

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
April 28, 2025

Call to Order: By Council President John Lemmon 7:00p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence: Led by Council President John Lemmon.

Roll Call: Present: Don Cable, Kellie Green, Deb Julian, Douglas Keener, John Lemmon, Sue Wadley, Tom Wolfe
Absent: None.

Staff Present: Linda Goodman, Mayor; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Amanda Hoppel, Fiscal Officer; Jerry Brooks, Interim Fire Chief; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement Officer; Toby Miller, Public Works Superintendent

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to approve the April 14, 2025 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 7 - 0**

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Julian, seconded by Councilor Keener, to approve the Treasurer's report dated April 24, 2025.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 7 - 0**

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: None.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Finance Committee: Nothing new since last meeting. Next meeting May 12th at 5:30pm.

Public Safety Committee: No report at this time. Support our police department.

Public Service Committee: Report given at last meeting. Next meeting May 5th at 6:30pm.

Rules Committee: Nothing to report.

Community Development Committee: No report. Next meeting May 12th after Personnel at 6:30pm.

Personnel Committee: Nothing new since last meeting. Next meeting May 12th after Finance at 6:00pm.

Report of Council President: He has had a lot of comments from citizens about fireworks. Included some research in packets. Spoke with solicitor about what we can and cannot do. The solicitor had just created legislation on fireworks recently so he provided a version for our village. Would like recommendations to come from Public Safety. We need to pass our police levy on May 6th. Be sure to vote.

REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS – WRITTEN OR VERBAL

Police Department – Chief Jason Harget: Absent, however Mayor shared from him that Chief would like to thank the levy committee for extra work they have done for the police levy. Would like to continue having the community's support to pass the levy. Enjoyed last meet and greet with community. Great interactions and conversations. Chief Harget is continuing to work late night shifts into early hours on patrol. PD currently has 3 investigations that are being worked on. Mill Dam Road is current a target enforcement area due to high, unsafe speeds.

Fire Department – Interim Chief Jerry Brooks: Run totals submitted. 57 runs. 50 EMS. 5 transports given to other departments. 3 fire runs out of district to help. Engine 921 had U-joints replaced and preventative maintenance done.

Water leak repaired on Engine 920. The two gas fans, Honda generator with light, and generator off of Engine 922 were taken in for service and still waiting on parts. Last known service was four years ago. Great turn out for Easter Egg Hunt. Over 3300 eggs. Spring cleaning: cleaning out bay area and getting ready to paint foyer. Ladder and hose testing scheduled for June 7th. Working on paperwork for the live burn trainings on Worth Drive and doing some pre-planning for training exercises. Appreciate buildings being donated for training. Engine 922 had wiring fire that melted water line. Water line fixed but need to address the lighting issue. Damage was done to the garage door in front of Engine 922. Passenger side compartment door was left open when engine was being pulled out of the station. Also caused compartment door to be torn off. Garage door has been repaired and engine is being taken to OOS while getting estimates and repairs done to it. Waiting on delivery for batteries for radios. 13 have been ordered. Looking to get emergency phone in foyer for anyone coming in on emergency and they are on another run. There is going to be a need for more turnout gear due to the limited sizes they have. 4 interviews that are being accepted with 5 more applications coming in. Working on the creation of an explorer program.

Neveah Wall – her and Josh Krugel have been working on a junior firefighter Explorer program. The main reason is to get young people in Buckeye Lake and the surrounding area interested in the fire service and to hopefully be employed with us once they have all of their certifications and credentials. Ages 14-18. Packet includes hours, dress code, and flyer. Can practice with expired gear to get an introduction to the service. Can then go to CTEC for school. Would like solicitor to review the whole packet. Councilor Julian asked about any updates for grants for Stryker equipment. President Lemmon asked if budget is okay for maintenance. Seems alright for now. Councilor Wadley mentioned looking into a work permit during the school year for the Explorer program.

Public Works – Superintendent Toby Miller: Next Public Service meeting agenda items are working on rules and regulations and facilities follow-up from the last meeting. Reached out to painter person about the pavilion. North Bank West project – should be putting some asphalt down on Wednesday. Concrete crew on Wednesday as well. Discussion on two pieces of legislation on agenda tonight. Councilor Wadley asked if he is looking to hire anyone seasonal. It was transferred to a full-time last year which they have filled recently.

Parks and Recreation – Annetta Macedonia: Representative absent. Meeting minutes submitted.

Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins: Code enforcement and short-term rental reports submitted, with new format explained by Rex Adkins. President Lemmon asked if he could send it to council clerk on Wednesday before council meeting. He asked if there is anything that can be put into place to give him more teeth with enforcement for short-term rentals. Rex stated part of the problem is tracking them down. He drives around and is trying to find them. Another entity gave some insight to some of them. Short-term rentals use a lot of different platforms. Councilor Wolfe supports a moratorium to help Rex get caught up. President Lemmon stated this could be discussed in Community Development. Chair Green would like to discuss in meeting first then open to public. Rex would like to consider the use of garage spaces to be considered as parking spaces as parking is very limited on North Bank Road, for example. Also, there is no review board or committee for anyone non-compliant with short-term rentals.

Zoning – Kevin Strang: Absent. Report submitted.

Planning / Zoning / BZA Commissions: No representatives. No reports.

