

THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD

COUNCIL MEETING

April 27th, 2023

The St. Bernard Village Council Meeting was held on April 27th, 2023, in Council Chambers.

The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call showed all members of Council were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Brickweg, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Bob Culbertson, Ms. Bedinghaus, Mr. Ray Culbertson, and Mr. Schildmeyer.

A motion by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to dispense with the reading of the written minutes of the last council meeting. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes stand as submitted.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Most of you probably heard my lengthy call command last night but there is some important information that can be found in the special edition of the newsletter. I do feel it is worth repeating. May 2nd is election day and early voting is currently open at Hamilton County Board of Elections. Amendments to the Village Charter are on this ballot. Please keep in mind the two important changes when voting on May 2nd. First, you will need a valid unexpired driver's license or photo ID to vote. Second, the voting location for this election has been moved to Centennial Hall in the lower-level City Hall due to the renovation being made to the Main Hall. The only valid forms of ID to vote are, an Ohio Driver's License, an Ohio State ID, a current US Passport, a US Military ID, an Ohio National Guard ID, or a US Veteran Affairs ID. All identification must be unexpired. An interim ID from the Ohio BMV is acceptable. You may no longer use any of the following ID's: A utility bill, a bank statement, a government or payroll check, a student ID, or a concealed carry license. Anyone who does not currently have a valid photo ID for voting can get a free Ohio State ID card from any BMV office. Please check with friends, family and neighbors to make sure everyone is prepared for these changes. If you need help gathering documents or need a voter ID, contact the non-partisan organization Vote Riders at 866-ID-2VOTE or go to voteriders.org. I'd like to welcome 2 new patrol officers to the St. Bernard Police Department. I look forward to introduction you all and them to our wonderful community. We also have another officer to start in about three weeks. I'd also like to thank Don Tobergte and all of the caring folks with our annual Clean Up St. Bernard Day. We did a great job and there was a noticeable difference in the community. Thank you all and we may be having another event in a few months. I will be meeting with Alloy Development tomorrow on potential Hamilton County Economic and Community Development project funding for the Village and keep you all updated. Tom will be mentioning the parks in his report, but I wanted to mention all the improvements that are currently happening simultaneously. Seven of our nine parks are under construction with complete equipment replacement. The Pavilion is currently being renovated and resurfaced to have 2 no skid basketball courts and two pickleball courts along with a

complete paint job with all new electrical service, lighting and sound. The Mail Hall in the municipal building is currently being renovated which will continue into Council Chambers with a complete makeover. We are also currently getting bids to upgrade our audio system in Council Chambers and the installation of a large monitor for presentations. The current system is beyond repair. Lastly, I've had the pleasure of working through another contract with Local 450 representing our Fire Department. It was a pleasure working with them and I appreciate their engagement. I would also like to be put on the agenda for the next COW, the addition of a Fire Marshall position for the St. Bernard Fire Department, and also the mounting of the tablet from our old City Hall on the front of our current building. The Historical Society has been working on this and I'd like to share this vision with you. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- The Auditor's office has prepared Ordinance 13 2023 for tonight's vote. In this ordinance for additional appropriations is as follows.

01-2-K-6	Insurance	\$10,000.00
01-2-O-12	Plastic Liners & Recycle Bins	\$16,000.00
01-2-O-13	Service Dept. Equipment Outlay	\$64,000.00
01-2-P	Professional Services	\$36,000.00
01-8-A-2	Building Maintenance Safety Center	\$7,500.00

Director of Law, Ms. Van Valkenburg- I have prepared Ordinance 14 2023 for tonight. This ordinance authorizes the mayor to execute a settlement for litigation. I would recommend its passage tonight so we can conclude the litigation. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- No report.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Paul- B&G food came to help with our parks again this year. The volunteers mulched all the workout stations along the walking trail. They also helped pick up the litter and trash. Thank you for the great gesture to and for our community. The playgrounds have been started with some nearly completed. Shipping has been a little slow on certain parts but we are still moving along and the playgrounds should be usable shortly. To My Community: As we move into another season, most of us question where has the time gone? The next thought should be, what have I done with my time? Did I help in making someone smile? Or ease them out of a troublesome pattern? Hopefully laughter was involved. It's the little things that you do for one another that create good times. These good times can turn into the time of your life. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- March tax collections:

- Tax collections for March 2023: \$1,909,302.
- March 2023 is up 8.57% from March 2022.
- Sharon and I want to thank the community for a smooth tax filing day last week. It will take us several weeks to audit the tax returns that were submitted, so please be patient.
- Many letters are being sent to people who filed with our e-file system but did not attach the required supporting documentation. We are missing W2's and/or the federal 1040 page 1-3.
- E-file users can go back into their file and attach these to the tax return or submit them by paper. Your tax return cannot be audited and processed without this documentation.

- Letters are also going out to taxpayers regarding Estimated payments for 2023. If you owe \$200 or more from a previous year tax balance, you are required, by law, to pay estimated taxes quarterly for 2023. The first quarter for 2023 was due on April 18, 2023. Please call the office if you need additional information. Thank you, that concludes my report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Tobergte- Thank you to everyone who helped for Clean Up St. Bernard Day. The only disturbing fact was most of the garbage was on private property. Hopefully it can be taken care of by the property owner from now on.

