

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2020**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, February 13, 2020 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mr. Steven Asbach – Introduced Scout Ally Whitehead to open the meeting with a prayer. Scout Connor Leininger lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call showed that five members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Ray Culbertson, Mr. Schildmeyer, Mr. Siefert and Ms. Hausfeld. Mr. Bob Culbertson and Mrs. Bedinghaus were absent.

Mr. Tobergte made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mr. Ray Culbertson seconded the motion. Council agreed 5-0.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Stuchell – I would like to thank you all for coming tonight as we honor our Scouts who service our community. A big thank you to the young ladies and gentlemen who came tonight and a big thank you to the parents who help guide them. Please come forward when I call your name and accept your certificate; Nala Armstead, Annabel Balash, Addi Hyden, Abbie Martin, Lannie Newton, Libbie Newton, Everly Palmer, Mya Philpot, Sadie Saylor, Audrey Terry, Madison Walters, Maya Beringhaus, Maddie Schildmeyer, Dakota Berry, Kayden Fleissner, Myranda Howard, Nikaya Montgomery, Savannah Simpson, Ally Whitehead, Quincy Beringhaus, Preston Cole, Ben Radecki, Grant Speed, Cooper Steele, Bryce Jewell, Connor Leininger, Colt Mattox, Dominic Strotman. (Applause) Thank you again for everything you do for our community and being great role models for all of us.

Webelo Scout – The Webelo Scouts award this certificate to the Village of St. Bernard for outstanding citizenship and continued support for our Pack 354. Mayor Stuchell accepted the award.

I wanted to give you all an update on the current situation with the developer that the CIC is under contract with for the shopping center. As you are aware, we have given seven extensions so that they would be able to try to accommodate a business that was wanting to relocate their baking productions facility here in St. Bernard. This has been a two and a half year process that seemed as though it was going to be a perfect match for our community and the CIC's development plans,

but at this time the proposed business is not able to make the move. They are currently restructuring and there is a possibility that something could be done with them in the future, but the CIC now needs to explore other options.

The CIC Board met with the development group and is currently reviewing its options. We are committed to not settling whether that means that we continue working with the current developer or look to find someone who shares a different vision. This all may appear to be a setback, but we only have one shot to do this right. We are very proud of what Todd and Lauren have done with their new Skyline and we know that there is great potential for this focal point in the Village.

The CIC Master Planning Committee is still looking for citizens, business and property owners, and industrial partners who are interested in being part of this exciting process. The Heritage Ohio Downtown Assessment Resource Team visit is being rescheduled for the end of April, so if you are interested please feel free to contact me.

We are pleased to announce that starting next week, Dial-A-Ride will be back in business on Tuesday's, Wednesday's and Friday's. Mr. Paul will give the particulars, but I am excited that this service will once again be offered to assist our Senior Citizens. I would like to thank Mr. Tobergte for helping with exploring possible business sponsors.

I would like to thank Susie Steiner from Immanuel United Church of Christ for inviting me to be the guest reader at the Book Worm Diner last week. What a wonderful program that they offer to our community and I am so grateful for this group of volunteers.

I would also like to thank Jeannie Niesen for inviting me to speak at the St. Bernard Women's Club meeting this week. This group will be hosting their first annual fundraising dance on Saturday, March 7 from 8:00pm to midnight at the St. Bernard Eagle's. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and the proceeds support their annual scholarship fund, Children's Hospital in Honor of the Ben Strong Foundation, Allison Estep's Heart to Heart Foundation and other charitable organizations.

That same day, Save A Heart St. B. will be held so what a great way to end the day, with a dance. More info about this event is available on the Village website. On February 20 there will be a Community Young Professional Meetup at 7:00pm at Wiedemann hosted by Layla and Corey Keiner. What a great opportunity for young professionals to get together.

On Thursday, March 5 everyone is invited to come see the Reds Mascot, Mr. Redlegs from 5:30 to 6:30 at St. Bernard Skyline

I would like to thank Mr. Alan Siefert for his service to the Village and wish the best of luck to you and your family.

I also have one request that Council post the resumes of the applicants on the Village website who are looking to fill Mr. Siefert's vacancy so that the residents can have an opportunity to see who the potential candidates are so if they had anyone that they might have questions about or might want to promote. It would be nice to have some information in advance if it is at all possible.

