

# Village of Bluffton Council Meeting Agenda

December 27, 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, December 12, 2022

## **Bills**

### **Committee Reports**

Finance Committee: 12/20

### **Boards & Commissions**

## **LEGISLATION**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 05-2022**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **Emergency**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 02-2022 (THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 06-2022**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **Emergency**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADVANCING MONIES TO THE WATER/SEWER IMPROVEMENT FUND TO COVER THE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CURRENT WATERLINE PROJECTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 33-2022**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **Emergency**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023 FOR THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 34-2022**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **Emergency**

A RESOLUTION: MAKING CERTAIN TRANSFERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

### **RESOLUTION NO. 35-2022**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **Emergency**

A RESOLUTION: MAKING CERTAIN TRANSFERS AT THE LEGAL LEVEL OF CONTROL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

### **RESOLUTION NO. 36-2022**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **Emergency**

A RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE CURRENT CONTRACT WITH THE FIRM HACKENBERG, FEIGHNER & WERTH LLC, WITH ATTORNEY ELLIOTT T. WERTH AS THE VILLAGE SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**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 – Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm
- Complete Streets Task Force – Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon – Virtual – GoToMeeting
- Pedestrian Pathway Board – Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at noon
- Village Council – Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm
- Boards of Zoning and Building Appeals – Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

**Public Comment**

**Adjournment** – Motion and Second

Village of Bluffton – Regular meeting December 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Stahl motioned, seconded by Kingsley, to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on November 28, 2022. Roll Call: Yes (4) Messrs: Kingsley, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Steiner. No (0), Abstain (1) Cupples, motion approved.

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

The Fiscal Officer gave the following readings:

3rd Reading:

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

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

Kingsley motioned, seconded by Steiner, for the Village to award a grant of \$5,000 to the Bluffton Chamber of Commerce to be used for expenses for the benefit of Main St. in Bluffton and for the Village to award a grant of \$5,000 to the Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurs in support of their mission supporting entrepreneurial activity in Bluffton. 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.

Village Council on Tuesday, December 27 at 7:00 p.m.

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MAYOR

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FISCAL OFFICER

**Village of Bluffton  
Finance Committee Meeting  
December 21, 2022 @ 11:00 AM**

Committee member present, David Steiner, Phil Talavinia

Mayor Richard Johnson

Staff present, Jesse Blackburn, Village Administrator and Kevin Nickel, Fiscal Officer.

The committee reviewed the temporary appropriations to be in effect until March 31, 2023 and recommended council approval.

The committee agreed to recommend Council approve ordering a Ford F-250 at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.

The committee agreed to recommend Council approve ordering a leaf vac machine at a cost not to exceed \$ 95,000.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

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David Steiner

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Phil Talavinia

VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON  
VOUCHER REPORT 12/27/2022 - FINAL

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION
ACCENT BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS	815.75	Administrative	PHONES
ALLOWAY TESTING	127.50	Multiple	TESTING
ALLOWAY TESTING	300.00	Multiple	TESTING
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	743.74	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING CO.	450.00	Administrative	ORDINANCE CODIFICATION
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	156.75	Multiple	LIFE INSURANCE
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	867.83	Multiple	HEALTH INSURANCE
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	19,517.00	Multiple	HEALTH INSURANCE
BAILEY'S EQUIPMENT & APPAREL	1,418.00	Police	UNIFORMS - NEW OFFICER
BAILEY'S EQUIPMENT & APPAREL	69.00	Police	UNIFORMS
BASINGER PLUMBING & HEATING LLC	9,285.00	Land & Buildings	FIRE DEPARTMENT HEATERS
BLUFFTON CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURS	5,000.00	Administrative	ANNUAL SUPPORT
BLUFFTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	5,000.00	Administrative	ANNUAL SUPPORT
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	64.24	Multiple	STONE
BOBCAT COMPANY	565.12	Water	WATER PUMP
BRONNER'S	472.67	Administrative	LED REPLACEMENT BULBS
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	39.99	Administrative	CABLE
CINTAS	76.16	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CINTAS	76.16	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC	175.00	Administrative	RETAINER
DOMINION EAST GAS	966.31	Multiple	NATURAL GAS
FAMILY HARDWARE DO IT BEST	212.92	Multiple	SUPPLIES
FRUCHEY, LOGAN	122.20	Administrative	BOOTS
GREAT LAKES BILLING ASSOCIATES, INC.	1,390.56	Rescue	EMS BILLING SERVICE
HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC CO-OP	165.45	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
HAWTHORNE-SEVING, INC.	17.89	Street	SNOW PLOW REPAIR
Kathy Burkholder	12.00	Police	UNIFORMS
LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPLY, INC.	319.80	Police	PORT CLIPS
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC.	345.00	Police	CAMERA MIC
OHIO UTILITIES PROTECTION SERVICE	8.00	Administrative	MANUAL CALLOUTS
POWER HOUSE ELECTRIC SUPPLY	125.49	Sewer	RECYCLING
RYAN BURKHOLDER	81.14	Police	PETTY CASH REIMBURSEMENT
SHELL FLEET PLUS	3,414.01	Multiple	FUEL
SMARTBILL	1,154.71	Multiple	BILLING SERVICES
STEVE SWISHER	2,800.00	Police	K-9 VEHICLE CONVERSION
THE CINCINNATI INSURANCE COMPANY	475.00	Administrative	BOND RENEWAL - FO & UTILITY
THE CINCINNATI INSURANCE COMPANY	222.00	Administrative	BOND RENEWAL - TAX
TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION	683.04	Land & Buildings	BATTERY LOWERING KIT
UTILITY SERVICE CO, INC.	15,028.84	Water	WATER TOWER PEDISPHERE
VILLAGE OF OTTAWA	47,187.61	Water	WATER
ZOLL DATA SYSTEMS	156.56	Rescue	EMS CHARTS
	120,108.44		
BIWEEKLY PAYROLL 12/16/22	43,307.69		
MEDICARE	589.11		
OPERS	2,354.20		
OP&F	264.72		
NOVEMBER FIRE & EMS	9,548.54		
MEDICARE	138.45		
OPERS	607.28		
FICA	183.68		

Council Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

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

ORDINANCE NO. 05-2022

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 02-22 (THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to appropriate funds and amend Ordinance No. 02-22 (The Annual Appropriation Ordinance).

