

Village of Bluffton Council Meeting Agenda

May 23, 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, May 9, 2022.

Bills

Public Comment: Ricki Francis

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2022

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY REGARDING PUBLIC STREET PAINTING FOR THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BEAVERDAM CONTRACTING, INC., OF BLUFFTON, OH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HOHENBRINK EXCAVATING LLC, OF FINDLAY, OH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Committee Reports

Bluffton In Bloom Committee – 5/18

Boards & Commissions

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, May 23 at 7:00 pm

Insurance Committee – Thursday, May 26 at 11:00 am

Board of Zoning & Building Appeals – Tuesday, May 31 at 7:00 & 7:15 pm

Village Council – Monday, June 13 at 7:00 pm

Public Comment

Adjournment – Motion and Second

Village of Bluffton – Regular meeting May 9, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Cupples motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on April 25, 2022. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Talavinia motioned, seconded by Steiner, to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Sehlhorst motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to approve the appointment of Travis Music to the Pathway Board. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Stahl motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to approve the hiring of Pete Langhals as a seasonal mower for 2022 at \$12.00/hr. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

At 7:15, Council exited the regular meeting and entered the Public Hearing to consider approval of the action of the Planning Commission to approve the construction drawings for the Chestnut Lane development.

Council exited the Public Hearing and returned to the regular meeting.

Kingsley motioned, seconded by Cupples, to approve the Planning Commission action to approve the construction drawings for the Chestnut Lane development, contingent on providing compliant stormwater calculations to the village engineer and taking proper measures with the Allen Co. Engineer and Allen Co. Commissioners regarding existing petition storm tiles. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Cupples, Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, Steiner, and Talavinia. 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.

Village Council meeting on Monday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.

MAYOR

FISCAL OFFICER

VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON
VOUCHER REPORT 5/23/2022

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION
ACCENT BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS	786.99	Administrative	PHONES
AIM MEDIA MIDWEST	783.80	Administrative	ADVERTISING
ALLOWAY TESTING	1,310.10	Multiple	TESTING
ALLOWAY TESTING	127.50	Multiple	TESTING
ALLOWAY TESTING	50.00	Multiple	TESTING
ALLOWAY TESTING	175.00	Multiple	TESTING
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	5,011.08	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	934.47	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	683.64	Multiple	HEALTH INSURANCE
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	156.75	Multiple	LIFE INSURANCE
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	18,925.59	Multiple	HEALTH INSURANCE
BADGE & WALLET	387.00	Police	BADGES
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	115.64	Multiple	STONE
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	154.79	Multiple	STONE
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	62.78	Multiple	STONE
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	384.32	Multiple	STONE
CENTER FOR EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT LAW	159.00	Police	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	134.98	Multiple	CABLE
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	39.99	Multiple	CABLE
CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC	175.00	Administrative	RETAINER
CULLIGAN	5.75	Rescue	WATER
DOMINION EAST	413.00	Multiple	NATURAL GAS
EVERETT J PRESCOTT INC	2,831.76	Capital Improvements	LARGE METERS
FAMILY HARDWARE DO IT BEST	29.07	Multiple	SUPPLIES
GARY'S REPAIR	22.18	Park	MOWER/GROUNDS SUPPLIES
GARY'S REPAIR	131.94	Park	MOWER BLADES
GLANDORF FEED COMPANY	75.00	Park	COPPER SULFATE
GREAT LAKES BILLING ASSOCIATES, INC.	591.33	Rescue	EMS BILLING SERVICE
HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC CO-OP	165.45	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC CO-OP	61.00	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
KLEEM	265.59	Street	STREET SIGNS
KOI ENTERPRISES, INC.	97.32	Multiple	PARTS
M&R PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.	276.85	Multiple	SUPPLIES/PARTS
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL CO.	1,173.00	Pool	POOL CHEMICALS
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL CO.	(90.00)	Pool	POOL CHEMICALS
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL CO.	2,731.75	Pool	POOL CHEMICALS
MINTEYS MAIDS	100.00	Land & Buildings	TOWN HALL CLEANING
MINTEYS MAIDS	100.00	Land & Buildings	TOWN HALL CLEANING
OHIO ASSN. CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC	685.00	Police	ANNUAL OAPC CONFERENCE
PERRY CORPORATION	2,437.28	Administrative	PHYSICAL SERVER RAM & MSA STORAGE
PERRY CORPORATION	1,441.00	Administrative	PHYSICAL SERVER RAM & MSA STORAGE
PERSONNEL CONCEPTS	604.49	Administrative	LABOR POSTERS
RYAN BURKHOLDER	86.88	Police	PETTY CASH REIMBURSEMENT
SAM'S CLUB	40.22	Police	SUPPLIES
SHELL FLEET PLUS	2,179.06	Multiple	FUEL
SMARTBILL	862.94	Multiple	BILLING SERVICES
SPARTA 2002 DESIGNS & PROMOTIONS INC.	1,545.00	Police	KEYCHAINS/FUNERAL
THE EMBLEM AUTHORITY	1,033.00	Police	FUNERAL PATCHES
TIME WARNER CABLE	159.98	Administrative	CABLE
VERIZON WIRELESS	85.68	Multiple	CELL PHONES
VILLAGE OF OTTAWA	51,251.31	Water	WATER
ZOLL DATA SYSTEMS	152.00	Rescue	EMS CHARTS
	102,103.25		

