

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
July 12, 2021

Call to Order: By Council President Geiger at 7:06 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Present: John Lemmon (0, 0), Kitty Zwissler (0, 0), Don Cable (0, 0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Bill French (0, 0), John Geiger (0, 0), Linda Goodman (0, 0)

Staff Present: Mayor Peggy Wells; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Jason Harget, Police Chief;

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the June 28, 2021 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman
Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor French, to approve the Treasurer's report and Reconciliations dated July 8, 2021.

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman
Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Police Chief Harget introduced two new officers who were sworn in by Mayor Wells to the police department: Johannes Lorenz and Matthew Fenstermaker. Mayor Wells recognized Officer Hannah Looney, whose last day with the village was today.

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Zwissler, to accept Melissa Beard's Council seat resignation.

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman
Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0

Council President Geiger explained the process and procedure that will happen for finding a replacement for the vacant council seat. Council will accept applications until 4:00pm on July 20th, followed by a Personnel Committee meeting on July 22nd at 6:30pm to include interviews with specific times for each candidate. Personnel will then make a recommendation to full council at the regular council meeting on July 26th.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Written report submitted from the June 28th meeting.

Public Safety Committee: Councilor Bill French announced he is willing to step forward until a new councilor is in place for the Public Safety Committee chair. He will contact police and fire chiefs to see if they need any meetings set up. Mayor Wells asked him to review her letter to residents about obstacles in the public right-of-way.

Public Service Committee: Councilor French said that Toby Miller led the meeting (which was held this evening at 6:00pm before the council meeting). At the meeting, North Bank stormwater change order #2 was discussed. They will follow through with that. Taco Bell bridge maintenance needs options were discussed. Discussed vacating the right-of-way at the Goodwill property. Neel Avenue stormwater project engineering was also discussed.

Rules Committee: Meeting held tonight that was a continuation of the last meeting regarding cleaning up the verbiage on council rule 41A, as far as how often a council member can be absent from meetings before discipline is taken. Councilor Cable will get with President Geiger and the council clerk on how to submit the new verbiage recommendation to full council.

Community Development Committee: A brief meeting was held tonight with artist Sylvana Whittaker who proposed an art studio to go into the space at the end of the municipal building, 5206 Walnut Road. A lot to discuss on the feasibility of it. No decision made tonight. Community Development would like another meeting with her about her financials and her business plan. Councilor Zwissler said the space is in bad shape and the village does not want a long-term lease there.

Personnel Committee: Personnel Committee will assist in filling the vacated council seat, which will also be the chair of the Public Safety Committee, and they will sit on Personnel, Public Services, and Finance committees which are all very busy. Please have the time to devote to serving the village.

Report of Council President John Geiger: President Geiger asked how council felt about the recently passed resolution with the intent for meetings to be livestreamed, which had an allowance for some to not be livestreamed i.e. Parks and Recreation Commission when they meet at the park.

Cable – meetings should be livestreamed if they are held in the municipal building

Lemmon – livestreamed or at least recorded.

Goodman – need to follow the resolution as it was passed.

French – feels the same as Goodman. It is nice to livestream it from home.

Zwissler – agrees with everyone, transparency and accountability are key.

Council Clerk Samantha Torres stated that her and Toby Miller are the only ones who know how to make it all work and it is not just one click of a button and the videos are live; there is a lot to get the meetings to work, so she asked for people to please be willing to learn the process of livestreaming and be aware of the effort it takes to make it all work.

Zoning book discussion – moratorium on mobile and modular homes was extended an additional 3 months. The village is in the process of modifying the zoning book. President Geiger explained the process of changing a section in the zoning book, per Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendations. Councilor Goodman stated that the village should not go crazy with zoning changes just yet because Aaron Domini of OHM will be starting the process of the new comprehensive plan and code once things go through with the CDBG grant.

Report of Mayor Wells: Written report submitted. Mayor Wells stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission is aware of the process and that they are waiting on the attorney's response to their recommendations. Received a proclamation from the Senate about the village's hard work on getting the pavilion built. Mayor Wells wrote a letter to the residents of the village asking them to remove obstacles in the right-of-way which may cause damage or impede access

by safety vehicles. North Bank stormwater project is nearly complete. Still an opening available for Zoning Inspector. Welcomed new officers.

Police Chief Harget – Thanked Toby Miller who installed access to e-citation software where each citation will go to an online server for direct access by the mayor’s court clerk where she will not have to manually enter citations now.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2021-24 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman

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

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Ordinance 2021-24.

Discussion: Toby Miller explained that this line item is used to pay for the electronic payment option for water bills. Processing cost has gone up due to volume of it being used. At the moment, the Water Department does not charge fees for the service. Those are being covered by the Water Department, but that could be looked at during reevaluation.

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman

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

Ordinance 2021-25 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 1.0 ACRE, MORE OR LESS, PARCEL OF LAND FROM BUCKEYE LAKE YOUTH ASSOC, LOCATED AT 118 3rd ST, VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, COUNTY OF LICKING, STATE OF OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor Cable, to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman

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

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Ordinance 2021-25.

Roll call vote: Yes: Lemmon, Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Youth Association Building Acquisition – still need a supplemental appropriations for a check for the closing on July 27th.

Council pay increase discussion – Councilor Lemmon suggested that if it was to be done, it could be effective January 1, 2024. Councilor Goodman said it is basically a stipend. She said hearing from people around, they have never seen anyone have as low of a pay rate for council and mayor as this village, so increasing the stipend is a good thing. Amount is yet to be determined, but she said it is time to do it. It will continue to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Lemmon: Welcomed all new police forces. Appreciates hard work.

Councilor Zwissler: Thanks for hard work tonight. Thanked police chief for recruiting new members of the police force. Efforts will have to be put into generating funds to pay police and fire a more reasonable pay so that the village is not the training grounds for other entities. New businesses will help with that. She has been receiving complaints from Leisure Village residents about the owners of the mobile home park saying that in the rules it says they need to take out their window air conditioning units because maintenance people are hitting them. She thinks this is a health hazard for the elderly and those with health issues there.

Councilor Cable: Welcomed the two new police officers and wished Officer Looney the best. Recognized the efforts of Councilor Beard and wished her the best.

Councilor French: Welcomed the two new police officers and thanked Officer Looney. Thanked Toby Miller for his hard work in many different areas.

Councilor Goodman: Thanked police and fire for their hours and efforts during the BLASST fireworks celebration. The village will miss Officer Looney greatly, as she was a great addition to the department and the village. With the work that has been done at Ryan-Braden park, the Pavilion, and now soon the youth association building, the village can offer more youth activities. Maybe hire a park person to help.

Police Chief Harget: Spoke about a drug and weapons bust in the village that came to a safe resolution. Had been an ongoing code enforcement issue.

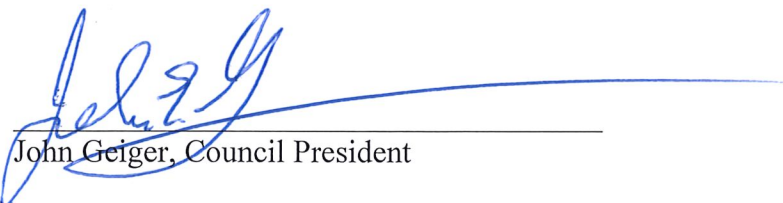
ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Lemmon to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Goodman.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

NEXT MEETING: July 26, 2021


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Geiger, Council President