

VILLAGE OF ST. BERNARD
COUNCIL MEETING
January 23rd 2025

The St. Bernard Village Council Meeting was held on December 23rd, 2025, in Council Chambers.

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

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

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 6-0. Minutes stand as submitted.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL

Mayor, Mr. Stuchell- Thank you Mr. President. Just a reminder sports sign ups will be held at the recreation office of 120 Washington Ave. on Saturday January 25th and Saturday February 1st from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Activities include knothole baseball, girls softball, winter swim lessons, mommy and me swim lessons, Stingray swim team sign ups, t-ball, SAY soccer and lollipop soccer. Sign up forms are also available at City Hall in the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. We are also accepting applications for summer employment at the Aquatic Center for both lifeguards and support staff. Applications are available at City Hall and must be turned in by Friday February 14th. You may turn them back into the school during normal business hours or put them in the night drop box. While I'm touching on sports signups, the recreation department and the director of public services and safety are working on securing an online sign up program for the village that we hope to have in place in the very near future. While we are close to finalizing the 2025 village activity calendar, the one-page flyer will also be distributed to residences is being prepared. I'm also sure you're wondering whether or not we're going to have fireworks again? Yes! We have signed the contract for 2025 with Rozzi and our Independence Day celebration event will be held Saturday July 5th at Vine Street Park. St. Clement school's annual spaghetti dinner will be held on Monday January 27th and it will take place from 4:30 to 7:00 PM in the St. Clement school cafeteria at 4534 Vine Street. Ticket includes Larosa's spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, dessert and a beverage. Tickets are cash only \$6 for adults \$5 for seniors over 60 and \$4 for children under 14. Carry out is also available but beverages are not included with carry out. Thank you that concludes my report.

Auditor, Ms. Brickweg- Thank you Mr. President. The first thing on the agenda for tonight is Resolution 1 2025. This authorizes the village to use taxpayers' money for refreshments and meals. This helps support things like Boy Scout night, all of the holiday activities and things like that and it is required by law every year. The second, I emailed this out to council I'm asking an

Ordinance 1 2025 be placed on the table. This is not any additional appropriations this is just basically transferring \$1,400,000 from the general fund into the master cash plan cash account for \$100,000 general bond retirement cash account for \$400,000 and in the employee health plan cash account for \$900,000 and that concludes my report.

Law Director, Ms. Van Valkenburg- No report.

Treasurer, Ms. Darrenkamp- Thank you Mr. President. I have one balance and a statement to report on and that has to do with the Fifth Third Bank statement of the 4th of July Memorial Fund. At this time, it has \$5783.01 and that includes my report.

Safety and Service Director, Mr. Werdmann- Thank you Mr. President. First I want to put on the record officially a thank you to Councilman Edwards for my pretzel sandwich that he brought me. He talked about it for a long time and I just wanted to publicly recognize that. Moving on to other business, I did receive a notification from our partners at Alloy that the village has to designate 2 representatives to the Hamilton County tax incentive review council. The commitment for this is limited to attendance at one annual meeting where the existing enterprise zone agreements and community reinvestment area agreements are reviewed for compliance. Designees have to be residents of Saint Bernard and they have to be approved by council. I'm recommending that Peggy Brickweg and one other member of council be designated as the village representatives. On January 15th I'm following representatives of Enterprise Fleet Management present to the Finance Committee regarding their leasing program for light trucks and equipment. A number of local communities or clients are using Enterprise Fleet Management so we are not going into uncharted waters with this. Given the age of our fleet and the low number of miles we generally put on our vehicles program like this will give us an opportunity to replace the oldest of our service vehicles in a more cost-effective manner than a straight purchase. After the presentation the feedback that I received from the Finance Committee was positive so as a follow up to that meeting, I'm going to be asking that legislation Ordinance 2 2025 be placed on the table to allow the Director of Public Services and Safety to enter into a master's agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management so we can begin the process of trying to update our service department fleet. This will allow us to be better able to respond to situations such as the most recent snow event in a more efficient and effective manner. Finally, I shared the 75% plans for Langley Ave. project with council via e-mail this afternoon. I'm going to request that we have a meeting of the public improvement subcommittee to allow for feedback on the planned removal of the tree lawn prior to the finalization of those plans. Any questions? That concludes my report.

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

- Year End collections for the tax department: \$12,459,922.00

The tax office sent 550 Assessment letters by certified mail last week. The tax office also issued 72 tax warrants this week for those who have not filed 2023. If you get an Assessment or a tax warrant, please do not ignore these and contact the tax office.