BIWEEKLY PAYROLL 5/20/22	43,403.28
MEDICARE	591.74
OPERS	2,509.32
OP&F	2,186.99
APRIL FIRE & EMS	6,496.79
MEDICARE	94.19
OPERS	412.53
FICA	111.95

Council Signature : _____

Date: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2022

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY REGARDING PUBLIC STREET PAINTING
FOR THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO.**

WHEREAS, the Village of Bluffton desires to provide a high quality of life for Village residents by providing public spaces with a respectable, high quality appearance along with safe amenities and passage;

WHEREAS, the public streets are no exception to this intent, and shall be restricted to markings and paint to solely provide guidance and information to pedestrians and drivers regarding road conditions and acceptable use;

WHEREAS, two areas of the Village will be exempt from this limitation and allow the continued painting of the roadway by Bluffton High School Seniors on W. College Ave., from Main St. to Jackson St., and on the E. College Ave. bridge close to Harmon Field;

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

SECTION 1: That all public streets of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio shall have markings and paint to solely provide guidance and information to pedestrians and drivers regarding road conditions and acceptable use.

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 made 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:

Fiscal Officer

Mayor

Approved as to form:

Elliott T. Werth, Esq.
Village Solicitor

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2022

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BEAVERDAM CONTRACTING, INC., OF
BLUFFTON, OH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, The Council finds that competitive bidding has been held for the S.R. 103 Sanitary Replacement project, and;

WHEREAS, The Council finds that the bidding process was conducted according to law. Bids were opened on the date and time advertised and thereafter reviewed by Choice One Engineering. That review finds that Beaverdam Contracting, Inc., of Bluffton, OH has the lowest, best bid for the project.

WHEREAS, An emergency exists in that approval and timely acceptance of this bid is needed for efficient maintenance of Village infrastructure all for the benefit of the health, safety and welfare of 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:**

SECTION 1: The Mayor and Village Administrator are hereby authorized to accept the bid and execute an agreement with Beaverdam Contracting, Inc., of Bluffton, OH for the S.R. 103 Sanitary Replacement.

SECTION 2: That an emergency exists for the reasons set forth in this resolution.

SECTION 3: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were made 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:

Fiscal Officer

Mayor

Approved as to form:

Elliott T. Werth, Esq.
Village Solicitor

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2022

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HOHENBRINK EXCAVATING LLC, OF
FINDLAY, OH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, The Council finds that competitive bidding has been held for the Lawn and Jackson Water Main Replacement Project and;

WHEREAS, The Council finds that the bidding process was conducted according to law. Bids were opened on the date and time advertised and thereafter reviewed by Choice One Engineering. That review finds that Hohenbrink Excavating LLC, Findlay, OH has the lowest, best bid for the project.

