

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
February 27, 2023

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: Paula Brunton (0,0), Don Cable (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0), Deb Julian (0,0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Lemmon (0,0), Sue Wadley (0,0), Tom Wolfe (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;

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Julian, to approve the February 13, 2023 regular council meeting minutes.

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the Treasurer's report dated February 23, 2023.

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Fiscal Officer Jennifer Dennis stated that someone from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation will be coming in tomorrow to do an audit. She also stated that she had inadvertently left out of the budget a part of the seasonal worker that was hired last year. Some of that position was coming out of Code Enforcement in the General Fund and some coming out of the Street Department. This time in the budget, she forgot to include the part coming out of the Street Department, so that part at around \$3,800 will need added to Ordinance 2023-08 before the second reading at the next council meeting.

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mayor Peterson swore in Emily Appelt as Firefighter / EMT – Basic and Noah Bacon as Firefighter / EMT – Basic for the Buckeye Lake Fire Department.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Permanent budget is completed and first reading is this evening. Committee Chair Lemmon thanked all of the committee members who worked extremely hard on the many issues in the temporary budget. He said thank you to Fiscal Officer Jennifer Dennis for her work on it as well. Standing Finance Committee meeting will be held on the second Monday of each month at 5:45pm, with the next one held on March 13th at 5:45pm. He may cancel that meeting to allow others time to reschedule committee meetings that were scheduled for this evening but were cancelled due to severe weather threat.

Public Safety Committee: Committee was scheduled to have a meeting this evening but it was cancelled due to severe weather threat. Standing Public Safety meeting will be before the second Council meeting of each month (fourth Monday) at 6:00pm, with the next one to be held on March 27th at 6:00pm. A make-up meeting may be scheduled in between.

Rules Committee: The committee was scheduled to have an organizational meeting this evening but it was cancelled due to severe weather threat. Chair Brunton reached out to other council members and she has been updated on the work that has been done in the Rules Committee. Next Rules Committee meeting will be March 13th after the Personnel committee meeting.

Public Service Committee: Some pot holes have been filled and there has been some work done at the corner of Mill Dam near the Wendy's and work done for the bridge project across the street from that location as well. Next standing committee meeting will be March 6th at 6:30pm.

Community Development Committee: Next meeting (that is rescheduled from being cancelled this evening due to weather) will be March 27th at 6:30pm with general discussion on short-term rentals and short-term rental ordinances that have passed and any changes.

Personnel Committee: Personnel Committee had one case of unfinished business that they should have called for at the last council meeting so Committee Chair Julian called for a floor vote as follows:

Call for a floor vote by Councilor Julian, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to change the Fire Chief's pay from a stipend to a per-hour rate of \$23.65/hr.

Discussion: There was a dollar amount in the budget of \$24,600 that was approved through the Finance Committee and discussed with the Mayor and Fiscal Officer. This would eliminate the stipend permanently from this position. These figures are based on about 20 hours per week or 1040 hours per year and would allow for flexing up to 1200 hours per year as the maximum based on what is available in the budget.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 7 – 0**

Mayor Peterson swore in Keisha Amspaugh as Fire Chief for the Buckeye Lake Fire Department. Mayor Peterson said she is very proud to have a female Fire Chief.

Report of Council President: President Goodman stated we are continuing with the Comprehensive Plan with a meeting rescheduled for this week and once we meet with OHM this final time, we will be presenting a resolution to get it moving forward.

REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS WRITTEN OR VERBAL

Police Department – Chief Jason Harget – Call report submitted. Congratulations to Fire Chief Amspaugh and her staff. K-9 cruiser is back in service. Have waited since September to get catalytic converters due to thefts in Ohio. Now having issues with two other cruisers for the same reason, however catalytic converters are available now and will not have to wait for months and that is through Ford. Good news is the cars are under warranty for about 100,000 miles and the cruisers are just under that milage around 80,000. Cruise 803 had the wheel hubs repaired today at around \$800. Fire Chief Amspaugh and staff are planning the Easter Egg Hunt for the Village on April 8th at Ryan-Braden Park and it will most likely be a bigger crowd than last year. Officers will begin substance control training for the gear on their belts just like with their firearms. This will be free of charge at Eastland Police Academy within 30 days. Most officers have attended their firearms training so far this year. Chief Harget is trying to certify the Police Department as a certified accredited agency. Ohio Collaborative, who sets the standards to make sure that the department is in compliance with the policies for being certified, did an on-site visit and the police department passed their on-site inspection #3. There will be two more inspections in order for them to be fully certified which will allow them to apply for more grants and shows they are doing the right thing. Radio purchased with ARPA funds has been received but still needs programmed (cost included in ARPA request). Computer mounts are in stock but they are still waiting to receive the computer. Cruisers are serviced at Goodyear in Heath or wherever they can get Ford parts quickly. Councilor Wolfe suggested getting some trade-in values on the cruisers for the future. Officer Skinner excelled through his training and came to the department with experience. He is out on his own doing a great job removing narcotics from the streets.

