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

August 11, 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 (Arrived later), Deb Julian, Douglas Keener, John Lemmon,

Sue Wadley, Tom Wolfe

Absent:

None

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

Fiscal Officer; Jerry Brooks, Fire Chief

<u>Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes:</u> Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to approve the July 28, 2025 regular council meeting minutes.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Cable, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6-0

<u>Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report:</u> Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Julian, to approve the Treasurer's report dated August 7, 2025.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Cable, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6-0

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Councilor Keener is the Councilmember appointment for the Planning and Zoning Commission. Council also has to have an elector appointment for the Planning / Zoning Commission and one for the Board of Appeals. President Lemmon's recommendation is to take two of the people who are already serving. Tim Ryan is one of those people and council can vote for him to be their official appointment to the commission. Keith Smith could also serve as the council appointment for the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Wolfe to select Tim Ryan as the council appointee to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Cable, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 6-0

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Keener to select Keith Smith at the council appointee to the Board of Zoning Appeals Commission.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Cable, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wolfe

Abstain: Wadley;

Nays: 0;

Motion Passed 5-1-0

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

<u>Finance Committee:</u> Meeting held tonight. A few ordinances on the agenda for appropriations. Went through a priority list and there is a homework assignment for committee members to add their own. Talked a bit about financial review and policies that are already in effect and they have some questions about some financing that will be brought back. Next committee meeting will be September 8 with time TBD.

Councilor Green arrived at this time.

<u>Public Safety Committee:</u> Workers Compensation will be kicking in some money to pay for power cot for the Fire Department.

<u>Public Service Committee:</u> Held a meeting last Monday. Two topics: discussion on what is needed to transfer a road from a private individual to the village. Information has been sent to the administration for conversation with the owner. Also have one-way road concerns through the Myers edition with a request for Mr. Miller to review near the hardware shopping center. There is a lot of adequate signage but drivers are not really following it. Next meeting is supposed to be the first Monday of the month but that is Labor Day, so need to choose a different day.

Rules Committee: At their previous committee meeting they discussed how to select a Planning member through council. Councilor Keener will have to go back to research why Rule 41 of council rules was changed. Moving all committee meetings to the same Mondays as a council meeting is set up for later discussion. Last Planning and Zoning Commission meeting he attended there was one item on the agenda that was approved by the commission - a lot combination on Myers.

<u>Community Development Committee:</u> Nothing new at this time.

<u>Personnel Committee:</u> Nothing new; has not had a meeting. There is an ordinance on the agenda tonight authorizing the mayor to sign a contract with Clemans-Nelson and they have already voted to approve the funding for that contract.

Report of Council President: Ordinance 2025-47 has been added to the agenda.

<u>Report of Mayor</u>: Read her submitted Mayor's Report. No major road damage during Mopar and police only wrote 2 tickets. She received an email from the Buckeye Lake Brewery that it was still a very successful evening for them. It is our intent to continue that way.

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading -

Ordinances for 2nd Reading -

<u>Ordinance 2025-42</u> - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 81-6 AND UPDATING THE VILLAGE BED TAX REQUIREMENTS AND PENALTIES AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Julian 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 Wadley to adopt Ordinance 2025-42.

Discussion: Councilor Cable asked how this would be collected. The village will collect it and this ordinance will give the proper authority for that.

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

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

Ordinances for 1st Reading -

<u>Ordinance 2025-43</u> - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

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

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green to adopt Ordinance 2025-43.

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

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

<u>Ordinance 2025-44</u> - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Roll call vote:

Yes: Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

Abstain: 0; Nays: Cable; Motion Passed 6-1

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Julian to adopt Ordinance 2025-44. **Roll call vote:** Yes: Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wadley, Wolfe

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

<u>Ordinance 2025-45</u> - AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING ANIMAL OWNERS TO PROPERLY CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR ANIMALS.

Mayor Goodman would like some further clarification on the enforcement of this, mainly who is in charge of enforcing it – code or police. This will move to a second reading.

<u>Ordinance 2025-46</u> - AN ORDINANCE LIMITING THE NUMBER OF SHORT-TERM LICENSES AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Green 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 Wolfe, seconded by Councilor Wadley to adopt Ordinance 2025-46.

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: Cable; Motion Passed 6-1

<u>Ordinance 2025-47</u> - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR A CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY AND ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS FOR THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO.

