

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting  
Held in Village Hall  
**February 22, 2016**  
Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** By Council President Catherine Zwissler at 7:02 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence:** Lead by Council President Catherine Zwissler.

**Roll Call:** Present: Peggy Wells (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,0), Catherine Zwissler (0,0), Tim Figgins (0,0),  
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Robert Masone, MD (0,0), Doug Poorman (0,0), Arletta Ruton (0,0)  
Mayor Clay Carroll

Absent: None

**Staff Present:**

Valerie Hans, Clerk of Council; James Hanzey, Police Chief; Dave Ruton, EMS Captain; Mark Dymek, Street Superintendent; Toby Miller, Water Superintendent.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by Councilor Wells to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2016, regular council meeting as presented, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Wolfe, Zwissler, Figgins, Masone, Poorman, Ruton**  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

**Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report:**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the Treasurer's Report dated February 16, 2016, seconded by Councilor Wells.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Wolfe, Zwissler, Figgins, Masone, Poorman, Ruton**  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

**Elections and Appointments:** None.

**NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Rhonda Adams and Ada Myers from the Licking County Public Library spoke to council regarding the seed library, container gardening and seed starter workshops offered as well as other master gardener education programs. Ms. Adams passed out information on the program offerings and mentioned that the Canal Farmers Market in Newark will have programs each week as well. Lastly, Ms. Adams mentioned that the plant sale that happens each May on Hudson Avenue is a great way to acquire plants at a reasonable cost.

Valerie Bookbinder from the American Red Cross accepted a proclamation from the Mayor to celebrate March as American Red Cross Month. She stated that the Red Cross is currently in the middle of their home fire prevention program. She further stated the Red Cross will install free smoke detectors for anyone in need you simply call the Red Cross office in Newark and set up an appointment.

**COMMISSION REPORTS:**

**Parks Commission:** The Commission will meet on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 6:30pm.

**Planning Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals:** The Commission will meet on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 7:30pm.

**COMMITTEE MEETING AND/OR REPORT:**

**Finance Committee:** Councilor Wolfe stated that his committee met prior to the council meeting to discuss the MARCS radios. The committee recommended to council to allow the mayor to enter into a memorandum of understanding for the MARCS radios with the understanding the council will want to make further decision and they do not want a binding contract at this time. Councilor Wolfe scheduled the committees next meeting for March 21, 2016 at 6:15 pm to discuss MARCS radio tower and the fire department personnel rates.

Councilor Wolfe stated that the committee also discussed the water rates in light of the rate increase that the Village of Buckeye Lake is receiving from the Village of Millersport. It was stated that the Village cannot afford to absorb another increase and still plan properly for maintenance and upkeep of the Village Water Distribution System. Councilor Zwissler stated that she will not vote for this increase because there are too many people in the community who are out of work due to the dam reconstruction. Councilor Figgins stated that if council chooses to follow Councilor Zwissler's lead and not approve an increase it will leave the village water system with a deficit of \$12,300 at the end of this year. Mayor Carroll stated that in 2014 Millersport increased the Buckeye Lake Village bulk water rates by 19%, Buckeye Lake passed on only 4% of that increase to their customers. In 2015 Millersport increased the Buckeye Lake Village bulk water rates by 3%, Buckeye Lake Village absorbed the increase without increasing their customer rate.

Councilor Wells reminded council when the Licking County Sewer Department had to make a very large increase in their rates as a result of no increases for too long getting them behind. She then said we don't want to get the village water system into a similar situation do we? Councilor Masone stated that the average bill is for 4,500 gallons per month. Customers with an average bill would see an increase of \$5.23 per month. He then stated that he feels the increase is necessary to keep our system viable in light of the Millersport increase. Council members then moved to bring ordinance 2015-21 back to the table.

**2015-21** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2013-26 AND ESTABLISHING NEW WATER RATES AND COLLECTION GUIDELINES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

Motion by Councilor Wolfe to bring Ordinance 2015-21 back to the table, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Wolfe, Zwissler, Masone, Poorman, Ruton**  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to pass Ordinance 2015-21, seconded by Councilor Masone.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Wolfe, Masone, Poorman, Ruton**

**Abstentions: Figgins**

**Nays: Zwissler**

**Motion Passed 6-1**

Councilor Wolfe stated that his committee received information regarding pay increases for Fire Department staff. He stated that the committee will review the information and discuss this further at a future meeting.

