

THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

May 9th, 2024

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on May 9th, 2024, in Council Chambers.

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

A motion by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to approve the written minutes of the April 25th, 2024, council meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- I'd like to thank Cheryl Abrams for her service to the village. She recently retired after serving as administrative assistant to the mayor. She was hired by Mayor John Estep and stayed on during my tenure. She's going to be filling in every once in a while, but I hope that she enjoys her much deserved time off. Also, congratulations to Joe Meister on his promotion to Lieutenant in the Saint Bernard Fire Department. Joe brings a wealth of knowledge to the position and most recently served as an engineer. Planning has already started up for the Vine Street project. A preconstruction meeting be held next week to discuss the details of the project. And scheduling, which will run through fall of this year, we successfully completed the Kemper and Church St. paving project. I'm very pleased with the final product. We also just received word that the village is receiving a Ohio Public Works Commission grant for Greenlee Ave. This is a 49% grant with a 51% cast match for construction. It is not the same as what would normally be done for skip grants, where a full reconstruction is done, but this will be a rehab project that includes milling, paving, full depth repairs and curb replacement. The total cost estimated for this project would be \$896,000. The CIC will be voting on four positions at the May 28th meeting, which will be held in Council chambers at 6:00 PM. Terms for the following people have expired Ray Culberson, Bob Culberson, and Amy Osmolality. We also have one vacancy for an opening. Anyone that's interested in joining, please read it. Feel free to reach out to me. You can reach me on my cell phone 543-3780 or mayor at cityofsaintbernard.org. Candidates will be given a 5-to-10-minute opportunity to make your presentation about themselves and what they have to offer as a potential board member of the CIC. Thank you to those residents that have complied with the orders to mother property. Some have received the excellent mowing services of our service department and will be billed. Please do not let it get to this point and please keep up with your property maintenance. I'm also asking that we please go into executive session for a personnel matter. Thank you.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to go into executive session after the meeting to discuss personnel matters. Motion passes 6-0.

Auditor, Mr. Brickweg- I put in your mailbox today, Ordinance 13 2024, these are additional appropriations, the first one, \$200,000 for tax refunds. A big portion of this is from people

working from home who are asking for refunds. City Hall maintenance \$10,000, we had pretty much all the generators go out and have to be repaired, which was not in the budget. Same thing for the \$4,000 in the garage maintenance, the fuel pumps went out on the equipment maintenance and \$10,000, we had two packers go down and then we've also are trying to do more work in house, which will actually save money, but we have to buy equipment so they can do that work in house. Park maintenance \$20,000 I don't know if you've noticed, but with Mr. Middendorf taking over, there's been a lot of work and a lot of upgrades to the parks and he's really doing a great job trying to fix them up. But it takes money to fix them up, so that's what that is for and then City Hall supplies \$1000.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to place Ordinance 13 2024 on the agenda for next council meeting, Motion passes 6-0.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenberg- I am continuing to work on what will hopefully be final revisions to the matters that will we discussed on the next Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting. I also need to go into executive session to discuss an ongoing litigation matter.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Estep, to go into executive session after the meeting to discuss pending litigation. Motion passes 6-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- Absent.

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

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- April tax collections are:

- Tax collections for April 2024: \$1,259,018.24.
- April 2024 is down .42% or \$5,357.00 from April 2023.
- Refunds for April: \$41,688.22
- Delinquent tax collected with Capital Recovery: \$676.00.
- Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office: \$37,724.62.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Moreton- The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00PM in the Lower Level of City Hall. We will be continuing the discussion regarding upcoming expenditure, such as a new firetruck, unloader, and street sweeper. Thank you to those who were able to attend today's community connect. We discussed upcoming road repairs, grants, new community events, the local business scene, and pedestrian safety. Additionally, I have some key callouts that residents have requested for the following committees: ● Residents requested that the Business and Industry Committee meet to discuss how to better establish business connections with local events so they can be more present in the community. Residents also asked that they discuss the organization of a small business group. ● Residents also requested the safety committee to discuss the enforcement of traffic laws regarding through traffic on residential roads. ● Lastly, residents requested the Safety Committee to look into

