

# THE VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Council Chambers.

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

A motion by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to approve the written minutes of the May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, council meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

### REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- I'd like to thank everyone who attended and participated in the Memorial Day Service as we paid tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. It's a beautiful day in our special village and I'm grateful for the residents who attended and for the Fire, Police, Recreation and Service departments, Troop 354, the Delta Kings, bagpiper Roger Loth, Father EJ Stein, Reverend Jonathan Bradner, Phil Statham from the St. Bernard Eagles, Kate Phillips from the St. Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Society and Brenda Hensley from the St. Bernard Senior citizens for their participation. I'd also like to thank everyone in our community who attended and assisted with the recent Brews and Badges. The village of Saint Bernard hosted the Hamilton County Police Association. It was a fun event and there were some serious pickle ballers out there on the court. HSPA loves the community and looks forward to having additional events and fundraisers to help support all of their collaborative efforts in their organization that helps local law enforcement. I also had the pleasure of swearing in Patrol Officer James Savage recently and I would like to welcome him to our police department. He comes to us with prior experience from the Hamilton and Terrace Park police departments. Patrol Officer Savage will be working with his field training officers for the next several months as he becomes friendly with our community.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- I just like to make an announcement reminding everybody that in two weeks at the Council meeting at 7:00, we'll be having a public hearing in regards to the projected 2025 budget. Also, I'd like to ask Council for an ordinance for the next Committee of the Whole. General fund transfer out \$500,000 going into the capital improvements. We put the money in for the equipment, but we need to move the money into the fund for when the bills come due. So, this is not an additional appropriation. I would like an additional appropriation of 5 MP 9 streets and sewers for \$50,000. We are not sure this is going to be needed, but we have some major issues down by Vine and Mitchell down in that area, which is going to be our responsibility. But they're looking at it and we have no idea how bad that's going to be. So, I just want to appropriate it so we can actually have the PO and be ready in case anything happens.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to place the appropriation and transfer of funds ordinance on the agenda for the next council meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- Thank you. You should have before you tonight or two ordinances which I prepared. They both come out of the lost contracts and claims committees. They're things we've been discussing for a while now. We're proposed ordinance 19 2024 would amend section 121.01 of the codified ordinances which is regarding council person attendance, salary deduction, and vacation of office. I also have prepared ordinance 20 2024 which would amend section 905.03 of the codified ordinances pertaining to weed and litter removal. Our previous ordinance did not define obnoxious weeds, but it did reference specific plants. We amended that last fall, but the decision was made to incorporate the list from the Ohio Administrative Codes of the prohibited obnoxious weeds and invasive plant species. We discussed it in the committee, we would like this ordinance to go regular course so people can have a chance to look it over and maybe give additional feedback.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to place ordinance 19 2024 and ordinance 20 2024 on the agenda for the next council meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- Absent.

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

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- Absent,

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance, Mr. Moreton- The Finance Committee meeting scheduled for June 19th has been canceled in recognition of Juneteenth. A rescheduled meeting can be expected to be announced in the coming days for some time in June. Thank you to those who were able to attend the June community connect. We discussed walk and bike paths, popup libraries, and improvements to our community pool. The next Community Connect has also been moved in recognition of Independence Day to Thursday, July 11th in the lower level of City Hall from 5:30-6:30PM. Attendees are encouraged to attend the Committee of the Whole afterwards at 7PM.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- The Service Department will be closed June 19th in observance of Juneteenth. Residential trash pickup will not be affected that week. The Service department would like to inform residents about the following ongoing projects around the village. The Welcome to Saint Bernard signs have been replaced with brand new ones, all railings outside of City Hall will receive a fresh coat of paint to match the new light poles being installed along the City Hall side of Washington Ave. The new street sweeper and loader have been ordered and are expected to arrive by the end of July, if not sooner. And lastly, the larger section of the dog park at Ross Park remains closed for maintenance work. The ground inside the park has been leveled and we are now waiting for the grass seed to take root before reopening. The dog park is anticipated to reopen within a couple weeks.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- There's no need for a Public Improvement Committee meeting this month, but I would like to draw attention to a few things. First, I'd like to promote our Public Library. Our branch gives away free meals Monday through Friday from 2:00 to 2:45

PM. That started May 31st and we'll run through August the 13th. All children one through 18 or of age are eligible for this program, and individuals 19 through 21 years of age have been identified as having mental or physical disabilities and following individual education programs. Through this, their current enrollment and educational programs are also eligible, made possible through federal funding as part of the USDA Child Nutrition Program and in partnership with the UMC Food Ministries to bring snacks and meals to select drive library locations. The children can also be involved in a summer reading program starting June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to our recreation department for hosting our tee ball program. There are 5 teams, which are about 50 children and 10 coaches who give their time and energy so our young children can learn the joy of playing baseball. Was also suggested that council members announced the games. Great idea. So far Ray, Gus and I have gotten involved with Chris also making a commitment. The children and parents and grandparents love hearing their names and it is great fun doing the announcing. It is important to be involved in our village. Thank you to the library, the children, and the coaches. Don't forget, tomorrow, June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day so if you have a flag, fly it proudly.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- Mr. President, tonight I have the police activity report for the month of May for the Police Department. They had 783 calls for service, resulting in 656 contacts. There were an additional 550 other services details that were not necessarily called in by the public. These calls for services included 48 total criminal offenses, resulting in 108 criminal arrests, 62 traffic citations in 90 traffic warnings. Of these traffic contacts, 31 were primarily for speed and 3 were for OVI. Responded to 23 accidents as well, with four of these involving injuries. And as far as news and notes from the Police Department. They wanted to let the public know that the police motorcycle is now out and about, and we have received a lot of positive feedback from the citizens. Motorists are asked to be alert and mindful of motorcycle and bicycle traffic as the weather finally starts to warm up. New officer James Savage is currently training on night shift. As a reminder, if you see something, call and report it at 911 or 513-242-2727.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- Laws, Contracts and Claims committee, held a meeting on June 5th. What was discussed in that meeting was short- and long-term rentals. We did push that further down the road. The law director is going to make some changes and bring that back to our next meeting. We also discussed the weed ordinances which resulted in the recommendation we put in front of you for ordinance #20 and the attendance policy for council members which resulted in recommendation for ordinance #19. The next Laws, Contracts and Claims meeting has been set for July 24th at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers. I do have a question on one of the ordinances. Valerie, we discussed adding an appeal section where you could appeal the cost for weeds. Can we add that to the ordinance, and can it still be on the agenda for the next council meeting?

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- The ordinance has not been read yet so I can add it and get something out before the next meeting.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- The first aquatic family night of the season will be June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Aquatic Center. The Concert in the Pavilion will be held June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00pm to 11:00pm, with music by Toneyard. This year's German Luau will take place on Friday, August 2nd and on Saturday, August 3rd. On Friday, we are featuring the musical group The Naked Karate Girls from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. On Saturday, the music will be provided by Velvet

Crush, again from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Please go to the German Luau page on Facebook to learn more about this event, including participating in the parade and purchasing your 2024 German Luau merch. The next Historical Society meeting will be held Monday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the upper level of the municipal building.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- Absent.

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

The public hearing to discuss the 2025 budget will be held June 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

The next Council Meeting will be held after the public hearing on June 27<sup>th</sup> in Council Chambers.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Schildmeyer, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting is adjourned.