

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, August 04, 2025. President Sheila Snyder called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Trustee Kristin von Maur.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*, Bruce Stover, Ron Caramagno from LRS, David and Joshua Workman from Lakeshore Recycle, and Nate Niewoonder from Best Way Disposal.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve the agenda with an addition under Community Engagement Coordinator: Approve the cost of \$1,200.00 for live music entertainment and permit 1 – 2 food trucks to operate on-site during a community event at Grove Park on Saturday, September 06, 2025. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 21, 2025, and the Special Council Meeting held on July 28, 2025.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 21, 2025, and the Special Council Meeting held on July 28, 2025, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Central County Senior Center August 2025 newsletter received.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to pay the bills in the amount of \$94,493.02. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Payjay's Application for Payment No. 1 for the North Mechanic Street Project as recommended by Wightman & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$93,547.29.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve Payjay's Application for Payment No. 1 for the North Mechanic Street Project as recommended by Wightman & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$93,547.29. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Trash and Recycling proposals.

*We have received 4 Trash and Recycling proposals. Questions were asked of the prospective companies who were present at the meeting and discussion held. Some more information will be obtained for the next Council Meeting.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair: Kristin von Maur

*The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve placing a bid of \$40,500.00 on 115 E. Pitt Street at the Michigan Public Land Auction (Berrien County uses this for their land auctions).

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve placing a bid of \$40,500.00 on 115 E. Pitt Street at the Michigan Public Land Auction (Berrien County uses this for their land auctions). 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 Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair: Mark VandeVere

*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair: Jack Davis

*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

*Council received the Berrien Springs Community Library Minutes of the Board Meeting held on June 26, 2025.

*The next Library Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*Council received a copy of the Medic 1 Board Annual Audit Report for year ending February 28, 2025. Medic 1 received a clean audit.

*Council received a copy of the June 2025 Medic 1 Operations Summary.

*Council received copies of the Medic 1 Board Meeting Minutes from May 22, 2025, and June 26, 2025.

*The Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting held on Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

RECREATION AUTHORITY – Jack Davis

*Trustee Jack Davis gave a synopsis.

POLICE COMMITTEE – Village President Sheila Snyder is the Village Representative

*The last Police Committee Meeting of 2025 is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*President Sheila Snyder gave an update.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*The next Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Approve the opportunity for participation of willing individuals to volunteer at the Friends for Berrien Springs Korn Dog Booth at the 2025 Berrien County Youth Fair in support of the fundraising campaign for a new playground at Grove Park, with all proceeds from the booth contributing directly to the development of said playground.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the opportunity for participation of willing individuals to volunteer at the Friends for Berrien Springs Korn Dog Booth at the 2025 Berrien County Youth Fair in support of the fundraising campaign for a new playground at Grove Park, with all proceeds from the booth contributing directly to the development of said playground. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the cost of \$1,200 for live music entertainment and permit 1 -2 food trucks to operate on-site during a community event at Grove Park on Saturday, September 06, 2025. This event is designed to engage residents and generate excitement around the new playground development while providing an enjoyable and inclusive experience for all.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve the cost of \$1,200 for live music entertainment and permit 1 -2 food trucks to operate on-site during a community event at Grove Park on Saturday, September 06, 2025, contingent on Attorney DeFrancesco's advisement. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

AD HOC COMMITTEE: FERAL/STRAY CATS: Chair: Lonna Johnson

***The next Ad Hoc Feral/Stray Cats Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve the request from Community Engagement Coordinator Jennifer Bossert to attend the Michigan Municipal League Convention on September 17, 2025, to September 19, 2025, in the amount of \$1,103.00.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the request from Community Engagement Coordinator Jennifer Bossert to attend the Michigan Municipal League Convention on September 17, 2025, to September 19, 2025, in the amount of \$1,103.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the request from Clerk Rachael Kuzda to attend the MAMC Masters Academy on December 02, 2025, to December 04, 2025, in the amount of \$1,045.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the request from Clerk Rachael Kuzda to attend the MAMC Masters Academy on December 02, 2025, to December 04, 2025, in the amount of \$1,045.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

***REMINDER:** The second council meeting in August is scheduled for August 25, 2025, due to Committee meetings being a week later than usual because of the Berrien County Youth Fair (our 2025 meeting dates were approved by Council on July 22, 2024).

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Sheila Snyder
Village President