

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

**Call to Order:** By Council President Zwissler at 7:05 p.m.

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

**Roll Call:** Present: Kitty Zwissler (0,0), Bill French (0,0), John Geiger (0,0),  
(Consecutive Total Absences) Robert Masone MD (0,4), Doug Poorman (0,0), Arletta Ruton (0,0),  
Tom Wolfe (0,1)

Absent: Mayor Wells

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

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the regular council meeting minutes dated July 8, 2019 Seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: Zwissler, French, Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

**Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the Treasurer's report dated July 18, 2019, seconded by Councilor French.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: Zwissler, French, Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

**Parks and Recreation:** No report.

**Planning Commission/BZA:** Chairperson Cookston spoke on behalf of the PC/BZA. She stated that they have a special meeting scheduled for 8/6/19 at 6:00pm to consider a lot combination. The commission will have their regularly scheduled meeting on 8/13/19 at 7:00pm.

**Zoning:** A report for the month of June 2019 was submitted.

**Code Enforcement:** report for the months of June 2019 was submitted. Mr. Adkins stated that they are receiving 2 times as many high grass complaints. He is working with Council Clerk Hans to create an ordinance to help manage this better in the future. Mr. Adkins stated that he sent out 5 notices today and is quickly using up the money budgeted for property maintenance and code enforcement issues. He stated that high grass complaints are taking up a significant amount of his time.

Councilor Poorman asked if the village is getting reimbursed for the code enforcement cleanups.

Mr. Adkins stated that the village places the cleanup on the property owner's taxes and then they can eventually get reimbursed when the property owner pays their taxes. In the case where the land bank takes over a property, the village can petition the land bank to get reimbursed for that expense. Mr. Adkins stated that the village is presently maintaining 3 properties that the land bank is in the process of taking over. He stated that it costs the village \$20-40 per cut depending on the size of the property.

Councilor Geiger stated that there is a telephone pole on Rosebraugh with grass and weeds growing up around it. He stated that the neighbors are in a property dispute and no one is taking care of cutting the grass and weeds around it.

Mr. Adkins stated that the street department is working on spraying around the road signs and telephone poles to help control the grass and weed growth in the right-of-way.

Councilor Wolfe asked the residents attending the meeting if they had any questions for Code Enforcement Officer Adkins.

Casey Clark stated that she feels Mr. Adkins is doing a great job!

Doug Stewart, 4537 North Bank Road, Buckeye Lake. Mr. Stewart asked about the status of the dilapidated Red Ford Bronco that used to be in Ms. Clark's neighborhood. When the property owner was forced to remove it, he moved it to Mr. Stewart's neighborhood. Mr. Stewart would like it removed from his neighborhood as well.

Clay Carroll, Union Street, Buckeye Lake. Mr. Carroll stated that a few years back council decided that all persons doing lawncare for the village had to be licensed and bonded which resulted in a higher cost. He stated that if they are charging such a low cost, you will want to check to make sure they are licensed and bonded.

Rochelle Menningen stated that the village is insuring people performing lawncare for the village.

Mr. Adkins stated that he is working with the police department to identify, mark and remove junk vehicles from properties. Once the police department marks them, they have 72 hours to remove them before they are towed.

### **COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee:** Councilor Wolfe stated that his committee met prior to the council meeting. He set another meeting for 8/6/19 at 6:30pm at the Harbor to discuss collective wages and major expenses as well as a 5 year plan.

**Public Safety Committee:** No report.

**Public Service Committee:** Councilor Ruton reminded everyone of her standing Public Service committee meeting on 8/5/19 at 6:00pm. She stated that the meeting will be held at the village office.

**Rules Committee:** No report.

**Community Development:** Councilor Poorman stated that they have had 2-3 farmer's markets. He encouraged everyone to continue supporting the farmer's market so they can continue to have them. Councilor Poorman stated that the fitness center at the Harbor is in the process of getting approved for the medicare program. The program used to be called Silver Sneakers; however it is now available to people on medicare as well as other insurances.

