

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes  
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook  
**August 12, 2024**

**Call to Order:** By Council President John Lemmon at 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; Jason Harget, Police Chief; Amanda Hoppel, Fiscal Officer; Toby Miller, Public Works Superintendent;

**Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Councilor Julian, seconded by Councilor Keener, to approve the July 22, 2024 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 Green, to approve the Treasurer's report dated August 8, 2024.

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

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

**APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

President Lemmon announced that the Summer Lunch Program has come to a close and gave recognition to council members and volunteers who worked on that throughout the Summer. He gave special recognition and thank you to Council Clerk Samantha Torres who ran the program this year. Any child who came down was fed. Samantha stated that it was really nice and she got to know a lot of the kids. They did puzzles and coloring pages and a trivia day, some quick things she could come up with to do that did not cost the village any money as this was the first year getting back into the program with the Salvation Army. She got to know a few of the ladies at the Salvation Army who were very nice. It was very pleasant and she thanks everyone who helped out. They had two volunteers every day. If they could not be there, someone else was always willing step in. She really appreciates the help and will miss the kids.

Mayor Goodman swore in Mitzie Chrisman as a new member of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

**Finance Committee:** Meeting held this evening at 5:30pm. Ordinances on agenda tonight are recommended to full council by the committee. Spoke with Fiscal Officer about why they are on for emergency. Most have a bill that needs paid. Appropriate as needed. Discussed Ordinance 2024-45 and the committee would like some more information from Toby Miller. Next Finance Committee meeting to be held September 9th at 5:30pm.

**Public Safety Committee:** We may be drafting up an ordinance related to the use of leg traps in the village. Another safety concern is underaged golf cart drivers. We have an active police levy. They met and discussed the levy at the police levy committee meeting held by Chair Casey Clark. Fire truck – a national cash buyer has reached out to say they would be here this week to look at it though the date is unknown.

**Public Service Committee:** Meeting held on August 5th, meeting minutes submitted. Discussed bidding for SS4A. A lot of good discussion. Next meeting September 4th at 6:30pm, rescheduled from September 2<sup>nd</sup> which is Labor Day and offices are closed.

**Rules Committee:** Nothing at this time.

**Community Development Committee:** Meeting held tonight to discuss a plan for getting information out about Charter changes to be presented to voters on the November 2024 ballot. Chair Green will look into the printing and mailing of that as well. Next meeting to be held September 9<sup>th</sup> after Personnel Committee.

**Personnel Committee:** Meeting held tonight. In process of reviewing employee handbook. She distributed revised political activity policy. Use of village property and what they can or cannot do on and off the premises with regards to political activity. Social media and drug-free work place policies will be discussed next. Next meeting September 9<sup>th</sup> following Finance Committee meeting or 6pm if no Finance Committee meeting.

**Chief Harget – Police** – Mopar – There was a message put out from the village about zero tolerance because of safety. A fun event but have to maintain safety. His fourth Mopar – third as Chief. Happened Friday and Saturday again this year. 3 chiefs of police and local jurisdictions were here as extra help. This year was the best control he has had in four years. They spread out and were visible. Made sure they had enough officers for the crowd. When there is a crowd, have to have protection. Alexandria, Hebron helped. Safe and under control. Goal is not to write tickets. Out of two days, only wrote 8 tickets. Their goal was to interact with the public, to be present. Safer than any other year he has been a part of. Councilor Julian was working at the drive-thru and asked why they shut down Route 79 from 8:30pm - 10:30pm. Inconvenienced residents and she saw no cars. Chief said they have done it that way for three years and when it gets dark, they get concerned with safety and this is a way to control the crowd. If you live in Buckeye Lake, you should know your way home. Councilor Cable stated he liked the upfront message of the position of the village that they do not endorse this event. Councilor Wadley, who was Mayor’s Court Clerk a few years ago, stated she remembered when there were 50 tickets and she appreciates Chief’s stance on safety. Chief apologized if anyone was inconvenienced by the road being shut down. There are some people who are interested in making it a safe and controlled event.

**Report of Council President:** President Lemmon stated there will be a brief executive session tonight to clear up a pending legal matter.