Report of Mayor Goodman: We continue to interview for fire department positions, which has been very active. A lot of applications and interviews. Very encouraging. 2,3,4 applications received a week. We continue to meet with ADR and contractors on stormwater project. Paving to begin this week. Met with Mr. Pape who owns realty office on Walnut Road for discussion on clean up at his property. Met with Neff Paving last week. They should call us when they are coming. 3 intersections to be fixed by them. We had a meeting with ODNR at BLPD addressing safety issues at North Shore parking area on nights where it is a nice Spring evening. ODNR is short staffed like everyone else. There is a plan in place to address what is going on there. Meeting last week with OHM engineers for turn lane project that will begin in 2027. Mayor and Councilor Wolfe attended Buckeye Lake Chamber of Commerce full pool breakfast. Lake is officially at full

pool. Speakers this year were different. This year had 3 representatives from State Auditor's office who were very informative. Meetings continue for the North Shore Pier Project, which is to begin early September. Purchased two new flags for the village. Looks nice. Coming up is Piratefest May 16, 17, 18th with more activities for children. A few part-time positions open in the village. Apply through the village. The village offices had a raccoon break into the office over the weekend and create a big mess.

Citizen's Comments Regarding Legislation on Tonight's Agenda: None.

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading – None.

Ordinances for 2nd Reading –

Ordinance 2025-22 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN.

Will be discussed in Public Service and will move to a third reading.

Ordinance 2025-23 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK, UPDATING THE COMPENSATORY TIME FOR EXEMPT (SALARY) EMPLOYEES.

Came out of Personnel Committee.

Motion by Councilor Wadley, seconded by Councilor Keener, to amend Ordinance 2025-23 to be an emergency.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 7 – 0**

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

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 7 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green, to adopt Ordinance 2025-23.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 7 - 0**

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Ordinance 2025-24 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH ADR FOR INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** Julian, Wolfe; **Motion Passed 5 – 2**

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to adopt Ordinance 2025-24.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** Julian, Wolfe; **Motion Passed 5 - 2**

Ordinance 2025-25 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green, to suspend the rules.

Roll call vote: Yes: Cable, Green, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0;

Nays: Julian, Wolfe;

Motion Passed 5 – 2

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green, to adopt Ordinance 2025-24.

Roll call vote: **Yes:** Cable, Green, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley

Abstain: 0;

Nays: Julian, Wolfe;

Motion Passed 5 - 2

Ordinance 2025-26 – AN ORDINANCE REGULATING FIREWORKS IN THE VILLAGE.

President Lemmon would like the discussion to happen in Public Safety meeting by the end of May to be in effect for July 4th. Need to discuss that what can be changed is when we do allow fireworks under conditions of the state law and further restrictions of the village. Section 4 on last page, 4th day of July from 8:00pm to 10:00pm. Can add any other dates that are also permitted by the state. Councilor Wolfe would like to change the penalty, as first degree seems too severe. Councilor Julian would like Police Chief's input as well. Public Safety would like to have a meeting May 12th at 5:00pm to discuss. Councilor Lemmon would like to have something in place for July 4th.
Will move on to second reading.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

Village-owned Lots Parking Permissions - Councilor Julian had concerns about parking in one of the lots. Would like to do a policy on parking on village-owned lots altogether. Do they need a permit or permission to leave a car overnight. Community Development and Public Safety Committees discussions to be had.

Emergency Exit for Cranberry Bay – Chiefs did a review. Councilor Julian had given a message to mayor. Maybe as a village, we allocate the money to work with the land owner to put in a few loads of gravel so that it is not an issue. President Lemmon stated this could be a Public Service Committee discussion. Mayor will get an answer from the solicitor on spending village dollars on a private road.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS –

Casey Clark – 241 Lakeview Drive – Read her comment about the importance of the police levy passing and that a YES vote is also a YES vote for our police staff, including our highly respected Chief Jason Harget. Casey's full comment can be found in the council meeting minutes binder.

Mayor Goodman stated that Chief Harget is excellent about communication. If there is something going on in the village, she receives a text. If something is happening, he wants her to hear it before she receives anything from others in the village. That is so appreciated by her. Knowing what is going on makes it safer. Communication is great between Chief Harget and the administration.

Kaye Hartman – 4631 North Bank Road – She is a resident and a representative for the Board of Elections. April 29th office will open in downtown Newark from 7:30am to 8:30pm for voting. April 30 through May 2nd can vote from 7:30am to 7:30pm. May 3rd can vote 8:00am to 4:00pm. Bring photo ID. Go to Board of Elections website for more information. Lines have been moving pretty quickly. There is a primary for some representatives and some issues. It is important to show up and cast your vote. Polling location opens at 6:30am on Tuesday.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS –

Councilor Cable – Buy local.

Councilor Green – Thanked Nevaeh and Josh and Chief Brooks for the Explorer Program. A lot of kids in school are interested in going to CTEC and pursuing their 240 card. Giving the kids a great opportunity. Please vote for our police department.

Councilor Julian – Go vote.

Councilor Keener – Be safe, go vote.

Councilor Lemmon – There is nothing more important in this village than our public safety. We have outstanding people in those departments. Please vote to continue to fund them.

Councilor Wadley – A vote is for more than the Police Chief, but his whole team. There are other agencies that have accreditations and certifications and there are strict protocols to go through that. Appreciates Chief going through that because it mitigates risk liability for the village. Support them just as they support you. Go out and vote yes for the police levy.

Councilor Wolfe – Asks the citizens to support the police levy. Chief does a great job and we definitely need police protection in our community. Need two LifePaks and power cot for the Fire Department. Thanked police levy team, Casey Clark was in charge of that. A very nice job done there. There was a lot of support for that and people who put out signs and contributed money. Rex is doing a great job on the short-term rentals; it is a lot of hard work. Previously council had a discussion on trolley cars and he would like to see them at some point in the village. Would be great for the community.

Adjournment: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Keener, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting – May 12, 2025


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Lemmon, Council President