

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

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, October 7, 2009. Chairman Bring called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Bring, Elliott, Rosso

Attending: Law Director Graves, Service/Safety Director Arendt, Civil Service; Huffman

READING OF THE MINUTES:

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Rosso to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2009 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORTS FROM THE SAFETY FORCES: Chairman Bring advised I called and talked to Larry today. The only thing that he said that they actually had a kind of lock down over at Brookside High School today. They were called to help out and check lockers and stuff. They had an incident where somebody wrote on the bathroom wall that they were going to shoot somebody or something so they had to take it as a serious act. They found nothing, they checked the lockers and he said that everything was okay. Do one of the police cars have an axel problem or something? Safety Director Arendt answered yes. Chairman Bring advised I guess that is being looked at. He said he had actually no other issues, everything else is going pretty good. I talked to Acting Fire Chief Langin and he said that the mobile radios and stuff, they have been getting those to work. They have had some issues about that and that is being corrected and they also in the back of the ambulance when they turn those on now the back speakers were like 10 times louder than the front speakers. So they are going to get reastats (volume control) for that to kind of balance it all out. Other than that he didn't have anything and he was just kind of commenting on the truck – 66 and I told him that was being looked into as far as the costs and what was going to happen on that. Mr. Elliott asked so everything is up and running over there? Chairman Bring answered 66 is still down but Joe is looking into getting a costs, the springs are actually through the floor so it is un-drivable and he said there is possible problems with the brakes and some other stuff but he said basically if the springs get fixed they would be able to drive that. Mr. Elliott asked 66 is what? Chairman Bring answered that red utility truck. Mr. Elliott asked I thought we were going to look into replacing that? Chairman Bring advised well Joe talked to Tammy, I know that because I was sitting there the other day and it is hard enough to find \$3000.00 versus that. Safety Director Arendt advised I did look into the costs and we are going to bring it on the agenda next week for Finance to appropriate a little bit more money than we have in the account. It is going to costs about \$3500.00 and that will take care of the springs and the back panels

and replace those. The brakes – John McCallie will be able to handle and Chief Langin mentioned that he thought that there might be head gasket leak again. We think that John McCallie can take care of that. I believe by doing this we can get another 3 years out of the vehicle. I did check in costs of new vehicles, you are looking at with minimum of about \$25,000.00 for that particular type of vehicle. So with the idea of getting 3 more years, I think it would be worth our while to do that because it only has 57,000 miles on it. Chairman Bring stated he said the engine and stuff runs fine, they were just concerned about the brakes and stuff. He said even that, if they got the springs back on it is still drivable – it wasn't like it is totally unsafe. He didn't think that was too bad of an issue there. Safety Director Arendt stated it has been out of service for 6 weeks and we do need a utility vehicle for them because they check hydrants and sometimes they paint the tops and they do that and they utilize that vehicle and it has to be a respond vehicle. Hopefully we will be able to get it taken care of. Mr. Elliott stated so basically you are saying in your opinion that it is worth the \$3500.00 sinking into that vehicle for the next 3 years? Safety Director Arendt answered I believe so, I would prefer to try to find \$25000.00 but I just don't think that we would be able to do that and with only 57,000 miles on the engine and the majority of everything being in the back end and springs and shocks and stuff like that. I think that as long as the engine with the 57,000 it is going to be fine and hopefully the transmission will be fine. I mean there is no guarantees, it is just the idea of we think we can get 3 or 4 years more years out of it. Chairman Bring stated that truck is a 4-wheel drive truck and we got winter time coming up so it is a beneficial truck. Mr. Elliott stated the only thing that bothers me is like 3 years from now I think we are going to be in a little worse position where we are going to need a new ambulance. Safety Director Arendt stated as you recall I brought a very simplified 5-year plan together for streets and water. My intent is to do one for the Fire and do one for the Police, make them a little bit more in-depth. For example, a new ambulance guy was here yesterday about 5 or 5:30 and we were looking at the demo that they had and it was \$160,000.00. Well that is a 2009, in 2010 it is going up \$8,000.00 dollars simply because of emissions. Chairman Bring advised it actually has a separate 12 gallon tank on it, even though it is a diesel they want a cleaner emissions so they have to add another fuel to it so it burns it all off. Correct me if I am wrong but the guy who recommended that he go back to a 2009. Safety Director Arendt concurred absolutely. Chairman Bring advised this is all coming down the line where these vehicles/these emissions it is really kind of getting nonsense. Safety Director Arendt advised so I am going to have to look into 5-year plans. Mr. Elliott stated actually I would be very interested in seeing that because we have always talked to the departments about a 5-year plan but we have never really gotten one, not a serious one. Mr. Rosso advised Mike and Larry both had one, it is just we never do anything with them and they get tired of just doing it for nothing. Chairman Bring concurred yes they give it to us and we don't have any money so then like Rick said they get frustrated. Safety Director Arendt stated hopefully when I do a 5-year plan, we are able to show some type of carry-over each and every year. That is going to determine what happens in those 5-years – that will be much more in-depth then the water one that I gave you because it will have inflation in there. I will have general costs increases and whatsoever but I think if it were me I would bring that to Council's attention probably every 6 months and say here is where we are at, here is

