

reserved for ordinances of the City and to clarify this Resolution requests the Walter Drane Co. remove Section 151 from the Codified Ordinance Book. Ordinance #15, 2008 to amend the VEBA Plan and Trust – attached to this Ordinance is the Amendment that will limit coverage of the VEBA Plan and Trust to employees hired before April 3, 2008.

Also before Council tonight for its consideration is the St. Bernard Market's liquor license application – this is a “new” C1&C2 application.

Finally, just to update Council, I will be emailing each Council member a draft Purchase Agreement regarding the Canal Bed – for your review of the re-conveyance provision, probably this weekend.

Also, I have received a copy of the original deed so I should be able to finish the written legal opinion on the legality of the transfer by Monday or Tuesday. I will also send you each a copy of this so everything should be ready before the next COW if you would like to add this to that agenda.

TREASURER, Mr. Sipe – Receipts for the month of March: \$1,334,008.30
Receipts for the year through March 31st: \$2,737,851.54

I was at a conference in Dayton where the State Treasurer had presented to the members of this meeting the hidden treasurers, which are the unclaimed funds for the residents of Ohio. We have put on the St. Bernard website a link to get to that and you just have to type in your last name, first name and it will come up with any type of things you may have coming from the State, an account you may not realize you had or a vendor that may owe money to you. We did check out the City's assessability for that and we have been paid everything up to date that is coming out of that fund. The website to go to if you're not going to the link through the City of St. Bernard's website is www.com.state.oh.us.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Chatman – The St. Bernard Fire Dept. conducted training classes and personal protective equipment and basic emergency technician refreshers. This training was thirteen training sessions that were conducted with each member receiving thirty hours of instruction. In addition to that the Police Dept. is still soliciting input on the services that they provide. There is a brief survey that is connected by a link to the City's website. In addition to that there are hard copies at the Police Station and at City Hall and as I mentioned it is a very quick survey but we are soliciting the input on the services that we provide.

Lastly I wanted to give a congratulations to Police Chief Steve Moeller. This, the 31st of the month, he completed 20 years of service with the Hamilton County Police Association's SWAT team. Many of those years he served in an administrative capacity. He completed his 20 years on that date and retired on that date from the team so give him a congratulations.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Schrand – I have no report tonight but I would like to recommend passage of Ordinance #16, 2008 so I can order the trash bags.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – First of all I want to thank Gabe Sanders who stops by the office on a regular basis to check on how the office is going. Gabe is on the Tax Board of Review and I really appreciate him stopping by. His input, his concern and he is someone I can talk to, shoot back and forth with. Second, I've been asked to explain why we do require the 1040, the Federal 1040 to be submitted with your tax return. It's actually in our Code, Section 181.09, it gives the Tax Commissioner the

authority to request both compel production of documents including Federal income tax returns. Most other communities do this, we're not just trying to be nosy, what we're looking for is to see if you've had any business income on your Schedule C, any rental income or any other income. So that's how we verify and audit the return to make sure there is no other income out there. Again, it's an ongoing issue where most people forget or do not read the instructions. Again, I remind you to please send in a copy of your 1040, just the front cover, the front page is all we need.

Second, this past weekend, we were working again as usual, working on the returns and Jane who you all know and met, made a good determination and she approached me and she said, "Ed, if you're going to enforce the estimate of declaration of tax, you need to do it now." It takes about a year to put into effect. She said this is the time to do it. We started. We made the decision to go ahead, and what that basically means, and many people do it, some don't, is if you pay a substantial amount of tax or any tax that is not withheld, you're required to make estimated quarterly payments, just the same with the Federal Government and also the State Government in their taxes. For example, if you paid, for example around \$400.00 this year in tax we're going to set up a declaration of estimate of around \$400.00, meaning that you are required to now pay \$100.00 quarterly. The point is, is that by the end of the year you should have paid all the tax that you are going to owe, or 90% of it. If you don't pay the 90% of it there is interest and penalties. Now, how we enforce this down the road, we'll see. But we need to start it now so we're generating a lot of letters sending back, we have estimated the major tax to be this amount and they'll be required to make quarterly payments. I invite people to ask questions, if they have any questions about it, please call us, we'll try to explain it, we've got a lot of people calling already and Elaine has been explaining to them and people come in the office so if you have any questions let us know, we are going to start enforcing that part of the law.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – The Finance Committee will meet next Thursday, April 10th, at 6:30p.m. in Council Conference Room in the lower level of City Hall.

