

Minutes of the Safety Committee Meeting
Sheffield Lake, Ohio
January 7, 2009

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, January 7, 2009. Chairman Bring called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Bring, Elliott

Absent: Rosso (excused)

Attending: Police Chief Shepherd, Fire Chief Conrad, Captain Komlosy

READING OF THE MINUTES:

*Motion by Elliott to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2008 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORTS FROM THE SAFETY FORCES;

POLICE CHIEF SHEPHERD: Chairman Bring asked the radar training and stuff like that, how is that taken care of – are we up to date with a lot of that stuff or do we need to get up to date with some of that? Police Chief Shepherd answered I don't recall our radar ever being calibrated until they break down. It is recommended at least once a year. Captain Komlosy added once a year or once every 2 years. Chairman Bring asked do we ever get contested on that at all? Captain Komlosy answered I submitted a memo on that and I believe it went to the Safety Director I am not sure, to get our radar units re-certified – it is going to run around \$300.00 to \$400.00 max but I haven't heard anything back yet. But that is something we should do. Chairman Bring asked we have how many of those? Captain Komlosy answered we have 6 cruisers, we only have to do 5 because 1 of them is fairly new. It runs about \$60 to \$70.00 per unit and the company is out of Cleveland, they will come out here and check them out. Now if there is any repairs that have to be done that would be extra. Chairman Bring asked that last how long? Captain Komlosy answered a couple of years easy. Mr. Elliott asked we check them for calibration before every shift right? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes and advised there is no mandated, required training in the State of Ohio. Most of that is all taken care of through your basic training. The State Patrol does put on a school, it is a 40 hour school and I believe it is free except you have to pay the guy to be gone and I don't think they allow them to stay at the Patrol Academy anymore, so you would have to put them up at a hotel but like I said it is not required. Like I said, it is not required but like I said it is not required, it is just like in-service training. Chairman Bring asked do we have cameras in just about all the cars? Captain Komlosy answered no. Mr. Elliott asked how many more do we need? Captain Komlosy answered 3. Police Chief Shepherd answered we have 3 cars with and 3 cars without. Chairman Bring asked well the white car we probably wouldn't necessarily have to have because we don't use that right? Police Chief Shepherd answered right. Chairman Bring asked so technically 2. Captain Komlosy advised they are about \$4000.00 dollars

each, that is for the digital style. Now they have the memory card ones but usually CD ones – you put a CD in and you use that but that I believe would be an installed price – that was from Vasu's. Mr. Elliott stated \$4000.00 isn't bad though. Captain Komlosy advised it might be a little bit more now because this has been about a year ago that I got that price. Chairman Bring asked the other ones that we have are working fine? Captain Komlosy answered yes they are working fine. Chairman Bring stated you guys have mandatory training from the state that is coming up from some of your officers? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes every year the state will set like anywhere from 2 to 36 hours that they make mandatory and I think last year it was a mandatory 8 hours everybody had and this year it dropped down to 2 and I think that program is going to end up disappearing because the state is paying the city's back to send guys to school and I think they realize it is pretty expensive. The average school is about \$150.00 a day. Chairman Bring stated that is just the costs of the school, not the costs of sending the guy over there. Police Chief Shepherd answered right, that is not his travel time or you got to stay over night or anything like that. Chairman Bring asked we get reimbursed for that? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes, the school only – the salary is not reimbursable or anything like that. Chairman Bring asked the new guys, we train them in house? Police Chief Shepherd explained right, we are very fortunate that the state also accepts that LETN which we have and they consider if you watch 2 hours of LETN – that is considered your training so that actually saves us a ton of grief by having that. We use that also as our jail training because each employee of the Police Department has to have a minimum of 8 hours every year and they a lot of correctional training tapes on there so that makes up for the training there. So it is actually in-house while they are on duty, so we are not out anything other than whatever LETN costs us. Chairman Bring stated so actually the money is allocated in your account right now for training, does that pretty much take care of what you do? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes. Chairman Bring asked we recently had a few things like I told that happened at my house and stuff, have we had anymore incidents of that type? Captain Komlosy answered no. The guys are aware of it, like I stated to you if you hear of anything get the information to us as soon as possible. You probably will hear about it because no one calls us. Chairman Bring stated I asked the neighbors and everything else, obviously in the daytime no one pays attention because of people coming in and out. Mr. Elliott asked what are we talking about. Chairman Bring explained the incident. Police Chief Shepherd advised daylight burglary's are the most common because nothing looks suspicious during the daylight. If you are walking around somebody's house during the daylight, it doesn't key on anybody. Chairman Bring advised like Dave said too, you don't know if they are showing up in some kind of a work truck or what, you don't know. Mr. Elliott asked are we recording our phone lines now, has that been fixed? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes. Mr. Elliott advised this new phone system we are putting in I am told has the capability of recording it for us. Police Chief Shepherd advised we have to have land line over there because if power goes down or something – the digital system could go out and we can't afford that. Fire Chief Conrad advised they said one of their selling features was that there was some kind of emergency back-up on this that we would always have phones. Captain Komlosy stated I had heard that and I wanted to bring that up just in case. Chairman Bring advised I will have to double check that and make sure that

