

Buckeye Lake Village Council Meeting Minutes
Held in Council Chambers, streamed live on Facebook
June 23, 2025

Call to Order: By Council President John Lemmon 7:04p.m.

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

Roll Call: Present: Don Cable, Kellie Green, Douglas Keener, John Lemmon, Sue Wadley
Absent: Deb Julian, Tom Wolfe

Staff Present: Linda Goodman, Mayor; Samantha Torres, Clerk of Council; Jason Harget, Police Chief; Jerry Brooks, Interim Fire Chief; Rex Adkins, Code Enforcement Officer;

Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to approve the June 9, 2025 regular council meeting minutes.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley, to approve the June 9, 2025 regular council meeting minutes.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

Approval of Clerk Treasurer's Report: Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green, to approve the Treasurer's report dated June 19, 2025.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Goodman swore in Officer Dennie Hall Jr. to the Buckeye Lake Police Department as auxiliary police.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Finance Committee: Absent, no report.

Public Safety Committee: Absent, no report.

Public Service Committee: Nothing to report at this time. Next meeting will be held July 7th at 6:30pm.

Rules Committee: Nothing to report.

Community Development Committee: Meeting held tonight where they discussed some things related to short-term rentals. Had some good debate and discussion. Will need another meeting before bringing anything to full council.

Personnel Committee: Nothing new since last meeting. Next Personnel meeting will follow Finance Committee meeting on July 14th with further discussion on the agreement with the company to possibly do the payment study. She hopes Finance Committee will also have a discussion to get it into the next budget cycle.

Report of Council President: No report.

REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS – WRITTEN OR VERBAL

Police Department – Chief Jason Harget: Black and white cruiser engine seized up. This was the old K-9 cruiser. Have gotten almost 5 years-worth of use from it. Paid \$10,000 for it. It is at its end of life. Took it to Goodyear as it was using more oil than usual. Would have to put a whole new engine in it and it's not worth it. 3 quotes – over \$60,000 for a new

cruiser. \$43,000 for a gently used vehicle that has been in an accident and has 1,100 miles on it. If approved, 5th vehicle Chief will have purchased from this company. Already equipped with lights and sirens. One year warranty. 2023. Will discuss this in new business. \$180,000 in public safety capital line which was started in order to not have to take loans out on vehicles. They will not hold this deal and vehicle. Looking to do a floor vote with discussion under New Business.

Fire Department – Interim Chief Jerry Brooks: 60 runs in May, 13 Fire, 47 EMS, 8 mutual aid. EMS 26 transports. Garage door opener went out, has been ordered. Had hose and ladder testing. Some hose will need replaced. Batteries delivered for portable radios. One mobile radio failed. Still working on getting credit application with tire company to get engine back on the road. Trying to participate with Water's Edge on Wednesday nights and helping with the Summer Lunches. Team is doing training on Worth Drive. Summer intern at the office is looking for and working on grants for power cot purchase. \$168,000 in public safety capital that is to be split between Police and Fire. Currently paying for the medic out of that fund for Fire. \$36,000 in the Fall will be paid out of that. Been in contact with other chiefs about BLASST event. They will be running two medic crews and a full engine crew and will cover all of North Bank. Staffing is great. Two medics waiting to go through the process.

Public Works – Superintendent Tobv Miller: Absent, no report.

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

Code Enforcement – Rex Adkins: Code enforcement and short-term rental reports submitted. If anyone has any issues with short-term rentals, please call the office so he can note them on the system.

Zoning – Kevin Strang: Absent. Report submitted.

Planning / Zoning / BZA Commissions: No representatives. No reports. Zoning meeting Thursday night.

