afford it and then you base your voting on that not just how either you feel or the way your party feels they want you to vote. That's my two cents. Thank you.

Mark Rapiere, 213 Cleveland – Just an idea to throw out with the Dial-A-Ride. Sponsorship from local businesses. I mean have them wrap the bus up with their name and Chili Time all over the bus. Pay for it for a year. I mean it's just a thought. Look at Metro, that's how they afford some of it, but they get advertisers to put all their names on the bus. I'm thinking outside the box. Just a thought and I know I work at the Sisters of Charity and I got a sister, Pat Hills that's come to this community many, many, many times. She came back to the mother house yesterday all sad because she said that's the only way I get around when I go to St. Bernard. So, it means a lot to the elderly, it means a lot to everything so, just something else to throw out there. So, hopefully we can get it back going quickly here.

Mr. Tobergte – Mark, I've brought that idea up, advertising four or five years ago and the other Administration couldn't find anybody to advertise on it.

Reverend Dan – Just a point of clarification the term CIC where all this property is, what does that stand for?

Mr. Stuchell – Community Improvement Corporation.

Reverend Dan – Okay so what does that mean, so the city doesn't own that property? They can't buy or sell that property, how does that work?

Mr. Stuchell – The Community Improvement Corporation initially was created as more of its own land bank, or property entity to basically, what the Village funded this agency to purchase properties and transferred them to this organization or give us the funds to allow us to make purchases. There is no longer a funded entity by the Village, basically it is a property bank. we own roughly 40 properties, we are in the process of actually selling some of the properties and looking to divest in a manner, in a responsible way. But, again, it wasn't going to happen overnight. I mean, they actually.....

Reverend Dan – So where would that money go if these properties were sold.

Mr. Stuchell – Basically it's, the CIC is its own entity. If we sold property, basically, it would stay within the CIC unless we turned over a percentage to the Village but basically at this point, because it is not a funded arm of the Village any potential future ventures or improvements that would need to be made to existing structures that we own would have to be funded through potential sale of property. Any project that needs to be completed would have to be funded through the sale of property. We obviously are no longer going to be funded by the Village nor would we even ask.

Reverend Dan – Again, tell me what is called the CIC is what again.



Mr. Stuchell – The Community Improvement Corporation.

Mr. Tobergte – Also Reverend Dan, four or five years, I can't remember how long we've been, every time we've turned property over to CIC either me or Andy would make sure that the savings came back to the Village.

Tim Fox, 4814 Greenlee – So, if the CIC owns it, who bought it, St. Bernard or the CIC?

Mr. Stuchell – There's been a couple of different instances where the Village actually purchased property and then turned it over to the CIC and there were other instances where of course the CIC because they were given Village funds made the purchase in their own name.

Tim – So, what does the city get out of it, screwed?

Mr. Stuchell – I'm not sure how you want me to answer that.

Tim – Well it looks like we were. \$5,000,000.00 worth.

Mr. Stuchell – That's an exaggerated figure as far as its value. That's not an accurate value. Basically again, I know, right now currently if you go and tally the taxable value that's not accurate but, basically, again, it wasn't, I don't think it was created with the intent to, you know, shaft anyone or cause issues. It was a, it basically in all honesty, in my overall opinion of this, and unfortunately I'm the president of the organization now trying to clean it up, but basically it was a misguided failed ship that basically what should have happened was ultimately the purchases were made, the property should have been flipped not to accumulate the large number that we have. I'm not pleased with the fact that we're stuck with that but we need to make responsible decisions based on the property that we have and not just go out and randomly sell overly affordable properties to increase our rental housing stock. Our goal right now is to try to make available property that we cannot complete any type of a project. So, for example, there were targeted areas where they actually had an idea where they would take down a structure, build something new in a particular area. So, to try to acquire as much as possible on a corner or particular street but to randomly purchase homes that we have out there, those need to be sold as soon as possible but in a responsible manner with an application process that we're trying to put together right now which will be announced within the month. Basically, to allow for those that are financially capable and it will show us that they will make an investment in the particular property that they are purchasing. We're not going to just randomly sell it to someone who is just going to leave it as is. So, I mean I know, I'm, I have no problem sitting here taking hits for the CIC but it was not something that was created overnight. The Village funded it, the Village paid a Director, somebody basically that created this mess. And again, instead of spinning these properties off and completing projects, this, we're left with a monster. So, I mean, we have to deal with it responsibly. And the idea of just saying let's put a "for sale" sign every single one right now and that's going to be, that's going to be the answer to the Village's financial problems, I don't think so. Because it may correct it short term I'll admit you can generate revenue right now by the sale of the property but it's not going to change the spending habits of the Village. It'll correct it for maybe a year or two. I think that's great but you really think that's going to fix the problem, I don't.

Tim – No they created a lot of problems and what happened too is the city was buying from an individual that was buying, they didn't buy it from the property owners they bought it from an individual who bought the property and sold it to the city at a very, very good profit on all of them. And that person was making out like a fat rat. I'm not going to mention any names, everybody probably knows who it is.

