

VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD
COUNCIL MEETING

May 23rd, 2024

The St. Bernard Village Council Meeting was held on May 23rd, 2024, in Council Chambers.

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

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

Steve Schad, President of Roger Bacon- Hi, I am Steve Shade. I've been at Roger Bacon for 13th years. We graduate in a week and I'm still standing, so I'm very happy, man. My first twelve years, I was the principal, and this year was the first year that I was president. I don't have as much contact with the kids this year like I normally do, and that's kind of the downside of the job. But as I told her senior class today, the upside of the job is I got to see Roger Bacon and our kids through the eyes of a lot of alum business leaders and it's been a very rewarding experience. So, I'm glad I'm here tonight. I was told I have 10 minutes. I'll try not to go over 10 minutes. Someone throws something at me if I go a little longer. I don't have a lot of prepared remarks. I'm going to speak from right here, because I've been at Roger Bacon 13 years, and I ought to be able to speak without reading from notes. I did make a couple notes though, because when I started off, I wanted just to say thank you and thank you to Saint Bernard. I don't know if you noticed it, but when Roger Bacon plays in any tournaments, we always play against teams like Cincinnati Wyoming, Cincinnati Moeller or Cincinnati Walnut Hills. We are always referred to as Saint Bernard Roger Bacon. And so, we have a long history, obviously we're just about to graduate our 96th class and I wrote down some things and that I wanted to start off by saying how grateful Roger Bacon is to be in this community. We've been working with the mayor regarding our student safety and crosswalks, I can't tell you how appreciative we are of this council in this town, and they care about our students. We appreciate it. We work hard with Frank Robinson Field and the tennis courts. We provide continual financial aid to help maintain those assets and we love them. Partnering with the village and Saint Bernard High School to get some improvements to lower Ross Park Field. And so, we're part of that. We love it. I hope we work well with Saint Bernard High School. I can tell you we work a lot with the financial department of the district. And I thank God every day that we're in Saint Bernard because I hear horror stories from other Catholic schools, and we do not have that issue in Saint Bernard. And I'm very, very happy for that. We share facilities and we are so glad to have a new swimming pool. Our football field we share as well. And again, we're working with together on Ross Park. We utilize a lot of local businesses. Our cafeteria, we have Bigby, Skyline, and LaRosa's. Seniors off campus days, we push them towards businesses in Saint Bernard. We also have a thriving business with Dairy Queen. Life is good. We just finished our Go local day and we've been doing that for a number of years. We send our faculty and our students out into Saint Bernard to help with village and help the residents, to help make Saint Bernard a better place. We take care of our campus and our grounds. We understand that we are at the gateway of Saint Bernard. When people come into Saint Bernard, we are one of the first people they see. And so, I