SAFETY, Ms. Hausfeld – No report.

SERVICE, Mr. Tobergte – The service department wishes to inform our residents that with the arrival of spring, they are now picking up yard waste. The pickup days are your regularly scheduled first pick up of the week. Please put the waste in an open container or a paper yard waste bag. Please do not use plastic bags.

Also I would like to thank Dave Fossalussa for his 31 years of service to our city. We wish him well in his retirement.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMNETS, Mr. Meier – We've had a couple of different attempts to try to get people together to see if there is an interest in forming a neighborhood association to take on some of projects around the City. We're going to try to have one more meeting to see if the interest is there. So that more people will have availability, and what we'd like to do is on Saturday, April 12th, that is a Saturday that City Hall will be open, if people would like to gather here at about 11:30, if you do have an interest in doing

this, a couple of the projects that we had talked about that I've made some initial inquiries would be things to the nature of St. Bernard day at the Zoo, St. Bernard day at Coney Island, there were some other ideas, Mr. Chatman had brought up the idea later on this year of maybe doing a neighborhood watch program. We talked about having some home improvement contests and promotions. If anybody is interested in anything like this or helping to form a neighborhood association if you would please come to that meeting. If the interest isn't there then we'll move forward with some other things.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mr. Peck – The Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee meeting was held on March 27th. Other than myself, council woman Bedinghaus, councilman Tobergte, Walt Moeller and Gerry Wiedmann attended. Discussed were possible revisions of Ordinance 353 concerning off street parking, a possible change would allow the Safety Director more discretion, making rules for off street parking. Also discussed was the repeal or revision of Section 195, 197, 521.6, 521.10, 733, 727, 717, 931 and 937 of the City Ordinances. Also discussed was a new ordinance concerning the definitions and regulations of kennels in St. Bernard, a new ordinance regulating the installation of satellite dishes. That revision to a zoning ordinance was also discussed. This is 1141.01 in which M-1 districts were mistakenly listed as general industrial districts when in fact they should have been read as general manufacturing districts, something that we'll have to look at in the future and see how the procedure should go, if we need to actually change that. Other than that Mr. President I would recommend the passage of Resolution #3 tonight.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mrs. Brickweg – At last weeks COW meeting we discussed the City of Springdale having an ordinance requiring landlords of single family rental property to purchase annual permits and require regular inspections of these homes by the building dept. I had previously suggested that the City of St. Bernard look into doing something like this. It will take some time and research to look into how to implement this action. To make sure it is followed up on, it was decided that it would be put into the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Bedinghaus – Just to let everybody know that the additional Dial-A-Ride hours did start this past Monday. My other question is, Ray, did you ever have a chance into look into those noise barriers or the concern that the citizens had that noise might go up and over the barriers instead curtailing that noise?

Mr. Schrand – Yes, I talked to a guy from ODOT and I believe, didn't I send you an email on that?

Mrs. Bedinghaus – No.

Mr. Schrand – I'm sorry.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – That's OK.

Mr. Schrand – I've got a letter somewhere in my office, I'll dig it up and I'll put it in your mail box.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Thank you.