WHEREAS, An emergency exists in that approval and timely acceptance of this bid is needed for efficient maintenance of Village infrastructure all for the benefit of the health, safety and welfare of 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:**

SECTION 1: The Mayor and Village Administrator are hereby authorized to accept the bid and execute an agreement with Hohenbrink Excavating LLC, Findlay, OH for the Lawn and Jackson Water Main Replacement Project.

SECTION 2: That an emergency exists for the reasons set forth in this resolution.

SECTION 3: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were made 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:

Fiscal Officer

Mayor

Approved as to form:

Elliott T. Werth, Esq.
Village Solicitor

Village of Bluffton

Administration's Report

To: Mayor Johnson & Council Members



05-23-22

2022 Bluffton Swimming Pool Employment: Recommend hiring the following individuals for the 2022 swimming pool season

TITLE	FIRST	LAST	TITLE	FIRST	LAST
MANAGER	JENNIE	WILSON	LIFEGUARD	LANDON	ARMSTRONG
ASST. MGR	JACKSON	WILSON	LIFEGUARD	JACOB	LEHMAN
ASST. MGR	STEPHANIE	MCCMAHON	LIFEGUARD	RILEY	VERB
ASST. MGR	SARA	DIPNARINE	LIFEGUARD	ISAIAH	KOHLI
ASST. MGR	AMANDA	SPEICHER	LIFEGUARD	AVERY	BOWERS
ASST. MGR	ELLIE	HOFFMAN	LIFEGUARD	ZOE	SHANK
ASST. MGR	EMMA	KLINGER	LIFEGUARD	CORA	KOONTZ
LIFEGUARD	LEAH	KLINGER	SLIDE	EMILY	GRANGER
LIFEGUARD	XAVIER	DILLER	SLIDE	JENNA	DOWNEY
LIFEGUARD	ISABELLA	STECHSCHULTE	SLIDE	KATE	KLINGER
LIFEGUARD	EUGENE	MCCALL	SLIDE	ALI	SHILLING
LIFEGUARD	JULIA	MEHAFFIE	SLIDE	CALVIN	DERSTINE
LIFEGUARD	NOLAN	HOFFMAN	SLIDE	JUNE	ESSINGER
LIFEGUARD	ETHAN	HOFFMAN	SLIDE	LILY	SCHNECK
LIFEGUARD	ELLA	ARMSTRONG			

Bluffton Hospital Disc Golf Course Update: On the weekend of June 4-5, the BDGA will be organizing a work day/s to gather and grind brush to better establish walking paths throughout the course.

Comprehensive Plan – Steering Committee: Meeting #2 to discuss SWOT results, create a title for the project, and begin formulation of a

community survey.

Complete Streets Task Force:

Will be performing a walk audit this week.

Bluffton In Bloom

Committee: Recommends the purchase and installation of the displayed image for the rock at Exit 140 by Masterpiece Signs.



Water Leak Audit

Aqua Line from Findlay, OH will be in town next week performing a system-wide leak survey of Bluffton's Water Distribution System.

Community Clean-Up: Dumpsters for VILLAGE RESIDENT use will be at the brush dump until Thursday, May 26. Please adhere to all posted rules and do not abuse this courtesy.

Board of Zoning & Building Appeals Meetings

- Tuesday, May 31 at 7:00 pm: The residents at 301 Jared Circle are requesting a variance from Chapter 153.391 fences, walls, and hedges. The request is a variance from the height requirement, allowing construction of a 6-foot privacy fence in their rear yard along College Ave.
- Tuesday, May 31 at 7:15 pm: The owner of 721 N. Main St., which is located in a C-II Commercial District, has requested approval of the Conditional Use of the existing storage building to be used as a commercial storage facility.

Mosquito "Fogging" Schedule Fogging treatments will begin when mosquito populations necessitate the need and weather conditions are conducive to operations.