2024 St. Bernard tax returns are due April 15, 2025.

The e-file portal will not be available from January 16-January 27 for maintenance for the upcoming 2024 tax filing season.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance, Mr. Moreton- Thank you Mr. President. The Finance Committee met on Wednesday January 15th to discuss a local initiative support corporation supplement program and vehicle leasing options through Enterprise both of which the committee unanimously approved to advance. The minutes of that meeting have also been submitted. I would like to thank Tim Werdmann for organizing the discussion of the meeting and for inviting me, Mr. Baldwin and Mr. swoop from Enterprise to present to the committee who I thank as well for their attendance. The next Finance Committee meeting regularly scheduled for February 19th has been rescheduled to be pushed up a week making it now Wednesday February 12th at 6:00 PM in City Hall. We plan to discuss vacation payout policies and a proposal for a city detect system. I'm also happy to share some more good news about a continued opportunity available to young children in the village called Hamilton County, Head Start. This is a federally funded program that provides free services to children from low-income families. Head Start's goal is to help children develop the skills they need to be successful in school. They offer early head start for their ages from ages newborn to three years old. A home educator visits the home once a week to help support the positive parent child interaction that is already happening at home. They also have their primary head start program which offers full and half day programs including our very own Saint Bernard Elmwood place schools. This program supports school readiness making it easier for a child to succeed in kindergarten. So, for any interested parents or guardians that are listening in they, have a capacity for 16 children at the school and are a full day site with operation hours from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Thursday. If you're interested to learn more, please call 513-674-4329 or go to hceschasstart.org that concludes my report.

Service, Mr. Stuchell- I have the 2024 year-end totals for garbage and recycling:

- 75, 30-yard dumpsters for garbage totaling 2,250 yards, an increase of 10.3% compared to 2023.
- 28, 30-yard dumpsters for yard waste totaling 840 yards, an increase of 133.3%.
- 473 trips made by our garbage trucks to Rumpke landfill, totaling 1,964.85 tons of garbage, a 0.3% increase.
- 300.42 tons of recycling material collected, a 3.6% decrease.

Looking ahead, please mark on your calendars for the following events. Clean Up St. Bernard Day will be held on Saturday, April 26th and our next shred day will be held on Saturday, May 24th. Further details about these events will be shared as the dates approach.

Lastly, I'd like to personally remind everyone again: if you see something in the Village that needs attention, please don't hesitate and wait to report it. The Service Department can't address an issue unless they know about it. You can contact either Safety/Service Director Tim Werdmann at 513-242-7770, or the Service Department at 513-242-0086. Your help in keeping our community in great shape is always appreciated.

Public Improvements, Mr. Edwards- Thank you Mr. President. There was no need for a public improvement committee meeting this month but I would like to thank the Saint Bernard Ludlow Grove Society for sponsoring another interesting and informative program. This month's program was on the Cincinnati's abandoned subway. We were informed that even though it was

a subway most. if it was completed, most would have been above ground, including the section going through Saint Bernard. The subway route would have been mostly following the old canal. The only sections of the subway that were underground were downtown with few other exceptions. The planned subway died only a few years after construction due primarily to the affordability for the automobile and cost of overruns. As always, I would like to encourage our residents to attend each month's meeting held in the main hall of the municipal building at 7:00 PM on the third Monday of the month. Thank you, this concludes my report.

Safety, Ms. Hausfeld- No report.

Laws, Contracts and Claims, Mr. Schildmeyer- No report.

Marketing, Mr. Culbertson- Absent.

Business and Industry, Mr. Estep- No report.

Committee of the Whole, Ms. Stegman- Thank you Mr. President. The last council minutes were submitted Wednesday, January 22nd and I have no communications this evening.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to place Ordinance 1 2025 and Ordinance 2 2025 on the agenda. Motion passes 6-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2025
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF VILLAGE FUNDS TO PURCHASE MEALS OR
REFRESHMENTS FOR VILLAGE EMPLOYEES OR OTHER PERSONS AS SERVING A
PUBLIC PURPOSE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Resolution 1 2025. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Stuchell, to adopt Resolution 1 2025. Motion passes 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 1, 2025
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 1 2025. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld, to adopt Ordinance 1 2025. Motion passes 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2, 2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND SAFETY
TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR VEHICLE LEASING WITH ENTERPRISE
FLEET MANAGEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to suspend with the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 2 2025. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion made by Mr. Schildmeyer, seconded by Mr. Moreton, to adopt Ordinance 2 2025.
Motion passes 6-0.

President of Council, Mr. Asbach- At this time, does anyone have anything under old business?
New business?

Council Member, Mr. Moreton- I would like to add a discussion to the next COW to discuss the energy aggregation program we heard about couple weeks ago.

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

Service Department Foreman, Don Middendorf- I would like to thank council for the passage of Ordinance 2 2025. This is something that is needed. If you would like to see the vehicles in question, please stop by the service department and I would gladly take you on a tour. Thank you.

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

Next Committee of the Whole will be Thursday, February 13th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Motion made by Mr. Moreton, seconded by Mr. Stuchell to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes 6-0.

Meeting is adjourned.