hope that you see a building that is well taken care of. And I also hope that when our kids are out around town or athletic teams are using facilities, we take care of them. We take a lot of pride in them. We take care of them. What I like most is. I know that our kids and our kids know this, that when they're out in town, if they don't behave like they should, we get phone calls and we respond very rapidly. Roger Bacon in right now, is experiencing a renaissance. 13 years ago, on my first day on the job, I met a teacher walking out the door. I said, why are you leaving? And they said, well, we heard Roger Bacon is going to close and merge with Purcell. We got down as low as 367 kinds. Now, we have 521 students. Our incoming freshman class is 159. We had to say no. To 193 kids who applied to Roger Bacon we had to say no to. We simply don't have room for them. Additionally, right now. Right now, we have 122 applications for kids to transfer into Roger Bacon from other high schools. Will take 5. That's all we can take. That's all the room that we have. We do not recruit at public schools. 89% of our kids come from Catholic schools. We have a moral obligation to provide a landing spot for kids from Catholic schools, but more than half of the transfers are from public schools. I think the new EdChoice scholarship program where everybody receives a voucher, a scholarship, has opened the door to Roger Bacon, to a lot of people who may not be able to afford it. At this particular point, we're full. When I talk about Roger Bacon, I talk about my kids. When you come to Roger Bacon, you're going to hear kids say please and thank you and open doors. These are courtesies. When I was growing up, there were expectations, and somewhere in our society, we've lost those. You'll find them at Roger Bacon. I get asked to describe the student body and I say it's a kinder and gentler student body. I've been there 13 years. We haven't had a fight in 13 years. That is just not who we are. Is so much more than academics. 1/3 of my kids live in poverty and below and I tell people that when you come to Roger Bacon, I think one of the reasons that we are being overwhelmed right now with people coming to Roger Bacon is not academics. Our academics are strong. But you can go to any Catholic school and get a get a good education. In fact, if you want a good education, you could go to a public school and get a great education. People are coming to Roger Bacon for other reasons. I think they're coming to Roger Bacon because it's a safe place. It's a place where we teach traditional morals and values and I think the parents now more than anything are looking for that for their kids. We have a senior retreat called Kairos. I had a student tell me they hate it when Roger Bacon calls off school because it is the one place I feel safe. Roger Bacon is a landing spot for a lot of kids, and they know they have value. I believe when you know you have value you treat yourself and others differently. That is why people come to Roger Bacon. We are so much more than academics and I am very happy about that. If you want to know Roger Bacon, come walk the halls and stick your head in any classroom you want. It is an incredible place to be right now. I have this picture up here and this is something we are working towards. Roger Bacon in 2028 will celebrate its 100th anniversary. We plan to break ground in March of 2025. It will be the start of an atrium. We are building this atrium and a few reasons. The first is student safety. We thank God the police department and fire department are so close to our door, but you still have to think about safety. So, we are moving our administration out of the main building so when school starts, we can lock down the main building and limit access to the student body. The second reason is we will have more room for classrooms which means more students. We will be able to add four more classrooms and four more teachers. Our student teacher ratio is 12 to 1. The third reason is to add a chapel. In Roger Bacon's history, they have never had a chapel. One third of our kids are not catholic but they find their religious footprint at Roger Bacon. The chapel will seat 160 students and it will become an exclamation point for our first 100 years. Roger Bacon will be here for the next 100 years. About five years ago, our kids

started cleaning up after games. No one told them to do this, they just started doing it. We played a tournament in Waynesville, and I met the superintendent in the middle of the field. He looked over my shoulder and said, "What are your kids doing?" They were cleaning up the stands. I told him Roger Bacon does that. This is what we do. I had people tell me they had never seen that before. It's small little things like that. I tell them to respect the things you have been given. Respect yourself. Respect your community. We absolutely love being in Saint Bernard and we love being in this village. We cherish it and we work hard to have and keep a good relationship. So, that is Roger Bacon. Life is good.

A motion by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, 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-I just want to get it on immediate update on the water main breaks that are on Bank Ave. and Harvey Court. Waterworks and the fire department have been on scene, working to make the necessary repairs. Access to Bank Ave. and the adjoining streets have been restricted. We're asking that residents parked in the shopping center parking lot, those who are not able to walk to and from their homes, the fire department has a gator on scene, and they'll be gladly transport you to and from your homes and they also be gladly to bring you bottled water if necessary. Again, up until roughly 9:30 or 10 o'clock you're welcome to call 513-200-6740 for assistance if you need transportation or bottled water. If you've been affected by the water main break, there will be a 36-hour boil water for water needed for drinking or cooking purposes once service has been restored. Would be honoring those who made the opening sacrifice on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th at 10:00 AM. The lower-level parking lot. Light refreshments will also be available as well. The CIC is voting for four positions on the May 28th meeting, which will be held in Council Chambers at 6:00 PM. We currently have four seats up for election and one open seat. If you would like to be considered as a candidate, you will be given 5 to 10 minutes to discuss themselves and what they have to offer as a potential candidate for a board member position on CIC. If interested please contact Jonathan Stuchell, CIC President at either 513-543-3780 or mayor@cityofsaintbernard.org. I'm also asking for your support on ordinance 17 2024 which allows me to enter into a contract with the desired candidate for the position of Director of Service and Public Services Safety. This candidate will bring a wealth of knowledge to the community, and he is also an attorney in contracts labor and human resources. We're offering him a compensation package of a \$130,000 base salary, a 10% pension pickup and a \$600.00 per month vehicle allowance. This person will be a tremendous asset to the village, and it is desperately needed. I'm also asking for support of ordinance 16, 15 and 14. Thank you. That concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- The Auditor's office has prepared ordinance 13 2024 which is for additional appropriations of: 01-2-E-3 Tax Refunds \$200,000.00 01-2-O-8C City Hall Maintenance \$10,000.00 01-2-0-80 Garage Maintenance \$4,000.00 01-2-0-9 Equipment Maintenance \$10,000.00 01-2-0-10 Park Maintenance \$20,000.00 01-5-A-5 City Hall Supplies \$1,000.00. I also prepared ordinance 16 2024 which gives an additional appropriation of \$450,000 which will be for the street sweeper \$251,545 and a loader at \$251,545. The Finance

