

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

April 25, 2022

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

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

Roll Call: Present: Don Cable (0,0), Linda Goodman (0,0), Deb Julian (0,0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Lemmon (0,0), Max Thompson (0,0), Sue Wadley (0,0), Tom Wolfe (0,0)

Staff Present: Mayor Jeryne Peterson; Jennifer Dennis, Clerk/Treasurer; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Jason Harget, Police Chief; David Ruton, Fire Chief; Toby Miller, Public Works Supervisor; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement; Kevin Strang, Zoning Inspector; Kellie Green, Parks and Recreation Commission

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Julian, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to approve the April 11, 2022 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe
Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to approve the Treasurer's report dated April 21, 2022.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Goodman, Julian, Lemmon, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe
Abstain: 0; Nays: 0; Motion Passed 7 – 0

Treasurer Jennifer Dennis stated that the penalty received from RITA from 2018 has been waived and nothing is owed. She has completed the ARPA reporting with hopes to receive second disbursement in June. She will have a Resolution at the next Council meeting to define what the ARPA money is and what it is used for.

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

David Ruton (Assistant Fire Chief for the village) was sworn in by Mayor Peterson as the new Fire Chief for the Village of Buckeye Lake.

Nathan Keirns, Chief Executive Officer of LEADS, Inc. and Kristen Jones, HEAD START Director, spoke to council about the building that the Buckeye Lake HEAD START program runs out of. LEADS is currently on a month-to-month lease for that building due to the owner / landlord wishing to develop the property, leaving them to potentially have to vacate if given a 30-day notice. Nathan stated that additionally, over the past two years, their demographic of who is being served out of the Buckeye Lake center has changed and they are seeing a lot more from the Pataskala area. At their last needs assessment in 2021, it was determined that the greatest need for HEAD START is no longer Buckeye Lake and it would be more successful in the Pataskala area. In late December, they requested to the Federal Office of HEAD START permission to move the HEAD START facility from Buckeye Lake to Pataskala. Kristen stated that the center currently has enrollment spots for 40 children. This current year, there are 15 children that are eligible to return by age and the rest will be continuing on to kindergarten. 12 of the 15 families will continue services next year, with a majority of them going to the Pataskala center, while the other 3 will be served through Home Base where a visitor comes to their home weekly for 90-minute visits, providing help in parent education as well. There are other sites in Newark and Utica that serve Licking County. As for the Buckeye Lake center, they plan to finish out the school year here, with May 26th as the last day of school, then they would finish preparing the transfer location and open services at the beginning of September in Pataskala. Home Base services run the whole year, including Summer. President Goodman asked them if there is anything that can be done to extend the hours of operation for the Food Pantry. Nathan stated that they are now in the position to talk about that because they now have better staffing available, including a full-time person for the Buckeye Lake pantry, with a backup available from

Pataskala.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Jennifer Dennis and Toby Miller will be meeting with Parks and Recreation about the parking lot at Ryan-Braden Park and at the Recreation Center. Some money needs moved around for that so Chairman Lemmon expects an emergency appropriation ordinance for the next Finance meeting. Priorities for the Fire Department budget will need to be looked at. Two appropriations on the agenda tonight. Next Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 9th at 6:15pm.

Public Safety Committee: Chairman Thompson congratulated new Fire Chief Ruton and thanked the Police and Fire Departments and all who donated for the Easter Egg Hunt that was held this past weekend.

Public Service Committee: Next meeting will be May 2nd at 6:30pm to continue discussion on the road repair schedule, bids going out for paving streets. There was a bid received today for the parking lot. Signage for the parking lot is close to being completed. They will continue discussion on open items such as the bridge project.

Community Development Committee: Chairman Wolfe met with other members of the Comprehensive Plan steering committee to discuss general starting ideas for what the people want for the Village of Buckeye Lake and the meeting was more of a meet and greet. There will be a Public Open House with an opportunity to share thoughts on the future of Buckeye Lake the week of June 6, 2022 (no exact time, date, or location yet).

Personnel Committee: Next Personnel meeting will be May 23rd at 6:30pm. They held a meeting tonight discussing the Employee Handbook including review on disciplinary action pages, job descriptions to add to the Handbook, evaluation process, critical positions and who would back them up, and general definitions for the Handbook. These are some topics of discussion for the next few months.

Rules Committee: First meeting scheduled for May 2nd at 6:00pm to begin looking at rules and comparing them to the Charter.

Report of Council President – President Goodman thanked the Buckeye Lake Police and Fire Departments for a job well done for the Easter Egg Hunt. She looks forward to everyone being active in the social life of the village. She also attended the Comprehensive Plan steering committee meeting. There will be a meeting the week of May 23rd for local stakeholder and group interviews on issues and opportunities to prioritize the future of what they need for the village.

REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS WRITTEN OR VERBAL

Police Department – Chief Jason Harget – Congratulated new Fire Chief Ruton and looks forward to his leadership and working well with him. Police call record report submitted. He said that a lot of good things came out of the Personnel meeting that he listened to this evening. As a Police Chief, he makes sure that his officers are current on their training and certifications. There is an Ohio Police Officers Training Commission certification officer that tells Chief if his officers are not current. He passed around an example email from the certification officer. The Police Department is also required this year to have 24 hours of continued education for police officers which they have all year to complete. If it is not complete, they will receive a letter that they are not a police officer until it is completed. Chief said this is something that Personnel could look at for the village side of it. The Easter Egg Hunt was great. Over 400 calls for service since last month. He has a very good applicant with 25+ years' experience for the vacant officer position that could come with a K-9 unit for the police department to help the drug use in the village and surrounding areas. The dog would need a vehicle with a cage, which means some cost involved.

Fire Department – Chief David Ruton – March 2022 report submitted. The Chevrolet medic is usable. Needs a new air dryer before it is completely repaired and Chief is getting quotes locally to get that completed. Last two pages of the report came out of a meeting with the billing company. There was an increase of 5% for EMS run charges and the milage was increased as well. Last page of the report explains “hard” versus “soft” billing. Last Wednesday, the fire engine was blowing white smoke and was broken. A part was replaced but it did not fix the problem so it is still being investigated. Could maybe be major engine problems, which could mean a large expense sometime soon. The older rescue engine is being used for now. Grant for \$500,000 for new fire truck has been submitted but they have not chosen who receives it yet. Mayor Peterson has contacted FEMA to get access for Chief Ruton and Keisha Amspaugh to the grant for \$170,000 for appliances. Put in 8 grants in the last 3 weeks. June 11th there will be a Spaghetti Dinner to raise money for new carpet for the nice new bunk rooms at the Fire Department.

Public Works – Toby Miller – Will know the start of the bridge project soon. Material is being ordered. Will take place sometime next month until September or October.

Parks and Recreation – Kellie Green – They have been busy, with their main focus being on the Recreation building to get it opened soon. Items completed include plumbing, heating, roofing, portico, electrical, lighting, gutters, and downspouts. Toby Miller and his crew have helped immensely to save \$9,000 which they hope to move to asphalt paving. Sue Smith, her husband Mike, and crew worked to clear out the back storage area of the building. Kellie Green and Karen Cookston donated a refrigerator to the building. The goal to open is May 15th. Critical items that still need completed include lighting and flooring in the bathrooms, replacing damaged ceiling tiles, thorough interior cleaning, figuring out a key distribution and access process, updating permit and guidelines to include rental of the Recreation Center. The front entrance and mechanical doors were installed on April 14th. Painting has been held off due to weather. Commission member Barb Sills will take pictures for a community brochure. A concrete trash can was destroyed last night so security cameras are a priority. Don Cable asked about a grand opening ceremony – yes, that will happen.

Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins – Absent. Report submitted.

Zoning – Kevin Strang – Report submitted. Has done 27 on-site visits for various zoning projects and 14 communications. Letters sent out about removal of cargo shipping containers two weeks ago. Some of them have already been removed. Friday he will go around to make sure the rest have been removed. Mayor Peterson mentioned that the Zoning fees will be raised.

Planning and Zoning – Rick Baker – No report.

Report of Mayor – Mayor Peterson has received complaints about some construction infringing on zoning setbacks. It is being handled.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2022-14 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 7 – 0

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to adopt Ordinance 2022-14.

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

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

Ordinance 2022-15 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2022-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilor Lemmon moved to have discussion out of order with no objections to say that the proposed intern position for the \$3,000 appropriation has not been recommended through the Personnel Committee and that an intern is supervised and cannot be in contract. He recommended getting something from the Auditor's office saying that the village would not be in violation. Mayor Peterson said this was a matching grant for an intern through MORPC. Councilor Lemmon wanted to know who would pay the intern in the end. Mayor Peterson stated the village would receive \$2,500 from MORPC and the \$2,500 from the appropriated \$3,000, with the balance of the \$3,000 going towards a fee of \$400. The village will pay the intern. She said the village is not in violation because the intern has never worked or collected anything through OPERS and she has it in writing from MORPC. The Fiscal Officer will not pay the intern out of payroll without deducting PERS. Councilor Lemmon said again that if the person is under a supervised position, they cannot be a contractor. Mayor Peterson said she will check on it and would like the Ordinance passed tonight as the intern will be interviewing and starts working at MORPC on May 9th. Councilor Wadley stated that she is very familiar with the MORPC internship and has done that in her full-time job and they have always been on their payroll; she has never done a contract. Jennifer Dennis said that it can be changed to payroll. Councilor Julian asked what are the job duties we expect the intern to do for the money that is being outlaid. Mayor Peterson said that the intern will be writing small grants for Parks and Recreation and other areas. She will sit and learn economics from Jennifer. \$14 per hour, 25 hours per week for 9 weeks, some of that remotely, and she has to report it all back to MORPC and to The Ohio State University.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Julian, to divide the question; Ordinance 2022-15 has the \$80,893.48 Capital Outlay appropriation and Ordinance 2022-16 has the \$3,000.00 Other Contractual Services appropriation.

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon, to adopt Ordinance 2022-15.

