

# VILLAGE OF BARODA REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Village of Baroda Council Meeting held on Monday, August 5, 2024, at 6:30pm.

## Roll Call Completed

**Present:** Michael Price, Katie Strefling, Bob Feickert, Jack Lewis, Jodi Mattner, Katie Zordell, Mel Tollas

**Employees Present:** Paula Bryan, Amber Osha, Anthony Cochran

**Also Present:** Audra Johnson, Carol Jakubs, Christina Price, Doreen Schultz, Donnie Johnson II, Milt Sluder

**Audience Comments :** Audience comments were heard.

## Approve/Amend Agenda

**Motion made** by Jodi Mattner 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Feickert to accept the agenda for August 5, 2024, as amended to move the Nomination for Village Clerk above the Reports Ayes-7 Nays-0 **Motion Carried**

### Approve Special Meeting Minutes for July18, 2024

**Motion made** by Bob Feickert, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Tollas to approve the minutes. Ayes-7 Nays-0 **Motion Carried.**

### Approve Special Meeting Minutes for July 29, 2024

**Motion made** by Bob Feickert, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Tollas to approve the minutes. Ayes-7 Nays-0 **Motion Carried.**

### Approve Paying of the Bills

**Motion made** by Bob Feickert, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Tollas to approve the paying of the bills in the amount of \$104,616.49. **Motion Carried.**

### Roll Call Vote:

Michael Price-Yes

Mel Tollas- Yes

Katie Strefling- Yes

Jodi Mattner- Yes  
Bob Feickert- Yes  
Jack Lewis-Yes  
Katie Zordell-Yes

**Approve Payroll**

**Motion made** by Bob Feickert, 2<sup>nd</sup> Katie Zordell to approve the payroll in the amount of \$24,116.34. **Motion Carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Michael Price-Yes  
Mel Tollas- Yes  
Katie Strefling- Yes  
Jodi Mattner- Yes  
Bob Feickert- Yes  
Jack Lewis-Yes  
Katie Zordell-Yes

**Motion made** by Bob Feickert, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Zordell to continue to pay Blossomland through the end of the 2024/2025 fiscal year up to \$500 per month. **Motion Carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Michael Price-Yes  
Mel Tollas- Yes  
Katie Strefling- No  
Jodi Mattner- Yes  
Bob Feickert- Yes  
Jack Lewis-Yes  
Katie Zordell-Yes

**Nomination for Village Clerk:** Michael Price appointed Melissa Herman as the Village Clerk starting at \$20 per hour.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Michael Price-Yes  
Mel Tollas- Yes  
Katie Strefling- Yes  
Jodi Mattner- Yes  
Bob Feickert- Yes  
Jack Lewis-Yes  
Katie Zordell-Yes

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer, Paula Bryan, reported that everything has been submitted for the audit.

**Clerk's Report:** The Clerk, Amber Osha, reported that Ordinance 126 had been sent to Berrien County Clerk's office and a copy of it was supplied to the Trustees. She provided a copy of the invoice from when

the Water Tower was hit by lightning and fixed, the Berrien County Drain Commissioner is working on drains, and the new computers are set up and going. The only issue is that the water bills have not been read yet due to the updating of equipment, so they will be late.

### **New Business**

**President Price Compensation-** Michael Price stated he did not want any compensation for the extra work he is doing.

**2025 Music in the Park-BoneAFyde-** Katie Zordell stated that the band had mentioned at the concert in July that they were booking up fast for next year and if we wanted to have them back, we would need to contact them very soon.

**Updating of the Ordinances-**Katie Zordell informed the Council that the Ordinances on the website were not all up to date. There was some discussion on talking to e-code in regard to this, if that is something that they do.

**Getting updated Employee Handbook not the employees:** There is a handbook that was updated in 2023. They need to be handed out to the employees.

**Job Descriptions-** Mel Tollas has some concerns that it states in our employee job descriptions on Indeed that the Village has a 401K in which it currently does not although the employee handbook states that full-time employees are offered it.

**Special Event Application- Motion made** by Katie Strefling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Tollas to approve the Special Event Application for the Berrien County Suicide Prevention Coalition 5K on September 21, 2024. Ayes-7, Nays-0 **Motion Carried.**

**Knowledge transfer and success planning for future Trustees:** There was some discussion on how to give and pass on knowledge to the next elected Trustees.

**F&V Operations-** Tony Cochran gave information on why the Village should contract with F&V. There was some discussion and at this time no action was taken.

**Ordinance Officer- Motion made** by Mel Tollas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Zordell, to hire Ryan Keough as the Village Ordinance Officer at the current Ordinance Officer rate. **Motion Carried.**

### **Roll Call Vote:**

Michael Price-Yes

Mel Tollas- Yes

Katie Strefling- Yes

Jodi Mattner- Yes

Bob Feickert- No

Jack Lewis-Yes

Katie Zordell-Yes

**Music in the Park-August 25, 2024-Volunteers:** Michael Price, Katie Zordell and Donnie Johnson II all volunteered to work.

**Update on the water service lines:** B&Z will be starting on these on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. Bob Feickert has some concerns that the process is not being done the way that the State recommends doing it. He also informed that the Village should be making and keeping good records of all the service lines so that there is a paper trail in the future.

**Park Committee-** Katie Strefling stated that the area under the swings needs to be fixed because it is a hazard to children. She would like to see the Village investigate a removable speed bump for by the park to help slow vehicles down. There was some discussion about the park sign on Lemon Creek Rd that needs replacing, power washing the pergola, getting the basketball courts fixed as well as the handicap parking painted.

**Finance Committee-**Nothing

**Personnel Committee-**Nothing

**Planning Commission-** went over the Capital Improvement, what has been done and what still needs to be done. Wightman will be there at their next meeting.

**Policy & Procedure Committee-** nothing

**Council Member Comments:**

**Bob Feickert-** would like to have a monthly report from the Department of Public Works. He asked if the Village had purchased the brush chopper, yes. He also has concerns that the Trustees approve the attorney bills but never see the questions to the attorney or her responses.

**Katie Zordell-** Wanted to know if Bubber's things are still in the DPW shed-Yes, have we gotten and used the sidewalk grinder. The Village has received it but has not used it currently. She mentioned that the Street Dance was coming up soon and wanted to know if the water tower needed the yearly inspection-it is on the agenda for September.

**Katie Strefling-**Thanked Bob Feickert for thinking of things that need to be addressed and following through with them.

**Jodi Mattner-**No comments

**Jack Lewis-** No comment

**Mel Tollas-** Mel stated that she is turning in her Municipality building key and her credit cards. She would also like to be removed from the Honor Credit Union and United Federal Credit Union bank accounts.

**President's Comments-** Nothing more.

**Audience comments were heard.**

**Meeting adjourned at: 8:40 PM**