- ✓ Wednesday evenings will be the primary day of the week for these operations.
Alternate= Thursday



Council Committee Meetings: Request for meetings with: Airport Commission



Date: May 12, 2022

To: Village of Bluffton

From: Chief Ryan M. Burkholder

Reference: Meaning of "Thin Blue Line"

An American Flag with a blue line.

So, what does it mean? In both versions, the black space above the blue line represents society, order, and peace, while the black below, crime, anarchy, and chaos. The Thin Blue Line running between them, "law enforcement," separates the two, keeping crime separated from society. When placed in the context of a flag, there is an added element of patriotism, and the stars symbolize the citizens who benefit from the sacrifice that our heroes on the line made to protect them. The Thin Blue Line Flag is flown as a matter of principle to show support for the thankless work that they do. Law enforcement often look on it as a reflection of courage and a tribute to those who have fallen in the line of duty.

I have found that this is a gesture of respect and tribute in other countries, as well, where they have a similar design as the United States.



The American Flag has been utilized as a tribute to other professions as well.



Respectfully,

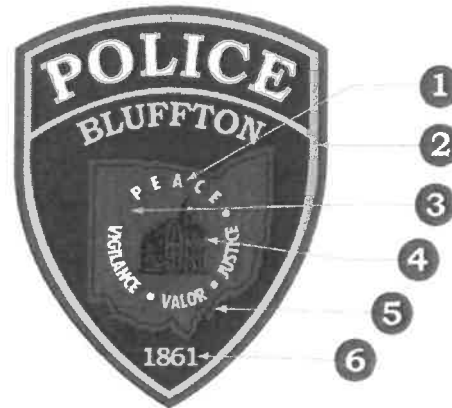
Chief Ryan M. Burkholder

BLUFFTON POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER BIOGRAPHIES

We serve and protect our community with compassion, fairness, and pride in where we live and raise our families. Combined, the current department has 205 years of experience in the profession of peacekeeping. We strive to focus on the importance of community engagement and being active in members in areas such as teaching, coaching, and local committees.

MAY 23RD, 2022

Police Insignia



1. Peace, Vigilance, Valor, Justice

Peace represents the State of Ohio's designation of all officer's as "Peace Officers" to remind everyone that they are keepers of peace.

Vigilance is a state of alertness paying attention to the concern and care of our citizens.

Valor is the demonstration of courage in the face of adversity.

Justice is the manner with which we strive to treat all persons fairly and equally.

2. Alpha & Omega

Visible on the clock tower third floor window above the window

3. Star

The star marks the approximate location of Bluffton in relation to the State of Ohio

4. Town Hall

With the remodeling of the town hall, which is the center of our governmental operations, as well as a cherished community landmark, it seemed appropriate to have the structure highlighted on the patch

5. State Outline

Because there are no less than five "Bluffton" in the nation, it is appropriate to identify that we are Bluffton, Ohio. The outline of the state replaces the word "Ohio" on the patch

6. 1861

Village records show the town "Marshal" dating from present to 1861, when George Burget served as the first town "Marshal" from 1861 to 1862.

7. COLORS

BLUE BORDER: Native American association with using intuition to teach and serve

GOLD TRIM: Prestige of holding a public office

RED: Courage with which we perform our duties and to replicate the red brick of the town hall

WHITE LETTERING: Goodness for those we serve

CHIEF RYAN M. BURKHOLDER

1999 Sworn in as an Auxiliary Police Officer

1999 Sworn into the United States Marine Corps Active Duty

2004 Sworn in as Full- Time Police Officer

2006 Letter of Commendation – Apprehension of Felony suspect from crimes committed in Putnam Co.

2007 Letter of Commendation – Responses to the Flood of 2007

2007 Meritorious Award – Risking personal safety to alert residents and waded in dark and fringed waters to accomplish the mission.

