

# VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, February 05, 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, Mark VandeVere, Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda, and Attorney DeFrancesco. Absent: None.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*, *The Herald Palladium*, Kelly Ewalt, Community Coordinator, and several audience members.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL:**

\***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson 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 22, 2024.**

\***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 22, 2024, as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. *Central County Senior Center* February 2024 newsletter received.

## **Audience Comments:**

Roger Johnson asked the Council for their blessing in putting up an 8 x 12 sign on the side of his business for his son who is running for Sheriff. The Council has no issues with it, but he should touch base with the Zoning Administrator as well.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE AND PERSONNEL** – President Barry Gravitt, Chair

\*The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

### **Pay the bills.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to pay the bills in the amount of \$91,945.48. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Travel And Education Request from Stan Banish to attend the Limited Treatment Short Course in Lansing, MI from February 26 – February 28, 2024, in the amount of \$815.00.**

\***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the Travel And Education Request from Stan Banish to attend the Limited Treatment Short Course in Lansing, MI from February 26 – February 28, 2024, in the amount of \$815.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### **Approve Comcast Agreements.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the Comcast Agreements with the stipulation to investigate if the current equipment should be updated. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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

\*Chair Kristin von Maur gave a synopsis of the Special Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Friday, February 02, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

\*The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

**Gove Park/Wolf's Prairie Playground.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve applying for the grant for Wolf's Prairie Playground in the amount of \$400,000.00 with a 26% match of \$140,000.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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

\*The 2024 Fire Board Meeting dates are the following Wednesday's at 5:00 p.m.: March 27, May 22, July 24, September 25, and November 20 (at 4:00 p.m. due to Thanksgiving).

\*Council received minutes from the Regular Fire Board Meeting held on January 24, 2024, and Village Representative Jack Davis gave a synopsis.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair Lonna Johnson**

\*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

**SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair Jack Davis**

\*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

**LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson**

\*Council received the Minutes of the Berrien Springs Community Library Board Meetings held on September 28, 2023, October 26, 2023, November 16, 2023, and December 21, 2023.

\*The audit for the Berrien Springs Community Library, Year ended March 31, 2023, were received.

**MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda**

\*Clerk Rachael Kuzda gave a synopsis of the Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting held on Thursday, January 25, 2024.

**RECREATION AUTHORITY – Jack Davis**

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

\*The 2024 Police board Meeting dates are the following Thursday's at 3:30 p.m.: April 25, July 25 and October 31.

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder**

\*Nothing new to report.

**COMMUNITY COORDINATOR/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder**

\*The next Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. is cancelled and a rescheduled date to be determined.

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

\*Mark VandeVere gave an update regarding cats from Gretchen Brown.

**ONGOING BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Roger Johnson addressed the Council on how great the Nicholson's new hair salon building looks and encouraged acknowledgement of that from the Council, as the Village continues promoting fixing up of buildings.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC  
Village Clerk

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Barry Gravitt  
Village President

