

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO  
January 19, 2010**

The regular meeting of the City Council Worksession was held Tuesday, January 19, 2010. President Podmanik called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Podmanik, Rosso, Huska, Smith, Kovach, Diebold, Bring, Elliott, Law  
Director Graves, Safety/Service Director Arendt, Treasurer E Hoenig  
Absent: Mayor Piskura, Finance Director Smith (excused),  
Attending: Concerned Citizens, Zoning; Ebenschweller, Planning; Belaska, Mem-  
bers of the Media

**PRESENTATIONS:** Service Director Arendt presented 4 different meter companies that we have been looking into compared to what we have. All I want to do tonight is basically explain what the meters do, costs and eventually why we would want to change. What we currently have to go through now and these are obviously the pits that they are in; this is what we have is the master meter and this is their radio read device. This was a subsidiary of master meter from Canada and this is what company went broke so these are not functional anymore, there is no support on them whatsoever. We have approximately 500 in the ground now that can't be read. What we are looking into is eventually when we have to change out meters, what we would be the idea of what we would purchase. This first meter is Census and Census their radio read would through the cap and this is what would be read, so there is no problem of not being able to read in any water or anything like that. If this is covered over because it is low or anything or has ice it still has the ability to read. A costs of just installing 300 of these meters and the radio reads and getting the computer software to be able to read these meters is \$68,000.00. Then we come over here to come over here to the Neptune meter and it is basically the same concept it goes through the cap and is read and has the ability to read through water, read through ice, read through snow. This particular meter also if they have to get into the pit to check anything compared – this meter you have to put a flashlight on it and then it activates the digital read. The other ones that we have are regular numerical reads. The Neptune to install 300 meters and radio reads and get the computer software is \$134,000.00. The computer software is \$20,000.00 on this particular one. Now then we go to the Hershey and like I said I got these 4 because I checked with other cities and what they are using and what they have the best success with. We go to the Hershey meter and the radio read is similar to what we have it where it has to be put on a pole and it sits below the cap. So the problem with these comes into will it read through water and they say it will/will it read through ice and snow – the cities that we have talked to don't have the greatest success with these. Now they have an adaptor that you can put on that would adapt to this but that is an additional costs and to install 300 of these radio read meters is \$49,000.00 and that includes the software. But as I say

with this one compared to ours as well it doesn't go through the cap and the biggest problem with any radio reads is water, ice and snow. He continued all the cities that have these like them the best and these are Badger and they have been around for 100 years. The Badger meter – what you come down to is costs and reliability and Badger from all the cities that we checked on is ranked the best. The companies each came in and explained and we checked with all the surrounding cities that we could that had them. To put 300 in of Badger meters without the computer is \$52,500.00, the laptop software is \$20,000.00 so you have \$72,000.00. All these meters are guaranteed for 20 years, the radio reads are guaranteed for 10 years. The replacements on the radio reads is then calculated down after 10 years so you had to buy any one of these after 10 years it would be pro-rated. Eventually I hope the city does go to all radio reads, it will save 3 men and 2 days per week and time and effort and money to go out and do that. What happens is you get the computer and you ride the truck and you go around and how it is identified is each serial number is identified to the address of the home. The biggest problem that we have is that the master meter which we have is this and it works fine; the reading is great but you just have to get a good reading. We still have 1000 of the master meters left on the shelf at \$185.00 each. Councilman Diebold asked can we trade those in by any chance? Service Director Arendt answered we talked to Amherst who has them and they are not ready to buy a 1000 but they would purchase some of them and there is other cities out there that would eventually purchase some of them. Councilman Smith stated radio reads don't work at all on those. Councilman Bring asked how many of those do we actually have in the ground? Service Director Arendt answered honestly I don't know. Councilman Smith asked how many residential meters do we have? Service Director Arendt answered 3250. Councilman Diebold asked how far away do you have to be to pick up that signal on the meter? Service Director Arendt answered a block. He advised with the Badger they give you a hand held so you can actually walk along. Councilman Rosso asked how much is that Badger? Service Director Arendt answered the meter and the radio read included is \$145.38 per meter. We read a quarter of the city per month/800 meters. Councilman Rosso asked what would the guys be doing with this saved time? Service Director Arendt answered there would be no lack of work, I did not prepare a list but there is no lack of work. There was a brief discussion on change. Service Director Arendt advised as meters go out then we would replace them. He suggested to take a certain part of the city and start implementing the plan of about 300 per year and by the time you are done, you are going to have all these 1000 meters gone. Councilman Rosso rebutted now you are talking 11 years. Councilman Rosso stated if we decide it is worth doing because we can improve the quality of the city then we need to do it now, not 12 years from now. There was a brief discussion on replacing meters. Service Director Arendt advised what I would like to do is research what we could get for these and come back to Council with this is how many man hours we spend and this is how much we can sell these for and this is how much we could get off the bat. Lets assume that we could raise \$156,000.00 and then we do as much as we can with those. Then we go and say okay this is work-

ing exactly what we thought it do and do we want to do the rest of the city immediately and bond out the rest. There was a brief discussion on possibilities. No objections were heard in having Service Director Arendt to get further information on possible change.