I would like to have a moment of silence for two residents that we lost within the last week. Slue Friedman and John Hackney.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor's office provided Council and the Administration with end of January Expense and Revenue spreadsheets and Cash Fund Report. At the end of January 2020 the Village's expenses were \$1,209,365.31 and the revenues were \$759,752.80.

The Auditor's Office prepared four ordinances and one resolution for tonight's meeting. Resolution 2, 2020 which authorizes a renewal of seven mill tax levy on current real property. This resolution is the first one required in the process. If approved this resolution will be sent to the Hamilton County Auditor Office for their certification. If certified I will prepare another resolution for Council and if that resolution is approved, I will send it to the Board of Elections to be on the August ballot.

Ordinance 2, 2020 provides for the transfer of \$980,000.00 from the general fund cash account into the following accounts:

\$180,000.00 to 07-1000 Capital Improvement Cash Account, this is half of the remaining revenues from 2019.

\$400,000.00 to 31-1000 General Bond Retirement Cash Account

\$400,000.00 to 51-1000 Employee Health Plan Cash Account

It also provides an additional appropriation of \$8,055.98 in 01-7-A-13, Fire Equipment Outlay. This is revenue the Fire Department received from a \$1,000.00 donation and \$7,055.98 from a BWC grant.

Ordinance 3, 2020 raises the first and second steps in the part time pay for Pool Attendants, Craft Assistants and Swim Lesson Assistants to reflect the increase in Ohio Minimum Wage. The first step will be \$8.70 and second will be \$8.80.

Also, on the agenda for tonight is Ordinance No. 4, 2020. This is the eight step pay Ordinance that we discussed at the COW for the Mayor's Court Clerk. This will be the first reading since we don't have enough Council members to vote on it. At the

COW it will be discussed to amend this Ordinance but you can go ahead and do the first reading and because I've already prepared the second one if you agree to amend it, it's just adding another paragraph to it and Mayor Stuchell can explain that at the COW.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mrs. Van Valkenberg/Walden - A follow up on the Mayor's recommendation about the upcoming vacancy. Some were interested in asking about residency requirements. Section 204 of the St. Bernard Municipal Code and Ohio Revised Code 71302 require that Council members at large be elected to municipalities residing in that municipality and council members from Wards elected to municipalities be located in their respective Wards for a continuous period of not less than one year preceding the election. I didn't see anything or language talking about vacancies that altered that, so, in my opinion you have to have been a member of Ward 1 for at least since November 4, 2018 to be considered for this position.

Just a little update on the sign litigation. There is an oral arguments meeting set for next week. At this point we might have a little bit better feeling for how things are going to be ruled upon, but at this point we are still right where we were.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I printed off the statement from the Star Ohio Fund that the Village has up there. At the end of last month, January 2020, the Village had \$3,796,618.50.

SAFETY, SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – I have the Fire Department's monthly report for January 2020. Fire Incidents; there were 6 structure fires, 4 other fires, 2 vehicle fires, 2 auto accidents, 3 hazmat incidents, 11 service calls, 9 fire alarms, 2 CO alarms, 10 EMS assists. Mutual Aid Given; 1 to Norwood, 5 to Little Miami, 1 to Springfield Twp., 2 to Elmwood Place, 1 to Green Township. Mutual Aid Received; 2 from Norwood, 2 from Springfield Twp., 2 from Little Miami, 3 from Elmwood Place and 2 from Wyoming. EMS Incidents; 66 patients transported, 25 patients non-transported. Mutual Aid Given; 23 to Elmwood Place and 1 to Cincinnati. Details of Interest; 3 non-breathers, 3 unconscious, 3 auto accidents, 2 overdoses. Mutual Aid Received; 2 from Norwood, 1 from Little Miami, 1 from Cincinnati.

General state of the Village. I have found the flagpole replacement and will be placing the order shortly. I am working on bids for the stone wall out in front. We also continue filling potholes. If you find severe ones, please report them. All the downed light poles have been replaced. Next will be the trees. The order is being placed. I asked him to please remove the targets from them.

I am sorry about the different shades of white lights on Vine St. I am in the process of improving the scenery. We tried using what we had but different runs are different shades of white.

