

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 17, 2020**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held on December 17, 2020 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 held for Fred Jansen, former Service Department employee, and all other resident of St. Bernard who have died as a result of the COVID-19 virus.

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

Mrs. Bedinghaus made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, Ms. Hausfeld seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Stuchell – First off, I would like to thank the residents of this community who have been very patient and supportive during 2020. This has been a difficult year for everyone, but I could not have gotten through this without the support of our wonderful Village Council, our incredible city hall staff, and our amazing Service, Police, Fire, Recreation Departments, and the many volunteers who make this community such a special place.

I would like to remind everyone about the Light Up St. Bernard event on Saturday night where residents will place luminarias in front of their homes. Kits are still available at city hall on Friday. Anyone wishing to help line Vine Street with luminarias can meet at the Recreation Office on Saturday at 3:00pm.

I would like to wish all of our residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Also, I would like to ask that we go into Executive Session after the meeting to discuss collective bargaining.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – On the table tonight are two Ordinances prepared by the Auditor’s Department. Ordinance No. 38, 2020, this is the year end appropriation. It is creating a new line item, O-7-09 McClelland Ave road

improvement. \$109, 446.00. It has a total of \$670,512.21 in decreased appropriations. The other Ordinance No. 39, 2020, is the budget for all of 2021. The budget total is \$13,199,657.00.

The Auditor expressed serious concern over harassment she has been dealing with for over a year and requested that it discontinue.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mrs. Valerie VanValkenberg/Walden - I have been looking into Airbnb legislation. We are experiencing what other areas are. It's a bit more acute because we are so small. I am looking at that. Also, Mr. Paul and I and the Mayor have been looking at trying to get our citations regarding property owners and actually enforce these issues.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the statements from First State Bank for the Memorial Fund that we have down with them. At the end of November our balance was \$5,656.02.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – And so, the year ends. I believe early next spring you will see some of the progress and will be able to visualize what has occurred. What I will leave you with is that the Village is under a vast amount of progression. Please be tolerant. May your days be merry.

To My Community,

Red and Green. Not a stop and go but more for the colors of Christmas. Colors are all around us. This time of year, the colors illuminate very bright. We are filled with happy thoughts, merry memories and a spirit that moves us. Keep hold of this as it also brightens the aura that encapsulates each of us. If we intensity the colors that surrounds us, we allow that sharing of peace and kindness toward one another, which in turn brings others to awareness.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mrs. Helmes –  
November Monthly Report:

- Tax collections for November were: \$614,686
- Tax refunds for November were: -\$133,475.75
- The Village is up 4.18% in tax revenue from November of 2019.
- YTD tax collection is up 4.5%.
- \$63,380 in delinquent tax is with Capital Recovery.

· \$105,218 in delinquent tax is with our Attorney for judgement/garnishment collection work.

o 2019 Non-filers.

o In November, the tax dept. mailed 610 letters to those who have not filed 2019 city income taxes. I want to thank the 165 residents who responded and have taken care of the matter. We still have 445 residents who have not responded. Failure to file your tax return may result in a summons to court and additional fees that could be avoided.

o I will be out of the office from Dec.21 through Jan 3. I will return on Jan.4 2021. Jake will be available in the tax office if you need to file or make your payment.

Have a safe and Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and let's all hope for a better 2021 New Year!!!!

## **REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – No report.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – I have the Fire Department report for November. There was a total of 44 fire incidents. 7 structure fires, 1 vehicle fire. There was a total of 82 EMS incidents, 49 were transported which included 5 non-breathers, 2 unconscious, 4 auto accidents and 1 overdose. Mutual aid from the Fire Department was given 3 times to Norwood, 4 to Elmwood Place, 2 times to Little Miami and 1 to Delhi. Mutual aid was received; Elmwood Place 1, Little Miami 2, Springfield Twp. 2, Norwood 2, Reading 2, Wyoming 2 and Lockland 1. EMS mutual was given to Elmwood Place 18 times, Little Miami 1, Cincinnati 1. Mutual aid received, 1 from Little Miami and 1 from Elmwood Place. I too would like to wish all the residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SERVICE, Mr. Schildmeyer – I have a brief report for the Service Department for November, 2020. There were 23 trucks placed at residences, 26 dumpsters placed at residences, 263 special pick-ups at residences and 181.14 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. Recycling report is 29.91 tons of recycling material, and 2,860 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Bob Culbertson – At the last CIC meeting the Board decided to accept two applications. One for the Andrew property, which is 4913 Andrew and the other one was for 41 Baker. Those applications were accepted so we should start seeing progress on those properties fairly shortly. The next CIC meeting will have a guest speaker, potentially we're looking at Go Vibrant. Partnersshipping with those individuals that come in and actually design and post signs around the city for a walking trail. So, they will be attending the next CIC meeting which is now on the fourth Tuesday of the month. So, the next CIC meeting will be January 26 at 6:00pm in Council Chambers.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Valerie, I just have a question for you about the Airbnb. I know that the Mayor had brought it up before and put it in the Laws, Contracts and Claims. I'm assuming that after you meet with them that it will come back and be put into the Laws, Contracts and Claims. Is that correct.

