

## VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, February 06, 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, Kristin von Maur, Mark Vandevere, Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda, and Attorney DeFrancesco. Absent: Trustee Sheila Snyder.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*, Public Works Superintendent Dave Kunde, and several audience members.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### AGENDA APPROVAL:

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Mark Vandevere to approve the agenda with addition under New Business: Approve switching from Business Credit Cards to Commercial Credit Cards through United Federal Credit Union, with the overall Village limit of \$25,000.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

**Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held January 16, 2023.**

\***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held January 16, 2023, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notice of Pre-Hearing regarding Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation requests Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of a gas cost recovery plan and authorization of gas cost recovery factors for the 12-month period of April 2023 through March 2024, and for related approvals. To be held Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. before Administrative Law Judge Christopher Saunders by video/teleconferencing.
2. *Central County Senior Center* February 2023 Newsletter received.
3. Letter received from Oronoko Charter Township and Village of Berrien Springs Zoning Administrator T. Ryan Keough that the Draft Oronoko Charter Township Master Plan is available for review on the Township's website homepage. Written comments are requested by Tuesday, March 07, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. and a public hearing on the draft will be held on Tuesday, March 07, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

**Audience Comments:** None.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

\*The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

#### **Pay the bills.**

\***Moved** by Mark Vandevere seconded by Jack Davis to pay the bills in the amount of \$162,978.80. Ayes, 6; 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 \$6,612.61.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk 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 \$6,612.61. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Fleis & Vandenbrink Invoice #64528 in the amount of \$3,660.46 for Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Plan. This is part of the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Grant that was award to the Village in the amount of \$215,000 as a 100% Grant (approved at the Council Meeting on July 19, 2021).**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve Fleis & Vandenbrink Invoice #64528 in the amount of \$3,660.46 for Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Plan. This is part of the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Grant that was award to the Village in the amount of \$215,000 as a 100% Grant (approved at the Council Meeting on July 19, 2021). Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve the *Recommendation Of Award* from Fleis & VandenBrink regarding the Water Distribution Materials Inventory project to the low bidder; Apex Excavating & Underground, in the amount of \$58,875.00. This is part of the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Grant that was award to the Village in the amount of \$215,000 as a 100% Grant (approved at the Council Meeting on July 19, 2021).**

**\*Moved** by Mark Vandevere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the *Recommendation Of Award* from Fleis & VandenBrink regarding the Water Distribution Materials Inventory project to the low bidder; Apex Excavating & Underground, in the amount of \$58,875.00. This is part of the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Grant that was award to the Village in the amount of \$215,000 as a 100% Grant (approved at the Council Meeting on July 19, 2021). Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve proposal from B & Z Company for M-139 Sanitary Sewer Repair in the amount not to exceed \$88,285.00.**

**\*Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve the proposal from B & Z Company for M-139 Sanitary Sewer Repair in the amount not to exceed \$88,285.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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

**\*The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. to Tuesday, February 07, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.**

**Approve the draft resolution “Adoption of the 2022 Berrien County Multi-hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Plan.”**

**\*Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the draft resolution “Adoption of the 2022 Berrien County Multi-hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Plan. Roll Call vote: Mark Vandevere/Aye; Kristin von Maur/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; President Barry Gravitt/Aye. Absent: Trustee Sheila Snyder. Motion carried.

**Discuss setting up a date for a Council Workshop regarding Code Enforcement.**

**\*Discussed council availability to set up a date for a Council Workshop regarding Code Enforcement.**

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

**\*Village President Pro-Tem Jack Davis gave a synopsis of the Fire Board Meeting held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**

**\*Council received the Fire Board’s 2022 Year in Review.**

**PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair Lonna Johnson**

**\*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.**

**SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair Jack Davis**

**\*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.**

**LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson**

**\*The council received the Berrien Springs Community Library Board Meeting Minutes from December 15, 2022.**

**MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda**

**\*Clerk Rachael Kuzda gave a synopsis of the Regular Board Meeting held on Thursday, January 26, 2023.**

**RECREATION BOARD – Jack Davis**

**\*Jack Davis reported sign up for camps has started.**

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

**\*Village President Barry Gravitt gave a synopsis of the Police Committee Meeting held on Thursday, January 26, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.**

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE: Chair Sheila Snyder**

**\*Committee member Zach Fedoruk reported the Committee is working on trying to set up their next meeting.**

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

\*Committee member Lonna Johnson gave a synopsis of the Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

\*The next Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**Approve request from the Community Coordinator to hold a Spring Market in the Grove on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 4 p.m. This is the same type of event as the one held in October.**

\***Moved** by Mark Vandevere seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve the request from the Community Coordinator to hold a Spring Market in the Grove on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve Farmers/Artisan Market. Dates and locations to come.**

\***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Farmers/Artisan Market with dates and locations to be determined. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**ONGOING BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Approve switching from Business Credit Cards to Commercial Credit Cards through United Federal Credit Union, with the overall Village limit of \$25,000.00.**

\***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Mark Vandevere to approve switching from Business Credit Cards to Commercial Credit Cards through United Federal Credit Union, with the overall Village limit of \$25,000.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Audience Comments:**

Jason Ramtahal of 113 E. Madison: He asked if we had a defibrillator in our office building? He was informed by President Barry Gravitt that we do not, however it would be a something we can investigate.

Errol Prentice, owner of 112 S. Main: asked a few questions of the council regarding code enforcement and home/rental inspections. He was informed that the Village President and Public Properties and Ordinance Committee oversee code enforcement and he can reach out to President Barry Gravitt and/or PPO Committee with questions or concerns. Discussed rentals and home inspections. Mr. Prentice was informed Mechanical and Electrical inspections are through the state and rental inspections are separate.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark Vandevere to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC  
Village Clerk

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Barry Gravitt  
Village President