Dial-A-Ride, we have incorporated, we have posted it on the website, it's for senior residents of St. Bernard only. It will have a different number (513)227-9925. The hours of operation are Tuesday from 10:00am to 2:00pm, Wednesday from 10:00am to 4:00pm, and Friday 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Walgreens will be Tuesday only. Kroger will be Friday only and the fee will be \$1.00 per person each way..
To My Community

Tonight, seated before you were scouts and goodness. Their souls are roaming within their bodies seeking answers. They have a calm pool of water about them and long to know the depth of that still water. I would like for you to go back in your mind to your childhood. Do not dwell there, just a short visit. Bring forward all the peace and love you found along the way. Seek your inner pool of water. Toss all that you have brought with you into the pool. No matter your age you will find that there is a childlike wonder of just how deep life can be.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mrs. Helmes – The January 2020 end of month totals are \$628,081.52. We're up 3% from January 2019. Refunds for January were \$14,204. 75. On a side note I'd like to say that I was a Girl Scout from Kindergarten to twelfth grade and I actually earned the Silver Leadership Award and both the Gold and Silver Torch Award. And I'm very proud of that. I think it's great that we have a Scout meeting. A lot of good things come from being in Boy and Girl Scouts.

Mr. Asbach – We'll have to ask Cheryl to get you a certificate. We'll get you a copy of the Special Resolution also.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – I would like to thank this Council for agreeing to put Ordinance No. 2 on the table. This Ordinance includes putting money into the Capital Improvement Cash Fund. This has been a 10 year fight of mine to get a Council and an Administration to agree to do this.

May 9 will be this years' "Blockwatch Shred It Day" from 9:00am until 11:00am in the Safety Center parking lot. I am still working on having an Ewaste recycling on the same day.

I talked to Chief Young and he gave me the cost for the new radios for the Fire and Police Departments. I would like to put this on the agenda of the February 27 COW meeting.

Don't forget that March 1, 16 days from now, is the unofficial holiday here in St. Bernard with the opening of Dairy Queen.

Finally, thank you to Alan Siefert for the years on Council and the German Luau Committee.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I have the Police Department report for January, 2020. There were 93 traffic warnings, 63 traffic violations, 101 parking complaints, 2 railroad complaints, 2 stolen vehicles, 5 juvenile complaints and 22 calls for suspicious people or vehicles.

Another reminder that the next Blockwatch meeting will be Thursday, February 20 at 6:30pm in the Safety Center.

I too would like to thank Alan once again for his service to the community and wish him luck as he moves out of town.

SERVICE, Mr. Schildmeyer – I have the Service Department Report for January 2020. There were 12 trucks placed at residences, 18 dumpsters placed at residences, 183 special pick-ups at residences and 171.4 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. The recycling report; 39.99 tons of recycling material and 6,990 pounds of scrap metal.

Monday February 17 the Service Department will be closed. Monday's pick-up will be on Tuesday, Tuesday's route on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday pick-up will be as usual.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – (read by Mr. Ray Culbertson)

Attention all residents, the CIC is currently looking for a business owner and two residents to join the CIC. The CIC currently has three openings on the Board, two of the openings require to be filled by local residents that are not currently appointed or elected to public office and the other opening is for a business owner. The CIC is seeking proposals from qualified offers for 4524 and 4528 Park Place. Properties will be sold as a package to one buyer with the intent to construct one single family home. Deadline for submission is April 15, 2020. Following submission, applicants will be contacted for any questions or pinpoints of clarification that arise during the review. Full proposals will be scrubbed of applicant detail and reviewed side by side by the CIC property review committee. The committee will make a recommendation on next step approval or disapproval on all proposals received at the May 19, 2020 regular CIC meeting, barring extenuating circumstances. Please see the website for more details.

Lastly, I would like to thank Councilman Alan Siefert for his service to the Village. Not only is Alan a great representative of the First Ward but even a better friend. It was great reconnecting with him and Amy over the past few years. Not

only did we build a friendship but was able to work directly with him on a variety of topics. My wife and I hate to see him leave the Village as they will be sorely missed at events. They were a big asset to the community and brought forth the dedication to change the Village in a positive way. Alan, good luck with the move, we can't wait to visit once you settle in.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – absent.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Ms. Hausfeld – Tonight I have the Village of St. Bernard Building and Zoning Department report for January 2020.

