

## VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, August 07, 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, Mark Vandevere, Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda, and Attorney DeFrancesco.

Absent: Trustee Kristin von Maur.

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

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### AGENDA APPROVAL:

**\*Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Jack Davis 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 July 24, 2023.**

**\*Moved** by Mark Vandevere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 24, 2023, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. *Central County Senior Center* August 2023 newsletter received.
2. Notice of Pre-Hearing regarding Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation requests Michigan Public Service Commission's approval for reconciliation of its gas cost recovery plan (Case No. U-21066) for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2023. To be held Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. before Administrative Law Judge Christopher Saunders by video/teleconferencing.

### Audience Comments:

Heidi Erhard of 209 S. Mechanic Street addressed the council regarding roosters. She doesn't want a misconception between the sounds of female hens and roosters. President Barry Gravitt thanked her for her comments.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

\*The next Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. to Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

### Pay the bills.

**\*Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Mark Vandevere to pay the bills in the amount of \$40,333.07. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

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

\*Trustee Sheila Snyder gave a synopsis of the Special Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 02, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

\*The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. to Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

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

\*President Pro-Tem Jack Davis gave a synopsis of the Fire Board Meeting held on July 26, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES** – Chair Lonna Johnson

\*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. to Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

**SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE** – Chair Jack Davis

\*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. to Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

**LIBRARY BOARD** – Lonna Johnson

\*No meetings until September.

**MEDIC 1** – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

\*Clerk Rachael Kuzda gave a synopsis of the Regular Board Meeting held on Thursday, July 27, 2023.

**RECREATION BOARD** – Jack Davis

\*Council received the GBSRD Board Meeting Agenda from July 31, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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

\*President Barry Gravitt gave a synopsis of the Police Board Meeting held on July 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

\*The next Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

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

\*Chair Sheila Snyder recently talked to Gretchen Brown and gave an update to the council.

**ONGOING BUSINESS:**

**611 North Mechanic.**

\***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark Vandevere to approve listing with Howard McLaughlin for sale 611 North Mechanic at a price of \$19,900.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Approve Accounting Clerk Cami Bacon's request to attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Civic Symposium, September 14-15, 2023, for a cost of \$958.14 plus any applicable fees.**

\***Moved** by Sheila Snyder seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Accounting Clerk Cami Bacon's request to attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Civic Symposium, September 14-15, 2023, for a cost of \$958.14 plus any applicable fees. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**Approve the “Local Governing Body Resolution for Charitable Gaming Licenses” as requested by the Berrien County Historical Association to hold a raffle as part of their October 1<sup>st</sup> fundraiser, Bountiful Berrien.**

**\*Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Sheila Snyder to approve the “Local Governing Body Resolution for Charitable Gaming Licenses” as requested by the Berrien County Historical Association to hold a raffle as part of their October 1<sup>st</sup> fundraiser, Bountiful Berrien. Roll call vote: Mark Vandevere/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; Sheila Snyder/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; President Barry Gravitt/Aye. Absent: Trustee Kristin von Maur. Motion carried.

**Approve request from the Community Coordinator to purchase signage for the Memorial Markets and Grove Markets not to exceed \$400.00.**

**\*Moved** by Mark Vandevere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve request from the Community Coordinator to purchase signage for the Memorial Markets and Grove Markets not to exceed \$400.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Jason Ramtahal inquired of the council the timeframe of building on the 611 North Mechanic property if the school bought it. President Barry Gravitt said if the school purchased the property, we would be out of the picture regarding the timeframe.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**\*Moved** by Sheila Snyder seconded by Zach Fedoruk to adjourn at 6:38 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