### Village of Bluffton Council Meeting Agenda

September 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM

### **Opening Ceremonies**

Call to Order, Mayor Johnson presiding

Pledge of Allegiance



Approval of the minutes for the Village Council meeting held on Monday, September 11, 2023 **Bills** 

### **Public Comment:**

### **Committee Reports**

Joint Committee - Personnel, Finance, Safety: 9-13 Streets, Alleys, Lights, Sidewalk Committee: 9-20 Joint Committee – Personnel, Finance, Safety: 9-22 **Boards & Commissions** Tree Commission: 8-15, 9-12

### **LEGISLATION**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 09-2023**

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A 15 FOOT SANITARY EASEMENT IN PARKVIEW OF BLUFFTON – PHASE IIB AS REQUESTED BY THREE S DEVELOPMENT

### ORDINANCE NO. 10-2023

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF THURMAN STREET AND A PORTION OF AN ABUTTING ALLEY AS REQUESTED BY VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

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, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm
- Village Council Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

**Public Comment** Adjournment – Motion and Second



Village of Bluffton - Regular meeting September 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Cupples motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on August 28, 2023. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

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

Kingsley motioned, seconded by Cupples, at 7:05 p.m. to exit the regular Council meeting and enter into a Public Hearing regarding the vacation of a portion of Thurman St. and a portion of an abutting alley. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Cupples motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to exit the public hearing and return to open session. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

The Fiscal Officer gave the following readings:

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading:

Ordinance 08-2023 – An Ordinance to vacate an alley as requested by Matthew & Hannah Alspach. Sehlhorst motioned to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Cupples. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

Ordinance 09-2023 – An Ordinance to vacate a 15-foot sanitary easement in Parkview of Bluffton – Phase 11B as requested by Three S Development. Stahl motioned to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Kingsley. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

### 1st Reading:

Ordinance 10-2023 – An Ordinance to vacate a portion of Thurman Street and a portion of an abutting alley as requested by Village administration. Sehlhorst motioned to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Cupples. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

### 1st Reading:

Resolution 28-2023 – A Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor and declaring an emergency. Kingsley motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Cupples. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved. Steiner motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Cupples. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Cupples motioned, seconded by Sehlhorst, to approve the Special Event for the homecoming parade on Sept. 29, 2023. Main St. between Snider Rd. and College Ave. and College Ave. from Main St. to the stadium will be closed from 5:30 p.m. until the end of the parade. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Kingsley motioned, seconded by Cupples, to approve the Special Event request by Elysia Bush for a wedding reception on Vine St. on October 10, 2023. Vine Street from Main St. to the alley will be closed from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for the event. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Stahl motioned, seconded by Cupples, to approve the Special Event request by the Police Department for the Fallen Officer Memorial dedication ceremony on September 23, 2023. Main Street from Vine St. to Elm St. will be closed from 9:00 a.m. until noon for the event. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Chief Basinger presented the need to order a new load system for the budgeted new ambulance before prices increase in order to save \$6,000. If we place the order now, they will hold the order and bill in 2024.

Steiner motioned, seconded by Cupples, to approve the ordering of a load system for the new ambulance. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Schlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Kingsley motioned, seconded by Sehlhorst, to enter executive session to discuss the purchase of property with Mayor, Solicitor, Council, Administrator, Fiscal Officer, and Asst. Adm. present. No action expected. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Stahl motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to exit the executive session and return to open session. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Cupples motioned to adjourn the meeting.

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

Joint Finance, Personnel, and Safety Services Committee on Wednesday, September 13 at noon. Streets, Lights, Alleys, & Sidewalks Committee on Wednesday, September 20 at 5:00p.m. Village Council on Monday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m.

