

**COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA
October 6, 2015
8:00 PM
BLUFFTON TOWN HALL**

MINUTES September 21, 2015

BILLS

ORDINANCE NO. 15-15 **3RD READING**

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AN ALLEY AS REQUESTED BY CHRIS AND RHONDA WENGER AND MICHAEL AND AMY MARCUM.

ORDINANCE NO. 16-15 **3RD READING**

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A PROCEDURE BY WHICH THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON CONSIDERS AND PROCESSES APPLICATIONS FOR THE VACATION OF ANY STREET OR ALLEY.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-15 **1ST READING**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 17-05 OF THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO REGARDING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

SAFETY

COMMITTEE REPORTS/MEETING SCHEDULING

ALLEN WATER DISTRICT

SHANNON CEMETERY

MEETING DATES

October 5, 2015	Council	8:00 PM
October 19, 2015	Council	8:00 PM

Mayor Augsburg presiding. Messrs: Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, Steiner, Talavinia, and Warren present.

Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on September 8, 2015. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Warren, Steiner, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Talavinia. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Talavinia moved, seconded by Mr. Warren to approve the bills as presented. Total non-payroll of \$103,764.86 and payroll of \$43,037.70. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Talavinia, Warren, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Steiner. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Sehlhorst moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 15-15: AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AN ALLEY AS REQUESTED BY CHRIS AND RHONDA WENGER AND MICHAEL AND AMY MARCUM. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Sehlhorst, Steiner, Burrell, Johnson, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Sehlhorst moved, seconded by Mr. Warren to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 16-15: AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A PROCEDURE BY WHICH THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON CONSIDERS AND PROCESSES APPLICATIONS FOR THE VACATION OF ANY STREET OR ALLEY. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Sehlhorst, Warren, Burrell, Johnson, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Burrell to suspend the rules. Roll Call: Yes (5) Messrs: Steiner, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Talavinia. No (1) Mr. Warren, motion approved.

Mr. Sehlhorst moved, seconded by Mr. Burrell to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 17-15: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING PRELIMINARY CONSENT LEGISLATION BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO AND THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE S.R. 103 CORRIDOR STUDY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Sehlhorst, Burrell, Johnson, Steiner, Talavinia, and Burrell. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Sehlhorst to suspend the rules. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Steiner, Sehlhorst, Burrell, Johnson, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Burrell moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the first reading of Resolution No. 09-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, Steiner, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Talavinia to suspend the rules. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Steiner, Talavinia, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Burrell to approve the first reading of Resolution No. 10-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO TO ENTER INTO AN ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT WITH DIAMOND MANUFACTURING OF BLUFFTON AND BTMS INVESTMENTS, LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Johnson, Burrell, Sehlhorst, Steiner, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. Sehlhorst to suspend the rules. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Warren, Sehlhorst, Burrell, Johnson, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Talavinia to approve the first reading of Resolution No. 11-15: 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. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Johnson, Talavinia, Burrell, Sehlhorst, Steiner, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

The Fiscal Officer announced the following meeting:

September 29, 2015	Airport Advisory Commission (at airport)	12:30 PM
October 5, 2015	Council	8:00 PM

Mr. Sehlhorst moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to accept the bid of \$44,594 from Martin Painting & Coating for resurfacing the swimming pool, the Village will buy the paint. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Sehlhorst, Johnson, Burrell, Steiner, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. Sehlhorst to accept the 2015 sidewalk program bid packet and award project A work to Steve Niese Concrete. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Warren, Sehlhorst, Burrell, Johnson, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Warren to accept the 2015 sidewalk program bid packet and award project B to Vonderwell for mud jacking and to Precision Concrete for grinding/cutting. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Johnson, Warren, Burrell, Sehlhorst, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Talavinia to approve Bryan White and Austin Barnhart as regular firemen. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Johnson, Talavinia, Burrell, Sehlhorst, Steiner, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Talavinia moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner to approve Wes Short as a six (6) month probationary fireman. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Talavinia, Steiner, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Talavinia moved, seconded by Mr. Warren to approve a letter of intent to purchase a 2016 police cruiser from Statewide Ford, not to exceed \$37,000.00. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Talavinia, Warren, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Steiner. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Talavinia moved, seconded by Mr. Warren to declare unit 106 fire truck as surplus equipment, effective immediately. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Talavinia, Warren, Burrell, Johnson, Sehlhorst, and Steiner. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Talavinia moved, seconded by Mr. Sehlhorst to approve purchase ancillary equipment for the new fire truck, not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Talavinia, Sehlhorst, Burrell, Johnson, Steiner, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Warren to approve closing Main Street on October 2, 2015 at 5:30pm for the Homecoming parade. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Johnson, Warren, Burrell, Sehlhorst, Steiner, and Talavinia. No (0), motion approved.

