

**ST. BERNARD CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2006**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard City Council was held Thursday, February 2, 2006 in Council Chambers.

Tonight is Scout Night and we welcome all the Boy Scouts down here who are helping us out tonight and appreciate them. The President of Council tonight will be Michael Kalb. Michael goes to Roger Bacon, he is a Junior there. He's in the Scouts and holds the rank of Life and he is almost an Eagle Scout. His hobbies include working at the Cincinnati Museum Center, where he interprets people from the past and underwater hockey. He made the United States Junior Underwater Hockey Team. He should be congratulated. Your President of Council tonight Michael Kalb.

President of Council, Mr. Curtis Walden – (Michael Kalb) The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I would like to introduce tonight as the Clerk of Council, Mr. John Shipp. He is in the 10th grade at St. Bernard/Elmwood Place High School. He has been a starter on defense for two years for the Titan Soccer Team and is also a member of the baseball team. He enjoys working on cars and motorcycles. He is a member of the Concert and School Drum Band and has held first honors throughout high school.

John Shipp - Roll call showed that all members were present: Mrs. Howell, Mr. Asbach, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Burkhardt, Mrs. Brickweg, Mr. Meier, Mr. Zix.

Mr. Burkhardt made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mrs. Howell seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Tonight serving as Mayor, sitting on my right is Mr. Tanner Brinck. He is the son of Tim and Crystal Brinck. He is ten years old and lives down at the end of Bank St. He is a fourth grader at St. Bernard Elementary and this is his first year of being a Scout. He favorite hobby is Soccer, his favorite subjects at school are Math and Science. At home he has four cats and one hundred fish. He has two brothers and for sisters one of which is a set of triplets. He predicts that Seattle will win the Super Bowl 69 to 29.

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – (Tanner Brinck) – I met with Mayor Mark Mallory to discuss the safety and dilapidated houses on our border.

Mr. Estep – I also share Mr. Brinck with Joe Kempe so Tanner will have more to say in a few minutes.

Tonight we have Wesley Carroll as Deputy Auditor. He is a Weeblo and in the fourth grade at St. Bernard Elementary. He lives with his mom, Pam and dad, Tom on Bank St. His hobbies are collecting rocks, playing soccer and playing his PS2.

AUDITOR, Mr. St. Clair – (Wesley Carroll) The January Auditor's report is prepared for tonight's meeting. The receipts report and the report showing

Year-To-Date revenue and expenses by fund are derived from the Auditors report, and they are given to Council and the Administration.

Payroll for the month of January: \$ 487,892.93

Other expenditures for the month of January: \$ 171,436.78

Total expenditures through the end of January: \$ 659,329.71

Before Council tonight is Ordinance Number 4, 2006. This Ordinance transfers cash from the General Fund to the Employee Health Plan Fund. It also adjusts the Police overtime and Comp time line items by \$25,000.

Mr. Tyler Martin will be giving the report for the Law Director and the Treasurer. Tyler is aged ten, lives at 74 Albert St. with his mother and father Dave and Faith. He has four brothers and two sisters. He attends St. Bernard Elementary School. He is in grade four. He is in troop 354 with the Scouts. He is a rank of Weeblo. He collects cars, he has a dog and a bird, I don't know how they get along together and he likes riding his bike. Tyler will first of all give the Law Director's report.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Geiser – (Tyler Martin) After Mayor's Court, this past Monday, the Magistrate, John McClure, and myself met with Gerry Wiedmann and Paul Coors to discuss Property Maintenance Enforcement.

TREASURER, Mr. Kathman - (Tyler Martin) Receipts for the month of January: \$ 1,214,895.14

Tonight we have representing the Tax Commissioner and I, we have Steven Hale who is 10 years old. He is the son of Tom and Theresa Hale. Steven is in the fourth grade and is a resident of Norwood where he is home schooled. Steven has four brothers and two sisters, Tim, Benjamin, Matt, Philip, Catherine and Maria. Steven enjoys sports and spending time outdoors. I will not turn this over to Steven.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Stuchell – (Steven Hale) Due to warmer than usual weather, we have noticed an increase in walkers and joggers. Just a few safety reminders”

- Wear reflective material when exercising after dark.
- Don't wear jewelry or carry cash.
- * Run or walk with a partner or dog.
- Consider carrying a cell phone.
- Tell a family member or friend where you are going and the time you expect to be home.
- Obey traffic laws and watch out for traffic.

