

Buckeye Lake Village Special Council Meeting
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
October 19, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: By Council President Geiger at 7:25 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence: Led by Council President Geiger.

Roll Call: Present: Don Cable (0, 0), Bill French (0, 0), John Geiger (0, 0),
(Consecutive, Total Absences) Linda Goodman (0, 0), John Lemmon (0, 0), Kitty Zwissler (0, 0),
John Geiger (0, 0)

Absent: Melissa Beard (0,6)

Staff Present: Peggy Wells, Mayor; Jennifer Dennis, Clerk/Treasurer; Toby Miller, Water Superintendent/Public Works; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Vicki Wardlow, Police Chief; Brad Nicodemus, Solicitor.

NEW BUSINESS:

I. Single topic – CARES Act Funding (COVID-19)

To-Date Background Information:

- a. The Village has currently received \$102, 918.09 from Licking County, with Fairfield County adding \$540.54, for a total of \$103,458.63 in COVID-19 related funding.
- b. The grant is divided into: grants (for the Village to use to compensate for losses due to COVID-19) and sub-grants (for use by community organizations and non-profits).
- c. Must have the money encumbered (purchase orders) by November 20, 2020.
- d. Previous grant money was awarded to the Village in the amount of \$3,709.48 (Ordinance 2020-42).
- e. \$13,000 was previously requested after the first round of funding to reimburse the General fund. This is currently pending.
- f. Grant tracking and auditing is very important, that is, the justification of expenditures for COVID-19 related items.

II. Grant Categories –

- a. Grants – used for Village COVID-19 related needs.
- b. Sub-grants – used for community organizations, non-profits, etc.

Councilor Goodman updated that there is information and applications available on our website and at the Village Office for any residents who are a small business owner or 501c3 non-profit organization. 501c3 applications are available to apply to the Licking County Foundation for COVID-19 relief beginning October 22, 2020 and are very time-sensitive. Small businesses are to go to the Licking County Chamber of Commerce to apply for relief money for incurred COVID-19 related expenses from March 1st through October 30th.

Solicitor Brad Nicodemus commented that if the Village is to offer sub-grants to the community, tracking and auditing is very important here as well for auditing purposes, as the Village is responsible for the pay back if it were to be found that the expenditures were not COVID-19 related. Records of sub-grants are to be kept for 5 years after the last disbursement.

Council agreed that small businesses and 501c3 organizations should use the Licking County Foundation and Licking County Chamber of Commerce to apply for COVID-19 relief funds.

III. Police, Fire, Other Requests –

1. Police COVID-19 requests:

a. Cleaning & Sanitation - \$915.46

b. PPE & Clothing - \$6,337.59

Totaling: \$7,253.05

c. Public Entrance (Lee's Chicken section of the Village building), limited access to PD workspace, public restrooms, shower, restrooms for officers, washer & dryer, lockers, construction & repair - \$50,000.00 estimated.

Council does not believe that all of the things listed in the \$50,000 request are justifiably COVID-19 related. It was agreed that these are still reasonable demands and that the General fund could possibly be used to fund things such as roof repair and HVAC systems at a later time. Brad Nicodemus agreed that something like the roof repair would raise a red flag.

Police, Fire, Village, and central supply (6 month / year supply) storage cabinets for PPE were not considered in the requests, so those were briefly discussed as well.

Councilor Zwissler brought up the need for PPE for residents whom our employees come into contact with (police and fire runs, those who come into our offices).

Priorities are PPE, as well as uniforms for police and fire.

2. Fire COVID-19 requests:

a. (1) Stryker Power Pro XT Ambulance Cot - \$46,233.90

b. (1) Lucas Chest Compression Device - \$14,881.40

c. (1) Stair Chair - \$3,601.08

d. Uniforms - \$10,000 estimated

e. COVID-19 Related Sick Leave Policy (this would be struck)

f. (1) Laptop Computer - \$2,000.00 estimated (this would be struck as well for now)

Councilor Cable brought up that a year's supply would maybe be an estimated \$32,000 in PPE, and up into \$80-100,000 range for uniforms for police and fire, which he believes is real protection. Councilor French stressed the importance of protecting our own so that we may protect others, and the Council agrees that the ability to change uniforms significantly helps with that.

Council President Geiger asked for a more detailed, itemized priorities list from all departments with vendors and amounts to be ready for the next meeting.

Any money that is not encumbered by November 20th will be given back to the county. Council President Geiger mentioned that all of this will take extra time from the Treasurer and staff for POs, tracking, and reporting. Brad Nicodemus thinks it is okay to set aside a bit of the COVID-19 relief money for covering the extra time. Councilor Goodman said the county will put the balance of returned funds into a pot and then distribute those on November 25th. 25% to the county, the other 75% to the eligible communities.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilor Lemmon: We're taking the right steps. Getting the council room ready for the public should be high priority.

Councilor Cable: No comments.

Councilor Goodman: Headed in the right direction. A vote at the next meeting for PPE and uniforms will help get a better idea of the balance of the money left to be spent on other requests.

Councilor French: Very productive meeting.

Councilor Zwissler: Good meeting. If we do it right, we should not be sending a dime of the relief money back to the county. Concerned about getting supplies out to the public. If we don't take care of them, we are putting us and fire and police in danger.

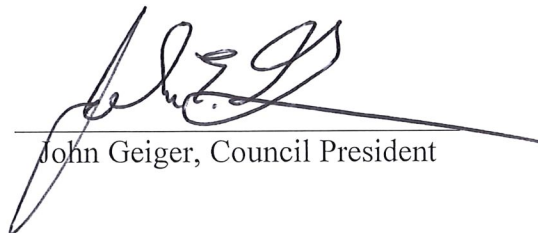
ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Goodman to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor French.

VOTE: IN-FAVOR ALL YEAS; MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

NEXT MEETING: October 26, 2020

Samantha Torres
Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Geiger, Council President