what we have got, we are on schedule, we are not on schedule and then try to work the funds around that. I think probably in the past it happens in other cities, they bring a 5-year plan, they bring a 10-year plan – everybody thinks it is great and then all of a sudden they don't enact on it because 6-months later they didn't project it. Chairman Bring advised every year in the budget you have to actually have to put something aside for that because if it all comes up at one time then it just never gets done. One other thing, in the fire truck I guess they were doing some pump testing – tomorrow they are going to do some pump testing on the trucks and stuff too. Safety Director Arendt stated you just reminded me, I did not realize that the city does not have a hose tester. They have always borrowed Sheffield Village's which is now broke and they have to get one. That is something that we will eventually have to get because what they utilize now is the trucks to test the hoses. Well you are using a \$90,000.00 truck, running it and utilizing all the fuel, pumping it and going and all that. When you can use a regular hose tester and they have to test the hose every so often by law. Since the Village's is down and Avon Lake said no because ours is down. Chairman Bring asked how much is a pump tester? Safety Director Arendt answered the hose tester is probably around \$2000.00. Mr. Elliott stated I know we just got a grant for equipment but I think we have already spent it though right? Safety Director Arendt answered no not all of it. Mr. Rosso stated I think that is only for certain things. Mr. Elliott asked do you think maybe we can look for a grant for that? Safety Director Arendt answered well Mike is in the process now of trying to utilize the grant they have and send an amendment to Ohio asking them to allow us to use money for other areas that were not initially in the grant. There is about \$24,000.00 left and if he gets that grant then we would be okay. Is there any more money for grants out there, could be – I could check with Bill but I don't know. We just got turned down today for the pier and something, we just got turned down for bathrooms, pier – everybody is getting turned down on grants lately. Mr. Elliott stated I know that we gave our fire tests the other day, do we have a front runner or are we looking at someone? Law Director Graves advised immediately preceding this meeting, the Civil Service Commission met to review the results of the Fire Chief's test. Unfortunately none of the 3 candidates scored the minimum passing score of 70%. The Civil Services rules do not even allow application of seniority credit unless you achieve minimum passing score which they set at 70%. So we got to start the process over with asking the Lieutenants if they would like to tests for it, if we don't have at least 2 then go to the Fire Fighters with 24 months experience and if that doesn't produce a list to at least 2 then open up to the one guy with less then 24 and if that doesn't produce then we can go outside of the department. Civil Service Commission is also going to be setting a public hearing on amending the rules, adopting a rule change that would allow the city in the event that 2 promotional tests do not produce at least 1 passing score to open the tests up to outside the city. Mr. Rosso stated those are all given and graded by an outside agency correct? Law Director Graves answered that is correct, this test was administered by the Ohio Fire Chief's Association. Mr. Tom Talcott who I think is the Assistant Chief in Mentor and we had scores of 62%, 61% and 52%. Mr. Elliott stated fantastic, so we have to start all over again. Mr. Rosso asked can we get the Chief's to start showing up again at Safety? Safety Director Arendt stated I can ask them, it is an overtime. Chairman Bring stated not the Police Chief but Acting Fire Chief. If he is on duty then he can, if we bring

him in like today he is off – so if he comes in then it would be overtime. Safety Director Arendt answered but I can start having the Police Chief come. Mr. Rosso stated so we will have the Police Chief and when we get a permanent Fire Chief then they can start showing up. I just think it makes it better. Safety Director Arendt stated I will take care of that with the Police Chief.

POLICE CHIEF SHEPHERD: discussion above.

