

VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 12th, 2024

The St. Bernard Village Committee of the Whole was held on September 12th, 2024, in Council Chambers.

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

A moment of silence was given in honor of Richie Mueninghoff. Richie was a former service department employee who passed away last month.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to approve the written minutes of the August 22nd council meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Tomorrow night, Friday, September 13th, the Saint Bernard Police and Fire Benevolent Association State Fry will take place at the Vine Street Park Pavilion from 4:00 to 11:00. Stakes will be served from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. Tickets are \$20 and include your steak, baked potato salad, corn on the cob, and beverages. Of course, the number of tickets available is limited, so to seek out a police officer or fireman to try to buy them in advance while you can. There will also be live entertainment at this great event. Also, on Saturday, September 14th, there'll be a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House in honor of Allison Estep from 6:00 to 11:00 PM at the Vine Street Park Pavilion. It's \$10 to get in, which includes your food from Jack's Catering, all you need to do is show up and bring your own beverages. The pavilion will be closed for pickleball and basketball on Saturday, but it will be open again on Sunday by noon. Also, I'd like to give a brief update on behalf of the CIC regarding the shopping center. Currently we are working on bids for the demolition for the First State Bank building, which will hopefully be completed in the next few months. We are also progressing on the relocation of the remaining tenant and once that happens, the second phase of the demolition bid will be able to occur. CIC will be finalizing development plans at that point once an established timeline is available and once the property is cleared and the other site preparation has been completed. Anyone who is interested to come to our next CIC meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, September 24th at 6:00 PM. In terms of chambers, thank you. That concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- I need two things put on the agenda for the council meeting. The first one, and I'm hoping this goes through, Hamilton County is supposed to meet on September 17th to approve our 2025 budget. If they do so, which I assume they will, I would like Resolution 5 2024 to be put on the table, to be voted on. This is the budget where we get the public hearing this summer. It's just a projective budget, but we they will send us back schedule A and schedule B which will be attached to the resolution for you to vote on. The second is an ordinance an additional appropriation of \$10,000 into miscellaneous to 2-K-2. We've been using that for

various miscellaneous items that we had not budgeted and quite a few of them. For payroll, like if we have a paycheck kickback, a direct deposit kickback, and HS a kickback, the money goes into our account, but I have nowhere to repay it back out of, so I use that line item for that. Those are the two things that I need on the agenda. That concludes my report.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to place Resolution 5 2024 and Ordinance 29 2024 on the table. Motion passes 7-0.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- I met last evening with the Laws Contracts and Claims Committee to go over some final changes to the proposed short-term, long-term rental lease agreement ordinance. I also had prepared, and we reviewed the proposed ordinance dealing with the registration of vacant properties. We're looking at that one and we should have those hopefully to you early next month to look at through the Committee of the whole. Thank you.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- No report, absent.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Werdmann- I wanted to take a minute to recognize the police department for their quick and effective response to a vehicle for theft in the village last month once again I'm impressed with how often I receive citizen complements rather than complaints for the work that our employees do. Uh, another issue, we received notification today that 256 properties in the village will be receiving notices from Greater Cincinnati Waterworks about their plans to replace lead and galvanized steel service lines at these properties. The replacement program will take place incrementally over the next few years and property owners will be notified by water works in advance of any work that will be performed at those properties. Finally, I received notice that the semi-annual gas monitoring program for the former landfill site has been completed for 2024. I'm glad to report that there were no combustible gas concentrations at or above the compliance thresholds that were detected, and it is anticipated that the next semi-annual monitoring events will be performed in March of 2025. That concludes my report.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- I have the Tax department August 2024 and the month receipts. Tax collections for August were \$610,295.00. August 2024 is up 9.71% or \$53,991.00 from August of 2023. Refunds for August were \$5,137. 00. Delinquent tax collected with capital recovery was \$1,066.43. Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office was \$13,593.63. Just a quick reminder to those who have a tax extension on their 2023 Saint Bernard. Return. The tax return is due by October 15th, 2024. Saint Bernard has mandatory tax filing. Every resident 18 years and older must file a yearly tax return unless you have an exemption from me. If you're unsure of what that means, please call my office at 513-242-7710. And that concludes my report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Moreton- The Finance Committee meeting scheduled for next week has been canceled due to no agenda topics warranting a meeting at this time. The next Finance Committee Meeting is set for October 16th at 6PM in the Lower Level of City Hall. Thank you to the volunteers who have picked up packets and to those who have even already completed their

