

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting  
Held in Village Hall  
**June 11, 2018**  
Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** By Council President Zwissler at 7:03p.m.

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

**Roll Call:** Present: John Geiger (0,0), Robert Masone, MD (0,1), Doug Poorman (0,0),  
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Arletta Ruton (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,0), Kitty Zwissler (0,0), Bill French (0,0)  
Mayor Wells  
Absent: None

**Staff Present:** Valerie Hans, Clerk of Council; Rochelle Menningen, Clerk/Treasurer;  
Clifford Mason, Interim Fire Chief; Dave Ruton, Assistant Fire Chief; Doug  
Stewart, Zoning Officer; Toby Miller, Water Superintendent.

**Elections and Appointments:** None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2018 regular meeting, seconded  
by Councilor Poorman.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French**  
**Abstain: Masone**

**Motion Passed 7-0.**

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

Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the Treasurer's report dated June 11, 2018, seconded by  
Councilor French.

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

**COMMISSION REPORTS:**

**Parks & Recreation Commission:** The Parks and Recreation Commission met on Tuesday, June  
5, 2018. Their next scheduled meeting will be on July 3, 2018, at 5:30pm.

**Planning Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals:** The Commission held a public hearing on  
the Schilling rezoning on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, at 6:00pm. They recommended to village  
council approval of the rezoning by a unanimous vote. The commission will meet for their regular  
meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 7:00pm.

**UNFINISHED/OTHER BUSINESS:** Council Clerk Hans read a public notice from Ohio EPA  
regarding an application for level 2 Isolated Wetland Permit for property located at 10287 Hazelton-  
Etna Rd. Mrs. Hans stated that we received notice of this application because we are in the same  
watershed.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND/OR REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:** Councilor Wolfe stated that his committee met on 6/4/18 to discuss a request for \$8,000 to be an advance for up to 12 months to get the storm water ordinance in place. He also stated that the committee discussed approving up to \$5,496 for AEDs in the police cruisers. Councilor Wolfe stated that they may have a source to get the AEDs for less cost. .

**Public Safety Committee:** Councilor Masone called the Public Safety committee to order and stated that all members of his committee were present.

Councilor Ruton asked why the Public Safety committee was not being included in what has been going on in the Police Department. She stated that it was her understanding that we have gotten rid of another police officer. Councilor Ruton asked why that officer was let go.

Councilor Masone stated that he can guess it's because we have a strong mayor form of government. He then asked why officer Haas was let go.

Councilor Poorman stated that he thinks that is a good starting question.

Councilor Masone adjourned the Public Safety committee meeting.

Councilor Masone reported that his committee met during the council meeting and wanted to know why police officers were being fired and the Public Safety committee chairperson was not notified.

**Public Service Committee:** Councilor Ruton stated that the Public Service committee met last Monday regarding the TAP grant. She stated that the match is 5% and the village needs to start putting money back to cover that match. She also stated that they talked about the bridge project, storm water and ponding water in the village. Councilor Ruton stated that they discussed what it will take to research and come up with plans for the projects.

**Rules Committee:** Councilor Geiger reminded his committee that they have a meeting scheduled for 6/18/18 at 6pm to discuss the council rules. He asked the clerk to send a current copy of the rules to each of the council members for them to review prior to the meeting.

**Community Development Committee:** Councilor Poorman stated that the YMCA has offered pieces of exercise equipment to the Harbor. He stated that they are hoping to create access for people to come in and work out. Councilor Poorman stated that they are nice pieces of equipment. He also stated that they need volunteers to help staff the facility to keep it open more hours each day. Councilor Poorman stated that the YMCA has offered instruction on equipment. He stated that they are waiting on the building next door to come down based on the contractor's availability.

**Personnel Committee:** No report.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:** Jeff Haas, 4135 Walnut Rd., S.E., Lot 163, Buckeye Lake, Ohio. Mr. Haas stated that you (council members) have been told that I was terminated. He stated that he met with the Mayor and HR Director and a comment was made about his mental state. He was told that they would give him the name of a person in Westerville to complete a psychological evaluation and if he was cleared then he could return to work. However, a few days after that conversation, he received a termination letter.

Councilor Masone stated that he did not receive any information on this issue.

Mr. Haas stated that he would like to serve out his time and continue working for the village. He stated that he has a recording of the entire conversation.

Councilor Ruton asked, what was the reason you were asked to go for a psychological evaluation?

Mr. Haas stated that he had a personal issue. He further stated that he has no problem going for the psychological evaluation to prove that he is ok and he agreed to do so.

Councilor Ruton asked, why is one officer receiving preferential treatment?

Charlene Hayden, 67 Lighthouse Lane, Buckeye Lake, Ohio. Stated that the current Mayor criticized Mayor Carroll for having secretive meetings. She then stated that we need an answer on the question why was Officer Haas fired and now we are short on officers.

Mr. Haas stated that his resignation letter was in the box.

