

St. Bernard Village Council Meeting
April 22, 2021

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held April 22, 2021 in Council Chambers.

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

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. Council agreed 7-0.

REPORTS OF VLLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Stuchell – I would like to start by congratulating the St. Bernard Elementary School for no longer being designated for the Ohio EdChoice program. St Bernard Elementary's performance index ratings met the threshold criteria set of OH State Legislators on the last two issued Ohio School Report Cards. Their hardworking staff and students continue to focus on increased performance and academic excellence.

As you have probable already heard or you certainly will during the Safety Chair's report, there has been an uptick in vehicle thefts and personal items being stolen from vehicles. The police are working very hard to catch the individuals, but I am pleading with you to please lock your vehicle, remove any keys and other personal items. The police department has also stepped-up traffic enforcement around the village and will continue to address the issues.

I will be working with some consultants on traffic calming around the village where modifications could purposely slow vehicles down. We have received estimates for speed humps and there will be speed monitoring devices added as well. The Service Director will be working with a painting contractor for the lane change for Ross Avenue and the installation of surface mount breakaway delineators will take place as well to prevent vehicles from being able to drive in the east bound lane closest to the cemetery. I have also been asked about whether we could have another clean-up St. Bernard day and I am asking Mr. Tobergte if he would assist in organizing this event.

Lastly, we are now under contract so that we can bill the Village of Elmwood Place for EMS responses and that is effective as of April 12.

AUDITOR, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditors office has finished preparing all the reports for the State Auditor and they will be arriving on Monday to start our audit so be prepared if they have any questions for you.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mrs. VanValkenberg/Waldon - I met with members of the public and the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee to discuss the non-discriminatory Ordinance. I am still trying to collect information from other communities, including City of Cincinnati, regarding usage and costs associated with their Ordinance. I hope to have more information by our next meeting.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – I have the statement for First State Bank. There is \$5,657.31 as our current balance.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – My spring reminder for you is to please mow your lawn. Grass above 8” in our Village is against your Ordinances. You will be fined. High grass and weeds are the number one complaint in our Village. Mind your property.

To My Community

Reflections. There are basically a couple of different types of them now that I reflect on it. You can reflect on something while it is happening or after it has already happened. You can reflect light also as a smooth or scattered reflection. What about that reflection in the mirror? Is there something there that you are doubting? Perhaps you need to adjust until that reflection turns bright and the light surrounds you for others to see. If you like what you see, then reveal that to others.

TAX COMMISSIONER/ADMINISTRATOR, Mrs. Helmes – Greetings everyone, attached are the monthly receipts/reports for March 2021.

Tax collections for March: \$1,187,337.

- Tax refunds for March: \$-7918.87
- The Village is down -10.45% in tax revenue from March of 2020.
- The Village is down -7.81% for the first Quarter of 2021 vs. the first Quarter of 2020.
- \$64,531 in delinquent tax is with Capital Recovery.

· \$103,267 in delinquent tax is with our Attorney for judgement/garnishment collection work.

· \$46,447 Ohio Attorney General's Office

Reminders:

Tax returns are due by May 17, 2021.

Please do not put your social security number on your check. Other people process and view that check besides me, I want to protect your identity.

Do not e-mail your tax return, it will not be accepted or considered filed. Please use the e-file portal located on the Village's website.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 242-7710.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – No report.

SAFETY, Mr. Culbertson - I have the St. Bernard Fire Department report for March 2021:

Fire incidents; there were a total of 5 structure fires , other fires 2, 3 auto accidents 3, service calls 3, fire alarms 5,EMS assists 3, Mutual Aid Given; 1 to Norwood, 2 to Elmwood Place, 1 to Reading, 1 to Delhi. Mutual Aid Received; 2 from Norwood, 1 from Elmwood Place, 1 from Reading, 1 from Little Miami, 1 from Springfield Twp. 1 from Wyoming.

EMS side; there was a total of 85 incidents; Details of Interest; 1 non-breather, 1 unconscious, 4 auto accidents, and 3 overdoses; Mutual Aid Given 30 to Elmwood Place, 4 to Little Miami, 1 to Springfield top. 1, to Cincinnati, and 1 to Lockland.

Mutual Aid was not received on the EMS side in the month of March.

I would like to remind all the residents that the next Block Watch will be May 6 at 6:30pm in Centennial Hall. Chief Simos will be there to discuss issues in our town and answer questions.