The St. Bernard Fire Dept. Activity Report for Jan. 2006.

- 68 Life Squad Runs
- 12 Fire Runs
- 3 Service Calls
- 5 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 1 Life Safety Inspection

- 4 Fire Protection Inspections

Just to let you all know that the Service Department has installed the two speed warning light on Ross Ave. and I would like to thank them for getting this done. We are now waiting for Cinergy to hook up the electric which should be done shortly.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Kempe – Again, tonight we have Tanner Brink reading the Service Director’s report. – Please put on the next COW agenda the discussion of what to do with the brick pavers saved from the Vine St. project. I would like to remind any youth over the age of 15 years that the City is currently taking applications for summer employment. Applications for lifeguards must be turned in at City Hall by February 10th. All other applications must be received by March 1st.

Here is Steven Hale again.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mrs. Williams – (Steven Hale) The Tax Department regrets to inform you that as of the end of the day today it is our understanding that the tax forms were not mailed out due to some unforeseen delays. We hope to see them go out tomorrow or Monday. However, the Tax Commissioner has tax forms with her tonight if anyone would like to pick one up. They are also available during City Hall hours in the Tax Department and on the City’s website through the Tax Department link.

The Tax Department has also received a number of inquiries regarding the tax rate change and how to apply this change. If all goes well with the printer, everyone who receives a tax form will receive a specific memo regarding your options in filing with the mid-year tax rate change. For simplicity and convenience, taxpayers filing for the entire calendar year of 2005 will have the option of applying an average rate. This is all explained in detailed in the memo included with the forms and also posted on the website under individual Tax Return filing information. Please look for it in your mailing and as always, if anyone has questions please contact the Tax Department.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

I would like to introduce Mr. Chris Groh. Chris lives on Leo St. with his mom Kathy and his dad Lee, two brothers and a sister. Chris enjoys football, basketball, base ball and swimming. He is currently working on his physical badge in Scouting. He goes to St. Clement School and is in the sixth grade. I am proud to introduce as Fourth Ward Councilman for this evening Mr. Chris Groh.

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – (Chris Groh) The Finance Committee met tonight and discussed wage increases for various full time and part time positions. We hope to make a recommendation to Council after we get some answers to questions we have. We would like to recommend the passage of Ordinance 4, 2006.

Giving the Safety Committee report tonight is Ben Gerke. He is the son of John and Colleen Gerke. They reside at 188 Meadow Ave. He is of the Star

Rank. He is a Junior at Roger Bacon High School. He plays for the Junior Underwater Hockey and is Vice President of Community Outreach.

SAFETY, Mr. Burkhardt – (Ben Gerke) In the last several weeks, we have received calls from residents describing fraudulent phone calls. These calls usually begin with the caller telling you that you have won a prize or the lottery and requests personal information and money to collect your prize. These types of calls are scams. Never give out any personal information to a caller and never agree to send money for any reason. Notify the police if you receive one of these calls.

Tonight we have Sonny Rodriguez. Sonny lives on McClelland Ave. with his sisters, Amanda, Anna, and brother Wyatt. He attends Horizon Science Academy and is in the fifth grade. Sonny is a Weeblo two and enjoys playing soccer and will read the report for the Service Dept. this evening.

SERVICE, Mr. Meier – (Sonny Rodriguez) I'd like to thank the Service Department for cleaning up the brush along Philips Ave. They will be continuing to clean up brush along the canal bed. This will increase visibility and will help the Police Dept. to provide additional security to residents.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Asbach – Unfortunately I have no Scout tonight so I will have to read my own report. After discussion at last week's COW meeting, the committee will begin to work on the tax abatement program that Mr. Meier talked about at the last Council meeting. Also, the City web page had 828 hits during the month of January and if anyone would like to visit the City website it is www.cityofstbernard.org.

