

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
April 10, 2023

Call to Order: By Council President Linda Goodman at 7:04p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence: Led by Council President Linda Goodman.

Roll Call: Present: Paula Brunton (0,0), Don Cable (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Deb Julian (0,0), John Lemmon (0,0), Sue Wadley (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,0)
Absent: None

Staff Present: Mayor Jeryne Peterson; Jennifer Dennis, Clerk/Treasurer; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement Officer; Police Chief Jason Harget;

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the March 27, 2023 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: Brunton; **Nays: 0; Motion Passed 6 – 1 - 0**

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable, to approve the Treasurer's report dated April 6, 2023.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS – None.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee: Brief committee meeting held tonight and the committee has recommended Ordinance 2023-12 on the agenda this evening.

Public Safety Committee: Have not had a committee meeting since their last one on March 27th. The Buckeye Lake Fire Department will host a few events for the public with regards to communication about the upcoming fire levy – Coffee and Conversation on April 14th from 9am-11am and on April 28th from 11am-1pm at Coffee Shack Coffee Roasters – North Shore location. They will also host an Open House at the Fire Department on April 26th from 6pm-8pm for the public to come in, take a tour, learn about the services they provide, and get to know the employees there. Next committee meeting will be April 24th at 6pm.

Rules Committee: No new business.

Community Development Committee: Committee meeting held this evening where they discussed lowering the fees for short-term rentals to \$200 and adding a 3% bed tax, a lowered liability insurance to either \$300,000 or \$500,000, and have a licensed or certified fire inspector employed by the village in the event that the Code Enforcement Officer is unavailable for inspection of those properties. "Bed and breakfast" will be added back in, and a section about hot tubs and swimming pools that was taken out will be included again in the amended ordinance.

Personnel Committee: Committee meeting held tonight where they discussed finalizing a social media policy for the village employees. Next committee meeting will be after the Finance committee meeting on May 8th.

Public Service Committee: Meeting minutes submitted. Committee meeting held April 3rd. There are a lot of things going on for Public Service, especially now that the weather is nice. The corner work at Mill Dam Road is looking clean and the poles look nice for the new street lights, along with the sidewalks and grading.

Cranberry Lane Area paving project seems to be gaining some steam and is promising. Regular meetings will be the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm.

Report of Council President: Thanked the Police and Fire Departments for a very successful Easter Egg Hunt held on April 8th; pictures showed that it was a great turn out. Columbus Blue Jackets Hockey is holding a Buckeye Lake Community night out on April 13th at 7pm against the Pittsburgh Penguins at a specially lowered price. Quite a bit of potential development coming into the village and we all need to be paying close attention to it. There could be some great improvements brought in that are following the village comprehensive plan. It is nice that people are paying attention to the plan. Be sure to attend at least one of the fire levy events as they will be able to answer questions and provide information. The corner of Mill Dam Road and State Route 79 looks great – the signage, the new lights. Job well done.

Report of Mayor: No written report. She stated that she is getting better; every day is a progressive day.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2023-10 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Julian to adopt Ordinance 2023-10.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Ordinance 2023-11 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Motion by Councilor Brunton, seconded by Councilor Lemmon to adopt Ordinance 2023-11.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Ordinance 2023-12 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Julian to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Wolfe to adopt Ordinance 2023-12.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Brunton, Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Ordinance 2023-13 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-46 BY DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE RENEWAL OF THE SNOW AND ICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE.

This will move on to a second reading.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Condemnation of Lake Inn Hotel – Code Enforcement Officer Rex Adkins stated that the Lake Inn hotel has officially been condemned and no one is staying there currently. It was a combined effort with himself, Zoning Officer Kevin Strang, and the Police and Fire Chiefs. While Rex and Kevin were doing an inspection on another location, they received a complaint from a man who had stayed at the hotel and received multiple bed bug bites covering his entire neck and upper body. Police report and photographs were taken. They decided to follow up as quickly as they could on that complaint. Due to a large number of pests in the hotel and unsafe structural issues, they determined it was unsafe for human inhabitation and it was condemned on two violations.

Councilor Cable asked if there is a time frame for when that is resolved or what does that mean? Rex stated he is trying to get with the village solicitor to see overall that, if he keeps it under general violations of the International Property Code, he will most likely have 13 to 14 citations he can issue them to appear in court on, and he needs to see what the solicitor says. Councilor Cable asked how long does that person have to resolve those 2 violations? Rex stated that the remedies that were given to the hotel are that, per ORC, they have to have a licensed pest control company come in to spray commercial-grade chemicals to eliminate the pests and the village must receive a report from that company. He stated they will need to properly remove and properly dispose of all mattresses and bed frames. They will need to contact a structural engineer to inspect and report to the village on the outside stairs, concrete, and structural steel beams. He stated that they found structural steel beams that you could stick your finger through, they had deteriorated that badly. Until the village receives those two reports and things come back as okay, it will not be lifted until that point.

Police Chief Harget stated that on top of those violations, they are looking at a nuisance violation as well on the criminal side of it. They have started an investigation and know that there are some issues. It is very unsafe there. Mayor Peterson stated that all police, EMS, and sheriff's office call reports for the location have been turned over to the solicitor.

