

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

**May 23, 2022**

**Call to Order:** By Council President Linda Goodman at 7:06p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence:** Led by Council President Linda Goodman.

**Roll Call:** Present: Don Cable (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0), Deb Julian (0,0),  
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Lemmon (0,0), Max Thompson (0,1), Sue Wadley (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,0)

**Staff Present:** Mayor Jeryne Peterson; Jennifer Dennis, Clerk/Treasurer; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Jason Harget, Police Chief; David Ruton, Fire Chief; Toby Miller, Public Works Supervisor; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement; Kevin Strang, Zoning Inspector;

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to approve the May 9, 2022 regular council meeting minutes.

**Roll call vote:** Yes: Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe, 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 April Reconciliations and Treasurer's report dated May 19, 2022.

**Roll call vote:** Yes: Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable, Goodman  
**Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0**

**APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Johannes Lorenz (Police Officer for the Village) was sworn in by Mayor Peterson and Chief Jason Harget as Sergeant for the Village of Buckeye Lake Police Department. Matthew May and K-9 Unit Dallas were both sworn in as Officers for the Village of Buckeye Lake Police Department by the Mayor and Chief Harget.

Steve Schilling – 4435 North Bank Road - He came to the microphone to mention a broken drain situation that went on for a few years where Steve hired a concrete contractor to put in a new catch basin to fix the problem that cost him \$3880. Steve now has to put in a \$2500 water tap at 56 Everett and he asked council if they would agree to trade the water tap cost for the cost he spent to fix the catch basin. President Goodman suggested it be sent to the Public Service Committee, to which committee Chairman Cable asked to have solicitor opinion about it before it comes to committee. Councilor Julian wondered why the village did not fix the catch basin issue to begin with.

**COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:** Village did not get EDA grant. There is Ordinance 2022-19 on the agenda tonight that did not go through Finance Committee. Next Finance Committee meeting will be held on June 13th at 5:45pm. 5:45pm will be the new standing meeting time on the second Monday of each month.

**Public Safety Committee:** A lot of positive momentum for Fire and Police Departments this year with promotions and staffing and new leadership. Chairman Thompson attended the Fire and Police BBQ this past Saturday. Maybe not the turn out they were expecting because he talked to some neighbors and they were not aware of the event. Spaghetti Dinner on June 11<sup>th</sup> could use more advertising. President Goodman asked about the big marquee sign at the Fire Department and Chief Ruton said that they still have it.

**Public Service Committee:** Meeting minutes submitted. Next meeting will be June 6th at 6:30pm to continue discussion on the road repair schedule.

**Rules Committee:** First meeting held this evening where they began looking at Council Rules #1-6 and had good discussion. Goal is to bring rules in alignment with what current practices and policies are. Chair Wadley will bring forth some amendments. Next standing meeting is June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

**Community Development Committee:** No report.

**Personnel Committee:** They held a meeting this evening to discuss the job descriptions to be added to the Employee Handbook and getting them into the same format. Also discussed that there is currently no policy for maternity or paternity leave. This will be discussed further at the next Personnel meeting to be held on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Report of Council President** – President Goodman announced that the village will be doing the Summer Food Program again at Ryan Braden Park beginning June 6<sup>th</sup> through sometime in August from 11:30am-12:30pm each week day. Volunteers are needed. This time around they do not have to go to the Salvation Army in Newark to get the food to provide. Village-wide Free Yard Sale Days are June 17-19<sup>th</sup> (no permit required). The Comprehensive Plan is moving forward. Survey available soon for residents. Southwest Licking Watershed Conservancy District will have a meeting tomorrow night to talk about the flooding of the Licking River. They will do a 1-year study to try to figure out why it is flooding. They are looking to raise the Route 70 / Route 79 exit elevation. June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at Lakewood High School there will be an informational meeting regarding Intel and how that project might affect our region and school district.