Tonight I would like to introduce my Scout tonight that is representing Council at Large is Kevin Anneken. He is a Weeblo Scout from troop No 354. He lives with his family Kathy and Steven Anneken on Leonard. He attends St. Clement Grade School and he is in the fifth grade. He also likes to play baseball, basketball, football and swim and when he grows up he would not only like to make waffle ball a pro sport, he'd also like to play it.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mrs. Howell – (Kevin Anneken) I just want to report that my Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee met on January 25th to discuss a couple of different topics, and after some discussion on matters like portable accessory structures, solicitor or canvasser licenses and parking we decided to get in touch with Walter Drane & The Center for Local Government to get some sample legislation or spot surveys to help us come up with decisions of what direction my committee would like to take on these matters.

We also discussed property upkeep and seeing about getting tougher codes so people would want to start putting their time, effort and cost into keeping their property up instead of having to go to court and getting fined for not doing what needs to be done to their property. Also after some discussion we found out that the State is coming up with some new codes for property upkeep next month in March so we will wait to see if those new codes will help us with this matter. In the mean time Gerry, Paul and Eddie met with the City's magistrate this past Monday so they could let him know some of

the City's views on property upkeep and what direction we as a City would like to see taken.

We also started to discuss benefits for City Hall employees as far as having an Ordinance that would give the City Hall employees benefits without tying them to Service Dept. contracts.

Last but not least we also discussed residency, but decided that we needed to wait to see what the Governor was going to do as far as signing the legislation or vetoing it and for what I understand is that the Governor signed it over this last weekend.

So all in all we discussed a lot of issues last week to get me up to date on some of the issues that are in my committee but now we are going to have another meeting to start working on each topic and get something accomplished. So my next Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting will be Feb. 9th, 2006 downstairs in the Council Meeting Room at 6:30p.m.

Representing the 3rd Ward tonight is Alex Groh. Alex is a Freshmen at St. Xavier. He lives on Leo St. with his parents Kathy and Lee. He has a sister Morgan and two brothers, Lee and Chris. He is an offensive line guard for the St. Xavier Bombers. He wants to win a state Championship when he plays on the varsity team like St. X did this year. Alex also wants to grow up and become a marine biologist. Without further adieu, here is Alex.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Wilson – (Alex Groh) The Business and Industry Committee recommends passage of Special Resolution #1.

Representing the Highway & Transportation Committee and Ward 2 is Steven Groh. He is the son of Steve and Misty and lives on Greenlee Ave. with his sister Kayla. He is twelve years old, in the sixth grade at St. Clement. His favorite subject is science. He would like to be an orthodontist when he grows up and he likes to play football, basketball and baseball. Here is Steven to give the report for Highway & Transportation.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Brickweg – (Steven Groh) I attended the Community Advisory Panel with Cognis Industries on January 23rd. We were given an update from the plant manager and we worked on the agenda for this year. The Community Advisory Panel with Cincinnati Specialties was canceled for that Tuesday. I attended the First Suburb meeting on January 26th. We discussed areas of concern with First Suburbs and what we should like to work on this year. We also voted on the new officers for First Suburbs and reviewed committee assignments. I contacted OKI and I am learning about what they do and what is required of me, since I will be the new St. Bernard representative with OKI.

Mr. Burkhardt – The Committee of the Whole report has been submitted to the Clerk.

Committee of the Whole
January 26, 2006

1. Meeting was opened with a moment of silence for Michael Weidner and the Weidner family.

2. Bill read a letter from Mr. Mike Wiedmann asking Council to name the soccer field at Ludlow Grove Park, the Michael Weidner Memorial Soccer Field. Council agreed and Joe Kempe will have the signs made up for the park.

3. Council approved the minutes of the Jan. 19th Council meeting, 7-0.

4. Bob Sawtell from the 1st Safety Bank and the new president of the Chamber of Commerce, addressed Council.

5. Mr. Stuchell addressed Council on the concerns of Mr. Charles Powell.

6. Council voted 7-0 to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

7. Mayor, John Estep

A. John informed Council that Ms. Laura Schmitt was hired as the new City nurse. She will work 20 hours per week for \$25.00 per hour.

8. Auditor, Walter St. Clair (Judy Witzman reporting)

A. Council voted 7-0 to put an ord. on the table to transfer funds from the police comp. time to the police overtime line.

