

**ST. BERNARD CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2006**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard City Council was held Thursday, September 7, 2006, in Council Chambers.

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

Roll call showed that six members were present: Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Asbach, Mr. Schildmeyer, Mr. Burkhardt, Mrs. Brickweg, Mr. Meier, and Mr. Zix. Mrs. Brickweg absent.

Mr. Burkhardt made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mr. Asbach seconded the motion. Council agreed 6-0.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Estep – I have no real report, just a couple of things. There was a nice article in the Enquirer this week about the positive feedback and some of the things that did get put in there was the work that Council does and the work that the Administration does with Council. When you do an interview sometimes, everything doesn't get in there that was said and I think that Council and the Administration working together is one of the biggest reasons that we've made the progress that we've made and all the things that Council went along with. With the qualified people we have here tonight and all the appointed and elected positions, I think sometimes we take it for granted or its just overlooked and I sure appreciate all the work Council, appointed and elected officials, everybody and as well as the residents. We talked about the two levies that were passed, we couldn't have made any progress without those levies being passed and getting us back on track. My hat goes off to all the residences who supported us through these tough times.

I did get a letter and I didn't want to read it because I didn't think that was following procedure and I think it was probably mislaid out there and I just gave it a few minutes ago to Sue Kathman. It was very positive, but I don't think it is my place to read it so I gave it to Mrs. Kathman.

AUDITOR, Mr. St.Clair – The August Auditor's reports are prepared for tonight's meeting. The receipts report and the report showing year-to-date revenue and expenses by fund are derived from the Auditor's report, and they are given to Council and the Administration.

Payroll for the month of August:	\$ 385,832.68
Payroll year to date:	3,300,650.59
Other expenditures for the month of August:	\$ 516,828.49
Other expenditures as of August 31 st :	3,127,340.63
Total expenditures through the end of August:	\$ 6,427,991.22

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mr. Geiser – Before Council tonight is one new Resolution and one new Ordinance. Resolution #2, 2006, authorizes the

19 fire runs, 53 emergency medical responses, 30 inspections. Also the St. Bernard Fire Dept. has received the Surrey Fire/Safety house. The house will be put on display during the St. Clement Festival, on Saturday, September 16th, and Sunday, September 17th, 2006 at the Vine Street park. In October the Fire/Safety house will be taken to the local schools as part of Fire prevention week to teach fire safety to the students. We also will be scheduling sometime for the Fire/Safety house to be used for our Senior Citizens. Also, we have made a conditionally offer for our HIP Inspector and we are waiting for the written report for the physical exam that was given. We hope to be able to introduce our candidate at the next Council Meeting. Also we are still waiting for the written reports to come back for the polygraphs that were given for our police candidates so that we can begin our interview process. Also in closing, I would like to thank everyone for their card and prayers and words of encouragement for the loss of the baby that my wife and I were expecting. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Kempe – Before Council tonight is Resolution #2, 2006, authorizing the Service Director to make the application for the SCIP Grant for fiscal year 2007, and Ordinance # 23, 2006 approving the collective bargaining agreement between the City and the FOP, I recommend adoption of both.

The street repairs on numerous streets throughout the City have been completed. We had to postpone some dates due to weather problems or mechanical breakdowns of machinery. I want to thank all the residents who ere affected by the delays of the final surfacing for their patience and cooperation.

The engineering for the resurfacing of Church St. and Park Place is nearly complete and we will be going out for bids for that work in the next few weeks.

TranSystems and the Ohio Department of Transportation will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, September 28, 2006 from 4:00 to 8:00p.m. in the Main Hall of the Municipal Building. The purpose of this meeting is to present their recommended plan for the expansion of I-75 from the Paddock interchange to the Hopple St. interchange. This will be the only meeting place for all the municipalities affected by this project. The expansion project will have an impact on the City of St. Bernard, so I encourage all interested citizens to attend. There will be plenty of personnel and printed material to help explain the expansion and address any questions or concerns.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mrs. Williams – (read by Mr. St. Clair) A review was completed to determine the income tax effects from Thompson Heating moving out of St. Bernard. Based on this review it is estimated that on an annual basis it will have an approximate \$32K negative income tax impact, taking into consideration both net profit and withholding tax.