\*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEES\*\*\*\*\*

**ROADS & DRAINS: None./SAFETY: None./BUILDINGS, LANDS, VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT: None./ORDINANCE: None./FINANCE: None./PARK BOARD: None.**

\*\*\*\*\*ADMINISTRATIVE\*\*\*\*\*

**MAYOR: None./FINANCE DIRECTOR: None./SAFETY/SERVICE**

**DIRECTOR:** Service Director Arendt reported all the trucks are running and we have ordered this year so far 500 ton of salt and the roads have been great. Currently today we started a drive thru window for the utilities department for people, instead of getting out of their cars they can drive up to the window. That will probably take a couple of days but we will get it finished. Councilman Diebold asked can we slide those barricades on Walker Road apart a little bit more. I was going to go down there but I wanted to get verification from you. Just to get through it is a real pain to make that cut. Service Director Arendt advised I will check on it tomorrow. He continued I did put the PO in for the cameras to get repaired and installed./**LAW DIRECTOR:** Law Director Graves reported there was an issue back in 2003 involving the state mandated E checks for the fleet and as a result of those not being done in 2003 there was a judgment against the city that we had to pay a penalty for failure to get those E checks done. We have fully complied for the recording years 2005, 2007 and 2009. I had filed a petition with the state for relief from judgment and that was granted so we are not completely free and out from under that which is good news. I continue to talk with Allied Waste and I think we are at a point where they have made a very reasonable offer. What I am continuing to look at is the possibility of a hybrid plan where we would continue to have unlimited pickup for the trash but also with the green recycle carts. I think it would be ideal because the city would continue to receive all the benefits of unlimited trash pickup but at the same time also receive the benefits of the recycle bank which would give the residents a credit for the Apples purchases and also qualify for our solid waste money. So it is the best of all possible worlds. One of the hang-ups with that is trying to get that all done all in one day. It looks like the automated pickup will take 2 days which means the city would have to broken up into half on one day and half on another. We do currently have 1 sexual offender who is in violation of local ordinance living within a thousand feet of one of our city parks. He explained last version of ordinance passed. I will be filing a lawsuit on that as soon as I get the check from Tammy and Dawn. He continued I did file another eviction action for the bowling alley and I filed that last week. They have not paid rent for November, December and January. There was a brief discussion. He continued Thursday night we have the Planning Commission meeting where I will present the final draft of the wind turbine legislation. He advised Council of discussions regarding legislation with Planning Commission. He continued I have a re-

ceived a draft from Nex Gen of the contract which we will be further discussing. He advised on the upcoming Civil Service meeting regarding the Fire Chief position. He continued I understand that there were some questions on Council#001 which was the additional payment to Affordable Demolition. He explained we had provided the certified payrolls and Affordable Demolition had told us that they were paying prevailing wage to all their employees and ultimately the State of Ohio disagreed with that and found that they were classifying some of their employees inappropriately and so that there was a short fall. The state initially wanted to assess a penalty, that was waved. The state also was questioning some other work that was done. Now Affordable Demolition would like the city to reimburse them and the city should compensate them on this. It wasn't bid as a prevailing wage job, there were a lot of good arguments and good reasons for that which he advised of. There was a lengthy discussion on not being responsible for bill./**COMMUNICATIONS: None./OLD BUSINESS: None.**/President Podmanik advised I will bring this to everybody's attention, this is the time we generally start looking at a little house cleaning for ourselves. In our Administrative Code for Council we don't have much in the way anything to deal with our attendance at meetings. However our Charter, chapter 4/section 10 says Council will rule its own. Now under the ORC 317 references absenteeism and states failure to attend 3/5 or 60% during any 2 year period forfeits the members position on Board. There was a brief discussion and review of code in which Law Director Graves advised this is handled in our code under Article 4, section 4 governs the removal of a member of Council does provide that with 2/3 vote any member can be removed and advised of reasons.

### **ORDINANCES FOR COUNCILS AGENDA:**

Council#001 – SECOND READING – an ordinance authorizing an additional payment to Affordable Demolition and Hauling for the demolition of a portion of the Shoreway Shopping Center and the declaring of an emergency.

Council#002 – SECOND READING – a resolution for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor to file a FY 2010 Community Housing Improvement Program Grant (CHIP) application with the Ohio Department of Development and the declaring of an emergency.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by Bring to adjourn at 8:35 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.

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CLERK OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES

*Kay Fantauzzi*

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*

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 WORKSESSION of January 19, 2010.

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MAYOR

*John J Piskura*