Mr. Stuchell – I'm trying to correct the problem responsibly. So, again, it didn't happen over night, we're working on it, we actually have a great team of people that are going to be working to try to correct the problem but however it's not something that happened overnight, nor can it be fixed overnight. But I understand where you're coming from.

Tim – And that individual also is how we probably got stuck with a lot of the properties. 35 properties in St. Bernard and probably half of them vacant.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just wanted to answer your one question. When I said the five million, the problem is, and maybe I didn't make myself clear, the city basically overpaid for a lot of the property and then the number I'm coming from is when the State Auditor comes in they had to do a fixed asset report and that's where that is coming from. There's no way they could sell those properties and get five million dollars. I would like to commend Jonathan, as the Auditor I have to be on the CIC. Since he has come in he has really, really trying to turn it around and change it and working really hard. He did walk into a mess. But I just wanted to.....

Tim – So, we're not going to get nothing out of this.

Mrs. Brickweg – Um, we have to pay gas, you're right, you're not going to get two and a half million dollars for that shopping center. We're not. You, know and Wally and Gabe who's going to put money into the business, but I do think Jonathan is trying to, with some expert people on the board, not myself, to get rid of some of the land and some of the houses to bring back some money. Yeah, it will go, you asked, yes it will go back to the CIC but possibly part of the goal is if the money comes back they can take another house and pay somebody to fix it up and then sell that. That's how it was set up. It just kind of ran that way. So, I hope I didn't mislead you on the number. That is the number from the fixed assed report. That's exactly where it's from because that's what they paid for it.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – I just have one more comment, Don, I know that you said a few years ago that you looked at the businesses for signs to sponsor the Dial-A-Ride, but I think with the comment that Marianne made even talking to the businesses that they're going to lose business or individuals not being able to take the Dial-A-Ride, I think it's an opportunity to go back and talk with them again. I think that might be a great way for sponsorship or whatever you want to all it.

Tom Rolfsen, 30 Clay - I'm on the CIC and I just wanted the public to know that 80% of the people there now are new people, they had nothing to do in the past. the Director that was in charge of all this resigned last week or something and no, we haven't bought anything since I've been on there, okay and we are trying to get it out in a good manner but everybody in this town wants something for free and so, in the past people have gotten stuff free and now they're coming and they don't want to get their market bag and stuff and as far as Long John Silvers and the police station, that doesn't belong to CIC, that belongs to you guys up there, okay

and that's sitting there so, we came into this mess and like I said 80% new people on there. Jonathan's doing a good job and we had nothing to do but we did walk into a mess, okay, so, I just want people to know that in the Village because they're always going CIC and yeah, the past CIC caused all the problems.

Dr. Chastian – This is for Mike because I was going to ask, something reminded me of something. If we put the police station out for bid, are we allowed to put stipulations? Do we just have to say, hey we're taking bids on the police station or can we say, we're taking bids for medically related facilities? And put those stipulations within the bid process.

Mr. Peck – That I'll have to look into.

Marianne Brannen, 4902 Chalet – I just have a question, I already talked about the Dial-A-Ride bus so I hope you consider what I mentioned about the elderly. My question is, at the fitness center, you take the Dial-A-Ride bus down by two and you turn around and buy three new treadmills. That was \$10 or \$15,000.00. I don't understand it, can somebody explain that to me?

Mr. Kalb – I don't want to speak for Paul but I know he was talking about how a couple of them were getting toward the end of their life and the repair cost was going to outweigh the getting new equipment and the fitness center also does pay for itself. It does generate some revenue from membership fees so that money was going back into get new modern equipment. An official answer, I don't know. That would probably be Paul.

Marianne – Okay because I don't understand needing the fitness center when talk about the Dial-A-Ride bus for elderly people still in church I just don't understand that. But it's like, they need that bad, I know they don't make that much money down there so you talk about fees and everything it's like \$10.00 a month or something. Anyway, I hope that you, you know, sit down and go over this about the Dial-A-Ride bus again because it is really very, very important and it it's very needed.

Melissa Roll, 4910 Greenlee – I got married since the last time I was up here. Just wanted to say about some of the CIC things. I don't know if you guys know or not but one of my clients actually does flip properties and he actually did want to look, I think he did actually visit some of the properties and he is very highly interested in some of them. And then he had crickets after a little while, so, he heard a lot back and forth and then there was nothing. So, ++++++as soon as you guys know what is going on, please put that out there because I have people that are interested that know. So, yeah, just let me know. He's not from this community. He flips houses in other communities. Amberly Village is one place so actually, really nice places that we would like to start to be more like them I'm sure. So, it's a serious motion that they want to be doing and they said there are no competing people trying to do that in St. Bernard and they would really actually like to be one of the front line so they could provide that. Anyway, just so to let you guys know that.

Mr. Stuchell – We will be advertising the available property once we have the application process complete. We will actually be posting them on the Village website. We will get the word out. It's not far off. That will be made available. I think I may have an idea who you were talking about. I don't know the name but I

know they were speaking with Mr. Myers at one point. But anyhow we will get that posted.

Mr, Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Bod Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adjourn.  
Motion passed 7-0.