that is correct. Captain Komlosy stated as long as you don't lose phones, a phone line is powered by the phone company – if we lose power, we still have phones and I don't know if this is the same set-up or not. Mr. Elliott stated I know it is through the phone company. Police Chief Shepherd stated I don't know anything about that system either because we use what we call the call-back, if someone calls and says or screams out a number and hangs up then we have to call it back to kind of figure out what they have said. Mr. Elliott advised this is going to be caller-ID and everything – they tell me. I am not sure, I just didn't know if you guys had been briefed on what is going to go on. The guy that does understand it unfortunately is not here today. Rick I guess put it in his company where he works and he has a very good understanding of it. Captain Komlosy stated I have heard is that we are getting a system and that is about it.

FIRE CHIEF CONRAD: Fire Chief Conrad submitted graphs from 1979 thru 2008 for fire run numbers, squad run numbers and total run numbers for the Sheffield Lake Fire Department. Chairman Bring advised that is what they said the other day when they had that fire in Avon, they had Sheffield, Avon and somebody else but not us. Fire Chief Conrad explained the first page shows our fire runs over the last 20/30 years. Those high years in the late 90's/early 2000's – those are when we had automatic response with neighboring fire departments. So those were high, a little bit for those periods which if you would lay a pencil across there you could see there is a general trend upwards. The second page is the number of rescue calls, last year we did 762 and that is the most we have ever done. Together 969 that matches the highest total number of runs we have ever had which was 2003 and the year 2000 wasn't too far behind but again that was during the time when we were doing those automatic responses a little more liberally and also that was the time when carbon monoxide detectors were first coming into play and there was a lot of false alarms with those. So we are running a lot more calls then what we were 30 years ago, almost double with the same number or personnel. Chairman Bring asked the average distance in those calls are just short runs, a mile/2 miles? Fire Chief Conrad answered well most of them are EMS calls, so most of those entail a trip to the hospital. Mr. Elliott asked have you averaged that out as to how many calls per shift, is it like 3 calls a shift. Fire Chief Conrad answered close, real close to that. Chairman Bring asked when you do the fire truck, is that included like when you go out for accidents if somebody got hit on the road and there is a possibility of gas or something like that – is that included in these? Like the fire truck runs in 2008, you got 207? Fire Chief Conrad answered no, not up until this year. Next year in 2009, we are going to start giving those runs a separate number and that is strictly for billing purposes. The only time that that would be a concern here is generally for motor vehicle accidents and we don't have too many of those that we get called for for injuries, probably about maybe a dozen a year. Chairman Bring stated well it just goes back to if you have 1 truck and you only have 1 back in the bay. Mr. Elliott stated what concerns me really is the squad runs have gone through the roof and we are still running with 2 old squads. Fire Chief Conrad advised yes that is a concern, as I have been asking for a rescue squad since I have been Chief and we have gotten by with what we have and as time goes on we have got more down time and more upkeep expenses on those vehicles. I understand the funds are tight again this year and they are hoping that some of those will free up in

