

VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD
COUNCIL MEETING
September 26th, 2024

The St. Bernard Village Council Meeting was held on September 26th, 2024, in Council Chambers.

The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A motion by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to dispense with the reading of the last council meeting minutes and approve of the written minutes of the last council meeting. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes stand as submitted.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you Mr. President. We received great news today that the Hamilton County commissioners approved a \$200,000 grant for the payout to the old First State Bank building. Once that note is paid off, we would be able to move forward with the demolition. The is CIC is making progress with the relocation specialist who has been retained to assist the remaining tenant in the shopping center and finding an appropriate new location for the tenant. Again, once this happens the shopping center structure will be demolished. I'd like to thank Tim Werdmann for representing our great village today at the Board of Commissioners meeting. That concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Thank you Mr. President. The auditor's department has Resolution 5 2024 on for tonight. This is the resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor. These numbers are based on the summer budget that was read in July and we sent in to the county auditor. The second is Ordinance 29 2024. This is an additional appropriation to general fund 2-K-2 miscellaneous in the amount of \$10,000. That concludes my report.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- No report.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- Absent.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Werdmann- I'm sure that most of you are aware of the rail car leaking styrene in western Hamilton County earlier this week. Our Fire Chief Brian Young and Brett Fogle from the fire department both responded to the scene to assist. I just wanted to point that out that's an example of the work that our public safety employees do not just in the village

but to assist other jurisdictions regularly and I thank them for that. Along those same lines, I had a call from Don Middendorf today and he assured me that the service department is pre planning for any contingencies that may come up from storm or the remainder of the storm Helene that may come into the village so they are well prepared for that and I appreciate that thought being put into that pre planning. Finally, we did have a preconstruction meeting this week regarding the June Street repaving project. The current schedule has worked on that project beginning on October 4th and finishing the following week. We have coordinated with Proctor and Gamble to ensure minimal disruption to their workforce during this project and that concludes my report thank you.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helems- 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- Thank you Mr. President. Nothing to report regarding the Finance Committee at this time; however, in other news, the next Community Connect will be held on Thursday, October 3rd at 5:30PM in the Lower Level of City Hall. As always, all who live and work in the Village are welcome to attend. Thank you again to the volunteers who have already completed their portion of the Safety and Accessibility Audit. We've set a deadline of September 30th to collect the completed packets. If you still need to conduct your portion of the audit, please do so by then or reach out to me via phone or email- both of which are listed on the Village website- so I can coordinate a time to come pick the packet up. I want to of course also extend a thank you to Don and the Service Department for working so quickly to already fix some of the identified issues. It seems that only in St. Bernard can a resident send over an issue and often see it resolved within a few days. Also, thank you to the folks at St. Clement for organizing the Skill for Disagreeing Better workshop last week, led by the non-partisan, non-profit organization, Braver Angels. It was heartwarming to see so many folks from around the Village come together to learn how to have more productive conversations around difficult topics. Lastly, I'm proud to share that I was able to attend the Advocate for Education Day programming last week. While there, I learned how to better advocate to State officials regarding important progress on the public education front. It was truly a proud moment to brag about our impressive schools we have here in the Village. Thank you. That concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- For the month of August 2024, the Service Department completed the following: 42 dump trucks placed at residences, 24 dumpsters placed at residences, 284 special pick-ups for residences, 174.8 tons of garbage delivered to the landfill, 28.6 tons of recycling material sent to Rumpke Recycle, 2 car batteries recycled, 5,440 lbs. of scrap metal recycled. A big thank you to all residents who participated in our Hazardous Waste Collection Day! We had

