

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, August 24, 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, Kristin von Maur (arrived at 6:01 p.m.), Mark VandeVere, and Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda.

Absent: None.

Also Present: *The Journal Era*, Jim Morris from Surf Internet, and several audience members.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Kristin von Maur arrived at this time.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Jack Davis to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on August 03, 2026.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Christopher Perez to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on August 03, 2026, as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

PRESENTATION

Jim Morris from Surf Internet addressed the Council to briefly explain their Metro Permit application and upcoming project to bring fiber internet to the Village. Construction is anticipated to begin this fall and estimated to take approximately two to three months to complete.

The intent is to provide fiber service to all homes within the Village and extend service into the Village and portions of Oronoko Township. The project would be completed at no cost to the Village, with SURF responsible for the construction and associated costs. Most of their service agreements are for three years, with no contracts or hookup fees to the customers. The majority of the fiber infrastructure will be installed underground, with one exception noted.

Approve the Michigan Metro Act Right-of-Way Permit Application from Surf Internet. The \$500.00 fee has been received.

***Moved** by Christopher Perez seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the Michigan Metro Act Right-of-Way Permit Application from Surf Internet. The \$500.00 fee has been received. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*President Sheila Snyder gave a synopsis of the Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

*Council received the 4th Quarter Report of Investments; April – June 2026.

Pay the bills.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to pay the bills in the amount of \$130,902.83. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the invoice from the Michigan Finance Authority regarding Project Number 5168-01 (Wastewater Treatment Plan 2006) in the amount of \$26,593.57 for interest.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the invoice from the Michigan Finance Authority regarding Project Number 5168-01 (Wastewater Treatment Plan 2006) in the amount of \$26,593.57 for interest. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the annual “Resolution to Adopt The Annual Exemption Option as Set Forth In 2011 Public Act 152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act”.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the annual “Resolution to Adopt The Annual Exemption Option as Set Forth In 2011 Public Act 152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act”. Roll call vote: Jack Davis/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Christopher Perez/Aye; Kristin von Maur/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. Motion carried.

Approve the annual “Resolution for Designation Of Street Administrator” as required by MDOT.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the annual “Resolution for Designation Of Street Administrator” as required by MDOT. Roll call vote: Christopher Perez/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; Kristin von Maur/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. Motion carried.

Approve the annual “Performance Resolution for Municipalities” as required by MDOT.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the annual “Performance Resolution for Municipalities” as required by MDOT. Roll call vote: Kristin von Maur/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Christopher Perez/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. Motion carried.

Approve to hire another part-time employee for additional help in the office at Shamrock Park.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve hiring another part-time employee for additional help in the office at Shamrock Park with Village President Sheila Snyder, Public Works Superintendent Dave Kunde, and Deputy Clerk/HR Michelle Smith doing interviews and hiring. Ayes, 6; Nays, 1 (Lonna Johnson). Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND ORDINANCE – Chair: Kristin von Maur

***Chair** Kristin von Maur gave a synopsis of the Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Food Truck Ordinance Amendment.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Christopher Perez to approve Food Truck Ordinance Amendment: An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 29 Entitled “Mobile Food Service Regulations and Permitting” of the Village Code by Adding a New Subsection E. Under Section 5, Entitled “Regulations For Mobile Food Service Providers Operating on Commercially Zoned Private Property or School Property,” to Require a Thirty (30) Foot Setback Form Intersections and a Minimum of Twenty-Five (Feet) From Driveways When Operating on Private Property and to Renumber the Remaining Subsections. Roll call vote: Lonna Johnson/Nay; Jack Davis/Aye; Christopher Perez/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; Kristin von Maur/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Nay; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. 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 23, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Chair: Mark VandeVere

*Chair Mark VandeVere gave a synopsis of the Public Utilities Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve to spend \$10,000.00 of the budgeted \$25,000.00 to purchase water meters on an as required basis from Etna Supply.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve to spend \$10,000.00 of the budgeted \$25,000.00 to purchase water meters on an as required basis from Etna Supply. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to spend \$910.00 with Corrpro for the required yearly inspection of the cathodic protection of our water tower.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve to spend \$910.00 with Corrpro for the required yearly inspection of the cathodic protection of our water tower. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to spend an not to exceed amount of \$2,000.00 for parts from Range Supply, or an equivalent source, to repair in house the sewer cleaner pump seals.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve to spend an not to exceed amount of \$2,000.00 for parts from Range Supply, or an equivalent source, to repair in house the sewer cleaner pump seals. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to spend \$8,398.00 with TrafficLogix for two radar feedback signs.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Christopher Perez to approve to spend \$8,398.00 plus freight for a total cost of \$8,421.00 with TrafficLogix for two radar feedback signs. Ayes, 6; Nays, 1 (President Sheila Snyder). Motion carried.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair: Jack Davis

*Chair Jack Davis gave a synopsis of the Shamrock Park Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Approve to increase the electric surcharge to .20 cents per KWH effective first billing in October 2026.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve to increase the electric surcharge to .20 cents per KWH effective first billing in October 2026. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the proposal from Mitch Sluder Construction Inc. to tear off and reroof the Park Manager House in the amount of \$38,650.00.

*Discussion held and was tabled until later for additional information.

Approve the Shamrock Park Proposed rate changes effective January 01, 2027: Primitive Daily Rate to \$40.00, Cabin Daily Rate to \$100.00, and no longer accept monthly reservations for Electric Sites.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve the Shamrock Park Proposed rate changes effective January 01, 2027: Primitive Daily Rate to \$40.00, Cabin Daily Rate to \$100.00, and no longer accept monthly reservations for Electric Sites. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

*The next Library Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*The next Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

*Council received a copy of the proposed Amended and Restate Bylaws of Community Emergency Service.

Approve the “Resolution Authorizing the Admission of Certain Municipalities as Extended Service Area Members of Community Emergency Service and Authorizing Termination of Existing Service Contracts Upon Admission”.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the “Resolution Authorizing the Admission of Certain Municipalities as Extended Service Area Members of Community Emergency Service and Authorizing Termination of Existing Service Contracts Upon Admission”. Roll call vote: Mark VandeVere/Aye; Kristin von Maur/Aye; Lonna Johnson/Aye; Christopher Perez/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; Jack Davis/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Aye. Motion carried.

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 Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC DISTRICT:

*Received two applications for the Historic District Commission so far. We need five members total for the Historic District Commission.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*The Community Engagement Coordinator Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. was cancelled.

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

*Chair Lonna Johnson gave a synopsis of the Ad Hoc Feral/Stray Cats Committee held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

ADVISORY PARK COMMITTEE: Chair: Christopher Perez

*Chair Christopher Perez is working on finalizing plaques for the Wolf’s Prairie Playground to present options for consideration.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

MML Annual Convention.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve a not to exceed amount of \$5,000.00 for the Michigan Municipal League (MML) Annual Convention. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Reminder: the next Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 08, 2026, due to Labor Day Holiday.

Reminder: The Village Hall will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 07, 2026

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

*Bruce Stover addressed the council regarding that they used to burn the bank at the Grove a few times in the past and asked about the fiber internet.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Jack Davis to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0.
Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Sheila Snyder
Village President