The Mayor announced that Trick or Treat in the Village will be held on October 29, 2015 from 6-7:30pm.

Mr. Burrell moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner to approve the reduction in the line of credit held at First National Bank of Pandora from \$500,000 to \$200,000. Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Burrell, Steiner, Johnson, Sehlhorst, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to enter into executive session for the discussion of contracts (Council, Mayor, and Solicitor). Roll Call: Yes (6) Messrs: Steiner, Johnson, Burrell, Sehlhorst, Talavinia, and Warren. No (0), motion approved.

Mr. Johnson moved to exit from executive session. No action taken.

Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn.

MAYOR

FISCAL OFFICER

Shannon Cemetery Commission, Bluffton, Ohio
Minutes of the Meeting of August 6, 2015

Members present:

Bob Amstutz
Judy Augsburger
Jesse Blackburn
Richard Boehr
Samuel Diller
Harriett Moyer
John Murray
Fred Rodabaugh
Paula Scott, recorder
Evan Skilliter
David Steiner
Nate Ulrey, chairperson

Public attendance:

Susan L. King
Ray J. Mumma
Darrell K. Huber
Anita D. Huber
Lorette Bessette
Susan Wilson
Karen Dukes
Brooks Winegardner
Joan Bauman
Lisa Winegardner
Bernadine Ludwig
Joe Selhorst
Fred Steiner
Roger Warren

Absent:

None

A letter dated August 1, 2015 from Donald C. McGraw, Jr. of the Sons of the American Revolution, Ohio Society was distributed to the commissioners (attached). The letter urges the Village of Bluffton to "rectify issues caused by the removal for relocation of Shannon Cemetery grave markers without re-interment" including those of Joseph DeFord. [Was letter read or discussed? PS]

1. The meeting was called to order by Nate Ulrey at 7:03 p.m. in the Patio Room of Maple Crest, 700 Maple Crest Ct., Bluffton, Ohio.
2. Mayor Judy Augsburger made opening comments, introducing the Shannon Cemetery Commission and welcoming input and ideas for Shannon Cemetery.
3. Commission members introduced themselves.

4. Mr. Ulrey opened the floor for public comments, asking for for 2-3 minutes of input from individuals and asking commissioners to take notes for future consideration.

Speakers included: Darrell Huber, Ray Mumma, Karen Dukes, Sue Kramer, Brooks Winegardner, Roger Warren, Lisa Widener, Susan King.

Comments from guests and commissioners included:

- Want preservation of stones, including repair and repositioning.
- Want to share family information
- Want to see flags flying for 70 known veterans.
- Know of 40+ veterans plot and row #.
- Know of 12 rows.
- Want scan to establish rows.
- Existing aerial map has 43 stones.
- Want stones in storage put back.
- Want stones cataloged.
- A Huber base is still in place.
- Bases are just as important as the stones that have been stored.
- Can give commission numbers and names
- Don't want stones put in concrete; that is the worst way to preserve stones.
- [Save the Shannon] is using the Neil Hauenstein landscape design [drawing/documents?] as reference.
- Question: Will you put the 3rd Huber stone in storage?
- Ray Mumma submitted a 2-page "Save Shannon Cemetery Plan" (attached) by the Friends of Shannon Cemetery.
- A sample scan will be done soon, after a 10-day insurance approval period.
- Question: Were trailers on cemetery land?
- Want plaques for individuals with unknown burial location, especially veterans.
- There should be nothing put over graves.
- There should be no gazebos; gazebos are too expensive to maintain.

- Disturbed by the work done in the past.
- 6 parking spots in proposed landscape plan cannot be possible.
- Landscaping plan has items over gravesites.
- Need to establish where graves belong.
- Council should be stewards.
- Cost of proposed landscaping/cemetery park plan is wasteful.
- Existing plan can be modified.
- "Park" is a bad choice of wording.
- Question: Who gave the village authority to move stones? Did anyone check to see if this was legal?
- Should only be called "Shannon Cemetery" and nothing else.
- Bases are needed to stabilize headstones.
- Grass growing over stones is a problem.
- Maple Grove examples show Civil War stones in bad shape.
- Need to preserve and plan for both Maple Grove and Shannon cemeteries.
- Question: Who is primary contact? Answer: Nate Ulrey, chairperson.