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

SECTION 1: That monies are appropriated for the various funds as follows:

Supplemental Appropriations:

**Cemetery Fund**

<b>B3-2A-52390</b>	<b>Misc. Services</b>	<b>+\$15,500.00</b>
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**Park Fund**

<b>B4-3B-52520</b>	<b>Pathway</b>	<b>+\$35,000.00</b>
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**Sewer Fund**

<b>E2-5X-42430</b>	<b>Repair &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>+\$30,000.00</b>
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**National Night Out Fund**

<b>F6-6B-52420</b>	<b>Operating Supplies</b>	<b>+600.00</b>
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**Water/Sewer Improvement Fund**

<b>E9-5J-52560</b>	<b>System Expansion</b>	<b>+\$18,000.00</b>
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SECTION 2: That an emergency exists in the daily operation of the Village whereby failure to act will be detrimental to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants thereof, and for the further reason that this appropriation transfer is needed so expenditures can be made.

SECTION 3: 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 of 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SOLICITOR

ORDINANCE NO. 06-2022

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADVANCING MONIES TO THE WATER/SEWER IMPROVEMENT FUND TO COVER THE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CURRENT WATERLINE PROJECTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to ADVANCE MONIES TO THE Water/Sewer Improvement Fund for the purpose of covering expenses associated with the current waterline projects with the expectation that the Water/Sewer Improvement Fund will advance the monies back to the General Fund as loan monies are collected.

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

SECTION 1: That monies are advanced from the General Fund to the Water/Sewer Improvement Fund as follows:

<b>General Fund</b>		
<b>A1-7X-52730</b>	<b>Advances Out</b>	<b>-\$607,887.88</b>
<b>Water/Sewer Improvement Fund</b>		
<b>E9-0I-41930</b>	<b>Advances In</b>	<b>+\$607,887.88</b>

SECTION 2: That an emergency exists in the daily operation of the Village whereby failure to act will be detrimental to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants thereof, and for the further reason that these appropriations are needed so expenditures can be made.

SECTION 3: 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 of 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SOLICITOR

**RESOLUTION NO. 33 - 2022**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023 FOR THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS:** Temporary Appropriations are needed for Village operations until Final Appropriations are prepared and;

**WHEREAS:** an emergency exists in that the timeliness of the approval of the Temporary Appropriations is necessary for the preservation of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio;

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

**SECTION 1:** That for the purposes of Temporary Appropriation until the Final Appropriation is completed; the Council hereby adopts the 2023 Appropriation as if fully rewritten herein to be effective up through March 31, 2023, or until such time as replaced by Final Appropriation Ordinance.

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

**SECTION 3:** That to protect the financial integrity of the Village, which is necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the Village and its inhabitants.

Passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fiscal Officer

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
Solicitor



VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON 2023 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS  
Exhibit A

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	Temporary 2023 AMOUNT
<b>GENERAL FUND:</b>		
<b>POLICE EXPENSES</b>		
	PERSONAL SERVICES	193,847.00
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	73,299.00
	OPERATING	50,440.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>317,586.00</b>
<b>FIRE EXPENSES</b>		
	PERSONAL SERVICES	12,383.00
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,366.00
	OPERATING	14,262.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>28,011.00</b>
<b>STREET &amp; LIGHTING EXPENSES</b>		
	OPERATING	24,640.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>24,640.00</b>
<b>RESCUE EXPENSES</b>		
	PERSONAL SERVICES	50,000.00
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	6,400.00
	OPERATING	20,269.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>76,669.00</b>
<b>DISPATCHER EXPENSES</b>		
	MISC. SERVICES	55,609.00
<b>COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT EXPENSES</b>		
	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	10,124.00
<b>MOSQUITO CONTROL EXPENSES</b>		
	MOSQUITO CONTROL	12,679.00
<b>CULTURAL AFFAIRS EXPENSES</b>		
A1-3C-52390	MISC. SERVICES	3,630.00
<b>POOL EXPENSES</b>		
	PERSONAL SERVICES	-
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	-
	OPERATING	6,913.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6,913.00</b>
<b>BRUSH DUMP EXPENSES</b>		
	OPERATING	25,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>25,000.00</b>

**STORM SEWER EXPENSES**

A1-6D-52550	STORM SEWERS	-
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**SIDEWALKS EXPENSES**

A1-6G-52550	SIDEWALK PROGRAM	-
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**AIRPORT EXPENSES**

A1-6X-52390	MISC SERVICES	23,183.00
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A1-6X-52430	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	1,320.00
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A1-6X-52550	RUNWAY LIGHT PROJECT	-
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<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>24,503.00</b>
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**MAYOR/ADMIN EXPENSES**

PERSONAL SERVICES	61,046.00
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EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	15,793.00
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OPERATING	54,500.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>131,339.00</b>
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**LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE**

PERSONAL SERVICES	8,580.00
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EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,524.00
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OPERATING	-
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,104.00</b>
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**MAYOR'S COURT EXPENSE**

COURT COSTS	-
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**FISCAL OFFICER'S EXPENSE**

PERSONAL SERVICES	23,374.00
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EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	9,585.00
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OPERATING	3,948.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,907.00</b>
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**LAND & BUILDINGS EXPENSE**

PERSONAL SERVICES	8,826.00
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EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,048.00
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OPERATING	47,563.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57,437.00</b>
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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE**

