

**ST. BERNARD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 17, 2021**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard Village Council was held Thursday, June 17, 2021 in Council Chambers.

A Public Hearing was held before the Council meeting on the 2022 budget: The projected income was \$13,211,200.00. The projected expenses were \$12,970,531.00. Showing an estimated projected surplus of \$240,669.00. This budget will be submitted to Hamilton County for their review and action.

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.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bedinghaus to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Ms. Hausfeld seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

MAYOR, Mr. Stuchell – This Wednesday I had the pleasure of swearing in the newest member of our police department, Brenden Blair. He is also certified as a firefighter and EMT and we look forward to the residents getting to know him. We have a conditional offer that has been extended to another individual pending the required psychological evaluation and the physical that is required for the Police and Fire Pension Board. We will have a ceremonial swearing in for our new hires in July.

Just a reminder, that Dangerous Jim and the Slims will be playing in the pavilion on Saturday, July 17 from 7:30 to 10:30 during the family night at the pool So, come down and enjoy some good music in the heart of St. Bernard. Remember to bring your lawn chairs and coolers.

AUDITOR, Mrs Brickweg – The Auditor’s office has prepared Ordinance 15 and Resolution 4 for tonight’s meeting. Ordinance 15 creates the new line item:

07-10 Orchard Street Road Project

It also provides additional appropriations to the following:

01-2-O-8C Building Maintenance City Hall \$30,000.00  
01-8-A-2 Building Maintenance Safety Center \$10,000.00  
01-58-7A Concerts \$1,500.00  
01-58-9 Community Events \$40,000.00  
50-01 Employee Accumulated Sick Pay \$70,000.00

Resolution 4 authorizes the Service Director to file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, NatureWorks Grant. If the Village receives the grant, it will use it to install an all-weather track at Lower Ross Park

LAW DIRECTOR, Mrs. VanValkenber/Walden - No report.

TREASURER, Mr. Ungruhe – This evening I have the bank from Star Ohio account that we have with State of Ohio. The total at the end of May we \$5,320,122.03.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Paul – There is a sewer leak in right center of Frank Robinson Field. MSD has been called and verified that it is theirs. They will repair it as soon as possible. Some games may have to be rescheduled. Coming from the south on Tower Avenue the sidewalk on the left will be temporarily closed as they are going to pour new cement for the right of way. Please be tolerant and patient.

To My Community,

Lots of times we do not have the answers, proper advice or know the right direction. Lots of times we think we are the only ones who do though. Lots of times life can prove us wrong. Lots of times we lose control of something we never had control in the first place. Seek out harmony in each moment or lots of time you will find that a lot of your time was spent in turmoil.

TAX ADMINISTRATOR/DIRECTOR, Mrs. Helmes –

Greetings everyone, attached are the monthly receipts/reports for May 2021.

- Tax collections for May: \$755,493.00.
  - Tax refunds for May: \$-34,767.00
  - The Village is up 29.65% in tax revenue from May of 2020. This is mostly due to the shift in the tax filing due date change to May 17th.
  - Payments from the e-file system for April/May: \$18,363.
  - \$2,034.31 in delinquent tax was collected with Capital Recovery.
  - \$681.30 in delinquent tax was collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office
- \*\*\*\*\*I wanted to remind everyone that if you fail to file your tax return the law allows for an assessment of your taxes and, that you only have 60 days from the notice that is sent to adjust that balance. After 60 days, your tax balance is

finalized, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office will contact you for payment and/or garnishment.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FINANCE, Mr. Tobergte – I have reserved the Main level hall for a meet the candidates night of Thursday, October 7 at 7:00. Council and school board candidates will be invited.

SAFETY, Mr. Ray Culbertson – The last reminder of the upcoming Block Watch meeting is Thursday, June 24 at 6:00pm. Main Level of the Municipal Building. I would like to welcome Brenden Blair as our newest Police Officer to St. Bernard. And I'd also like to thank and congratulate Bill Gierhart who is concluding his work here in the Village in the next few days.