MAYOR

FISCAL OFFICER

### VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON VOUCHER REPORT 9/25/2023 PRELIMINARY

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION
AIM MEDIA MIDWEST	101.10	Administrative	ADVERTISING
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH	25.00	Sewer	VILLAGE PARK TREATMENT SYSTEM
ALLOWAY TESTING	2,256.00	Multiple	TESTING
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	20,925.78	Multiple	HEALTH INSURANCE
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	980.24	Multiple	HEALTH INSURANCE
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	165.00	Multiple	LIFE INSURANCE
ARMOR FIRE PROTECTION INC.	656.00	Land & Buildings	SPRINKLER PIPE REPAIR
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	39.99	Multiple	CABLE
CINTAS	108.95	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CINTAS	73.04	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CINTAS	76.54	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC	175.00	Administrative	RETAINER
COUNTY ELECTRIC LLC	458.89	Land & Buildings	GENERATOR MAINTENANCE
DEGEN EXCAVATING CO., INC.	8,505.39	Sewer	SEWER CLEANING
DOMINION EAST GAS	458.96	Multiple	NATURAL GAS
EVERETT J PRESCOTT INC	2,518.08	Water	SUPPLIES
FAMILY HARDWARE DO IT BEST	172.83	Multiple	SUPPLIES
GARY'S REPAIR	335.50	Park	TRANSMISSION & ENGINE OIL
GARY'S REPAIR	46.77	Multiple	PARTS & SUPPLIES
GREAT LAKES BILLING ASSOCIATES, INC.	1,265.91	Rescue	EMS BILLING SERVICE
HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC CO-OP	165.45	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC CO-OP	55.00	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
JOHN HOCHSTETLER	1,090.00	Land & Buildings	SIGNS
LIMA RADIO HOSPITAL, INC.	70.60	Police	RADIO PARTS
NORTHWESTERN MASONRY SERVICE	67.00	Street	POLYSAND - MAIN ST. BRICKS
OHIO UTILITIES PROTECTION SERVICE	8.00	Administrative	MANUAL CALLOUTS
PERRY CORPORATION	2,977.03	Administrative	IT CONTRACT
RENT ALL MART	108.50	Park	STRAW BLOWER
SHELL FLEET PLUS	2,601.84	Multiple	FUEL
SMARTBILL	985.73	Multiple	BILLING SERVICES
STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	45.58	Multiple	SUPPLIES
TOWN & COUNTRY FLOWERS	57.95	Multiple	FLOWERS
TREE TECH	825.00	Street	STREET TREE REMOVAL
TREE TECH	1,000.00	Street	STREET TREE REMOVAL
USA BLUE BOOK	94.99	Multiple	SUPPLIES
UTILITY SERVICE CO, INC.	15,028.84	Water	WATER TOWER PEDISPHERE
VILLAGE OF OTTAWA	59,194.39	Water	WATER
ZOLL DATA SYSTEMS	161.26	Rescue	EMS CHARTS
	123,882.13	Ŧ:	
AUGUST FIRE & EMS	13,232.50		
MEDICARE	191.88		
OPERS	1,327.11		
FICA	151.16		
BIWEEKLY PAYROLL 9/22/23	46,569.21		
MEDICARE	634.16		
OPERS	3,550.25		
OP&F	4,045.87		

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Tree Commission Village of Bluffton Tuesday, August 15th, 2023

Present: Leo Herrera, Radha Tague, Becky Ramey, John Summers, Jesse Blackburn, Ben Stahl.

### **Continuing Business**

### **Riley Creek Village tree removal/replacement:**

Tree commission meeting took place on-site at Riley Creek Village to discuss potential tree placements. Some of the trees designated for removal have already been removed by Tree Tech.

Proposed actions are as follows:

- Alternating planting 3 Princeton Gold Maples and 3 Summer Elixir Elms between 81 and 83 Riley Creek Ct., and removing existing crabapple tree which is in questionable shape.
- Planting 2 or 3 Tupelo Towers between 92 and 93 Riley Creek Ct.
- Cul-de-sac at the end of Riley Creek Ct. has sufficient tree cover between private trees and existing street trees.
- Planting a Tupelo Tower at 94 Richland Drive
- Planting a Native Flame Hornbeam at 95 Richland Drive, and potentially also a Tupelo Tower
   homeowner would like as many trees as possible
- Planting a Native Flame Hornbeam at 98 Richland Drive
- Planting 2 Princeton Gold Maples at 99 Richland Drive
- Planting 2 Crimson Sunset Maples across from 92 Richland Drive
- Potentially remove crabapple across from 91 Richland Drive and plant 2 Princeton Gold Maples — TBD after receiving updated easement delineations from AEP
- Trees to be planted at the entrance of the community will be determined after receiving updated easement delineations from AEP to ensure that trees aren't planted where they will need to be subsequently removed.

The next Tree Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 at 7:00pm.



Tree Commission Village of Bluffton Tuesday, September 12th, 2023

Present: Leo Herrera, Radha Tague, Becky Ramey, John Summers, Ben Stahl.

### **Continuing Business**

### Riley Creek Village tree removal/replacement:

Tree commissioners agreed that a diagram with placements of proposed new trees will be distributed to homeowners for feedback prior to marking sites to be planted.

### SRK:

Tree commissioners reviewed a second draft of the tree planting plan for the proposed soccer fields/park. Optimal species and cultivars were discussed for specific locations throughout the park. This draft will be distributed to tree commissioners for further individual review and will be refined at subsequent meetings based upon commissioner feedback.

### **New Business**

### **Dog Park:**

The Bluffton Community Dog Park Group is seeking to raise funds to create a dog park on Lake St., near the Bluffton Arboretum. The plan for the park includes tree plantings throughout the park. Upon notice of advancement of the project, the Tree Commission will begin to consider a recommended planting plan for the park.

### Tree Replacements on Elm Street:

Some of the trees planted in the tree lawn on Elm St. near the entrance to Bluffton University did not survive and will need to be replaced. Tree commissioners will visit site before next meeting to evaluate how many trees should be replanted, and consider trees available for planting in Fall of 2023 as replacements.

The next Tree Commission meeting date is suggested for Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 at 7:00pm, pending confirmation.



Acer platanoides 'Princeton Gold'

## Princeton Gold® Maple

**USDA Zone: 4** 





**Description:** 

Princeton Gold® is characterized by yellow foliage. particularly bright on new growth. The overall coloration is similar to Sunburst® Honeylocust.