**Personnel:** Councilor French stated that his committee met prior to the council meeting to discuss the fiscal officer position.

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

**Police Chief:** A written report for June 2019 was submitted. Chief Wardlow thanked everyone who assisted the police department with donations for the evening. She stated that their support is extremely important to the village. Chief Wardlow stated that Officer Jackson has completed his 6 month probationary period and is now a full member of the police department. She stated that he has worked extremely hard over the last 6 months for the department. Chief Wardlow stated that the department recently completed Narcan training and now have Narcan kits in the cruisers and at the office. Chief Wardlow stated that they received approval to dispose of 119 historic records last month and are gradually getting approval to dispose of additional records. She stated that the department is working with Code Enforcement Officer Adkins to tag and remove junk vehicles.

Councilor Wolfe asked Chief Wardlow if felony arrests could be included on the police department monthly report.

Chief Wardlow stated that when a felony is presented to the prosecutor it can take months before the actual charges are filed.

Chief Wardlow reminded everyone that golf carts can be on the roadway if they are road ready, registered, inspected, and driven by a licensed driver. They cannot be driven on the sidewalk or walking path. Lastly, Chief Wardlow thanked Council President Zwissler for the donation of bicycles and helmets to the police department to be given out to children in the community.

**Fire Chief:** A written report for June 2019 was submitted. Chief Mason thanked council for considering the department's request to purchase a new ambulance. He feels confident that they can complete the purchase for under \$200,000. Chief Mason reminded everyone that it is illegal to discharge fireworks in the state without a license. He introduced Doug Sanderson as an Assistant Fire Chief to work alongside of Assistant Fire Chief Ruton.

Councilor Poorman asked if they have looked into the cost of purchasing a new fire truck any more.

Chief Mason stated that they have looked into it and are considering a truck that is smaller but has the same functionality as the larger trucks they just hold less people. He stated that with the additional of fire hydrants and a water system in the village, it allows them to consider smaller, less expensive models of trucks. Chief Mason feels that they can also purchase a fire truck for \$200,000.

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

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

**Others:** None.

**Report of Council President:** Council President Zwissler thanked Chief Wardlow and Kevin for starting the citizen's patrol and working with that group to start the bicycle donation program. She feels very strongly that this program is critical for the children in the village. Council President Zwissler asked residents to consider donating bicycles and helmets that they have around their house to the police department so they can be refurbished and given out to children in the community.

Council President Zwissler stated that the Mayor is in the hospital but doing fine and will give her state of the village address at the council meeting on 8/12/19.

**Report of Mayor in writing, and verbally by request of Council:** No report.

## **ORDINANCES**

**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

**2019-32** AN ORDINANCE AWARDING THE BID FOR THE 2019 BUCKEYE LAKE TRENCH LINE REPAIR TO LAW GENERAL CONTRACTING, INC. AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND SAID CONTRACTOR CONSISTENT WITH SAID BID, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Ruton to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2019-32, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: Zwissler, French, Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe  
**Rules Suspended 7-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to adopt Ordinance 2019-32 as presented, seconded by Councilor French.

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

**Motion Passed 7-0.**

**2019-33 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AND ALL NECESSARY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO PURCHASE A NEW FULLY-EQUIPPED PATROL VEHICLE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO COMPETITIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion by Councilor Poorman to suspend the rules on Ordinance 2019-33, seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

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

**Rules Suspended 7-0.**

Motion by Councilor Ruton to adopt Ordinance 2019-33 as presented, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

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

**Motion Passed 7-0.**

**2019-28 AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING THE AMENDMENT OF SECTIONS 1.02, 3.01, 3.03, 3.04, 3.05, 3.10, 3.12, 4.06, 5.01, 5.02, 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 6.04, 6.05, 6.06, 7.01, 7.02, 7.03, 8.02, 8.03, 10.02, 11.03, 12.01, 12.02, AND 12.03 OF THE CHARTER FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO GIVE NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTORATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Councilor Ruton moved to override Mayor Wells veto of Ordinance 2019-28, seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Geiger stated that he would like to see the village explore the costs of publicizing the charter revisions.