MISC CONTRACTUAL SERV	5,940.00
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**AUDITOR & TREASURER FEES EXPENSE**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	4,620.00
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**DELINQUENT LAND ADVERTISING EXPENSE**

PUBLISHING	-
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**AUDITOR'S EXPENSE**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	-
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**INCOME TAX ADMIN. EXPENSE**

PERSONAL SERVICES	14,895.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	5,644.00
OPERATING	17,451.00

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,990.00</b>
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**SAFETY EXPENSE**

MISC. SERVICES	-
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**OTHER EXPENSE**

OPERATING	34,755.00
TRANSFERS	310,365.00
ADVANCES	-

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>345,120.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,214,821.00</b>
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**STREET MAINTENANCE EXPENSE**

PERSONAL SERVICES	56,235.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	18,516.00
OPERATING	276,683.00

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>351,434.00</b>
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**SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSE**

OPERATING SUPPLIES	10,000.00
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	-

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL STREET FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>361,434.00</b>
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**STATE HIGHWAY EXPENSES**

OPERATING	330.00
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<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>330.00</b>
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**CEMETERY EXPENSES**

PERSONAL SERVICE	2,064.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	317.00
MISC. SERVICES	6,252.00

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>8,633.00</b>
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<b>PARK EXPENSES</b>		
	OPERATING SUPPLIES	296,952.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		296,952.00

<b>BENROTH BRIDGE EXPENSES</b>	
B5-6G-52430	MAINTENANCE

<b>COURT COMPUTER EXPENSES</b>	
B7-1A-52420	OPERATING SUPPLIES

<b>DUI ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES</b>	
B8-1A-52390	TRAINING
B8-1A-52420	OPERATING SUPPLIES
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	

<b>PERMISSIVE LICENSE FUND</b>	
B9-6A-52550	STREET CONSTRUCTION
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	

<b>BLUFFTON IN BLOOM FUND</b>		
C4-1A-52390	MISC SVC	2,475.00

<b>AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT</b>		
C5-5J-52560	SYSTEM EXPANSION	135,935.00

<b>STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENT EXPENSES</b>		
D2-6D-52390	MISC. SERVICES	-
D2-6D-52550	STORM SEWERS	11,550.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		11,550.00

<b>FIRE &amp; RESCUE IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>		
D3-1B-52520	EQUIPMENT	7,506.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		7,506.00

<b>POOL IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>		
D4-3D-52510	POOL CAPITAL ITEMS	50,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		50,000.00

<b>EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT EXPENSES</b>		
D5-1F-52520	EQUIPMENT	-
D5-5X-52610	PRINCIPAL	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		-

**AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT EXPENSES**

	OPERATING	46,650.00
<b>Total</b>		46,650.00
<b>TOWN HALL IMPROVEMENT EXPENSES</b>		
D8-7E-52510	BUILDING IMPR.	4,950.00
<b>POLICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSES</b>		
D9-1A-52520	POLICE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT	32,250.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		32,250.00
<b>WATER EXPENSES</b>		
	PERSONAL SERVICES	30,967.00
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	14,756.00
	OPERATING	362,345.00
E1-5X-52710	TRANSFERS	100,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		508,068.00
<b>SEWER FUND EXPENSES</b>		
	PERSONAL SERVICES	39,881.00
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	16,854.00
	OPERATING	191,814.00
	TRANSFERS	300,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		548,549.00
<b>REFUSE FUND EXPENSES</b>		
E7-5K-52390	REFUSE SERVICE	100,874.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		
<b>WATER/ SEWER IMPROVEMENT FUND EXPENSES</b>		
	OPERATING	135,474.00
	DEBT	523,540.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		659,014.00
<b>POLICE CONTINUING TRAINING</b>		
F4-1A-52390	TRAINING	2,310.00
<b>NATIONAL NIGHT OUT</b>		
F6-6B-52420	OPERATING SUPPLIES	-
<b>SHANNON CEMETERY</b>		
F7-1A-52390	MISC SERVICES	
<b>F8-1A-52390</b>	<b>K9 EXPENSES</b>	714.00

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2022

A RESOLUTION: MAKING CERTAIN TRANSFERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to make certain transfers between funds of the Village of Bluffton.

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

SECTION 1: That the following transfers are hereby made:

To	From	Amount
Water/Sewer Imp. E9-0I-41920		+\$260,000
	Water E1-5X-52710	-\$50,000
	Sewer E2-5X-52710	-\$210,000
Bluffton in Bloom C4-0I-41920		+\$12,000
	General A1-7X-52710	-\$12,000

SECTION 2: That an emergency exists in the daily operation of the Village whereby failure to act will be detrimental to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants thereof, and for the further reason that this appropriation transfer is needed so expenditures can be made.

SECTION 3: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 by the governing body of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio by the following vote:

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ Noes: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
FISCAL OFFICER

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SOLICITOR

RESOLUTION NO. 35-2022

A RESOLUTION: MAKING CERTAIN TRANSFERS AT THE LEGAL LEVEL OF CONTROL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to make certain transfers between accounts of the Village of Bluffton.

