

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting  
Held in Village Hall  
**April 22, 2019**  
Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** By Council President Zwissler at 7:00 p.m.

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

**Roll Call:** Present: Bill French (0,0), John Geiger (0,0), Doug Poorman (0,0),  
(Consecutive Total Absences) Arletta Ruton (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,1), Kitty Zwissler (0,0)

Mayor Wells

Absent: Robert Masone MD (0,2)

**Staff Present:** Valerie Hans, Clerk of Council; Rochelle Menningen, Clerk/Treasurer; Vicki Wardlow, Police Chief; Clifford Mason, Fire Chief; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement Officer; Toby Miller, Water Superintendent.

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Councilor French to approve the regular council meeting minutes dated March 25, 2019 Seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Motion Passed 6-0.**

Motion by Councilor Wolfe to approve the regular council meeting minutes dated April 8, 2019 Seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the Treasurer's report dated April 17, 2019, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Parks and Recreation:** No report.

**Planning/BZA:** Chairperson Cookston stated that Ms. Clark is doing a great job chairing the zoning, subdivision regulations, and sign subcommittees. Their next meeting is 5/6/19 2-3:30pm Subdivision Regulations, 5/6/19 2:30-5:00pm Signs. Chairperson Cookston stated that the BZA has a public hearing on 5/6/19 at 5:00pm to consider a variance to the Flood Plain Ordinance. She encouraged council members to attend the variance hearing as it is a less common type of variance consideration. She stressed that the BZA's action can have an effect on all of the flood plain insurance policies in the village if this is not handled properly.

Chairperson Cookston mentioned that PharmaCann is well into construction at their site. The scheduled completion date for the project is October 2019; however she feels that they will be done much earlier.

**Zoning:** No report.

Councilor Ruton stated that council needs to hear from the Zoning Officer and get a monthly report from him.

Mayor Wells stated that Office Clerk Cade keeps a spreadsheet on the zoning activity. She stated that she can get a zoning report for council members. Mayor Wells stated that she will take responsibility for not having the Zoning Officer at the meetings.

**Code Enforcement:** Mr. Adkins submitted a written Code Enforcement report for April 2019. Mr. Adkins stated that he will be sending out the first tall grass and weed notices for the season on 5/1/19.

### **COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee:** No report.

**Public Safety Committee:** No report.

**Public Service Committee:** Councilor Ruton reminded everyone of her standing Public Service committee meeting on 5/6/19 at 6:00pm at The Harbor. She thanked ADR and Toby for their hard work.

**Rules Committee:** No report.

**Community Development:** Councilor Poorman stated that the Fire Department is putting on a fundraiser on 5/18/19 for the Harbor Community Center. He also stated that the committee is working on determining appropriate uses for the streetscape grant. Councilor Poorman reminded everyone that the village will have to use properties that we own to be able to qualify for the match dollars.

Council President Zwissler asked who is on the committee and when the committee meets. She further stated that Mayor Wells called her after 9pm for a meeting the next morning at 8am and she was unable to attend the meeting.

Councilor Poorman stated that Bob Beehl, Diane Ryan, Annetta Macedonia, and Mayor Wells are on the committee.

Council President Zwissler asked again when the next meeting is.

Mayor Wells stated that the committee did not set a next meeting yet.

**Personnel:** Councilor French stated that his committee would like to bring forth legislation on an employee issue this evening. He turned the floor over to Councilor Wolfe at this time.

Councilor Wolfe stated that they would like to introduce Ordinance 2019-16 amending the employee handbook to allow a part-time employee to purchase health insurance at 100% cost paid by the employee. He stated that this is a beginning to solving the issue of healthcare for the fire department employees.

Councilor Wolfe moved to add Ordinance 2019-16 to the council agenda under first reading of ordinances, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

**Roll call vote:**           **Yays:** French, Geiger, Poorman, Wolfe, Zwissler

**Abstentions:** Ruton

**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS WRITTEN, AND VERBALLY BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL**

**Police Chief:** A written report for March 2019 was submitted. Chief Wardlow stated that they have a new bailiff for Mayor's Court. Officer Jackson will work as the bailiff as court occurs during his regularly scheduled shift. Chief Wardlow addressed the questions about Mr. Bartoe. She passed out a letter to Mr. Bartoe dated 9/26/2018. Chief Wardlow stated that Mr. Bartoe was given the same opportunity each auxiliary officer received.