SERVICE, Mr. Schildmeyer – No report.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT, Mr. Bob Culbertson – No report.

LAWS CONTRACTS, AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Our committee met on June 3 to discuss Airbnb rentals in the Village. Mayor Stuchell spoke to some concerns that had come to him and other Village Council members relating to how the Airbnb's were being utilized mainly around parties and number of people occupying the rental at one time.

There was an owner of an Airbnb present to discuss process for renting and guidelines they have to put into place for their renters. It was very good information that helped those of us who were not aware of how those rentals work. Our Law Director had copies of ordinances that were established by other cities to ensure fire codes, occupancy numbers ,etc. were being met for these type of rentals.

Mayor Stuchell will continue discussion with the Law Director as to ordinance recommendations and bring this back to the Committee.

MARKETING, Mrs. Miller – I would like to let the residents know that the schedule of events pertaining to the German Luau will be published in the July 2021 newsletter. Again, as mentioned at the COW we are working on our Facebook page for the event and are hoping to have the page published by tomorrow however it is starting to lean more towards Monday for publishing while we work out some last-minute kinks. In other news, Farmers Insurance was our featured business profile in the June 2021 Newsletter. Ms. Andrea Queale offers

auto, home, life, business, and commercial insurance right here in St. Bernard since 2007. Andrea is not only a business owner here in town but also a resident. Check out the June newsletter for the full write up for Farmers Insurance

Some recreation updates

Arts and Crafts is in full swing on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays down at Vine St Park from 10am to 2PM

The St. Bernard Stingrays have started their 2021 swim season, I would like to wish all of our swimmers luck. Their first home meet is scheduled for June 22nd down at the St. Bernard Community pool

One last reminder the historical society program is still scheduled to occur on June 21st at 7:00PM in the St. Bernard Municipal Building-Main Level. Please join them for their presentation of St. Bernard Pharmacies. Members are free there is a \$5 charge for nonmembers.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

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

Committee of the Whole

June 10, 2021

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.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to approve the written minutes of the May 20, 2021 Council Meeting. Council approved 7-0.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell – A zoning problem was brought to Council that will have to have two public hearings before any consideration can be made.

The Mayor thanked everyone that came out for the Memorial Ceremony to honor those that sacrificed everything in the service to their country.

One of our Police officers will be sworn in and introductions will be made.

An attorney will be utilized in helping with any changes to the charter.

The Laws, Contracts and Claims committee is still exploring the airbnb in the city.

A concert will be added this summer, Saturday July 17, from 7:00 to 11:00 pm.

Auditor, Mrs. Brickweg – The Auditor’s Office provided the end of May revenue and expense spreadsheets to Council and the Administration. At the end of May the Village revenues were \$4,969,316.38 and the expenses were \$4,000,403.23.

After last week’s payroll there is only \$5,592.77 remaining in 50-01 Employee Accumulated Sick Pay. I would like to ask Council for an ordinance to provide an additional \$70,000.00 into this line. We have another employee retiring at the end of this month. I would also like to create the new line item for the Orchard Road Project and this can be included in the same ordinance.

I provided everyone with Resolution #4, 2021 and they want projections for all the playground equipment before July 31, 2021.

Paul Schildmeyer applied for a grant for our playground equipment.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to put an Ordinance and the table for funds to meet the needs for this equipment. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to put Resolution No. 4, 2021 on the table for the next Council Meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

The projected budget for 2022 has been submitted to Council,

Just a reminder that there will be a public hearing on the 2022 budget before the June 20, 2021 Council Meeting, starting at 7: 00pm.

Director of Law, Mrs. VanValkenberg/Walden - I will continue to work with the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee concerning the airbnb. I would like to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus. to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Motion passed 7-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe - I have the balance for the First State Bank for the Fourth of July Memorial Fund. The total there is \$5,657.98.