portion of the Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility Audit. I'm especially appreciative of the partnership with our local We THRIVE St. Bernard team, which has allowed for the audit to be expanded to include our beautiful parks and other public spaces. Altogether, volunteers have signed up to cover over 15 linear miles of streets and sidewalks and again every one of our 9 parks. We've set a deadline to collect the audit information by September 30th and finalize the report by late October where a summarization of the audit will be made available. Thank you also to those who attended the September Community Connect at the library. The next Community Connect is scheduled for October 3rd at 5:30PM in the Lower Level of City Hall. As always, all of those who live or work in the Village are encouraged to attend. Thank you. That concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- Don't forget that next Wednesday, September 18th from 9:00am-1:00pm, the Service Department, in partnership with Hamilton County Resource, will be holding a Hazardous Waste Collection Day at 5230 Vine Street. Again, as a reminder, items that will be accepted are Pesticides, Herbicides, Fertilizers, Solvents, Thinners, Lead Paint, Oil-based paints, Oil-based stains, fluorescent tubes, Cleaners, Pool chemicals, Driveway sealers, Mercury Tar, Thermostats, Thermometers, Oxygen cylinders and tanks, Refrigerant cylinders and tanks, and Adhesive Foam Cylinders. After dropping off your hazardous waste, please provide your email to the staff from Hamilton County Resource to participate in a brief survey.

Service Department Updates

Beginning in October, the wooden benches in all the parks will be removed for routine maintenance, including replacing damaged boards and repainting. Due to recent warm weather, some trees may have begun shedding leaves early. The Service Department kindly requests that resident bag their leaves for regular trash collection rather than blowing them to the curb, as the leaf collection truck will not be out until October. Lastly, despite various delays, we expect the new street sweeper and loader to be delivered by the end of this month.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- I'm going to schedule a public improvement committee meeting for next month for citizens to bring forth ideas for and against energy aggregation. This will be strictly a meeting for the committee to listen to you. Please know the research for this meeting will be on our citizens. I promise to listen and keep an open mind. The time and date will be scheduled early next month when everyone on the committee is available. I'd also like to inform citizens that they're able to report broken streetlights directly to Duke Energy. There was one out on Bertus for months. I got the number off the pole and the closest address went to the Duke Energy website. Clicked on outages and followed the instructions. It was easy. It took about 5 minutes. I reported it to Duke on August 26th and it was repaired the next day. And the last thing I'd like to mention is that it's necessary for new residents to register at City Hall. It's important for our village to know its residents, but it's important to have an accurate population count. When they register, they'll receive a welcome packet explaining all that Saint Bernard has to offer, such as the swimming pool and the fitness center. I met four people last night walking and none of them had an idea they needed to register, and they were all very nice people, and I'd like to welcome them to Saint Bernard. Thank you, Mr. President, this concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- No report.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- Last night, September 11th, we held the laws, contracts and claims meeting. As Valerie mentioned in the agenda was short-term and long-term rentals and vacant property changes ordinance. Both of those we plan to circulate after Valerie makes a couple small changes, and our intention is to put that on the table at the next committee of the whole for a vote. At this time, we don't have a next meeting set up because there are no agenda items to address at this time. We'll set one up when something is needed. That concludes my report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- This year's Halloween Camp out will take place on Friday, October 11th and Saturday, October 12th at lower Ross Park. There will be a community costume contest with trick or treating around the track, fire pits, movies and more. To reserve your spot, e-mail recreation@cityofsaintbernard.org with your name, phone number and number of campsites you would like and any special requests. Everything is free. Saint Bernard residents will be given first priority, but nonresidents are welcome when accompanied by a resident. For more information or questions, please call the REC office at 513-641-3137 Also, our final Concert in the Pavilion for the year will be on Saturday, September 28th with Crown Watts playing from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. That concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- No report.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Is there anyone in the audience wishing to address council this evening?

No audience participation.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 7-0.

Meeting is adjourned.