5. Dick Boehr reviewed the work he has done at Shannon Cemetery and distributed a time line tracing the cemetery's condition from 2001 to present (attached). Mr. Boehr's comments included:

- Welcomes research and invites everyone to share information with the mayor and commission chair.
- Has done work to clean up Shannon Cemetery as a volunteer, working under 3-4 mayors.
- Began with Boy Scouts cleaning the cemetery.
- Fallen tree removal and tree work has been done.
- Has worked on this project for 12 years
- Found early 20th century concrete work on stones.
- Noted that stones have moved over many years.
- Has a 1937 Bluffton News article as a reference.
- Noted the process is confusing and will never be completely satisfying.
- Said his purpose is to honor those buried in Shannon Cemetery.

- Guests requested a copy of the 1937 records [Did Save the Shannon members already have this? PS].

6. Mr. Ulrey distributed and reviewed a binder of materials for commissioners.

Binder sections include:

- 1) Commission Letter [from the chairman]
- 2) Notes [blank pages]
- 3) Solicitor Document
- 4) Official Minutes and Correspondence
- 5) Shannon Cemetery Project Progress Update
- 6) Shannon Cemetery in the Media
- 7) Letters from Family, American Legion and Western Ohio History Group
- 8) Landscape Design, Estimate of Cost and Proposed Ideas
- 9) Satellite Photo with Locations of Stones and Descriptions
- 10) Cataloged Stone Photos
- 11) Preserve, Restore and Memorialize [Tools and products, standards, and do's and don'ts; still to be inserted by Nate]
- 12) Resources

Mr. Ulrey's comments included:

- The mayor and Jesse Blackburn can make copies at town hall.
- These materials will help commissioners do research.
- To verify information on a person/grave, you need 3 sources.
- Mr. Ulrey urges and challenges members to use the information in the binder.
- When you search for information "Shannon Cemetery" doesn't give many results. Need more key words.
- Bridges and quarries have moved multiple times.
- Has plotted the GPS for all 42 known stones.
- Asked for feedback from commissioners.
- Invited guests to exchange information with the commission.

Responses from commissioners included:

- This information is a good base for the commission.

Comments from guests:

- Save the Shannon group needs information on the stones that Mr. Boehr found by probing and digging.
- Names have been read wrong because of the difficulty of identifying the old style letters.

7. The next Shannon Cemetery Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 3 at 7 p.m. in the Patio Room.

Simultaneous informal conversation began among visitors and commissioners.

9. Bob Amstutz moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Ms. Augsburger seconded the motion.

10. Mr. Ulrey adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Shannon Cemetery Commission

Agenda:

7pm: Welcome - Nate Ulrey

7:05-7:30pm: Introductions - Commission Members

State your name, where you are from, profession or occupation, hobbies, and how you feel you can/will be an asset to this commission

7:30-7:40pm: Save Shannon Cemetery/Guest Input

7:40-7:50pm: Dick Boehr

7:50-8pm: Distribute Commission Binders, Discuss plan for next meeting; goals, expectations



Sons of the American Revolution

Ohio Society

Organized April 11, 1889

August 1, 2015

2015-2016

Officers

President

James D. Schaffer

1st Vice-

President

Rev. David B. Foster

2nd Vice-

President

Steven R. Frash

Secretary

Donald C. McGraw, Jr.

Treasurer

L. Stephen Hinson

Registrar

Troy C. Bailey

Historian

Dr. James D. River

Genealogist

Richard L. Fetzer

Chaplain

Rev. James O. Fast

National

Trustees

Troy C. Bailey

James Schaffer (Alt.)

Directors

At Large

2013-2016

Timothy E. Ward

2014-2017

Wm. Anthony

Robinson

2015-2018

Paul M. Wilke

Council of the Village of Bluffton

154 N. Main St.

PO Box 63

Bluffton, Ohio 45817

Dear Village Council,

During their recent Board of Management meeting on July 25, 2015, the Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution unanimously passed a Resolution urging the Village of Bluffton to rectify issues caused by the removal for relocation of Shannon Cemetery grave markers without the re-interment of the associated remains (see attached Resolution). Among those grave markers removed include a Hero and Patriot of the American Revolution, Joseph DeFord.

We urge your immediate attention in this matter.

Very Respectfully,

Donald C. McGraw, Jr.