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

SECTION 1: That the following transfers are hereby made:

**General Fund:**

To:	A1-1A-52110	PAYROLL	+\$5,000				
	A1-1A-52121	HOSPITALIZATION	+\$20,000				
	A1-1A-52390	MISC. SERVICES	+\$11,000				
	A1-1A-52420	OPERATING SUPPLIES	+\$7,000				
				From:	A1-1X-52390	MISC. SERVICES	-\$16,000
					A1-7E-52510	LAND & BUILDINGS	-\$27,000
		RESCUE & TRANSPORT					
To:	A1-1F-52110	PAYROLL	+\$1,000				
	A1-3D-52110	PAYROLL	+\$1,000				
	A1-6X-52430	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	+\$1,000				
				From:	A1-1F-52420	OPERATING SUPPLIES	-\$3,000
To:	A1-7D-52110	PAYROLL	+\$500				
	A1-7D-52121	HOSPITALIZATION	+\$10,000				
	A1-7G-52340	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	+\$7,000				
	A1-7I-52340	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	+\$3,000				
	A1-7J-52121	HOSPITALIZATION	+\$1,200				
				From:	A1-7A-52390	MISC. SERVICES	-\$20,000
					A1-1F-52340	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	-\$1,700
		MISC. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES					
To:	A1-7J-52390	SERVICES	+\$8,000				
				From:	A1-7E-52390	MISC. SERVICES	-\$5,000
					A1-7D-52390	MISC. SERVICES	-\$3,000

**Sewer Fund:**

To:	E2-5X-52110	PAYROLL	+\$20,000				
	E1-5X-52122	PERS	+\$1,200				
				From:	E2-5C-52312	ELECTRICITY - OHIO POWER	-\$17,800
					E2-5E-52311	NATURAL GAS	-\$1,600
					E2-5A-52380	PRINTING	-\$700
					E1-5X-52440	METERS	-\$1,100

**Capital Improvement Fund:**

To:	E9-5J-52620	INTEREST	+\$2,350				
				From:	E9-5J-52560	SYSTEM EXPANSION	-\$2,350

SECTION 2: That an emergency exists in the daily operation of the Village whereby failure to act will be detrimental to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants thereof, and for the further reason that this appropriation transfer is needed so expenditures can be made.

SECTION 3: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this

Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 by the governing body of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio by the following vote:

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ Noes: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
FISCAL OFFICER

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SOLICITOR



**RESOLUTION NO. 36-2022**

**A RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE CURRENT CONTRACT WITH THE FIRM HACKENBERG, FEIGHNER & WERTH LLC, WITH ATTORNEY ELLIOTT T. WERTH AS THE VILLAGE SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS: The Council finds that there is a need for a Village Solicitor to act as legal counsel To the Village and its departments; and

WHEREAS: an emergency exists in that the timeliness of the acceptance of this contract is necessary for the legal protection of Village business.

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

SECTION 1: That the Village Council hire, contract and otherwise retain the firm **HACKENBERG, FEIGHNER & WERTH, LLC**, with Attorney Elliott T. Werth, as Village Solicitor for a period of one (1) year beginning on January 1, 2023. The Village Solicitor shall be paid a retainer of One thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) per month. The Village Solicitor shall attend any and all regular and special meetings of Council. The Village Solicitor shall attend any other meetings of Council or its Committees and Boards when requested. The foregoing shall compensate all work of the Village Solicitor except extraordinary matters.

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 adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in accordance with all legal requirements of the Open Meetings Law including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Solicitor



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**DATE:** December 1, 2022

**TO:** Mayor Johnson and Council

**FROM:** Chief Ryan M. Burkholder

**REFERENCE:** Police Department Monthly Report

**POLICE ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

**November 2022**

Police Calls of Service - 556

Traffic Stops - 39

Citations - 6

**CRIMINAL COMPLAINT BREAKDOWN**

Miscellaneous – 5

Theft – 4

Fraud/Forgery – 3

Criminal Damage – 2

Breaking and Entering – 1

Disorderly Conduct – 1

Driving Under Suspension – 1

Juvenile Incident(s) – 1

Menacing – 1

Plates from Another Vehicle – 1



# Incident Breakdown By Month Report

Print Date/Time: 12/01/2022 16:34  
Login ID: rburkholder  
Year: 2022

Bluffton Police Department  
ORI Number: OH0020100  
Incident Type: All

Incident Type	January		February		March		April		May		June		July		August		September		October		November		December		Yearly Totals
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Abandoned 911	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1
Accident Property	5	8.3	5	8.3	5	8.3	6	10.0	4	6.7	6	10.0	3	5.0	3	5.0	6	10.0	6	10.0	11	18.3	0	0.0	60
Accident w/injuries	2	18.2	1	9.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	9.1	3	27.3	0	0.0	2	18.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	18.2	0	0.0	11
Administrative	89	19.6	106	23.4	69	15.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	4.4	32	7.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	42	9.3	93	20.5	2	0.4	453
Aiding Other	23	12.0	24	12.6	13	6.8	11	5.8	18	9.4	20	10.5	19	9.9	18	9.4	11	5.8	15	7.9	17	8.9	2	1.0	191
Alarm	9	9.0	6	6.0	8	8.0	8	8.0	12	12.0	16	16.0	11	11.0	6	6.0	9	9.0	9	9.0	5	5.0	1	1.0	100
Animal Complaint	2	8.7	2	8.7	1	4.3	3	13.0	0	0.0	5	21.7	2	8.7	2	8.7	2	8.7	2	8.7	2	8.7	0	0.0	23
Assist Police	4	3.1	6	4.6	6	4.6	13	10.0	15	11.5	21	16.2	8	6.2	13	10.0	10	7.7	19	14.6	15	11.5	0	0.0	130
B&E	0	0.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	40.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	2	20.0	2	20.0	0	0.0	10
Civil Complaint	0	0.0	1	5.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	15.0	5	25.0	0	0.0	5	25.0	2	10.0	1	5.0	3	15.0	0	0.0	20
Court	1	25.0	1	25.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4
Criminal Damage	2	18.2	0	0.0	2	18.2	0	0.0	1	9.1	1	9.1	0	0.0	2	18.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	27.3	0	0.0	11
Deceased	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	25.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4
Domestic	1	7.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	15.4	2	15.4	3	23.1	4	30.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	7.7	0	0.0	13
Drug Abuse	1	14.3	2	28.6	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	1	14.3	0	0.0	7
Escort	1	8.3	1	8.3	0	0.0	1	8.3	3	25.0	1	8.3	0	0.0	1	8.3	1	8.3	2	16.7	1	8.3	0	0.0	12
Flight Complaint	1	16.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	50.0	1	16.7	1	16.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6
Fire	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1
Follow Up	7	6.1	12	10.4	21	18.3	2	1.7	7	6.1	5	4.3	5	4.3	2	1.7	1	0.9	17	14.8	35	30.4	1	0.9	115
Forgery	0	0.0	1	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	25.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	4
Hazmat	0	0.0	2	20.0	4	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	20.0	0	0.0	2	20.0	0	0.0	10
Hit Skip	2	10.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	15.8	2	10.5	1	5.3	3	15.8	1	5.3	1	5.3	3	15.8	3	15.8	0	0.0	19
House/Building	287	15.5	260	14.0	240	13.0	97	5.2	92	5.0	140	7.6	163	8.8	87	4.7	128	6.9	173	9.3	181	9.8	3	0.2	1851
Intoxicated Driver	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3
Intoxicated Person	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2
Investigate Vehicle	19	6.9	35	12.7	26	9.5	10	3.6	21	7.6	30	10.9	23	8.4	26	9.5	28	10.2	33	12.0	21	7.6	3	1.1	275