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

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

Abstain: 0; Nays: Cable; Motion Passed 6-1

Discussion: Reason to suspend the rules per Councilor Julian - Some of this information they would like to use for budgeting purposes, especially the salary comparisons.

Mayor Goodman has some questions and the first time she is seeing the contract is today. She is wondering if the timing is correct based on what Councilor Julian brought up. She is not confident that this will be completed in time to use this for the budgeting of next year. After reading how many times they want to meet and discuss and review, she is very concerned that it will not be completed in enough time. Also, in addition to the \$15,500, there is an additional retainer cost of \$250 a month not to exceed a \$3,000 annual charge for the project. Councilor Wadley said that this was discussed in committee meetings and this is a resource that will be available to the village. Councilor Wadley will not be in this position next year. Able to reach out to these personnel professionals. Mayor is concerned if they will be able to do this in enough time for the end of this year. Councilor Wadley stated she had started this process in the Spring and it has been drawn out. Should have done the money and the contract at the same time. Councilor Julian – we did appropriate the money. Even if it is not done for the budget this year, it would be in place for next year. This way we are consistent with job descriptions. There is no education on salaries. It will help us in future years. Councilor Wadley – we may decide we cannot afford to implement their recommendations but it is a resource of information to be used in decision making. Mayor – do we start it this year

or wait to start it in January. Rates are only good enough for six weeks. President Lemmon – January and February is a good time to be looking at this information. Councilor Wadley will not be on council again, if you want her to be a part of the process, they will need to start it this year. There is wage benefit compensation and total benefit compensation and we need someone to help us define these things for the employees. Goes into the conversation they will have to have about insurance next year. Mayor asked is this the best use of village funds to spend \$15,000 on a study. President Lemmon – absolutely, yes, it is. Getting our pay and policies correct going forward and having it based on something sound is important. None of us are experts and that is the problem. Councilor Wadley - there are inconsistencies for how raises are given to employees which is unfair.

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Julian to adopt Ordinance 2025-47.

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading – None. Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None. Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

President Lemmon – Would like a resolution to define the elimination of property taxes once we reach certain thresholds. If the income tax passes, we would eliminate property taxes once we receive enough money to eliminate the levies. Talked about making a resolution to make a promise to the citizens. Councilor Julian – we know the priority list. Once we start collecting at the point of what we are collecting currently then we could eliminate that. As income tax reaches a level appropriate to eliminate particular levies, we would stop collecting on those levies. Needs to be correctly worded through the solicitor.

NEW BUSINESS - None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS -

Charlene Hayden – 67 Lighthouse Lane – She knows that we tried the income tax several years ago, probably at the end of Mayor Frank Foster's term. Income tax was on the ballot and it failed miserably. Determined that you are not going to get enough through income tax to cover what you receive from levies. Might be something to ask the solicitor. President Lemmon – we have estimates. Former Council Clerk was pretty knowledgeable and she determined back then that the income tax will not cover the expenses of the village.

Councilor Wadley asked when do we plan to have public meetings and what is the communication plan on this ballot issue. President Lemmon stated they probably need a citizens committee. Need to do it soon because people do not understand it. Councilor Julian - RITA may have information we can put on a card. Councilor Wadley feels this is an administrative initiative and she feels they need to play a very heavy active role in this education process. Town Hall may go through Community Development Committee.

Council Clerk asked about mailings for the Charter changes on the ballot. President Lemmon asked if there would be enough money.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS –

<u>Councilor Cable</u> – Encouraging to hear that the MOPAR weekend went well. It is getting better and more controlled. Nice to see the old cars. Buy local.

Councilor Green – Apologizing for her tardiness, especially to her committees.

<u>Councilor Julian</u> – No problem (to Councilor Green).

Councilor Keener - Nothing from him tonight.

<u>Councilor Lemmon</u> – We all have lives and things that come up. We have to be patient with each other. There will be some people that miss some meetings and we have lives to live. Appreciates all the work. Appreciates what police, fire, and the mayor did to help with Mopar this year. A lot of compliments from the community.

Councilor Wadley – Nothing tonight.

<u>Councilor Wolfe</u> – Ordinance 2025-47 – he was a 'no' vote because he is not a big fan of spending money on out-of-town experts. He thinks we can find this locally. He is not for new taxes but will keep his ear open. Have a safe summer.

<u>Adjournment:</u> Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Lemmon to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting – August 25, 2025

Samantha Torres, Council Clerk

John Lemmon, Council President