

Village of Bluffton Council Meeting Agenda

December 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM



Opening Ceremonies

Call to Order, Mayor Johnson presiding

Pledge of Allegiance



Minutes

Approval of the minutes for the Village Council meeting held on Monday, November 28, 2022

Bills

Committee Reports

Utilities Committee: 12/09

Boards & Commissions

Tree Commission: 12/08

LEGISLATION

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2022

3rd Reading

Emergency

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE RATE CHARGED BY THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA, OHIO TO THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO FOR BULK WATER BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2022

3rd Reading

A RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY FOR THE S. R. 103 CURB REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Village Administration Report:

Mayor:

Safety Services Reports:

-EMS-

-Fire Dept.-

-Police Dept.-

Meeting Dates (meetings held at the Town Hall unless otherwise noted*)

Village Council – Monday, December 12th at 7:00 pm

Village Council – Tuesday, December 27th at 7:00 pm

Public Comment

Adjournment – Motion and Second

Village of Bluffton – Regular meeting November 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Johnson presiding. Messrs: Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia, present.

Sehlhorst motioned, seconded by Stahl, to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on November 14, 2022. Roll Call: Yes (4) Messrs: Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (1) Kingsley, motion approved.

Steiner motioned, seconded by Talavinia, to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

The Administrator gave the following readings:

3rd Reading:

Resolution 27-2022 – A Resolution authorizing all actions necessary to affect a governmental natural gas aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code, directing the Allen County Board of Elections to submit a ballot question to the electors. Kingsley motioned to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Sehlhorst. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

2nd Reading:

Resolution 29-2022 – A Resolution to accept the rate charged by the Village of Ottawa, Ohio to the Village of Bluffton, Ohio for bulk water beginning January 1, 2023. Talavinia motioned to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Steiner. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Resolution 31-2022 – A Resolution of necessity for the SR 103 Curb Replacement Project. Sehlhorst motioned to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Kingsley. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Steiner motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The following meetings/events were included on the agenda and/or scheduled during the meeting.

Tree Commission on Thursday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Village Council on Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.

MAYOR

FISCAL OFFICER

VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON
VOUCHER REPORT 12/12/2022

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION
ALL SERVICE AERATION, INC	532.50	Park	PORTABLE TOILETS
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	16,941.18	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	35.66	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
BAILEY'S EQUIPMENT & APPAREL	360.00	Police	UNIFORMS
BLANCHARD RIVER WATERSHED	1,500.00	Administrative	2022 BLANCHARD RIVER WATERSHED SUPPORT
BLUFFTON DIESEL SERVICE	699.42	Multiple	TRUCK REPAIRS
BLUFFTON FLYING SERVICE	5,000.00	Airport	AIRPORT MANAGEMENT
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	234.65	Multiple	STONE
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	470.00	Multiple	LOADER USE
BOBCAT COMPANY	6,585.41	Multiple	TOOL CAT & SNOW BLOWER
BOUND TREE MEDICAL	479.56	Rescue	AIRWAY SUPPLIES
BOUND TREE MEDICAL	871.02	Rescue	DRUG BAGS
BOUND TREE MEDICAL	230.34	Rescue	SUPPLIES
BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION	17,814.00	Administrative	WORKERS COMPENSATION
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	162.37	Multiple	CABLE
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	159.98	Multiple	CABLE
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	169.98	Multiple	CABLE
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	43.40	Multiple	CABLE
CHERRY'S OUTDOOR WORLD	119.95	Police	HOLSTER
CINTAS	83.16	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CINTAS	76.16	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CITIZEN'S NATIONAL BANK	68.00	Sewer	SANITARY COMPLIANCE LETTERS
CITIZEN'S NATIONAL BANK	912.00	Administrative	TAX MAILINGS
CONNECT PARENT CORPORATION	207.95	Administrative	PHONES
EVERETT J PRESCOTT INC	691.16	Water	FITTINGS & PARTS
HACKENBERG, FEIGNER, BISHOP & WERTH, LLC	1,000.00	Administrative	SOLICITOR FEES
JUSTIN SHANNON	518.00	Land & Buildings	TOWN HALL CLEANING
KALIDA TRUCK EQUIPMENT, INC.	53.34	Water	LATCHES FOR SERVICE TRUCK
LEXIS NEXIS RISK DATA MANAGEMENT INC.	50.00	Administrative	ADDRESS SEARCHES
MARATHON FLEET SERVICES	1,809.18	Multiple	FUEL
MARSH VIEW ENTERPRISES, INC	3,465.76	Cemetery	BURIAL & FOUNDATIONS
MARSH VIEW ENTERPRISES, INC	5,475.00	Cemetery	BURIAL & FOUNDATIONS
MIDNET MEDIA	180.00	Administrative	WEB HOSTING
NAGY EQUIPMENT SALES INC.	63.35	Multiple	PUMP HOSE
NAGY EQUIPMENT SALES INC.	109.64	Water	PUMP FITTING
NORTHWESTERN OHIO SECURITY SYSTEMS	196.00	Land & Buildings	MONITORING
OHIO ASSN. CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC	685.00	Police	CONFERENCE - OGLESBEE
OHIO CRIME PREVENTION ASSN.	50.00	Police	MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING	80.00	Police	TRAINING
PARTNERS MFG GROUP, INC.	5,200.00	Street	LEAF MACHINE RENTAL
PERRY CORPORATION	151.20	Administrative	IT CONTRACT
PERRY CORPORATION	28.11	Administrative	IT CONTRACT
PERRY CORPORATION	21.39	Administrative	IT CONTRACT
POWER HOUSE ELECTRIC SUPPLY	82.00	Land & Buildings	LAMPS
SKRIPS MARKETING, INC.	384.75	Street	SPIN ALERT
SMARTBILL	907.34	Multiple	BILLING SERVICES
STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	45.56	Multiple	SUPPLIES
TREASURER OF STATE OF OHIO	9,569.40	Administrative	AUDIT FEES
VANCE'S OUTDOOR INC.	111.40	Police	AMMUNITION SUPPLIES
VANCE'S OUTDOOR INC.	116.25	Police	AMMUNITION SUPPLIES
VASU COMMUNICATIONS	3,340.80	Police	KENWOOD RADIOS
VERIZON WIRELESS	160.56	Multiple	CELL PHONES
VETTER LUMBER CO.	149.92	Multiple	SUPPLIES
WESSLER ENGINEERING	800.00	Sewer	WWTP EFFICIENCY STUDY