Respectfully submitted, Sheri Williams

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – The Finance Committee would like to recommend the passage of Ordinance #23 and also Resolution #2, 2006.

SAFETY, Mr. Burkhardt – The Safety would like to recommend the passage of Ordinance #23, 2006.

SERVICE, Mr. Meier – The Service Dept. report for August, 2006: there were 31 trucks placed at residences, 23 dumpsters placed at residences, 162 special pick-ups at residences, 234 tons of garbage taken to the landfill. The recycling report: there were 19 tons of recycling material, 10 tons of cardboard, 187 lbs. of aluminum cans, 2 car batteries, 10 lbs. of grass, 800 lbs. of cast iron, 132 lbs. of copper, 15,820 of scrap metal and 40 appliances were picked up. The City received \$952.30 for recycling in July, 2006. One of the things I would like to bring to the attention of the citizens is that when we go through this report, and report to you the amount of money that was paid back to the Service Dept. for the previous month. That money is not coming from the material that you are putting out into recycling bins. That money is coming from special pick-ups that the guys down at the Service Dept. go through and sort, the recyclable portions are separated and those are then sold and that is where that money is coming from. So instead of having to pay to have that go to the landfill, it is actually recycled and that money is put back into the budget. The material that goes into your recycling bins, the City is reimbursed at \$12,00.00 annually for that material annually, from the County. I became aware of that information just in the past few weeks of exactly where that going. I was always a little bit confused on where that money was coming from. But that is where it is from.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Asbach – No report.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Ms. Hausfeld – I first of all want to say, thank you to Mr. Geiser and Chief Moeller for helping me put together a new Ordinance for vehicles in residential districts. I just got the paper work tonight and I do want to review it with my committee but I was just told that both members of my committee are out for the next couple of weeks so I would like to be put on the COW for September 28th and in the meantime I do have samples for each member of Council in case they have any input before we do bring it back to the table, I'll be glad to hear from each and every one of you.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mr. Schildmeyer – No report tonight but I did want to ask Joe to please repeat the I-75 dates, just so the people at home on TV might be able to hear it again because I think that's a very important meeting that as many people could attend it would be very helpful for the City so that we could get the input back from the people.

Joe Kempe – The public meeting is September 28th, it is a Thursday evening, it is in the main hall in the Municipal Bldg. Again, it is not just for St. Bernard, but it is for all the municipalities along that corridor. We also plan to do a call command previous to that so we'll get the message there.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Brickweg – (read by Ms. Hausfeld)

As I stated in the past, since there is not much happening with highways and transportation, I have decided to spend some time working on other issues

that highly affect our City. Some of the issues that have been in the news and talked about in committees are abandoned and run down properties, the use of eminent domain and the idea of vacant property licenses. During my time off I plan to study a proposed House bill regarding expediting tax foreclosures on abandoned land and how current Ohio Revised Code works and doesn't work with this proposed bill. I will do my best to summarize these important issues and read reports at future Council meetings. My goal is to inform Council, the Administration and most of all the citizens with how these proposed laws can be used to better St. Bernard and to provide information so everyone is informed on how they can be used and how they should not be used.