Report of Mayor Goodman: July 1st 10am ribbon cutting for new transit bus route. Signs are up for where the stops will be. Summer Lunch program is in full swing. Fire department will spray the kids off some days. Keeping our outside crews hydrated. BLASST for Kids Cookout event on July 3rd 11-2pm as part of the Summer Lunch program. Thanked the sponsors this year. Mayor has received an inquiry from the brewery about whether the village is interested in leasing or selling the drive-thru building next door. Licking County Library will vacate their Buckeye Lake location on August 30th. They will be moving things out during September. Friends of the Buckeye Lake Library will take the Buckeye Lake location and will operate it as a Greater Buckeye Lake Learning Center where they will offer learning opportunities and programming with a lot of other possibilities. BLASST fireworks on July 3rd 9:45pm. Public Safety meeting for BLASST will be at the Rec Center on June 30th. The strongest communities are not the wealthiest ones. The strongest communities are the ones where people check on their neighbors, share what they have, understand that “we” matters more than “me” or “I”. We are getting better and trying harder and it takes all of the families and businesses and organizations to be a part of a better place to live and work and play. Thank you to those who understand that and who are a part of that and thank you for having pride in your community. It takes a village!

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for 3rd Reading –

Ordinance 2025-28 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX AT A RATE OF ONE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT (1.5%) PER YEAR, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (A/K/A REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY) RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX.

Discussion: Councilor Cable has been asking for information regarding proposed income tax values and information about levies vs income tax. RITA has provided numbers from comp municipalities all based on 1% income tax. Councilor Cable researched the municipalities further, finding out number of households and other information on industries. Levies and property for the village currently bring in approximately \$1.5million. When police levy gets rolling, it will go up to \$1.9million. Is \$1.5million high enough or too low to replace or subsidize the levy system? Councilor Cable stated that we cannot continue to go to the voters every year when a levy is up. Mayor Goodman stated that those communities that have 1%, almost all have it automatically per ORC without having to go to the voters but because of the way our Charter is written, it prevents us from doing that. There is so much legislation being proposed at the State level. They are looking at doing a flat 2.75% flat rate income tax but it has not happened yet.

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Cable to table Ordinance 2025-28 to get more information.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

Ordinances for 2nd Reading –

Ordinance 2025-31 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO GRANT A PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENT OF VILLAGE PROPERTY.

This will move to a third reading.

Ordinances for 1st Reading –

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley to add Ordinance 2025-33 to tonight's agenda.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

Ordinance 2025-33 – AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-66 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 – 0**

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green, to adopt Ordinance 2025-33.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 – 0**

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for 3rd Reading –

Resolution 2025-09 – A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF A ONE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT (1.5%) INCOME TAX TO THE ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE.

Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Wadley to table Resolution 2025-09.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

Resolutions for 2nd Reading – None.

Resolutions for 1st Reading – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

Police Cruiser – Purchase of used 2023 police vehicle.

Motion by Councilor Wadley, seconded by Councilor Keener authorizing the Chief of Police to purchase a vehicle for \$43,400 out of the designated capital funds for public safety.

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

Abstain: 0; **Nays:** 0; **Motion Passed 5 - 0**

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS –

Casey Clark – 241 Lakeview Drive – BLASST fireworks event is July 3rd. Turn on your radios to KOOL 101.7FM around 9:45pm for a special recognition. Traditional fireworks will begin at 10pm. Times may change due to weather conditions. Interactive map is on their Facebook page with parking, restroom, and sponsor information. BLASST hats for sale for \$20 to support BLASST. Special thanks to local Fire Departments, police, ODNR, and businesses for supporting this event and making BLASST possible.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS –

Councilor Lemmon – 4th of July is coming up. He asks everyone to be safe. We have a lot to celebrate in this great country and town. Thanks to Police and Fire Chiefs.

Councilor Wadley – Welcome Dennie Hall Jr. and welcome to all recent fire department hires. Lunch program - thanks all for making that possible. Thanked Councilor Cable for providing data on income tax. Great information that we can share is a good thing.

Councilor Cable – Congratulates Officer Hall. Lake was hopping this weekend. Be safe out there. A lot of wakes, boats, and wind. Buy local.

Councilor Green – Thanked the BLASST committee. It is a wonderful event. Looking forward to the BLASST kids party. Thanked President Lemmon for helping her with her committee. Happy 4th of July, everyone be safe.

Councilor Keener – Thank you to everyone.

Adjournment: Motion by Councilor Keener, seconded by Councilor Green, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Council Meeting – July 14, 2025


Samantha Torres, Council Clerk


John Lemmon, Council President