Mrs. VanValkenburg/Walden - Yes. But it's probably going to be at least a month.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Thank you and I wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

MARKETING, Mrs. Miller – I would like to remind the citizens that there is still time to purchase a personalize a memorial brick to be placed at Frank Robinson Field. The cost is \$100.00 per brick. Contact Recreation if you are interested. I would also like to extend a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all residents and business owners. Great things are right around the corner for all of us in 2021. Looking forward to having a fresh start in the new year.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Ms. Hausfeld – I have the St. Bernard Building and Zoning report for November, 2020.

There were 6 residential permits, 3 commercial permits. Total fees for residential permits were \$1,168.55 and the total fees for commercial permits was \$743.34.

Amounts paid back to the Treasurer, State of Ohio, residential, \$11.68 and the amount for commercial paid back to the Treasurer, State of Ohio was \$22.29.

I too want to wish everybody in St. Bernard a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

Committee of the Whole  
December 10, 2020

Roll call showed the six members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Ray Culbertson, Mr. Bob Culbertson, Mrs. Bedinghaus, Mrs. Miller and Ms. Hausfeld. Mr. Schildmeyer was absent.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to approve the written minutes of the November 19, 2020 meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to place Resolution No. 11, 2020 for the SCIP Grant on the table for the next Council meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell - I want to thank the Village Positive Action Committee for hosting and organizing St. Bernard's annual holiday light contest, Will Light for Food. This year's event brought in just under 6,000 items for the St. Clement Food Pantry. We had to adjust our holiday celebration in the Village this year, but we made the best of it and the residents really stepped up to help our families in need. Santa and Mrs. Claus enjoyed riding around the Village and passing out treats to all the kids. It was a great day and thank you again to everyone who participated. As you may have heard, we have brought back the Luminarias to the Village this year. Every household in St. Bernard is encouraged to participate by placing sidewalk luminarias in front of their homes on the evening of Saturday, December 19. Kits are still available which include 5 bags, 10 candles, sand, and instructions. Each resident is welcome to 2 kits. Pick up dates at the recreation office are Saturday, December 12, and Sunday, December 13 from 1:00 to 5:00pm. Requested the regular order of business continue so Mr. Paul can discuss the purchase of the electric truck.

Requested Council go into Executive Session after the meeting to discuss collective bargaining.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining. Motion passed 6-0.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg – Emailed spreadsheets for November to everyone. Expenses at the end of November were \$11,176,269.38. The revenues were \$12,920,738.12. That makes us ahead \$916,468.74 for the year. I have been working on the comparison spreadsheets and I have kind of an ordinance for next week. The department heads are working on what can be cut and I will get back to Council as soon as I can. Some increases are needed. The indigent burial line item, and the miscellaneous line item in case something happens when everyone is out for the holidays. Additionally, the loan we have for Andalas, that we didn't pay

this year will be due at the end of December. Requested an additional \$4,277.31 to pay this off.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to place an Ordinance on the table for the additional appropriations as well as deductions to certain line items. Motion passed 6-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- I have the Star Ohio report for the city's account. The total at the end of last month, November 2020, \$4,817,575.54.

Safety/Service Director – The most important thing on my agenda tonight is the line item 2-O-18 Landfill and Compost. I will need another appropriation of \$50,000.00 to complete the year. Needless to say, we had to negotiate for next year's budget. Republic's bid was \$2.00/ton higher than last year. \$52.09. I made a call to Rumpke. Their bid came in at \$19.00/ton less than Republic. I signed a three-year contract that will increase 0.25/ton each year. We will be taking our business to Rumpke.

