

Minutes of the Safety Committee Meeting
Sheffield Lake, Ohio
October 6, 2010

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, October 6, 2010. Chairman Bring called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Bring, Elliott, Rosso

Attending: Acting Fire Chief Langin, Councilwomen Stark

READING OF THE MINUTES:

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Rosso to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2010 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORTS FROM THE SAFETY FORCES:

Fire - Acting Fire Chief Langin reported the first on my list is to show some appreciation to B shift and Fire Fighter Campbell. I have received a letter from Chief Young from Sheffield Village – they responded on August 30th to a call on Lake Breeze Road for a full arrest – heart attach and this patient was sent to the cath lab almost immediately and EMH has acknowledged Fire Fighter Campbell's as doing a very good job with that. Chairman Bring asked that is the second one isn't it? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes it is. Councilman Rosso asked the last one was at St John's right? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes the last time was at St John's and this is EMH. Secondly Dan Hillinger from St John West Shore hospital is donating some new modem's for transmitting EKG's to Erie hospitals – it can be used for either St John West Shore or Elyria Memorial. While he was in he was also kind of enough to donate us some IO drills or IO needle kits with the drill kits and needle sets that went with that and they are picking up the transmit fee for these new modems as well as the price of the modems – total is close to a \$2500.00 donation received from them. I would just like to say thanks to him – it is something that we were one of the last in the county to get. Councilman Rosso asked he is a doctor from St John? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered he is the CEO I believe of St John West Shore, he is on the Boar over there. Chairman Bring asked we are going to send him a thank you? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes, there was also some airway equipment while he was that he donated. He continued Fire Prevention week is this week – I don't know if you are aware of that or not but we are doing talks at all the schools along with the pre-school. Stepping Stones was done today, we have one school left and I believe that is Tennyson which will be done tomorrow. It is a pretty good program to teach kids the stop, drop and roll, 2-ways out, 911 - all of that. Especially even the pre-schoolers – I think they get quite a bit out of it. The Safety Director has asked me to look into leases for a new ambulance. So I will be doing that over the next little bit. Just so you are aware Ford does not make a diesel engine anymore for their E series and there are no more old diesels left out there. Everything has gone to having a urea tank now and there is added costs in that so we are going to have to look at gas versus diesel if we indeed do this. You can still get diesel in the F series but the room in the station is limited as to what we can put in there. I was

looking at some old paperwork I had found from 1999 actually, it has the names of roster personnel on it and in 1999 we had 26 members on this Fire Department and currently today we have 12 on it. We are running a lot of our calls with 3-man engine companies. Councilman Rosso asked 26 full-time? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered no total count. Councilman Elliott asked how many of those were full? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered 13 back then I believe. Like I said the majority of our calls are being run with 3 men right now instead of 4. I mean years ago we had pretty much a commitment to use 4 and now we are down to 3, I mean I understand the economic issues but we need to try to address this. We have had a couple of incidents over the last 2 months that we pulled up on with 3 man engine companies and they are pretty much overwhelmed with a bigger engine which is you have to wait for some mutual aid companies before you can be an effective. Chairman Bring asked how many other cities run typically – like Sheffield Village, do they run 2 men or 3 men, 5 men or 12? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered well that brings up another point, everybody surrounding us as far as mutual aid with exception of Avon Lake I believe and Avon have cut their staff back as well. I mean Sheffield Village used to run with 7 guys and they are down to sometimes 4. There is less people to draw from then there were/Lorain has cut back, Elyria has cut back. Councilman Rosso stated there is a state guideline or state mandate on safety when you go to a fire – is it 2 in/2 out? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered NFPA states 2 in/2 out for safety. Councilman Rosso stated so if we go to a fire, we are not going in to fight that fire until someone shows up so we can get 2 in/2 out? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered to have 2 in/2 out you would have to wait for another engine company to show up, correct. Service Director Smith has advised me that the city mechanic is pretty much not going to be doing much work for us anymore. So most of our stuff is going to have to be sent out and that is going to be a budgetary concern for next year. Councilman Elliott asked what is the reason for that? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered I believe we were taking up a little bit too much of his time. So as far as the Fire Department goes it is a budgetary concern that is going to have to be addressed because John McCallie saved us quite a bit of money over the last decades doing work on our vehicles and not incurring a labor costs. Councilman Elliott asked I understand that this is the Fire Department but you have any knowledge on whether he is going to be working on police cars too? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered I have no knowledge of that. He continued we are putting in place a new paging system, the one call now system. It has over a year in progress now. This was presented like I said over a year ago, it is finally coming through so we are putting that in place. We can remotely page from cell phones to get off duty personnel in, prior to this we had multiple systems none of which were really all that effective. This should improve both time and response for off duty personnel. The ladder testing, the annual ladder testing will be done I believe it is next Monday October 11th at Avon Lake Fire Department. We will take our stuff over there, this saves us on a set-up fee for them coming out. We are trying to economize a little bit that way. Chief Morris over there has been kind enough over the last couple of years to allow us to take our ground ladders over there and have them tested. One of these days maybe we need to pick up the set-up fee for Avon Lake instead of them constantly doing it for us. Councilman Elliott asked how much is the set-up fee? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered I believe it is \$350.00. Councilman Elliott stated I don't see why we shouldn't do it next year. Chairman