Service/Safety Director, Mr. Paul – Landfill quarterly readings are still at zero. This is good, The next step will be to go to semi-annual as soon as we can get EPA approval.

I would like to congratulate Ed Kallmeyer for being promoted to Foreman. He and I will build a relationship that will continue the wonderful services the Village is accustomed to. I have faith that we will get it done.

I would like the following appropriation to be made;

Line 2-O-8C \$30,000.00. Our fire alarm system has been damaged. Initial diagnosis lightning or power surge. The main panel has burned completely out. That being said, our system is over 20 years old which means parts are hard to find. Total for this project is \$21,530.40. Since we are opening up ceiling panels etc. now would be the time to replace the HVAC jace system. This is the system that allows for heating and cooling adjustments. Our current system runs off of Internet Explorer which is no longer supported. That quote was \$6,000.00.

Line 8-A-2 Safety Building. We have multiple plumbing leaks and ceiling tiles that need to be replaces. They also have an old jace system that needs to be replaced. The price is the same. I already have lost control of their HVAC. \$10,000.00.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to add these two line items to the Ordinance. Motion passed 7-0.

The street poles are no longer allowed to hang anything on them because they belong to Duke so there are no speed limit signs on them.

Safety, Mr. Ray Culbertson – Another reminder, the next Block Watch will be on Thursday, June 24, at 6:00pm on the main level of the Municipal Building.

Service, Mr. Schildmeyer - I have the service Department report for May 2021. There were 34 trucks placed at residences, 23 dumpsters placed at residences, 402 special pick-ups at residences and 215 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. For recycling: 35.41 tons of recycling taken to the landfill, 40 pounds of scrap aluminum, 27 pounds of copper, and 2,020 pounds of scrap metal.

The Village of St. Bernard diverted 421.15 tons and achieved a 15.67 diversion rate for 2020. We did receive a check for \$8,447.85 for this recycling.

Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson – This week we ended up closing on the First State Bank, the CIC did acquire that property this week. The next CIC meeting is June 29 at 6:00pm.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Our Committee did meet last week to discuss mostly the airbnb. I will give a report next Council meeting stating a summary of what was said.

We are still working on the anti-discriminatory Ordinance and there will be three options on which to vote on. If Council did not have a chance to read through it, they still have time before the next Town Hall meeting

Marketing, Mrs. Miller – The Historical Society is having a program on June 21 at 7:00 in the Main Level of the Municipal Building.

Bricks are available for Frank Robinson Field.

The second annual Luau will take place in August.

Ordinances and Resolutions for the next Council meeting

1. Resolution No. 4. 2021 – apply for a grant for the department of natural resources.

2. An Ordinance for additional appropriations

The next Council meeting will be next Thursday, June 17 and we will begin with the public hearing on the 2022 budget.

Council went into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to accept the settlement for the pending litigation. motion passed 7-0.

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

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 4, 2021. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO FILE AN APPLIICATION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 4 2021. Motion passed 7-0,

## **REMARKS**

A small change, it reads “city” not “village” at the bottom of the page.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to amend Resolution No. 4, 2021. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson to adopt Resolution No. 4, 2021 as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 15 2021. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO CREATE A NEW LINE ITEM AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 15, 2021. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 15, 2021 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The south side of the Tower, from Franklin Park to Washington Avenue will be cemented.

The details have not been worked out yet for the concert whether the pool will be open.

We have not received any money from services to Elmwood Place because more information was needed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There will be a Ben Strone Giveback Blood Drive on Friday, July 23 from 1:00 until 7:00 pm at St. Bernard Municipal Building. You can schedule an appointment by calling 513-451-0910 on the website provided; ‘Many adventures of Ben Strong Facebook page’ the flyer will have a link to schedule. Thank you in advance for supporting this cause.

## **AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

A member of the audience invited all members of Council to take a more active role in the Newsletter.



Mr. Asbach – The next COW meeting will be July 8, at 7:00p and the next Council meeting will be July 22 at 7:00.

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