I would also like for you to allow me to purchase this new electric truck. It's match for our Village. The first two sold already. It is a wonderful buy at this price. I have been looking for some time now and \$60 – 70,000.00 will get you a used truck with 70-90,000 miles on it. I would like to give him a PO # tomorrow. Our present truck is 20 years old.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to put Ordinance No.36 and 37, 2020 on the table for the purchase of the electric truck and appropriating the money on the Special Council meeting tonight and put the \$50,000.00 on the Ordinance for the landfill. Motion passed 6-0.

The additional funds for various appropriations have been provided by the COVID grant.

Tax Administrator/Commissioner, Mrs. Helmes – 2019 Non-filers.

o I want to thank Jake and Cheryl for helping me process and mail 610 letters out to the residents who have not filed their 2019 St. Bernard tax return. We still have 500 residents who have not responded. Failure to file your tax return may result in a summons to court and additional fees that could be avoided.

o I want to thank the residents who have responded and took care of the matter.

As always if you have any questions you can reach my office at 242-7710.

Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson – Congratulated Corey Kiner, St Clement graduate and Roger Bacon senior on being named Mr. Football in Ohio today.

Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting will be Tuesday, December 15 at 6:00pm in the main hall of the Municipality Building. We will be voting on the applications for 41 Baker and 4913 Andrew at that meeting. The CIC meeting will be taped for online streaming beginning in January. The meeting will be moved to the fourth Tuesday of every month. The first meeting in 2021 is January 25 at 6:00pm.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Made a comment how pleased she was at the decorating of all the homes in St. Bernard.

Marketing, Mrs. Miller –I would like to thank the Mayor, Recreation, the Service Department, and the Village Pac for all their efforts for making last weekend's holiday events in St. Bernard so meaningful.

The Holiday light contest winners were; 1st place The Sowder family, 2nd place the Robbins and 3rd went to the Edwards. Thanks to every family that participated in this event.

I would also like to give a special thanks to the Sauer and Stuchell families for donating their time and money to make the luminaire kits for the residents in the village. I hope that everyone can participate in that event December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Business and Industry, Ms. Hausfeld – The Building & Zoning Department for 2020 October Activities Report.

6 Residential Permits

0 Commercial Permits

Total Fees for Residential Permits: \$2,179.03

Total Fees for Commercial Permits: \$0.00

Amounts paid back to the Treasurer, State of Ohio (Residential): \$21.80

Amount paid back to the Treasurer, State of Ohio (Commercial): \$0.00

I would like to welcome B&G Foods North America to St. Bernard.

B&G Foods recently acquired Smucker's Crisco Plant in St. Bernard.

B&G Foods has been in contact with the tax office regarding withholding for their employees for a smooth transition

Welcome to St. Bernard and good luck.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to excuse the absent member. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Stuchell requested an Ordinance on the table for the next meeting for turnout gear for the Fire Department. The Chief has prepared the estimate and the appropriations have been made for the 2020 budget.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put an Ordinance on the table to purchase turnout gear for the Fire Department. Motion passed 6-0.

After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Stuchell, Mrs. Brickweg and Mr. Paul successfully explained all changes to the 2021 proposed budget to the Council members.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to put an Ordinance on the table for the 2021 budget for next week. Motion passed 6-0.

Resolutions and Ordinances for the next meeting.

Resolution No. 11, 2020 SCIP funds.

An ordinance approving additional funds for the end of the year.

An ordinance approving turnout gear for the Fire Department.

And ordinance for the 2021 budget.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 7:00pm

The next COW will be January 14, 2010 at 7:00 pm

Council went into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining.

Motion by Mr. Bob Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adjourn.

Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Kathman, Clerk

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.



## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

RESOLUTION NO. 11, 2020. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 11, 2020. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Resolution No. 11, 2020 as read. Motion passed 7-0

ORDINANCE NO. 38, 2020. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO CREATE NEW LINE ITEMS AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 38, 2020. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 38, 2020 as read. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 39, 2020. AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATION FOR EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND ESTABLISHING NEW LINE ITEMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 39, 2020. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 39, 2020 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 40, 2020. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A

**CONTRACT WITH WARREN FIRE EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
FIRE DEPARTMENT TURNOUT GEAR AND DECLARING AN  
EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 40, 2020. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Ordinance No. 40, 2020 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining at the end of this meeting.. Motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Stuchell – The new Life Squad Ambulance will be in service at the end of the weekend.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

None.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, January 14, 2021.

Council went into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining.

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