2008 Letter of Commendation – Major Gene King of Allen County Sheriff's Department

2012 Promoted to Sergeant

2016 Promoted to Interim Chief of Police

2016 Officially Promoted to Chief of Police

2017 – Current National Association of Chief of Police

2017- Current Allen Chief of Police Association

Over the years, I have assisted the department in many different aspects of the job such as Firearms Instructor, Taser Instructor, ALICE Instructor for the local schools, Stops and Approaches Instructor, Community Diversity & Procedural Justice Instructor, Domestic Violence Instructor, and Radar / Lidar Instructor. I have been a detective/ investigator taking additional classes focusing on elderly crimes, basic criminal activity, Stalking Investigations and the Reid Technique along with the advanced courses. I have been a department armor for the M16A1 patrol rifles. I have attended numerous leadership and management courses for the departments needs. I have been awarded the MADD "Top Cop" award 2006 thru 2014.

I have been active in coaching youth sports for many years ranging from softball, baseball, football, and basketball. I am currently a certified High School coach and have coached basketball and will be coaching football this year. I am a state certified substitute teacher since 2020. I have instructed in several local police academies as well. I take great pride in be active in our community by sitting on the Food Pantry Board as the representative for the police department. I am a member of the American Legion and enjoy the Memorial Day Parade.

Education

Associates Degree in Criminal Justice Science

Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration

Masters Degree in Criminal Justice Behavior

Additional Awards

911 Service Award

Military Award (United States Marine Corps)

First Responder Award

Crime Scene Investigator Award

Mental Health Officer

Detective / Investigator Award

Field Training Officer Award

OPOTA Instructor Award

Firearms Instructor Award

Taser Instructor Award

Bike Patrol Award

HazMat Award

Total Years of Service:18 Years

LT. MATHEW OGLESBEE

2001 Sworn in as a Part- Time Officer

2001 Sworn in as a Full- Time Officer

2002 Active Shooter Award – Assisting Allen Co. in a domestic dispute which shots were fired at officers on the scene

2005 Meritorious Award – Responded to a suspicious vehicle complain in the village which led to 3 felony arrest

2006 Promoted to Sergeant

2016 Community Service Award – Passion and Dedication to organizing National Night Out

2017 Promoted to Lieutenant

2019 Chief Leadership Award

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Lt. Mathew Oglesbee has been apart of the administrative team for over 15 years at the Bluffton Police Department. During this time, Matt has served as a primary investigator for all major cases because his extensive trainings from sexual assaults, elderly abuse, Officer Involved Shootings, and Human Trafficking. Lt. Oglesbee has attended the Reid Technique of Interviewing and Interrogation Course along with their advanced course. Matt has attended many supervisory courses over the years. Matt is also an ALICE instructor which is utilized for our schools and training staff as well as department officers. Matt has been active in the community by coaching soccer and sitting on local committee boards. Lt. Oglesbee was the original promoter of National Night Out and continues his passion for the community engagement for this event.

Additional Awards

First Responder Award

Bike Patrol Award

911 Service Award

Honor Guard Award

Mental Health Officer Award

Hazmat Award

Detective / Investigator Award

Field Training Officer Award

Total Years of Service: 21 Years

SGT. TYLER HOCHSTETLER

2006 Sworn Part-Time Officer

2007 Sworn Full- Time Officer

2016 Letter of Commendation – Apprehension of subject breaking into vehicles in the village

2017 Promoted to Sergeant

2018 Chief Leadership Award

2019 Letter of Commendation - Assisting in locating a suicidal male subject in the village.

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Sgt. Hochstetler and Kato have assisted the village in making sure we work towards a drug free community. Sgt. Hochstetler has been a certified K9 Handler for 5 years. Sgt. Hochstetler has attended Detective and Investigator trainings and is a certified Crash Investigator for the department attend Ohio State Highway Patrol academy. Sgt. Hochstetler is certified in A.D.A.P (Advanced Detection, Apprehension & Prosecution for impaired drivers. Sgt. Hochstetler is the winner of the MADD Top Cop Award 2016. Tyler is also an ALICE instructor which is utilized for our schools and training staff as well as department officers. Sgt. Hochstetler is very active in coaching youth sports and has been a high school golf coach as well.