Bring clarified so they have to do that on their own every year? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes they are supposed to be tested annually. Chairman Bring asked they do that for just us? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered just us at this point yes. It is about that time of the year too for annual pump testing, those are set-up to be done through Williams Detroit Diesel in Brunswick. Engine 61 will actually probably be going there on Friday to get that done along with its yearly preventative maintenance and fluid changes. I believe they are a little bit more expensive then what we were using before but I think it is a lot more thorough of a system that they go through then what we had. Currently S72 is in for repairs again, Joe has asked me to look into prices for new ambulances but this is something that we really need to start looking at. These are in for repairs quite frequently anymore. Chairman Bring asked what is it in for now? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered this time there was an antifreeze leak and a power steering leak and a minor fuel leak I believe. Chairman Bring asked are we doing anything for fire hydrants before winter for testing? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered we have been slowly moving on the fire hydrants with everything else that we are doing, with staffing being down it is a slow progress. We don't have a utility vehicle anymore so I can't send 1 person out just to do hydrants, I have to send a whole crew out so it slows the entire process down. We are working on it but it has slowed the process comparatively of what it has been in the past. Councilman Rosso stated I think you provided a list a month or two ago of the hydrants that were down, pretty much the same list. Chairman Bring advised sometime before it freezes again just so Service Director Smith knows about it. So we don't get 3 or 4 in a row. Acting Fire Chief Langin advised I think we are half way through the city, we are trying to get them done by the end of the year but like I said it is a slow moving process with all the other tasks that are being handed down. Councilman Rosso asked but are we fixing the ones that are broken? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes the Service Department is keeping up on that and then they update us on which ones are back in service. As you all probably heard we had another major incident, like I said this is the second one probably in as many months that we have pulled up on. Chairman Bring asked does the State Fire Marshall do the investigation along with you guys? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes he was called out to the scene, he came out along with an ATF agent and they assisted in the investigation process. Chairman Bring asked the 2 firemen that were hurt was actually from the Village? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered both firemen that were hurt from Sheffield Village I believe were back to work today, as of yesterday I stopped there and they said they were fairly minor and they would be back to work today. So that is good news. Chairman Bring stated on something like that, the Officers were there first? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered the Police Officers, I believe so yes. Chairman Bring stated so on something like, where there is a fire already started – do they take fire extinguishers in with them or they don't do any of that, they just wait for you guys? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered usually they wait for us because we are usually only a couple of seconds behind them. Councilman Rosso asked do they have fire extinguishers in the police cars? Chairman Bring stated I believe they do in the police cars. Acting Fire Chief Langin answered I would have to check on that. Chairman Bring stated I am going to ask that. You know in that instance it could have been a disaster for everything if that would have went up while everybody was standing around. Councilman Elliott stated let's say on