Mrs. Brickweg – The COW report has been submitted to the Clerk.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - March 27, 2008

NEW OR REFERRED ITEMS:

1. Council approved the minutes of the March 20th council meeting.
2. Council and the administration discussed details they wanted for an ordinance to transfer the canal bed property to the CIC. The Law Director, Kate Bedinghaus informed council that she is working on writing a legal opinion regarding if this land is park property and if and how it can be transferred. Kate is waiting to receive the deed on the property so she can review it. Council agreed they want wording in the ordinance stating that the CIC will have two years to obtain building permits for the development of the property and if they do not obtain the building permits or if the building permits expire, the land will be transferred back to the city. Council will wait to put an ordinance on the table until all the information is received.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS:

Mayor, Bill Burkhardt:

1. Bill reported that as of April 1st the items being stored for both political parties will be moved over to two rooms in the Teen Center. This will open up additional storage in City Hall and hopefully some items being stored in offices can be stored downstairs in City Hall.
2. Bill will be conducting interviews for the City Hall front desk – secretary position. He will also be working with the Recreation Director to start choosing people for summer employment. After these positions are filled Bill will start working on hiring for an opening in the Service Department.
3. Bill met with the Board of Health and they are working with a new day care center that wants to open business on Kiley Place.
4. Bill met with Kim Fender from the library and she informed him that she will be e-mailing all of council regarding the status of building the new library. Bill asked her to please have the sign removed and not replaced on the library property and she agreed.
5. Bill thanked everyone for their hard work with the Easter Egg Hunt. He sent out a special thank you to the Service Department for their hard work.
6. Bill informed council that he will be meeting with Fire Department Representatives next week regarding contract negotiations. He also provided council with a letter from Fire Chief, Steve Scherpenberg explaining Kelly Days.

Auditor, Walt St. Clair: no report

Don Tobergte asked Walt why the city departments all have different contracts for their department's copiers. Walt indicated that it was up to each department head. Cindi Bedinghaus suggested that the Finance Committee look into combining contracts in the future. Don also asked for a list of all employees that have city cell phones. Don wants to compare this list to who had them last year to see if there has been a large increase in city owned cell phones. Bill Burkhardt will get him a list.

Law Director, Kate Bedinghaus:

1. Kate informed council that she contacted John Hust, the attorney who represented the city with the C9 lawsuit regarding amending the Veba Trust agreement. He

told Kate that he felt the city could amend the Veba Trust agreement to exclude all future hired employees with an ordinance. He also stated that in order to end this benefit for all new employees of the three main departments it would have to be negotiated out of each department's contract. Council voted (5-0) in favor of having an ordinance ready regarding this at the next council meeting.

2. Kate informed council that the owner of the St. Bernard Market requested a liquor license. (After the COW meeting Kate looked into this and the St. Bernard Market is applying for a new C1 and C2 permit. The permit quota for St. Bernard for C1 and C2 is five. There are currently two issued. United Dairy Farmers is still listed as a permit holder. Although, the permit locations is 4431 Vine St. There is also currently a C1 and C2 application on file, which St. Bernard Market is listed as "new" and on file. This is not a transfer from UDF to the St. Bernard market but it is a new permit.)
3. Kate asked council for a resolution to remove section 151 from the St. Bernard Ordinances. Council voted (5-0) in favor of having the resolution on the table for the next council meeting.

Treasurer, Jamie Sipe: Jamie reported that he attended a seminar in Columbus where he was informed of the State of Ohio having over \$700,000,000.00 in unclaimed funds. He will have a report for the next council meeting informing the citizens of the web sites they use to look for missing funds. The city will also attach a link on the city web site to these internet sites. Jamie also reported that he learned about municipal financing and grants at the seminar.

Safety Director, Rodney Chatman: Rodney asked that the city contact the owners of the former KFC property and request them to repair and paint the outside of the building.

Service Director, Ray Schrand:

