

Minutes of the Safety Committee Meeting  
**Sheffield Lake, Ohio**  
July 2, 2008

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, July 2, 2008. Chairman Bring called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Bring, Elliott  
Absent: Rosso (excused)  
Attending: Police Chief Shepherd, Fire Chief Conrad

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

\*Motion by Elliott to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2008 meeting with no corrections.  
Yeas All.

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**REPORTS FROM THE SAFETY FORCES:**

**POLICE CHIEF SHEPHERD:** Police Chief Shepherd reported one of our part-time officers Jim Biehl has resigned. He is the officer that put on the ID Theft thing, so I only have 4 part-time officers left. Mr. Elliott asked is there any plans on hiring anymore part-time? Police Chief Shepherd answered unless I come across a big wad money this year – no. We definitely maybe need to kind of look at that for next year. Mr. Bring asked so when you do Community Days, you normally have everybody on staff out – what are you going to do? Police Chief Shepherd answered normally we do try to have everybody out but this year, normally we have 3 guys on the road during that week. We won't have 3 guys on the road, we will only have 2, I just don't have the people. So it is not so much the funds, I don't have the people. We may to put the boat out on Friday, I am going to try and get a hold of the Coast Guard because under some sort rule – we have to keep so many feet where boats can't come in and stuff like that because of the fireworks display. We have never done it before, usually the Coast Guard took care of it when we didn't have a boat and now we got one so we may have it out if I can get that taken care of. Right now it is still in kind of like in dry dock and winter storage. It is going to have to be flushed and prepped, so hopefully we will start working on that. As a matter of fact I got Sergeant Keenan working on that today. He is the other driver of the boat who is a lake certified Captain. So with Schuster being absent, he now takes over those duties. We may have the boat out but we are going to be a little thin on manpower as far as Community Days. Mr. Elliott asked where are you launching that, in Avon Lake? Police Chief Shepherd concurred in Avon Lake, we don't have to pay. Mr. Elliott stated it will be nice when we finish ours. Mr. Bring stated it is my understanding that the boat dock ramps are supposed to be done here in the next week or so, hopefully – we will see how that works out. Mr. Bring stated just to let you know, I had asked Larry for an annual report. He is going to get

me some updated ones. We have had some people stating that there has been more crime in the city and I haven't seen it and Larry hasn't really. So what I want is to look over that and I actually want to report that during city council. Police Chief Shepherd added you can also let them know that it is on our website, if they go to our website which would have the current - 2005, 2006 and 2007. Mr. Bring stated the reason for it is I just want to get it out in front of everybody so everybody knows what is going on. There was a brief discussion on questions about the crime in the city and the figures are available on slpolice.com.

1.) ***Radio communications within departments*** – Chairman Bring asked did you do anything more with that Mike? Fire Chief Conrad advised the gentleman came in and gave a bid to Dawn and she has reviewed it with the Finance Director and the Mayor. It is my understanding they are comparing apples to apples with Verizon, etc. Mr. Elliott asked we are going to go with the cell phone or are we going to go with the radio? Fire Chief Conrad answered they are checking out between the 2 vendors at this point. Mr. Bring stated to see what the best deal is. Mr. Elliott asked is that the best option because the last time I thought we had talked. Mr. Bring answered that is my understanding and the Mayor and everybody said they were going to get a report on this and I think Mike was working on it. I kind of left it up in their hands but everybody actually seem like the cell phone was the way to go with some type of walkie/talkie. Fire Chief Conrad stated at the time the Service Department went to that new frequency, I did some checking and I did put that capability in our portable radios and in our base radio. So we are able to contact them directly on that new channel that they got. Police Chief Shepherd stated I believe we have it in our base station but they have to answer. Mr. Bring stated I think what the problem is too is right now is that Vasu is coming in and they charging them like a yearly maintenance thing and that is costing X amount of money so I think if they can eliminate that costs and be even more efficient with the cell phones and walkie/talkie then I think that is the way to go.

Mr. Elliott stated I noticed that there is a lot more traffic up at the boat launch now and during Community Days last year, I don't if you remember we were having complaints from certain individuals that there were things going on at that park that weren't supposed to be – I was wondering if maybe we can pick up patrol back there because I went back there the other day and was just nosing around – there is a walk right there next to the lake and there is a lot of blind spots where somebody could hide out and do those types of things and I was just wondering if over the weekend when an officer gets time and I know over the weekend it is kind of hard because there is a lot of added traffic. Police Chief Shepherd stated they can patrol it pretty good because we had the, I don't know if they told you about that digger they have. Somebody flattened the tires on the blind side so you couldn't see it. We have been having some issues taking big boulders and throwing them in. Mr. Elliott stated I was just wondering because we had complaints last year. There was a brief discussion on complaints last year. Police Chief Shepherd stated we patrol all of our parks to the best of our ability and we will continue to do that.

**FIRE CHIEF CONRAD:** Fire Chief Conrad reported Sunday the full-time Fire Fighter Wes Mariner who was hired started, that was his first day and today was his second day so we are back up to full strength. Chairman Bring asked he is happy? Fire Chief

Conrad answered very.