Additional Education

Associates Degree in Criminal Justice Science

Bachelor's in Organizational Management

Additional Awards

First Responder Award

Bike Patrol

Fire Fighter Award (Bluffton Fire Department)

Field Training Officer

Meritorious Award

Honor Guard

Police Commendation

Traffic Crash Expert Investigator

Total Years of Service: 16 Years

CPL. LONNY KENT

1991 Sworn in as a Part-Time Patrol Officer
1991 Sworn in as a Full-Time Patrol Officer
1995 – 2005 MADD “Top Cop” Award
2003 Recognition from Betty Montgomery for MADD “Top Cop” Award
2007 Letter of Appreciation from Hancock County Sheriff Department
2017 Sworn in as a Corporal (Senior Patrol Officer)
2019 Letter of Commendation – Assisting in locating a suicidal male subject in the village.
2020 Chief Leadership Award
2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic
2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Officer Lonny Kent has held many responsibilities in his career at the Bluffton Police Department Firearms Instructor, Taser Instructor, Evidence Custodian / Technician, Crime Scene Investigator, Bike Patrol Instructor, oversees BAC Machine Checks and Business Checks, Bean Bag Instructor, and Vehicle Maintenance. Officer Kent had taught many years in several local police academies. Lonny has had the longest running award for MADD “Top Cop” from 1995 thru 2005. Officer Kent has also served on the Bluffton Fire Department. He has been a high school coach, building strong relationships with the youth.

Additional Awards

First Responder Award	Revolver Instructor Award
911 Service Award	Bike Patrol Award
Physical Fitness Instructor Award	Field Training Officer Award
Crime Scene Investigator Award	Honor Guard Award
Life Saving Award	Evidence Custodian Award
OPOTA Instructor Award	
Firearms Instructor Award	

Total Years of Service: 31 Years

OFFICER HOPE HANNAH

2007 Sworn in as a Part-Time Officer

2014 Sworn in as a Full- Time Officer

2018 Lima – Allen County Safe Community – FOP Award Winner

2019 Allen East SADD host for the event

2019 Officer of the Year – Positive Interaction with the youth through D.A.R.E Instructor and S.R.O (School Resource Officer) programs in our local schools.

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

2021 Nominated for the Larry R. Cox “DARE OFFICER OF THE YEAR” Award

Officer Hope Hannah has been instrumental in our community’s youth interaction through DARE and SRO for our local schools. Officer Hannah oversees Safety Pup Program and Bike Rodeo along with Pedestrian crossing classes. Officer Hannah also oversees business checks and updating contacts for our records. Officer Hannah has also served as EMT for Ada as well. Hope is also an ALICE instructor which is utilized for our schools and training staff as well as department officers

Education

Associates in Criminal Justice Science

Bachelor’s in Criminal Justice Science

Master’s Criminal Justice Science

Additional Awards

First Responder Award

School Resource Officer

Bike Patrol Award

Total Years of Service: 15 Years

OFFICER ABBY MICHAEL

2013 Sworn in as a Part-Time Officer

2014 Sworn in as a Full-Time Officer

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2020 Crime Prevention Officer Training

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Officer Michael is currently an Evidence Technician / Custodian. She is in the process of becoming an investigator for the department along with Field Sobriety Instructor for OPOTA. Officer Michael is currently an instructor at the local police academies and teaches at universities.

Education

Master's degree – Criminal Justice Administration

Bachelor's Degree - Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Administration

Associates Degree – Criminal Justice Science

Additional Awards

First Responder Award

Mental Health Officer

OPOTA Instructor

Total Years of Service: 9 Years

OFFICER ERIC RAYLE

2007 Sworn as a Part-Time Officer

2008 Departed for another agency

2017 Sworn in as Full- Time Officer

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2021 Letter of Commendation – Investigative Stop which led to the identification of a suspect breaking into storage units in the area.

2021 Letter of Commendation- Traffic Stop which led to the identification of suspect(s) involved in the thefts of catalytic converters in the area counties.