Councilor Ruton stated that Mr. Bartoe was terminated by Mayor Wells shortly after she took office and before Chief Wardlow started working for the village.

Mayor Wells stated that she sat down with Mr. Bartoe and discussed his service to the village as the Mayor's Court Bailiff. She received good comments about his work and reporting. She chose to retain Mr. Bartoe as a civilian bailiff. Mayor Wells stated that they even ordered him a shirt to identify his title. Then the Mayor's Court had very little activity for quite a few months.

Chief Wardlow stated that there was not a mob that showed up at the office over 103 Renner St. She stated that she had just left after working 42 hours in the week. Last Friday, the residents, Chief Wardlow and Mayor Wells met with CODE and the Drug Enforcement Task Force to discuss the situation further. Chief Wardlow stated that all of the officers are getting smartphones and the office will be getting ring doorbells so the officers can communicate with people arriving at the office when they are out in the field.

Resident Sandy Thompson 129 Renner St, Buckeye Lake. Ms. Thompson commended Chief Wardlow, Mayor Wells and the local officers for taking the time to help with their situation. She stated that she has been threatened with a gun in her neighborhood and she has had problems there for the last 27 years. Thanks to the meetings last week she has faith in the new regime. She stated that the group came forth with descriptions, license plate numbers, dates and times.

Chief Wardlow asked the residents to give the police department time to make changes in the community. She further stated that it did not get this way overnight, it will take time to make a change.

**Fire Chief:** Chief Mason provided a detailed written report for March 2019. He thanked council for addressing the healthcare issue for the part-time employees. He stated that they had the hoses tested last week. Out of 4700 feet of hose only 250 feet of hose didn't pass inspection. Chief Mason stated that the fire department will have to purchase a few new sections of hose.

Chief Mason stated that the fire department had to force entry two times in the last six months at the LEADS senior housing (Blue Heron Manor) for serious medical emergencies. He stated that they contacted LEADS to work on a solution. When LEADS builds their new building, they will have a knox box with all keys and emergency contacts that the fire department will have access to in an emergency.

Councilor French asked if we currently use knox boxes?

Chief Mason stated that they do not use them currently; however he feels that this will be a great improvement.

**Street Supervisor:** A written report for the month of March 2019 was submitted.

**Water Supervisor:** A written report for the month of March 2019 was submitted.

**Others:** None.

**Report of Council President:** Council President Zwissler thanked the fire department for putting on the fundraiser for the Harbor on 5/18/19 from 4-7pm.

Council President Zwissler stated that the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the naming of Buckeye Lake State Park is coming up.

Lastly, Council President Zwissler stated that Ms. Menningen (Clerk/Treasurer) is leaving this week. She said we are losing a great employee.

Councilor Geiger suggested that when we hire a new treasurer we should work on cross training.

Councilor Ruton asked if the position has been advertised yet.

Ms. Menningen stated that it was advertised on the Ohio Municipal League website and the posting boards.

**Report of Mayor in writing, and verbally by request of Council:**

Mayor Wells provided a written report dated April 22, 2019. She also passed out zoning permit reports at this time. Mayor Wells stated that Local Waste Services moved a dumpster from the spring clean-up to a private residence in the Myers addition to help a disabled resident clean up his property.

Mayor Wells stated that she would like each council person to come up with a suggestion of a project that they could work on with the Mayor.

Mayor Wells mentioned that Mr. Bartoe was offered to stay on as a civilian bailiff. The village ordered him a shirt with his name and title on it. Then the Mayor's court had very little activity for the next few months.

Council President Zwissler stopped the conversation and asked to move on with the meeting.

**ORDINANCES**

3<sup>rd</sup> READING

2<sup>nd</sup> READING

1<sup>st</sup> READING

**2019-15** AN ORDINANCE UPDATING THE ORDINANCE REGULATION THE USE OF OCCUPATION OF ALL PUBLIC RIGH-OF-WAYS IN THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, THE ISSUANCE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS TO PERSONS FOR SUCH USE OR OCCUPANCY AND TO SET FORTH THE POLICIES OF THE VILLAGE RELATED TO ITS PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAYS (ROW) AND REPEALING ORDINANCE 2016-16.

