

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting
Held in Village Hall
October 14, 2019
Meeting Minutes

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

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

Roll Call: Present: Arletta Ruton (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,2), Kitty Zwissler (0,0) Bill French (0,0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Geiger (0,0), Doug Poorman (0,1)

Mayor Wells

Absent: Robert Masone (2,8)

Staff Present: Valerie Hans, Clerk of Council; Vicki Wardlow, Police Chief; Clifford Mason, Interim Fire Chief; Toby Miller, Water Supervisor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Councilor French to approve the council meeting minutes dated September 23, 2019, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French, Geiger, Poorman
Motion Passed 6-0.

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report:

Motion by Councilor Ruton to approve the Treasurer's report dated September 5, 2019, seconded by Councilor French.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French, Geiger, Poorman
Motion Passed 6-0.

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mayor Wells swore in a new police officer, Heath Steele.

UNFINISHED/OTHER BUSINESS: None.

COMMITTEES SHALL GIVE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Finance Committee: Councilor Wolfe stated that his committee recommended tabling Ordinance 2019-38 and 2019-39.

Public Safety Committee: No report.

Public Service Committee: Councilor Ruton's committee met during the council meeting. Councilor Ruton thanked the Public Service and Finance Committees for getting the Anchor's Way project going and completed. She stated that this is a great help to the residents. Councilor Ruton thanked Mr. Miller and the street department for getting this project done as well. Councilor Ruton

stated that the village has an opportunity to pave the basketball court at Ryan Braden Park at a reduced cost while the contractor was onsite for another project. The quote is \$10k and does not reflect a set up fee. It is for 2 tons of asphalt to seal the cracks, a topcoat and 76 tons to resurface the court. There is \$200 allotted for basketball and pickleball striping. Councilor Ruton stated that if council decides to move ahead on this \$560.27 would come out of the general fund.

Mr. Miller stated that \$200 is an estimate for the cost of striping paint.

Council President Zwissler stated that we got a quote for \$9k.

Councilor Wolfe stated that volunteers could fill in the cracks and reseal it. We will improve the basketball court and we will get bids.

Council President Zwissler stated that this was never brought to the Finance Committee. The Parks & Recreation Commission spent \$937.45 on pickleball equipment. There were no bids sent out for this project.

Councilor Ruton disagreed and stated that the basketball court was put on the back burner two years ago.

Council President Zwissler stated that they spent money on pickleball equipment when we didn't have a court. She also stated that the quote from Law didn't have any specs in it.

Councilor Wolfe stated that he would like to continue this discussion on the 23rd.

Councilor Ruton stated that specs were sent out.

Mr. Miller stated that he spoke with Annetta about the paving project in early September.

Councilor Ruton stated that we have the money to do this and its not getting done. If someone gets hurt, it will be the village's fault.

Councilor Geiger suggested roping off the court until it gets fixed. He also suggested tabling this discussion.

Councilor French stated that its more than just a crack. There are divots in the asphalt where someone could twist an ankle.

Councilor Wolfe suggested putting a safety barrier around the court until the committee gets 3 quotes.

Councilor Geiger stated that the date is the 28th not the 23rd.

Councilor Wolfe corrected himself saying that the Finance Committee will meet on 10/28/19 at 6:00pm to discuss the basketball court resurfacing quotes, 2020 budget, and raises for some staff.

Rules Committee: No report.

Community Development Committee: No report.

Personnel Committee: No report.

REPORT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Council President Zwissler stated that good things are happening around here. She thanked the Police Department and Kevin for coordinating the trick or treat and trunk or treat night on 10/31/19 from 5:30-7pm. Trunk or treat will be in the Harbor parking lot and everyone is encouraged to participate in this great event for the kids. Council President Zwissler stated that Margaret Hanson is working with Kevin to provide hotdogs for everyone during the event.

Council President Zwissler stated that Ereich Horvath provided labor to separate two offices at the Harbor to make room for nurses. Licking Memorial Hospital is going to provide two nurses two days a week and access/transportation to a doctor in Hebron. She stated that there are two candidates' nights coming up. The first one is tomorrow 10/15/19 from 7:00-8:30pm at First Community Church and the second event will be a question and answer session on 10/23/19 from 6-8pm at the Buckeye Lake Fire Department.