ACTING FIRE CHIEF: discussion above.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Rosso asked now that we are wrapping up Ferndale phase II, are they going to replace the stop signs? Safety Director Arendt answered yes. Law Director Graves stated I drove that and it looks like there is quite a few new ones. Mr. Rosso stated I drove it 2 weeks ago maybe, right after they paved it Joe and they weren't but maybe they are now. Law Director Graves stated after you mentioned it the other night, I drove down there and there is quite a few new ones – 7 feet tall, you can see the straw around the bottom like they are new signs. Safety Director Arendt advised they did them last week. I don't know if they are all in or anything but I know that the signage is in and some of the stop signs are in. Mr. Rosso stated I thought we did on phase I thought there were all new stop signs and like I said I just happened to notice the day as you and I talked that they paved it a week earlier then we thought and I just happened to drive down it because I said it looks like it is paved so I am going to take a ride and then they weren't done then because we really should have some kind of plan to get them all up to code. I like the fact that you took the ones down on Forestlawn. Law Director Graves stated the 2 main thoroughfares - Lake Road and Ferndale should all be compliant. Mr. Rosso stated except for west of Warwick – Dillewood and Lakewood Beach aren't. Law Director Graves stated west of Lakewood Beach. Mr. Rosso stated they didn't go all the way down to Lakewood Beach, they stopped at Warwick. So Lakewood Beach and Dillewood still aren't, Devonshire probably isn't. The 2 main thoroughfares should be. Mr. Elliott stated we were advised that we got a grant from I think Homeland Security to put computers in our cars, I think they were going to donate the laptops. Is there an update on that, are we moving on that? Safety Director Arendt advised Bill went to Columbus a couple of weeks ago for a meeting, it could be any day – we did get them. Mr. Elliott asked when they are in can we have some type of demonstration about how it is going to make our Police work easier. Safety Director Arendt answered yes, that computer is you know being able to type it in and get license plates immediately instead of calling it in to the dispatcher. Our next phase is to get cameras in all the cars, we don't have cameras in all the cars. We have applied to a grant for that. Mr. Elliott stated I went to a demonstration in Amherst when I was Chairman a couple of years ago. So this is the same system where you can actually email each other and communicate with other departments. Safety Director Arendt stated yes this is a LEADS system, full communication. Law Director Graves stated it is going to require some additional training because right now I believe only dispatchers are LEADS certified but ultimately you know they will be able to run the LEADS right there in the cruiser. Safety Director Arendt added and they will be able to communicate through mail and stuff like that. Mr.

Elliott asked how many computers is that for? Safety Director Arendt answered I think it is for 4, I will have to ask Bill. I don't know if we got 4 or if we got all 6 but I think we got all 6. It is a minimum 4, I do know that. Chairman Bring asked on the fire hydrants, is it strictly the Fire Department that goes out and checks those all the time or does the Service Department do that too. Safety Director Arendt answered both. Chairman Bring asked when they check those things and they put them back together do they ever grease those fittings? Safety Director Arendt answered every time, absolutely. We have got a significant number repaired. I mean there were really a lot of problems with turning them on and off and hard and you know the stems and each week I give the Chief an updated list of the ones that are repaired and we have done a significant amount of repairs. Mr. Elliott stated under Ordinance, we briefly discussed the open jail agreement with Sheffield Village. I was wondering if some of the suggestions that we made under Ordinance are being implemented in cutting down our manpower, our involvement in the whole booking process. Law Director Graves answered Council did pass that with 1 amendment to the agreement, I sent it off to the Village with a letter saying that identified the one change. The one change that we did put in the agreement itself was that the Village would reimburse the city for any un-recovered costs associated with medical transport. The other recommendations were incorporated into the policies and procedures that the Police Chief has gone over with Chief Bliss in the Village. They are okay with all of those and to the further extent possible, the Village officer is going to assist with the booking procedure to minimize the time it takes Sheffield Lake to book these people in. Our guy has to do the booking but some of the application and paperwork can be prepared ahead of time when the prisoner over so it is just a question of entering the data, can be expedited. A Village officer is going to stay through the whole booking process. Mr. Elliott asked when are we going to start doing that, immediately? Law Director Graves answered as soon as the Village, the Village will have to re-adopt the agreement. I haven't heard whether they have done that or not but then I think it will begin. Again, in speaking with the Magistrate – he anticipates it being very rare and for very short periods of time.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, Motion by Rosso/Second by Elliott to adjourn at 7:25 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

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE
Dennis Bring

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 7, 2009.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Edward R Podmanik

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Richard Rosso