Secretary

Ohio Society, Sons of the American Revolution

www.ohssar.org

donald.c.mcgraw@gmail.com

(513) 404-4982

**OHIO SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

RESOLUTION

Urging the Abandonment of Shannon Cemetery Renovation Project
Village of Bluffton, Allen County, Ohio

WHEREAS, the Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio passed and adopted Resolution Number 97-13 supporting the development of the property known as the Shannon Cemetery to memorialize those buried there in a respectful manner; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Shannon Cemetery as authorized by Resolution Number 97-13, has resulted in the removal for relocation of grave markers without re-interment of the associated remains to a suitable location within the vicinity of the property; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution is a historical, educational, and patriotic organization dedicated to the commemoration of the people and events of the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, Joseph DeFord was a soldier who served in the 5th Maryland Regiment of the Continental Army during the American Revolution, and was interred in the Shannon Cemetery, with a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs marker being placed on his grave in 1949; and

WHEREAS, the headstone marker of Joseph DeFord has been separated from his grave as part of this development project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution urges the Village of Bluffton to cause the headstone of Joseph DeFord, and those of all similarly affected decedents, to be immediately reinstalled on their graves; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution urges the Village of Bluffton to abandon any and all plans to further disturb the markers, monuments, and remains of those buried in the Shannon Cemetery.

Submitted by: Robert W. Davis
Board Member

Adopted this 25th day of July 2015

Recorded by: 
Donald C. McGraw, Jr.
Secretary

“FRIENDS OF SHANNON CEMETERY”

THE SAVE SHANNON CEMETERY PLAN

I. OUR GOAL

To Preserve, Restore and Memorialize Shannon Cemetery. Return and restore the removed gravestones to their grave sites. Have a full Ground Penetrating Radar Scan performed in an attempt to locate graves. To preserve and restore stones where no grave site is known and put them in a memorial area. To work with a cemetery conservationist so that work is done in the proper manner. Continuing the research of cemetery history, burial history, family history. Continued contact of families of those buried here, so they may visit here. To work with any group or individual(s) and be willing to compromise our efforts to obtain our goal to return this property at the entrance of downtown Bluffton, Ohio back to its intended use, a Cemetery, an Ohio historic pioneer cemetery.

II. PRESERVE

- A.** That the development and renovation of the property known as Shannon Cemetery be stopped under the present plan known as Shannon Cemetery Park. That this plan established under, Village of Bluffton Resolution No. 07-13, is modified, per Section 2 of said resolution. And that any and all modifications are done per Section 1, in a manner to memorialize those buried there in a respectful manner. That the name of the plan known at Shannon Cemetery Park be changed, to what Resolution No. 07-13 refers to, Shannon Cemetery. The property known as Shannon Cemetery shall be protected, maintained and preserved for what it was meant to be and what it has always been, a cemetery; an Ohio historic pioneer cemetery.
- B.** That a sample G.P.R. (ground penetrating radar) scan be performed on the Shannon Cemetery property, as surveyed and or originally platted, in an attempt to locate all unmarked and unknown graves. Pending positive results of this sample scan in locating grave(s), a full G.P.R. scan will be recommended to be done.
- C.** That all known graves be marked, both with or without gravestone in a manner to memorialize those buried there.
- D.** That all know gravestones be cataloged and individually photographed prior to any move, under the instructions and or directions from a Cemetery Conservationist.
- E.** Research will be done on both the cemetery and those that are buried there, both known and unknown. In an attempt to identify those interred at Shannon Cemetery.
- F.** Attempt will be made to identify each row and plot (lot) number located at Shannon Cemetery.
- G.** Members of the Save Shannon Cemetery group shall be appointed as members to the Shannon Cemetery Commission.
- H.** That we all and foremost realize and respect that this property we wish to protect and preserve is a cemetery of the founding fathers of Shannon, Ohio; which one day became Bluffton. An historic cemetery in Bluffton, Ohio.

III. RESTORE

- A.** Restoration workers before restoring gravestones agree to take a class conducted by a cemetery conservationist. To be trained in the proper methods and products to use in restoration efforts.
- B.** That all restoration efforts be under the advice, direction and guidance of a professional cemetery conservationist.
- C.** Restoration will be done in a professional and respectful manner.
- D.** All gravesites. Rows, plots (lots) will be ground marked and charted to a master chart for future location and identification.
- E.** Stones will be reset onto their original gravesite, if located, in a respective manner which is prescribed by a professional cemetery conservationist.
- F.** Gravestones which are restored and their original gravesite can't be located will be placed at a permanent memorial site in Shannon Cemetery where no graves are known to exist.
- G.** When a gravestone from the memorial site has been identified to belong on a specific grave it will be removed from the memorial site and placed upon the specified grave.
- H.** Any partial gravestone will also be preserved; no partial stone will be discarded and or destroyed.
- I.** Partial gravestones and or pieces shall also be displayed at the said memorial site respectfully.
- J.** All restoration efforts and work performed on the Village of Bluffton property known as Shannon Cemetery will be performed in a safe and respectful manner.