## Incident Breakdown By Month Report

Print Date/Time: 12/01/2022 16:34  
Login ID: rburkholder  
Year: 2022

Bluffton Police Department  
ORI Number: OH0020100  
Incident Type: All

Incident Type	January		February		March		April		May		June		July		August		September		October		November		December		Yearly Totals
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
K9 Request	1	20.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5
Lock Out	7	8.3	6	7.1	6	7.1	6	7.1	11	13.1	8	9.5	7	8.3	7	8.3	10	11.9	7	8.3	9	10.7	0	0.0	84
Menacing	2	28.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	28.6	1	14.3	0	0.0	7
Mentally Ill Person	1	3.6	4	14.3	3	10.7	3	10.7	1	3.6	3	10.7	3	10.7	1	3.6	4	14.3	3	10.7	2	7.1	0	0.0	28
Miscellaneous	50	8.8	43	7.6	54	9.5	32	5.7	55	9.7	46	8.1	31	5.5	42	7.4	57	10.1	69	12.2	84	14.8	3	0.5	566
Motorist Assist	5	9.3	5	9.3	5	9.3	6	11.1	4	7.4	5	9.3	5	9.3	7	13.0	7	13.0	2	3.7	3	5.6	0	0.0	54
Paper Service	2	6.1	1	3.0	2	6.1	3	9.1	1	3.0	1	3.0	3	9.1	11	33.3	4	12.1	2	6.1	3	9.1	0	0.0	33
Pedestrian Stop	1	6.7	3	20.0	1	6.7	1	6.7	1	6.7	2	13.3	2	13.3	0	0.0	3	20.0	0	0.0	1	6.7	0	0.0	15
Prisoner Escort	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2
Prowler	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	50.0	1	25.0	1	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4
Receiving/Recover	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	2	40.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	5
Sexual Abuse	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	33.3	1	16.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	16.7	2	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	6
Shots Fired	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2
Stolen Vehicle	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	3
Suspicious Person	4	11.1	3	8.3	1	2.8	2	5.6	2	5.6	7	19.4	4	11.1	5	13.9	3	8.3	3	8.3	2	5.6	0	0.0	36
Telephone	2	28.6	0	0.0	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	28.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	1	14.3	0	0.0	7
Theft	5	13.5	2	5.4	2	5.4	6	16.2	1	2.7	2	5.4	3	8.1	4	10.8	2	5.4	5	13.5	5	13.5	0	0.0	37
Traffic Stop	61	11.0	50	9.0	63	11.4	56	10.1	42	7.6	56	10.1	46	8.3	42	7.6	51	9.2	47	8.5	39	7.0	1	0.2	554
Trespass	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1
Uncruly Juvenile	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	66.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3
Unsecured Door	1	3.3	3	10.0	3	10.0	2	6.7	5	16.7	4	13.3	1	3.3	2	6.7	4	13.3	4	13.3	1	3.3	0	0.0	30
Unwanted Guest	1	12.5	1	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	25.0	2	25.0	1	12.5	0	0.0	8
Violating PTO	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2
Warrant Service	3	50.0	1	16.7	0	0.0	2	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6
Total:	603	12.5	589	12.2	545	11.3	276	5.7	311	6.4	420	8.7	385	8.0	298	6.2	357	7.4	478	9.9	556	11.5	16	0.3	4834



## Ticket Statistics

Print Date/Time: 12/01/2022 16:36  
Login ID: rburkholder  
Statute: All

From Date: 01/01/2022  
To Date: 11/30/2022  
Ticket Type: All

Bluffton Police Department  
ORI Number: OH0020100

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
4503.11A Expired License Plates	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Criminal</b>													
2925.141 Marijuana Drug Paraphernalia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Criminal Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Warning</b>													
4511.12 Obedience to Traffic Control Devices	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4511.21B3 Speed 35 MPH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
4513.241C WINDOW TINT	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
4511.69C PARKING FACING ONCOMING TRAFFIC	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
73.10(B)(2) Speed 25 MPH	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
73.10(B)(1)(a) Speed - 20 MPH (School Zone)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
72.032(A) Fail to Yield Stop Sign	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
4511.68 Truck Loading Zones	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Warning Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Traffic</b>													
4513.23 Rear-View Mirror, Clear View to Front, Both Sides/Rear	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
4511.21D4 Speed - 70MPH Freeway	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4511.21B6 Speed 50 MPH (also 45 MPH)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4511.21B3 Speed 35 MPH	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	6
4511.21B2 Speed 25 MPH	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
4511.202A Reasonable Control	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
4511.431 Failure to Yield - Yield Signs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
4511.42A Failure to yield the right of way when turning left	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4511.38A Rules for Starting and/or Backing	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4510.11(B) Violation of License Restrictions (2255 Needed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1