Committee met, and it is much smarter to go ahead and pay these outright than to go for the financing. And as I said, if we're going to go for financing, I'd rather use that with larger Rd. projects which we are usually 0% interest. I am working on the summer budget, and I am hoping to have that for you by the June 27th meeting. That concludes my report.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- No report.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- No report.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Paul- No report.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- The tax office will be closed all day on June 4th, 2024. The drop box and city hall will be open. If you have any correspondence or payments just place them in the drop box with your phone number on the envelope and I will get back to you. Sharon and I are still working on the 2023 tax returns from April 15. There are many e-filers getting letters sent to them due to missing required documents from their tax filing. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Tax Statistics:

Delinquent tax due with various collection agencies.

Ohio Attorney General: \$1,121,510.84

Capital Recovery: \$45,231.57

Active Judgements: \$75,511.85

Open balances that have 30 days or less before it is sent to collections: \$57,331.65.

Pending Assessments to become final on June 1, 2024: \$100,658.43.

Total delinquent tax under a step: \$1,400,244.00.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Moreton- The Finance Committee met again last week to discuss the replacement of some of the Villages large assets, including a fire truck unloader and street sweeper. I want to say thank you to Forman Middendorf and Mayor Stuchell for attending and presenting various options for each of these large assets. The Finance Committee reviewed and agreed that we should. Forward with the purchase of a street sweeper and unloader to ensure both the safety of our service department employees and efficiency of the great work that they do for our village. Those needed expenses are represented in Ordinances 14, 15 and 16 tonight. Thus, the committee recommends their approval by Council. I also had the privilege to be a member of the search committee to fill the Safety Service Director position. I'm thankful for all the applicants we interviewed, especially the candidate whose contract is represented in Ordinance 17 tonight. This is an incredible step for our village given this candidate's extensive experience. And of course, I also want to say thank you to Tommy for his service to our village and for giving this new joiner a truly great foundation and then some on top of that. I truly hope that he can enjoy retirement to its fullest. June's Community Connect is on Thursday, June 6th from 5:30 to 6:30 PM at 5 Star Mediterranean. As always, all of those who live or work in the village are more than welcome to

attend and share any questions, concerns, or celebrations. Hopefully we'll have some nicer weather this time around, Warrant Dairy Queen afterwards. And that concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- I have the waste collection fees. For the month of March 2020, four \$25,861.20 was remitted to the village. For the month of April 2024, the service department had 35 dump trucks placed at their residence, 27 dumpsters placed at residence, 307 special pickups from residents, 231.86 tons of garbage to the landfill, 26.9 tons of recycling material collected, 200 lbs. of aluminum cans collected, 6 car batteries collected, 7,180 lbs. of scrap metal collected, and 260 tires were also collected. The Service Department will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day. Trash collection for the that week will be as follows. Monday collection will be shifted to Tuesday and normal Tuesday collection will be shifted to Wednesday. Trash recycling collection for Thursday and Friday will remain unchanged. Thank you to everyone who came out to the Shred Day this past Saturday. We collected around 4,000 pounds of documents for shredding. Thank you to the Boy Scouts for helping and volunteering their time. That concludes my report.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- There was no need for a Public Improvement Committee meeting this month, but I would like to report on the May 20th St. Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Society meeting. This month was very interesting program on Crosley Field, presented by David Trauth of the Museum Center. It was about an hour-long program attended by about 50 people. This program covered the beginnings of the Cincinnati Reds and all the park ballparks that played in, including the palace of the fans that Ross Park is modeled after. Next month's program will be about the Railroad Ave. community. Will be presented by Kay Heller Phillips. This should be a fascinating program on how this area has changed in the last 80 years. It's easy to have pride in our community if we know our history. I encourage both young and old to attend. Next month's program will be June 17th at 7:00 PM in the main hall of the Municipal Building. I would also like to congratulate the U-10 girls softball team that again this year was undefeated at 12-0 and that's 22-0 the last two seasons. I would also like to thank the coaches Kim and Jason Martin and Chris Edwards for giving their time to build these memories for these girls. I would also like to thank their parents, families and umpires to choose to get involved to make our village so special. I would also like to congratulate the U-10 boys soccer team for finishing their season at 7-1. I would like to also thank Samantha and Patrick Morris and Ben Carle for coaching these young men to such a great season Thank you, coaches, for committing so much of your time to this team. Saint Bernard is proud of all our athletes on both teams. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- have the same. Fire Department monthly report for April 2024 fire incidents. Structural fires were nine, other fires were five. Auto accidents 9, Hazmat 2, service calls 10, fire alarms 13, EMS assistance 18 for a total of 66. Mutual aid given was Elmwood Place 7, Norwood 2, Springfield Township 2, Lockland 2 and Delhi 1. Mutual aid received with zero. EMS Incidence transports 54, Non transports 59, Total of 113. Mutual aid received from Cincinnati 1. All units completed May Day operation training. Saint Bernard Fire Department provided a chili luncheon for Hamilton County Communications Center on April the 17th in appreciation of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Week. That concludes my report.

