

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
April 8, 2024

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 (0,0), Kellie Green (0,0), Deb Julian (0,0),

(Consecutive, Total Absences) John Lemmon (0,0), Sue Wadley (0,0)

Absent: Adam Miller (0,1)

Staff Present: Linda Goodman, Mayor; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Amanda Hoppel, Clerk Treasurer; Jason Harget, Police Chief

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Wolfe, to approve the March 25, 2024 regular council meeting minutes.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 - 0**

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Green, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to approve the Treasurer's report dated April 4, 2024.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: None.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Finance Committee: Meeting was held tonight where they discussed the police levy and there was a motion during the meeting that they would present a recommendation for replacement of the 5 mill police levy and that they would allow the 3 mill police levy to expire. Next Finance Committee will be held April 22nd at 5:30pm. Amanda and Chair Julian will get info together about levies vs. income tax. There is a police car that will be moving to the administration that needs paperwork and asset value and formal legislation for that change.

Public Safety Committee: Chair Wolfe met with the Police and Fire Chiefs. Fire Chief had no concerns. Police Chief just talked about the police levy. Meeting to be held April 22nd immediately following the Finance Committee.

Public Service Committee: Meeting held April 1st. Recommended out of committee using Law General Contracting to do the paving for the Cranberry Lane Area. Discussed the Cranberry Bay Work Agreement with no issues there. Both of these topics are on ordinances on the council agenda for tonight. They had a citizen's comment at their meeting about the North Bank West Stormwater project. There are a lot of challenges there and Toby is working with engineers. They had discussion about property sizes and paving and rooftops and where the water goes and there are a lot of topics where the Public Service department's hands are tied on some of these issues. The streets are only so wide and there are only so many places for the water to go. The committee has a standing meeting on the first Monday of every month at 6:30pm, with the next one being held May 6th at 6:30pm.

Rules Committee: Chair Miller was absent, no report.

Community Development Committee: Meeting was held tonight where they talked about short-term rentals. They looked at some comparables in other areas. Discussion came up about whether the short-term rentals are replacing the need for hotels and motels in our community, whether the amount of short-term rentals would be limited in the area, and that our short-term rentals are held at a higher standard than even long-term rentals. This discussion continues and is still new and we support our business owners. They discussed the possibility of food truck registrations in the future with

health department certification. Phone calls being made about cannabis dispensaries and Chair Green finally has contact at the Ohio Department of Commerce and she hopes to get some questions answered such as if dispensaries are allowed if you have a production company here. Next Community Development meeting will immediately follow the Personnel Committee meeting to be held on May 13th at 6:00pm.

Personnel Committee: Meeting held tonight reviewing some policies within the Employee Handbook. Uniform allowances and personnel records. The committee approved those and recommended that they move forward to full council. Reviewed and discussed social media policy and political activity and there will be follow-up on those two topics. Next meeting to be held May 13th at 6:00pm.

Report of Council President: President Lemmon stated we can expect emergency legislation on April 22nd concerning retaining an engineering firm for the village. RFQs are not in as of yet. This was discussed at the Public Service committee meeting. Toby has put the request out on the state's website and is collecting the RFQ packets that will go out to the Public Service committee once he has them all and then the committee will score them and one will be selected with the highest score and then there will be legislation for that.

Report of Mayor: Absent, report submitted.

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading –

Ordinance 2024-12 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A WORK AGREEMENT WITH CRANBERRY BAY HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION INC FOR STORMWATER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Julian to adopt Ordinance 2024-12.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Cable, Green, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Ordinances for 2nd Reading –

Ordinance 2024-14 - AN ORDINANCE AWARDDING THE BID FOR THE CRANBERRY LANE AREA PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO LAW GENERAL CONTRACTING, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND SAID CONTRACTOR CONSISTENT WITH SAID BID, AND THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY.

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

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Cable, Green, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Wolfe to adopt Ordinance 2024-14.

