

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
November 14, 2022

Call to Order: By Council President Linda Goodman at 7:02p.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 (0,1),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Lemmon (0,1), Sue Wadley (0,3), Tom Wolfe (0,1)
Absent: Max Thompson (0,3)

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

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Julian, to approve the October 24, 2022 regular council meeting minutes.

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

Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Julian, to approve the November 7, 2022 regular council meeting minutes.

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

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the October Reconciliations and Treasurer's report dated November 9, 2022.

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

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS – None.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee: Meeting held today for 1hour and 15mins. Chairman Lemmon will submit meeting minutes. Had a meeting with the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to go over the 2020-2021 audit results with the auditors. A few things Jennifer has cleared up, but otherwise it looks good. Next Finance Committee meeting will be November 28th at 5:45pm to continue discussion about the budget for 2023.

Public Safety Committee: Absent, no report.

Public Service Committee: Did not have the regularly scheduled meeting on November 7th. Next meeting will be November 21st at 6:30pm to discuss the bridge and any other ongoing projects.

Rules Committee: No report tonight. Will not meet again until after the 1st of the year.

Community Development Committee: Chairman Wolfe asked for a map of the DORA areas and locations, which Mayor Peterson has worked on. Councilor Cable stated that several people have asked him about the process and when to submit applications for short-term rentals. President Goodman stated that the approved ordinance does not go into effect for 60 days after passage and there will be an amendment to it at the next council meeting to help get it in line with the International Property Maintenance Code. Should be early 2023 once it is tidied up and information can be posted on the Village website.

Personnel Committee: Will not meet again until after the 1st of the year.

Report of Council President: Thank you to the residents for voting for the operational levy and supporting the village and allowing us to continue moving forward in a positive direction. High voter turnout with 676 people voting – 387 yes, 289 no; operational levy passed by 98 votes. Final vote will be certified on November 29th. There is a House Bill up to increase the payout for OP&F – retirement system for full-time police and fire employees. Currently pay out 19.5%; the House Bill looks to increase it to 26.5% payout over a 5-year period. Need to keep an eye on this for the budget.

Report of Mayor: Written report not submitted. Fundraiser and auction at the Boatyard for police and fire’s Christmas with the Kids was very well-received. It looks like they raised around \$6,500 for the children of the village. December 10th – first Christmas parade and festival with Santa, hot chocolate, cookies, and more starting at 4:30pm with a tree being planted, lit, and decorated at the North Shore Park near the boat ramps.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading –

Ordinance 2022-44 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LICKING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to adopt Ordinance 2022-44.

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

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

Ordinances for 2nd Reading –

Ordinance 2022-48 – AN ORDINANCE SETTING 5 YEAR 2023-2027 WATER RATES AND COLLECTION GUIDELINES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

This will move on to a third reading.

Ordinance 2022-49 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE STORMWATER UTILITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHICH ESTABLISHES DAILY OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE STORMWATER UTILITY IN THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO.

This will move on to a third reading.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2022-52 - AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FIRST FISCAL QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This will move on to a second reading.

Ordinance 2022-53 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2022-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

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

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to adopt Ordinance 2022-53.

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

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 -

Councilor Julian stated that the employee performance evaluation sheet is completed and will be passed on to the administration to be used.

Councilor Julian asked about the status on the Village Comprehensive Plan, to which Council President Goodman stated that, from the beginning, council has been told they would receive the Comprehensive Plan at the end of November. They had a meeting in October and it is getting very close to being complete so they should be receiving it soon. She stated that the document is for the village officials to review and to decide which parts of it will work best for the village moving forward. They have been very open to discussion and input from people. Councilor Julian asked what the process would be once it is received, since it will be a large document. Councilor Wolfe said it could require a special meeting. Council President Goodman stated that once they get through the document and see how it can help with the development of the village over the next 5 years, then it will help to develop the zoning code and getting it moving in the right direction.