The Building activities; building permits issued 4 commercial, 7 residential. Building permit fees collected; \$5,993.01 for commercial, \$1,447.53 for residential. Building construction dollars invested \$672,333.99 for commercial and residential. CRA tax abatements; 4426 Tower Avenue 100% for a \$200,667.50 investment for 15 years and 4279 Leonard Avenue 100% for a \$44,488.00 investment for 10 years. Property maintenance activities; property maintenance; property maintenance violation letters sent 3, property maintenance violations complied 1. The next CIC meeting is Tuesday, February 18 at 6:00pm. Bid packets for mowing CIC properties are available at City Hall and are due by Friday March 6 at 5:00pm.

I would like to wish Alan and his family safe travels and I hope everything goes well and wish you guys nothing but the best.

MARKETING, Mr. Siefert – The February Newsletter has gone out to subscribers. If you have not signed up for the newsletter please go to the Village webpage and scroll down to the bottom of the home page and click on the yellow subscribe link. A printed version will be available upon request at City Hall for those without access to a computer or email.

The German Luau committee is in the planning stages for this year's Luau. The Luau Committee is looking for new committee members. If you'd like to be involved in the planning and operations of the event please come to the next Luau meeting on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00pm in the lower level of city hall.

Resumes are currently being accepted for the Council Ward 1 position. Anyone interested should send their resumes to City Hall, attention City Clerk. They can also be emailed to cityclerk@cityofstbernard.org. All resumes must be received by the end of business, Friday, February 21.

Mrs. Kathman – The COW report has been emailed to Council and the Administration and reads as follows:

Committee of the Whole
January 23, 2020

A moment of silence was held for former Council member George Von Walde who passed away a few weeks ago.

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

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Bob Culbertson to approve the written minutes of the December 12, 2019, the January 1, 2020, and the January 9, 2020 Council meetings and the December 17, 2019 Special Council meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Whitney Vickers offered information on the 2020 census and the areas that are helped such as; accurate representation in Congress and House of Representatives, Hope survivors, CDC to manage disease control and prevention. Also, jobs are available, looking for about 5,000 individuals, full and part-time positions are available, \$21.00 to \$26.00 per hour. For more information about available jobs or assistance with applying online call 1-888-480-1639. The online website is 2020census.gov/jobs.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell – A reminder that summer employment applications are available on the Village website and in the Mayor's office.

Dial-A-Ride: the details of surveys have been returned and we are reviewing the options for the second day of operation. Both the St. Bernard Senior Citizen's Club and the St. Bernard Commons Residents Home submitted their surveys. We hope to have the service available by the middle of February.

The details of our potential switch to Hamilton County Dispatch will be announced at the next Council meeting. There may be some changes to the Alarm panel monitoring.

Proposal increase in compensation for the Mayor's Court Clerk to be commiserate with the level of responsibility and worth of other like communities. I know that Council had previously wanted additional information as far as job description and also compare things with other municipalities and basically what was requested that her level of compensation be brought to \$57,000.00 not including the extra pay period in 2020. We did some comparisons, other municipalities, for example;

Indian Hill, Evendale, Forest Park, Reading, Deer Park, Mariemont and Newtown. The goal is to keep Judy in this position and compensate her in a level that she is deserving. If there are any questions as far as her day to day responsibilities?

Other questions concerning budget concerns and a realistic range for this position were answered to Council's satisfaction.

I am suggesting that we propose an eight -step level of compensation but we would bring the Mayor's Court Clerk to the top step of \$56,000.00, similar to that of the Deputy Tax Commissioners if agreeable.

The Mayor's Court Clerk only wants to be compensated for her hours worked. Questions will be happily answered.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to rescind Ordinance No. 47, 2014 and put a new Ordinance on the table for the salary for the Mayor's Court Clerk. And that includes the eight-step program. Motion passed 7-0.

The next item would be the fitness center employees' raise. Singling out one particular part time department, not that they are not deserving, but all part time areas should be looked at.

Landfill monitoring was questioned. We are hoping to have an answer within the next couple of weeks. Once that is back, we can budget for legal fees, but those amounts have not been given to us.

