

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
May 10, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: By Council President Geiger at 7:16 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) John Lemmon (0, 0), Kitty Zwissler (0, 0), Melissa Beard (arrived shortly
after Roll Call) (0, 2)

Absent: Linda Goodman (0, 0)

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

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Comment received from Bruce Jones, Chairman of the IBEW 52nd
ReUnion, to be held June 20-26 at the Buckeye Lake KOA. The comment invited Council and
the Mayor to the opening ceremony on Sunday June 20th at 1pm and thanked them for sharing
the village with them to hold their ReUnion again.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor French, seconded by
Councilor Cable, to approve the amended April 26, 2021 council meeting minutes.

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

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 dated May 6, 2021.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 0

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mike Fornataro joined the meeting to represent
Buckeye Lake Regional Corp (BLRC) 2036. His topic was whether the village chooses to go
forward with designs for the Route 79 corridor. Previously he had distributed a book of example
designs for Thorn Township. These book designs were posted online and the design caught the
eye of a developer, which ended up being a big win for Thorn Township. Mike's proposal:
BLRC 2036 is able to bring architecture and town planning firm DPZ (Duany Plater-Zyberk)
CoDesign of Miami to Buckeye Lake to offer \$100,000 worth of design work for the Route 79
corridor, which would cost the village \$20,000 and cost BLRC \$20,000. They can create the
designs to show the vision of what the community has created through the community's input.
Councilor Cable asked what the return on investment would be for BLRC. Mike stated that they
have altruistic motives and that they do not get a dime, but are just excited to see the community
flourish. Councilor Cable mentioned that the village would have to be looking at displacement,
and that this is not really starting with a clean slate. Mike stated that having designs and a plan
directed by the community's input is important to help with that. It would be up to the village to

come up with a balanced approach representative group. Councilor French asked about ODNR's cooperation. Mike said ODNR assigned the grant distribution for the North Shore Pier project to BLRC who administered ODNR's money. Mike said ODNR has been involved from the manager level all the way down to Zoom meetings. The plan does not include the water tower site. Would cost more money or have to be switched out for another area of the design. Mike would like to know by the next meeting if they would like to go with DPZ to create the designs for the \$20,000 from the village.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Did not have a meeting. Next meeting to be held May 24th at 6:30pm.

Public Safety Committee: No report.

Public Service Committee: Held a meeting May 3rd. Written report submitted. Some meeting highlights from Councilor French: Talked about Park Street engineering. Voted to recommend that Council move forward if the village received a grant. Got an 85% grant the next day. The only difference it makes is \$9,000 was already put on the project and the village would pick up another \$9-10,000 that would most likely be coming from Public Service funds. Have to get someone to run the Right-Of-Way (ROW) program. The RAISE grant for the potential addition of sidewalks along Walnut Road, starting from the State Park out to the West, was discussed.

Rules Committee: No report.

Community Development Committee: Meeting was held tonight. Potential for a \$50,000 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) through Licking County to help the village take a look at basic codes and long-term plans for the village. Met with M. Buhari Mohammed, Chief Executive Officer of Heart of Ohio Family Health, a 501c3 non-profit from Columbus. Willing to bring his health and mental health services to the village. High percentage of residents at or below the federal poverty level. Here in the village, he would need 1500-1600 square feet to bring 3 people to work here. More than just emergency care.

Personnel Committee: Absent, no report.

Report of Council President John Geiger: We are known as the Village of Buckeye Lake per the Charter, but also known as Buckeye Lake Village, so when looking at the County auditor's site and property records, you have to look for both. Council President Geiger drove around the village with Councilor Lemmon to look at various village-owned properties. Need to look at: greenspace, potential parking spaces, and the potential sale of lots to result in a home being built there. President Geiger would like to get a work group together to work on it. The Neel family owns the property that the Fire house sits on, but it is recorded as village property. Mayor Wells stated that if it ever is not a fire house, it will revert back to being owned by the Neel family. She stated that the property north of it was purchased by the village. Councilor Zwissler stated that the Neel family wants to sell the property south of the fire house and have considered the village purchasing that. Mayor Wells stated that the village owns about 20 lots, including a 20-acre lot to the west of town.