IV. MEMORIALIZE

- A.** Every attempt will be made to relocate each and every stone on their respective grave site.
- B.** An application should be applied for to have Shannon Cemetery an Ohio Historical Society site and marked with an historical marker. With local historians writing what should be said of both the town of Shannon and those buried here.
- C.** A memorial plaque with names of those buried here both known and unknown could be erected. This plaque could include the row and plot (lot) number if known. Memorial should only memorialize those interred here; not any village, business, organization or public participant in this endeavor.
- D.** Any veteran with no gravestone on their grave should have a government stone applied for.
- E.** A flag pole would be very appropriate on the cemetery grounds, but not over any grave(s).
- F.** While parking may be nice it has not been an issue in the past, would be an added expense and would have to be maintained; if built it must and can't be built over any known or unknown grave area.
- G.** Walking trails, rain gardens, gazebo, service club wall are not needed and detract on how we feel that Shannon Cemetery should be memorialized, after all this is a Cemetery.

Remembering to preserve, restore, and memorialize Shannon Cemetery in a respectful manner.

Paula Scott



111 VINE STREET BLUFFTON, OHIO 45817

(419) 358-6886 boehrd@embarqmail.com

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Pg. 1

**BLUFFTON SHANNON CEMETERY
Time Line-Concerned about it's Condition**

- 2001 Presentation to Community and Visiting Guests-
Inquiry to Village Administration-
Village Council-Very concerned-
- 2003 Action to Co-op with Richland Township Survey and Deed to Village)-
Delay in Process until 2010 For Memorial Cemetery-
Richland Township Truste3es have no information on maintenance or history-
- 2010 Study History -Bluffton News 1937-1949-
Study Site- N&S & E&W Original?
Only a few stones could be probably at original sites-
Area showed truck tracks to dump at creek-
Stones found and some buried (along sidewalk)-
Probed area-No Boulder found by DeFord-
Study of Stones in concrete-many broken (Not in original places)-
- Estimated where gully went through
 - Estimate Creek relocated
 - Estimate Original Location N&S &E&W
- 7-29-2000 William Huber heard of concern- Encouraged and offered assistance
- 2011 General Information to Village Council (Need to clean it up)
Meeting with Genealogical Society People-
Met with Co. Engineer, and surveyor-
Formal announcement to area News-
Got aerial photos-
Researched some Area Cemeteries - (Names)
Contact Stone Research Specialist-
- 7-15-11 Send Letters to those who inquired-
- 8-12 Letters sent to Heirs Reading Memorial Site and requested funds-
- 11-12 Mayor Eric Fulcomer assigned Daryl Gallant and Eric Collier to the Recreation Park Board to assist in this project. Requested a Landscape Architect and estimated costs on proposal of plans-



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Pg. 2

2013 Further study on costs-help from Village Crews-Contact organizations locally for assistance
(Remove trees)-

7-11-13 Further contacts with Tree Committee, Park Board and Administrator, to study proposed
plans-Village Resolution to follow-

5-2014 Named Stones- *Move of them*

6-2014 General Information follow-up letter to those who inquired-
Response with interest to help-

- American Legion
- Bluffton Scouts (helped clean up area)
- Bluffton Lion's Club
- Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
- Many more local informed people-
- Help from Police and Locals with cleaning up area)

Public Announcement- "Moving to Next Phase"

5-2015 Objections and Concerns
WHO ARE THEY?

Note: Major stories by Press started - 7-11-10-Courier & 8-13-12-
General Stories followed-
Many Bluffton News Article-2010,2011,2012 and continued on-
Many Icon Stories - 3-7-11-
Genealogical News - 5-2011 (Cemetery Chronicals) to Duane Grace & Vickie Vigil-

Research etal

- Allen County Archives
- Ohio Cemeteries
- Cemetery Chronicals
- Veteran's Affairs-Lists
- National Registry Guidelines



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RJ

- Conservation of Cemeteries
- Genealogical Newsletter (2)
- County Officials
- Township Officials

Comparable Stories of discontinued Cemeteries-

Wed. Sept 22, 2010-Lima News- Trinity Lutheran-Elida-

Wed. July 22, 2015- Lima News- Shawnee United Methodist-

Many Cemeteries have been changed, relocated, and used for other purposes; Some stacked.-

Note: There has been only one purpose for this improvement: To the best of my knowledge, and that is to uphold and honor those who rest here in the Bluffton Shannon Cemetery. (Only the names of those who can positively show-burial information will be listed on the Honor roll Plaques.)