**Report of Mayor Goodman** – Mayor Goodman stated July 31<sup>st</sup> Licking County Foundation Officers came out to meet with her. Interesting and exciting meeting. The foundation wants to have a better working relationship with the Buckeye Lake area. Discussed various funding and grant opportunities that the foundation does. One has started. They have different divisions and one division has met with the Parks and Recreation Commission about finding more funding for pickleball courts in addition to the \$10,000 raised during the I Walked the Whole Damn Dam parks event. Spoke with them about attainable housing. They said that the village could form a branch of Licking County Foundation as the Buckeye Lake Foundation and collect donations from families, residences. August 5<sup>th</sup> she attended the open house public service meeting. Began attending some floodplain webinars that ODNR is putting on. She is the floodplain administrator for the village. Today was Intern Ciara’s last day. Had lunch with her and asked her to please stay in touch. Appreciates Chief Harget and the departments that came to help out. It was discussed in a public meeting in this forum and was a joint decision by many people for the village’s stance on Mopar. We do not want anyone to get hurt in the village. There is a conversation that has started and will continue and can put it to the Events Committee – is there a safe way to do something for Mopar? Is it a car show? A safe cruise? Need car guys to come and talk to us. Have to know that it is a controlled and safe environment. If you have an idea, come talk to us about it.

**Citizen’s Comments Regarding Legislation on Tonight’s Agenda** – None.

## **ORDINANCES**

**Ordinances for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Ordinances for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** –

**Ordinance 2024-35** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE PAY PLAN RELATED TO THE ELECTED POSITIONS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE TERMS COMMENCING 2026 AND 2028.

This will move on to a third reading.

**Ordinances for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading –**

**Ordinance 2024-37** – AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PLAT AND STREET DEDICATION FOR A PORTION OF FIRST STREET AS DEPICTED AND DESCRIBED ON THE FIRST STREET ROAD DEDICATION PLAT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Keener, 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 Keener, seconded by Councilor Cable to adopt Ordinance 2024-37.

**Discussion:** Toby Miller stated this step has a deadline and needs passed as an emergency. The next steps can take more time. Those steps include the water portion. After that, would put that into the funding cycle for roadway improvements which could be several years out. In the meantime, the company is doing the cleanup they said they will do. We did all the work on the replat. They are putting up the property plus \$20,000 cash and the village will receive that by January 1, 2025 plus the in-kind of this acquisition. Who will monitor the accountability of what they put in the contract versus what happens? MOU requirements of porches would be shifted over to the zoning department to watch that. Water system details will be covered by Public Works.

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

**Ordinance 2024-38** – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE OF BUCKEYE LAKE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK ETHICS POLICY.

This will move on to a second reading.

**Ordinance 2024-39** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Keener, 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 Cable to adopt Ordinance 2024-39.

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

**Ordinance 2024-40** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

**Roll call vote:**           **Yes:** Cable, Green, Julian, Keener, Lemmon, Wolfe  
**Abstain:** 0;               **Nays:** Wadley;           **Motion Passed 6 - 1**

Motion by Councilor Julian, seconded by Councilor Keener to adopt Ordinance 2024-40

**Discussion:** Finance Chair Julian stated this is recommended from committee and is additional money for prosecutorial legal expenses for solicitor and magistrate. President Lemmon stated that the village gets a detailed bill from the solicitor

with some of the information being privileged, some of it is not. Council is welcome to go through the Treasurer to see it.

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

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

**Ordinance 2024-41** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

**Abstain:** 0; **Nays:** Wadley; **Motion Passed 6 - 1**

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green to adopt Ordinance 2024-41.

**Discussion:** Finance Chair Julian stated this is recommended from committee and is additional money for dues and fees line of budget. A MORPC bill needs paid through this.

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

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

**Ordinance 2024-42** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

**Abstain:** 0; **Nays:** Wadley; **Motion Passed 6 - 1**

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green to adopt Ordinance 2024-42.

**Discussion:** Finance Chair Julian stated this is recommended from committee and is additional money for OPERS for the police department. Incorrect rate was put in to fund OPERS for the police department; this would correct that.