Nyssa sylvatica 'JFS-red' PP 26975

### Firestarter<sup>®</sup> Tupelo

USDA Zone: 5







**Description:** 

Symmetrical, upsweeping branches and a strong central leader contribute to the remarkably neat and uniform appearance of this relatively narrow tupelo. Dark green foliage turns intensively bright red, coloring earlier in autumn than most cultivars.



Ulmus chenmoui 'JAB Morton'

## Summer Elixir<sup>®</sup> Elm

USDA Zone: 5



### **Description:**

Vase-shaped in youth, this relatively small and compact elm develops a rounded shape with age. New growth may be flushed with pink or red before maturing to green. Selected by nurseryman/arborist Jim Barborinas as the best of Ulmus chenmoui seedlings shared by Dr. George Ware of Morton Arboretum.



Acer truncatum x Acer platanoides 'JFS-KW202' PP 21838

## Crimson Sunset® Maple

### USDA Zone: 4



### **Description:**

Heat tolerance is the distinguishing characteristic of this Acer truncatum hybrid. compact. Thanks to the Acer truncatum parentage, it flourishes in the summer Its foliage resembles that of Crimson King, but its form is more upright and heat where few purple leafed plants will thrive.



Carpinus caroliniana 'JFS-KW6'

# Native Flame® American Hornbeam

USDA Zone: 5



**Description:** 

and especially for its bright red fall color. It combines the graceful informality of a leads the pack into bright fall colors. Selected for good upright growth and form. This versatile native species is ripe for cultivar development, and Native Flame® native with the brilliant colors of a modern cultivar.

### **Personnel Committee – Finance Committee- Safety Committee - Minutes**

Village of Bluffton September 13, 2023, Noon at Town Hall

Present: David Steiner, Phill Talavinia, Mitch Kingsley, Ben Stahl, Richard Johnson Staff: Jesse Blackburn, Kevin Nickel, Ryan Burkholder, Matt Oblesbe, Jon Kinn, Jan Basinger

AGENDA: Employee Compensation and Benefits, with focus on retaining and recruiting in the present market

### POLICE

• We reviewed a presentation prepared by Ryan Burkholder concerning recruiting new officers and retaining officers who are subject to recruitment by other municipalities. Wages have risen dramatically in this market and surrounding towns are paying more wages than we are. We have a strong, supportive culture that is attractive and helps retain our police force. However, we need to recruit a fulltime officer and retirement is around the corner for some of our force.

•The presentation contains a proposal for increasing wages and benefits to better reflect the going rates for police officers.

•A spreadsheet prepared by Kevin Nickel shows the effect to our budget of adapting the proposal by Chief Burkholder.

### PUBLIC WORKS

•We agreed that making significant changes in one department cannot be made without review of our wage structure for other employees as well.

•We asked the Administrator and Fiscal Officer to research and bring additional information to help us consider what changes we may need to consider in the Public Works Department and Town Hall employees.

We will meet together again to consider these figures further before making a proposal.

Respectfully submitted, Mitchell Kingsley

Phill Talavinia

Mitchell Kingsley

David Steiner

Ben Stahl

### Sept. 20, 2023 Streets Meeting

### Start: 5 PM End: 6:10 PM

Present: Joe Sehlhorst, Jerry Cupples, Admin. Jesse Blackburn

### **Topic 1: 2023 Review Meeting**

- The purpose of this meeting is to review what has and what projects/tasks are to be done for the year.
  - o ADA Main St. Compliance.
  - o Bentley Rd. Intersection Sidewalk Extension
  - o Curb Compliance in preparation of SR103 State Re-paving project
  - o Etc.
  - o Future: More ADA Compliance, October paving.

### Topic 2: SR 103 Update

- Could expect to see paving project to begin mid-October.
- SR 103 Pathway construction was a little behind schedule currently.

### Topic 3: Sidewalk Connectivity, Maintenance, ADA Compliance Update

- Maintenance: This Spring we completed our sidewalk audit. Completed grinding and continue to move forward with ADA compliance improvements.
  - The administration plan is to review sidewalk conditions at least every 5 years.
    - Past audits: 2016, 2021, 2023
- The committee stressed the Administration to find possible sidewalk connectivity opportunities annually to work into the budget. If monies in the budget allow.
  - o For 2024, consider sidewalk connectivity on Jackson St. into Parkview development.
  - o 2023 Sidewalk Extension: Bentley Road Intersection to Harmon St.
  - o Pathway Extension: County Line Rd and State Route 103
- ADA Compliance

### Topic 4: 2023 Street Maintenance Schedule

- \* See attachment "Street Paving Program."
  - Navajo Drive will not be paved in 2023.
  - o Other misc. changes.
  - Hunters Run Letters mailed out to residents. The plan is to mill slightly into the curb system and pave the street.
    - The goal is to extend the life of the curbs for another 10 years.
  - o Pave Jackson and Lawn where last winter's water main replacement occurred (Btw. Elm and Riley)

### **Topic 5: Village Curb System Inventory**

- Discussed conditions of our curbs throughout the Village.
- Consider monitoring "Curb Condition" category into the GIS Platform.