Volunteer, Dick Boehr

(H)

Bluffton News

Others

of Exhibit Space and Rising

HALF-FORGOTTEN CEMETERY RESTS PLACE OF EARLY BLUFFTON PIONEERS

22

Reminiscent of old Shannon and the hardy pioneers who hewed a town out of the wilderness along the Riley, Bluffton's first cemetery lies all but forgotten bordering Jefferson street on the banks of Riley Creek. Many members of Bluffton's earliest families rest in the old burial ground, with time-worn tombstones dating back as far as 1839. Some

graves in the cemetery are more than a century old, but the stones have long since disappeared. Milk sickness, dread scourge of the early days, claimed the lives of many who lie in the long-abandoned burial plot. Often this disease would wipe out entire families. Dread Disease It was caused by cows eating

poison weeds, with the heavily wooded of the poison weeds milk, killing many. In the earlier days at the extreme town. Today in Bluffton which lies to the south. When the cemetery was laid out and for many

This is 78 yrs ago

chose the site where Maple Grove now lies. In the old cemetery about 125 markers remain standing, most of them in a sad state of disrepair. The lettering is all but defaced by time and weather in most cases.

Markers Disappear

Many graves in the burial plot are without markers, and there is no doubt that the final resting place of many has been forgotten by friends and relatives alike.

The oldest tombstone standing is that of Tabitha Bryan, who died in 1839. Martha Coble Fitzgerald was the last person buried in the cemetery, the interment being in 1873, three years after the new cemetery had been opened. Mrs. Fitzgerald was laid at rest in

editor of The Bluffton News in the early nineties. At one time a deep gully ran through one corner of the cemetery, the primary purpose of which was to permit water to drain from Main street into the creek. It has been filled in within the last 15 years. No records remain of the old cemetery, and with time effacing the records of the tombstones, it will not be long until most tangible evidence of the century-old graves will have disappeared. Today, the last resting places of many can be determined only by those who know from hearsay where the graves lie.

845
MAY 26, 1949

Historic Marker Erected Here At Long-Lost Grave Of Town's Founder

Grave of Joseph DeFord In Old
Jefferson Street Cemetery
Marked By Plaque

Marker At Long-Lost Grave
Culminates Search By Sons
Of American Revolution

A headstone of gleaming white Georgia marble was erected last Friday to mark the all but forgotten grave in the Old Cemetery on Jefferson street where lie the remains of Joseph DeFord, founder of Bluffton and soldier in the Revolutionary war.

The headstone was placed next to a small boulder, almost completely overgrown with grass which was for years the only identification marking the final resting place of the pioneer who in 1832 built a small gristmill here powered by water from Riley creek.

DeFord, according to inscription on the marker was a private in the Fifth Maryland regiment and it is believed that he was a native of that state.

GRAVE IDENTIFIED BY S. A. R.

Identification of the grave was effected last summer by the Allen County chapter of Sons of the American Revolution, a brother organization of the D. A. R.

The stone is the standard marker provided by the federal government to mark graves of all Revolutionary war veterans. Erection was in charge of the Allen county commissioners with Richland Township

Shannon Cemetery Commission, Bluffton, Ohio Regular Meeting – Aug. 6, 2015

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME	ADDRESS
Susan L. King	234 N. LAWN AVE BLUFFTON, OH
Ray J. Mumm	763 Cherry Rd. 50 ADA, OHIO 45810
Darrell K. Huber	5450 STATE ROUTE 219 COLDWATER, OHIO 45828
Anita D Huber	Ditto ↑
Koretta Bessette	970 Lincoln St Ottawa OH 45875
Susan Wilson	438 S. Main St Bluffton Ohio
Karen Dukes	683 S Main St Bluffton
Bernadine Winegardner	5549 Pevee Rd Bluffton
Joan Bauman	700 Maple Crest -
Lisa Winegardner	5549 Pevee Rd. Bluffton
BERNADINE LUDWIG	10035 AUGSBURGER RD, BLUFFTON
Joe Jelitto	335 Cherry Bluffton, OH
Fred Steiner	226 Green St Bluffton
Roger L. Warren	499 Cherry St. Bluffton

**Village of Bluffton
Bills to be paid
10/5/2015**

PAYROLL:

Village	\$	35,994.97
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TOTAL PAYROLL	\$	35,994.97
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NON-PAYROLL:

Bailey's	Police Uniforms	\$	215.00
Bluffton Stone	Road Maintenance Supplies	\$	73.00
F. Stephen Chamberlain	Retainer/Meetings	\$	1,320.00
CLIA Lab Program	Lab User Fees	\$	150.00
Fastenal	Misc Shop Supply Parts	\$	29.46
Hancock Co Sheriff	Prisoner Housing	\$	55.00
Nancy Kindle	Reimburse Training Expense	\$	281.30
M & R Plumbing	Air Conditioner Motor	\$	1,292.43
AEP	Electricity	\$	18,224.26
Perry Corp	Computer/Copier Back-Up, Phone & Server Issue	\$	606.54
SmartBill	Utility Bill Printing & Postage	\$	750.72
Staples- Business	Paper, Toner, Paper Towels, Suckers	\$	402.21
Time Warner Cable	Internet	\$	314.90
Verizon	Air Card	\$	120.47
Vetter	Lumber, Felt	\$	197.03