lengthening yellow curb paint areas at stop signs in accordance to already existing ordinances and potential shade coverage for our playgrounds to avoid hot play equipment burning/injuring kids.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you to everyone who attended our Clean Up St. Bernard Day event on April 28th. We were delighted to see such strong participation from residents, friends, and members of our administration, including Mayor Stuchell and Councilman Moreton. Your collective efforts in maintaining the cleanliness of our community are deeply appreciated. Despite our expectations, there was less litter in the community than anticipated, largely due to the proactive measures taken by our Service Department Foreman, Don Middendorf, and the rest of our Service Department employees. We extend our gratitude to them for their ongoing commitment to keeping our streets clean. Looking ahead, we invite you to join us for our upcoming Shred Day event at the Safety Center on May 18th from 9am to 12pm. Details of the event are as followed:

- Enter the Safety Center parking lot from Vine Street.
- Follow the signs and drive through the lot to reach the shredding truck.
- Once you've finished, exit through the back of the Safety Center onto Mitchell Ave.

This event offers a hassle-free way to tackle your spring cleaning by securely disposing of old documents – all at no cost to you! We look forward to seeing you there.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- We had no need for a public service committee meeting this month, but I would like to thank all the residents who are not only maintaining their yards but also improving their homes. Last month I've seen work being done on numerous properties. Thank you. Improving properties improves our whole community. I would also like to say, as I walked through Saint Bernard last week, I've met five people I had not known before Miss Evans, Ron Smitty, Nay and Dave Brandkamp. Some of them lived here in Saint Bernard for a long time, others for not so long. But all five enjoy living here. I want to encourage anyone who sees me out and about to feel free to bring up any concerns or just tell me how great it is to live here. Saint Bernard has an outstanding Service, Police and Fire departments with dedicated people that work there. A great recreation department enables our kids and parents to make special memories they will have their whole life. Open communication, both good and bad, makes our community stronger. There is so much good here. Let us not forget. Thank you.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- No report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- Sign-ups for summer swim lessons along with SAY Soccer Lollipop soccer will take place on Saturday, May 18th and Saturday, June 1st from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Aquatic Center Presale. Aquatic Center season passes will also be available on those dates. The Aquatic Center opens Memorial Day weekend, then opens for operations daily beginning June 1st. The first Fresh Market of the Year will take place on Sunday, May 19th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This event will be held in the lower-level lot of City Hall next to the Fifth Third Bank. Another reminder that applications for boots at this year's German Luau are now being accepted until May 20th. All local nonprofits, schools and other organizations are encouraged to participate. For more information, please contact Mindy Miller at events@cityofsaintbernard.org. The Garden Club will be hosting the members and the public for their welcome to the Garden

Party in the Community Garden next Saturday, May 18th starting at 6:30 PM. Bring a cooler with your favorite beverages and join the gardeners as they kick off this year's planning season, Father EJ Stein from St. Clement. Bless the Garden at 6:30 PM that night. Lastly, the Historical Society's next program will be held on Monday, May 20th at 7:00 PM in the upper level of the Municipal Building. The program is titled Crossley Field Remembered and it will be presented by David Trout.

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- We will also be having our Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27th at 10:00 AM in the lower-level parking lot just to honor local veterans that paid the ultimate sacrifice. Thank you.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- Thank you, Mr. President. Tentatively, we'll have a business and industry meeting on May 15th at 6:00 PM in the downstairs hall. I'll double check with Heidi and the other members, to see if they're available. Just a reminder, Mr. Steve Schad from Roger Bacon will be here at our next council meeting.

No audience participation.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to excuse the absent member. Mr. Schildmeyer. Motion passes. 6-0.

Council went into executive session to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters.

Council returned to Council Chambers.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to place an ordinance on the table to approve the contract for the new Safety Service Director. Motion passes 6-0.

Next Council meeting will be held Thursday, May 23rd, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

Meeting is adjourned.