1. Ray informed council that he paid \$2476.18 for an emergency repair to a collapsed drain pipe in the Municipal Building. He also asked council for additional money to his building maintenance line item because after he pays for repairs to the collapsed trench drain in front of the fitness center the line item will be out of funds. The two bids for this job are \$7700.00 and \$12,000.00. Peggy Brickweg stated that she was not in favor of adding money to his line items this early in the year and suggested he find money for this repair in another line item of his budget. Cindi stated he should deplete the line item and if he needs additional money to ask. Don suggested that Ray pay for these two repairs with money from the parking maintenance line item, which Ray will do. That will leave him approximately \$10,000.00 in the building maintenance line item.
2. Ray told council that after reviewing the bids and negotiating a price for the garbage bags he needs an ordinance to purchase the bags. Ray explained that in the past he would ask for an ordinance to go out for bids and when he got the bids he would go and purchase them and he did not have to ask council for an ordinance containing the cost of the item. Ed Geiser explained to Ray that it was agreed by the past administration and council that expenditures over \$10,000 require an ordinance and that attached to the ordinance is the contract.
3. Ray thanked Don Tobergte for getting the funds to pay for new American flags for the city from the St. Bernard Business Chamber.

Tax Commissioner, Ed Geiser:

1. Ed asked council to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss staffing in the Tax Department. Council voted (5-0) in favor.

2. Ed gave all of council a sample letter for Kate to use to prepare a resolution to send to the city's federal representatives regarding H.R. 3359. This bill would require the physical presence of an employee within a municipality for more than 60 days before their wages become subject to the local income tax. Currently the law is 12 days. What this means is if a contractor, for example a plumber, is working in St. Bernard for more than 12 days they are subject to St. Bernard income tax. If H.R. 3359 is approved it could have a large impact on revenues for the city. Ed also suggested that council members send individual letters to the representatives. Kate will work on the resolution and it will be discussed at the next COW.

C.O.W. Agenda – Page 2

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Laws, Contracts and & Claims, Mike Peck: Mike reported that his committee met that night and he will prepare a detailed report for the next council meeting.

Public Improvements, Kevin Meier: no report

Business & Industry, Peggy Brickweg: Peggy discussed the idea of St. Bernard requiring single family rental permits. It was decided that this idea will be put into the Laws, Contracts and Claims Committee for future research. Peggy will get a copy of Springdale's application for the committee.

Safety, Patty Hausfeld: absent

Highways & Transportation, Cindi Bedinghaus: Cindi asked Bill what the startup date was for the new Dial A Ride hours. Bill stated it will be March 31st and that he prepared flyers with the new hours to hang around the city and to distribute at the seniors meeting. Peggy suggested that the new hours be posted on the city's web site and Bill will look into that.

Service, Don Tobergte: Don thanked Walt Moeller for all the computer work he has been doing at City Hall. He also stated that Walt has saved the city quite a bit of money by "shopping" for new hardware.

Finance, Greg Zix: absent

Audience Participation:

Forrest Hudson spoke regarding the legal opinion the Civil Service received regarding Civil Service Law and Ordinance 151. He asked for the resolution regarding 151 to be taken off the table for next week's council meeting so the Civil Service attorney and the City's Law Director could meet. Peggy asked if there was a motion to take it off the table for next week's meeting, which Don made, but there was no second.

Mike Weidmann announced that the Service Department will be starting yard waste pick up March 31st. The days for yard waste pick up are Monday and Tuesday.

Council went into Executive Session

Ordinances and Resolutions for the next council meeting:

1. Ordinance to amend the Veba Trust agreement to exclude all future hired employees
2. Resolution to remove 151 from the St. Bernard Ordinances
3. Ordinance to purchase garbage bags

Next Council Meeting: April 3rd 7:30 P.M.

Next C.O.W. Meeting: April 10th 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Brickweg
President of Council, Pro-Tem

COMMUNICATIONS

Dear Council,

Our local Kiwanis Club, Chapter 3181 of the 7th Division in Ohio began in St. Bernard in 1948, and since then the City has always supported us and our efforts.

While we have many projects that we assist or donate to, such as the Special Olympics, The Pediatric Trauma Center and much more, we are mostly remembered and recognized by our Christmas Basket Project and the Summer Tee Ball Program.

As St. Bernard's only national service organization represented by members who are local residents and business people who volunteer their off time to help the community, we were somewhat surprised to hear that we may lose our meeting place at the Centennial Room in city hall. In fact, even right now, if we didn't have a city worker with a key, as one of our members, we would have a difficult time getting in the building at all. Our dinners are catered and there have been times that hot trays of food and members have been locked out in the cold when our one member with the key could not show up. Calls to the police department or the service director had to be made to get in. Basically, it took an Act of Congress some nights to get in.