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

Committee of the Whole
August 24, 2006

1. Council approved the minutes of the Aug. 17th Council meeting, 7-0.
2. Gerry W. informed to Council that the FBI was not interested in the Nu-Maid property because it was too close to the expressway which would leave them vulnerable to terrorist attacks.
3. Mayor, John Estep
 - A. John asked for a moment of silence for the daughter of Dan Siegel.
4. Auditor, Walter St. Clair
 - A. Walt informed Council that the Hamilton County Budget Commission would be meeting Sept. 12th at 11:00a.m. to discuss the budget for the library.
5. Director of Law, Edward Geiser, absent.
6. Safety Director, Jonathan Stuchell, absent.
7. Service Director, Joe Kempe
 - A. Joe informed Council that the Police Contract would be on the table for the next Council meeting.
 - B. Joe informed Council that a representative for the I-75 project would be at the next COW meeting to inform Council on what options they are looking at. And the next Public Meeting would be in St. Bernard on Sept. 28.
 - C. Council agreed 7-0 to go out for bids for sidewalk repairs.
 - D. Council agreed 7-0 to put a resolution on the table to apply for the next round of SCIP grants.
8. Tax Commissioner, Sheri Williams, no report.
9. Laws, Contracts, & Claims, Patty Hausfeld, no report.
10. Public Improvements, Steve Asbach, no report.

11. Business & Industry, Mike Schildmeyer, no report.
12. Safety, Bill Burkhardt, no report.
13. Highways & Transportation, Peggy Brickweg
 - A. Peggy informed Council that she put in St. Bernard for free flowers from Benkins Florist for the clean-up St. Bernard Day.
14. Service, Kevin Meier
 - A. Council agreed 7-0 on the wording of the Property Tax Abatement Ord. and will move forward with informing the St. Bernard School District.
15. Finance, Greg Zix
 - A. Greg asked about the progress of the hiring of the HIP Inspector. Mr. Wiedman informed Council that they are waiting on the polygraph tests.
16. From the audience: Mr. Jared McFadden asked Mr. Burkhardt for consent to marry his daughter Keli. Mr. Burkhardt gave his consent.
Respectfully submitted,
Bill Burkhardt
President of Council, Pro-Tem

COMMUNICATIONS

7/28/06

Dear Mayor Estep and Council

We the citizens of the area surrounding the Park Place Park want to thank you for taking down the basketball hoops.

What you have done is given the park back to the residents. The park was beginning to look like the St. Bernard dump. The foul language was an everyday occurrence. We now can take our children and grandchildren to the park.

Here are a few citizens that appreciate what you've done. There are approximately 35 names here.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to receive and file the communication. Motion passed 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Schildmeyer to read this evenings Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 6-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2, 2006, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR FISCAL 2007 STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDS AND IF FUNDS ARE AWARDED TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Asbach to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 2, 2006. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Meier to adopt Resolutions No. 2, 2006 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 23, 2006, ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT MADE BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF ST. BERNARD AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Mr. Asbach to suspend with the seconded and third reading of Ordinance 23, 2006.

Audience wishing to address Council on Ordinance No. 23, 2006.

Norman Miller, 219 Washington Ave. – Yes, I would like for someone to elaborate what the contract is. This caption means nothing to the general public so could you give us the highlights, the salaries, the benefits, so that the public knows what this is rather than what the caption you just read?

Mr. Zix – I have that out right now. If you want me to just sort of highlight, I'll highlight some of the spots. I guess some of the main ones, when it comes to the wage increases are 3%, 2 ½% the first year, effective Sept. 2nd. 3% Sept. 1st, 2007, 2 ½% and 2008, 2 ½%. Health Insurance, the bargaining unit shall contribute to the cost of Health Insurance through payroll deductions from each biweekly pay starting in 2006, \$20.00 for a single plan, \$40.00 for a family plan and then in 2007, \$25.00 for a single plan, \$45.00 for a family plan, 2008, \$30.00 for a single plan, \$50.00 for a family plan. It goes on to read about prescription cards, a medical insurance will include, prescription drug card with a maximum employee payment of \$6.00 per prescription. That is some of the main highlights, Joe? Lot of it are sifts language, right?

Joe Kempe – Right, there were some permanent shift selection language, some other miscellaneous language to clear, some current language, up, make it more clear. I don't think there is anything else financially involved in there that I can think of without having the papers in front of me.