Safety, Mr. Brickweg- Tonight I have the March police report. So, for the month of March, the Police Department had 747 calls for service resulting in 651 contacts, and an additional 427 other service details that were not called in by the public. These calls included 39 total criminal offenses and resulted in 129 criminal arrests. There were 86 traffic citations and 101 traffic warnings. Police also responded to 19 accidents. Officer Terry Hockshied began his role as the SRO for the school district on April 14th. Also, each of our new hires have prior experience and are a welcomed addition to our department. St. Bernard Police and Fire Association will hold their golf outing on May 20th at Winton Woods Golf Course. They are looking for volunteers to assist with the event. Anyone interested in a foursome or interested in helping a hand please contact Chief Simos or Chief Young.

Service, Ms. Hausfeld- Tonight I have the Service Department report for March 2023. There were 31 trucks place at residences, 25 dumpsters, 140 special pickups, 172 tons of garbage taken to the landfill, 4 30-yard roll offs dumpsters, and 2 30-yard roll offs dumpsters of yard waste. There were also 29.3 tons of recycling material, and 8,280 pounds of scrape metal. February waste collection was \$27,396.09 remitted to the Village.

Public Improvements, Mr. Bob Culbertson- No report.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Ms. Bedinghaus- No report.

Marketing, Mr. Ray Culbertson- The next program by the historical society will be about the Civil War Soldiers of St. Bernard. This will be presented by Kay Heller Philips and take placed on Monday, May 15th at 7:00pm. A reminder for organizations and individuals operating a booth at this year's German Luau need to complete and submit their applications by Monday, May 15th. Please contact City Hall with any questions. I would like to thank the mayor and Mr. Tobergte for their Clean Up St. Bernard Day. I would also like to thank Lily Middendorf for her work with the Mathew 25 Ministries for the disaster relief collections.

Business and Industry, Mr. Schildmeyer- No report.

Committee of the Whole, Ms. Stegman- Minutes for the last COW were submitted April 26th and I have no communications this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 11, 2023

ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT AGREED UPON BY AND BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD AND LOCAL NO. 450, ST. BERNARD FIRE FIGHTERS UNION, I.A.F.F., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- I do have one clarification. The printed copies of the contract were placed in all of your boxes. There is a clarification on page 10, Section 6b. This clarification doesn't change the spirit of the actual line, but it is clarifying when staffing falls to 6 firefighters due to a Kelly day, a Vacation day, and a Longevity day, or sick leave, the clarification was for more than 2 shifts, the Village agrees to use ASPT to for the 6th firefighter for the day. So, the clarification on overtime was to our benefit and was caught by members of Local 450. This was approved by our department and Local 450.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 11 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adopt Ordinance 11 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 12, 2023

FIXING THE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS FOR BOTH THE POLICE AND FIRE CHIEF OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD AS OF APRIL 27, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- There is a modification to the ordinance from what was originally sent out. It would make this ordinance be retroactive back to January 1st, 2023.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 12 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adopt Ordinance 12 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 13, 2023

AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mr. Ray Culbertson, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 12 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adopt Ordinance 12 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 14, 2023

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT SETTLING LITIGATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Council Member, Ms. Bedinghaus- I would just like for the citizens to understand this piece of the litigation that was brought forth on June 6th, 2022. A complaint was filed by Nicole Klungle in the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas against the Village of St. Bernard City Council, Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee, the Committee on Committees, the St. Bernard Civil Service Commission and members of the current Village Council each acting in their respectful official capacities. Alleging defendant committed certain violations of the Ohio Revised Code, which violations the defendants have denied, and whereas all parties to the litigation wish to resolve this matter, we have reached an agreement to terminate the litigation. Litigation was in the total amount of \$9,000.00. Yes, we do have insurance that covered most of it, but again it was still a liability to the city. I just wanted the citizens to realize that.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 14 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adopt Ordinance 14 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE 15 2023

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH McCLUSKEY CHEVROLETE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW DUMP TRUCK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 15 2023. Motion masses 7-0.

Motion made by Ms. Bedinghaus, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adopt Ordinance 15 2023. Motion passes 7-0.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Is there anyone who has anything under new business? Old Business?

Council Member, Mr. Tobergte- Tom, are you accepting phone calls for grass violations? Some yards are 2 or 3 foot tall already. Also, the house on Greenlee, when will that be torn down?

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Paul- We started 2 weeks ago we started getting complaints, so Robert is in town.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- The 28th is actually the expiration of the notice. There are two liens on the property, and we have not received a respond from the lien holders, but we are nearing the process. The next part will be moving forward for bids.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Is there anyone in the audience wishing to address Council this evening?

Mathew Durbin, 36 Baker- I would like to thank all the fire departments that responded to two house fires within the course of a month on Baker. Thank you to those who are quickly putting out those fires.

The next Committee of the Whole will be Thursday, May 11th, 2023, at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

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

Council meeting is adjourned.