Perhaps we should apologize for making ourselves too much at home, but in fact it has been our home for many years. We own all the dishes and the silverware in the kitchen as well as the dishwasher and the 7UP vending machine. The storage room (which is also normally locked) holds our flags, banners plaques and 50 years of files and records plus we always keep the hall clean and have never damaged anything in the hall or the restrooms.

We heard that there may be several reasons for this, from the need for office expansion to past security problems. As for space; the Kiwanis don't need a large amount of space, a small meeting room would suffice. As for security; if the Kiwanis Club can't be trusted to have a simple meeting or a dinner without tearing up the place or for that matter to have an extra key so we can get in with a little dignity then perhaps we should just meet at one of our neighboring Kiwanis clubs.

Actually with younger people not volunteering any more and have considered a club like the Kiwanis as a dinosaur plus the passing of several members just in the past two years we have agreed that if we lose our contract with the city that it may well be the end of our local chapter. One member commented that we would ride this buggy until the wheels fall off. Well, my friends if we lose our hall than I believe that we will have lost our wheels and St. Bernard would have lost a lot more.

Sincerely

Bill Losh
President
Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to receive and file the communication and give a copy to the Mayor's office.

Mr. Burkhardt – May I comment, I do have a copy of that letter and Kiwanis has been notified that they will move to the Teen Center so they will have lost nothing at this point.

The motion to receive and file the communication passed 7-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to read this evenings Resolutions and Ordinances by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

RESOLUTON NO. 3, 2008. REQUESTING THAT THE WALTER DRANE COMPANY REMOVE SECTION 151 IN ITS ENTIRETY, FROM ST. BERNARD CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Meier, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. 3, 2008. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Meier to adopt Resolution #8, 2008 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 15, 2008. AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO AMEND THE VEBA TRUST AND VEBA PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF LIMITING THE PLAN COVERAGE TO CURRENT EMPLOYEES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 15, 2008.

REMARKS

Ms. Hausfeld – Since I was not here last week, I read over it, this is strictly for the new employees that are hired after a certain date that we're trying to do away with, right?

Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – This is for new hires that are hired after today. They are not covered by collective bargaining agreement.

Ms. Hausfeld – OK, thank you.

Motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Peck to adopt Ordinance No. 15, 2008 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 16, 2008. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH, FOR THE PURCHASE OF PLASTIC TRASH BAGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Kathman – It doesn't say who we're supposed to enter into the contract with.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Meier to amend Ordinance No. 16, 2008 to include the name 'All American Poly' in the caption. Motion to amend passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 16, 2008 AS AMENDED. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ALL AMERICAN POLY FOR THE PURCHASE OF PLASTIC TRASH BAGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Bedinghaus, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to suspend with the second and third reading of Ordinance No. 16, 2008 as amended.

REMARKS

Ms. Hausfeld – Again, I was not here last week, but Bill and Ray, I just want I guess to ask and I know the answer to this but you would not believe the people that are asking me when they stop by the store where I work, are we getting free garbage bags delivered to our house and I just want them to know that that is not what this is so they can still pick them up at City Hall for, is the cost still going to be \$10.00?

Mr. Burkhardt – Yes.

Ms. Hausfeld – OK, I just wanted to at least publically say something because I have told them over and over and over that was a misquote and its not happening like that but since we are passing it. I at least wanted to say it so the public did know.

Motion to suspend as amended passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to adopt Ordinance No. 16, 2008 as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to go into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte – I just want to inform Council tonight I gave Bill and Ed a letter I wrote. I contacted account temps this week and they could come in, they're trained, the cost per hour would range from \$20 to \$30 per hour depending on exactly whatever we would need. They said the \$30 per hour range would be like a retired CPA so we'd be covered. They know what's going on and they are bonded and it includes all employee insurance and things like that.

