

## VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, February 20, 2023. 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, Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda, and Attorney DeFrancesco.  
Absent: Trustee Mark Vandevere.

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

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### AGENDA APPROVAL:

**\*Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the agenda with addition under New Business: Approve Farmers Market/Artisan at Memorial Park dates of Saturday, June 24, Sunday July 23, and Saturday, August 26, 2023, and Approve Vital Record Control Master Service Agreement for Document Destruction Services (shredding). Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

**Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held February 06, 2023.**

**\*Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held February 06, 2023, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

### Audience Comments:

Kelli Reppart of 422 W. Ferry Street addressed the council regarding the “huge” feral cat issue in the Village. The ordinance states you can not open feed animals and Ms. Reppart said there are grants available. The council agrees this is a problem and will investigate more of what can be done.

Jen Perez of 230 Lake Street addressed the council that they have a problem with 5 to 6 feral cats that run rampant in their backyard.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

**\*Chair** President Barry Gravitt gave a synopsis of the Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 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 \$67,740.65. 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 \$330,000.00 Principal and \$40,193.57 Interest for a total amount due of \$370,193.57.**

**\*Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the invoice from the Michigan Finance Authority regarding Project Number 5168-01 (Wastewater Treatment Plant 2006) in the amount of \$330,000.00 Principal and \$40,193.57 Interest for a total amount due of \$370,193.57. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### Part-Time Help Applicant Interviews.

Received four applications for part-time help and the Finance and Personnel Committee will be interviewing the applicants.

### 2023 Fireworks.

**\*Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve up to \$5,000.00 for the Village’s portion of the 2023 Fireworks Show contingent on Oronoko Charter Township and Friends of Berrien Springs’ approval. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Deputy Clerk/Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk Michelle Smith to move to 40 hours per week for the additional workload as Deputy Clerk.**

**\*Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve Deputy Clerk/Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk Michelle Smith to move to 40 hours per week for the additional workload as Deputy Clerk. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Council received the 2nd Quarter Report of Investments; October – December 2022.

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

\*Chair Kristin von Maur gave a synopsis of the Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 07, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

**Food Trucks**

\*Discussion held. Public Properties and Ordinance Committee will continue to investigate.

**Approve Grove Park wedding and tent request from Rhonda Charter to erect a 30 x 60 tent for a wedding on August 26, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Sheila Snyder to approve Grove Park wedding and tent request from Rhonda Charter to erect a 30 x 60 tent for a wedding on August 26, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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

\*The next Fire Board Meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES** – Chair Lonna Johnson

\*Chair Lonna Johnson gave a synopsis of the Public Utilities Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

**Approve to purchase up to 75 - 7' tall signposts and 75 reflective hydrant signs from Dornbos Sign, Inc. to install on fire hydrants that are unmarked for a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 including shipping.**

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve to purchase up to 75 - 7' tall signposts and 75 reflective hydrant signs from Dornbos Sign, Inc. to install on fire hydrants that are unmarked for a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 including shipping. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve to purchase a VSR3 sampler from Manning Environmental for \$4,749.00 to replace a Hesco sampler that has been in operation since the Wastewater Plant began operation.**

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Jack Davis to approve to purchase a VSR3 sampler from Manning Environmental for \$4,749.00 to replace a Hesco sampler that has been in operation since the Wastewater Plant began operation. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Sweeping Corporation of America from Kalamazoo to sweep the streets in the Village before Memorial Day at a cost not to exceed \$1,440.00.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve Sweeping Corporation of America from Kalamazoo to sweep the streets in the Village before Memorial Day at a cost not to exceed \$1,440.00. 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 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Dredging for a lump sum not to exceed fee of \$14,500.00.**

\***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Wightman to prepare a permit for dredging at a lump sum not to exceed \$14,500.00 and \$175.00 per hour for the actual dredging. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Mosquito Joes season offering in the amount of \$2,415.00.**

\*Discussion held. Council would like to see a few more quotes.

**Fencing continued for along 30s electric sites for a total estimated cost of \$2,500.00.**

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve fencing continued for along 30s electric sites for a total estimated cost of \$2,500.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**LIBRARY BOARD** – Lonna Johnson

\*Next Meeting in March with date to come.

**MEDIC 1** – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

\*The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2023.

**RECREATION BOARD – Jack Davis**

- \*Council received the Greater Berrien Springs Recreation Department Board Meeting Minutes from October 27, 2022.
- \*Council received the Greater Berrien Springs Recreation Department Board Meeting Agenda from January 19, 2023.

**Invoice #5490 from the Greater Berrien Springs Recreation Department for the 2023 contribution in the amount of \$10,000.00.**

\*Discussion held; more information needed.

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

\*The next Police Board Meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder**

\*Nothing new to report.

**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, February 15, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**Approve allowing the Central County Senior Center to have an information booth at village events and waive the vendor fee.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve allowing the Central County Senior Center to have an information booth at village events and waive the vendor fee. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve tentative dates for the Spring Spruce Up event.**

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Spring Spruce Up event for April 02, 2023. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**ONGOING BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approve Farmers/Artisan Market at Memorial Park dates of Saturday, June 24, Sunday July 23, and Saturday, August 26, 2023.**

\***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve Farmers/Artisan Market at Memorial Park dates of Saturday, June 24, Sunday July 23, and Saturday, August 26, 2023. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Vital Record Control Master Service Agreement for Document Destruction Services (shredding).**

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Sheila Snyder to approve Vital Record Control Master Service Agreement for Document Destruction Services (shredding). Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

---

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC  
Village Clerk

---

Barry Gravitt  
Village President