Discussion: Councilor Wolfe wants to see traffic maintained so that residents can get in and out during construction. Councilor Cable stated for sure it will be shut down for two days and people will need to make plans. Everyone has been aware of that. Notices will go out once we know the dates.

Roll call vote: Yes: Wolfe, Cable, Green, Julian, Lemmon, Wadley
Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Ordinances for 1st Reading – None.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Councilor Julian asked if there was an update on Union Avenue paving? Councilor Cable stated that Mayor Goodman had a meeting with the company so that is being discussed. Councilor Julian hopes that we make sure that is not happening at the same time as the Cranberry Lane paving project.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS –

Rick Baker – 180 Grandstaff – Mr. Baker had comments about short-term rentals. He thinks they are over-regulated and it is a government overreach. Explained additional hefty expenses he has had to pay for the inspection and licensing process for each of his units that he rents out to people. Had to increase his liability insurance as well. Paying \$15,000 per year in property tax on top of asking him to pay 3% of his gross income. He said this is more like a hobby to him and he does not make any money, he actually has lost \$20,000 in the last few years on these. It is a contribution to the community and giving people someplace to come to enjoy Buckeye Lake. He thinks a lot of people are selling their places and he has a suspicion that that is what the village government wants to be done, that they want to eliminate short-term rentals. He spoke to friends who have rentals who were not aware of the new regulations and they put their houses up for sale now because they do not wish to mess with it. He thinks it is too much tax and government overreach and if their intent was to get rid of short-term rentals, they were successful.

Robin Thompson – 168 Dockside Drive – Robin had concerns about the easement between his house and a neighbor's house. Concerned that it will have a slope. They will trench through Dockside Drive. How far down will they go? Cable will ask Toby. He asked will the Cranberry Bay Homeowner's Association have to do further work down to the water? Have not heard final dates. Passed legislation tonight. Robin asked for a minimum 30-day notice with no weekends for continued work. Weather effects this. There will be a town hall meeting about it in the future to answer questions. Robin asked are first responders fully staffed? Yes, the fire department is staffed. Police has less staff right now. Most are entry level and don't have the same structure as a place like Zanesville. Councilor Cable said that the village is competitive with village the same as ours. Councilor Wadley stated that the police did receive pay raises last year. Up 80% over the last few years. Market moves as we do. Robin stated there has been a lot less police presence near his house. Law enforcement is difficult recruitment. What can council do as a stop-gap? Chief is in contact with the sheriff's department and there is coverage from them. Robin asked what percentage of ordinances are emergency? A lot. Most things passed as emergency are financial and things that need paid and contracts with deadlines. Police levy – 5mil would be replaced at new valuation. 3mil expires if the 5mil passes after the taxes collected in 2024. 3mil in the past was supposed to fall off and it did not. Trying to end up with 5mil replacement.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS –

Councilor Lemmon – Quick meeting, good conversation. The back and forth that happened during citizen's comments will not happen again going forward but we had time as it was a short meeting.

Councilor Wolfe – Thanked citizens for questions and comments. We had committee meetings tonight and no public here. He would like to see more public at the committee meetings for discussion. It would help them to be better council people in general.

Councilor Cable – Committee meetings are extremely important for discussion and a lot is answered in those meetings. Two epic events in the past few weeks – big storm, lots of flooding and then the total solar eclipse. Everything will be okay. Good discussion. Thanked citizens. Buy local.

Councilor Green – Thanked citizens for comments. As a council member, she supports short-term rentals. Thanked Rick Baker for bringing some items to light on that subject.

Councilor Wadley – Committee meetings are listed on the website calendar. Each committee has a chair and you can reach out to them.

Councilor Julian – Thanked citizens. Appreciates having one month drama-free. Need to get together with the police to get recruitment. Want to have police on bicycles this Summer. Maybe a retention bonus.

Motion to by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Wolfe to go into executive session.

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


Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 6 – 0**

Entered into executive session at 7:57pm.

Entered back into open session at 8:20pm.

Adjournment: Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Julian, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting – April 22, 2024



Samantha Torres, Council Clerk



John Lemmon, Council President