

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, July 06, 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, Christopher Perez, Mark VandeVere, and Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda.

Absent: Trustee Kristin von Maur.

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 Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the agenda with additions under New Business: #4. Approve the request to close South Main Street from East/West Ferry to East/West Pitt Street on Saturday, August 29, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for the Rally for the Legion Event, #5. Approve allowing Backpacks for Berrien to display yard signs and flyers marketing their “Stuff-a-Bus” event on village owned property between July 10 – 24, 2026, and discussing additional fire rings under Shamrock Park Committee. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes the Public Hearing held on June 15, 2026, and the Regular Council Meeting held on June 15, 2026.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve the minutes the Public Hearing held on June 15, 2026, and the Regular Council Meeting held on June 15, 2026, as presented. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. *Central County Senior Center* July 2026 newsletter received.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

***Roger Johnson** of AJs Uptown Bar & Grill addressed the council regarding their road closure request for their American Legion fundraiser, “Rally for the Legion”.

Approve the request to close South Main Street from East/West Ferry to East/West Pitt Street on Saturday, August 29, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for the Rally for the Legion Event.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Christopher Perez to approve the request to close South Main Street from East/West Ferry to East/West Pitt Street on Saturday, August 29, 2026, from the modified time of 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 12:00 a.m. (midnight) for the Rally for the Legion Event. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair: President Sheila Snyder

***The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Jack Davis to pay the bills in the amount of \$155,915.37. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve payment to Berrien County Community Development for the Village's share of the Berrien County Water /Sewage Improvements No. 31 Bond, in an amount not to exceed \$15,432.00.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve payment to Berrien County Community Development for the Village's share of the Berrien County Water /Sewage Improvements No. 31 Bond, in an amount not to exceed \$15,432.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair: Kristin von Maur

*The next Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 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, July 22, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair: Mark VandeVere

*The next Public Utilities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair: Jack Davis

*The next Shamrock Park Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Additional Fire Rings.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve an additional amount of \$900.00 for 17 more fire rings for Shamrock Park. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

*Council received the Berrien Springs Community Library Minutes from the Budget Hearing and Board Meeting on March 26, 2026, the Board Meeting on April 23, 2026, and the Board Meeting on May 28, 2026.

*Synopsis of the Library Board Meeting held on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

*The next Library Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*Synopsis of the Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting held on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

*Council received the Minutes of the Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting held on May 28, 2026.

*Council received the May 2026 Medic 1 Operations Summary.

*The next Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

RECREATION AUTHORITY – Jack Davis

*Representative 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 Thursday, July 30, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*Nothing new to report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*The next Community Coordinator/Social Media Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

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

*An August meeting date for the Feral/Stray Cats Committee to be determined.

ADVISORY PARK COMMITTEE: Chair: Christopher Perez

*Chair Christopher Perez gave an update on the Advisory Park Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve Wightman Proposal for 2026 Water Reliability Study, General Plan, and Asset Management Program Update for the Village and Township Water System in the amount of \$61,000.00.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Jack Davis to approve Wightman Proposal for 2026 Water Reliability Study, General Plan, and Asset Management Program Update for the Village and Township Water System in the amount of \$61,000.00. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Resolution to Amend the Resolution Appointing and Revising the Members of the Village of Berrien Springs Advisory Park Committee regarding Compensation.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve Resolution to Amend the Resolution Appointing and Revising the Members of the Village of Berrien Springs Advisory Park Committee regarding Compensation. Roll call vote: Zach Fedoruk/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. Abstained: Christopher Perez. Absent: Kristin von Maur. Motion carried.

Retroactive Compensation.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve paying Advisory Park Committee Chair Christopher Perez retroactive for all Advisory Park Committee Meetings he has chaired. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Pickle Festival website/social help.

*Discussion held.

Approve allowing Backpacks for Berrien to display yard signs and flyers marketing their “Stuff-a-Bus” event on village owned property between July 10 – 24, 2026.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve allowing Backpacks for Berrien to display yard signs and flyers marketing their “Stuff-a-Bus” event on village owned property between July 10 – 24, 2026. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

*Megan Kerlikowski from Refined Barber Company addressed the council regarding her Food Truck Friday events.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Christopher Perez to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Sheila Snyder
Village President