

**THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Council Chambers.

Roll call showed all seven members were present: Mr. Moreton, Mr. Stuchell, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Schildmeyer, Mr. Culbertson, and Mr. Estep.

Public Hearing begins.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Mr. Stuchell introduced Jennifer Vatter, our longtime advisor from JMA Consultants, who assisted in the public hearing regarding the CDBG Funding.

Jennifer Vatter, JMA Consultants- Jennifer spoke about the Community Development Block Grant Program, which is administered by Hamilton County. There is a three-year cycle, so every three years communities are able to apply for certain projects that are eligible for the grant funds. The grant issued for St. Bernard is for the years of 2024, 2025, and 2026. The projects must be done within an eligible area which is defined by Block Group, who goes off census data. Typically, the funds are used for street improvements and the community must meet their requirements due to the grant being federal funds. With the village's size and median household income, we were issued with \$130,000 in the last three-year cycle. If residents have any questions or would like to add input to a project or project idea, please contact Peggy Brickweg. Applications are due in by April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell-Confirmed the next public hearing is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> before the council meeting to discuss the CDBG funding and the upcoming projects including the parks, mainly Lower Ross Park to build a track. We also need to work on the field lighting and the retaining wall.

Public Hearing concludes.

Committee of the Whole begins.

A moment of silence was given for Jerry Shipp, former Service Department employee and Carolyn Ungruhe who passed away. Carolyn was the City Clerk for 31 years and first Councilwoman.

A motion by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to approve the written minutes of the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, council meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

**REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS**

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thanked Jennifer Vatter for her presentation. I will be providing a sample contract for the Safety and Service Director position and the search process has begun for the position. Thanked the Fire, Police and Service Departments for their help during the recent

storms. We are working with EMA to assist with the flood prone subdivision and working with MSD to solve the flooding issues of Redwood Ave and Woodside Heights. Thanked Emmanuel United Church of Christ of the invitation to be their guest speaker at the Bookworm Diner. If you want to recycle your eclipse glasses, please drop them in the drop box at City Hall before April 19th.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Absent.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- Received tonight was a letter from the Ohio Department of Commerce regarding liquor license. The deadline for any objections to the retail liquor permits must be filed and post marked no later than May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. The signed for the engine brakes and/or jake brakes are covered under our noise ordinance. I want to check with the Chief of Police to get his opinion and see how we want to proceed.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Estep, to place and ordinance or resolution on the table for the no engine brake signs for the next council meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- The STAR Ohio balance at the end of February was \$11,126,958.53. Thanked the Service Department for fixing the fallen wire hit by a moving van, in his front yard.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- Absent.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance, Mr. Moreton- Thank you Mr. President. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17th at 6 PM in the Lower Level of City Hall to discuss upcoming appropriations and a depreciation schedule for large village assets. Thank you to those who attended April's Community Connect. We discussed a variety of topics including pedestrian safety, council responsibilities, and committee definitions. If you couldn't make it to this Community Connect to share a concern or have any suggestions for the next location, please contact me at [cmoreton@cityofstbernard.org](mailto:cmoreton@cityofstbernard.org).

Service, Mr. Stuchell- Stating April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the dog park down at Ross Park will be closed for maintenance. They will level the ground and fill the holes. The dog park will be closed for a few weeks. Please join us for Clean Up St. Bernard Day April 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm to 3:00pm.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- No report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- Reported the Fire Department report for February 2024. Total of 4 structure fires, 5 other fires. 9 Auto accidents, 2 Hazmat incidents, 4 service calls, 8 fire alarms and 8 EMS assists. EMS incidents totaled 70 including 5 Elmwood Place incidents. The Police report for February 2024 has 667 calls for service resulting in 487 contacts with 483 other service details that were not called in by the public. A Safety meeting was held Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. I will have more information and minutes by the next council meeting.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- The next Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting will be held Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm, following the CIC meeting, in Council Chambers. On the agenda are the topics of Short and Long Term Rentals, Weeds Ordinance, Golf Cart Community and Council Attendance Policy.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- The St. Bernard Garden Club will be hosting their first annual Beautify St. Bernard competition. Residents and businesses are invited to compete for the most beautiful front yard. Your design can be formal, seasonal, or natural. The contest will run from July 14th through July 31st, and you must enter your yard by June 23rd to [kennethprice916@yahoo.com](mailto:kennethprice916@yahoo.com). There will be maps of competing yards and ballots can be entered via the Garden Clubs website or by hand at City Hall.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- I am inviting representatives from the 2 high schools to share with us what is going on in their schools and districts. Dr. Webb will be joining us on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the next council meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Hausfeld, seconded by Mr. Estep, to place an ordinance or resolution, if needed, on the table for next council meeting regarding the state liquor permit. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting is adjourned.