Mrs. Brickweg – I would just like to add to what Mr. Tobergte said, I really think we need to be looking into something as much as Ed has told us, a lot of the information that's not in, I think the more people we can get to enter the information, the better, because really at this point that's all you're really going to need to do is get it entered before we can even start doing reconciliations and figuring it all out. Another thing that came to my mind after last week's meeting, I had suggested that Ed said that he would possibly look into hiring somebody else if he could in his department and I had suggested a CPA and it was funny how Mr. St. Clair was pretty adamant that he didn't want a CPA and I got to thinking just a little bit, I was confused why we wouldn't want a CPA, but the second thing is, I think it's kind of strange that two years ago the City paid for our then Tax Commissioner to go to school to become a CPA. I think that at some point we must have thought that it was important that our Tax Commissioner be a CPA and I'm just saying for the future that is something we might want to look into and think about that person having.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte – I'd like to ask Kate when she finds some time if she could research on how we could change the Charter. I think with the problems today in the Tax Department it is a good example of why we need to change the Charter and get some full time people on the job.

Mrs. Brickweg – To comment on that also, in the past we were told that in order to amend the Charter that we'd have to get a committee up to vote for a commission and then vote on all that and I noticed at the last election that Amberly Village was voting to amend their Charter so I contacted their Mayor and asked him what their procedure was because I thought it was kind of funny how they could all of a sudden do it and he said that according to Ohio Revised Code you do not need to start the whole committee up, that it would be an act of Council and an Ordinance to say what they would want changed in the Charter, they would vote on the Ordinance and that change is then put out to the public to vote on that specific change. Kate if you want I can send you the email that he sent me because I was just curious as how they could do it so fast and ours was going to take multiple years so I'll go ahead and I'll email that to you.

Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – The liquor permits and I need to know whatever you guys want to do

Mrs. Brickweg – Before we make a motion, I was wondering if you could better explain that because at the COW I was assuming it was an old permit being transferred over and you did inform us it's a new one and I guess is there a recommendation that we don't give a new one or what would the consequences be to that?

Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – The way I read it is that you can only transfer if you're buying the business so UDF wasn't going to sell their business but their permit is for that location so the permit that UDF has isn't usable in another location and I guess I'm going to say they have to apply for some kind of change but this is for the Vine St. location so a new, technically a new permit, because it wasn't transferred from UDF because there was not a sale of the business.

Mrs. Brickweg – I guess my question is then is if we're looking at the UDF to move back into St. Bernard would they then have to get a new one because it's a different location and are we limited by the number, I know I thought you said we could only have five of them, so I was curious about that?

Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – Yes, there are currently two, the UDF and another one and this would be a third one, so there would still be two. I imagine UDF would probably have to apply for some type of transfer or something like that and you guys would have to approve it or not.

Ms. Hausfeld – Kate, just to let the public know, the liquor license that we're talking about is where the UDF used to be up on Vine St, and the liquor license is strictly for beer and wine correct, its not for hard liquor at all.

Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – Just beer and wine straight up.

Ms. Hausfeld – OK, thank you.

Mr. Tobergte – I did talk to Chief Moeller and he had no problem with this also.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to approve the new liquor license. Motion passed 7-0.

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mr. St. Clair – In reference to Mrs. Brickweg's remark that I was adamant that I did not want a CPA, my comment was I didn't think we needed a CPA. There are many other accounting professionals that do not have a CPA that could have just as well be Tax Commissioner. They could have an MBA in accounting, could have a BA in accounting. A CPA is a Certified Public Accountant who is certified to audit the financial statements of corporations, while part of what they have to do is in the realm of tax, its usually federal and state tax, its not local tax so, in one way they would be overqualified for the position, in my opinion, and in another way as Eddie mentioned at the COW, local taxes is a different animal. That was the reason I said we really didn't need a CPA for that Tax Commissioner position.