Councilor Geiger thanked Council President Zwissler for her efforts to get medical services in the village. He stated that they are greatly needed.

Council President Zwissler encouraged everyone to come out and support the Harbor.

REPORT OF MAYOR WRITTEN, AND VERBALLY BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL:

Mayor Wells provided a written report dated October 17, 2019. She stated that there is one correction, Scott Hite is not the safety officer, he is the fire prevention officer.

Mayor Wells welcomed Officer Steele to the village. She reminded everyone about candidates' night tomorrow at First Community Church from 7:00-8:30pm. She stated that this event is hosted by the Licking County League of Women Voters.

Mayor Wells thanked Toby Miller, Tommy and Randy for their hard work. She also thanked Council President Zwissler for her hard work. Mayor Wells thanked Sgt. Jackson for his hard work. She stated that Sgt. Jackson made two felony arrests in the last two weeks for possession of Methamphetamine.

Chief Wardlow stated that he confiscated 70 lbs. of meth during those arrests.

Councilor Geiger asked Mayor Wells for clarification of #9.

Mayor Wells stated that Goodwill has announced that they are purchasing the property/building where their building currently sits as well as the property/building where Sinners & Saints is located. They plan to clean up the property and tear down the front building to build a new building and propane filling station. They have to go through the planning and permitting process.

ORDINANCES

3rd Reading

2nd Reading

1st Reading

**2019-38 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2019-14 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion by Councilor Wolfe to table Ordinance 2019-38 to gather more information, seconded by Councilor French.

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

**2019-39 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2010-45, 2011-14, 2012-07, 2012-13,
2012-15, 2013-01, 2013-04, 2013-24, 2015-13, 2016-08, 2018-11, 2018-14, 2018-29, 2019-23
AND 2019-36 CREATING PAY LEVELS AND SALARY SCHEDULES FOR EMPLOYEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion by Councilor French to table Ordinance 2019-39 to gather more information, restructure the titles and pay, seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

3rd Reading

2nd Reading

1st Reading

**2019-38 A RESOLUTION AGREEING TO PURCHASE 4924 WALNUT ROAD FROM
THE LICKING COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION BOARD, AUTHORIZING AND
DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CLERK/TREASURER TO EXECUTE ALL
DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO PURCHASE THIS PROPERTY, AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY**

Motion by Councilor French to suspend the rules on Resolution 2019-17, seconded by Councilor Poorman.

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Ruton, Wolfe, Zwissler, French, Geiger, Poorman
Rules Suspended 6-0**

Motion by Councilor Poorman to adopt Resolution 2019-17 as presented, seconded by Councilor French.

Mayor Wells stated that there is a cost of \$200 plus the \$38 transfer fee.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Wells stated that 55 7th Street is a depressed property that the village owns. However, we don't even have a key and the property is full of mold. Residents are telling her that how can you ask us to clean up our property if the village can't clean up their property. The property has a vacant dilapidated mobile home encroaching on the back side of the property. It is owned by Ron Small. Mayor Wells spoke with the Licking County Land Bank and they are interested in tearing the structure down and cleaning up the property. However, the village legal counsel determined that the village cannot just give the property to the land bank. The village needs to sell the property to the highest bidder.

Council President Zwissler stated that the ORC stated that the property must be advertised and go to auction.

Councilor Wolfe asked if we need a resolution.

Council President Zwissler stated yes.

Mayor Wells stated that she spoke with Mr. Small and asked him to remove the mobile home. He stated that this would not be done in the next few weeks and gave her the impression that the village would have to force him to move it.

Mayor Wells stated that she emailed legal counsel to discuss this issue and found that they are working with another community with the same needs. Mr. Zets already has a legislation prepared as well as the auction notice. She asked if council would give her permission to move ahead and advertise the property for auction. Mayor Wells stated that she applied earlier in the year to have the taxes reduced on the property due to the condition of the structure. She stated that the village is incurring costs to maintain the property. Mayor Wells would like to ask council to appropriate money to make a sign for the property.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Vergene Spangler-Braithwaite, 87 Lighthouse Lane, Buckeye Lake. Ms. Spangler-Braithwaite asked if the new Goodwill is going to be just a retail space or will they have training rooms and services.