Motion by Councilor Ruton to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2019-15, seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll call vote:**       **Yays:** French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Rules Suspended 6-0**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to adopt Ordinance 2019-15 as presented, seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll call vote:**       **Yays:** French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**2019-16** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK ALLOWING PART-TIME EMPLOYEES TO PURCHASE HEALTH INSURANCE THROUGH THE VILLAGE'S HEALTH PLAN.

Motion by Councilor French to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2019-16, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

**Roll call vote:**       **Yays:** French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Rules Suspended 6-0**

Motion by Councilor French to adopt Ordinance 2019-16 as presented, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

**Roll call vote:**       **Yays:** French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler  
**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

3<sup>rd</sup> READING

2<sup>nd</sup> READING

1<sup>st</sup> READING

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Motion by Councilor Ruton to set June 21-23, 2019 as free yard sale weekend in the Village, seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll call vote:**       **Yays:** French, Geiger, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler

**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Casey Clark, 249 Lakeview Drive, Buckeye Lake. Ms. Clark stated that the levy committee will meet this Saturday 4/27 at 11am to hand out fliers for the police and street light levies. She stated that they need at least 20 people to help. Ms. Clark went to the fire department to ask them to put levy information on their sign. She was told they cannot do that because it is government property.

Mayor Wells suggested pulling signs from the neighborhoods and lining Hebron Road the week before the elections. She stated that she had the office clerk call the Board of Election. The person she spoke to said it wasn't a problem; however we should consult our village attorney just to make sure. Mayor Wells stated that she has a lot of locations for signs on Rt. 79.

Ms. Clark reiterated that she needs a lot of volunteers for 4/27.

Council President Zwissler stated that they need 8.5 x 11 signs to place in business windows.

Mayor Wells stated that she would prefer to see signs on private property rather than placed in the right-of-way. She feels that it shows support for the levy when a sign is on private property.

Karen Cookston, 148 Anchor's Way, Buckeye Lake. Ms. Cookston stated that there is a lot of building going on in the village. There is mud traveling into the street and the other properties. She asked the village to look at ways to control the mud from migrating to other properties.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Councilor Wolfe:** Councilor Wolfe thanked Ms. Clark for taking the lead on the levy. He further stated that it was very ambitious for her to do this.

**Councilor Geiger:** Councilor Geiger stated to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson that he had a similar situation with undesirable activity going on in his neighborhood a few years back. He applauded them for standing up and attempting to seek out a change in the situation.

**Councilor Ruton:** Councilor Ruton stated that the fitness center has had a lot of interest in the past few weeks. She stated that they are open from 7am-7pm each day and are staffed by

volunteers. Councilor Ruton stated that the fire department fundraiser is extremely important for the Harbor because it will benefit the programs.

**Councilor French:** Councilor French thanked Ms. Menningen for her hard work. He stated that he is sad to see her leave.

**Councilor Poorman:** Councilor Poorman stated that Ms. Menningen has been an asset to the village. He thanked her for sticking it out as long as possible. Councilor Poorman also thanked the fire department for going above and beyond the call of duty.

**Council President Zwissler:** Council President Zwissler thanked Ms. Menningen for all of her hard work. She also thanked Mayor Wells and Chief Wardlow for organizing the meeting with the residents and the drug enforcement task force. Lastly, she thanked Mr. & Mrs. Thompson for organizing the group.

Councilor Ruton stated that she attended a luncheon for Telecommunications Week. During that biannual event, the Licking County 911 Center was recognized as the 2017 Telecommunications Team of the Year. Jenae Stoolfire was recognized as the 2017 Telecommunicator of the Year and Meredith Lamb and Dave Ruton of our fire department were also recognized at this event. Councilor Ruton reminded everyone that we do not realize what the people that take the 911 calls go through each day.

Council President Zwissler thanked Ms. Clark for agreeing to chair the levy committees for the police levy and the street light levy.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Council President Zwissler to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Ruton.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

NEXT MEETING: May 13, 2019

  
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Valerie L. Hans, Clerk of Council

  
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Catherine Olohan Zwissler, Council President