2010 but it is definitely something we should plan for as one of these days it will be an emergency. Chairman Bring advised I have made mention to that and like I said they are definitely they are well aware of it. We can get that little grant writer downstairs to start doing stuff and that would be alright. Captain Komlosy asked is there any possibility of getting cruisers this year? Chairman Bring answered as of right now, they are not slated for any. Captain Komlosy advised the reason I asked is because the leases are up on. Mr. Elliott advised we have no warranties on any cruiser we have, so pretty much cruiser upkeep is up to us. Captain Komlosy answered pretty much. Chairman Bring advised that was one of the first things I asked for this year and he said as of right now we are not going to do that. I am not saying you know if something major happens to one of these cars that is something else I don't know. Mr. Elliott asked how is the 6 cruiser set-up working? Captain Komlosy answered you have 6 cars, get more and more miles put on each one. We have 3 of them that are over 60,000 miles – the black ones. The other ones are you know, getting more and more miles on them too. Mr. Elliott asked are they all in service right now or is there any down? Captain Komlosy answered we have 1 that is going to have to go over to Kowalski Ford, the rear end is. Chairman Bring asked the same one? Captain Komlosy answered no, it is another one with same problem. It might be some problem they had in the 05's, we have gone through 3 batteries - certain things have failed together on those 3 cars. So it might just be the nature of that years beast. But I will be submitting to get a purchase order for that repair. Mr. Elliott asked how is maintenance? Captain Komlosy answered I am keeping on it, right now that is the only real maintenance item that is outstanding. The tires have been fixed today, I got a couple things to do at Vasu which won't costs the city anything. Other then that we are good, oil changes at working out – Kowalski has been working with us really well. Chairman Bring stated I think it was a much better idea, the turn-around time is just so much faster and you got good records of everything. Captain Komlosy stated you take it over there, they give you a price and they are very reasonable and it is done, I don't have to wait. Chairman Bring asked we got all the equipment into the new fire truck and that is all ready to go. Fire Chief Conrad answered that has been running frontline for about a month now. There is a few pieces of equipment that we ran out of money for last year that we will getting out of this years budget. Chairman Bring asked that equipment that you got the grant for, is that coming in? Fire Chief Conrad answered we have got the folks from Holmatro which is one of the rescue tool companies coming into tomorrow for a demonstration. Chairman Bring asked for the jaws of life? Fire Chief Conrad answered yes, I talked to the companies with the washing machines. We have got 1 that we like that is similar to the ones that are used in neighboring departments and they are happy with that product. So right now it is just a process of getting a purchase order for them and getting them ordered and getting them in here. Chairman Bring asked do they carry warranties or anything on those things? Fire Chief Conrad answered the washing machine I believe comes with one, the rescue tool – we are going to check. We are probably going to buy the demonstration tool to get a little bit of a price break and we will make sure that the warranty is at least the same or maybe comparable. Mr. Elliott asked with the little grant writer downstairs, the departments are still looking on grants for themselves right? Captain Komlosy answered I check on line, hopefully once the administration changes; before the election the word was that basically

we are going to get more opportunities to get cop grants again. Maybe some equipment grants and we will just to have to wait until the new administration – Washington is in place to see what is going to happen. It will be really nice because we could use cop grants to hire a couple of guys, Bryan Schuster retired – it would be nice if we could replace him and do those kinds of things. Chairman Bring stated well anytime we get any money that is available, if we can get it we will take advantage of it. With the finances of all the cities, I mean everybody will be jumping on it – the faster we get into it the better off we are. Mr. Elliott stated I just wanted to say with all the lay-offs going on and everything around here, you guys have been doing a great job. We are not laying anybody off now, I think a lot of that plays into how everything kind of worked out this year. We had a couple of people leave on their own anyway but at least we are not in the paper all the time saying we are laying off this many people. You guys have always ran short and it really doesn't affect the quality of service. I just want to say good job to both departments and keep up the good work.

Police Chief Shepherd advised Dick Pufnock who worked for PD for a while – he has probably got a couple of days left to live. There was a brief discussion. He also advised Bob Ramey is not doing too good, he has got a brain tumor.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, Motion 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 January 7, 2009.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE

Dennis Bring

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Edward R Podmanik

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Richard Rosso