Mayor Wells stated that they don't know yet for sure. She stated that they just put \$1mil in a project in Mount Vernon.

Ms. Spangler-Braithwaite stated that she deals a lot with Goodwill in Franklin County and would like to see some of those very beneficial training services available for the village residents.

Mayor Wells stated that Dick Gray, VP of Real Estate for Goodwill will be at the PC/BZA meeting this Thursday, 10/17/19 at 5:00pm to talk about his project. She suggested to Ms. Spangler-Braithwaite that she should attend the meeting.

Karen Cookston, Anchor's Way. Ms. Cookston stated that Anchor's Way looks awesome. She stated that the contractors used her large gravel parking area to store their equipment and they put it back in great condition.

Ms. Cookston stated that she and Council President Zwissler are planning a meeting on 11/4/19 from 6-8pm at First Community Church to discuss opportunity zones. She stated that they plan to bring in speakers to give widespread information on opportunity zones and their tax implications.

Ms. Cookston stated that they are challenging the panel members to speak for at least 15 minutes on the subject to get a depth of information. Ms. Cookston stated that this will be an Opportunity Zone 101 class on how to apply this at all different levels. She is funding and sponsoring the event.

Councilor Geiger stated that this is really helpful.

Council President Zwissler stated that the Opportunity Zoning is only for the Buckeye Lake and it came out of a congressional bill to benefit low income and low job creation areas. It can benefit businesses with 5, 7, and 10 years of no new taxes on capital gains.

Ms. Cookston stated that CPAs and accountants know that this exists; however, they don't understand it well enough to recommend this to their clients.

Council President Zwissler stated that they are bringing in attorneys to explain the legal issues surrounding opportunity zones as well.

Ms. Cookston stated that the Parks & Recreation Commission has been studying the basketball court for the past few years. Council approved their budget and there is no need to micromanage them or their project.

Charlene Hayden, 67 Lighthouse Lane, Buckeye Lake. Ms. Hayden stated that she knows the Parks & Recreation Commission has most of the money for their project. The bid was from a company already doing work in the village and that can save a significant amount of cost by not having to mobilize equipment. She stated that this shouldn't be a foot drag operation.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Poorman: No comment.

Councilor French: Councilor French welcomed Officer Steele.

Councilor Ruton: No comment.

Councilor Geiger: Councilor Geiger stated that if you go up Cleveland Avenue in Columbus there is an opportunity zone project that has cleaned up a lot of the neighborhood. He also stated that his neighbor has a small haunted house on a trailer that he created for his grandchildren. Councilor Geiger is going to try and get him to participate in Trunk or Treat.

Councilor Wolfe: Councilor Wolfe thanked the Police Chief for hiring another officer. He thanked Mayor Wells for her work on the Goodwill project. He also thanked Council President Zwissler for her work to get medical services for the village. He thanked Sgt. Jackson for his excellent work on the felony drug arrests. Councilor Wolfe thanked the fire chief and assistant chiefs for their work on the pay increases. Councilor Wolfe stated that he understands that \$9k may be the best price that we can get on resurfacing the basketball court; however, they are going to get bids to make sure of that. He stated that we are moving forward and encouraged everyone to attend the Finance Committee on 10/28 at 6:00pm.

Councilor President Zwissler: Council President Zwissler thanked everyone for making an effort to help the kids in the village. She encouraged people to support the trunk or treat event on the 31st.

Mayor Wells suggested that people donate money to the police chief to purchase candy for the trunk or treat event. She stated that last year Chief Wardlow purchased the candy out of her own money.

Chief Wardlow stated that if people want to donate, please do not donate money; she would prefer that they donate a bag or bags of candy to the department for the event.

Council President Zwissler stated that they have great cooperation on the event. She thanked Mr. Miller and all who worked on the Anchor's Way project.

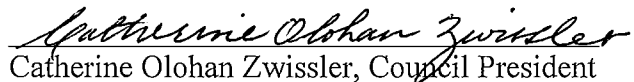
ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Council President Zwissler to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Wolfe.

VOTE: IN-FAVOR: ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 6-0
Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 28, 2019



Valerie L. Hans, Clerk of Council



Catherine Olohan Zwissler, Council President

