

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, February 19, 2024. President Pro-Tem Jack Davis called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: President Barry Gravitt.

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

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 05, 2024.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 05, 2024, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Audience Comments: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve request from Brad Wurzel, Berrien Center Bible Church, to host a 5K once again on July 28, 2024. The route remains the same as last year.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve request from Brad Wurzel, Berrien Center Bible Church, to host a 5K once again on July 28, 2024. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – President Barry Gravitt, Chair

*Council received the minutes from the Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Kristin von Maur to pay the bills in the amount of \$83,800.15. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the invoice from the Michigan Finance Authority regarding Project Number 5168-01 (Wastewater Treatment Plant 2006) in the amount of \$335,000.00 Principal and \$36,893.57 Interest for a total amount due of \$371,893.57.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the invoice from the Michigan Finance Authority regarding Project Number 5168-01 (Wastewater Treatment Plant 2006) in the amount of \$335,000.00 Principal and \$36,893.57 Interest for a total amount due of \$371,893.57. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve AT&T Metro Act Right of Way Permit Extension for a term to end on March 31, 2029. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

The Michigan State University Extension Local Government Program is offering a new program: The Governing Essentials Webinar Series. The webinars are designed for elected and appointed officials to “sharpen their skills and promote good governance practices”.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Sheila Snyder to approve The Michigan University Extension Local Government Program: Governing Essentials Webinar Series to any Council Member who chooses to do so in the amount \$20.00 per session or \$50.00 for the 3-course series. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Kristin von Maur, Chair

*The Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. has been rescheduled to Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

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

*The next Fire Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21, 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 February 14, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve to purchase new winter tires and rims for the Bobcat skid-steer from Bobcat of Michiana for a price not to exceed \$2,286.20.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve to purchase new winter tires and rims for the Bobcat skid-steer from Bobcat of Michiana for a price not to exceed \$2,286.20. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to purchase new replacement tires for the Bobcat skid-steer for a price not to exceed \$1,257.60.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve to purchase new replacement tires for the Bobcat skid-steer for a price not to exceed \$1,257.60. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the purchase of M18 18V Lithium-Ion Cordless Combo Tool Kit (9 tools) with 3-4.0 Ah Batteries, Charger, and Tool Bag for \$599.00 from Home Depot.

***Moved** by Sheila Snyder seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve the purchase of M18 18V Lithium-Ion Cordless Combo Tool Kit (9 tools) with 3-4.0 Ah Batteries, Charger, and Tool Bag for \$599.00 from Home Depot. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve A-1 Concrete Leveling of South Bend to perform leveling and caulking for the Wastewater Treatment Plant per estimate #22095 for a cost not to exceed \$10,467.50.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve A-1 Concrete Leveling of South Bend to perform leveling and caulking for the Wastewater Treatment Plant per estimate #22095 for a cost not to exceed \$10,467.50. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to purchase 8' Hydroverse water meter to replace the meter at River Grove Trailer Park for \$9,780.00.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve to purchase 8' Hydroverse water meter to replace the meter at River Grove Trailer Park for \$9,780.00. 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, February 14, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Approve Cul-de-sac Roadway quote from Budget Tree to add base and grade in the amount of \$1,000.00.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Cul-de-sac Roadway quote from Budget Tree to add base and grade in the amount of \$1,000.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve purchase of 3 Glider Park benches from Pumpkin Patch Market in the amount of \$3,036.00, with an additional \$390.00 to add the name ‘Shamrock Park’ to each, for a grand total of \$3,426.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve purchase of 3 Glider Park benches from Pumpkin Patch Market in the amount of \$3,036.00, with an additional \$390.00 to add the name ‘Shamrock Park’ to each, for a grand total of \$3,426.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve seasonal mosquito spraying from Mosquito Joe of South Bend in the amount of \$2,346.00.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve seasonal mosquito spraying from Mosquito Joe of South Bend in the amount of \$2,346.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

* Nothing new to report.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*The next Medic 1 Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2024.

Approve the MEDIC I subsidy increase for the Village of Berrien Springs to \$10.00 per capita (per person) in two years’ time. Based on our population of 1,910, the 2024 amount would be \$16,101.30 and 2025 amount would be \$19,100.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Sheila Synder to approve the MEDIC I subsidy increase for the Village of Berrien Springs to \$10.00 per capita (per person) in two years’ time. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

RECREATION AUTHORITY – Jack Davis

*Council received minutes from the Greater Berrien Springs Recreation Authority Meeting held on February 12, 2024.

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 COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder

*Discussion held on the progress of establishing the Historical District.

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder

*The Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. was cancelled.

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

*Lonna Johnson reported that Gretchen Brown has trapped 20 new cats.

ONGOING BUSINESS: None.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to adjourn at 6:44 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0.

Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Jack Davis
Village President Pro-Tem