

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes  
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook  
**April 24, 2023**

**Call to Order:** By Council President Linda Goodman at 7:01p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence:** Led by Council President Linda Goodman.

**Roll Call:** Present: Paula Brunton (0,2), Don Cable (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0),  
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Lemmon (0,0), Sue Wadley (0,1), Tom Wolfe (0,0)  
Absent: Deb Julian (0,0)

**Staff Present:** Mayor Jeryne Peterson; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Jason Harget, Police Chief; Keisha Amspauagh, Fire Chief; Jennifer Dennis, Fiscal Officer; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement Officer; Kevin Strang, Zoning Inspector; Toby Miller, Water Superintendent; Kellie Green, Parks and Recreation Commission Secretary;

**Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Wolfe, to approve the April 3, 2023 special council meeting minutes.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain:** Brunton; **Nays: 0; Motion Passed 5 – 1 – 0**

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Councilor Brunton, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the April 10, 2023 regular council meeting minutes.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

**Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the March reconciliations and Treasurer's report dated April 20, 2023.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Fiscal Officer Jennifer Dennis stated that she has completed the ARPA annual report and her quarterly reports for ODJFS.

**APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:** None.

**COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:** No Finance Committee meeting since the last one. Chair Lemmon has reviewed the Treasurer's report and everything seems to be in line. Fire Department is greatly underfunded and they do not have revenue lined up for 2024 if this Fire Levy does not pass. It is important to get the word out and get the levy passed.

**Public Safety Committee:** Meeting held tonight. Police Department provided a draft camera use policy and they shared that they received another certification. Fire Department shared an update on the fire truck and they are still having challenges in getting the original fire truck up and running. The other fire truck had a recent break down as well and we now have a loaner from Byesville. There is a Fire Levy on the ballot and it is critical that it passes if we want to provide a good level of service into 2024. May 22nd will be the next committee meeting at 6:00pm.

**Public Service Committee:** No report at this time. Next standing committee meeting will be May 1st at 6:30pm.

**Rules Committee:** First meeting was held in March and Chair Brunton attempted to capture what they had talked about for council rules #1-3 and send it out to council, however it would not send to any of the gentlemen of council. Next meeting will be May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Community Development Committee:** Nothing to update. There will be an Open House at the Fire Department April 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm for anyone who has questions about the fire levy.

**Personnel Committee:** Absent, no report.

**Report of Council President:** President Goodman stated there will be three issues on the ballot for the election in May – the Fire Levy and two Sunday liquor license permits in the village; please vote! Fire Department will have an open house on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm to get questions answered about the fire levy. Please come to see the fire house and their operations there. Coffee and Conversation will take place April 28<sup>th</sup> from 11am-1pm at the Coffee Shack to talk one-on-one with the Fire Chief and Fire personnel. Street sweeping in the village has started and will take place on the second Tuesday of each month through October. Parks and Recreation Commission has started the Friends of Our Parks effort to recruit people from the community who want to help support the mission of Buckeye Lake parks and help with fundraising, volunteering, advocating, promoting, and empowering the parks system. If you have an interest or want to help, you can email to join Friends of Our Parks. President Goodman happened upon a website for a grant foundation that took the place of the Tony Hawk Foundation for funding for skate parks that concentrate on high-need communities.

#### **REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS WRITTEN OR VERBAL**

**Police Department – Chief Jason Harget** – Body cams came in and there is some training to do before they are rolled out onto the streets. Storage will happen on the cloud. Police Department has added a screen in the office for their calls for service that come in. Thanks to all who were involved for their help with setting that up. Last mobile terminal that was received through ARPA funds was installed and working great. 300-400 calls for service for injuries. 54 crimes reported in March. 31% of those crimes were vandalism, 27% larceny and theft. Hope to see that decrease. The officers are busy and we are fully staffed. Can see trends through this new reporting. Lets community know that we need extra help. Had first BLASST meeting today and they will pay special duty rate for that evening coverage.