Total Non-Payroll	\$	24,032.32
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Mayor/ Council President

X: Then and Now Approved by Council

A: Addition to list

Statement of Cash Pos w/MTD

AS OF: 09/30/2015

YEAR: 2015

STARTING ACCOUNT:

ENDING ACCOUNT: z

FUND NO.	FUND DESCRIPTION	BEGINNING BALANCE	[-----RECEIPTS-----]		[-----DISBURSMENTS-----]		UNEXPENDED BALANCE	OUTSTANDING ENCUMBRANCE	ENDING BALANCE
			M-T-D	Y-T-D	M-T-D	Y-T-D			
A1	GENERAL FUND	2355382.64	117889.34	1926220.73	147621.46	1975180.68	2306422.69	226730.48	2079692.21
B1	STREET FUND	132381.64	11817.44	381117.91	62884.60	311073.20	202426.35	144317.45	58108.90
B2	STATE HIGHWAY FUND	46210.58	930.05	8315.66	14039.19	14039.19	40487.05	0.00	40487.05
B3	CEMETARY FUND	15621.17	1712.00	20749.75	870.38	17810.17	18560.75	12323.63	6237.12
B4	PARK FUND	4580.73	0.00	15500.00	1376.66	10381.45	9699.28	3588.29	6110.99
B5	BENOTH MEMORIAL BR	534.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	534.63	0.00	534.63
B6	FEMA GRANT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
B7	COURT COMPUTER	5113.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5113.14	0.00	5113.14
B8	DUI ENFORCEMENT & E	219.01	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	244.01	0.00	244.01
B9	PERMISSIVE LICENSE	0.00	0.00	2500.00	0.00	0.00	2500.00	0.00	2500.00
C1	STREET DEBT SERVICE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C2	SWIMMING POOL DEBT	863.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	863.28	0.00	863.28
D1	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	3477.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3477.57	0.00	3477.57
D2	STORM SEWER IMPROVE	54107.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	6441.34	47666.08	2858.66	44807.42
D3	FIRE & RESCUE IMPRO	56075.92	0.00	117167.00	0.00	43495.95	129746.97	5723.05	124023.92
D4	SWIMMING POOL IMPRO	11369.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	6776.00	4593.67	61394.00	56800.33
D5	EQUIPMENT REPLACEME	177.90	0.00	32000.00	0.00	15264.58	16913.32	0.00	16913.32
D6	AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT	54961.17	202775.00	297670.00	85353.20	114284.79	238346.38	24095.00	214251.38
D7	STREET IMPROVEMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
D8	TOWN HALL IMPROVEME	334938.05	0.00	42968.03	0.00	6092.80	371813.28	25992.75	345820.53
D9	POLICE EQUIPMENT RE	4784.71	0.00	0.00	6459.75	6459.75	1675.04	0.00	1675.04
E1	WATER FUND	165955.66	85692.94	1081148.26	141010.40	901932.14	345171.78	261939.85	83231.93
E2	SEWER FUND	109074.77	67540.60	601206.94	78258.51	653989.08	56292.63	100520.21	44227.58
E3	SEWER DEBT SERVICE	245300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	245300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E4	SEWER DEBT SERVICE	42026.59	21671.31	145842.62	20726.84	142798.96	45070.25	65958.40	20888.15
E5	WATER DEBT SERVICE	0.00	0.00	252614.61	0.00	505230.04	252615.43	0.00	252615.43
E6	SEWER REPLACEMENT &	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E7	REFUSE FUND	68033.79	18332.39	157819.82	33461.33	170462.76	55390.85	47976.09	7414.76
E9	WATER/ SEWER IMPROV	299452.48	16080.15	364267.51	0.00	303438.76	360281.23	119653.00	240628.23
F1	WATER CONSTRUCTION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F2	COMMUNITY EVENTS	5880.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5880.77	0.00	5880.77
F3	COMMUNICATIONS FUND	6960.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6960.24	1000.00	5960.24
F4	POLICE CONTINUING PR	1769.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	298.35	1471.52	0.00	1471.52
F5	UTILITY RECOVERY	16459.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16459.88	0.00	16459.88
G2	UNCLAIMED MONIES TR	225.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	225.20	0.00	225.20
G3	INCOME TAX FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
G4	CEMETARY TRUST - C/	1326.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1326.66	0.00	1326.66
G5	CEMETARY TRUST - MA	524.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	524.37	0.00	524.37
H1	SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	897.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	897.17	0.00	897.17
H2	SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
H4	SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	849.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	849.41	0.00	849.41
H5	SPECIAL ASSMT - MAI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
H6	SPECIAL ASSMT - JAC	119.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	119.67	0.00	119.67
	TOTAL:	4045655.76	544441.22	5447133.84	592062.32	5450749.99	4042039.61	1104070.86	2937968.75