Mrs. Brickweg – Just a comment on that and I explained that people that go for the CPA have a lot of knowledge. It's hard to get it and its not just an easy thing to get and I think we'd be lucky to have somebody with a CPA. It was also suggested that we could not afford one which absolutely not true. I think a CPA would actually come in at the salaries that we're paying right now and I actually think it would be an advantage to have somebody that is experienced in corporate tax and federal tax and state tax to go out to the corporations and especially auditing I think our City could use a good audit personally with everything that seems to be going on. That's just my opinion and if we didn't think it was a good idea I am just curious why it was voted to spend the money to send Sheri to get her CPA when apparently we're thinking it wasn't even needed so I guess that was, well she never did

get it but I think that would have been a waste of taxpayers dollars if we paid for that.

Ms. Hausfeld – I do have a question in regard to the tax dept. and stuff. I know the City gets audited once a year if I'm not mistaken and this is actually directed towards Walt and Eddie. When that audit is done, do we actually audit the Tax Dept. as well or do they just basically audit your dept. Walt?

Mr. St. Clair – They audit my dept., they also audit Mayor's Court, they also audit the Tax Dept. So they audit the operations of the City wherever there is any type of financial transactions or money being handled, they audit those particular areas. Maybe Ed can explain further what they do in the Tax Dept. so I'll leave that to him.

Ms. Hausfeld – I guess the only reason I'm asking is because Ed has come, I missed last weeks meeting but Ed came to quite a few meetings so far and telling us how many problems he's having in the Tax Dept. as far as the work not getting done and stuff like that. My only concern is, how can an audit be done and apparently this has been going on for a long time, that nothing has ever been discovered and would it be to our beneficial and that might be the wrong word but to ask for an outside audit, and maybe that's premature because you can't really do an outside audit yet with all the problems that Eddie's having in the Tax Dept. but, I know I would feel a lot more comfortable up here knowing that, and I know that Eddie is trying get us caught up and stuff, that's a major part of our financial background in the Tax Dept. and if that hasn't been done properly over a few years at least, wouldn't we benefit to ask for an outside audit to be done? I guess that's what my concern is.

Mrs. Brickweg – With everything that's being going on I think that would be a wonderful idea. I do think Ed would have to be caught up and all the information entered but it's the state that come in and audit and the state even has reports where we have not met their criteria. We've had things that need to be fixed. You can get on the auditors website and you can see it and so I don't think its that great of an audit. I'll be honest that the state is doing, I do think it would benefit our City to have a firm or someone come in and do an outside audit and let them just do it and do the audit on their own. But like I said, you kind of suggest it, its not going to be thorough until we get all the paper work together. I do question how it can be done when all the work is not put in the system, but I'm just assuming they do the audit based on what we give them and so they just assume that everything is in the system. I would assume that's how that might have gotten missed.

Mrs. Bedinghaus – Several months ago I brought up about doing some outside, outside assessments of our depts. in order to move things forward. We have to change the way we do business. We can't be living back in 1960. Technology has changed, things have changed and we can't just keep going out and doing things the way we always have done them. I would be in favor of making the tax dept. the first to have an assessment completed as that dept. is the bread and butter of our City. In that way we can see how we can move forward in the future.

Mrs. Brickweg – If it's OK with everybody I'll put that on the agenda for the COW for us to discuss.

Jeremy Judd, 213 Harvey Ct. - Are there any updates on Ordinance No. 14, 2008 and whether it will be discussed next week by Council?

Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – I will have the opinion and the rest of the contract to Council by next Thursday so I think we can put this on the COW for next Thursday.

Mrs. Brickweg – Just in case you didn't hear, in Kate's report she received the feedback, she's working on her legal opinion and it is on the agenda for the COW for next week so we will discuss it then.

Mr. Tobergte – Along the same lines, I'd like to announce a CIC meeting for April 16, 2008 @ 6:00p.m. down in Centennial Hall.

Mrs. Brickweg – The next COW meeting will be April 10th, 2008 @ 7:30p.m.

Mr. Walden – At this time pursuant to the prior vote we will go into Executive Session.

Mr. Walden – Regular session of Council will now come to order.

Mrs. Kathman informed Council that her City lap top was out of order.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte seconded by Mrs. Bedinghaus to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.