The other area of discussion is the required training of the Sunshine Laws. In the past we have had a representative and that was Mrs. Culbertson, the Village Clerk. We have put ourselves at jeopardy because of previous lawsuits, I think it would be a good idea that we go through this training. I do think it would be advisable. I don't know if it is something that Council needs to pass anything that we are required but I do think it would be a good idea that we all do it and I would like to see some support that we're going to do that so we're reducing the likelihood of a future lawsuit. Options for this training were suggested to members of Council.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg – Minimum wage has been raised from \$8.55 to \$8.70. In Ordinance No. 3, 2020 swimming pool employees' salaries have been changed to meet this increase.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to put Ordinance No. 3, 2020 on the table for the next Council meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2, 2020 asks for additional appropriation of \$8,055.98 to 01-7-A-13 Fire Department Equipment Outlay. The Fire Department received money from Tom and Mary Barnes and other monies from a Grant. Basically, the money is just being appropriated so they can use it on equipment.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put Ordinance No. 2, 2020 on the table for the next Council meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

The 7-mil tax levy needs to be renewed if Council wishes to do so. Council were in favor of putting this levy on the August ballot. The Auditor's Office will prepare an Ordinance if necessary.

I would like to discuss moving to five at-large seats on Council in the Charter. We will discuss this in Mr. Bob Culbertson's report.

Law Director, Mrs. VanValkenberg/Walden - I would ask for a motion to go into Executive Session after the meeting to discuss pending litigation.

Motion by Mr. Bob Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to go into Executive Session after the meeting to discuss pending litigation. Motion passed 7-0.

Safety/Service Director, Mr. Paul – All the cameras are in place except the one across from Dairy Queen. They will be operable shortly.

We're going ahead with keyless entry for City Hall, only the outside doors. The inside will remain the same. Two computers will have access on who comes into the building. The Service Department, all the outside locks will also be core changed which shouldn't be too expensive. The cameras are covered.

There is a sink hole on Spring Grove by Smuckers. MSD claims it is not their problem. JMA foreman doubted that this is not MSD's problem. John Goedde agreed. I'm giving you a heads up on this issue because if to fix this could be well above \$50,000.00. We're hoping after we send in the cameras we can put the onus back to MSD.

A request was made for painting STOP on the streets in some areas of town.

This will be taken care of.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to put two Ordinances on the table for the tax levy renewal. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to put Special Resolution No. 1, 2020 (the Boy Scout) on the table for the next Council meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Tax Commissioner/Administrator, Mrs. Helmes – The tax returns are due April 15. All residents eighteen or older are required by law to file a tax return unless you have a retirement or disability exemption. Call the office at 242-7710 to find out if that applies to you. Tax forms are available in the Tax Office and online. They will be mailed out in February with a handy check list. The Tax Department will also be open Saturday, April 11 from 9:00 am until noon for those who cannot make it in Monday thru Friday.

Finance, Mr. Tobergte – Block Watch is actively planning this year's SHRED IT DAY. We are also looking at early May, and we are also looking into having an E-Waste recycling event the same day.

Also, the Fire Department is offering a lock box that they will install on your house. You would put your house key in the box and the Fire Department will have access to your key in the event of an emergency where you are unable to unlock your door for them or the police. There is a \$30.00 fee for the box. If you want this service call 242-9555 to set an appointment for a firefighter to install the box.

Last Council meeting Ordinance was not needed for this.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put \$180,000.00 from this money into the Capital Improvement Fund. Motion passed 7-0.

Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson – The Fire Department will be offering CPR classes on Tuesday, February 27 from 7:00 until 9:00 pm. They will also be offering a First Aid class on Wednesday, March 4 from 7:00 until 9:00pm. Both classes are free and will take place at the Safety Center.

Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson – At the meeting I wanted to bring up tonight the changes to the Charter. I did send an email back in August or September to the Law Director at that time, Mike Peck, for some guidance on how to handle this. So, I'll just read through that and we can get this kicked off here.

Do we need to get an ordinance or resolution in order to adjust the Charter? Here are a few adjustments that I would like Council to take under consideration on whether or not we should put it out to a vote for the general public at the next election.

1. Eliminate the Treasurer, Tax Commissioner and Auditor position and replace them with a Village Fiscal Officer. \$80k-\$90k. The Financial Officer need not be a resident of the Municipality at the time of appointment, unless such residence requirement is required by Ordinance. The goal would be to

have an external recruitment firm to provide 2 candidates for Council and Mayor to approve. The successful candidate must have 6 votes (or >74% of votes) to be confirmed. Once a person is appointed to the position then the only way to remove them is with a unanimous vote.