Mr. Zix – Is this anything I can offer a copy to anybody to after it is passed? Would anybody like a copy of this after it is passed? After the contract is passed and ratified? I don't know exactly where it is at right now but.....

Mr. Kempe – It's been signed but, by both parties, but we'll wait for this Ordinance to pass.

Mr. Zix – So when it's signed I guess I can give it out then?

Mr. Kempe - Sure.

Motion to suspend passed 6-0.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance #23, 2006 as read. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Burkhardt – I just have a short letter I'd like to read.

On August 18th, 2006 a water line broke in my mother's house on the second floor while she was out of town. On behalf of my mom and myself, I would like to thank the Fire Dept. for their quick response and their help of getting the water out of the house. I would especially like to thank Bill Driscoll, Bob Shrenk, Dave Holt, and Mike Harmann for their help. Thank you.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Norman Miller, 219 Washington Ave. – I guess I want to challenge the Mayor's report here, I think the word was progress report. I'm going to tell you that in 1999 we had a piece of property that we gave to the library, the Hamilton County library, we bought the property, we tore the building down, we put a slurry seal on it to make the ground solid, that was in 1999, it's soon to be 2007. In 2002 we bought another piece of property, in excess of maybe \$2,000,000.00 including the tearing down and the prep of the property and that's five years ago and we bought a piece of property up on Ross Ave.. Probably got \$300,00.00 invested. That's four or five years ago. There's a piece of property we just bought, we're going to tear down, we probably have another \$300,000.00 invested, time we tear down, we're going to put a green area, something else for the Service Dept. to take care of. We've got all of this business going on about, and this will probably insult some Seniors, and I said it once before and I'll say it again, the Senior Bldg. as I understand it is going to be a Senior Bldg. is not going to be a type of medical bldg. where you might get care that you need should you need when you get older and I said it a long time ago, this town is not going to build on Senior citizens. I can't think of a realtor that come to St. Bernard to sell a piece of property to a thirty or forty year old person and oh by the way we got a Senior Bldg. in St. Bernard maybe forty, fifty years from now you'll be able to use it. We need young people in this and we got any property we can develop and build it into condos and apts. those are the people that are going to build this town, we're too old to build it. We haven't got that long to go. We need people who are going to be faithful to the City and stay here and develop it. We've got the Library. I know Mr. Schildmeyer, he's a big fan of it and I think Mr. Meier made a statement just the last meeting that his children enjoyed the reading class. Well, do we need a three million dollar library for a summer reading class? I'm still convinced and I don't think any of you are convinced that this is going to be a regional library. We going to cater to Bond Hill and Avondale and all of the surrounding and you can read between the lines for the rest of it. The other thing, I don't think we're looking at is this highway which we're going to have a meeting on. We've got the Post Office down there, that's a regional Post Office. That don't just serve 45217. We could lose that going in if we don't in the mean time get some prep going on and maybe work with the state to get something developed, I said the Nu-Maid property could take care of the Fire Dept., the Service Dept. and maybe even the Post Office. We could lose the Post Office just like we lose everything else if we don't try to look forward. There's this property up on Chalet. We've got a park that goes street to street on Chalet. It's a huge piece of property, but we also got another huge piece of property from the beginning of that to the end

of, up to Heger. Nobody talked about developing it. We've got this guy from the University, supposed to be talking about Vine St. The last three meetings, we've got 25 minute, 30 minute Council meetings. All of this is stuff that is going on, when are we working on it? Seems like all we do is talk here for 30 minutes, everybody goes home and two weeks later we come down, we talk some more. So, I guess that concludes my progress report that the Mayor just made. Thank you.

Motion by Mr. Burkhardt, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to excuse the absent member. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Burkhardt – The next COW will be Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7:30p.m.

Motion by Mr. Zix, seconded by Mr. Asbach to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.