**Fire Department – Interim Fire Chief Keisha Amspaugh** – Written reports submitted. Fire Chief Amspaugh is trying to get an update and answers on the fire truck that had the accident. Borrowing a truck from Byesville, as another of the trucks did not want to return to the fire house after a run. Run numbers year-to-date in packet plus MedBill numbers. Easter egg hunt was a huge success. Delta Kappa Gamma handed out some books to the kids and there was a special area for special needs kids. Collaboration with the fire and police departments is great. Fire levy is fast approaching and there are signs available to post proudly. Open house at the fire department on Wednesday where they will have cookies and drinks and activities. Coffee and Conversation on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Coffee Shack from 11am-1pm.

**Public Works – Toby Miller** – Attempting to get mosquito spraying started next month all depending on licensing. Has received a lot of calls about the Cranberry Lane area paving project and Toby said there are more questions than there are answers at the moment. Just now starting the surveying. He invites the public to come to the Public Service Committee meetings on the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm. Striping on the road has to wait for the temperatures to warm up.

**Parks and Recreation – Kellie Green** – Meeting minutes submitted. Secretary Kellie Green stated that the

commission is very excited about the Friends of Our Parks initiative and they hope people in the community will come forward to do things like talks with the kids about topics like fishing, gardening, and wildlife. Dangerous ramps at the skate park have been removed. Signage has been put up and torn down. Will talk about the usage of that space at the next commission meeting. Basketball court and the skate park seem to have the most usage at the park. Estimated \$30,000 to redo the mini ramp at 20ft long and 8ft wide. They could also modernize it to be used for bikes, skates, blades, and scooters. May 20<sup>th</sup> will be National Kids to Parks Day event. Councilor Wadley suggested that the commission reach out to ODNR who did a good presentation recently with the Buckeye Lake Civic Association. She also shared that Hebron Elementary is moving and raised \$40,000 for new playground equipment so maybe there is someone who could help with fundraising there. Next meeting will be May 2, 2023 6:30pm at the Rec Center.

**Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins** – Written report received. First quarterly report submitted that includes cases in court, active, and closed cases. Staying on top of the hotel situation with police and fire and zoning inspector to see if they are coming into compliance. Emergency call with a house needing to be condemned and the Human Society was involved. High grass cases on the report are ones that have carried over from last year and could be on there now for additional violations that are not high grass.

**Zoning – Kevin Strang** – Report submitted. Kevin stated recent activity included 26 on-site visits to see what is happening at the job site versus what is on the application, 12 electronic / telephone communications, and 2 stop-work orders. These numbers seem to be on par with the statistics around this time last year with 28 on-sight visits, 14 electronic contacts, and 2 stop-work orders.

**Planning and Zoning** – No representative / no report.

**Report of Mayor** – No written report. Mayor Peterson was contacted by Matt Baumann of Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow who will have their Summer Round Up this year and they wish to include No-Name Creek that runs through the village behind the fire house. Volunteers will be provided gloves, bags, and supplies to help pick up trash on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Kids to Parks Day will be on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Parks and Recreation Commission could reach out to Lakewood Superintendent Dr. Mark Gleichauf as there are seniors who may be interested in working as interns at the park or help on events.

## **ORDINANCES**

**Ordinances for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Ordinances for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** –

**Ordinance 2023-13** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-46 BY DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE RENEWAL OF THE SNOW AND ICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE.

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to suspend the rules.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon to adopt Ordinance 2023-13.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

**Ordinances for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** –

**Ordinance 2023-14** - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to remove the declaration of an emergency and move to a second reading.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

This will move on to a second reading.

**Ordinance 2023-15** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Wolfe, to suspend the rules.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Lemmon to adopt Ordinance 2023-15.

**Discussion:** Jennifer Dennis will be sure to specify the call center for council's intent on this ordinance.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolutions for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Resolutions for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Resolutions for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** –

**Resolution 2023-12** - A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED CREATION AND MARKING OF A LOCAL BIKE ROUTE AROUND BUCKEYE LAKE.

