

VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

December 12th, 2024

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

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

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to approve the written minutes of the November 21st council meeting. Motion passes 5-0.

President o Council, Mr. Asbach- Next on the agenda would be to continue to discuss the trash ordinance. Any comments?

No comments from Council or audience.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you Mr. President. First off, I would like to thank everyone for making the village holiday event a huge success. Thank you for those who attended, we couldn't have had a better evening with Santa and Mrs. Claus, our DJ, all of the awesome vendors who were present. A big thank you to all of our volunteers, which I am not going to mention by name out of fear of forgetting someone, but we could not do this without you. The setup for the event was a huge task and the placement of all of the Luminarias up and down Vine Street looked great, as long as they stayed standing. The Light Up St. Bernard Event and the Will Light for Food Contest really brings the spirit of community and giving to the village that we all love. We could not ask for a better partnership than the Village PAC in making this event what it is. The Will Light for Food Contest allowed for 7,741 canned good items to be collected for the St. Clement Food Pantry.

1st Place were the Robbins at 27 Orchard

2nd Place were the Sowder's at 403 Jefferson

3rd Place were the Crank's at 417 Washington

That concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Thank you Mr. President. Before I go over the ordinance, I'd like to thank Mr. John Ungruhe, today is his last day as our treasurer. Jonathan, the mayor, will be swearing in Kim Darrenkamp as the next treasurer. She's out of town this week but as soon as

she gets back. On the agenda tonight is Ordinance 36 2024. We are decreasing up to almost \$700,000 in decreasing appropriations. Just some of the things to point out, the fire overtime at \$50,000, they're also taking \$50,000 out of their regular employees at the bottom so that's a wash. Building permit expenses which is something we haven't seen in a while but there's some major building going on in the Village. The ARPA expense money in the fund needs to be spent so we did not appropriate for that this year but we're going to appropriate and it's going to go to the parks so we can finish out all the reports. Everything else is pretty much self-explanatory. Are there any questions? If not, that concludes my report.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to place Ordinance 36 2024 on the table for the next council meeting. Motion passes 5-0.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- You have before you ordinance 38 2024. It's a draft ordinance because I just caught a couple of typos so I'll clean this up and bring it back next week. The exhibit A this is ordinance that has to do with modifying the current chapter 1331 to comply with what the State of Ohio wants us to have for flood damage protection language. They actually sent us a draft that they want us to use we've had some back and forth with them. It's currently sitting with us the state but there really are just two things they need to look at so I should have that hopefully wrapped up before Thursday. If not, we'll just take it back, we'll close that out and we'll have to introduce it to the first of the year but my hope is we can get it done next week thank you.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to place Ordinance 38 2024 on the table for the next council meeting. Motion passes 5-0.

A moment of silence was given in honor of Betty Strotman who passed away. Betty was the wife of former Councilman Bob Strotman. She was the mother of Paul Strotman, former Recreation Director and Dave Strotman, retired firefighter.

Treasurer, Mr. Ungruhe- No report. Thank you to everyone for all your support here in the Village and I wish everyone the best.

Safety and Service, Mr. Werdman- Thank you. You should have in front of you the proposed 2025 line item budget. This is basically a continuation budget. It accounts for necessary personnel increases due to collective bargaining and other reasons, statutory reasons. Everything else is pretty much just carried forward the same as it was last year. There are some deductions based on going through this year's budget and if there were line items that were significantly lower than what was budgeted, I did adjust those. It came out a little bit higher but not significantly higher from last year's budget. I'm going to ask that be put on the table for approval at the next meeting as an emergency ordinance. I would like to request we go into executive session to discuss collective bargaining. That concludes my report.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to go in to executive session after the meeting to discuss collective bargaining. Motion passes 5-0.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to place the 2025 Budget ordinance on the table for the next council meeting. Motion passes 5-0.

Tax Administrator, Ms. Helmes- November 2024 end of month receipts:

Tax collections for November 2024: \$598,469.

November 2024 is up 6.51 % or \$36,563 from November 2023.

Refunds for November: -\$3043.02

Delinquent tax collected with Capital Recovery: \$1093.48.

Delinquent tax collected with the Ohio Attorney General's Office: \$3916.56.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Moreton- Thank you Mr. President. The Finance Committee met last week to review the proposed 2025 Budget. We discussed in great detail the changes to the budget as it stands in 2024, along with strategies to increase tax revenue, such as economic development. The committee was also happy to see a review of the Village's strong financial health in the form of our well-above recommended percent of funds in o reserves versus our annual costs. I want to thank our Safety Service Director Tim Werdmann and Auditor Peggy Brickweg for sharing their insight at the meeting. The proposed 2025 budget represents an exciting year ahead for St. Bernard. Thank you to those who attended any of the 12 monthly Community Connects throughout 2024. Your feedback for our Village has turned into action that resulted in a better community for all our neighbors. Thank you, that concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you Mr. President. I would like to remind everyone that the last day for leaf collection is December 20th. If you have leaves that need to be collected after that date, please bag them and place them on the curb on your regular collection day. Thank you to the Service Department for their help in making the Light Up St. Bernard event a great success. That concludes my report.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- No report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- With the holidays and cold weather, I want to make sure everyone is locking their car doors. There have been quite a few break ins over the last couple weeks. If you are warming up your car, make sure you can lock it or sit in it. I know this is happening everywhere but make sure you lock it or don't leave your keys in the car unlocked. Please do not leave anything in your cars. If you have presents, make sure they go in the house with you. Thank you that concludes my report.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- Absent.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- On behalf of the Marketing Committee and the Recreation Department, I'd like to thank all of the coaches, volunteers and sponsors for making our community recreation programs possible!

Platinum- City Electrical Supply

Gold

Coolant Control Inc/Kodiak

Feichtner Plumbing

Next Generation Insurance

Agency/Iris Wainscott

Oyler Hines/Brandi Schildmeyer

Ram Clean

St. Bernard LaRosa's

Wiedemann's Fine Beer

Wyoming Air

Bronze

Baxter Burial Vault

Bigby Coffee

Engravedin

USA/Everlast

Friar's Club

Jerry Day Auto Service

Progress Supply

SkylineChili St. Bernard

St. Bernard Dairy Queen

St. Bernard Eagles

Wig Land

The next St. Bernard-Ludlow Grove Historical Society program will be on Monday, December 16th in the Main Level of the Municipal Building at 7:00pm. This month's topic is Holiday Trains: A CMC Program. That you that concludes my report.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- Absent.

No audience participation.

Council met in executive session to discuss collective bargaining.

Council returned from executive session.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Culbertson, to excuse Mr. Schildmeyer only as an absentee. Motion passes 5-0.

Next council meeting will be held Thursday, December 19th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Motion made by Mr. Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 5-0.

Meeting is adjourned.