## Ticket Statistics

Print Date/Time: 12/01/2022 16:36  
 Login ID: rburkholder  
 Statute: All

From Date: 01/01/2022  
 To Date: 11/30/2022  
 Ticket Type: All

Bluffton Police Department  
 ORI Number: OH0020100

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
4503.11A Expired License Plates	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	8
4513.04A 2 HEADLIGHTS REQUIRED/ 1 HEADLIGHT ON MOTORCYCLE	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4511.12A FAILURE TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	0	1	5	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
4511.21A SPEED/ACDA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
73.10(B)(3) Speed 35 MPH	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
73.10(B)(2) Speed 25 MPH	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
72.032(A) Fail to Yield Stop Sign	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
72.015(A)(2) Rules for Backing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
72.013(A)(1) Rules for Turning - Right Turn as Close to Curb as Possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
71.01(B) Expired Plates	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4510.14A Driving Under Suspension - OVI	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4510.21A Failure to Reinstate	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4510.16A Driving Under Suspension - FRA	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
4511.19A1h OVI Over .17 - Breath	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4510.12A1 No Drivers License (NO OL)	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
4511.19A1a OVI	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Traffic Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79</b>



**BLUFFTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
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Date: December 2, 2022

To: Mayor Johnson and Bluffton Village Council

From: Sergeant Tyler Hochstetler

Reference: 2022 K9 Activity Report

Mayor Johnson and village council members,

2022 has been a down year for the department's K9 unit. While navigating the uncharted waters of losing an officer in the line of duty to falling on the heels of the pandemic, K9 Kato has not been requested as often as years past. K9 Kato recertified in April 2022 and began his fourth year on patrol for the Bluffton Police Department. Overall, K9 Kato performed five total vehicle sniffs for the year and performed a suspect track after a fleeing suspect crashed into a police cruiser following a vehicle pursuit. K9 Kato and I received no public demonstration requests for the year 2022. A breakdown of the year in review is as follows:

Narcotics Vehicle Sniffs – 5

Suspect Tracks – 1

It is noteworthy to mention that while K9 Kato always remains ready, after the events of March 31, 2022, I was off assisting in departmental duties and preparation for Officer Francis' funeral. Approximately one week after Officer Francis' funeral I went on leave after my third child was born and returned to work in May. Our K9 Unit dealt with a few vehicle mechanical issues that prohibited K9 Kato from riding (safely) in the K9 cruiser and as I type this, K9 Kato is currently off as I await the arrival of the new (to us) K9 cruiser. Our hope for the new year is to hit the ground running and continue making a positive impact in the community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sgt. Tyler Hochstetler".

Sergeant Tyler Hochstetler & K9 Kato





On December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, I was invited to Bluffton Troop 256 Boys Scouts to explain the Bill of Rights and how it applies to them and how it is applied in my career as a police officer. The meeting started at 7pm and I gave a 50-minute presentation. I was deeply grateful for the opportunity to spend time with the scouts, as I was a scout 20 plus years ago.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'R' followed by a long horizontal line and a vertical stroke.