Fire Department – Interim Fire Chief Keisha Amspaugh – Written reports submitted. Fire Chief Amspaugh stated that the Fire Department is thrilled that their staff is growing by swearing in new people and she looks to

maybe hire more. They will be ramping up the community outreach this Summer with the Police Department, starting with the Easter Egg Hunt April 8th at 4:30pm SHARP (takes only a few minutes for the eggs to be gone). Ceiling repair is complete with some minor hiccups. Fire engine repair has a small snag with some issues with the pump. Insurance has been contacted and it is being repaired in Macedonia. Chief applied for a 100% grant through Park National Bank for new AED for the Village Office. Preventative maintenance was done on cardiac monitors, filling station, and support medic. She looks forward to the feedback on the Fire Levy and getting that out to the public; might have a meeting before March 27th to get a jump on that. President Goodman told her do not hesitate to reach out to council for help with the community outreach projects. Councilor Wolfe asked what the replacement value would be for a new fire engine? Councilor Julian stated there was an emergency access road put in toward the back of Cranberry Bay and she advises the village to take a look at it, as it has piles of dirt on it and people would not be able to get through right now and it needs addressed. Fire Chief stated that the yacht club siren access for emergencies is not working as well.

Public Works – Toby Miller – Updates on West North Bank Stormwater project will not come until after April 27th. General contractor should be back to finish up sidewalks and other things near the bridge project. Have an employee taking a test for in-house mosquito spraying instead of contracting it out. Ohio EPA 100% reimbursement of a stand-by generator system for the water tower was awarded. More updates will come at the March 6th Public Service Committee meeting.

Parks and Recreation – Annetta Macedonia – No representative / report. Next meeting March 7, 2023.

Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins – Written report received. Clerk of Courts goes in for surgery tomorrow.

Zoning – Kevin Strang – Report submitted. Kevin stated activity over the last 8 weeks included 17 zoning applications, with 33 on-site visits to see what is happening at the job site versus what is on the application, 22 electronic / telephone communications, and 4 stop-work orders.

Planning and Zoning – No representative / no report.

Report of Mayor – Report submitted. Mayor Peterson would like to formally request an amendment to the permanent budget to include \$31,000 in line item 1000-710-161 for a Development Director, which comes from the Mayor's portion of the budget.

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Wadley for a full council vote on the request to add \$31,000 to the Mayor's portion of the proposed permanent budget.

Discussion: Councilor Lemmon stated that the Finance Committee discussed this in two Finance Committee meetings and this was not recommended from the Finance Committee.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wadley; Abstain: 0;

Nays: Julian, Lemmon, Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman; Motion Failed 1 – 6

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2023-08 - PERMANENT ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO, FOR 2023, AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Brunton, to add \$3,872.55 to 2011-620 Street Department personnel of the permanent budget for the Seasonal position.

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS – None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Cable: Congrats to Fire Chief and her team. Spring is right around the corner. New businesses in and near the village. New gas station will open soon. Be sure to buy and support local in the region.

Councilor Lemmon: Congrats and thank you to Keisha – very impressive and well-earned position. Summer is coming; a lot of new businesses out there.

Councilor Brunton: Congrats to Fire Chief in no longer being “interim” chief. Glad to have her.

Councilor Wadley: Congrats to new Fire Chief; looking forward to working with her. Welcome to Emily and Noah. Be sure to educate yourselves about the fire levy. It is critical and important to the community that it passes this year.

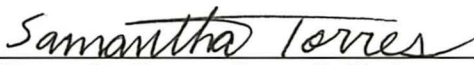
Councilor Wolfe: Congrats to Keisha, Emily, and Noah.

Councilor Julian: Congrats to Keisha. Sign of a good leader is someone who can recruit. Know we are a stopping point for some, but that’s okay too. Knows that our Police Chief has done the same thing. We met a few weeks ago about the comprehensive plan and we look forward to getting to the next step in moving the village along in the next 12 months.

Councilor Goodman: Thank you to all. Agrees that good sign of leadership is recruitment. Nice to be seeing new people joining the Fire Department and it being fully staffed. Department heads, do not hesitate to come to council. Happy to work with you and will do our best to meet any of your requests. Please keep everyone updated on the fire levy as it is important and the next big step for the fire department.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Brunton. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting: March 13, 2023


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


Linda Goodman, Council President