

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

June 14, 2021

Call to Order: By Council President Geiger at 7:03 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Present: John Geiger (0, 0), Linda Goodman (0, 0), John Lemmon (0, 0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Kitty Zwissler (0, 0), Melissa Beard (0, 3), Don Cable (0, 0),
Bill French (0, 0)

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

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Charlene Hayden of 67 Lighthouse Lane commented from the
audience to thank everyone for their efforts during COVID-19 restrictions. She said that the
Cranberry Bay Homeowner's Association meeting discussed Air B&Bs, of which there are 3 in
her neighborhood. She wonders what the village rule is about them. Also, there are Cranberry
Bay residents concerned about potential water drainage runoff that she would like the village to
look into.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor French, seconded by
Councilor Goodman, to approve the May 14, 2021 regular council meeting minutes.

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

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 and Reconciliations dated June 8, 2021.

Clerk Treasurer Jennifer Dennis said previously, reconciliations were taking 3 days to a week to
finish. She is now able to complete them in half an hour. She also told Council that there is a
resolution on this meeting's agenda that is waiving the tax budget. She was looking through the
Village Officer's Handbook where it says the village must adopt a tax budget by July 15th of each
year per ORC 5705.28. Jennifer talked to Chief Deputy Auditor from Licking County, Brad
Cottrell, who said it could be waived, which is presented as Resolution 2021-09 tonight. Jennifer
also explained the appropriation items on tonight's Ordinance 2021-22. A breakdown sheet is
included with the Ordinance.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 7 – 0

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mayor appointee Melissa Tevis was
introduced as the newest member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mayor Wells read
from her biography and Council welcomed her.

Jason Harget was appointed in March 2021 as Interim Police Chief. He has taken the Oath of
Office today as permanent Police Chief. He said it has been a lot of fun, great community and
officers, and thanked the Mayor and Council for their trust in him.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Written report submitted from the May 24th meeting. Looking to have a standing Finance Committee meeting once a month. Next meeting will be June 28, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Public Safety Committee: No report.

Public Service Committee: Written report submitted from June 7th meeting. Light quote numbers for the parks were discussed at the meeting. The nicer street sign poles will be what is placed on Route 79, whereas residential areas will have the street sign attached to the U-shaped posts and those all will be going in soon. The village is well-suited for the RAISE grant but could not provide proof on a dollar-to-dollar basis of improvement in terms of quantifying people and bikes on the sidewalk/multipurpose path that would go from North Shore Park west along Route 79, so the village will not be getting the grant. Nearing completion of the acquisition phase of the bridge project. They talked about the stormwater project as well as the Park Street retaining wall replacement project. Bidding should start on that soon.

Rules Committee: No report. Next Rules Committee meeting to be held June 28th at 6:30pm.

Community Development Committee: Meeting was held tonight where they discussed vacant lots and drainage runoff. Recommend to council to hire an appraiser for lots owned by the village: 191 Union Ave, 119 Stewart, 129 Stewart, 52 Seymour
Concern about runoff water of village-owned and residential properties. Councilor Zwissler said no one seems to know who has authority over that runoff water, so she will call ODNR to find out the rules and regulations. Councilor Cable will call the county.

Personnel Committee: Meeting held tonight. Ongoing Employee Handbook revisions – made aware of a ruling from the Fire Department that will be written as a new ruling for all village employees within the next few weeks and have a resolution for council at the next meeting.

Report of Council President John Geiger: Welcomed the public back to Council Chambers for public meetings. Potentially 21 members of staff at the meetings filling chairs. Councilor Lemmon thinks department heads should sit at the long tables, have more chairs added to the audience, and he likes that citizen's comments are at the beginning of the meeting. It was suggested that the village look into YouTube for Business for continued live streaming of the meetings online. President Geiger brought up the removal of the Plexiglas in Council Chambers. Councilor French suggested it stay up through July to see how things go; council agreed. Mike Miller will go back to sanitizing council chambers.