Council President Zwissler stated that the options that the village has are outlined in ORC section 731.211. She stated that we have to send every voter a copy or publish the full text in a newspaper of general circulation in the village. She stated that Mayor Wells took the document to the post office and stated that it would be \$1.49 per voter to send the document by mail.

Councilor Poorman suggested that we look into USPS direct mail which is 18 cents each. Possibly more for a larger package but definitely much less expensive.

Council Clerk Hans feels that it could be printed in as few as 8-10 pages of a double sided booklet.

Councilor Ruton called for the question.

**Roll call vote:** Yays: Zwissler, French, Geiger, Masone, Poorman, Ruton, Wolfe  
**Motion Passed 7-0.**

The Veto of Ordinance 2019-28 was overridden by a 7-0 vote.

**RESOLUTIONS**

3<sup>rd</sup> READING

2<sup>nd</sup> READING

1<sup>st</sup> READING

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Council Clerk Hans read a notice to the legislative authority from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding an application for a liquor license transfer from Donald W. Dick to Buckeye Lake Beer Pier LLC. She asked if council wished to request a hearing for a valid objection. Council had no valid objections and stated that it was ok to return the signed letter.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

Assistant Fire Chief Ruton stated that the charter revision document can be printed as a booklet and it will not have to be sent out as a 44 page full size document. He stated that it will not be \$10,000 to publish it.

Teresa Jewell, 84 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Buckeye Lake. Ms. Jewell stated that she takes care of the homeless in Licking, Fairfield and Perry counties. Right now the village has 19 families living in tents, and some people living under the bridge. She stated that the Buckeye Lake Food Pantry is only open 2 days a week and that does not cover the need in the community. Some of the people in need are working poor and cannot come during the daytime hours. Ms. Jewell stated that she makes meals for 275 people 2 times a week and 1,000 sack lunches each week. She has veterans that can't come to the food pantry or the lunch program at the senior center because they are raising their grandchildren and great grandchildren because their parents are on drugs. She has 15 families that were evicted at the beginning of the month and 2 pregnant teenagers that can't go home. Ms. Jewell stated that the community is desperately in need of a building to house people long enough to get them back on their feet. She stated that she has people who could help her fix up a place if a building were available.

Councilor Wolfe asked if she has tried to work with the Licking County Food Pantry.

Ms. Jewell stated that she has without much luck.

Council President Zwissler stated that the Food Pantry lease is coming up for renewal and maybe council should consider what to do with that building if they are not able to be open enough to serve the community need.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Councilor Masone:** No comment.

**Councilor Poorman:** No comment.

**Councilor French:** Councilor French thanked Ms. Menningen for her time.

**Councilor Ruton:** Councilor Ruton congratulated Officer Jackson on completing his probationary period. She thanked Council President Zwissler for her donation of the bicycles. Councilor Ruton stated that the police and fire departments did a great job during BLAAST. Lastly, Councilor Ruton stated that hearing about the homeless issues in Buckeye Lake is very disturbing and these people need our help. She stated that we should consider giving to this cause.

**Councilor Geiger:** Councilor Geiger stated that he would like to see someone donate some bike stands to the police department to make the maintenance and refurbishment of these bikes easier.

**Councilor Wolfe:** Councilor Wolfe told Code Enforcement Officer Adkins that council supports his efforts and he needs to let them know what he needs to get the job done.

**Council President Zwissler:** Council President Zwissler thanked Teresa Jewell for all that she does for the community. She stated that she bought the bikes because she saw how much joy they gave the kids. Council President Zwissler stated that BIKE Buckeye Lake is planning to work on getting new bikes for the children that received a gently used bike if they donate their gently used bike back to the program. Lastly, she stated that the police department is doing an excellent job.


**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 8:03 pm.

NEXT MEETING: August 12, 2019

  
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Valerie L. Hans, Clerk of Council

  
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Catherine Olohan Zwissler, Council President

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