### **Topic 6: Bluffton Pathway Maintenance**

- Are monies coming from the Street Budget or Parks Budget?
  - Determined monies from Parks Budget
- Areas for maintenance and sealing to be considered.

### Topic 7: Downtown Community Parking Lot \* Discussion continues.

- See current rough draft "Parking Lot Re-Striping Plan."
  - May be a possibility for light pole removal and to utilize adding lighting onto the wood poles along the perimeter of the parking lot.

### **Topic 8: 2024 Street Maintenance Schedule**

- Administration usually begins planning around October through December.
  - The committee would like to see 2 more Speed Beacons purchased.
  - o Sidewalk Connectivity
  - o ADA Compliance
    - Regional Planning assisting Village to help Bluffton formulate an ADA Compliance plan for our public spaces.

### **Topic 9: Complete Streets Reminder**

- Please see included documentation for review.
- Complete Streets stakeholders
  - How can we best communicate this to the key stakeholders and public?
    - Implementation. Annual Meeting (Sept).
    - Refer below "Complete Streets."

### **Below: 2023 Minutes Review**

### Nov. 7, 2022 Streets Meeting

**Topic 3: Curbs** 

- The committee tasked Administration to research curb policies.
- Administration presented plan to address curb maintenance for South Main St.
- Village would like to have all curbs repaired along St. Rt. 103 before ODOT paving project scheduled for 2023.
- Administration requesting Village be responsible for those sections that are 10' or less. Those 10' or more responsibilities placed on resident w/ Village cooperation.

### Feb. 8, 2023 Streets Meeting

### Topic 3: Jackson St. Curb & Sidewalk Project

- Choice One has provided administration with a sample drawing for a potential future project on Jackson St. between Franklin and Church St.
  - Improvements include curb, gutter, sidewalk, tree lawn, add mid-block crossing, lighting improvements, and others.
  - Administration to engage in conversation with parties involved within the scope of such project. Parties include First Mennonite Church, Bluffton Exempted Schools, and Citizens National Bank.
- Project estimate \$270k
- The timeframe for the project could begin in 2023 or 2024. To be determined as conversation continues.

### **Topic 5: Street Maintenance Schedule for 2023**

- Administration compiling list.
- Note: ODOT to repave all of State Route 103 for 2023
- For 2023, 2 additional speed beacons to be purchased.

### **Topic 6: Main Street Light Replacement**

- Scheduled year for lighting to be replaced.
- See the light pole in front of CVS. This will be the bulb that will most likely be used.

- Administration to gather quotes for said project.
  - o The bulbs were replaced in 2009. Then again in 2015.

### Feb. 13, 2023, Council Meeting

- Complete Streets Res.1-23 passes 3<sup>rd</sup> reading!!! Next step is to send a mailing to selected stakeholders to
  educate them about complete streets and their annual participation with the program. Annually meet (I think) in
  the late Fall.
- (1 of 4 Ohio communities to participate) Very selective national program. Village very fortunate and should take full advantage and identify support for the program. We must get away from the budgeted limitations.
- A more holistic approach for betterment of life for Bluffton community.
  - **Complete Streets Policy** Overview "Over 160 years of street evolution...Because Streets Are

Public Space for Everyone."

- 1. Vision and Intent,
- 2. Diverse Users,
- 3. Commitment in all Projects and Phases,
- 4. Clear, Accountable Exceptions,
- 5. Jurisdiction,
- 6. Design,
- 7. Land Use and Context Sensitivity,
- 8. Performance Measures,
- 9. Project Selection Criteria,
- 10. Implementation Steps.
- o Implementation Key to Complete Streets Success
  - 10. Implementation Steps
    - The Streets committee shall dedicate one meeting per year to Complete Streets. Likely in September. "Jesse to mail out invites to identified stakeholders in April/May
    - Those invited include, not limited: Schools, Police, Safety, Allen Public Health, Economic Development, BACC and Entrepreneurs, Tree Commission, Planning Commission, Senior Citizens, Daycare Center, Pathway Board, Hospital, Lions Club, Bluffton Icon

### Feb. 13, 2023 - Speed Beacons

Shipping address : Bluffton Police Department 154 N Main St BLUFFTON, OH 45817 United States

Invoice address : Bluffton Police Department 154 N Main St BLUFFTON, OH 45817 United States

Bluffton Police Department 154 N Main St BLUFFTON, OH 45817 United States

Tel. : +14193582961 Fax:+14193588137

### **Quotation N° S07863**

Your Reference	rence Quotation 01/30/20			Contact Ling LIU		Payment Term	
Description		Qté	P.U	Disc.(%)	Discounted price	Price	
[EPRADD11AA] US[AS-BT] Solar EV White Reflective Front Face	olis Solution -	2.00 Unit(s)	3,000,00	0.00	3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	
[028] 12V 22Ah Battery 12V 22Ah Battery		4.00 Unit(s)	125.00	0.00	125.00	\$ 500.00	
(0233) 80W Solar Panel & mountin (99900) Discount (DCE) Delivery Charge EXPRESS	ng kit	2.00 Unit(s) 1.00 Unit(s) 1.00 Unit(s)	550.00 -1,001.00 300.00	0.00 0.00 0.00	550.00 -1,001,00 300.00	\$ 1,100.00 \$ -1,001.00 \$ 300.00	
				Total discount HT;		\$ 1,001.00	
				Net Total : Taxes (20%):		\$ 5,899.00	
						\$ 0.00	
				Total :		\$ 6,899.00	