2. Eliminate the Safety and Service Director positions and replace them with a Village Manager \$80k-\$90k. The Village Manager need not be a resident of the Municipality at the time of appointment, unless such residence requirement is required by Ordinance. The goal would be to have an external recruitment firm to provide 2 candidates for Council and Mayor to approve. The successful candidate must have 6 votes (or >74% of votes) to be confirmed. Once a person is appointed to the position then the only way to remove them is with a unanimous vote.

3. Eliminate the Wards positions on Council and replace them with additional at large seats.

4. Members of Council shall be elected for a term of four years.

5. Changing Council from 7 member to 5 members.

I would like to bring this to Council to get that ball moving and decide whether or not we want to put it on the next election.

After much discussion it was decided to put the Charter Committee back together to further clarify all legalities. Everyone agreed this should not be rushed.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mrs. Bedinghaus – The Law Director and I did meet after the meeting, two weeks ago. Basically, so I could bring her up to date on the two outstanding topics that were still not resolved from last year. It has to do with the non-discrimination Ordinance for the LGBTQ communities and to consider forming an ethics Ordinance. I did put these copies of everything that I have that was related to that, so Valerie is looking into it and she has my information.

A copy of the Cincinnati Ordinance regarding non-discrimination will be forwarded to Mayor Stuchell and Mrs. Van Valkenburg/Walden.

Marketing, Mr. Siefert – I am working on getting articles for the February Newsletter. I'm hoping to get those in by the end of January so we can get the newsletter out during the first week of February. If you have not signed up for the newsletter, please go to the Village webpage www.cityofsternard.org. Go to the bottom of the home page and click on the yellow subscribe link. I also talked to Heidi about getting a printed version available at City Hall for those without access to a computer or email.

Just a reminder that sports signups are this Saturday, January 25 and next Saturday February 1 from 11:00am until 2:00 pm.. In the Recreation Office.

The German Luau committee met this past Tuesday and are in the planning stages for this year's Luau. The Luau Committee is looking for new committee members, if you'd like to be involved in the planning and operation of the event please come to the next Luau meeting on Tuesday, February 18 at 7 pm in Centennial Hall.

I wanted to let Council know that I found a home outside of the Village and will be moving. We were never planning to move, it wasn't in our vocabulary, but a couple of weeks ago we were presented with an opportunity that we couldn't pass up. I will be resigning from my Council position effective at the end of the February 13 Council meeting.

Business and Industry, Ms. Hausfeld – The next meeting for the CIC will be February 18 at 6:00pm. They are holding elections. There is an opening for one citizen and one business representative. Bid packets will be available for the mowing contract for the CIC properties and can be picked up in the Safety/Service Director's office.

The Heritage Ohio Downtown Assessment Resource Team visit originally scheduled for February 19 and 20 is being rescheduled for March. Anyone wishing to be involved with the Master Plan process please contact one of the board members as soon as possible, that would be Mayor Stuchell, Mr. Bob Culbertson or Mr. Ray Culbertson.

Mr. Tobergte thanked Mr. Siefert for his years of service and notified everyone that any first ward citizens interested in filling Mr. Siefert's unexpired term please send a resume to City Hall. Applications will be accepted until Friday, February 21.

Audience wishing to address Council:

Fire Chief Brian Young: Cincinnati has been having multiple issues with their Fire Hydrant Pressure lately. We currently maintain 180 hydrants annually within the Village. All these hydrants are also flow tested every 3 years. All of our hydrants are painted in accordance with NFPA 291, which states that the hydrants should be chrome yellow and the bonnets painted to show their flow rates. As hydrants are replaced in the Village we are also converting to Stortz connections which are basically quick connectors for our Large Diameter Supply Lines.

Speaking with Mr. Paul and Mrs. Brickweg, in the budget for this year we have \$32,500.00 for radio replacements. There is a grant that's been offered from the Fire Marshall's Office. I would like to have some additional appropriations now because I can get them much cheaper. We're looking at about 24 radios to replace. If we would do it now, we would save about \$28,000.00 as opposed to doing it over four years.

Council went into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Resolutions and Ordinances for the next Council meeting:

Special Resolution No. 1, 2020. Scout Resolution

Ordinance No. 2. 2020. Fire Equipment Outlay

Ordinance No. 3, 2020. Minimum wage increase.

Ordinance No. 4, 2020. Salary for the Mayor's Court Clerk.