CHIEF OF POLICE

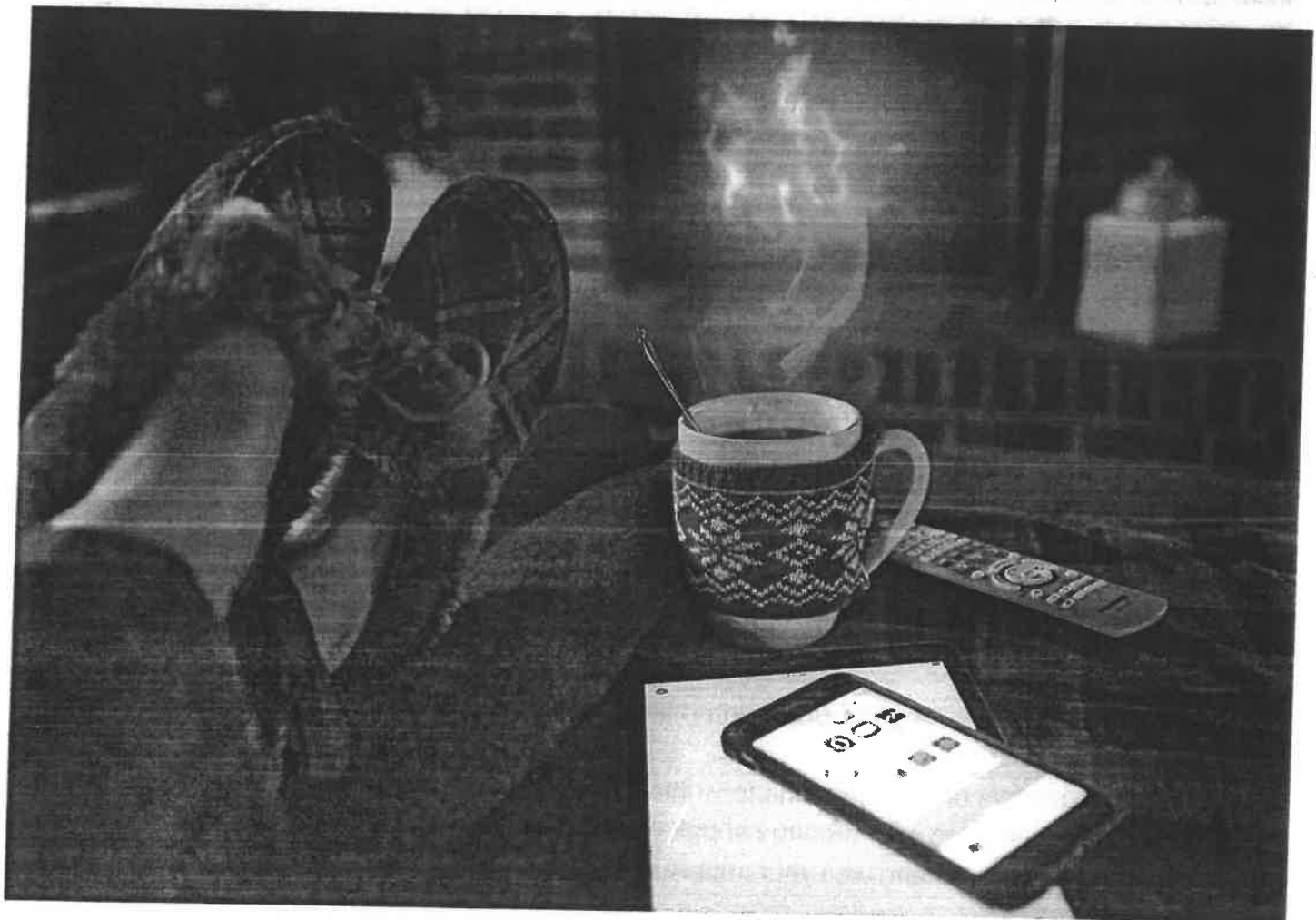


# Ohio Attorney General's **Consumer Advocate Newsletter**

Keeping Consumers Safe and Informed



**December 2022**



## **Smart tips to prepare for winter**

With everything getting more expensive, Ohioans may be worried about their heating bills this winter. From energy efficiency improvements to utility choices, the Ohio Attorney General's Office has compiled some useful winter tips to help you stay safe and warm and to hopefully save a few dollars on your bill.

**Utility scams**

Scammers may call claiming that you are late with your payment and are about to lose service, but don't panic. Take time to ask for information that an account representative should have, such as your address or account number. If they don't have that information, it's likely a scam. Or, if you receive a phone call like this, hang up and call your utility company back at a number you know to be correct. While some disconnection notices may be legitimate, if the representative wants payment by gift card, it's very likely a scam. If you're concerned about disconnection, be sure to learn about Ohio's Special Reconnection Order that may make it more affordable to keep your utility services turned on.

#### Energy savings and assistance efforts

If you're seeking to reduce your energy bills, consider getting a home energy audit offered by some local utility companies for free or at a low cost, or take an online audit to find areas where you can use energy more efficiently. Look to seal leaks around doors, windows and where pipes and wires enter your home. See if there are cracks or gaps in your existing caulking that need to be repaired. Make sure your home's insulation is up to the U.S. Department of Energy's standards. Also, consider lowering your thermostat overnight or when you're not home. (A programmable thermostat may be a wise investment.)

Finally, learn about low-income assistance programs such as the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and the Winter Crisis Program (also known as E-HEAP). HEAP can offer eligible residential consumers a one-time per winter heating season benefit that is applied directly to your electric, natural gas and/or bulk fuel bill. Individual utilities may operate their own assistance programs for qualifying residential consumers, generally known as fuel funds. Consumers should always do their research when assistance is offered – through these programs or through grants – to understand the terms of the assistance and whether the offer is legitimate.

#### Tips for propane consumers

With supply chain issues and driver shortages, it is especially important for propane users to prepare properly throughout this upcoming winter heating season.

Some winter tips from the Propane Education & Research Council and the Ohio Attorney General's Office include:

- Ensure you have enough propane for winter. Never let the volume go below 25 percent without having an order in to your propane supplier for a fill up (the earlier, the better).
- If you run out of propane, call your supplier right away. They will likely inspect your system for potential leaks.
- Always be sure there is a clear path to your propane tank so delivery can occur.

The Ohio Attorney General's Office can assist propane users that have propane level emergencies. These emergencies receive priority handling by the office. The office's Help Center can be reached at 800-282-0515.

#### Home repair and improvement fraud

While many legitimate companies exist to help repair or improve your home, here are some tips from the Federal Trade Commission and the Ohio Attorney General's Office to avoid weather-related fraud this winter:

- Be a skeptic if someone offers you a product or service promising dramatic cost-reduction results. Be a wise consumer and check the company's reputation. For example, look to the Ohio Attorney General's Office and the Better Business Bureau, and do an online search for the company's name along with terms such as "scam" or "complaint."
  - Watch for high-pressure sales tactics from door-to-door salespeople, especially concerning home improvement products or switching utility suppliers. Get all door-to-door promises in writing, and be sure you are provided at least three business days to cancel.
  - Try not to pay with cash, since doing so leaves a limited paper trail if something goes wrong. Consumers who suspect a scam or an unfair business practice should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at [www.OhioProtects.org](http://www.OhioProtects.org) or 800-282-0515.
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## **Tips to avoid scams when selling online**

Typically, the Consumer Protection Section helps Ohioans as they buy products and services. But what about consumers who want to *sell* their stuff? As you can imagine, scammers have found several ways to defraud consumers, especially when conducting business through online stores and auction sites, including social media or popular local buying and selling websites.

First, watch out for phony buyers who insist on paying through a mobile payment app. Scammers design clever look-alike payment notifications and hope you will send your merchandise before discovering it is a fake notification. Scammers may also claim there is a problem or issue with a payment they sent to you, such as they accidentally paid you twice for the item. They hope you, as the seller, will refund their "overpayment." In reality though, they never paid you the first time, so you may be out of your product and money.

Another typical overpayment scam involves a phony buyer issuing you a counterfeit check for more than you are selling the item. The scammer has you deposit the check and refund the difference (or send the difference to a phony "shipping agent" who is really part of the scam). Since banks often credit your account within hours of you presenting them with check, you may falsely assume that the check has cleared. The scammer takes your money that you sent back, but days later the check comes back to your bank as fake. At that point, the bank takes the money right back out of your account, possibly assessing you a returned check fee as well. If you've shipped your item to the scammer, that's gone too.