Report of Mayor Wells: Mayor Wells provided a Proclamation from the Office of the Mayor for the IBEW Reunion coming to town, proclaiming June 20-26th as IBEW Appreciation Week in the village. She will present it to the officials on their first day in town. Mayor Wells is joining Hebron's Mayor James Layton in honoring coach Don Thorp's 1000th career win. Modular that was placed on Route 79 after the moratorium has been moved. She invited everyone to the pavilion ribbon cutting on June 19th, with Senator Tim Schaffer to speak. She reminded council of the Community Development notice that was posted and the topics on it, as

more topics were discussed than what was listed on the posting, including a project of her own to which she said she was not given the courtesy to speak on the topic.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading –

Ordinance 2021-17 – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2016-16 AND ADOPTING RoW ORDINANCE ver2021_1 REGULATING THE USE OR OCCUPATION OF ALL PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAYS, THE ISSUANCE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS TO PERSONS FOR SUCH USE OR OCCUPANCY, AND TO SET FORTH THE POLICIES OF THE VILLAGE RELATED TO ITS PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAYS (ROW) FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Ordinance 2021-17.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 7 – 0

Ordinance 2021-18 – AN ORDINANCE FOR THE LEVY OF FINES ASSOCIATED WITH NUISANCE FALSE FIRE ALARMS FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO, LICKING COUNTY.

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Cable, to adopt Ordinance 2021-18.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 7 – 0

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2021-22 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 7 – 0

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to adopt Ordinance 2021-22.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 7 – 0

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading –

Resolution 2021-08 – A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE VILLAGE’S INTENT TO CONTINUE LIVE-STREAMING PUBLIC MEETINGS, AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Discussion: Council President Geiger clarified that the resolution includes verbiage “when and where practical” where some meetings would be an exception, for example, Parks and Recreation who might want to meet at the park, or workgroup meetings, where they might not be livestreamed.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Resolution 2021-08.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Resolution 2021-09 – A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE COUNTY WAIVING THE ANNUAL TAX BUDGET FOR 2022 AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: Lemmon, Cable; Motion Passed 5 – 2

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Zwissler, to adopt Resolution 2021-09.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

I. **Lot Appraisal and Hiring of an Appraiser:** Councilor Zwissler explained that regarding the possible sale of village-owned lots 191 Union Ave, 119 Stewart, 129 Stewart, and 52 Seymour, and per the ORC, the village would hire an appraiser, advertise, and send them to auction. On a phone call, she was given the name Scott Kennedy as an appraiser to contact.

Floor Vote for Councilor Zwissler to call appraiser Scott Kennedy to see about looking at properties to put up for auction: 191 Union Ave, 119 Stewart, 129 Stewart, and 52 Seymour.

Floor Vote: Yes: Geiger, Goodman, Lemmon, Zwissler, Beard, Cable, French

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0; Floor Vote Passed 7 – 0

II. Councilor Lemmon asked council if they were interested in the purchase of the former youth center at 118 Third Street which is a 1-acre lot adjacent to Ryan Braden Park and a village-owned lot sits behind it. Pictures of the property were shown. Councilor Lemmon stated some details for the property. Councilor Zwissler said she had heard there was a realtor there that said she could have sold it many times but that it could only be sold to a 501C3. She asked if there was something in the deed saying it has to be kept that way. Councilor Lemmon said no and that it is zoned as R2-Tax Exempt and it can be purchased as a commercial property and then be rezoned.

Floor Vote: Are you interested in gathering more information on property for sale: 118 Third Street?

Floor Vote: Yes: Geiger, Goodman, Lemmon, Beard, Cable, French
Abstain: 0;
Nays: Zwissler; **Floor Vote Passed 6 – 1**

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Cable: Glad the public is back to the meetings. Summertime in Buckeye Lake, enjoy and be safe!

Councilor Lemmon: Happy to see some faces in the audience. Thanked Police Chief Harget for his hard work.

Councilor Goodman: Congratulated Police Chief Harget on going full-time, and thanked his great work in the community. IBEW should bring around 1000 people to the village for the week. Free lunches at Water's Edge Community Center Monday through Friday. Happy to have open meetings again.

Councilor Zwissler: Cleared up Community Development meeting notice confusion by reading an email sent to the clerk that the clerk thought was a reminder email, as the posting was already up from a previous email sent by Councilor Zwissler. Nothing but positive calls about Police Chief Harget. Senior lunches for those 60+ at the Harbor Community Center. June 19th, lobster dinner from 12pm-5:30pm at the Harbor Community Center.

Councilor Beard: Seconds all the happiness.

Councilor French: Nice to see faces in the audience. Thanked and welcomed permanently the Police Chief and welcomed Melissa Tevis to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Council President Geiger: No comments.

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

VOTE: UNANIMOUS ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm

NEXT MEETING: July 12, 2021


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Geiger, Council President