**1.) Squad – no funds. – REMOVE.**

2.) *Ad for notice of sale for engine 62, the 77 pick-up truck* – was in this weeks Avon Lake Press and it will be in the next Avon Lake Press. Hopefully we will get a few bids on that and we will open those up on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Elliott asked have we taken delivery yet of the truck or are we still waiting? Fire Chief Conrad answered it is scheduled for delivery on Tuesday. Mr. Bring advised when that comes in they are going to do some training on that and look it over and drive it around to get used to that thing. Mr. Bring and Mr. Elliott asked when they go to do that stuff we would like to know. Fire Chief Conrad advised the Mayor had mentioned that if it does come in Tuesday contacting Council and making them aware to be here before the meeting. So if Council is available a little bit early whoever wants to see it and maybe go for a ride or something. Mr. Elliott stated it is something we have been working for.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Grants** – Fire Chief Conrad advised the EMS grant for \$2500.00 for '07 and '08, we just purchased the equipment and it is arriving and that will be closed out shortly. We just got notified for '08 and '09 we received a \$3500.00 grant from the state for the same thing. This is a strict 100% grant, we don't have any match or anything on it. They give us the \$3500.00 to spend for EMS equipment and training. The Assistance to Fire Fighters grant for equipment, we have bought the turn-out gear, we have bought the vehicle exhaust system and we are using the excess funds for smoke detectors and for fire prevention literature, we got the ok from the Fed's to do that. As stated the new fire truck is scheduled to be here Tuesday, 62 is out for bids and under the fire prevention grant the computer and power point projector are here and the "sparky" suit is on order and should be here – it was 6 to 8 weeks when we ordered it which was about 2 or 3 weeks ago. Mr. Bring asked on that equipment thing, is that something that you look out for like that washing machine type thing that you talked about for the equipment or are you going to do something else. Fire Chief Conrad answered yes, we submitted for that I believe in either March or April – we submitted for a gear washer and an hydraulic tool and there was some training for some rope (rescue training) and then there was a request for a bail-out system for the guys to have in their gear. Mr. Bring asked we got all the other hoses, we got rid of the old hoses and updated? Fire Chief Conrad answered we made a purchase of hose last year, we were able to update all the hose on the front-line truck. With the equipment that we bought for the new truck coming in we weren't able to buy as much hose as I wanted to but we got the lion's share of it. All of the inch and three quarter hose on the new truck will be new. Two and a half inch hose will be some of our older hose that we still have from before and then next year I would like to complete that purchase so that that will also be new. Then the 5 inch hose, we ordered a few more lengths of that this year also to give us additional capacity for the new truck. Mr. Bring asked when we get the new truck, when they call for fires or whatever are we going to split time with the old truck and the new truck. Fire Chief Conrad answered when we got 63, 62 was old and outdated that we basically just parked it and only used it when we had

to. 63 is too good of a truck, it is too new of a truck to do that. My intentions are to make that a rescue pumper, we would use the new pumper for house fires and we would continue to take the current pumper out for when it is needed for extrication or for motor vehicle accidents, lake rescues, that type of thing. We would like to keep it in the rotation, we don't want it to sit there and not get any use and that would also keep the mileage off of our new pumper. The '77 truck has almost like 26000 miles on it. The front-line pumper which is a '96 that is 12 years old – that already has close to the same amount of mileage on it. So just the difference in run volume from when that truck was new, when the current front-line truck was new – it has just been run more. So hopefully that will help keep mileage off of the new truck when we get it also. Mr. Elliott asked no police grants or anything like that, you guys looking at anything? Police Chief Shepherd answered Lorain just got a big chunk of this that was supposed to come up to Lorain County, they deemed they were in more need then anybody else – Elyria and everybody else. So Lorain got the whole thing and rightfully so.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Bring advised we had a second incident for a guardrail for a home on Harris Road and Ferndale where a person ran through Harris Road where Ferndale intersects and I think that hit the house. The lady had called to see if there was anything we could do about it. I talked to Bill who said if you put a guardrail there, it is not really how they really want to put a guardrail there for safety because that is not normally what it is used for. I don't even know if there is anything other then like you guys talked about to put landscaping and a rock there or something like that and maybe talk to the lady. Police Chief Shepherd advised I would maybe have the Law Director look at that because if you put something up that maybe someone gets killed that could be a problem. Especially if the city puts it up then the city will get sued, if they put it up its landscaping. Mr. Bring advised maybe a mound of dirt or a tree or small shrubs. Police Chief Shepherd advised I was under the impression that is why they did that with those 2 houses like if you come up Grantwood onto Lake Road, why they kind of mounded that because they had the same problem cars were coming across Lake Road going through their yard because there used to be kind of like a row of trees through there. Mr. Bring stated this lady's driveway lined up with the road, you can't do anything about it. Mr. Elliott asked what good would a guardrail do anyways. Mr. Bring advised well stop the car but I think they were more concerned about the house then they are about the yard. There was a brief discussion on situation and possible resolutions. There was a brief discussion on July 4<sup>th</sup> enforcement. Mr. Elliott asked Community Days you guys are going to be up there? Police Chief Shepherd advised yes, in the years past we have always had 3 guys on the road but this year we are only going to have 2. I just don't have the manpower, I got guys on sick leave, part-time guys have left. Mr. Elliott asked didn't they pay you guys up there before? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes, the guys that are up there are paid by the Community Counsel? Mr. Elliott asked so we are going to have that still? Police Chief Shepherd answered yes, you will have 4 minimum every night and Thursday and Friday there is 6 guys because of the traffic control, fireworks and more people. There was a brief discussion on past history of arrests.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee, Motion by Elliott to adjourn at 8:11 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.

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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 July 2, 2008.

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CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE

*Dennis Bring*

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*