Lastly Councilor Wolfe stated that his committee received information regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> street water improvements. They will review the information and discuss it further at a future meeting.

**Public Safety Committee:** No report.

**Public Service Committee:** No report.

**Rules Committee:** Councilor Wells stated that she has a handout from an old email regarding the rules committee. She stated that previous councilperson McCormick had started the process of reviewing the council rules and Councilor Wells would like to continue the process of reviewing and updating the council rules. Councilor Wells has a committee meeting scheduled for Monday, March 14, 2016 at 6:15pm..

**Community Development Committee:** No report.

**Personnel Committee:** No report.

Executive Session: Council members discussed going into executive session for a personnel matter. Councilor Ruton moved to go into executive session, seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Wolfe, Zwissler, Figgins, Masone, Poorman, Ruton**

**Motion Passed 7-0.**

Executive session began at 7:45pm.

Motion by Ruton to come out of executive session, seconded by Masone.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Zwissler, Figgins, Masone, Peterson, Ruton, Wolfe**  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

Executive session ended at 8:31 pm

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Councilor Figgins read and submitted his letter of resignation dated February 22, 2016.

Motion by Councilor Wells to accept Councilor Figgins resignation from council, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Wolfe, Zwissler, Masone, Poorman, Ruton**  
**Motion Passed 6-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to elect a new council president, Councilor Masone, seconded by Councilor Wells.

A lengthy discussion occurred regarding this subject. Councilor Wells said it was in the best interest at this point to have new leadership. Councilor Masone said he understood why council wanted a change in leadership. There's been too much lobbying and control rather than taking a softer approach. He also said personal reputations are to be respected and he's opposed to mudslinging. Councilor Masone also stated that there could be peace if the council president would change her behavior. He concluded by saying everyone deserves a second chance.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Wells, Ruton**  
**Nays: Wolfe, Zwissler, Masone, Poorman**  
**Motion Failed 2-4.**

Councilor Wolfe suggested that we should have the Village Solicitor attend council meetings on a monthly or quarterly basis so that he can keep involved in village issues.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:** Tim Figgins Northbank Road, Buckeye Lake. Mr. Figgins stated, "Forgiveness is a very powerful tool."

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:** A report for the month of January 2016 was submitted.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:** A report for the month of January 2016 was read and submitted.

**STREET SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** A report for the month of January 2016 was submitted.

**WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT:** A report for the month of January 2016 was submitted.

**DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** No report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Carroll read and submitted his annual report on the state of the Village. He stated that the village has continued to make advancements despite significant adversities. He further stated that the village finished another section of the sidewalk project grant, made improvements to the water tower, received MARCS radios for the police and fire departments as part of a grant, were granted a thermal imaging camera 1000 feet of 5" diameter firehose for the fire trucks. He also highlighted that the village needs to finish up projects started but not completed in 2015, look into repairing Hunts Landing Road, have a needs assessment completed on our storm water system, make improvements to the street department equipment, fill the position of Community Development Director at least on a part-time basis, and review pay rates of village employees.

**PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:** Council President Zwissler stated that she would hope council members can put some of this stuff behind us and work with me.

## **ORDINANCES**

**3rd Reading**

**2nd Reading**

**1st Reading**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

3rd Reading  
2nd Reading  
1st Reading

**Citizen's Comments:** None

**Council Member's Comments:**

**Councilor Masone:** Stated that we have gone through a painful purging this evening. He further stated that Mr. Figgins comment, "Forgiveness is a very powerful tool." is something that we should all remember.

**Councilor Poorman:** Seconded what Councilor Masone said.

**Councilor Wells:** Stated that she gave council members information from Sue Spiker regarding the CDBG hearings and process. Hopefully we will attend the public hearing on 3/3/16 at 4:00pm and that the village will have a project for CDBG again this year.

**Councilor Wolfe:** No comment.

**Councilor Ruton:** Stated that she is going to take what Councilor Masone said to heart, "people deserve a second chance.

**Council President Zwissler:** No comment.


**Adjournment:** Motion by Councilor Ruton to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

**VOTE: IN-FAVOR: ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: March 28, 2016

  
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Valerie L. Hans, Clerk of Council

  
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Catherine Zwissler, Council President