

# VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, January 22, 2024. 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, Kristin von Maur, Mark VandeVere, Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda, and Attorney DeFrancesco.

Absent: None.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*, and Bruce Stover.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL:**

\***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 08, 2024.**

\***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 08, 2024, as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Notice regarding Tactical Pipeline Response Training, where you can receive updated information and engage with your local pipeline operators.
2. Notice of Pre-Hearing regarding Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation requests Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of a gas cost recovery plan and factors for the 12 months ending March 31, 2025. To be held Wednesday, February 07, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. before Administrative Law Judge Christopher S. Saunders by video/teleconferencing.

**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 Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

\*Council received a copy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report of Investments; October – December 2023.

### **Pay the bills.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to pay the bills in the amount of \$89,739.61. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Invoice from County of Berrien Community Development for Berrien County Water/Sewage Improvements No. 31 Bond Water and Sewer Interest due in the amount of \$6,486.48.**

\***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve Invoice from County of Berrien Community Development for Berrien County Water/Sewage Improvements No. 31 Bond Water and Sewer Interest due in the amount of \$6,486.48. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### **Approve Comcast Contracts.**

\*Tabled until next meeting.

**Approve the job description for the Public Works Employee Floater.**

\*Moved by Kristin von Maur seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the job description for the Public Works Employee Floater. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve AT&T Metro Act Right of Way Permit Extension for a term to end on March 31, 2029.**

\*Tabled until next meeting.

**PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair: Kristin von Maur**

\*Chair Kristin von Maur gave a synopsis of the Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

\*Moved by Zach Fedoruk to eliminate Dale Hartman’s Code Enforcement Invoice [Invoice #1807 for \$160.00]. Motion died due to lack of a second.

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

\*The next Fire Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 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 Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

**Approve purchase of 12 new grader edge blades for the belly plows on the dump trucks from Truck & Trailer Specialties for \$1,657.32.**

\*Moved by Jack Davis seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve purchase of 12 new grader edge blades for the belly plows on the dump trucks from Truck & Trailer Specialties for \$1,657.32. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve purchase of 40 gallons of marking paint for street painting from Sherwin Williams for \$1,291.60.**

\*Moved by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve purchase of 40 gallons of marking paint for street painting from Sherwin Williams for \$1,291.60. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Sanisweep, Inc. from Grand Rapids, MI to sweep curbs before Memorial Day for a cost not to exceed \$1,600.00.**

\*Moved by Mark VandeVere seconded by Sheila Snyder to approve Sanisweep, Inc. from Grand Rapids, MI to sweep curbs before Memorial Day for a cost not to exceed \$1,600.00. Ayes, 7; 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, January 17, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

\*Council received the Revenue/Expense Report for December 2023.

**Blossomtime Sponsor Support.**

Attorney DeFrancesco’s office will donate the funds for an advertisement in the Blossomtime Program.

**LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson**

\*Nothing new to report.

**MEDIC 1** – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

\*The next Medic 1 Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2024.

**RECREATION AUTHORITY** – Jack Davis

\*Representative Jack Davis gave an update on the Recreation Authority.

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

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

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE:** Chair: Sheila Snyder

\*Chair Sheila Snyder and Community Coordinator Kelly Ewalt will work on writing the report after all the documents have been reviewed.

**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, January 17, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

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

\*A Clinic is taking place on February 06, 2024, and the cats can be housed at the Water Department for a few days before or after the clinic as needed.

**ONGOING BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Approve the Revised Title VI Complaint Procedures.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the Revised Title VI Complaint Procedures. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

---

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC  
Village Clerk

---

Barry Gravitt  
Village President