

Minutes of the Special City Council
Sheffield Lake, Ohio
August 28, 2008

This special meeting of the City Council was held Thursday, August 28, 2008. Council President Edward R Podmanik called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: Kay Fantauzzi, who, then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

*******ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS*******

Present: Podmanik, Huska, Bring, Kovach, Elliott, Smith, Rosso, Mayor Piskura
Absent: Diebold (excused)
Attending: Interviewees, Concerned Citizens

President Edward R Podmanik opened the floor with this special meeting was called for the discussion and consideration of new hires. Applications are attached and 2 of the 3 applicants are here. Mayor Piskura advised at the request of Council, what we had discussed was prior to putting anybody actually on the payroll after I have hired them that we would get your confirmation first instead of the way we used to do it which was I would hire them and then bring them to you at the next Council meeting that I could. The reason that wanted to bring this as quick as I could is that during peak times, I am going to start staffing a third patrol car. This represents a problem with our staffing because we don't enough part-timers to actually fill in the gaps and the longer we wait to appoint new police officers is the longer it will take to train them and actually get them on the road. We are looking at the 2 to 10 during the weekdays and 7 to 3 on the weekends. We are going to start staffing with 3 cars. In that vein, I have 3 potential candidates here that the Chief had recommended and that I would officially hire pending your approval. But that is not the only thing that I wish to discuss, I wanted to discuss 2 other things. One of them being the and/or Safety/Service Director and then the Dog Warden and if you so desire, you could do so in executive session or you could have an executive session to ask these 3 candidates questions but it is at your discretion. As far as the Safety/Service Director is concerned, I know that you are still on vacation and if you don't want to discuss that tonight and just want to get this over with and get home that would be fine. Mayor Piskura asked would you like to interview them in executive session? Mrs. Huska answered no, I don't feel that is necessary. President Podmanik advised Herbert Fleming is not here this evening. Mayor Piskura advised he is not here and I believe he is still at his full-

time job, he could not make it but you all know him he actually was on the Police Department prior to this. He was employed here, he actually left to go I can't remember where but I think it was in 2002 or 2001. I think he was here for 6 or 7 months. Mr. Bring advised it was April to September. I believe he has stayed current with the Metro Parks Police. Mr. Elliott asked what was his reason for leaving us? Mr. Bring answered it says personal. Mayor Piskura advised I believe it was to take a job elsewhere. Mr. Elliott asked okay, so he left voluntarily? Mayor Piskura answered yes. Mr. Elliott asked why would you leave here to go to Metro Parks? President Podmanik stated he was part-time here. Mr. Elliott stated he was working part-time as a ranger too, I just don't understand why anybody would leave a department to go to the county and work for Metro Parks. Mr. Rosso asked he still in the Metro Parks right John, I am assuming, it says June but that probably means current? Mayor Piskura answered I believe so. The other 2 candidates I believe are here if you would like to call them up and ask them questions. Mr. **Jason Melda** advised I apologize for the uniform here, I came straight from work. Mr. Bring stated it says here that you had 2 tons of cylinders fall on you and you are still alive? Mr. Melda answered yes. Mr. Bring asked no more injuries, nothing else – you're alright? Mr. Melda answered I am alright. Mr. Bring asked you worked at Put-in-Bay and you worked at Put-in-Bay – both of you? Mr. Melda and Mr. Pozywak both answered yes. Mr. Bring asked your reason for leaving over there was just closer to home? Mr. Melda answered yes, I got on at Wellington and I was trying to do both of them at the same time then on top of that with my full-time job is just easier to stay with Wellington since they required you to stay up there over the weekends. Mr. Bring asked so do you do anything else or do you just do this part-time or is there another job that you do? Mr. Melda answered I work for Wellington part-time and also Taninball Securities. Mr. Rosso stated you live in Avon Lake and you are married, I can see why you wouldn't want to be gone on the weekends. Mr. Melda answered yes. Mr. Bring asked **Richard Pozywak** so you are just leaving the position over there at Put-in-Bay? Mr. Pozywak answered yes, I stayed there in 2006/2007 and left there and worked for the Village of Grafton currently now trying to get hired here. Mr. Bring stated I thought you would have stayed up there at least for the summer time? Mr. Pozywak answered trust me, it is fun but once again an hour and a half up there, long hours. Mr. Elliott asked you work for the Village of Grafton? Mr. Pozywak answered part-time patrolman. Mr. Bring asked do you do anything else other than that or are you going to do both? Mr. Pozywak answered actually my full-time job is with Life-Care Ambulance, I am their gear technician - so I do that 8 to 4. Mr. Bring stated rumor has it that you are pretty good on computers? Mr. Pozywak joked that could be a good thing or a bad thing, I don't know yet. Mr. Elliott asked what did you do for the City of Elyria? Mr. Pozywak answered I dispatched for 4 years over there, starting in 2000 – 2004 and when the city had lay-offs for part-timers in November of 2004 I was layed off and went to work as a dispatcher for