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

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

**Ordinance 2024-43** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Discussion:** Why we did not have this? Toby Miller stated that this has already been paid by EFT through the State agency. This \$17,200 would be the first payment due on the design loan for West North Bank storm sewer project. Initially we were to believe that this would be under construction funding but then July got here, at whatever time that construction loan is brought out, this design loan will roll into it. When we put the application in, have to pick a date for first payment. That is why it hit in July, because we did not get the construction loan finished by July. As soon as that construction loan is done, they roll this design loan into it and this loan goes away to become one loan and that payment would not have happened. Since we have had so much difficulty with this project, the July payment cycle hit us though we did not think it would. Council did not hear about it sooner because we get a notification but not necessarily before the money is taken out. OPWC and ODWA just draft the account. When Amanda was balancing the books, came across it as a number and it was past the date of the meetings. Oversight looking at it with other projects back-to-back. Concern from committee meeting was if this came out at the first of July, had a Finance meeting July 9th, could have known about it then. That \$17,200 payment is part of an \$80,00 payment so it is not like it stuck out. OWDA comes out of several different lines. Something is wrong and she came to him and they figured it out. It was not on his radar because it should have come out as the \$80,000 payment. That's how we get in trouble when someone can pull \$17,000 and not see it for a month and a half. This about policies and procedures. Lemmon - that will have to go to a committee meeting. Toby will need to get a timeline of when this all took place. Reconciliations will not be able to be done until this is fixed.

This will go to second reading.

**Ordinance 2024-44** – AN ORDINANCE AWARDING THE BID FOR THE 2024 STREET IMPROVEMENTS TO DREAMS EXCAVATING AND PAVING LLP, 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.

**Discussion:** President Lemmon stated that these things come in quick when we start getting the bidding. Sent it out the ADR and this is what they have come back with after their review. Councilor Cable asked how was Dreams Excavating and Paving evaluated and / or awarded before going into this ordinance? Toby stated that Dreams was chosen as lowest bidder. Cables stated that, in the past for Union Ave paving, they had discussions and approved who was chosen. Toby that happened to be that the bids were later in the month and there was a service meeting between the bid opening and council meeting in order to tell them the bids, so there was the ability to tell them at the service meeting who the lowest bidder was. These bids came back on Tuesday after Monday's service meeting had already happened. Dreams has never been used before. Cable asked just because they are the lowest bid, do we have to choose them? Toby stated if you do not have a disqualifying factor, you have to choose the lowest. There are certain criteria allowable to exclude a certain contractor. After the review, none of those factors are present. Warranty issues are not a contractual issue. Year warranty is standard. Mayor Goodman stated that she is sitting in these paving project meetings and seeing how smooth they are and why we do the things the way we do them. President Lemmon stated that we had ADR go through and look at all the criteria as they are qualified to do that. Council has to approve contracts. Council is not choosing the contractors. There is not another option for someone to pick a contractor for you. Councilor Julian stated it is August and we are approving the 2024 company to do our paving for the year. Lemmon stated it was said in many meetings that this would come as emergency in August. Toby said you cannot pick a company until it is bid. You have to design it and bid it out. This would be for Second Street, Monroe, and Lakeview East will be the \$201,000. Those roads will be torn out and put back in. Lemmon stated that the bids are sent to ADR for their expertise to review then they send it back with a recommendation and council is asked to approve the execution of the contract.

Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Keener 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 Cable, seconded by Councilor Keener to adopt Ordinance 2024-44.

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

**Ordinance 2024-45** - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-10 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Councilor Julian, 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 Keener, seconded by Councilor Wolfe to adopt Ordinance 2024-45.

**Discussion:** Toby stated that originally did this at \$200,000. The engineering services are costing about \$26,000 off the top of that so need to put on \$29,000 to cover the contract that was approved in the last ordinance. If we continue with this format, will need to adjust where we get money from. To award the contract, should be under a PO and have that money encumbered by auditor's standards. Once this is awarded, we go through the contract portions then do notice to proceed. Happens outside of legislative portion.

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



## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolutions for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Resolutions for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – None.

**Resolutions for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** – None.

## **NEW BUSINESS** –

**Trolley** – Run on weekend for \$70,000. Charge a few bucks to ride it. Is there an interest? Contract out or do it ourselves? Wolfe thinks we could do it ourselves.