B. Council voted 7-0 to put an ord. on the table to create a new line item for the \$300,000.00 for future equipment purchases.

9. Director of Law, Edward Geiser, no report.

10. Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell, no report.

11. Service Director, Joe Kempe, no report.

12. Tax Commissioner, Sheri Williams

A. Sheri informed Council that the new tax forms would be ready to be mailed out by Feb. 2nd, 2006. They are available on the web site now.

13. Laws, Contracts & Claims, Patty Howell

A. Patty brought Council up to date on the committee meeting on the 25th and she is waiting on more information before setting another meeting.

14. Public Improvements, Steve Asbach

A. After some discussion about the property maintenance code, Mr. Wiedmann will work with the magistrate to impose tougher penalties. The Laws, Contracts, and Claims will work with Gerry to possibly update the code.

15. Business & Industry, Glenn Wilson

A. Council discussed the possibility of making some of the streets into cul-de-sacs to force most of the traffic that cuts through St. Bernard to use the main streets. Council will look into this further.

16. Safety, Bill Burkhardt

A. After a short discussion, Council agreed to have a spare P.C. put into Councils Conference Room.

17. Highways & Transportation, Peggy Brickweg

A. Peggy attended a meeting for the CAP group at Cognis and reported that the accidents at the plant were declining. Peggy also attended the 1st Suburbs meeting and will report on that meeting later.

18. Service, Kevin Meier

A. Kevin informed Council of his ideas for tax abatements for people investing in home improvements and will work with Gerry Wiedmann and Steve Asbach and report back to council with more information.

19. Finance, Greg Zix

A. Greg announced a finance meeting on Feb 2nd at 6:30p.m.

B. Council discussed the property at 618 E. Ross and will look at other options for that property.

C. Council also discussed the Garbage Ord. and will try to better inform the public as to when to set their garbage out.

Respectfully Submitted

Bill Burkhardt

President of Council, Pro-Tem

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt (Ben Gerke), seconded by Mr. Meier (Sonny Rodriguez) to have tonight's Resolutions and Ordinances read by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2006. DECLARING THE OUTDOOR CODE OF ST. BERNARD DESIGNATING ALL BOY SCOUTS IN THE COMMUNITY HONORARY PARK POLICEMEN AND ASKING ALL THE YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG LADIES OF ST. BERNARD TO HONOR THIS CODE.

Motion by Mr. Wilson (Alex Groh), seconded by Mrs. Brickweg (Steven Groh) to suspend with the second and third reading. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Wilson (Alex Groh), seconded by Mr. Zix (Chris Groh) to adopt Resolution No. 1, 2006. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Walden – At this time we would like to that our Scouts very much for coming down tonight. I'd like to thank Michael and we'd like to thank his mother Barb Kalb who organized our Scouts tonight and on behalf of Council and the Administration we would like to thank all the Scouts who came down and helped us out tonight. We will take a brief break.

Mr. Walden called the Feb. 2nd meeting back to order.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Sue Kathman
Clerk of Council

City of St. Bernard

January 23, 2006

Dear Mrs. Kathman,

I have received several inquiries from parents concerning the proposed 6.9 mill school tax levy. In response to their request, I would like to address some of their questions as it affects St. Clement School.

The St. Bernard-Elmwood Place School Board levy will not particularly impact us one way or another. The auxiliary money that we receive as a private school comes from the state of Ohio, not the City of St. Bernard and not the St. Bernard-Elmwood Place School District. The services that we offer at St. Clement will not increase nor decrease as the result of the outcome of the levy. We support a three and four year old pre-school, and an accredited full day curriculum for grades kindergarten through eighth grade. All of our operating funds are provided by tuition paid by parents, financial support from St. Clement Church, state auxiliary funds, and fundraisers including our Walkathon, bingo, and parents working the Xavier concession. At St. Clement it costs us \$3,736.37 to educate each child. Catholic Schools have historically been very thrifty with their money and have provided excellent educational opportunities for their children at a fraction of the cost. It is a known fact that our teachers' salaries are very meager, and there have been times at St. Clement when the staff has not received a yearly raise in order to meet budget constraints. I think that we have and are doing an outstanding job with managing our finances.