Life-Care Ambulance for about 3 months and then took over the gear spot. Mr. Elliott asked you went to the Sheriff's Department? Mr. Pozywak answered yes I did as a dispatcher, I wanted to try to get back in law enforcement and didn't know where to go, went there and I decided patrol was where I needed to be in. Mr. Bring asked the biggest injury you had was a wrist injury? Mr. Pozywak answered yes, it was in training through the Police Academy and it has been resolved and everything is fine. Mr. Bring asked you did bike school in Put-in-Bay? Mr. Pozywak answered yes.

*Motion by Smith to accept the Mayors appointment of Herb Fleming as part-time patrolman. Mr. Bring asked Mayor Piskura did you talk to Larry about this, Larry is comfortable with this? Mayor Piskura answered these are Larry's recommendations. Mr. Bring asked so he is okay with this one? Mayor Piskura answered yes. Mr. Rosso stated it makes it a little difficult not getting a chance to talk to him but I can fully understand and appreciate you know he has got a real job. Mr. Kovach stated I am going to say on that one though he has worked for Larry and Larry was the Chief at the time, he has got to be comfortable enough to recommend again to fill the position. ROLL CALL FOR APPROVAL: Yeas All – Rosso, Bring, Elliott, Kovach, Smith, Huska.

*Motion by Smith to accept the Mayors appointment of Jason Melda as part-time patrolman. ROLL CALL FOR APPROVAL: Yeas All – Kovach, Elliott, Huska, Smith, Rosso, Bring.

*Motion by Smith to accept the Mayors appointment of Richard Pozywak as part-time patrolman. ROLL CALL FOR APPROVAL: Yeas All – Huska, Smith, Rosso, Elliott, Bring, Kovach.

Mayor Piskura advised I realize you are still on vacation but I wanted to start talking about a replacement for Bill and some of my ideas surrounding Bill's replacement and/or maybe bringing him back. In addition to letting you know what is going on with the Dog Warden. If you want to talk about Bill I realize nobody is here but as a formality so we don't have to have it on the minutes I would rather talk about it in executive session using the hiring and/or appointment/employment, discipline/dismissal for personnel exemption. If you don't want to talk about it, it can wait but it is up to you. Really what was critical was getting these guys sworn in so we can get started training so that we can start staffing the peak times with 3 cars instead of 2. Mr. Rosso stated that is fantastic that you are doing that. Mayor Piskura stated you know why this happened right? Most of the Council answered no except for Mr. Bring. There was a brief discussion. Mayor Piskura advised I am glad that you think that it is wonderful and I would be willing to fill you in on everything in executive session of how we came to the financial of doing this and figured out that we could.

*Motion by Smith to go into executive session for the discussion of disciplining/hiring/firing of employee. Mr. Rosso stated it that okay to do this since

we called this special meeting specifically for hiring. There was a brief discussion.
ROLL CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: Yeas All – Rosso, Bring, Huska, Smith, Elliott, Kovach.

*Motion by Bring to return to regular session. **ROLL CALL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:** Yeas All – Kovach, Huska, Bring, Elliott, Smith.
President Podmanik advised Mr. Rosso is excused at 8 pm. The brief explanation for executive session was to discuss personnel/discipline/hiring/firing.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach to adjourn at 8:07 PM. Yeas All.

CLERK OF COUNCIL AFFIRMATION: This Meeting Of The City Council Of The City Of Sheffield Lake, Ohio Was Held And Conducted Under All Rules And Regulations Governing The Sunshine Laws Of The State Of Ohio As They May Apply. All meetings are recorded and available in council offices.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Kay Fantauzzi

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Edward R Podmanik

and/or

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Council of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of Special Council of August 28, 2008.

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Richard Rosso

MAYOR

John J Piskura