

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
July 26, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: By Council President Geiger at 7:05 p.m.

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

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

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

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: John Hanson of 40 Beacon Light Lane, commented to recommend Tom Price to the council vacant seat. John said that Tom is a member of the current Planning and Zoning Commission with him and that Tom is always on time and dependable and willing to work with others. He said that Tom has no agenda, no pre-formed notions, but does have the ability to work together and make Buckeye Lake a better place.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor French, to approve the July 12, 2021 council meeting minutes.

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

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

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Goodman, to approve the Treasurer's report dated July 21, 2021.

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

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

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Personnel Committee interviewed candidates who applied on July 22nd. Council was impressed with both candidates.

Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor French, to nominate Tom Wolfe to the vacant Council seat.

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: Cable; Motion Passed 5 – 1

Thomas Wolfe was sworn in to the vacant Council seat by Mayor Peggy Wells. He took the seat for the rest of the Council meeting and was asked to abstain in voting since he has not had time to see the legislation on the meeting's agenda. He will also serve as chair of the Public Safety Committee.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Had a meeting this evening before the Council meeting and Councilor Lemmon will turn in the minutes for that, as there was a lot talked about. Finance Committee

will have a standing Finance Committee meeting on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30pm before the regular council meeting.

Public Safety Committee: Councilor French, who was standing in as chair for this committee until the new chair was appointed, will get with newly appointed chair, Tom Wolfe, about police and fire matters.

Public Service Committee: Next Public Service Committee meeting will be August 2, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Rules Committee: Submitted revised Council Rule 41A, which is to be talked about under unfinished business towards the end of the Council meeting agenda this evening.

Community Development Committee: Councilor Zwissler has received complaints from citizens about burglaries and “scary people” around the village. She spoke with Police Chief Harget and they discussed starting a citizen’s patrol that could work with police and Public Safety Committee.

Personnel Committee: Personnel Committee met tonight to discuss implementing a step pay chart for the Water Department. Water Tech 1 and Water Tech 2. Toby Miller is in the process of hiring someone for the Water Tech 1 position.

Personnel Committee recommended to Council:

Water Tech 1 \$16 - \$19 / hr
Water Tech 2 \$17 - \$20 / hr

Those recommendations were base on a comparative analysis of other neighboring entities to be competitive. The steps will be based on performance reviews, experience, and certifications.

REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

Police Department - Chief Jason Harget – Two new officers have started in the Police Department. \$3,000 worth of equipment was donated from the Bexley Police Department to transform the K-9 cruiser into a regular cruiser with a partition, window guards, and a rear gate. New Officer Johannes Lorenz has experience working on vehicles, so he will install this equipment at no cost to the village.

Fire Department – Chief Ryan Wyse – No report.

Public Works – Toby Miller – No report.

Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins – Continuing enforcement of tall grass and weeds. Lawn mowing service was averaging about ten lawns they had to do each time; it is now down to five. A dozen new properties to address with regards to bad exterior conditions that Rex Adkins is hoping to get taken care of within the next month. One property that has been a problem for a few years is now in Licking County Municipal court.

Parks and Recreation – Kellie Green – Written report submitted. Councilor Cable read over it.

Report of Council President – John Geiger – Five emergency ordinances this evening.

Report of Mayor – Mayor Peggy Wells read over her written submitted report. Mayor Wells suggested that Council identify more village-owned lots to put up for auction, as the village would save money in advertising that way. Councilor Goodman reminded Council that the revenue from the sale of village-owned lots will go back to the General fund to pay back the General fund for the cash purchase of the 118 Third Street Youth Association property.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

ORDINANCE 2021-26 - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 2 FOR THE NORTH BANK ROAD STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to adopt Ordinance 2021-26.

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

ORDINANCE 2021-27 - AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AN UNUSED RIGHT OF WAY. Will move on to a second reading.