Ordinance No. 5, 2020. Seven Mil tax levy renewal.

The next Council meeting will be February 13, 2020. (Scout Night)

The next COW meeting will be February 27, 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Kathman, Clerk of Council

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Tobergte seconded by M to read this evening's Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2020. DECLARING THE OUTDOOR CODE OF ST. BERNARD, DESIGNATING ALL GIRL AND BOY SCOUTS HONORARY PARK POLICEMEN AND POLICEWOMEN; AND ASKING ALL OF THE YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG LADIES OF ST. BERNARD TO HONOR THIS CODE.

WHEREAS, the Girl Scout and Boy Scout Programs encourage community betterment as well as individual member improvement; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are special citizens who know their duty to their fellow men and women 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 GIRL SCOUTS AND BOY 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.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Siefert to have Special Resolution No. 1, 2020 take its regular course. Moton passed 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2, 2020. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RENEWAL SEVEN (7) MILL TAX LEVY ON THE CURRENT REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, CERTIFYING SAID RESOLUTION TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to have Resolution No. 2, 2020 take its regular course.

REMARKS

Discussion followed that Council would like the 7 mill to remain as is.

Motion passed 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2, 2020. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFER FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to have Ordinance No. 2, 2020 take its regular course.

REMARKS

There will be a need for a Special Council meeting in order for this Ordinance to pass so payments can be made.

Requests were made for Council to please show up at meetings so Ordinances can be passed when necessary.

Motion passed 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 3, 2020. FIXING 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 EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to have Ordinance No. 3, 2020 take its regular course. Motion passed 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4, 2020. FIXING THE RATE OF COMOPENSATION FOR THE MAYOR'S COURT CLERK STARTING FEBRUARY 12, 2020 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to have Ordinance No. 4, 2020 take its regular course. Motion passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to have a Special Council meeting on February 27, 2020 at 8:00pm to discuss Special Resolutions No. 1, 2020, Resolution No. 2, 2020, Ordinances Nos. 2, 3,4, 2020.

REMARKS

Concerns over enough members being present were raised. Assurances were detailed as to cover those concerns.

The motion for a Special meeting passed 5-0.

A question on having two scout nights next year was raised. The Mayor will do what is needed to accommodate all involved.

The age limit for the Dial-A-Ride bus passengers is 50 and up. We do not have a handicap bus, so we are unable to accommodate the disabled. If you have a nurse, she rides free. The bus service is on trial basis and is for Seniors only.

The muddy parking lot issue is being dealt within a reasonable manner.

The resumes to fill the Ward 1 position that will be posted, it was decided, should be a written summary by the candidate running for the position.

The rental program will be revised.

Heritage Hill Zoning Requirements were questioned. Mayor Stuchell will look into this.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to go back to four meetings a month. Motion failed 2-2 with Mr. Asbach casting the deciding no vote. Mr. Ray Culbertson and Mr. Schildmeyer also voted no.

This issue will be put on the agenda for discussion.

Mr. Siefert – First I would like to thank everyone for their kind words regarding myself and my family. I was very touched by that. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Village of St. Bernard and the residents of Ward 1. I am so proud to have been part of the committee that brought the German Luau back after a 35 year hiatus. I enjoyed working with my fellow Council members because they care about the Village and want what's best for St. Bernard just like I do. My family was never planning to move, it wasn't in our vocabulary, but through some unique circumstances our dream home landed in our lap right after the holidays and we couldn't pass it up. It's bittersweet to be leaving the Village and a home that has been in my family for over a century, but we are excited for this new chapter in our lives. I wish the best for the Village going forward and I wish the best of luck to whoever is going to take my place on Council. I will now resign my seat as Council Ward 1.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1. It was suggested that Council meet four times a month.
2. The Historical Society will have a program on Monday, February 17 at 7:00pm. in Centennial Hall. Bring old photographs of old St. Bernard. The audience is going to be the program. Next month the program will be on baseball. The following month will be a museum center program. Membership rates are cheap.
3. A Service Department employee was hit by a car while working. Please be aware and give the Service Department the same consideration as you would the Police and Fire vehicles.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to excuse the absent members. Motion passed 3-1. Ms. Hausfeld voted no.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, February 27 at 7:00pm. followed by a Special Council meeting at 8:00pm to discuss the five Resolutions and Ordinances.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0.