

VILLAGE OF BARODA MEETING MINUTES  
Berrien County, Michigan  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Regular Meeting  
January 6, 2025

President, Michael Price called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: Michael Price, Katie Zordell, Bob Feickert, Jack Lewis Nikki Andrews, Julie Elliott, Steve Hillhouse

Employees Present: Debbie Wishart, Paula Bryan, Grant Bly, Nick Skorupa

There were three guests in the audience and one that joined virtually.

Audience Comment:

Tara from MERS joined the meeting via teams and reviewed the retirement program. She outlined the different retirement/savings vehicles offered with MERS. We will gather different administrative options before the next regular meeting and decide on how to manage this benefit if adopted.

Molly from the Central CGA was present at the meeting. This organization is offering resources for future growth through grant writing and other resources for Berrien Springs Village, Baroda Township and other local municipalities that may want to join to hire an individual to seek funds and other avenues of growth opportunities for all participating municipalities. Discussion on this topic was tabled for a future meeting.

Ryan Keough, Zoning Administrator Planning Commission – Ryan was present to the meeting and asked if the Master plan was ready for a public meeting. He again asked for any changes that members found when reviewing Master Plan.

Consent Agenda: Bob Feickert requested removing the consent agenda and reviewing each item separately.

**Katie Zordell made a motion to remove the consent agenda Jack Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup> all ayes motion carried.**

1. Approved December 2, 2024, minutes with correction to the spelling of Zordell. Motion to approve was made by Bob Feickert and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jack Lewis, all ayes, motion carried.
2. Approving paying bills- \$24,590.28 Bob Feickert made a motion to approve the paying the bills and Jack Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll call vote: Bob Feickert, Katie Zordell, Michael Price, Jack Lewis, Nikki Andrews, Julie Elliott, Steve Hillhouse All ayes motion carried.
3. Approving payroll \$ 27,571.52 Julie Elliott made a motion to approve the payroll and Jack Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll call vote: Bob Feickert, Katie Zordell, Michael Price, Jack Lewis, Nikki Andrews, Julie Elliott, Steve Hillhouse All ayes motion carried.

Reports

- 1) Treasurer's Report – Provided Budget adjustments 11/20/2024.
- 2) Clerk's Report – None
- 3) DPW Report- The DPW made suggestions for future budgeting of the DPW in 2025. This included a new truck and additional space to be built for village equipment. Grant requested pay for time when getting up to check weather and calling all DPW employees on if they need to work during incumbent weather. Grant will be paid for time worked to assess weather and contact employees to report to work when weather dictates.

New Business:

- 1) BS&A – Resolution for administrator changes Bob Feickert made a motion to add Debbie Wishart as an administrator and Nikki Andrews 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion all ayes motion was carried.
- 2) Dixon Engineering- They provided a quote for work outlining the most urgent repairs needed. This was tabled until the board had time to review and discuss at the next meeting.
- 3) Central County CGA- The CGA proposal to join local villages and townships in a new extension of the local Chamber was discussed during the opening of the meeting and has been tabled for a future meeting.
- 4) Metro Act Surf Air coming into the village was discussed and was tabled until the next meeting.
- 5) Master Plan- Addressed in the beginning of the meeting - Kaite Zordell made a motion to assert villages right to approve the master plan and distribution. We will get the masterplan on the website Jack Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup> all ayes motion carried.
- 6) Office Hours - New office hours will be 7 AM to 3 PM. Document this on water bills and any other documents necessary.

Old Business:

1. Fire Board- Nikki Andrews was appointed to the Fire Board and Michael Price may take over if needed.
2. MERS- This was addressed at the opening of the meeting.

Committees:

1. Finance Committee -Next month review budget, MERS, Insurance stipends for employees not election medical insurance.
2. Personnel Committee- Nothing
3. Planning Committee: Donna Ryan was approved to the Planning Committee by Michael Price, all ayes motion carried.
4. Policy & Procedure: PTO review next month.

Council Comments:

Bob Feickert – page numbers on budget

Nikki Andrews - W-2 reporting for committee will be in 2025. She requested a direct deposit when available.

Julie Elliott - No

Katie Zordell – separate meeting for budget MML training in February and being able to sign up.

Steve Hillhouse- No

Jack Lewis - No

President's – stipend for not taking insurance.

Audience

Meeting adjourned at: 9:40 PM

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Debbie Wishart, Clerk

Michael Price, President