

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

October 25, 2021

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: Tom Wolfe (0,1), Kitty Zwissler (0,0), Don Cable (0,0), Bill French (0,0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Geiger (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0)
Absent: John Lemmon (0,0)

Staff Present: Mayor Peggy Wells; Jennifer Dennis, Clerk/Treasurer; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Jason Harget, Police Chief; Ryan Wyse, Fire Chief; Toby Miller, Water Superintendent / Public Works; Kellie Green, Parks and Recreation; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Councilor Don Cable read the opening paragraph of a long citizen's comment from Brian Moore of 86 Nautica Way about short-term rentals. He also read the first paragraph of a long citizen's comment from Lisa Powell of the Cranberry Bay Homeowner's Association about short-term rentals.

John Hanson - 40 Beacon Light Lane – Spoke on behalf of the Planning and Zoning Commission to say that they worked hard to put together new changes to the short-term rental document from October 7th based upon suggestions and input received at October 18th Special Council meeting and public hearing. He explained many of the changes made to the document and application. Councilor Tom Wolfe asked about the intent of Exhibit A's proof of residency. John Hanson said it is to find out who is "running the show," whether it be property owner or a management company. Councilor Cable asked if the owner would be charged for the inspections and who is receiving the money that is being collected. There would be an application fee, BCI report fee, (which should go to administration), license fee, excise and bed tax fees (which should go to police and fire). John explained a renewal fee every year in January, no matter when the short-term rental was registered with the village. Mayor Wells stated that a BCI report for the property owner currently takes months to get results due to the pandemic. John Hanson said that Columbus does them and Deb Julian said that the Buckeye Lake Planning Commission had initially left BCI reports out of the process.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Zwissler, to approve the October 11, 2021 regular council meeting minutes.

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

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

Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the October 18, 2021 special council meeting minutes.

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

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

Treasurer Jennifer Dennis told council about the several appropriations on Ordinance 2021-56, one being for premium pay for village employees and volunteers, that is on the agenda tonight. She said that she is beginning to work on the 2022 budget and meeting with the department

heads. Next, she would like them to sit with the Finance Committee to discuss what they are wanting on the budget.

Approval of Clerk Treasurer’s Report: Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Goodman, to approve the Treasurer’s report dated October 21, 2021.

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

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

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Broadband for the village – presenter Peter Voderberg – Chief of Broadband Ohio – Peter stated that the State of Ohio is working on two separate grants right now. The Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant has \$270million in it for places that have less than 25Mbps download speed and 3Mbps upload speed for their internet. He wants to make sure that people in Ohio have at least that number and that they can go beyond it. This grant makes sure that the broadband funding gap is covered for internet service providers to make sure they can provide for underserved and unserved areas with internet. Unserved means anyone with less than 10Mbps download / 1Mbps upload internet speed. Underserved is anyone who has better speeds than that but does not have 25Mbps download speed and 3Mbps upload speed. NTIA (National Telecommunications Information Association) is part of the federal government that has a map of these areas. The funding gap is how much the project costs versus how much it needs to cost to be profitable. Availability and affordability projects in Buckeye Lake can be done with the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. The community can identify areas of low or no connectivity and work with other internet service providers to see what they can offer versus what the community needs.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Absent, no report.

Public Safety Committee: No report.

Public Service Committee: Meeting held tonight to talk about the proposed service building. Public Service Committee recommended design process Ordinance for a 3-reading be added to the agenda for tonight (Ordinance 2021-57). Next Public Service Committee meeting to be held on November 1st at 6:30pm with the usual topics but will also be discussing the trash contract and stormwater.

Rules Committee: Next meeting to be held on November 1st at 6:00pm.

Community Development Committee: Happy to have Peter Voderberg come to speak to council and the committee about the money that the State of Ohio is getting to try to get affordable broadband internet to Ohio residents. Councilor Zwissler said that the village is eligible due to the 76.88% LMI (low to moderate income).