Mayor Wells stated that Mr. Haas's status with OPOTA is cease function. She stated that OPOTA picked up notebooks on every officer. They are auditing all of the training records and confirming the status of the training records. Mayor Wells stated that Officer Ritter was the only officer that completed the necessary hours. She further stated that Haas, Hanzey and Vermaaten were short on CVT hours. Mayor Wells went on to say that she received 38 text messages from Mr. Haas and she has told him before that he is still on cease function.

Mr. Haas stated that he has his hours completed according to the conversation he had with Rex Adkins on 6/4/18.

Mayor Wells stated that she is just the mayor and not OPOTA. She stated that OPOTA still needs to confirm those hours.

Mr. Haas stated that the Mayor had his certificates prior to OPOTA picking up the notebooks.

Councilor Ruton stated that she learned from OPOTA that when OPOTA says cease and desist they can still do administrative work.

Mayor Wells stated that was not correct. She went on to say that Mr. Haas is an at will employee. Mayor Wells stated that she was really shocked that Mr. Haas was here tonight. She stated that if council would like to go into executive session, she would be happy to discuss this situation further. However, she doesn't wish to discuss any more details during the council meeting.

Mitzi Christman, 94 4<sup>th</sup> St., Buckeye Lake, Ohio. Mrs. Christman stated that she met Officer Haas when he was patrolling the village, specifically at the end of her street. She asked other officers to help before Officer Haas; however Officer Haas was the one officer that continued to patrol the streets and deter the undesirable activity going on near her home. Mrs. Christman stated that Officer Haas checked on the elderly neighbors in the community and is an asset to the community.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Wells stated that she had a report in the packet dated June 11, 2018. A copy of this report is attached to the council record.

Mayor Wells stated that the Public Safety committee has not been a very active committee. She stated that he had questions for them to answer about MOPAR and never heard an answer. Mayor Wells would like to the Public Safety committee to look into her questions regarding MOPAR.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Council President Zwissler stated that there are lots of activity at the community center. She stated that the center revolves around volunteers to keep it open for the free lunches and senior activities every day.

Councilor Ruton asked what kind of volunteers are needed.

Council President Zwissler stated that they need people to come and open the center on Wednesday at 11am, Thursday evening from 5-8pm and Saturday at 10:30am. They also need someone to monitor the exercise equipment and provide instruction on the equipment.

Councilor Ruton stated that she is now retired and is willing to help.

Council President Zwissler asked if she could meet on Tuesday at 11:45am.

## **ORDINANCES**

### **3rd Reading**

### **2nd Reading**

### **1st Reading**

Motion by Councilor Poorman to have a first reading on Ordinance 2018-22 seconded by Councilor Ruton.

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

The first reading of Ordinance 2018-22 is recognized.

**2018-22** AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN ADVANCE, AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-16 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT FOR THE HIGHLAND AVENUE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO.

Motion by Councilor French to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2018-22, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French  
Rules Suspended 7-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to adopt Ordinance 2018-22 as presented, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

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

Motion by Councilor Poorman to have a first reading on Ordinance 2018-23 seconded by Councilor Ruton.

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

The first reading of Ordinance 2018-23 is recognized.

**2018-23** AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE CONTRACT FOR REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR SAID SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Poorman to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2018-23, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French  
Rules Suspended 7-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to adopt Ordinance 2018-23 as presented, seconded by Councilor French.

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

Motion by Councilor Poorman to have a first reading on Ordinance 2018-24 seconded by Councilor French.

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

The first reading of Ordinance 2018-23 is recognized.

**2018-24** AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING LOTS 51, 73, 74, & 75 ON EVERETT AVE. IN THE STURGETON ADDITION, VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO

Motion by Councilor Ruton to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2018-24, seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French  
Rules Suspended 7-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to adopt Ordinance 2018-24 as presented, seconded by Councilor French.

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

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**3rd Reading**

**2nd Reading**

**1st Reading**

**Citizen's Comments:** Clay Carroll, 247 Union Ave, Buckeye Lake, Ohio. Suggested that the Public Safety committee look into the street sign theft. He then stated that since we don't have a police department, maybe we can adopt the castle doctrine and protect ourselves.

**Council Member Comments:**

**Councilor Masone:** Councilor Masone stated that he thinks that OPOTA needs to be audited because it takes them months to count to 20 and verify hours for our officers.

**Councilor Poorman:** No comment.

**Councilor French:** No comment.

**Councilor Ruton:** Stated that she is appalled at the decimation of our Police Department. She stated that we have one police officer that is getting everything. She stated that the officer needs to be off the streets until he does a psychological evaluation.

She also asked if Deb and John Julian are paying anything for storing their walking cooler and compressor in our drive-thru space.

**Councilor Geiger:** Stated that everyone needs to read the rules because the conversations are not productive specifically that last two pages.

**Councilor Wolfe:** No comment.

**Councilor President Zwissler:** Council President Zwissler thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight. She asked everyone to volunteer at The Harbor if they are able.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/OTHER BUSINESS:** None.

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

**VOTE:**       **IN-FAVOR: All YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 7-0**  
Meeting adjourned at 8:10p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**   June 25, 2018

  
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Valerie L. Hans, Clerk of Council

  
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Catherine Olohan Zwissler, Council President