I would like to thank the Mayor for starting to correct some of the traffic concerns in our town.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT, Mr. Schildmeyer - I have the Service Department report for March 2021, there were 32 trucks placed at residences, 34 dumpsters placed at residences, 417 special pick-ups at residences, and 185 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. Recycling report, 53.49 tons of recycling material, 12 pounds

of scrap aluminum, 33 pounds of brass, 29 pounds of copper 3,578 pounds of scrap metal.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT, Mr. Bob Culbertson – The next CIC meeting is Tuesday at 6:00pm. In Council Chambers. We will be discussing Long John Silver's property.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – The Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee met on Wednesday 4/21 to finalize the content of a proposed Ordinance to Prohibit Unlawful Discrimination within the Village of St. Bernard. The next step will be a meeting that will be both virtual and in person. We are planning the town hall to take place sometime mid summer. Since we don't know if there will still be limited capacity at in person gatherings because of covid 19, there will be a survey in the May Newsletter asking if you would attend the event in person. We are just trying to get a projection of the number of the in person attendees to see how to accommodate if we are limited in our capacity. There will also be a link in the May Newsletter that will take you to the ordinance. It is rather lengthy and this will give people time to read through it and think of questions you might have that could be addressed at the town meeting. On May 19 the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee will meet at 6:pm in Centennial Hall to plan for the Town Hall Meeting. More to come after that meeting.

I want to thank Nicole Klungle, especially Mindy, Valerie, Jonathan and Ray and Chris for their time and help in getting the ordinance completed.

MARKETING, Mrs. Miller – The Newsletter request for May expires on April 25 and we will need everything by May the 1.

I have a recreation update: the deadline to sign your child up for t-ball is Friday, April 30. Sign up at city hall Monday thru Friday 9:00 to 5:00. This opportunity is for St. Bernard children 3 to 6 years of age. Games are Monday and Thursday at Vine St. Park.

BUILDING AND INDUSTRY, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

The COW report has been submitted to the members of Council and the Administration and reads as follows:

Committee of the Whole
April 8, 2021

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

Mr. Asbach – Commented on the Wiedmann Brewery being voted Cincinnati's finest beer. Nothing like being the best for St. Bernard.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell – Dittoed the comment by Mr. Asbach about the Brewery. Said the Easter Bunny was a success.

Said the Attorney to help us with the charter will be announced next week.

Ordinance 9, 2021 is on the table for next week. He apologized for this error.

Wished Happy Birthday to Ray Culbertson.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to put Ordinance No 9, 2021 on the table for the next meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg – Presented the figures for the end of March. Revenues for March were \$2,684,443.81. They were down from last year 196,247.02.

Expenses for March were \$3,101,740.11 up from last year \$153,029.05.

Director of Law, Mrs. VanValkenberg/Walden - Met with the public and members of the Laws, Contracts & Claims Committee to consider the Non-Discriminatory Ordinance.

Safety/Service Director, Mr. Paul – Asked the employees of City Hall to stay at home over the weekend so the carpets could dry.

Tax Administrator/Commissioner, Mrs. Helmes – The tax report will be completed by the next Council Meeting. Tax filing date has been extended to May 17. First quarter taxes are still due April 15. Appointments will begin on April 18. Thru May 7. Do not email your taxes to the Tax Dept. Any questions call 272-7700.

Mr. Tobergte – Gave Ray a cupcake for his birthday.

Mr. Ray Culbertson – Announced that the next Block Watch Meeting will be May 6 at the Safety Center.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Our Committee met last night to discuss the discrimination ordinance. We will meet again on April 21 to further discuss this.

Mrs. Miller – The April Newsletter has gone out. I Am Coffee is celebrating three years in business. The repair shop run by Mr. Sanders is in full review.

Audience wishing to address council:

Brian Young – Wanted to thank the Service Dept.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to excuse the absent members. Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinances for the next Meeting

Ordinance No. 9, adding the swim team coach.

The next Council Meeting will be Thursday, April 22.

Motion by Mr. Ray Culbertson, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 9, 2021 FIXING THE 2021 COMPENSATION FOR HEAD SWIMMING TEAM COACH OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 9, 2021. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 9, 2021. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

A request to have AirBnb put on the agenda in the Laws, Contract and Claims Committee was made. It was decided to put this on the agenda.

Trash cans left out, blocking the right of way, or not in compliance with our Ordinances is against the law. Call 911 or 242-2727.

Sign up for the test for the Service Department is Friday.

We used to have a data base for renters and we will check if this is still available

Handicap parking near the church on Tower will remain the same for now.

Our equipment, the ambulance and truck will be sold.

The Mayor will provide a list of what other organizations the police and fire are involved in.

A copy of the non-discriminatory ordinance can be viewed online or you can get a hard copy from the Director of Law.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None.

Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 7:00pm.

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