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

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

Ordinance 2022-16 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2022-08 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Council President Goodman stated that this is an administrative responsibility and does not fall under Personnel and she believes the amount of money is enough that the mayor can decide to spend. Fiscal Officer Jennifer Dennis said that there is no "Other Contractual Services" line under Mayor's and Mayor's Staff, so that line would be created and then the \$3,000 added into it. She also stated that because this is an intern, it is not creating a whole new position and does not need to go through the Personnel Committee.

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

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: Lemmon; Motion Passed 6 – 1

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Thompson, to adopt Ordinance 2022-16.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Goodman, Thompson, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0; Nays: Julian, Lemmon; Motion Passed 5 – 2

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Julian, for council to accept the MORPC intern position.

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading –

Resolution 2022-07 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE ONEOHIO REGION 18 GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE UNDER THE ONEOHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

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

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Thompson, to adopt Resolution 2022-07.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- I. No update on Emergency Access Road for Cranberry Bay.
- II. President Goodman asked for an explanation of what the noise, rattling, and shaking was over the weekend. Fire Chief Ruton stated it was a company doing seismic testing for oil and natural gas who decided to do that without notifying all of the neighbors. Mayor Peterson said they did not notify anyone in the village office or the police. Chief Ruton said they went through the field from East Street to Route 79 and put up a sensor on the village property next to the Fire House and wires over the road. The Fire Department received a phone call because someone thought their house was falling in. Officer Hiroki Barker stated that the boss who was on the scene stated that he had not let anyone know and he was under the impression that the village did not need to know. Mayor Peterson stated that a man had called about it and she contacted him a while back, leaving a message to tell him she did not think that it was allowed and she did not hear back from him. President Goodman said we definitely need follow-up on it.

NEW BUSINESS – Josh Amspaugh of the Fire Department read a letter addressed to council and the mayor from himself and the committee that was put together by Police Chief Harget (Josh, Hiroki Barker and his girlfriend Alexis, and Keisha Amspaugh) to handle community outreach. The letter was about the Easter Egg Hunt, thanking all who participated in and donated to the event. Keisha Amspaugh is Fire Chief at MaryAnn Township and they have their own event and her personnel were able to supplement what our department did not have. Over 150 people turned out for this wonderful event on such short notice. Josh also made everyone

aware of the Buckeye Lake State Park Health and Safety Day event happening on Saturday June 11th 11am-2pm at the North Shore State Park. He said they were unaware of it but apparently some of the past administration Fire Department was part of the planning for it. He said it is a ribbon cutting kick-off ceremony for Heart Safe Park – Fairfield Medical Center is installing AEDs for cardiac episodes around the bike path as part of Community Heart Watch. People will be there training in CPR and cardiac emergency response and ODNR will be doing boating and water and bike safety. The Fire and Police Departments were volunteered to be there, but it was news to them. That is the same day as the Fire Department's Spaghetti Dinner, but they will have everything covered. Officer Hiroki Barker stated that Police Week is May 15th – May 21st and that the Fire and Police Departments have teamed up again with Lindsey's Smokehouse BBQ to have a community cookout at the Fire House 12pm-3pm on May 21st. At this event, they will be taking donations for the Shop with a Cop event to be held in December.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS – None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Cable: Told a touching story about a house fire that took the lives of his grandparents. Councilor Cable thanked Fire Chief Ruton for being on that call and congratulated him for becoming Fire Chief. He would like to see the marquee sign back in front of the Fire Department, whether it has an announcement or activity on it or not.

Councilor Lemmon: He has seen and has some concern about profanity on signs around the village that he finds disturbing. When developers come and tell the village what they are going to do, we expect them to do what they are going to do. As a village, we need to be sure that the rules are known and enforced or go through the proper procedure to vote and change it if we do not like it.

Councilor Wadley: Congratulated Fire Chief Ruton. She thanked Keisha Amspaugh for helping with special needs children at the Easter Egg Hunt and she thanked James from the Fire Department for taking her little one on the fire truck for pictures. It means a lot to the kids.

Councilor Julian: Happy to have a feel-good event like the Easter Egg Hunt, to which she was able to donate. It is good that we are getting more activities for the kids of the village. She is impressed with the work done by the Parks and Recreation Commission. She echoes some things that Councilor Lemmon said. We have a lot to do and we need to do it the right way and respect anyone who has a difference of opinion.

Councilor Wolfe: Thanked the LEADS organization for the service that they have here in the village. Congratulated Chief Ruton and look forward to his leadership. A lot of boaters on the lake; be careful.

Councilor Thompson: Thanks to the Police and Fire Departments. He would like to help whenever he can.

Councilor Goodman: Sad to hear LEADS pulling HEAD START from the village. It has been a really great thing for the kids of the village. She hopes they will increase the food pantry hours. Thanks to the Police and Fire Departments. Looking forward to a good partnership and everyone working together in the village to make it stronger and better and a happier place to be.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Cable to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Wolfe. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

NEXT MEETING: Council Meeting: May 9, 2022


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


Linda Goodman, Council President