#### **REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS WRITTEN OR VERBAL**

**Police Department – Chief Jason Harget** – The Police Department is now fully staffed. Call report submitted. 17.7% of incidents this year have been drug related. Large problem everywhere and we need to do what we can to stop it and will be out and about with new K9 Officer Dallas, who is sworn in under oath and can serve as dual purpose for lost persons or apprehension. Sergeant Lorenz will be a great addition to the leadership team. Nice BBQ on Saturday. Plan to do Donut with Dallas for residents to meet the new K9 Officer on June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Pavilion. Talks about bring an Animal Expo for kids. Still taking donations for Shop with a Cop during Christmas time. Ryan-Braden Park is still a target police enforcement area.

**Fire Department – Chief David Ruton** – April 2022 report submitted.

**Public Works – Toby Miller** – Mosquito spraying may be delayed due to a licensing issue and the sharing of resources. The TAP application for sidewalks on SR79 from the State Park to Church Street was approved. First meeting with ODOT for it will be on May 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be a 3-year process before construction begins. Park parking lot paving and the installation of the park security system will happen in June. Bridge project has been delayed a week or two as well. Code Enforcement has been giving properties in violation of high weeds and grass to the seasonal worker to cut. Fees for this process still need to be addressed.

**Parks and Recreation – Kellie Green** – No report and no one present.

**Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins** – Report submitted. This month, Rex has received 47 complaints, with a majority being high grass or weeds, some of which he is not receiving compliance from owners so the village will have to address them. Looking at the fees that other municipalities use when they have to address these non-compliance situations, many of which charge an administrative fee on top of the cost for each incident (\$200 or 20% at the end of the season, whichever is greater). Better than assessing to taxes. Continuance for a Lakeview court case. Some properties in the process of being compliant. A large percentage of the violations are investment properties or owners who do not live in the village or even in the state.

**Zoning – Kevin Strang** – Report submitted. 17 applications received and Kevin has done 31 on-site visits for various zoning projects, 2 stop-work orders, and 13 electronic back and forth communications.

**Planning and Zoning – Rick Baker** – No report.

**Report of Mayor** – Mayor Peterson has been pulling weeds and fixed the planter at the flag pole near the State Park. She has been making calls to find volunteers for the school lunch program.

### **ORDINANCES**

**Ordinances for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Ordinances for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Ordinances for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** –

**Ordinance 2022-19** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2022-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS  
ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Cable, Goodman

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

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to adopt Ordinance 2022-19.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Wolfe, to separate the question where Storm Water Utility and Asset Management appropriation lines will remain on Ordinance 2022-19 and the Fire Department appropriation lines will become Ordinance 2022-20 for a separate vote.

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

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

**Roll call vote for adoption of Ordinance 2022-19 as separated:**

**Yes:** Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe, Cable, Goodman

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

**Ordinance 2022-20** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2022-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS  
ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

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

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Thompson, to adopt Ordinance 2022-20.

**Discussion:** Councilor Cable asked if the \$3,700 was to diagnostic test the broken-down engine on the fire truck, to which Chief Ruton responded yes and stated that the cost of a new fire engine for a truck would be \$21,000-\$32,000 and a new truck would be \$600,000-\$700,000. Councilor Wolfe began a discussion about bypassing the diagnostic test to just get a new engine and not put any more money into the old one. Fire Chief Ruton did not expect this truck to be the one to break down first. President Goodman stated that the village should spend the money for the diagnostic testing because she asked where the money would come from to buy a new fire truck. Councilor Wolfe said there are older models that could be purchased for less. Fire Chief Ruton asked Councilor Wolfe why the village would want to spend \$50,000-100,000 on a truck that another entity is getting rid of, as there would have to be a reason that they are getting rid of it. Councilor Lemmon stated that

the Fire Department does not have money. The \$3,700 diagnostic test would tell if the engine can be fixed, and if not, the department is stuck until the people of the village vote to support the Fire Department and pass a levy at a level where they can operate.