ORDINANCE 2021-28 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN ADR & ASSOCIATES, LTD. AND THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE FOR CONSTRUCTION PLANS, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE CDBG NEEL AVE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Goodman, to suspend the rules.

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Goodman, to adopt Ordinance 2021-28.

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

ORDINANCE 2021-29 - AN ORDINANCE AWARDED THE BID FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE PARK STREET RETAINING WALL PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND SAID CONTRACTOR SUBJECT TO FUNDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to adopt Ordinance 2021-29.

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

ORDINANCE 2021-30 – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to adopt Ordinance 2021-30.

Discussion: Councilor Lemmon hopes that some of this money will help to pay Fire Department pay gap. Councilor Goodman said that we are sure that the money can be used to increase the stipend for the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. We also know the categories that the money can be spent on, but do not know the ins and outs of it yet. The audit on this money is very strict. Fiscal Officer Jennifer Dennis said the money has been received and this ordinance is just to create the fund for it.

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Councilor Goodman explained that the funds come from the U.S. Treasury as part of the American Rescue Plan. The money will be received in two lump-sum payments, this year and next year. Do not have to rush on spending this money. As long as it is appropriated, the village has until 2025 to spend it.

ORDINANCE 2021-31 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Ordinance 2021-31.

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

Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council Rules Amendment – Will be brought to the next meeting.

Lease of 5206 Walnut Road – space at the end of the municipal building – Councilor Zwissler said that the Community Development Committee had asked for a financial statement and a business plan from Sylvana Whitaker for her plans for the space to become an art studio/workspace at their last meeting, but that they had just received a sheet with an account balance, but Councilor Zwissler would like to see a regular financial statement that includes income possibilities and that the business plan was not acceptable. Councilor Cable asked what is the risk to the village? He said that in lieu of rent, Sylvana talks about refurbishing the space. If the space gets refurbished and the art studio business goes under, the village will still have a refurbished space. He asked do we need what is being asked for? Council President Geiger said yes, we would still want to see anticipated revenue stream. Councilor Goodman said there would be expense to the village regarding repairing the roof. Councilor Zwissler said there is liability during the process, as well as no available parking. Councilor Lemmon said before making Sylvana jump through hoops, council needs to decide if they even want to rent out the space. He does not think it is a good move for the village right now. Will be moved to the next meeting.

Amendment of the drive-thru lease of 5186 Walnut Road –

Floor vote to extend the Beer Pier lease at 5186 Walnut Road as proposed in July 26, 2021
Mayor's Report –

Roll call vote: Yes: Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman, Lemmon
Abstain: Wolfe; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 6 – 1 – 0**

Plexiglas in Council Chambers – The Plexiglas is taken down for now but if the Governor makes a change, it can be put back up.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor French, to go into executive session with Police Chief Jason Harget to discuss personnel matters.

Roll call vote: Yes: Zwissler, Cable, French, Geiger, Goodman, Lemmon, Wolfe
Abstain: 0; **Nays: 0;** **Motion Passed 7 – 0 – 0**

Council entered into executive session at 8:18pm.
Council entered back into regular council meeting at 9:30pm.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Zwissler: Thanked everyone for their hard work. Special election on August 3rd.

Councilor Cable: Welcomed Tom Wolfe back to Council. Be safe in the heat at the lake.

Councilor French: Welcomed Tom Wolfe back to Council.

Councilor Geiger: Welcomed Tom Wolfe back to Council. Meetings are running smoothly.

Councilor Goodman: There was a tragedy on the lake last week. Look out around you and look out for each other. Mopar weekend is coming up. Welcomed Tom Wolfe back to Council.

Councilor Lemmon: Glad to see Tom Wolfe back in council. Looks forward to working with him.

Councilor Wolfe: Appreciates council's vote of confidence. Wants to make Buckeye Lake a good, fun place to live.

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

VOTE: UNANIMOUS ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 7-0
Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm

NEXT MEETING: August 9, 2021

Samantha Torres
Samantha Torres, Council Clerk

John Geiger
John Geiger, Council President