Report of Mayor Wells: Pavilion ribbon cutting rescheduled to sometime in June due to rain. Congratulations to Toby Miller who got a \$108,000 grant in 24 hours for the Park Street

retaining wall project. Dr. M. Buhari Mohammed from Heart of Ohio Family Health wants to provide holistic health care in the village. Areas of focus include primary, women's, behavioral, allied, wellness, enabling, among other types of care. They have an application in for federal grant funding. Looking at September to come to the village. Mayor Wells applied for a CDBG grant for Ryan Braden skate park. Initially was looking for a \$30,000 grant but she looked at the material list and increased it to \$50,000. Complimented Chief Harget and the police department for handling the attempted murder in the Myer's addition.

Police Chief Harget – Explained police case. Police, fire, and sheriff departments all worked together. Closed the case in two days. Apprehension on the same day. Coffee with the Chief had a great turn out. Fire Chief Ryan Wyse was there as well. Would like to do more events like it. Councilor French asked if peer to peer counselling is available. Chief Harget said he is looking into it. There are free services.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading –

ORDINANCE 2021-16 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ADDENDUM AND AMENDMENT TO WATER CONTRACT WITH VILLAGE OF MILLERSPORT FOR PURCHASE OF BULK WATER.

No discussion. Will move on to a third reading.

Ordinances for 1st 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.

No discussion. Will move on to a second reading.

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.

No discussion. Will move on to a second reading.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading –

RESOLUTION 2021-06 - A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE SELECTION OF WACHTEL & MCANALLY INC, AND INTENT OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO TO ENGAGE IN FEE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FIRM FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES REGARDING THE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE.

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

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6 – 0

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Cable to adopt Resolution 2021-06.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6 – 0

Will be effective 30 days from May 10, 2021.

Resolutions for 1st Reading –

RESOLUTION 2021-07 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6 – 0

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Cable to adopt Resolution 2021-07.

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6 – 0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Village received a letter from the Department of Commerce – Division of Liquor Control asking for any valid objection to the renewal of any liquor licenses in the village. There were no objections.

Mayor Wells mentioned the sections of the gutter on the back of the municipal building where rain is coming into the building and flooding the police bathroom. John Geiger said he will look around for 3 estimates to fix it.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Cable: A lot of development discussion. At a crossroads in the next few years of where the village will go. Need to be diligent and take our time. Would like the main corridor to be like Granville and stay quaint.

Councilor French: Thanked Mike Fornataro for coming to the meeting to talk. Thanked both John Geiger and John Lemmon for mapping the village-owned properties. Thanked police department for how they handled the attempted murder. Thanked Toby Miller for turning around the Park Street grant so fast.

Councilor Beard: No comments.

Council President Geiger: No comments.

Councilor Lemmon: Thanked Chief & EMS for their fast and professional response to the attempted murder. Received a text about the fast and professional response to the scene. Agrees with Councilor Cable's comments about quaint future development. Would like to see walking space and small shops.

Councilor Zwissler: Agrees with Councilors Cable and Lemmon's development comments. Make sure people who will be impacted by any change will have an input with a sense of ethics and moral responsibility. Art and Music Fair to be held at the Harbor Community Center on May 29th from 12-7pm. David Spires is a musician heading up the music for the fair. Schmidt's sausage food truck will be there. May 20th, second dose for those who got their first dose three weeks ago. LCHD will come with other regular vaccines (flu, etc) on a Wednesday. Still trying to get free senior lunches at the Harbor again. Would like Parks and Recreation Commission to head up the Community Garden. Need application and hold harmless clause. Would like volunteers to help fix the fence.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Zwissler to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Geiger.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 6-0
Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm

NEXT MEETING: May 24, 2021


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Geiger, Council President

