

VILLAGE OF BERRIEN SPRINGS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Berrien Springs Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, September 21, 2026.

President Sheila Snyder called the council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present: President Sheila Snyder, President Pro-Tem Jack Davis; Trustees: Zach Fedoruk, Lonna Johnson, Christopher Perez, Kristin von Maur, Mark VandeVere, and Village Clerk Rachael Kuzda.
Absent: None.

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

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the agenda with addition under New Business: Approve the renewal of our Cyber Liability Policy. We have two options: Option #1 matches what we have now (a \$2,500 deductible) for a total of \$1,941.75 or Option #2 that has a zero deductible for a total of \$2,485.00 (an additional \$543.25). Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on September 08, 2026.

***Moved** by Christopher Perez seconded by Jack Davis to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on September 08, 2026, as presented. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notice received from United Way of Southwest Michigan regarding their Rake a Difference event and volunteers needed across Berrien County.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

***Heidi Steinhagen-Snowden** addressed the Council regarding trees and the noon whistle.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Chair: President Sheila Snyder

***President Sheila Snyder** gave a synopsis of the Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 16, 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 \$58,801.18. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the Notice of Payment Due from USDA RD for Water Bond 91-08 in the amount of \$34,058.75 and Sewer Bond #92-06 in the amount of \$24,621.25 for a total due of \$58,680.00. (2012 Infrastructure Projects.)

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve the Notice of Payment Due from USDA RD for Water Bond 91-08 in the amount of \$34,058.75 and Sewer Bond #92-06 in the amount of \$24,621.25 for a total due of \$58,680.00. (2012 Infrastructure Projects.) Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the upcoming Berrien County Water/Sewage Improvements No. 29 Invoice payment for interest due in the amount of \$10,476.75.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Jack Davis to approve the upcoming Berrien County Water/Sewage Improvements No. 29 Invoice payment for interest due in the amount of \$10,476.75. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve quarterly budget amendments.

***Moved** by Zach Fedoruk seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve quarterly budget amendments.
Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve to sell at auction the removed playground equipment from Memorial Park and the Ford F250 truck (used at Shamrock Park) with the blown engine.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Christopher Perez to approve to sell at auction the removed playground equipment from Memorial Park and the Ford F250 truck (used at Shamrock Park) with the blown engine. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the quote from Harbor Printing Service for printing the Village of Berrien Springs 2027 calendars for a price of \$2,460.00 for 1,000 calendars.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the quote from Harbor Printing Service for printing the Village of Berrien Springs 2027 calendars for a price of \$2,460.00 for 1,000 calendars. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve the request from Clerk Rachael Kuzda to attend the MAMC Masters Academy on December 1, 2026, to December 03, 2026, in the amount of \$1,045.00.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Kristin von Maur to approve the request from Clerk Rachael Kuzda to attend the MAMC Masters Academy on December 1, 2026, to December 03, 2026, in the amount of \$1,045.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

New CD options.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Lonna Johnson to approve transferring two million (\$2,000,000.00) from the Money Market Account into a 6-month CD at 4.2% at United Federal Credit Union. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Part-time employee hours.

*Tabled for discussion at a later meeting.

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, September 16, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve the proposed 2027 Calendar Dates for events.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the proposed 2027 Calendar Dates for events. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approved to name the pavilions Grove Pavilion and Chapin Pavilion.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve naming the pavilions Grove Pavilion and Chapin Pavilion. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Special PPO Meeting.

*A Special Public Properties and Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 5:45 p.m. regarding weeds/lawn ordinance.

*A future meeting to be scheduled regarding electric bicycles.

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, September 16, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Approve quote from Watson's Tree Service to remove 8 trees and trim 6 others in the amount of \$26,350.00.

***Moved** by Lonna Johnson seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve quote from Watson's Tree Service to remove 8 trees and trim 6 others in the amount of \$26,350.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Approve Shembarger Asphalt Sealing estimate to stripe the parking areas in the first blocks of North and South Main Streets in the amount of \$1,450.00.

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve Shembarger Asphalt Sealing estimate to stripe the parking areas in the first blocks of North and South Main Streets in the amount of \$1,450.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

SHAMROCK PARK COMMITTEE – Chair: Jack Davis

*Chair Jack Davis gave a synopsis of the Shamrock Park Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Consideration of bids for Roof Replacement on the Shamrock Park Manager House: Mitch Sluder Construction, Inc. steel roof in the amount of \$38,650.00; Mitch Sluder Construction, Inc. shingle roof in the amount of \$17,475.00; and Roger Johnson Construction in the amount of \$16,780.00.

***Moved** by Mark VandeVere seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the Mitch Sluder Construction Inc. Proposal for a Steel Roof Replacement on the Shamrock Park Manager House in the amount of \$38,650.00. Roll call vote: Kristin von Maur/Nay; Lonna Johnson/Nay; Jack Davis/Aye; Mark VandeVere/Aye; Christopher Perez/Aye; Zach Fedoruk/Aye; President Sheila Snyder/Nay. Motion carried.

Approve the Budget Tree quote for stump grinding in the amount of \$5,200.00.

***Moved** by Kristin von Maur seconded by Zach Fedoruk to approve the Budget Tree quote for stump grinding in the amount of \$5,200.00. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

LIBRARY BOARD – Lonna Johnson

*The next Library Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

MEDIC 1 – Clerk Rachael Kuzda

*The next Regular Medic 1 Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

*Council received the minutes of the Medic 1 Board Meeting held on August 27, 2026, and August 2026 Medic 1 Operations Summary.

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:

*Council received an update on the Historic District.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: Chair: President Sheila Snyder

*The Community Engagement Coordinator Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. was cancelled.

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

*No meeting scheduled as of right now.

ADVISORY PARK COMMITTEE: Chair: Christopher Perez

*Nothing new to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Received the Certified letter from Berrien County on the Notice of Inclusion and Statutory Right to Withdraw Pursuant to Section 8 of the Public Transportation Authority Act (MCL 124.458; 1986 PA 196).

*Discussion held. This topic will be on the October 05, 2026, Village of Berrien Springs Council Meeting Agenda for a vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve the renewal of our Cyber Liability Policy. We have two options: Option #1 matches what we have now (a \$2,500 deductible) for a total of \$1,941.75 or Option #2 that has a zero deductible for a total of \$2,485.00 (an additional \$543.25).

***Moved** by President Sheila Snyder seconded by Mark VandeVere to approve the renewal of our Cyber Liability Policy, Option #1 that matches what we currently have now (a \$2,500.00 deductible) for a total of \$1,941.75. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

***Moved** by Jack Davis seconded by Zach Fedoruk to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Rachael Kuzda, MiPMC
Village Clerk

Sheila Snyder
Village President