Laws, Contract and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- The Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee met on April 23rd. On the agenda was short- and long-term rental program language, weed and trash ordinance, and the Council attendance policy following that meeting. The Law Director has worked through revised language on all three of those issues. Our next meeting is set for June 5th at 7:00pm down in the Centennial Hall. The goal of that meeting is to come out of the meeting with revised language for all three of those that we can then bring to council for recommendations. I'd also like to thank Mr. Schad for coming and presenting to us. Certainly, we are fortunate to have Roger Bacon in our community. We appreciate it. That concludes my report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- I'd like to start out by thanking the Garden Club for planting the flowers along Vine Street in the front of the square. I'd also like to thank Layla Keiner and everyone else that helped with the Fresh Market this past weekend. The Aquatic Center opens this weekend on Saturday through Monday and then daily operations begin on Saturday, June 1st. Hours are remaining 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM daily. The first Aquatic Family Night of the season will be on Saturday, June 15th from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. The first concert in the Pavilion will take place on Saturday, June 22nd at 7:00 PM featuring the band, Tone Yard. Merchandise for this year's Lowell was now available to order online. Place your order now and pick it up at the event in August. Visit the German Luau page on Facebook to order. Finally, there will be another round of sports signups on June 1st from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Aquatic Center. This includes summer swimming lessons, SAY soccer and Lollipop soccer. That concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- First, thank you, Mr. Schad for taking the time out of a busy schedule. I know this time of year gets awfully busy for administrators, so thanks again. Great job. The business and industry meeting was held May 15th, downstairs, Present was John Estep, Ray Culbertson and Jeff Edwards. Also in attendance was Mayor Stuchell and Gus Stuchell. Our objective was how do we engage and get local businesses to support our events. We did find out that the recreation department sends the message, and we use that vehicle a lot. There are sponsorship levels, and the village also contracts with the Alloy Group over in Norwood. We had a lively discussion about other topics taking place in Saint Bernard. That concludes my report.

Committee of the Whole, Ms. Stegman- The committee of the whole minutes were submitted May 21st and I have no communications this evening.

RESOLUTION NO. 4, 2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO AND PARTICIPATE IN THE METRO TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE FUND PROGRAM AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Resolution 4 2024. Motion passes 7-0

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adopt Resolution 4 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 13, 2024

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

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 13 2024. Motion passes 7-0

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adopt Ordinance 13 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 14, 2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
STEWART-AMOS EQUIPMENT CO. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW STREET
SWEEPER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 14 2024. Motion passes 7-0

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to adopt Ordinance 14 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 15, 2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
SOUTHEASTERN EQUIPMENT CO. INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW LOADER
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 15 2024. Motion passes 7-0

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to adopt Ordinance 15 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 16, 2024

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

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 16 2024. Motion passes 7-0

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adopt Ordinance 16 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 17, 2024

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH TIM WERDMANN AS
THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND SAFETY AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Estep, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 17 2024. Motion passes 7-0

Motion made by Mr. Stuchell, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adopt Ordinance 17 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you to Council and I appreciate this very much! I look forward to a new chapter in the village and thank you to Mr. Paul for your services to the village.

Mr. Middendorf, Service Department Foreman- I would like to thank council on voting for the equipment needed for the Service Department. It is very much needed so thank you very much.

Next Committee of the Whole meeting will be Thursday, June 13th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Public Hearing for Summer Budget will be held Thursday, June 27th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Next Council meeting will be held Thursday, June 27th following the Public Hearing, in Council Chambers.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

Meeting is adjourned.