

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, November 07, 2022.

President Barry Gravitt called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: President Barry Gravitt, President Pro-Tem Jack Davis, Trustees: Zach Fedoruk, Lonna Johnson, Sheila Snyder, Sandy Swartz, Kristin von Maur, Village Clerk Sheri Kesterke, and Deputy Clerk/Clerk in Training Rachael Kuzda.

Absent: Attorney DeFrancesco.

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

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve the amended agenda with additions under Community Coordinator Committee: Approve the second annual “In a Pickle 5K”; under New Business: Approve a Christmas Care donation box in the Village Hall; and under Finance and Personnel: Consideration of Shamrock Park Applicant William Rosenthal. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 24, 2022.

***Moved** by Sandy Swartz seconded by Jack Davis to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 24, 2022, as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notice of a Pre-Hearing regarding I&M Power Company request Michigan Public Service Commission’s approval to implement a power supply cost recovery for the twelve-months ending December 31, 2023. To be held Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 10:00 am before Administrative Law Judge Jonathan Thoits by video/teleconferencing.
2. The Berrien County Planning Commission has completed its draft of the Berrien County Master Plan. The 2022 Plan is available for review at the Community Development Department’s home page of the County’s website. Written comments are welcome and requested within 63 days. The Public Hearing is on Tuesday, January 9, 2023, at 2:30 p.m. at the County Administration Center.
3. *Central County Senior Center* November 2022 Newsletter received.

Audience Comments: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair President Barry Gravitt

***The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.**

***Village President/Chair Barry Gravitt gave a synopsis of the Special Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Monday, November 07, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.**

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to pay the bills in the amount of \$70,367.01. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Consideration of Part-Time Shamrock Park Applicant William Rosenthal.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to hire William Rosenthal as a part-time Shamrock Park employee at \$12.00 an hour pending passing the pre-employment physical and drug screen, disregarding THC results. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair Kristin von Maur

***The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.**

1. The draft *Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027* was received by the council for review.

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

***Future Fire Board Meeting date in 2022 is: November 16, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.**

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair Sandy Swartz

*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair Sandy Swartz

*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD– Sandy Swartz

Nothing to report.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Sheri Kesterke

*Clerk Sheri Kesterke gave a synopsis of the regular Board Meeting held October 28, 2022.

*The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2022.

RECREATION BOARD – Jack Davis

*Council received the 2022 GBSRD Participation Report.

POLICE COMMITTEE – Village President Barry Gravitt is the Village Representative

*President Barry Gravitt will request a copy of the minutes of the Police Board Meeting held on October 27, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder

Nothing new to report.

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: Chair Kelly Ewalt/Sheila Snyder & Zach Fedoruk

*The next Social Media Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: Chair Jack Davis

1. Reminder: The Fall Spruce-Up event is scheduled for November 13, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Approve the second annual “In a Pickle 5K” as part of the Pickle Preview weekend June 16-18, 2023 per the memo from Community Coordinator Kelly Ewalt.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve the second annual “In a Pickle 5K” as part of the Pickle Preview weekend June 16-18, 2023 per the memo from Community Coordinator Kelly Ewalt. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

ONGOING BUSINESS

President Pro-Tem Jack Davis: Grove Park request.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve a 30 x 30 basketball pad, basketball stand, hoop and backboard at Grove Park not to exceed \$6,500.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve “An Ordinance To Adopt An Updated The Berrien Springs/Oronoko Township (BSOT) Place Based Code” to finalize the approval of the amended version.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Jack Davis to approve “An Ordinance To Adopt An Updated The Berrien Springs/Oronoko Township (BSOT) Place Based Code” to finalize the approval of the amended version. Roll call vote: Sandy Swartz/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; Kristin von Maur/Aye; Sheila Snyder/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Nay; President Barry Gravitt/Aye. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Approve the Ordinance “An Ordinance Adopting And Enacting A Recodification, Including Supplement Nos. 1, 2, 3,4 and 5 Of The Code For The Village Of Berrien Springs, Michigan; Providing For The Repeal Of Certain Ordinances Not Included Therein; Providing A Penalty For The Violation Thereof; Providing For The Manner Of Amending Such Code; And Providing When Such Code And This Ordinance Shall Become Effective”.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the Ordinance ““An Ordinance Adopting And Enacting A Recodification, Including Supplement Nos. 1, 2, 3,4 and 5 Of The Code For The Village Of Berrien Springs, Michigan; Providing For The Repeal Of Certain Ordinances Not Included Therein; Providing A Penalty For The Violation Thereof; Providing For The Manner Of Amending Such Code; And Providing When Such Code And This Ordinance Shall Become Effective”. Roll call vote: Kristin von Maur/Aye; Sheila Snyder/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; Sandy Swartz/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; President Barry Gravitt/Aye. Absent: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Don't forget to vote Tuesday, November 8, 2022. The ballot includes the Village Election in Oronoko Charter Township Precinct 2.
2. The Village Hall will be closed Friday, November 11, 2022, in honor of Veterans Day.
3. The Annual Revenue Sharing Citizen's Guide is completed and available for view at the Village Hall and on our website, Villageofberriensprings.com.

Approve allowing a Christmas Care donation box in the Village Hall the months of November -December 16, 2022.

***Moved** by Sheila Snyder seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve allowing a Christmas Care donation box in the Village Hall the months of November -December 16, 2022. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Audience Comments:

Jason Ramtahal of 113 E. Madison asked when the Village is getting the stop signs. President Barry Gravitt stated they are ordered and will be picked up in Lansing. Should get them in about a month. The locations are still being determined. There has been some push back on social media regarding the stop signs but as said in previous meetings, it is needed to slow down traffic. Mr. Ramtahal suggested the Police department have some say in the stop signs and their locations. The Village President said he has spoke to Chief Toliver and the police department is all for the stop signs. President Barry Gravitt will talk to the Chief about his preferred locations.

Errol Prentice, owner of 112 S. Main Street, stated that he has a problem with Code Enforcement. He stated he keeps getting citations. Discussion was held with the Village President and Mr. Prentice was informed of the appeal process. The Village Attorney is now involved.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Sandy Swartz seconded by Kristin von Maur to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Deputy Clerk/Clerk in Training

Barry Gravitt
Village President