NEW BUSINESS –

Food Truck Event Application Resolution – President Goodman stated there will be a resolution at the request of Planning and Zoning for a one-day special event food truck application for an event to be held in July. Planning and Zoning will look at putting in a longer, lengthier ruling on food trucks and how they will be handled in the village going forward. There will be public hearings from both Council and Planning and Zoning for the extensive version that will come later.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS -

Holly Stein – 13 Beacon Light Lane – Holly stated she would like to propose that council consider the way that the City of Columbus handles the issue of short-term rental insurance, where they say that each property does have to have the \$300,000 general liability insurance and in the event that this location is on a hosting platform that does provide the \$1,000,000 liability coverage, if it in fact is meeting that requirement, all you would have to do is prove that connection to the hosting platform.

Holly also asked if sometime in the future it could be brought back to the public talking about what the Cranberry Lane Area paving project actually looks like because it was originally discussed that it would be widening lanes and there will be impact on properties that are right up against the edge. The community is interested and they would like some information. President Goodman stated that the best thing to do to receive

that information is to come to a Public Service Committee meeting and Councilor Lemmon suggested that residents can go back on the Village Facebook page and watch the meeting's video. Holly asked if the agenda could have at least a single item agenda because the public is also trying to navigate their time. Holly also asked what are the stated conditions for declaring an emergency for legislation? She said it has not been clear to us on when that occurs. President Goodman stated that usually it is because of a timing situation because if we go through 3 readings, it can get stretched out. A lot of the time on Public Works projects, we may find out yesterday from ODOT or the EPA that we need to get something over to them in 7 or 10 days. We obviously cannot go through three readings then and that would require an emergency. Mayor Peterson gave the example from this evening that the insurance is due and we were prepared to pay it but the line item was short on funds, so the fiscal officer had to come to council and request that those needed funds be appropriated to cover that.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Councilor Cable: He agrees that we do have a lot of emergencies. We have had less in the last year or two than we did previously, but he does understand. He has been pushing it for a while that he wants to see more involvement from citizens when it comes to committee meetings and he does want citizen's comments during that time in his meetings. There is reason to have discussion. Having one or two people interested in a topic, who do they represent? Do they represent the majority? Themselves? Their interests? We are elected officials and we represent the Village of Buckeye Lake. He would like to see more involvement and he would like more opportunity for the public to speak and have engaging discussion. There are living documents and laws that are constantly going to change and comparing Columbus, Louisville, Indianapolis with the Village of Buckeye Lake, that is not apples to apples in his opinion.

Councilor Lemmon: Thanked Holly for being engaged. You can always go back and look at any meeting on Facebook and that includes the Public Service Committee meeting from the first Monday of the month. Most of the comments he gets are from citizens who have gone back and watched the meetings and have questions from those. He is always available if anyone would like to call him. His opinion is his own; he does not speak for council. Council President will speak for council. There is also a fire levy coming up. He has not seen any signs yet but he is willing to put one in his yard for that. He hopes that a lot of people will get involved and support our Fire Department.

Councilor Brunton: She encourages the public to come and speak when allowed because there is no other way to get your voice, opinions, thoughts, ideas across to the council. Everyone here is doing the best they can with what they know but they cannot read people's minds without them coming to tell us. She appreciates the courage that it takes to come and take time out of their lives to prepare for it and sit through the meeting. She thinks it is important to sit through meetings to see how things develop and how they are voted on and discussed and come to understand the process.

Councilor Julian: Cranberry Bay has a home-owner's association. She has shared with the HOA president a high-level view of what was discussed in the Public Service committee meeting for the Cranberry Lane area paving project about the money and it being close to final approval and close to the dates. There are a number of residents in that area and she recommends that Toby or a representative come to speak at an HOA meeting. She appreciates that the additional insurance was brought to council. There has been tragedy after tragedy happening and it is something we have to think about all the time in the positions that we hold. Sad events but we have to be prepared.


Councilor Wolfe: Thanked Code Officer, Police, and Fire and the people who participated on condemning the hotel. It has been an issue for years. Outstanding work. Thanked Police Chief for numbers (\$59,718) on getting a new 2023 police cruiser. Sooner or later will need to update. Thanked their services for the Easter Egg Hunt. He asked Holly if she could get the short-term rental hosting site declaration page and information to him to be better informed. True pleasure to work with this council. Charter was discussed today but no residents came to provide input. Would like to see more public input. Please feel free to talk to them.

Councilor Wadley: It is Public Safety First Responders Week so she would like to recognize both the Police and Fire Departments for their outstanding work. Kudos to their dedication and to Rex on the hotel because she knows that is not something that happened overnight. She attended the Easter Egg Hunt which was a great event with a great turn out. Nice to see Police and Fire Departments working together on the community events that they put together and knows there will be more to come. Election is on May 2nd for the Fire Levy and it is coming up very quickly. She encourages people to attend the open house at the Fire Station or one of the Coffee and Conversation event dates. Signs are forthcoming and flyers are going up. Chief Amspaugh is always open to provide information on the services they provide, such as CPR training. The Fire Levy is critical. We may not have a fire department if it does not pass so, please educate yourselves and vote accordingly. All council members have email addresses; please feel free to email any of us.

Councilor Goodman: No comments.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Brunton to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Cable. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting: April 24, 2023



Samantha Torres, Council Clerk



Linda Goodman, Council President