**Roll call vote: Yes:** Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Cable, Goodman  
**Abstain: 0;**            **Nays: Wolfe;**            **Motion Passed 6 – 1**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolutions for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – None.  
**Resolutions for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – None.  
**Resolutions for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** – None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

**Zoning Fee Schedule** – Councilor Julian compared the new proposed fee schedule to that of other municipalities of similar size. She suggested a flat zoning fee with a fee for the road fund on top of that. She has many changes to try to simplify the fee schedule. President Goodman mentioned adding a Demolition fee, to which Councilor Julian said there is a lot of responsibility that comes with adding that fee. Councilor Lemmon mentioned that other municipalities have a permit and charge a fee if a resident is doing a reconstruction over a certain percentage of their home. President Goodman mentioned adding a right-of-way fee for those who, for example, need to block an intersection or take down a tree. There was some discussion about adding a \$200 administrative fee on top of the cost of work for code enforcement violations that are addressed by the village. Council Clerk Samantha Torres explained that that would not be a part of the Zoning Fees, as Code Enforcement is a different department so it would need its own ordinance.

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to create code enforcement ordinance with \$200 administrative fee or 20% of the cost (whichever is greater) plus the cost of the work, ask the Solicitor if it can be made retroactive for the year, and send it to the Public Service Committee for discussion.

**Yes:** Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe, Goodman  
**Abstain: 0;**            **Nays: Cable;**            **Motion Passed 6 – 1**

Councilor Wadley questioned the cost for copies as listed on the Zoning Fee Schedule, due to public records law. Councilor Julian questioned if those fees even need to be on the Zoning Fee Schedule as they are more administrative costs rather than Zoning. The Zoning Fee Schedule will be passed on to the Community Development Committee to work on.

**LEADS Food Pantry Lease** – Councilor Julian mentioned that a year-to-year lease with automatic renewal can be done with an out-clause of 90 days either way and then the lease never has to come back to Council for approval. Councilor Wolfe suggested asking LEADS if they want to buy the building. Councilor Julian said that the village needs to know what it says within the lease that they are responsible for or what the tenant is responsible for or the village should not be in the business of leasing. Clerk Treasurer Jennifer Dennis said that the only thing the village pays for that building is \$48 a month for the sewer bill; everything else is paid by LEADS. President Goodman stated that this is for LEADS and the Food Pantry which has a great need in the village and is not bleeding the village dry. She also stated that the village needs to listen to the people working on the Comprehensive Plan before making any major decisions about real estate buying or selling. Council would like to ask LEADS to pay \$600 a year for the lease since the village pays their sewer bill and they would like the Solicitor to look over the lease as a whole and change the lease for the renewal portion to mention that the Lessor or Lessee can provide written notice at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the Initial Term and make the term 1 year. Councilor Wadley stated that the Solicitor should look at the leases yearly to make sure that they are updated.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS** – 37 Misty Lane – Jeanie Gabor – Expressed her concern for the lack of emergency exit in Cranberry Bay. She counted 69 houses that could be affected if something bad were to happen where there would be no way to get to them. Majority are people who live there full time, putting a lot of lives at stake. There are many boat slips out there that emergency vehicles could not access if someone fell into the water. The roads are very narrow as it is and drivers have to pull off of the road to get past garbage trucks. She believes the developer has been negligent and not held accountable and she hopes something can be done sooner rather than later.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Councilor Thompson:** No comments.

**Councilor Wolfe:** Thanked Jeanie Gabor for her comment. He has mentioned that there is interest in having a civic rotary club. If there is any interest, please reach out to him, the Mayor, or Council President. Boat safely out on the lake.

**Councilor Julian:** New resale shop opening tomorrow beside the tanning place. Would be interesting to get some people together over in that plaza area for a Buckeye Lake-only businesses market.

**Councilor Cable:** Good discussion. He likes that none of it is personal. Thanked council for their open minds and banter.

**Councilor Lemmon:** He likes the healthy discussion. He has concern about the vandalism in the village. Talk to each other; if your kids know, have them tell you. Would be good to have a tip line about crime. If you see something, say something.

**Councilor Wadley:** Thanked the village staff. She said that if council questions what the staff is doing, it is not because they do not appreciate what the staff is doing. She is big on transparency and appreciates the staff fulfilling their requests about things like splitting ordinances to make it cleaner to move forward. Staff is doing a good job. Crazy holiday weekend coming up; be safe and have fun.

**Councilor Goodman:** Transparency and good communication with one another is important. Stay safe and have fun.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Wadley. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:21pm

**NEXT MEETING:** Council Meeting: June 13, 2022

  
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Samantha Torres, Council Clerk

  
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Linda Goodman, Council President