Title: <u>CNIEF AF AND</u> Name (First, Last): <u>RMN BUNKNODER</u> Check this box: E I have read, understood and agree to the terms of the Elan City Inc. : "General Terms of Sales and Delivery - WARRANTY," Signature

Date: (m/ d/ ): 2/15/25 and email it back to us along with your tax exempt form CUSTOMER CONTACT INFO:

Name; Chief Ryan Burkholder
 Phone: 419-358-2961 ext109

Email: BurkholderR@bluffton-ohio.com IN CASE DELIVERY ADDRESS IS DIFFERENT:

### Apr 5, 2023 Streets Meeting

### **Topic 1: 2023 Street Paving Program**

- See attachment 2023 Street Paving Program -
  - Note: Hunter's Run includes curb patching 0
    - Using a new product referred from Delphos, Jamie Mehaffie
  - Budgeted \$225,000 Est. Scheduled Total: \$155,000 0

### 2023 Street Paving Program

Estimate	Actual
\$75,000.00	
\$23,000.00	
\$23,000.00	
\$9,000.00	
\$25,000.00	
Est. Total	Actual Total
\$155,000.00	#VALUE!
Budgeted Amount	
	\$75,000.00 \$23,000.00 \$23,000.00 \$9,000.00 \$9,000.00 \$25,000.00 <u>\$25,000.00</u> <u>Est. Total</u> \$155,000.00

\$225,000

### Topic 5: Do It Best Hardware Expansion

- Village working w/ Choice One to optimize parking lot layout.

### Topic 7: Complete Streets

- Welcome Letter to be mailed to key stakeholders around middle of May informing them about Complete Streets and September meeting.
  - o Sidewalk Committee will host stakeholders to inform and begin discussion about Complete Streets
    - Implementation Plan

Partner Letter - Schools 1B.V. - 16/10e -File - EINIS Bluffton \$ Lima - Econ Dev. - Chamber -Bluffton Entrep Tree COMMISSION. -Planning (2011/19 Commission -Senior Citizens -Dayore -Public Neighborhood ASTIN 5 HOA -BAMA -Pathway -HOSPital - ODOT district - County? - mennonite house - LIDRIS Club

February 8, 2023

Dear Community Partner,

We are sending you this letter because we consider you a significant stakeholder in our community and to inform you that the Village of Bluffton recently adopted a Complete Streets Policy. With this policy, Bluffton will move closer to its vision for the thoughtful creation of streets to improve safety and facilitate movement for all users in the Bluffton community including pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, and motorists. The policy was developed by a Complete Streets Task Force which includes representatives from Village government, local health agencies, and community advocates. Throughout 2022, the Task Force hosted monthly meetings, facilitated a community survey, conducted a community walk audit, and received input on the policy from national experts at Smart Growth America (https://smartgrowthamerica.org/what-are-complete-streets/).

This policy will not result in a total overhaul of all Bluffton's streets and sidewalks; however, it will be a guide for ensuring future projects consider all modes of transportation. As we begin implementing this Complete Streets Policy, we hope you will support Bluffton's transportation goals and attend the annual Streets Committee meeting that will be dedicated to Complete Streets. Included with this letter is additional information including the Bluffton Complete Streets Policy, results of the community survey, and an informational brochure.

For more information, please consult the printed materials included with this letter, or contact Jesse Blackburn with the Village of Bluffton <u>blackburn</u>;@bluffton-ohio.com. We look forward to furthering our partnership with you! Sincerely,

The Bluffton Complete Streets Task Force

### **Allen County**

### Bluffton Commits to Developing Complete Streets

Community Members Team Up for More Inclusive Streets.

### Challenge

Twenty-five percent of Bluffton residents report having no exercise in the last month, according to Activate Allen County's Health Atlas. Lack of exercise is a large factor in the increase of a community's rate of chronic disease. An easy way for residents to be active is to utilize local streets and sidewalks. However, streets and sidewalks are not always safe and accessible because streets cater more to motor vehicles than to pedestrians and bicyclists. By improving the built environment, with multiple modes of transportation in mind, communities can work together to build a foundation for prevention of chronic disease.

### Approach

To help improve the safety and accessibility of Bluffton's streets and sidewalks, the Allen County Creating Healthy Communities program partnered with the Village of Bluffton, Lima-Allen County Regional Planning, and other community members to create a seven-member stakeholder team. This team met 15 times in 2022 for monthly meetings, trainings, walk audits, and policy drafting. Members of the stakeholder team distributed surveys, educated community members, and advocated about the need for a formal Complete Streets resolution in the Village.