Councilor Julian also asked about the status of the Village Charter changes by the Charter Review Commission. Council President Goodman stated that council is waiting for the Charter Review Commission to re-submit their proposed changes to council. They submitted a copy in July of this year, but they needed to be reappointed to their seats and they needed to change some dates in the document. They will meet again tomorrow evening and Charter Review Commission Chairman Mark Pyle will present the final changes to council at the next council meeting. First ballot it could be put on is in May, but it is a long and expensive process that will need to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Councilor Wolfe: Thanked the voters for passing the operational levy. The village will be careful in how the money is spent. \$3.4 million proposed budget for next year. The presentation of the budget is very nice.

Councilor Wolfe said he did a deeper dive on the road weight restrictions and found some solutions that may work easy with the police department so that we do not have to have scales to enforce it and he would like to speak with Councilor Cable about it. He noticed on the 2023 proposed water rates that Millersport usage starts at 3000 gallons and 1000 gallons after that, and the village is at 2000 gallons. He said that difference of usage is significant. Buckeye Lake water bill is very high and he wants to find ways to tune that up. The relationship

both ways with Licking County needs to be stronger. The taxpayers should have support from Licking County, as they have an obligation to the village. Charter Review Commission should be here to discuss and go over Charter changes in detail, including a discussion about income tax and the Planning and Zoning / Board of Zoning Appeals process and amount of members. He stated that to be on council, you must live here as a resident and he is getting negative feedback about non-resident Commission members making decisions that affect residents and he supports a change for that.

Councilor Cable: Thanked Fiscal Officer Jennifer for the hard work she does and for the passing of the audit and cleaning up things from the past. Thanks to the voters for voting – your voice is heard whether you voted yes or no. Buy local and stay warm.

Councilor Julian: Stated that the residents get taxed very well here and she wants to make sure that, where we have controllable costs, we can help control any cost and make sure that we manage the money. The operational levy passed and a great committee was put together to answer questions and get the word out; thank you to them and to the voters. Need to look at reducing the water rates. She stated the village has been very careful in not selling parcels of property or updating the zoning book as we wait for the Comprehensive Plan. The village is using a zoning book that is outdated and because the village has 16-foot roads, we now have to say “okay” to 16-foot roads. Need to spend time early in 2023 to get these certain things updated, such as out of date zoning maps, as these things have caused a lot of tension and heated discussions. Also had over 50 residents write a letter that was not fully answered. We are here for the residents and we can start by updating our books and knowing what our zoning guidelines are when we go to Licking County. People have bought large plots of land and they need direction and we need to help everyone.


Councilor Lemmon: Thanked the Finance Committee and Fiscal Officer Jennifer for their hard work on the 2023 budget. Thanked the hard-working staff. Thanked the veterans; another Veteran’s Day has come and gone and the village did not do anything as a village to honor them. He stated to Mayor Peterson that if she put together a committee to have a Veteran’s Day celebration or ceremony next year, he would like to volunteer for it.

Councilor Wadley: Thanked voters for supporting the operational levy. The committee and staff did a tremendous amount of work. Regarding the levy, she believes that current council wants to be good stewards of the taxpayer dollars. They are doing their due diligence on the budget and educating each other and learning.

Councilor Goodman: Thanked the levy committee- a lot of hard work put in. Appreciate the staff who put in their own time as well to put together material and attend levy events. There have been a lot of questions in the village about why doesn’t council do something or why doesn’t council step in on certain things. Council has no action on the Planning and Zoning vote. Planning and Zoning is their own separate commission and council, as elected officials, do not tell or direct them what to do or how to run their meetings. Council is aware and are watching and listening but they have no action. Councilor Cable stated that, like the 3 branches of the Federal government, there are 3 branches here as well and just because someone wants council to do something, it is not always council’s place to do that. Councilor Wadley stated that we have the responsibility to provide the tools and resources to the committees and commissions to be able to do their jobs effectively. Councilor Julian stated that if they are dealing with bad and outdated information, that is what we have to live by.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Julian. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting: November 28, 2022


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


Linda Goodman, Council President