Mayor Peterson stated that this is from Bike Buckeye Lake who is trying to get signage around the lake. ODOT has already started putting up their signs and Toby Miller can work with them on the village signage.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

## **NEW BUSINESS** –

**Brick Repair and Building Painting** - Police Chief Harget and Jennifer Dennis stated that a few weeks ago, the Police Department had flooding and leaking in their office that resulted in the discovery of a lot of mold and water damage that has been going on for years. Jennifer contacted insurance and they said it is a maintenance issue so they will not cover it. Chief got quotes and it is very difficult to get a mason in here. \$15,000 is appropriated in the maintenance line from the levy money. That would use up most of the line for the year so if anything else happens, they would need to come back and appropriate more money. Brick repair quotes to repair the whole back wall of the building and a lot of the cracks and holes is \$9,200. A lot of leaking around the door and the window in the police office. He got a painting quote for \$4,900 to paint the inside of the police office, back side of the building, and the entire outside of the municipal building, as well as to fix the stucco out in front so that it matches. Councilor Lemmon said it is building maintenance and should come from the General fund.

**Medication Drop Box** - Mayor mentioned getting a box for people to drop their old medications in order to get them off of the streets. Police Chief can take them to be destroyed. Village has \$700 in opioid funds to use for advertising for it, etc. National Drug Take Back Day was busy and this would be a great service, per the Chief.

## **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS** –

Kaye Hartman – 4631 North Bank Road – She is a member of the Board for the Buckeye Lake Historical Society and they will be holding a dedication ceremony for the reveal of the refurbishing of the fountain at the North Shore Park on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. All will be given a coin to toss into the fountain. This is the 25<sup>th</sup>

anniversary of the Buckeye Lake Historical Museum as well and they will hold an open house on that day. Kaye made a suggestion to make a proclamation for the museum about their 25 years of service to the community and all of the tourism the museum has attracted over the years. Donna Braig was the founder and one of the very first members of village council.

Kaye is also a member of the Board of Elections and stated that anyone who cannot make it out to vote downtown can ask for an absentee ballot. She asked everyone to please look on the Board of Elections website to see the issues and please vote even though there are no names on the ballot. She also asked the Board of Elections to revisit the fact that the Buckeye Lake polling location was closed and to make sure that the people of the village have a place to vote as we will soon have more voters in the village and in Hebron in the next five years in order to help with that growth. She encourages everyone to write a letter to the Board of Elections about having a polling place come back.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Councilor Cable:** Weather is trying to get better. Be safe and be aware as it is staying light out longer and kids are playing in the streets. Buy local.

**Councilor Lemmon:** Fire levy is so important. They do not have funding for 2024 if it does not pass.

**Councilor Brunton:** Echoes Councilor Lemmon's comments and as she has more meetings under her belt, she is impressed with our leadership from our officials and our chiefs and their ability to recruit and continually improve our services. She appreciates the hard work, effort, and perseverance.

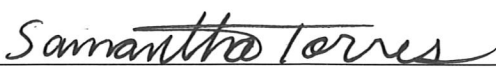
**Councilor Wolfe:** 3 issues on the ballot – get out there to vote. Getting a polling place back is a great idea and he thanked Kaye for her initiative.

**Councilor Wadley:** Shared some insight about the services that are provided by the Fire Department. Year-to-date in 2023, they have done 156 runs. In 2022, 914 runs. Those are runs and services that, if we do not have a funded fire department, someone else will have to come, help, and accommodate us which could cause a delay in services. They also provide CPR and AED training and community events with the police department, including a great Christmas holiday giving out toys. They do so much. If we do not pass a levy, we will not have a fire department and the services will have to be provided by someone else and it will cost more. Council passed to do a renewal so it will receive funding that the state will pay a part of. It will not pass if you do not vote. Reach out to Keisha or Sue or any council member if you have any questions about the fire levy or the services of the fire department. We have incredible staff here at the village and she appreciates everything that everyone does.

**Councilor Goodman:** Echoes Councilor Wadley's comments. Vote for the fire levy or we do not have fire protection in the village come January 1, 2024. We have great police and fire departments and great staff in the office and in public works.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Brunton. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

**NEXT MEETING:** Regular Council Meeting: May 8, 2023

  
Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council

  
Linda Goodman, Council President