27 households contribute. We understand that some feedback expressed concerns about the event's hours, but unfortunately, we were unable to extend them, as these were the only hours provided by Hamilton County Resource. For next year's event, we plan to assist residents by collecting hazardous waste in the days leading up to the event for those unable to attend. Please note that this Saturday, September 28th, Vine Street will be temporarily closed from Railroad Avenue to Spring Grove Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. due to the delivery and installation of an industrial AC unit at P&G. Detour signs will be posted along Railroad Avenue, Beech Street, and Spring Grove Avenue to assist drivers with alternative routes. The Service Department will run the Leaf Truck from October 14th through December 6th. Please place your leaf piles at the curb, ensuring they do not extend into the street or block the sidewalk as much as possible. Leaves placed at the curb before October 14th must be bagged or canned and set out on your normal garbage day. Any unbagged or un-canned leaf piles left at the curb after December 6th will result in a \$150 fine. Thank you in advance for your cooperation! Lastly, the Service Department's new front loader has finally been delivered and is parked outside for all those interested to see. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- Thank you Mr. President. I would like to add People Working Cooperatively to our agenda for our next Committee of the Whole meeting on October 10th. People Working Cooperatively helps low-income homeowners with critical repairs in Cincinnati and surrounding areas. I contacted People Working Cooperatively for information and my contact offered one of the representatives to speak with our council and I thought it was a great idea. Some of our citizens struggle to do necessary repairs, some mandated by the village. This nonprofit might be the answer to some of these situations. Once added to the agenda I will contact them to finalize their appearance. I would also like to say how much I enjoyed this month's Saint Bernard Ludlow Grove Historical Societies program on Cincinnati Chili who would have thought Chili Time was one of the oldest chili parlors in Cincinnati when they closed. Every month a very professional well researched program is presented and I urge everyone to come and check it out. Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 7 PM in the main hallway municipal building. Thank you Mr. president this concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- Thank you Mr. President. For the month of August, the Police Department had 828 calls for service resulting in 550 contacts. There were an additional 477 other service details that were not necessarily called in by the public. These calls for service included 37 total criminal offenses and resulted in 66 criminal arrests, 61 traffic citations including 12 for speeding as well as 105 traffic warnings including 14 for speed. They responded to 14 accidents as well as 26 requests for mutual aid. They wanted to make sure they send out a complete thank you to everyone who attended their annual steak fry, The event was a huge success with almost all 700 tickets sold. If you were contacted after winning one of the numerous door prizes or raffle merchandise, please remember to pick those up ASAP. The police department is having a safety day and will be held on Saturday October 5th at lower Ross Park. Please come out and participate in this family fun event. There's numerous safety equipment from many different counties and

agencies will be on display. The times are from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM. It was also brought to my attention to make sure that the residents lock your car doors, Cars have been broken into or should I say cars that are being left unlocked. Things are being stolen out of them so make sure you take your valuables in the house make sure you lock your cars before you go in the house. Also, this just happened to me I think it was Friday, there is another scam going around the city of Saint Bernard and I really thought somebody really liked me because there was \$100 bill on my front of the car window but here to find out that it's a scam. What they do is they put \$100 bill underneath your windshield wiper and you start your car. When you get out to get the \$100 bill, they jump in your car and they steal your car. Apparently, it hit tower Ave. real big that day because I was probably 6-7 person that turned it into the Police Department so just make sure that residents know that there is a scam going on the \$100 bill looks so real but it is not and don't fall for it just contact your police department if you have any questions or concerns thank you that concludes my report.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- Thank you Mr. President. The last laws contracts and claims meeting was held on September 11th at 7:00 PM. On the agenda was short- and long-term rentals and ordinance language for vacant properties. That language we believe is close to being complete. The law director will be sending out the final version for review that we hope to put on the table for the next Committee the Whole meeting. The next walls laws, contracts and claims meeting has not yet been set, we will set it once there is a need or an agenda item to add to it that concludes my report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- Thank you Mr. President. This coming Saturday, September 28th will be the final concert for the summer. Crown Watts will be playing at 7:00 PM in the pavilion. Free grill items will be available so all you need to do is bring a chair and your choice of drinks. This is a rain or shine event. Also on Saturday September 28th, the St. Bernard Garden Club will be hosting a pumpkin sale from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the community garden on tennis lane. This year's Halloween camp out will take place on Friday October 11th and Saturday October 12th at lower Ross Park. To reserve your spot please e-mail recreation@cityofSaintBernard.org with your name, phone number, number of campsites, and any special needs. Again, this is a free event. Lastly the next fresh market will be on Sunday October 20th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the pavilion that concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to thank everyone for their support a couple weeks ago during our Heart to Heart fundraiser in memory of our daughter Allison for the Ronald McDonald House. To date our committee of my wife Patty my daughter Katie and I have raised about \$150,000 for Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House. It's very uplifting to know that there are so many people who step up when it's time to help others. We heard a lot of nice things about using the pavilion as a venue and the service our village provides. I feel our family is very fortunate to be blessed with so many friends and others who shared their support for those in need. That concludes my report thank you.

Committee of the Whole, Ms. Stegman- Thank you Mr. President. Minutes were submitted Tuesday, September 24th and I have no communications this evening.

RESOLUTION 5 2024

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES DETERMIND BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Resolution 5 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adopt Resolution 5 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 29, 2024

AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL APPORPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 29 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Estep, to adopt Ordinance 2024. Motion passes 7-0.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- Does anyone on council have anything under old business? New business?

No audience participation.

Next Committee of the Whole will be held Thursday, October 10th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

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

Meeting is adjourned.