a call like that, like you said your numbers are down. What do you guys do usually, do you wait until another department rolls up? Basically why I am asking is because you have to have 2 in and 2 out, what is the third guy doing? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered in an incident like that the Officer needs to take command of the situation and with only 3 people that leaves 1 person on the hose line and 1 person to operate the pump. You should have 2 people on the hose line along with 2 available people to go in and get those 2 people if needed. That is initial start and it goes up from there. Chairman Bring asked so initially when you guys went there you were actually trying to get the kids out of there right. Acting Fire Chief Langin answered I wasn't on scene initially. Chairman Bring stated my understanding was that was the priority was to get the kids out. Councilman Elliott asked can you explain what happened on this scene, did you guys go in or did you wait? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered yes they went in and they tried to extinguish and it got too large and they had to get out. In fact there are some burn marks on Fire Fighter Cook's gear from it, he came out and his arm was still burning. Chairman Bring stated they obviously when in there with all their fire equipment on? Acting Fire Chief Langin advised exactly but that only protects you to a point. Chairman Bring advised I think we were pretty lucky with that one, although unfortunate for the gentleman. Acting Fire Chief Langin stated I would like to reiterate 4 man engine companies are night and day difference comparatively to 3. Councilman Elliott asked are we running with less people then the average department is right now? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered well NFP suggests we have 4. Most departments are running with a lot more personnel then we are. Chairman Bring stated you still have a dispatcher but that gets routed to the Police Department right? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered currently we are pretty much emptying our station at all points when there is 3 men there and then it reverts back to the Police Department. Councilman Elliott asked are we still calling in an overtime to run the station when we have a call. Acting Fire Chief Langin answered we are keeping 3 people, minimum of 3 people there. Councilman Rosso asked so when the 3 go out on a call you call 3 in? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered no. Councilman Rosso advised I think that is what he was asking. Acting Fire Chief Langin stated is that what you were asking – no. Only on a major fire incident at this point are we calling anybody, that we are calling people in. Chairman Bring asked so with something like this, if you guys ran out and then somebody else got into an accident – it would have to be a mutual aid thing. Councilman Elliott asked was Sheffield Village the only department that responded last Sunday? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered no, Avon and Avon Lake were there along with Sheffield Village. He continued as you were asking Eric in calling extra people in, our average squad call is probably an hour long/by the time we do turn-around time at the hospital and get back to the station. Your average 3 calls a day, that is maybe 3 or 4 hours that that station is remaining empty and you are kind of rolling the dice at that point. Councilman Rosso asked what hospitals do you transport to? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered we transport currently to Lorain Community or Mercy as it is called today, Elyria – EMH, St John West Shore and the EMH campus out in Avon. Councilman Elliott asked how do you determine where you go? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered usually it is patient preference. Chairman Bring stated I do appreciate you coming in to inform us. Councilman Rosso asked you are not on duty tonight are you Bill? Acting Fire Chief Langin answered no.

Chairman Bring advised on the Police report, the Chief isn't here but grants – there was some officers hired in some other cities. I don't believe that we received that grant, I will have to check into that but I know that there was some reports that 2 other cities did get that grant. I believe that we had not but I will have to check into that. On the DT's – I have not heard anything on that, so I will have to check on it. There is also a grant out there right now that was handed to our Grant Writer Mr. Gardner from our Police Chief that is available – it is \$30,000.00 and it is used for police cars. So Mr. Gardner is supposed to be looking into that. Councilman Elliott asked is that a dollar amount? Chairman Bring answered that was the total and there was no match. It was for police cars and one other thing but I think basically the whole thing was for police cars. There really isn't anything else that I know but I really haven't had a chance to sit down and talk to the Police Chief. Since we don't have a Safety Director that ever shows up, it is pretty hard to ask.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, Motion by Rosso/Second by Elliott to adjourn at 7:24 PM. Yeas all.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE AFFIRMATION: This Meeting Of The City Committee 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's office.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE

Kay Fantauzzi

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committees of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of Committee of October 6, 2010.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE

Dennis Bring

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Edward R Podmanik

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Richard Rosso