### Results

The Village Council of Bluffton passed the Complete Streets resolution in February 2023. A community survey showed that 54% of Bluffton residents would feel safer walking with wider sidewalks, and 55% of residents stated they would feel safer cycling with more bicycle lanes. These survey results, and others, will set the tone for future road and sidewalk projects in Bluffton. Other upcoming projects, such as the planned mid-block crossing on Jackson Street, near Bluffton Elementary School, and proposed updates to Bentley Road will follow Complete Street guidelines. This resolution has the ability to impact each one of Bluffton's 4,268 residents as they walk, bike, ride, and roll through their community.



### At A Glance

Safety and accessibility affect the ability of Bluffton residents to be active where they live. Allen County Public Health's Creating Healthy Communities program partnered with the Village of Bluffton to draft and implement a Complete Streets resolution. The resolution aims to focus on safety and accessibility for all modes of transportation when implementing road and sidewalk projects. Improving these aspects increases opportunities for Bluffton residents to engage in active Bluffton residents to engage in active Blufton and active transportation within their community.

Contact

Bri Buzard Allen County Public Health

bbuzard@allenhealthdept.org http://www.allencountypublichealth.org

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### **Complete Streets Checklist**

Last Revised: 01/2023

This checklist form was developed to support Complete Streets Policy implementation in alignment with Resolution #NUMBER Complete Streets Policy Section 6.2, passed DATE. The checklist form will be reviewed for updates at the annual Village of Bluffton Streets Committee meeting dedicated to Complete Streets.

Complete Streets Vision: "Thoughtful creation of streets to improve safety and facilitate movement for ALL users in the Bluffton community including pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, and motorists."

Complete Streets provide health, economic, environmental, social, and equity benefits. Complete Streets facilities can include but are not limited to pedestrian improvements, traffic calming elements, trees & greenspace, disability facilities, bike improvements, and public transit facilities.

Proj	ect:								
Pro	ject Name				Project Eng	jineer			
Pro	ject Location			-2	Attach Proje	ect Map	(required)		
Exp	ected Construc	tion E	Date or Timefran	1e:		_			
Proj	ect Type: (Mark	all th	at apply)						
0	Water or sewer replacement	0	Resurfacing with curb	0	Resurfacing without curb	0	Micro surfacing	0	Safety improvements
0	Bicycle facilities	0	Sidewalk installation	0	Sidewalk replacement	0	Streetscape	0	Other (describe below)
Other									

### **Project Information:**

<b>Description of Scope</b> : Please list and/or describe planning or policy documents addressing bicyclist, pedestrian, transit, or truck/freight use for the project area.
<b>Project Alignment/Coordination</b> : Are there other entities (such as the Village of Bluffton Pathway Board or Ohio Dept. of Transportation) that will be addressing the project location in the near term? If yes, list entity and project information below.
How will access for all modes be maintained during construction? (Auto, Bicycle, Pedestrian, Transit, Trucks)
Estimated Cost: (Distinguish separately street, pedestrian, utility/environmental estimates)

Roadway Classification(s): (E.g., Principal, Minor, Collector, Non-Arterial, Alley, Local, Private)

Right-of-Way Width(s) & Project Length:

**Description of Location/Area for Proposed Project:** List nearby destinations (E.g., Schools, Major Employers, Civic/Community Destinations, Medium to High-Density Residential, Senior Centers/Healthcare Facilities, Daily Needs (Grocery, Retail, Etc.) Parks/Recreation, Businesses Districts, Transit Route, Other Destinations)

	DDOD	0050		
	41		DESIGN	
Item	Yes	No	N/A	Description
Are there accommodations for bicyclists?	-			
Are there accommodations for pedestrians?				
Are there accommodations for transit				
riders?				
Are there accommodations for				
trucks/freight?			1	
Have conflicts been reduced between				
pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor				
vehicles?				
Are there proposed connections to				
sidewalks, trails, or other pedestrian				
facilities adjacent to the project area?				
Are there proposed connections to bike				
routes, bike paths, or other bike facilities				
adjacent to the project area?				
Are there proposed connections to key				
destinations including schools, parks,				
community centers, and similar?				
Are there proposed landscape elements				
including street trees, planters, buffer				
strips, or other enhancements?				
Is there proposed pedestrian level				
lighting?				
Are there proposed public seating areas or				
benches?				
Notes (if necessary):		(l)		1 <u></u>
	EXISTIN	IG CON	DITIONS	
Checklist Consideration	Yes	No	N/A	Description (Optional)
	Р	edestria	an	
Are sidewalks provided along the street?				
Are sidewalks provided on both sides of				
the street?				
Has a sidewalk and curbing study been				
completed?				
Are existing sidewalk in good condition?				