The St. Bernard-Elmwood Place School District does not provide funds to our Title I, Title II, Title IID, Title V or I.D.E.A. programs. All of these programs which include a Title I teacher, a speech and language pathologist, a math tutor, a school psychologist, and any resources that they may need are paid for with state money, not local money. The state of Ohio sends our money to the treasurer of the school district and then the money is dispersed to the appropriate agency. The school district is paid a fee for handling our money from the state. We do have a mobile unit located on our property which houses our psychologist, speech and language pathologist, and our math tutor. This unit was purchased with state and/or federal money and is maintained with state and/or federal money. Our Title I teacher is paid with federal money and her classroom is located within or building. None of these services or resources will be reduced if the levy is not successful.

A few of our children do ride the St. Bernard School bus to our school. Public schools in the state of Ohio are mandated by law to provide non-public students the same transportation services to and from school as they provide their own students. Therefore if the school board decides that only students who live more than a mile from school would be eligible for bus service, then our students would also be held to this requirement. If our students go on a field trip and use district buses, we pay our own expenses.

I felt that it was necessary to answer these questions since there are many different interpretations that may not be correct. We do have a good relationship with the school district and do work well together. If you have

any additional questions that I may be able to answer or clarify, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cathy Stover
Principal, St. Clement School

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Asbach to receive and file the communication. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Walden – We have an additional report from Mayor Estep.

Mr. Estep – Just a couple of reminders, I don't know if everybody knows that Gerry Wiedmann suffered a heart attack last night. I asked his wife for permission to mention this. He is at Christ Hospital recovering, sounds like he is going to be OK and just keep Gerry in your prayers.

Across the street, one of the social workers approached me. They have a group called Titan Leadership Corp. They are looking for community service projects for their TLC students to participate in. If you know of an elderly person or a disabled person who needs help with yard work, painting, cleaning, anything in that area, please contact Joanne Weed at 482-7156 or Felicia Stolder at 482-7100. They're also willing to do some projects helping clean up the parks in the area. I thank Ms. Weed for stepping up for that.

I would like to read, we've been discussing and people have approached Council here in the Chambers about goals for the City and I would like to read some goals that we have.

The State of the City Address

The City Administration and Council enter 2006 with many challenges and much work to be accomplished. Over the past two years, difficult decisions were made by both the Administration and Council. As mayor, I wish to express my goals for the City, both for this year and years to come.

In an effort to attain any of these goals, the elected and appointed officials, as well as the employees of the City, must establish a cooperative working relationship and strive to improve the City, for the sake of the City. Unity and teamwork will be the only way the City will be able to advance into a secure future.

With the generous help from our citizens, we now have the opportunity to maintain our valuable services. At the same time, however, we face the continuing need to control the operating budget in order for the City's reserves to grow for future needs. As I stated, many improvements are needed and challenges to contain expenses lie ahead. The City has appropriated in this year's budget street repairs of over \$600,000 and equipment purchases of over \$150,000. The Council is working to include \$300,000 in a newly formed fund for long term equipment purchases. The City is facing tremendous increases in utility and health care costs. It is projected these increased costs will be close to \$300,000 for 2006 alone. It is my goal to address the issue of rising health care costs and I challenge the Health Benefit Committee to complete a common, citywide plan of acceptable deductibles and co-pays to lower the burden of these increasing health care costs to the City.

I believe resolving the library property issue is long overdue. The City has demonstrated its willingness to work with the county by generously selling that piece of property of \$1.00, so a new library can be built. I feel many citizens want to see a new library in St. Bernard. However, I have to question the sincerity of the county and state with their willingness to complete this project. If the construction of a new library cannot be assured, I am asking for Council's financial backing to proceed in a resolution to this issue.

Improving communications with our citizens is an essential ingredient to a vital community. I have asked Glenna McCarty to look into a communications system called Callcommand. This system will allow city officials to send a recorded message to potentially every phone number within St. Bernard in a cost efficient manner. You will be receiving informational messages within a few weeks. Glenna has also worked very hard to create and maintain the City's website. Our council minutes, community events, "hot topics", and information about the police, fire, service, and tax departments are posted on the website. Please take a moment and visit the city's website at www.cityofstbernard.org.