WESSLER ENGINEERING	700.00	Sewer
WESSLER ENGINEERING	470.00	Sewer
	90,421.80	

WWTP ENG. STUDY
SANITARY ON-CALL SERVICES

BIWEEKLY PAYROLL 12/2/22	46,248.53
MEDICARE	631.76
OPERS	2,592.07
OP&F	2,490.18
NOVEMBER MONTHLY	2,569.00
MEDICARE	37.22
OPERS	192.17
FICA	40.14

Council Signature : _____

Date: _____

Village of Bluffton
Utilities Committee Meeting
December 9, 2022 @ 1:30 PM

Committee members present, David Steiner & Jerry Cupples
Mayor Richard Johnson present
Staff present, Jesse Blackburn, Village Administrator and Kevin Nickel, Fiscal Officer.

The committee reviewed a printed presentation from Omni Fiber. The company is planning on installing fiber optic internet service in the Village of Bluffton with standard offers of 500 Mbps, 1 Gbps and 2 Gbps. The committee is very pleased that Omni Fiber has chosen the Village of Bluffton.

adjourned at 2:30 PM.

David Steiner

Jerry Cupples

Tree Commission
Village of Bluffton
Thursday, December 8, 2022

Present: Leo Herrera, Radha Tague, Becky Ramey, Jonathan Andreas, Jesse Blackburn, Ben Stahl.

Previous Action Items

Pin Oak at Buckeye Park - Radha and Leo removed sod around tree out to drip line to prepare tree for mulching. Tree will be monitored to assess condition in spring.

Jon assessed honey locust tree on E. College Ave. with exposed roots, and removed offending surface roots.

Current Business

Tree commissioners compared notes from site visits to Riley Creek Village to determine list of trees to be considered for removal. The following trees were agreed upon as priority for removal:

Richland Ave

- Pear on south side of Richland Ave, near exit to Bentley Rd.
- Pear on North side of Richland Ave, near entrance from Bentley Rd.
- Dead Serviceberry in front of empty lot east of #99, across from #92
- Pear in front of empty lot east of #99, across from #91
- Pear between #98 and #99
- Pear in front of #98

Riley Creek Ct.

- Serviceberry in front of #93
- Pear in front of #83

One serviceberry tree in front of 90 Richland Ave. was considered due to potential poor health, but it was decided to retain the tree at least until spring, to be able to better assess the tree's condition. All pear trees in Riley Creek Village will be considered for removal due to age of trees, potential for hazards, and designation as invasive species. Homeowners will be notified of potential removal of trees. Homeowners will be given the opportunity to request any trees be retained, and assume responsibility for future sidewalk maintenance for any such tree. Notifications to homeowners and HOA will be sent out in early January, after the holiday season. The final list of trees to be recommended for removal will be determined following receipt of feedback from homeowners.

Potential varieties for replacement trees were considered. Proposed options include Ivory Silk Lilac, Spire Cherry, and Streetspire Oak trees. Tree commissioners will continue to review options, and a plan for replacement trees will be established after final recommendations for removal have been made.

The next meeting of the Bluffton Tree Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Town Hall.