	-	-			
Is the sidewalk well lit?					
Are there marked crosswalks?					
Are curb ramps provided at each corner?					
Are there pedestrian signals?					
Are there pedestrian signage for crossing					
& wayfinding?					
Are the ramps within the project ADA compliant?					
Are detectable warnings (truncated					
domes) properly installed and ADA compliant?					
Are all crosswalk within the project limits ADA compliant?					
Are there acceptable slope and cross- slope for driveway ramps, sidewalks, and crossings?					
Are there benches or street furniture along the sidewalk?					
Are streetscape elements proposed such					
as landscaping, street trees, planters, buffer strips, etc.?					
Notes (if necessary):					
		Bicycl	e	1	
Are there bicycle lanes or sharrows?					
Is there 5' or more on the street to install a bicycle lane?					
Is there at least 3' on the street to install					
shared road marking?					
Is there bicycle parking in the project	-				
area?					
Is there 5 or more clear feet on the					
sidewalk to install bicycle parking?					
Bicycle safe inlet grates					
Off-roadway bike accommodations					
Notes (if necessary):					
		Paveme	ent		
Is there parking available on one or both			1		
sides of the street?					
If there is parking, is there a large amount		و و و		Explain:	
of turnover?					
Is the street well maintained? (Free from					
potholes, debris, and visible lane					
markings)					
Is the street well lit?					
	Yes	No	N/A	Description (Optional)	
Can pavement markings be seen during					
day and night?					
Notes (if necessary):					
Existing Acces	s/Mohil	itv/Infra	structure	e/Environmental	
Is the project area on a transit route?		- synna			
Do connective opportunities exist with					
schools, hospitals, senior care,					
community/cultural centers, employment,					

recreation, retail, or other prominent	
landmarks within project area?	
Are there gaps inhibiting continuous	
access for persons with disabilities within	
project area?	
Is there an opportunity to implement	
artistic elements (e.g., sidewalk inlays,	
creative street furniture, bollards or	
planters, creative bicycle racks etc.)?	
Does the project area meet the curb radius	
and clearance standards for delivery,	
service, and safety vehicles?	
Is there an opportunity to plant trees,	
expand landscape, and/or install storm	
water improvements/green infrastructure?	
Does project area include street trees and	
green assets that warrant investment to	
sustain (e.g., preservation of street trees)	
Notes (if necessary):	
Concluding Comments (if applicable):	

Author of Complete Streets Checklist:

Name

Title

Date

### **Complete Streets Exceptions**

In alignment with Resolution #NUMBER Complete Streets Policy Section 4, passed DATE, exceptions to considerations for providing for all modes in each project will be provided for the circumstances listed below. Exceptions will be reviewed and documented by the Village Administrator and must be approved by Village Council.

### To request an exception, select one of the project circumstances below:

	Accommodation is unnecessary on corridors where specific users are prohibited, such as interstate freeways or pedestrian malls.
	Cost of accommodation is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use. Provide estimated costs below.
	A documented absence of current and future needs. Provide data below.
_	Emergency repairs such as a water main leak require an immediate, rapid response; however, temporary accommodations for all modes should still be made. Depending on the severity of the repairs, opportunities to improve multimodal access should still be considered where possible. Provide proof of emergency status below.
	Engineering judgment determines that Complete Streets facilities are not feasible due to terrain, ownership/jurisdiction, and/or existing structures that cannot be accommodated through design. Provide justification below.
	Does the project solely consist of ordinary maintenance activities designed to keep assets in acceptable condition, such as cleaning, sealing, spot repairs, patching, and surface treatments, such as micro-surfacing?
	Is there an alternative plan to implement Complete Streets incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time? Explain below.
	Does the Project Team recommend an exception to Complete Streets for this project? List explanation from those stakeholders, engineer, administrative, or government official(s) below.

Provide data/documentation/explanation of the circumstance (Required):

Author of Exception:

### Village of Bluffton Personnel Committee – Finance Committee- Safety Committee - Minutes

September 22, 2023, Noon at Town Hall

Present: Council members: David Steiner, Phill Talavinia, Ben Stahl. Mayor: Richard Johnson. Staff: Jesse Blackburn, Kevin Nickel, Bryan Lloyd, Ryan Burkholder, Matt Oblesbe, Jon Kinn, Jan Basinger. Mitch Kingsley was absent.

AGENDA: Employee Compensation and Benefits, with focus on retaining and recruiting in the present market

• We reviewed a presentation prepared by Jesse Blackburn concerning recruiting new employees and retaining current employees who are subject to recruitment by other municipalities and private employers. Wages have risen dramatically in this market and surrounding towns are paying more wages than we are. We have a strong, supportive culture that is attractive and helps retain our work force.

•The presentation contains a proposal for increasing wages and benefits to better reflect the going rates for police officers and other employees.

•A spreadsheet prepared by Kevin Nickel shows the effect to our budget of adapting the proposals by Village Administrator Jesse Blackburn and Chief Burkholder.

•We reviewed data obtained from another local village comparable to Bluffton based on a professional wage study completed this year.

•We asked the Administrator and Fiscal Officer continue their analysis of future appropriations based on the changes in cost of employment.

The committees recommend that the analysis done by village administration be presented to Council in executive session for personnel matters for the full council to review.