Another slightly more complicated scam hitting unsuspecting online sellers involves a phony buyer pretending to verify you're a legitimate seller, saying they are concerned about fake online listings. They send you a text message that includes a Google Voice verification code that they ask you to recite to them. If you give them the code, they will proceed to create a new Google Voice phone number linked to your real phone number. Then, they can scam sellers using a phone number linked to you, not them.

Consider the following tips to help avoid scams targeting sellers:

- Be prepared for potential scams by finding out what, if any, resources or protections are in place to sellers through the online site you are using.
- Be cautious when accepting mobile payments from strangers.
- Don't accept payments by check for more than your selling price, even if they appear to be a cashier's check or official money order. If you do, make sure the check has cleared prior to issuing any sort of refund.
- Never share verification codes with strangers.
- Report scams targeting sellers to the Ohio Attorney General's Office as well as to the online site you are using to sell your item.

Consumers who suspect a scam or an unfair business practice should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at [www.OhioProtects.org](http://www.OhioProtects.org) or 800-282-0515.

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## **AG Yost sues Dollar General and Family Dollar over deceptive pricing**

After receiving consumer complaints from multiple counties, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost has taken two chains of dollar stores – Dollar General and Family Dollar – to court for allegedly advertising goods for one price and charging a higher price at the register.

"Everything we buy these days costs more – Ohioans can ill-afford businesses that draw people in with the promise of low prices only to deceive them at the checkout counter," Yost said. "This seems like a company trying to make an extra buck and hoping no one will notice. We've not only noticed but are taking action to stop it."

Dollar General, a Tennessee-based company specializing in household goods, has operated in Ohio since 2015. It has 943 stores statewide.

Ohio Department of Agriculture rules permit stores to have up to a 2% error rate on overcharges. But testing done last month in Butler County by the county auditor's Department of Weights and Measures and made available to the Attorney General's Office found error rates ranging from 16.7% to 88.2% for 20 Dollar General stores.

Furthermore, from March 2021 to August 2022, the Attorney General's Office received 12 complaints detailing similar unfair and deceptive practices by Dollar General stores in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Highland, Lucas, Madison, Richland, Summit and Trumbull counties.

One consumer reported, for example, that a Dollar General in Franklin County listed shampoo at \$1 on the shelves but charged double that amount at the register. In certain instances, consumers alleged that even after they pointed out price discrepancies, the stores would not change the price.

The lawsuit, filed in Butler County Common Pleas Court, cites violations of Ohio's Consumer Sales Practices Act, saying Dollar General listed false prices on items and engaged in bait advertising.

Just days after his office sued Dollar General, Yost filed suit against Virginia-based Family Dollar for the same type of behavior.

The second lawsuit, also filed in Butler County, cites violations of Ohio's Consumer Sales Practices Act, saying that Family Dollar listed false prices on items and engaged in bait advertising.

Family Dollar was purchased by Dollar Tree in 2015 to reach low- and lower-middle-income households through urban and rural locations.

Ohioans who suspect unfair business practices should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at [www.OhioProtects.org](http://www.OhioProtects.org) or 800-282-0515.

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## **Need help with immigration issues? Be wary of scammers posing as lawyers**

Do you or someone you know need help understanding and working with the U.S. immigration system? If so, be wary of "notarios." These are individuals who represent themselves as qualified to offer legal advice about immigration but, in fact, have no such qualification. Taking legal advice from notarios – some of whom might call themselves immigration consultants or immigration experts – has led to problems that include incorrectly filed forms and missed deadlines, and worse. There have been cases where notarios have charged clients thousands of dollars and then abandoned them. In short, turning to notarios for legal advice can have devastating consequences that could ultimately prevent an individual from gaining admittance to the United States.

Whether from notarios or others who might take advantage of them, immigrants and their families are vulnerable to scams. Keep these tips in mind:

- Don't go to a notario, notario publico, or notary public for legal advice.
- Never pay for blank government forms. Government forms are free, though you'll probably have to pay a fee when you submit them. You can get free forms at [www.uscis.gov/forms](http://www.uscis.gov/forms), by calling the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) at 800-870-3676, or by visiting your nearest USCIS office.
- Get immigration information from official U.S. government websites. Make sure the website ends in ".gov," meaning it is a U.S. government site.
- Don't let anyone keep your original documents, such as birth certificate or passport.
- Never sign a form that has not been filled out, that contains false information or that you don't understand.
- Keep a copy of every form that you submit and every letter you receive from the government.
- Contact the Ohio State Bar Association for information on immigration attorneys in your area. Another resource for low-income consumers may be their local Legal Aid.

- Ask to see credentials. Work with an attorney licensed to practice law or an accredited representative capable of handling your immigration matters.

If you are the victim of an immigration scam:

- Contact your county prosecutor's office or county department of consumer affairs.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission [here](#).
- Report it to the Ohio Attorney General at 800-282-0515.

Those looking for a job or business opportunity are often targeted by scammers. The Federal Trade Commission has released a publication "[Fatima Says No to an Income Scam](#)" that details specific money-making opportunity scams specifically targeting immigrants. Money-making opportunity scams entice people interested in working from home to purchase a number of items that they can then sell for a big profit. These products tend to be very difficult to sell leaving the person in debt with no real prospect of selling the products they have purchased.

If you are considering a money-making opportunity:

- Research the company: Use resources such as the [Ohio Attorney General's Office](#) and the [Better Business Bureau](#), and do an online search for the company's name along with terms such as "scam" or "complaint."
- Ask a friend: If you know someone who has worked selling products directly to consumers, ask them about their experience.
- Avoid high pressure tactics: If the company is pressuring you for an immediate confirmation of employment or financial commitment, reconsider working with that company.

If you need help addressing a consumer problem or question, contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at [www.OhioProtects.org](http://www.OhioProtects.org) or 800-282-0515.