* End of Report: VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON *

ORDINANCE NO. 18-15

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 17-05 OF THE VILLAGE OF
BLUFFTON, OHIO REGARDING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX**

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Amendment of the Ohio Constitution, Article XVII, Section 3, provides that “Municipalities shall have authority to exercise all powers of local self-government,” and the municipal taxing power is one of such powers of local self-government delegated by the people of the State to the people of municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 6 of the Ohio Constitution provides that the General Assembly may restrict a municipalities power of taxation to the extent necessary to prevent abuse of such power, and Article XVIII, Section 13 of the Ohio Constitution states that “laws may be passed to limit the powers of municipalities to levy taxes and incur debts for local purposes;” and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to comprehensively review and amend Chapter 718 of the Ohio Revised Code, setting forth statutory requirements for municipal income tax codes in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, the General Assembly enacted H. B. 5 in December 2014, and mandated that municipal income tax codes be amended by January 1, 2016 such that any income or withholding tax is “levied in accordance with the provisions and limitations specified in [Chapter 718];” and

WHEREAS, upon a detailed review of H. B. 5 and the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Bluffton, this Ordinance is found and determined by this Council to enact the amendments required prior to the January 1, 2016 deadline to be in accord with the provisions and limitations specified in Chapter 718 of the Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, Council also finds and determines that the constitutionality of certain provisions of the state-mandated code may have been put in question by recent decisions of the Ohio Supreme Court regarding, among other things, taxation of professional athletes, but these provisions must be included if the municipal income tax code is to be “levied in accordance with the provisions and limitations specified in [Chapter 718]” and thus reluctantly are adopted by this Council but are disclaimed to the extent they are unlawful or unconstitutional;

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

Section 1. That Ordinance No. 17-05 the Income Tax Ordinance be amended to read as set forth in the document entitled “Village of Bluffton Income Tax Ordinance” attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2016.

DATE PASSED: _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
DAVID STEINER

ATTEST: _____

NANCY KINDLE
FISCAL OFFICER

MAYOR JUDY AUGSBURGER

DATE APPROVED

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

F. Stephen Chamberlain
Village Solicitor

**To: Mayor Augsburg
Council Members**

TRS

We had a preconstruction meeting for the Trihalomethane Removal System project last Thursday. As long as fabrication moves forward as scheduled, the contractors are scheduled to begin the installation of the TRS the last week in October.

Pool

Martin Painting and Coating Co. started on the swimming pool resurfacing this past Wednesday. The prepping crew is currently in stripping the surface down to the concrete and removing the old seams. Once the prep work is completed and any necessary repairs made to the concrete, as long as the weather permits, the resurfacing should begin.

Road Salt

The contracted price for road salt through Allen County via ODOT is \$60.63 per ton. During the 2014-2015 Winter season, we did not purchase any salt in large part due to the contracted price of \$105.00 per ton. Additionally, last season we started the season off with our salt bins full and were fortunate to not have to purchase salt at the contracted price. While we currently have approximately 50 tons of salt on hand, the intent is to fill the bins to capacity in November when the contract permits the Winter Fill to begin using the 2015 budget for salt that was not used earlier in the year. Furthermore, Mike Dewine's office released yesterday the Rock Salt Settlement resulting from the lawsuit that the State filed against salt producers stemming from an increase a few years ago and claims of price fixing. According to the Attorney General's news release, the Village of Bluffton will be receiving a \$1,121.42 claim payment from the settlement agreement.

Hydrant Flushing

The Service Department is scheduled to begin the semi-annual hydrant flushing the week of October 5th. The Fall flushing takes a little longer to complete than the Spring flushing due to the need to pump down the hydrants following the flushing to prep for freezing temperatures. It is anticipated that the flushing program will take up to three weeks to complete.

Leaf Pickup

We have not scheduled a start date for leaf pickup yet. As the season progresses, we will make a determination as to when the leaf pickup will commence. Residents who like to get an early start on the process are always welcome to drop off their leaves at the brush dump.

Allen Water District

Representatives from the Allen Water District have requested to be on Council's Agenda for Monday evening's regularly scheduled Council Meeting to make a presentation to Council.

Flu Shots

With Council's approval, I would like to move forward with our annual flu shot program with Greg's Pharmacy.