What challenges face the city in 2007 and beyond? St. Bernard is strategically located within the Greater Cincinnati area. We are minutes from three universities and several hospitals. We are privileged to have one of the most successful companies in the world, Procter and Gamble, headquartered in Cincinnati, with industrial plants and technical facilities located in St. Bernard. We must continue to work with our local industries through upgrading of infrastructure and availability of various types of tax abatements. All current and future Councils and Administrations have to work diligently at upgrading our city's housing stock. Property maintenance efforts must be improved through stronger court support and more stringent codes. Our leaders must be willing to invest funds to remove blighted properties and we must use current laws, such as, public nuisance ordinances to aid us in these endeavors. If necessary, we must be willing to hire professionals to help us achieve this goal. A comprehensive plan should be developed to improve our housing stock and market St. Bernard as the livable city it is.

The planning process for the I-75 expansion project is well under way and this city will be facing the relocation of its fire department and city garage within the next two years. Several businesses and homes will also be displaced. Again, Council and the Administration will have to work diligently to keep those business and homeowners in St. Bernard.

In closing, St. Bernard has been and will continue to be a wonderful place to raise a family, due to the services it provides and the churches and schools within its boundaries. We have proven that challenging times subside, but strong people survive. Together we will continue to preserve a bright future for all the citizens of St. Bernard.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 4, 2006. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS, ADJUST CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Wilson to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 4, 2006. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to adopt Ordinance No. 4, 2006 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Howell – I was approached the other day by citizen, apparently they either wrote a letter to the Administration or to Council asking for more Dial-a-Ride hours. They wanted me to bring it up just to see if there was any leeway on that. Their main concern, there is actually three days, one, the citizen asked for more hours on Wed. between, from what I understand, I have it all written down but I forgot my little sheet. They are opened for a few hours in the morning, they are closed for an hour and a half to two hours and then they open back up that evening. They would like to see if they stay open the whole time, the extra hour and a half on Wed. Also, while I was calling the other day for a customer I was talking to one of the dispatchers and just asked them what days that they had concerns as far as getting more hours and from what she told me, Thurs. and Fri. are busy days and they would like to see a few more hours on those two days as well. They wanted me to bring it up just to see if there was any leeway on that. Has anybody decided anything?

Mrs. Brickweg – First of all I hope somebody can get back with these people, I'm not sure whose, is there any comment to, has anybody looked into the Dial-a-Ride hours or increasing them? I don't want to just ignore the people.

Mr. Kempe – First of all I have not seen that letter, number one. Maybe Council has, but I haven't seen it. I can take a look at it, right now we've got money in the budget for some extra hours for special events for the year, things like that. I'm not sure that extra money is going to cover an additional hours on Wed., Thurs., and Fri. I would have to take a look at it and get back to Council on that to see what that would cost and we can look at it then.

Mrs. Brickweg – I do have a report and Joe, I do have a couple of letters that we received earlier, I guess it was later last year, I'll make a copy of them and give them to you. I also have a report Mr. President. During the week I have been contacting other municipalities to get sample ordinances on the temporary and portable structures, such as temporary car port and pods. I have received information on their parking ordinances and their laws for commercial vehicles parked on residential streets. Many of the communities also sent me information on their soliciting procedures. I gave a copy of this information to the other members of the Laws, Contracts & Claims Committee. I will continue to research the building codes and enforcement of the codes. I've been reviewing the City of Cincinnati's ordinances and procedures with their building code and I will continue to work with Paul Coors while Gerry Wiedmann is out getting better. I also have spent time researching some of the ideas that were discussed at the COW meeting last week. I have been researching grants and funds for possibly putting in an underpass at the train crossing down by the industry. It looks like the grant is pretty limited but I will continue to research this. I also have been talking to citizens to see what they think about the idea of

closing off the streets that run from Ross to Mitchell. Their first reaction is shock and then the more they think about it the more they think this could possibly work. As the initial shock of change wears off, they think about the ideas of creating a large subdivision environment, with reduced traffic, less speeding, kids being able to play outside more safely and the possibility of reducing crime. I know we need to do a lot more research on this idea, but I want to thank Doug Roll for thinking outside of the box and bringing his idea to Council. It is this type of thinking that we need to help our City improve and get better.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Zix – Could it be placed on the COW agenda to review a change in one of our Council Rules?

