

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
February 10, 2025

Call to Order: By Council President John Lemmon 7:0p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence: Led by Council President John Lemmon.

Roll Call: Present: Don Cable, Kellie Green, Deb Julian, Douglas Keener, John Lemmon, Sue Wadley, Tom Wolfe
Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Goodman, Mayor; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Amanda Hoppel, Clerk Treasurer; Jason Harget, Police Chief; Jerry Brooks, Interim Fire Chief;

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Wadley, seconded by Councilor Keener, to approve the January 27, 2025 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable

Abstain: Julian; Nays: 0; **Motion Passed 5 – 1 - 0**

Approval of Clerk Treasurer’s Report: Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Julian, to approve the Treasurer’s report dated February 6, 2025.

Roll call vote: Yes: Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable

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

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor’s Proclamation – Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month – March 2025 – Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities requested that municipalities do a proclamation for an awareness month, which she read for council.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable that council supports the mayor’s proclamation.

Roll call vote: Yes: Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable

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

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Finance Committee: Held a meeting tonight discussing recommendations for Ordinances on tonight’s agenda. Next meeting March 10th at 5:30pm.

Public Safety Committee: February 24th will be an exciting meeting for the public to come where Fire Chief will host a presentation about a heart monitor that is used by the fire department. March 24th a presentation for the power cot.

Public Service Committee: Meeting held last week. Minutes in packet. Second topic of meeting – West North Bank Storm water project update – they found a sanitation issue that they are continuing to work on. Weather has not been the greatest and we just have to deal with it and push on. Be careful. Next meeting will be March 3rd at 6:30pm.

Rules Committee: Nothing to report.

Community Development Committee: Absent no report.

Personnel Committee: Meeting held tonight about employees pay, pay philosophy, and revising the pay grade to make it a competitive market and do a complete analysis of it. They also spoke about if it is time for the village to consider hiring a village administrator. Next meeting to be held at 5:45pm on February 24th before Community Development committee meeting to be held at 6:15pm.

Report of Council President: President Lemmon had a casual sit down (same place same time-type chat) with Vince Popo from Millersport who is working on a proposal for helping the Eagles building at the edge of the village get water. Seems to be a win/win. At Millersport's expense, Eagles would get water and Buckeye Lake and Millersport would share the revenue. Needs to be passed by Millersport then the discussion can come to Buckeye Lake. President Lemmon wants to speak with Toby Miller about water meters on vacant lots.

Report of Mayor: Notified by MORPC that they are losing some of their federal funding with the new White House administration which will affect their intern program. Have \$3,000 in our village budget but will not be reimbursed by MORPC for a summer intern. Have been approved for grant funding for SS4A project, but will keep a close eye that the funding will come through for that. Had a meeting last week with Sean Grady from Licking County EMA – Emergency Management Agency – talking about the area such as flooding and our emergency development plan that needs to be looked at soon as it has not been updated in about 7 years. The thing they keep an eye on is if there would be a player that could get into the water system to shut it down.

The stormwater project is moving, slowly because of weather but it is moving. There are surprises just about every other day. She is trying to stay in good communication with residents and business owners about it. Short-term rentals – it feels like it is time to amend the legislation. Limiting a certain percentage of the dwellings within the municipality that are able to be short-term rentals. Don't want to lose sense of community in the area. She stated that the bulk of what has been sold in the area within the past few months have been out of state and out of town real estate purchases and it appears that many of them could be turned into short-term rentals. 981 dwellings, not including apartment complexes, in the village from auditor's office. About 30 short-term rentals right now that we can document. Fairfield County has software that can show every short-term rental that is registered on VRBO and Air B&B sites. Councilor Julian stated there was a recommendation of 5-10% of the dwellings that could be short-term rentals when the legislation was being drafted. We have less than 90 days from the election in May and we have a police levy on the ballot. We need to start working on the levy. Are we going to work on this through the Public Safety Committee or form another committee? We need to get the information out differently than we did in November. Anyone interested in helping with the police levy should reach out to Mayor or Public Safety Chair Wolfe.

Citizen's Comments Regarding Legislation on Tonight's Agenda: None.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2025-05 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE.
Moved to second reading.

Ordinance 2025-06 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE.
Moved to second reading.

Ordinance 2025-07 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE.
Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Julian to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: **Yes:** Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Julian to adopt Ordinance 2025-07.

Roll call vote: **Yes:** Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Ordinance 2025-08 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE.
Moved to second reading.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.
Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.
Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

Accept List of Properties for County Tax Assessments for Code Violations –

President Lemmon stated these are the properties that the village has done property maintenance on for the 2024 year (lawn mowing) that have not been paid for. He asked Mayor Goodman if the list of properties for tax assessment presented from Code Enforcement Officer Rex Adkins was acceptable to her. She said there was an adjustment, one taken off of the list, and that yes, now it is acceptable.

President Lemmon stated there would need to be a floor vote to move the list from the Code Enforcement Officer to the auditor’s office.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Wadley.

Roll call vote: **Yes:** Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Lake Water Leveling – Councilor Cable – several residents had asked him last week: How does ODNR determine when to let water out of the lake? He suggested maybe have someone from ODNR come in and explain that process. Mayor will reach out to Park Manager Mark Hoffhines.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS – None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS –

- Councilor Julian** – No comments tonight.
- Councilor Keener** – No comments tonight.
- Councilor Lemmon** – No comments tonight.
- Councilor Wadley** – No comments tonight.
- Councilor Wolfe** – No comments tonight.
- Councilor Cable** – No comments tonight.

Adjournment: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting – February 24th, 2025



Samantha Torres, Council Clerk



John Lemmon, Council President