2021 Officer of the Year Award

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Officer Rayle is the new department Firearms Instructor, Taser Instructor, Bike Patrol Instructor, Impact Weapons Instructor, and oversees the radar/ Lidar units along with the BAC machine checks. Officer Rayle has 10 years of experience with Pandora Police Department, 5 years of experience with Ottawa Police Department, 3 years with Hancock County Sheriff's Department in Corrections. Officer Rayle is active in coaching youth sports.

Additional Awards

First Responder Award

Fire Fighter Award (Bluffton Fire Department)

Correction Officer Award

HazMat Award

Honor Guard Award

Total Years of Service: 22 Years

OFFICER JARED ARNOLD

2019 Sworn in as Part-Time Officer

2021 Sworn in as a Full-Time Officer

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

Officer Arnold oversees vehicle maintenance for the department. Officer Arnold will be assisting in computer technology for the department as well. Jared is also working towards becoming a crime scene investigator.

Education

Associates in Criminal Justice Science

Total Years of Service: 3 Years

OFFICER NATHAN JORDAN

1996 Sworn in as Auxiliary Officer

2000 Sworn in as a Part-Time Officer

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

Officer Jordan has been acknowledged for his ability to do electrical work for the police department such as wiring radio's, light bars, installing the K9 cage. These additional duties save the village of Bluffton.

Officer Jordan has consistently been apart of special details, sporting events, and graduations and proms.

Officer Jordan is a member of the Bluffton Volunteer Fire Department.

Additional Awards

911 Service Award

Fire Fighter Award

Active Shooter Award

Life Saving Medal

Baby Delivery Award

First Responder Award

Total Years of Service: 24 years 6 months

OFFICER CODY GANSON

2017 Sworn in as a Part-Time Officer

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

Officer Ganson has consistently been a part of special details, sporting events, and graduations and proms.

Additional Awards

Dog Warden Award (Allen County)

Total Years of Service: 5 years

OFFICER CHARLES "ED" MONTGOMERY

2001 Sworn in as a Part-Time Officer

2006 Certification of Recognition from Ohio State Highway Patrol

2007 Hero Award from Safety Council of Northwest Ohio – Mayor of Toledo

2011 The Medal of Valor / The Meritorious Service Medal

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Officer Montgomery has consistently been a part of special details, sporting events, and graduations and proms. Officer Montgomery also served as Beaverdam's Fire Chief.

Additional Awards

First Responder Award

Fire Fighter Award (Beaverdam)

Meritorious Award

Active Shooter Award

Total Years of Service: 21 years

OFFICER TROY HARTZOG

2014 Sworn in as Part-Time Officer

2015 Left the department for another agency

2016 Rejoined the department as Part-Time Officer

Officer Hartzog has consistently been a part of special details, sporting events, and graduations and proms.

Additional Awards

First Responder

Total Years of Service: 6 years

OFFICER ELLIOTT TYZZER

2008 Sworn in as a Part-Time Officer

2020 Officer of the Year Award for dedicated service during the COVID-19 pandemic

2022 Letter of Commendation – Responding to an Active Shooter Incident

Officer Elliott Tyzzer specialize in the department as an armor with are M16A1's. Officer Tyzzer has consistently been a part of special details, sporting events, and graduations and proms.

Additional Awards

911 Service Award

Honor Guard Award

Military Service Award (United States Marine Corps)

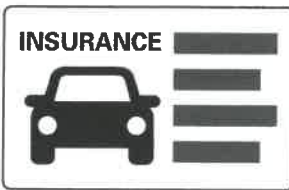
Armor Award

First Responder Award

Total Years of Service: 14 years

I AM DEAF. I AM HARD OF HEARING.

Please point to the pictures to help me understand what you want.



VIOLATIONS



YOU ARE BEING:

WARNED

TICKETED

ARRESTED

I NEED HELP



I AM DEAF. I AM HARD OF HEARING.

This card is for law enforcement officers.
This card will help you communicate with me.