Respectfully submitted, David Steiner

Phill Talavinia

David Steiner

Ben Stahl

### **ORDINANCE NO. 09 - 2023**

### AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A 15 FOOT SANITARY EASEMENT IN PARKVIEW OF BLUFFTON – PHASE IIB AS REQUESTED BY THREE S DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Three S Development has petitioned for the vacation of a 15 foot sanitary easement that is unnecessary for the future expansion of public utilities and;

WHEREAS, O.R.C. 723.04 provides as follows:

The legislative authority of a municipal corporation, on petition by a person owning a lot in the municipal corporation praying that a street or alley in the immediate vicinity of such lot be vacated or narrowed, or the name thereof changed, upon hearing, and upon being satisfied that there is good cause for such change of name, vacation, or narrowing, that it will not be detrimental to the general interest, and that it should be made, may, by ordinance, declare such street or alley vacated, narrowed, or the name thereof changed. The legislative authority may include in one ordinance the change of name, vacation, or narrowing of more than one street, avenue, or alley.

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

SECTION 1: The Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio finds that, upon petition and hearing on such petition, finds that there is good cause for such vacation of said alley and that there is no detriment to the general interest, hereby declares that the said alley, as described in the attached exhibit, is and is hereby vacated.

SECTION 2: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance 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 actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Passed and adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023 by the governing board of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio by the following vote:

Yes:	No:	Abstain:

Attest:

**Fiscal Officer** 

Mayor

Approved as to Form:

Village Solicitor

### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the within is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 09-2023, passed on third reading by the Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio on

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Dated:\_\_\_\_\_

Kevin Nickel, Clerk/Fiscal Officer





### **ORDINANCE NO. 10 - 2023**

### AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF THURMAN STREET AND A PORTION OF AN ABUTTING ALLEY AS REQUESTED BY VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, Village Administration has petitioned for the vacation of a portion of Thurman Street and a portion of an abutting alley and;

WHEREAS, O.R.C. 723.04 provides as follows:

The legislative authority of a municipal corporation, on petition by a person owning a lot in the municipal corporation praying that a street or alley in the immediate vicinity of such lot be vacated or narrowed, or the name thereof changed, upon hearing, and upon being satisfied that there is good cause for such change of name, vacation, or narrowing, that it will not be detrimental to the general interest, and that it should be made, may, by ordinance, declare such street or alley vacated, narrowed, or the name thereof changed. The legislative authority may include in one ordinance the change of name, vacation, or narrowing of more than one street, avenue, or alley.

### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO:

**SECTION 1**: The Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio finds that, upon petition and hearing on such petition, finds that there is good cause for such vacation of designated portions of Thurman Street and said alley and that there is no detriment to the general interest, hereby declares that the designated portion of Thurman Street and portion of said alley, as described in the attached exhibit, is and is hereby vacated.

**SECTION 2**: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance 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 actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Passed and adopted this	day of	2023 by the governing board of the
Village of Bluffton, Ohio b	y the following vote:	

Yes:	No:	Abstain:

Attest:

Fiscal Officer

Approved as to Form:

Village Solicitor

### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the within is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 10-2023, passed on third reading by the Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio on

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Dated:\_\_\_\_\_

Kevin Nickel, Clerk/Fiscal Officer



VILLAGE * OF BLUFFTON	VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON 154 N. MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 63 BLUFFTON, OHIO 45817-0063 419-358-2066
	APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENTS
EVENT NAME: Blage of APPLICANT: ADDRESS: APPLICANT'S ADDRESS: A E-MAIL ADDRESS (OPTION LOCATION OF EVENT: S TIME(S) FOR EVENT: 5 DESCRIPTION OF EVENT: _	AL): arlington inder Bood to College Street Main Street
SERVICES REQUESTED ET	
TRAFFIC CONTROL: <u>Upp</u> Number of officers required to cove ROAD CLOSURE: <u>4:45</u>	er security will be determined on a case by case basis upon consultation with the Chief of Police $P_{\mathcal{M}}$
SECURITY: <u>Jes</u> Number of officers required to cove	NUMBER OF OFFICERS REQUESTED:
EMS SERVICES:	FIRE DEPT. SERVICES:
WATER SERVICE:	OTHER SERVICES:
I would like	to have Police Chief Lead the Parade Hasing
ALCOHOL SERVED: YES	NO* Applicant is responsible for obtaining the proper alcohol permit from the Division of Liquor Control prior to the event.
EVENT'S INSURER:	
	Bu of Commune Village must be listed as Additional Insured
ATTACH CERTIFICATE OF I	NSURANCE TO APPLICATION
PLEASE LIST VENDORS SEE	RVICES, CONTRACTORS, ETC. INVOLVED WITH EVENT:
NAME OF VENDOR	TYPE OF SERVICE PROVIDED
* FOOD VENDORS ARE RESP	PONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ANY NECESSARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PERMITS
person or organization responsib	this permit for the special event creates no agreement or guarantee, express or implied, to any whatsoever connected with this special event. Any liability is the sole responsibility of the le for the special event. By signing this application, I acknowledge that all statements made at I have the authority to bind the organization that I represent.
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE:	Junior Wichauch DATE: Sept. 15-2023
APPROVED	1
MAYOR'S SIGNATURE:	DATE: