

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
February 12, 2024

Call to Order: By Council President Linda Goodman at 7:00p.m.

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

Roll Call: Present: Don Cable (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0), Kellie Green (0,0), John Lemmon (0,0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Sue Wadley (0,0)
Absent: Deb Julian (0,0)(excused), Adam Miller (0,1)

Staff Present: Mayor Jeryne Peterson; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Amanda Hoppel, Clerk Treasurer;
Jason Harget, Police Chief

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Green, to approve the January 22, 2024 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Green, Lemmon, Wadley, Cable, Goodman

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 5 – 0

Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to approve the January 31, 2024 special council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Green, Lemmon, Cable, Goodman

Abstain: Wadley; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 4 – 1 – 0

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the Treasurer's report dated February 9, 2024.

Roll call vote: Yes: Green, Lemmon, Wadley, Cable, Goodman

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 5 – 0

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS – Council President Goodman introduced and welcomed Devin Kahrig, the new Planning and Zoning Clerk and Administrative Assistant who has been with the village for a few weeks now.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: New Finance Committee Chair Deb Julian was absent but President Goodman stated that the next Finance Committee meeting will be February 26, 2024 at 5:30pm.

Public Safety Committee: New Public Safety Chair John Lemmon stated there have not been any meetings with the new committee yet. He has reached out to the police and fire chiefs to see if there is anything they would like to have on the agenda. He would like to have a committee meeting on February 26th but only if they have enough information to move forward.

Public Service Committee: Meeting minutes submitted. Public Service Chair Don Cable stated their committee held a meeting on February 5, 2024, with the primary discussion being about the Cranberry Lane paving project that is close to bidding within 30 days. After that happens, it will be within a few weeks to get things moving. Public Service standing meeting date is the first Monday of every month at 6:30pm (barring holidays or other circumstances). Next meeting will be Monday March 4, 2024 at 6:30pm.

Rules Committee: Absent, no report.

Community Development Committee: Committee Chair Kellie Greene stated she does not have anything at this time but that she has reached out to President Goodman and previous Chair Tom Wolfe to get some ground rules and to establish her roles and responsibilities in order to feel comfortable with that.

Personnel Committee: Chair Sue Wadley stated the committee held their first meeting this evening in which they talked about items under old business, including two policies in the employee handbook that have been in the process of being updated: use of uniforms and social media policies. They would like to wrap that up. Some new policies were also discussed for review: political activity, what the employees can and cannot do on village time and/or property, along with access to employee personnel files. Chair Wadley will work with Clerk Amanda Hoppel on that. Future staffing was discussed, in which Councilor Lemmon stated he would be working with the police and fire departments to look at their staffing and where they see themselves going over the next 3-5 years. They were also able to meet new office employee Devin Kahrig and welcome her. Chair Wadley was also seeking information and clarification on an HR position that was filled but that person had resigned. Mayor Peterson said she could update her on that after the council meeting due to employee confidentiality. Next meeting will be March 11th at 6:30pm.

Report of Council President: Winterfest was a huge success. Both the police and fire departments felt like it was successful from their point of view. It was a safe event; kudos to them and to the Chamber of Commerce and the businesses for the event. Tom Charles, who lived here in the village, has passed away recently. President Goodman stated the village wished to recognize him for his lifetime of service and many friendships he held within the village that valued his mentorship and advice for the betterment of our community. Condolences to his family and all who knew him. The village has received word on the CDBG grant to rewrite the zoning code for the village. OHM has been chosen as the company to do it. The first organizational meeting will happen sometime in early March, as there are a few things that need to be signed at the county level. With OHM being chosen to do this, it will most likely go quicker, as they were the company that produced the most recent comprehensive plan and some spot zoning for the village. This way they already know where we are starting from and what we want the village to look like. We look forward to working with them.

Report of Mayor – No written report submitted. Mayor Peterson stated she has been able to secure reimbursements for the village for the Children’s Summer Food Program through the State of Ohio. She will be taking examinations that have to be done, starting in April. The State of Ohio likes the menu we have and made some suggestions for it and that is in the works. She asked everyone to reach out to State Senator Tim Schaefer to give their blessing about possibly getting 90% of \$10 million for the pier project. President Goodman stated that there is more information about that project on the BLRC 2036 webpage.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading – None.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Codification of Legislation – Councilors received a packet of information and were asked to please review it and become familiar with it as there will be legislation soon to get this moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS -

President Goodman read a comment submitted from Barb Sills of 524 Providence Lane about the legal financials of the village. President Goodman shared some financial information in response. Comment can be found in the meeting minutes binder.

Council Clerk Torres read a submitted comment from Charlene Hayden of 67 Lighthouse Lane about Mayor Peterson. Comment can be found in the meeting minutes binder.

Marianne Perrine – 264 Park Street – Marianne stated she was asked to read a comment in support of Mayor Peterson from a gentleman named Tim with no last name or address given and stated she did not write this comment. After reading the comment, Marianne stated that personally, she feels Mayor Peterson has done a good job. Comment can be found in the meeting minutes binder.

Bill French – 4645 North Bank Road – Bill commented about keeping the website updated for transparency. It has been difficult to see when the meetings are and that has changed within the past month or so.

Shelly Myers – 507 Providence Lane – Shelly read a letter representing herself and some residents. Dear Mayor Peterson, Question: why the need for a fundraiser for campaigning if you filed a lawsuit with the Ohio Supreme Court to stop the aforementioned election altogether? Why ask for money from the village residents so you can retain your position and sue the village they live in, essentially costing them more money? Wouldn't that be considered biting the hand that feeds you? You talk about corruption and sidestepping the rules, but you did the same in the community that you live in and boast about it to the residents. The same actions resulting in attorneys and monies being spent by your neighbors and constituents so that your wants and desires can be met forcefully. How is that "For the People"? How is doing what you like regardless of the rules any different than what you accuse others of? Why host a fundraiser outside of the Village of Buckeye Lake in a bar? Why throw your Chief of Police and Council President under the bus by inviting a known troublemaker and activist to speak at a council meeting? Maybe the council and yourself would get along better if you stopped acting in your best interest and acted by your campaign rhetoric: "Use good sense and morals". There is a reason 200+ residents signed a petition to remove you. You have let your pride cloud your vision for far too long. I have given you enough money and it is time we take our money back. Vote NO on February 27th.

Casey Clark - 241 Lakeview Drive – Casey commented that early voting is currently underway for the Buckeye Lake mayoral election and continues until February 23rd at 5:00pm at the Licking County Board of Elections. February 27th from 6:30am to 7:30pm, you can vote at our regular polling location, Hebron New Life Church 525 West Main Street in Hebron. The ballot reads: "Shall Jeryne Peterson be allowed to continue as Mayor?" A 'YES' or 'NO' response is required.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Councilor Cable: Welcome to Devin. Short meeting tonight which is a plus, but a shame the time has not changed yet.

Councilor Lemmon: First time seeing no legislation as we normally stay pretty busy. Everyone is continuing to work and we are at the beginning of a new council so everyone has new positions. Thanked the employees; they are our most important asset we have in this village. Thanked all for showing up tonight. Appreciates them being here. Thanked police and fire who have stayed professional and done their jobs through turmoil and that is very, very important. Treat them with the respect they deserve and have earned. Say 'thank you' if you happen to see them.


Councilor Green: Welcomed Devin. Heard positive comments about the Police and Fire departments' presence during Winterfest. She knows they have a job to do but she appreciates that they try to make a friendly, public, part-of-the-community appearance and that speaks volumes in our community. Thanks to all who showed up tonight for the things that are important in our village. Shortest meeting since she has been on council.

Councilor Wadley: Supports what Bill French shared about the website / Facebook page. Transparency is important and information needs to be available. We have to let people know when the committee meetings are and what those topics will be. Supports getting that in line and making it as user-friendly as possible. Welcomed Devin. Thanked employees and staff. She works in HR as her full-time position and turnover definitely has a cost. Sometimes turnover is positive, sometimes negative, but when you start to have a large volume of it, that effects the service that we provide to our residents. Thanked citizens for attending. We want to hear what they have to say. We may not always agree with it, but we do want to hear their input.

Councilor Goodman: Thanked all who came. Thanked the five current employees and one former employee for coming. It means a lot that you care enough to come to our council meetings and we appreciate it. Thanked all of the residents. Comments are very much appreciated; we do listen to them. Sometimes we agree or don't agree, just as sometimes you agree or don't agree with us. That's what this country is about and we need to be able to talk about our differences and come to a clear understanding and be honest and open in our conversations. Thanked everyone for being here and for being a part of this village and helping us move forward.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Green. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting: February 26, 2024



Samantha Torres, Council Clerk



Linda Goodman, Council President
John Lemmon