THE BEST WAY(S) TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME:



INTERPRETER



TEXT



WRITING



LIP READING



GESTURES



ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE

Use the QR code to search for an interpreter by Ohio county

COMMUNICATION TIPS

When communicating with me, please:

- Get my attention first.
- Move to a well-lit area, when possible.
- Make eye contact when you speak.
- Repeat, rephrase, or write your request down if necessary.

Be aware that:

- Shining a flashlight in my face will make it difficult for me to understand you.
- I may need to communicate through a qualified sign language interpreter.
- I may need to connect an assistive device to my hearing aid or cochlear implant to hear better.
- A hearing aid or cochlear implant does NOT allow me to understand everything you say.

If I am going to be arrested or be asked to come in for questioning, I may need:

- A qualified sign language interpreter for both spoken and written communication.
- A communication access real-time translation (CART) for captioning conversations.
- For a phone call — video phone, internet service, computer, captioned telephone, or cell phone for texting.

Disclaimer: This visor card does not waive the user's right to effective communication under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).



From: Ohio State Highway Patrol <OSHP@info.dps.ohio.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 2:02 PM
To: Ryan Burkholder
Subject: Agents Remind Parents and Students of Ohio's Alcohol Law Ahead of Graduation

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

Ohio Investigative Unit



MEDIA RELEASE



Date: May 16, 2022

OIU Contact: Enforcement Commander Eric Wolf (614) 644-2415

ODLC Contact: Brandon Klein (614) 359-6665

Agents Remind Parents and Students of Ohio's Alcohol Law Ahead of Graduation

(Columbus) – Agents with the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) and the Ohio Division of Liquor Control are reminding high school students not to use drugs or alcohol during graduation celebrations. Agents are also encouraging parents to refrain from furnishing alcohol or a place to consume alcohol.

“Hosting a graduation party with alcohol is not giving your children and their friends a safe place to gather,” said Senior Enforcement Commander Erik Lockhart. “Adults who choose to host a party with drugs and alcohol are not only opening themselves up for jail time, fines, and civil suits; but could ultimately be responsible for the loss of life.”

To help foster good choices, parents and teens need to understand Ohio's underage drinking laws.

- It is illegal to provide a place for your child and his/her friends to drink in a “safe” environment. In fact, parents may not provide alcohol to children who are under 21, who are not their own, even in their own home with the other parents' permission. Those convicted of providing alcohol to a person under 21 years of age face a maximum sentence of six months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.
- It is illegal to purchase alcohol for anyone under 21. Anyone who purchases, sells or gives alcoholic beverages to underage individuals faces a \$1,000 fine and/or up to six months in jail.
- If you are under 21 and are caught driving with a blood alcohol concentration of .02 percent or higher, a level that can be reached after just one or two drinks, you can be arrested. Punishment is suspension of your driver license for at least 90 days up to a maximum of two years, plus four points added to your driving record. Having an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle is also illegal.

Carry-outs and drive-through establishments should be on alert for underage individuals attempting to purchase alcohol. The DOLC reminds permit holders and liquor agency stores of their responsibility to ensure they are not selling to or serving those under the age of 21.

“These celebrations can turn into tragedies when they’re combined with alcoholic beverages and can result in lifelong effects on teens, their families, and their communities,” said DOLC Superintendent Jim Canepa. “Taking steps to stop the sale of alcoholic beverages to underage consumers can help keep teens and communities safe, sound, and secure.”

The best way to prevent underage sales is for liquor permit holders and agency stores and their staff to thoroughly check the identification of all young people attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages. Always ask for a photo ID and carefully compare it to the person seeking to make a purchase. If photo/ID can’t be provided, or if it’s not clear that the ID belongs to the person who presented it, it’s critical to refuse the sale.

“Together, we must commit to making a safer Ohio, by stopping senseless tragedies associated with irresponsible and illegal underage alcohol consumption,” Commander Lockhart said.

If you have information about a bar, store or carryout selling beer and/or liquor to persons under the age of 21, or you have information of an underage house party, please notify the Ohio Investigative Unit by calling the #677 on your cell phone and your complaint will be investigated.

#

The Ohio Investigative Unit is charged with enforcing the state’s liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).

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