

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, June 20, 2022.

President Barry Gravitt called the council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present: President Barry Gravitt, President Pro-Tem Jack Davis, Trustees: Lonna Johnson, Sandy Swartz, Zach Fedoruk, Village Clerk Sheri Kesterke, Deputy Clerk/Village Clerk-in –Training Rachael Kuzda and Attorney DeFrancesco.

Absent: Trustees: Shelia Snyder and Kristin von Maur.

Also Present: *The Journal Era* and numerous audience members.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Sandy Swartz seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held June 06, 2022.

***Moved** by Sandy Swartz seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held June 06, 2022, as presented. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the minutes of the Council Workshop held June 13, 2022.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the minutes of the Council Workshop held June 13, 2022, as presented. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. The *Central County Senior Center June Newsletter* was received.

Audience Comments – None

PRESENTATION BY DEB CONLEY FROM THE IN-MI RIVER VALLEY TRAIL COMMITTEE REGARDING BUILDING A BRIDGE.

The council received a timeline and map of the proposed route that was established February 2021. The preferred option is to build on the old Interurban Abutments/Piers. The abutments will support a structure. The Gateway Community Foundation is established to be the fiduciary agent. A Title 51/ACT 51 Agency has to be the “owner” such as the Village or Berrien County to be eligible for funding. “Ownership” can change. Required annual bridge inspections are \$1,000.00 and underwater inspections, every 5 years, are \$6,000.00. The bridge has to be able to support a vehicle load. 34 miles already built for the IN-MI River Valley Trail, with most being in Indiana. Attorney DeFrancesco will look into funding on behalf of the Village.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair President Barry Gravitt

***The Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting** scheduled for June 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. was cancelled.

Pay The Bills.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to pay the bills in the amount of \$95,237.72. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Consider hiring William Karl Rosenthal as a part time seasonal employee for Shamrock Park.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Sandy Swartz to hire William Karl Rosenthal as a part time seasonal employee for Shamrock Park. Ayes, 4; Nays, 1 (Lonna Johnson). Motion carried.

Approve adding Rachael Kuzda, as upcoming Clerk, to the United Federal Credit Union Charge Card holders list for the Village of Berrien Springs.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve adding Rachael Kuzda, as upcoming Clerk, to the United Federal Credit Union Charge Card holders list for the Village of Berrien Springs. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

(The limit would be \$3,000.00, as on other Department Heads Village Credit Cards. The cards are held in the Village’s vault and are checked out when needed for a purchase or training.)

Approve forming a new Council Committee to oversee and give direction to the Community Coordinator position in regards to Village events, special projects and community projects.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve forming a new Council Committee to oversee and give direction to the Community Coordinator position in regards to Village events, special projects and community projects. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Update the Job Description Of the Position of Community Coordinator in reference to “Direction Provided By” to the new committee.

To discuss when all council members are present.

Approve donating up to \$300.00 for Ice Cream for the Pickle Festival sponsorship.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the Village donating up to \$300.00 for Ice Cream for the Pickle Festival sponsorship. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Fleis & Vandenbrink Invoice #62467 in the amount of \$1,627.00 for the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Plan.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Fleis & Vandenbrink Invoice #62467 in the amount of \$1,627.00 for the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Plan. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

(This is part of the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Grant that was awarded to the Village in the amount of \$215,000 as a 100% Grant approved at the Council Meeting on July 19, 2021.)

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair Kristin von Maur

*Minutes of the Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held June 06, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. was received by the council.

For Information only: A notice from the Seventh-day Adventist Church Michigan Conference was received that they are going door-to-door from July 17-31. They will be distributing free religious literature, praying with community members, enrolling interested individuals in Bible Studies, and seeking donations to support the program. This is basically to let the council know they will be in the area, as our Applications for Peddlers/Solicitor Permit exempts religious or charitable institutions from the permitting requirements.

Approve updated draft Ordinance “An Ordinance To Provide For And Protect The Public Safety, Health And General Welfare of Citizens and Residents Of The Village Of Berrien Springs By Requiring Registration, Inspection And Issuance Of A Permit For Rental Dwelling Units As That Term Is Defined In Said Ordinance. To Provide For Penalties And Remedies For Violations Of The Provision Of This Ordinance.”

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve updated draft Ordinance “An Ordinance To Provide For And Protect The Public Safety, Health And General Welfare of Citizens and Residents Of The Village Of Berrien Springs By Requiring Registration, Inspection And Issuance Of A Permit For Rental Dwelling Units As That Term Is Defined In Said Ordinance. To Provide For Penalties And Remedies For Violations Of The Provision Of This Ordinance.” Roll call vote: Jack Davis/aye; Zach Fedoruk/aye; Sandy Swartz/aye; Lonna Johnson/aye; President Barry Gravitt/aye. Absent: Sheila Snyder and Kristin von Maur. Motion carried.

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

*Future Fire Board Meeting dates in 2022 are: July 27, September 28 and November 16, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

*Village Representative Jack Davis stated 4th of July fireworks and the pancake breakfast are coming up.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair Sandy Swartz

*Chair Sandy Swartz gave a synopsis of the Public Utilities Committee held Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve purchase replacement Micrologics 1200 PLCs with Mircologics 1400 PLCs from Perceptive Controls, Inc. for \$4,663.00 for WWTP.

***Moved** by Sandy Swartz seconded by Jack Davis to approve purchase replacement Micrologics 1200 PLCs with Mircologics 1400 PLCs from Perceptive Controls, Inc. for \$4,663.00 for WWTP. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair Sandy Swartz

*Chair Sandy Swartz gave a synopsis of the Shamrock Park Committee Meeting held Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

*The May 2022 Revenue/Expense Report was received by the Council.

LIBRARY BOARD – Sandy Swartz

Nothing to Report.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Sheri Kesterke

*The next Medic 1 Board Meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2022.

RECREATION BOARD – Jack Davis

Trustee Jack Davis stated girls softball is finished up and boys baseball this week. Tennis this week and soccer next, they are busy.

POLICE COMMITTEE – Village President Barry Gravitt is the Village Representative.

*Future Police Board Meetings are scheduled for: July 28 and October 27, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder

*Trustee Zach Fedoruk gave a synopsis of the Historic District Committee Meeting held Monday, June 06, 2022 at 7:15 p.m.

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: Chair Kelly Ewalt/Sheila Snyder

*Trustee Zach Fedoruk gave a synopsis of the Social Media Committee Meeting held Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Approve the Social Media Policy and the Employee Handbook addendum regarding Social Media use by employees.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the Social Media Policy and the Employee Handbook addendum regarding Social Media use by employees. Roll call vote: Lonna Johnson/aye; Sandy Swartz/aye; Zach Fedoruk/aye; Jack Davis/aye; President Barry Gravitt/aye. Absent: Shelia Snyder and Kristin von Maur. Motion carried.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Reminder: A Public Hearing followed by a Special Council Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. to approve the amended budget for the 2021/2022 Fiscal Year and approve the budget for the new budget year beginning July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.
2. Reminder: A Council Workshop will follow the Special Council Meeting on June 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the top 5 Project Wishes with the council and department heads.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reminder: Due to the July 4th Holiday, the next council meeting will be held Tuesday, July 5th. The Village Hall will be closed on Monday, July 4th.

Audience Comments:

Jason Ramtahal of 113 E. Madison – Another Cars and Coffee this Saturday, Sheriff Paul Bailey might get a SWAT vehicle here for event.

ADJOURNMENT

***Moved** by Sandy Swartz seconded by Lonna Johnson to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Deputy Clerk/Village Clerk-in-Training

Barry Gravitt
Village President