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2022

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE RATE CHARGED BY THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA, OHIO TO THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO FOR BULK WATER BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS: The Village of Ottawa and the Village of Bluffton meet and agree each year on the rate that is charged for water purchased by the Village of Bluffton under its existing water contract;

WHEREAS: An emergency exists in the approval and timely acceptance of this negotiated water rate for the Village, whereby failure to act will be detrimental to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO THAT:

SECTION 1: That the Village of Bluffton accepts the negotiated water rate charged by the Village of Ottawa, Ohio beginning on January 1, 2023 as follows:

\$3.02 per CCF

SECTION 2: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in accordance with all legal requirements of the Open Meetings Law including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Passed and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2022 by the Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio by the following vote:

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstain: _____

Attest:

Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

Village Solicitor

RESOLUTION 31-2022

A RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY FOR THE S. R. 103 CURB REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS; The Council finds that there is necessity to perform a public improvement project to qualifying curbs on S.R. 103 in the Village of Bluffton, Ohio, and;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO (the requisite number voting in the affirmative) THAT:

§ 1. Determination to improve:

It is hereby determined to be necessary to improve the curbs on that part of S. R. 103 in accordance with the plans and specifications referred to in § 2.

§ 2. Approval of plans and specifications:

The specifications of construction, areas of affected curb, and the estimate of cost for the improvement, prepared by Village Administration and placed on file in the office of the Clerk of this Council, are approved.

§ 3. Levy of assessment:

The cost of the improvement shall be paid as follows:

a. The Village of Bluffton will pay 100% of removal costs for all curb and 50% of curb installation.

b. The remaining costs, being 50% of curb installation, will be assessed on all lots and lands bounding and abutting on the improvement of the S.R. 103 curb replacement project where 10 or more feet of curb are replaced. These lots and lands are determined to be specially benefited by the improvement. The assessments shall be levied by the foot front of the property bounding and abutting upon the improvement to that part of S.R. 103, and shall be paid, when levied, in annual installments, with interest on unpaid installments at the rate of 2% payable with the property taxes of said parcel for not more than 5 years. Provided that the owner of any property assessed may, at their option, pay the assessment in cash within thirty days after passage of the ordinance levying the assessments.

§ 4. Estimated assessments:

The Village Administrator is directed to prepare an estimated assessment of the cost of the improvement, based on the estimate of cost filed in the office of the Clerk of this Council in accordance with the method of assessment set forth in this resolution, and showing the amount of the assessment against each lot and parcel of land to be assessed. The estimated assessment shall be filed in the office of the Clerk and kept available for public inspection.

§ 5. Notice to property owner:

Upon the filing of the estimated assessment, the Clerk of this Council is directed to cause notice of the passage of this resolution and of the filing of the estimated assessment to be served on the owners of all lots and lands to be assessed, as provided by law.

§ 6: Sunshine Law provisions:

That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this ordinance were made in open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in accordance with all legal requirements of the Open Meetings Law including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Passed and adopted this ____ day _____, 20__ by the Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio by the following vote:

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstain: _____

Attest:

Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

Elliott T. Werth, Village Solicitor

Village of Bluffton

Administration's Report

To: Mayor Johnson & Council Members



12-12-22

Construction Project Update:

1. Lawn & Jackson Watermain Replacement:

Major construction portion of this project will not begin until the week of December 19th.

2. S.R. 103 Sanitary Replacement:

Project could begin in January '23, but is weather dependent.

- Affected areas to include north edge of the S.R. 103 right-of-way in front of Circle K through the entrance to McDonalds
 - Directional drilling operations will be performed to minimize disruptions to public roadways and business entrances along the project route.

S.R. 103 Pathway Funding Update

The Community Park Improvement Grant funded by the HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT approved a grant of \$10,000 to **construct a 10' wide multiuse trail along the State Route 103 corridor connecting Lions Way Trailhead Park to the rest of the trail system.**

Tree City USA - Application

On behalf of the Tree Commission, Jon Sommer has submitted the Application for Tree City USA status. Upon approval this will mark 30 consecutive years of Bluffton being designated as a Tree City USA!

Council Committee Meetings: Request for meetings with:

- Finance Committee: 12/20 or after

Community Message

Construction Updates:

N. Lawn Ave. & N. Jackson St Watermain Replacement

- Scheduled to begin on December 5
- Project limits are between W. Elm St. and Riley St.
- New 6" PVC water main, service lines and meter settings will be installed



AEP - Bluffton Area Improvements Project:

Three areas under construction: New utility poles and transmission lines being installed

1. County Line Rd. (from Village Park to S.R. 103): until early-January
2. Cob Lake Path: until mid-January
3. Jefferson St./S.R. 103 (from Co. Line Rd. to AEP substation): until late February



Village Offices will be closed on Dec. 26 for Christmas. Bill due date for Dec. will be extended to the 27th