**Construction Management Risk Concerning the Public Works Building** – Toby stated we are in the position where we could move into the process. Do we want to go down that route? It will take some time. Felt like it was more secure for us with that type of project. Go back and watch August 5th Public Works Committee meeting. Need to talk about if we would do it like this. Money would be from public works funds. He does not have exact amount yet. At some point there would be a loan of some sort. There is no free money out there for government buildings. Low-interest loans. Public forum where we get citizen's comments. Does not want to break up the information into two separate committees. Look at it in public service and once the numbers are figured out, can go to finance committee.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** –

**DORA** - The legal part is all drawn up. Map had to be redrawn as one business was taken out. Very close to being sent in.

**Special Council Meeting** – Will need to have a special council meeting 5:30pm August 15<sup>th</sup>. Topic will be for North Bank West Storm Water, 2 pieces of legislation. Bids open at 10am on 15<sup>th</sup>; need to have to Ohio EPA by 4pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> or have to wait another 30-60 days. ADR is prepared to do the work that is required to recommend between 10am and 5pm. Other legislation is when the loan was done, was passed before under other administration. Need to update the names and dates to current elected officials.

## **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS** –

Kaye Hartman - 4631 North Bank Road West - Here to remind that this election coming up will be very important, Buckeye Lake has many issues on the ballot. October 7th at 9pm is the deadline for registering to vote. The office in downtown Newark will be open until 9pm on October 7th. Early voting starts October 8th. Will be open Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Exercise your right. Support the issues that Buckeye Lake has on the ballot. Only way we can have our voices heard and get things done is if everyone participates. Councilor Wolfe asked do you think we will have another polling place in the village again? Kaye is optimistic and she has tried. Last year they came to look at a few places and they did not qualify / meet the standards that are needed. They are consolidating polling stations and larger places for reasons of security and internet and control. As voter base increases, it could happen, but most likely not right now.

## **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS** –

**Councilor Cable** – Thanked police chief and other law enforcement that helped out this weekend. Thanked Mr. Miller for trying to provide discussion on how the processes work. Buy local. Down swing of summer. Enjoy the lake.

**Councilor Green** – Thanks to police departments. Enjoy the lights on the water this Saturday. Kids will be back in school, drive safely.

**Councilor Julian** – Lighted boat parade on 17th. Need more boats registered. Jim Davis is contact for that. Hopes people don't interpret when she asks a bunch of questions that she is against someone. If she has questions, residents have questions. We don't have to be "yes" people and it is our job to ask questions. Hopes she doesn't offend anyone. To bring up policy and procedure and finance is one of those areas. Enjoy the lake.

**Councilor Keener** – Thanks to police department. Congrats to Mitzie for her position on Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Councilor Lemmon** – Likes that Councilor Julian asks questions. It is our job to research and understand before we vote and take it seriously. Hope we didn't beat up on Mr. Miller too badly. He answered questions and we appreciate it. Planning, communication, and leadership helped Mopar be a great weekend.

**Councilor Wadley** – Still looking for someone to join the Planning commission. No resumes have been received. Welcome Mitzie to Parks and Recreation Commission. She got a mailing at home from Friends of the Buckeye Lake library. There is a locker for supplies. Founded through the Lefevre Foundation. Thanked Toby. He wears a lot of hats. Too many. We ask a lot of him and maybe need to not ask so much of him. It is about transparency. If council doesn't understand it, it's hard to be transparent. The more she knows about processes, the better she can support him and back the projects he is working on. Thanks to Chief and Amanda.

**Councilor Wolfe** – A lot of discussion on Mopar. We have asked for input on perhaps a controlled activity for that weekend. 3 and a half hours have gone by and no one has come by to suggest anything for that. You can come to committee or council meetings or send us emails. We want to hear something from you here, not on social media. Have a safe weekend.

Motion by Councilor Lemmon, seconded by Councilor Cable to enter into executive session for legal matters

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

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

Mayor invited in.

Council entered into executive session at 8:51pm.

Council entered back into open session at 8:58pm.

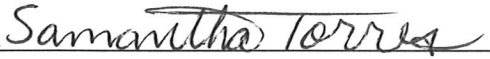
Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Keener to send the legal matter to the solicitor to deal with on behalf of the village.


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

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

**Adjournment:** Motion by Councilor Cable, seconded by Councilor Green, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** Regular Council Meeting – August 26, 2024

  
Samantha Torres, Council Clerk

  
John Lemmon, Council President