Personnel Committee: Next meeting to be held on November 8th at 6:30pm to discuss 2022 raises.

REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS WRITTEN OR VERBAL

Police Department – Chief Jason Harget – Coffee with a Cop to be held on October 30th 10am-12pm at North Shore Coffee for residents to meet officers. Working with Jennifer Dennis to get one phone number for on-duty officers instead of many. PD has more coverage now than

they ever have. Will have late night coverage again soon. Officers will be at Trunk or Treat at the Harbor. The PD has been busy with high profile cases lately. Many drug-related arrests and plain clothes assignments. Got ODNR's attention to watch for activity on North Bank. Working to get some bikes that are built to last or have a motor for a bike patrol. It is about being visible and not leaving out any part of the community. North Bank block watch meeting coming up to see what has been working or not. Encourages residents to continue reporting any and all activity. Would like some auxiliary officers, but it is hard to find people to work for free. The Chief is fine with people wanting to help in return for training. Need more space for retention of evidence. Mayor Wells asked if the phone number could be given out, and Chief said yes. Chief is looking into an anonymous tip line. If you see something, report it. Councilor Wolfe asked for police and fire activity reports that the village used to receive.

Fire Department – Chief Ryan Wyse – Sold medic on GovDeals website for \$7,300. Was supposed to be picked up but it is still there. The purchaser gave half an hour's notice that he was coming to pick it up, but the battery is dead in the medic and the FD was given no time to prepare it to be picked up. Chief is working on an updated pay scale for part-timers and ranks in the department. FD needs storage space as well. Will not be able to provide activity reports until January or February because new systems do not speak well together. Chief asked council if he could write the fire regulations for short-term rentals. Tom Wolfe recommended Ohio Safe Stay program for that. He also asked about including the number of Narcan uses in the activity reports. President Geiger said Chief needs to be in direct contact with Planning and Zoning Commission member John Hanson about the short-term rental document.

Public Works – Toby Miller – Hitting a milestone with the bridge and tap project on November 1st. Committee meetings are the best way to receive information on the projects that are happening. Starting into a 12-month cycle of a lot of stuff happening.

Parks and Recreation – Kellie Green – Had two Community Clean Up days at Ryan Braden Park. The first day had 23 people show up and they focused on 3 different areas. Kellie thanked everyone, especially the kids who showed up to help. Painted many things and did lots of repairs on the skate park. There was a group working inside the new rec center at 118 Third Street. Washed walls, windows, and chairs. Kellie thanked Buckeye Lake Hardware for selling paint at their cost. Finished up the work on the second weekend. Hoping to do a Spring clean-up. Jennifer and Parks and Recreation Commission chair Annetta Macedonia working on 2022 budget for the park, the pavilion, and the rec center. Parks and Recreation will make an appearance at Trunk or Treat. Encourages all to go look at the work that was done. Councilor Goodman told Kellie about needing bids for replacing the roof, electrical, and plumbing at the rec building. Jennifer Dennis talked about using Recovery Act money to also put in a handicap ramp and get a bid on that for the rec center.

Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins – Rex told Chief Harget that he knows of an officer who is a certified bike instructor who might dedicate his time to getting the BLPD officers bike certified. Currently 73 code enforcement cases in the iWorq software system, 8 of which are currently in court. Got rid of 206 Cliff Street problem property with the help of the police department. Owners are selling the property and 3 dumpsters full of stuff was removed. Eyesore property on First Street behind Dollar General was torn down last week. Grass season is coming to an end. Checking to make sure properties are secure. Getting properties torn down. Councilor Wolfe asked if Rex could find out how the International Property Code affects short-term rentals. Rex said the village needs to look at getting the updated version of the International Property Code.

Report of Mayor – Last week of November would be the end of advertising of the vacant lots up for auction. 55 Seventh Street is another vacant property that has been boarded up for years that the village owns that needs to be sold ASAP. It is moldy and unsafe inside and poses as a liability. Rex said it is inhabitable. Able to get some of it boarded up. Every year it is on his to-do list. Difficult to tell residents they have to clean up their property when the village owns a property that is in bad shape as well. Mayor Wells said that the neighbors have been using it as extra parking. Difficult to mow, per the Street Department. Mayor Wells asked council to add 55 Seventh Street to the list of properties to sell.

Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor Goodman, to give the Mayor authority to add 55 Seventh Street to the list of properties to be sold / advertised.

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

Motion by Councilor French, seconded by Councilor Cable, to suspend the rules to allow Resolutions to be read before Ordinance on the agenda tonight.

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

This was done due to a Resolution that effects an appropriation on an Ordinance on this agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading –

Resolution 2021-16 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO OVERSEE AND ADMINISTER NEWLY ACQUIRED PARKS PROPERTIES.

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Zwissler, to adopt Resolution 2021-16.

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

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading –

Resolution 2021-19 - A RESOLUTION PROVIDING PREMIUM PAY TO VILLAGE EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FUNDS AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Resolution 2021-19.

Discussion: Jennifer Dennis clarified that the premium pay is for permanent employees and volunteers and that they would receive the checks during the next pay period.

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading –

Ordinance 2021-52 – AN ORDINANCE TO DISPOSE OF UNNEEDED AND OBSOLETE ITEMS THAT ARE OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO.

This will move to a third reading.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2021-54 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO, AND TRAVELING CLERK MELANIE SMITH, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO, AND DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Motion by Councilor Zwissler, seconded by Councilor Cable, to adopt Ordinance 2021-54.

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

Ordinance 2021-55 – 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 Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Goodman, to suspend the rules.

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

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor French, to adopt Ordinance 2021-55.

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

Ordinance 2021-56 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Motion by Councilor Goodman, seconded by Councilor Wolfe, to adopt Ordinance 2021-56.

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

Ordinance 2021-57 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH WACHTEL & McANALLY ARCHITECTS INC FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE PUBLIC WORKS SERVICE BUILDING.

This was added to the agenda from the Public Service Committee meeting that happened before the council meeting tonight and it will move to a second reading.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

I. Status of short-term rental document – This was discussed with Planning and Zoning Commission member John Hanson during Citizen’s Comments.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Goodman stated that she would like to see some kind of Christmas celebration for the whole village. A tree or lighting, caroling or a choir.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Cable: Thanked the police and fire department and police chief for thinking outside the box on different ways to patrol the village.

Councilor Goodman: Thanked the Police Chief. Hopes to get bike patrol up and running. Over \$120,000 spent in the past year on items for fire department and police department from Covid funds. Wants village to know that council is being and continues to be proactive for the safety forces. Encourages everyone to come to Trunk or Treat at the Harbor Community Center and be safe.

Council President Geiger – Witnessed a call to the fire department from a neighbor and said that the workers were impressive.

Councilor French: Thanked Planning and Zoning for their hard work. Thanked Parks and Recreation for their clean-up work and the police and fire departments.

Councilor Wolfe – Wants Planning and Zoning back on the agenda to present and include their reports. Hopes everyone has a safe Halloween. Wants to see the water tower lit up and maybe a beacon on the top to be able to see it from the interstate.

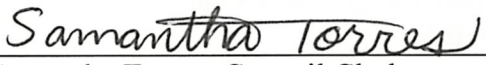
Councilor Zwissler: Trunk or Treat at the Harbor Community Center on October 28th from 5:30-7:00pm. She mentioned who are or have donated to the event. Third Covid vaccine is now available.

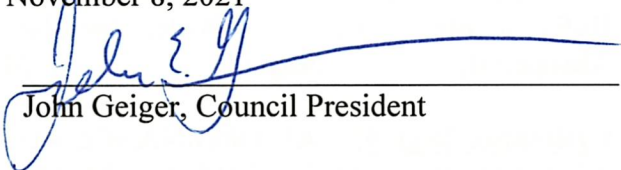
ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Goodman.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council meeting on November 8, 2021


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Geiger, Council President