

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, May 04, 2026.
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, Mark VandeVere, and Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda.

Absent: Trustees Christopher Perez and Kristin von Maur.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*, Streets Administrator Dave Engler, Tyler Roots and Holly Higgs from the Michigan State Police, and an audience member.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the agenda with additions to Finance & Personnel #3. Set a Public Hearing Meeting Date to set the 2026 Village of Berrien Springs Tax Millage, #4. Approve scheduling 30-minute 1st interviews with six applicants for the Treasurer Position, Historic District Study Committee #1. Approve Berrien Springs Village Historic District Ordinance, and Under Public Utilities amend #6 from “\$63,356.57” to “\$65,427.60”. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 20, 2026.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 20, 2026, as presented. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. *Central County Senior Center* May 2026 newsletter received.
2. Notice of Pre-Hearing regarding Indiana Michigan Power Company requests Michigan Public Service Commission approval for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan (Case No. U-21596) for the twelve months ending December 31, 2025. To be held Thursday, May 07, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. before Administrative Law Judge James M. Varchetti by video/teleconferencing.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

Approve hosting a “Troopers on Tour” community basketball event on June 24, 2026, at Memorial Park, as presented.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve hosting a “Troopers on Tour” community basketball event on June 24, 2026, at Memorial Park, as presented. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*President Sheila Snyder gave a synopsis of the Special Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held before this regular Council Meeting, Monday, May 04, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

*The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to pay the bills in the amount of \$92,320.32. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve renewing Honor Credit Union CD #332.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve renewing Honor Credit Union CD #332 into a 7-month CD at 3.34% APY. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Set a Public Hearing Meeting Date to set the 2026 Village of Berrien Springs Tax Millage.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Jack Davis to approve setting a Public Hearing Meeting Date to set the 2026 Village of Berrien Springs Tax Millage on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 5:45 p.m., before the Regular Council Meeting. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve scheduling 30-minute 1st interviews with six applicants for the Treasurer Position.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve scheduling 30-minute 1st interviews with six applicants for the Treasurer Position. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair: Kristin von Maur

*The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 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, May 27, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair: Mark VandeVere

*Chair Mark VandeVere gave a synopsis of the Special Public Utilities Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve the purchase of a new pump for the Mechanic Lift Station in an amount not to exceed \$6,795.00.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the purchase of a new pump for the Mechanic Lift Station in an amount not to exceed \$6,795.00. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve payment to Chorba to 2” mill curb and pave the first block of both N. and S. Main Street in the amount of \$9,060.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve payment to Chorba to 2” mill curb and pave the first block of both N. and S. Main Street in the amount of \$9,060.00. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve payment to Chorba to fix S. Harrison from Ferry to Rosehill, and six other areas, in the amount of \$22,405.00.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve payment to Chorba to fix S. Harrison from Ferry to Rosehill, and six other areas, in the amount of \$22,405.00. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve \$54,910.00 to Berrien County Road Department to chipseal and fog N. Main Street from George Street to Ferry Street.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve \$54,910.00 to Berrien County Road Department to chipseal and fog N. Main Street from George Street to Ferry Street. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve \$31,598.00 to Berrien County Road Department to chipseal and fog S. Main Street from Ferry Street to the turnaround at the bluff.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve \$31,598.00 to Berrien County Road Department to chipseal and fog S. Main Street from Ferry Street to the turnaround at the bluff. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve purchase of a new Bobcat T66 T4 Compact Track Loader for \$65,427.60 per quote from Bobcat of Michiana.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Jack Davis to approve purchase of a new Bobcat T66 T4 Compact Track Loader for \$65,427.60 per quote from Bobcat of Michiana. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair: Jack Davis

*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting is rescheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

*Council received a copy of the Library Boards Meeting Schedule for fiscal year 2026-2027.

*The next Library Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*The next Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

RECREATION AUTHORITY – Jack Davis

*Jack Davis gave an update on the Recreation Authority.

POLICE COMMITTEE – Village President Sheila Snyder is the Village Representative

*The next Police Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 8:00 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*Council received a copy of the Final Historic District Study Report.

Approve Berrien Springs Village Historic District Ordinance.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve Berrien Springs Village Historic District Ordinance. Roll call vote: Lonna Johnson/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*The next Community Engagement Coordinator Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

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

*Chair Lonna Johnson gave an update on feral/stray cats.

ADVISORY PARK COMMITTEE: Chair: Christopher Perez

*An Advisory Park Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve the Playground Ribbon Cutting Celebration planned for Friday, June 26, 2026, at Grove Park as presented.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the Playground Ribbon Cutting Celebration planned for Friday, June 26, 2026, at Grove Park as presented. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Tree Work in Grove Park from Watson's Tree Service in the amount of \$10,500.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve Tree Work in Grove Park from Watson's Tree Service in the amount of \$10,500.00. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Signage for the Welcome Signs at the Village Limits.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve getting quotes for a sign for the Welcome Signs at the Village Limits for WKTL World Champion Louie Perkins. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. Ayes, 5; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Sheila Snyder
Village President