

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, April 15, 2024.
President Barry Gravitt called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: President Barry Gravitt, Pro-Tem Jack Davis, Trustees: Zach Fedoruk, Lonna Johnson, Sheila Snyder, Kristin von Maur, Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda, and Attorney DeFrancesco.

Absent: Trustee Mark VandeVere.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the agenda with addition under Finance and Personnel to set a Council Workshop and Special Council Meeting to discuss health insurance renewal. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 01, 2024.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Sheila Snyder to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 01, 2024, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair: President Barry Gravitt

*President Barry Gravitt gave a synopsis of the Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. before the Council Meeting.

*Council received the 3rd Quarter Report of Investments; January – March 2024.

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to pay the bills in the amount of \$79,884.64. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the Invoice from Berrien County for Water/Sewage Improvements No. 29 Bond due in the amounts of Principal \$185,000.00 & Interest \$15,738.00 for a total amount due of \$200,738.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the Invoice from Berrien County for Water/Sewage Improvements No. 29 Bond due in the amounts of Principal \$185,000.00 & Interest \$15,738.00 for a total amount due of \$200,738.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Set a Council Workshop and Special Council Meeting to discuss health insurance renewal.

*A Council Workshop immediately followed by a Special Council Meeting is set for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. regarding health insurance renewal.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair: Kristin von Maur

*Trustee Sheila Snyder gave a synopsis of the Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve the request from the student council advisor to hold the 2024 homecoming parade on September 24th, 2024, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

*Moved by Kristin von Maur seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the request from the student council advisor to hold the 2024 homecoming parade on September 24th, 2024, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

*Informational: Quotes for a new swing set to replace the present swing set in Memorial Park are going to be obtained.

Approve the “Village of Berrien Springs Code Enforcement Process” worksheet be mailed to all village residents, posted on the website, and available at Village Hall.

*Moved by Lonna Johnson seconded by Jack Davis to approve the “Village of Berrien Springs Code Enforcement Process” worksheet be mailed to all village residents and property owners, posted on the website, and available at Village Hall. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

*Informational: Additional quotes for the completion of the research and historical district study report writing are going to be obtained.

*Informational: The Public Properties and Ordinance Committee will be scheduling a special meeting for reviewing ordinances soon.

FIRE –Village President Pro-Tem Jack Davis and Trustee Lonna Johnson are the Village Representatives.

*The next Fire Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair: Lonna Johnson

*Chair Lonna Johnson gave a synopsis of the Public Utilities Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve Shembarger Asphalt to seal coat the parking area at the Village Hall for \$1,800.00.

*Moved by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Shembarger Asphalt to seal coat the parking area at the Village Hall for \$1,800.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Berrien County Road Department to do a 2” mill & fill on Ferry Street from Cass Street to the Village limits for an estimated cost of \$211,611.06.

*Moved by Shelia Synder seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Berrien County Road Department to do a 2” mill & fill on Ferry Street from Cass Street to the Village limits for an estimated cost of \$211,611.06. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Berrien County Road Department to do a scratch & seal on Tudor Road for the Village’s portion of the road for an estimated cost of \$35,176.00.

*Moved by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve Berrien County Road Department to do a scratch & seal on Tudor Road for the Village’s portion of the road for an estimated cost of \$35,176.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to purchase a 2024 Dodge 2500 Tradesman 4X4 Super Cab pickup from Siemans Ford in Bridgman equipped with a 1500 lb. capacity hydraulic rear liftgate and a Western 8’6” MVP snowplow for \$59,031.00.

*Moved by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve to purchase a 2024 Dodge 2500 Tradesman 4X4 Super Cab pickup from Siemans Ford in Bridgman equipped with a 1500 lb. capacity hydraulic rear liftgate and a Western 8’6” MVP snowplow for \$59,031.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair: Jack Davis

*Chair Jack Davis gave a synopsis of the Shamrock Park Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

*Council received the Revenue/Expense Report for March 2024.

Approve bid of \$36,800.00 from Chorba Asphalt to repave road from office to boat launch, to be put in the 2024-2025 budget.

*Moved by Lonna Johnson seconded by Jack Davis to approve bid of \$36,800.00 from Chorba Asphalt to repave road from office to boat launch, to be put in the 2024-2025 budget. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve bid of \$60,200.00 from Berrien County to chip and seal the drives in the new section, to be put in the 2024-2025 budget.

*Moved by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve bid of \$60,200.00 from Berrien County to chip and seal the drives in the new section at Shamrock Park, to be put in the 2024-2025 budget. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

*Informational: Shamrock Park will be purchasing 3 window air conditioners for the cabins. The cost will be approximately \$179.00 each, not to exceed a total of \$600.00.

Approve to purchase trainload of #11 Slag from Kenneth Smith, not to exceed \$3,000.00.

*Moved by Lonna Johnson seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve to purchase trainload of #11 Slag from Kenneth Smith, not to exceed \$3,000.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve bid of \$64,737.50 from John Deere to purchase Compact Tractor, in this year's budget.

*Moved by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve bid of \$64,737.50 from John Deere to purchase Compact Tractor, in this year's budget. Ayes, 5; Nays, 1 (Lonna Johnson). Motion carried.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

*Nothing new to report.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*The next Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024.

RECREATION AUTHORITY – Jack Davis

*Nothing new to report.

POLICE COMMITTEE – Village President Barry Gravitt is the Village Representative

*The next Police Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE: Chair: Sheila Snyder

*Chair Sheila Snyder gave a synopsis of the Historic District Study Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 08, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Consider sending a letter to all property owners in the proposed district to share what is involved and the district's benefits with them. The letter should contain the following: that we are working on establishing a historic district, the benefits of owning a property in the district, a form for them to fill in information that they are aware of about their property, and a map of the district.

Rhiannon Cizon will compose a list of the benefits and a form for the letter.

*Moved by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve a letter to all property owners in the proposed district to share what is involved and the district's benefits with them. The letter should

contain the following: that we are working on establishing a historic district, the benefits of owning a property in the district, a form for them to fill in information that they are aware of about their property, and a map of the district. Rhiannon Cizon will compose a list of the benefits and a form for the letter. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: Chair: Sheila Snyder

*Chair Sheila Snyder gave a synopsis of the Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Approve to pay Ashia Proia to finish the technical aspects of the new village website and the launch.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve to pay Ashia Proia to finish the technical aspects of the new village website and the launch not to exceed \$1,000.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

AD HOC COMMITTEE: FERAL/STRAY CATS: Chair: Sheila Snyder

*Nothing new to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve Committee Appointments.

***Moved** by Sheila Snyder seconded by Jack Davis to approve the Committee Appointments as presented with the addition of Trustee Lonna Johnson becoming a member of the Historic District Study Committee. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

*Reminder: Sunday, May 05, 2024, is the Spring Market in the Grove from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Barry Gravitt
Village President