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Dee Rutemiller, 220 Harvey Ct. – It's amazing how things work out we're talking about checking the property in the community because that's why I'm here, I have a concern. Do we have an Ordinance that prohibits junk cars being parked in yards without appropriate license plates?

Council – Yes.

Dee Rutemiller, 220 Harvey Ct. – Is this enforced?

Mr. Coors – I'll make a list, usually it consists of; a. improper tags or if it is a junk vehicle, I'll make that list and I'll pass it on to the police chief and Gerry later. (this is the best I could understand from the tape)

Dee Rutemiller, 220 Harvey Ct. – Well, that is what my concern is. My backyard is close to Bank St. and there is an apartment building behind us with two cars with license plates that are not up to date, one is a truck that has flat tires and when you sit on our deck, this is all we see and I'm not too happy about this. Plus the garbage is in the back of this apartment bldg. and I wish it would be taken care of as soon as possible.

Mr. Walden – For those of you who are watching this on TV, that was Mr. Coors that Mrs. Rutemiller was speaking with.

Mr. Stuchell – Could I get that address, please. One more time from Mrs. Rutemiller.

Dee Rutemiller, 220 Harvey Ct. – 221 Bank St.

Norman Miller, 219 Washington Ave. – There is a couple of things I would like to say and I guess, Kevin, it came to my attention that at the last Council meeting or the first Council meeting in January, we brought up the Nu-Maid property and you elaborated that it was still in St. Bernard hands because the school hasn't finalized their documents to this property. Then I found out very recently that the school turned that document over, it was hand delivered to City Hall on Dec. 1 of last year. And you made a remark, unless I misunderstood you, the first meeting in January, this was held up

because the school hadn't finalized their part of the program. I'm wondering, is that true or isn't it true?

Mr. Meier – Mr. Miller, I did talk with Gerry Wiedmann after that and he said that the school has signed off on their part, I was not aware of the date of when they did that, but as of right now, there is no issue with the TIP financing with the school and that project can move forward.

Norman Miller, 219 Washington Ave. – We still own the property?

Mr. Meier – Right now the City will continue to own that property. It will not be turned over, the way its set up is that the City will own it for 30 years and the ownership of it will not be turned over until the end of that period.

Norman Miller, 219 Washington Ave. – I saw on TV this past week where the libraries are having problems with children, they don't go to school, this is the place where they're hanging out and they're having a hard time with it. If we build a regional library, which we don't need, this is going to be the same kind of predicament that these libraries are complaining about. In the summer time they ain't got no place to go, it's a cool place to go, it's a cool place to stay and play video games. In the winter time they won't go to school, they're certainly not reading books because they don't know how to go to school so they're in there for a warm stay and to play games. I think we're asking for a burden to the City. Again, you can't make me believe that the Hamilton County Library is going to build us a four million library for five thousand people. There eyes are set on a regional library, like I said many times ago, it's going to be Bond Hill, Avondale, Winton Terrace and they'll close Elmwood probably. So I don't know why we can't understand that this beautiful site is going to be a burden to this City and not a positive thing. The other thing I wanted to say is that the letter that was just read from the school system against certain thing that its telling you that the school levy don't take care of this, and the school levy doesn't take care of that. It looked to me like if there was a letter written, that if you're not in the St. Clement School system, you should hang it up and don't vote for the school levy. In my opinion the school levy is the heart of the City and if we don't have a school system in St. Bernard, we've got another problem. So I think this letter was an unfortunate thing that was sent, I don't know if it was intended the way I'm believing it but I certainly believe in the different way that it was read on the Council and I think it's a crying shame.

Mr. Estep – The Treasurer of the school system, he did put a letter together, bring it over to Glenna. I don't know if its to say that the school has signed off and there was no problem between the school and the City on that property.

Mr. Walden – I would like to join with the Mayor and behalf of Council in wishing the best for Mr. Wiedmann in his time of illness and I would ask Mr. Burkhardt to give us the date of the next COW meeting.

Mr. Burkhardt – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, February 9th, at 7:30p.m.

Motion by Mr. Zix, seconded by Mr. Meier to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.