

**Minutes of the City Council**  
Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
June 28, 2011

The regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, June 28, 2011. Council President Podmanik called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

**THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: Council Chaplin, Kay Fantauzzi**, who then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

\*\*\*\*\***ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**\*\*\*\*\*

- Present: Podmanik, Huska, Stark, Elliott, Bring, Kovach, Smith, Mayor Piskura, Treasurer E Hoenig, Finance Director Smith, Service Director Smith, Engineer Skellenger
- Absent: Rosso, Law Director Graves (excused)
- Attending: Concerned Citizens, Members of the Media

\*Motion by Bring/Second by Elliott to accept the minutes of the Council meeting for June 14, 2011 with any corrections. Yeas All.

\*Motion by Bring/Second by Elliott to accept the minutes of the Council Worksession meeting for June 21, 2011 with any corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

\*\*\*\*\***CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer, and Refuse: None./Safety: None./Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment: None./Ordinance: None./Finance & Claims:** Chairman

Elliott reviewed the minutes of the June 21, 2011 meeting. \*Motion by

Huska/Second by Bring to accept the report. Yeas All./**Investment: None./Council**

**Representative to the Community Center:** Representative Stark reviewed the

attached quarterly report submitted by Manager Pat Hastings./**Council**

**Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals: None./Council Representative to**

**the Planning Commission: None./Council Representative to the Park Board:**

Member Kovach advised Media to please advertise for applicants for the Park Board,

we are in need of 3 members. Also, to the Service Director – I did have one question

for the Service Director, I was asked about the sign at Memorial Park that isn't there.

Service Director Smith answered from what I understand the sign was stolen and that

occurred just before I left. As to its replacement, we had discussed it but I don't have

the answer for it yet. Member Kovach advised when I was asked that question I was

surprised that I went over and looked because I had seen that sign 2 or 3 weeks prior

to that and I didn't know if it was down for repairs.

\*\*\*\*\***ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**\*\*\*\*\*

**MAYORS REPORT:** Mayor Piskura advised I only have a couple of things. The first of which is to ask for your confirmation on Service Department employees; our seasonal employees for the summer – Shawn Ackers, Jade Carney and Brandon Danchisen. I know that the Safety Committee and Council have been talking about a utility truck for the Fire Department and I know that David worked real hard in getting the ordinances done for tonight but if you choose to go three readings, I don't think that that would be a big deal because in reality I am not sure how many of you are aware but there was a senate conference committee today that ended about 3 o'clock and the deal is now cemented that in the new budget will include a 25% reduction in the local government fund in the first year followed by a 50% reduction thereafter forever. For us that represents 75,000 to 85,000 for the first year and 150,000 to 160,000 thereafter. We are talking about all general fund money. So that that deal is done, I think we need to re-examine whether or not we are going to spend that money on that particular truck. I don't intend to enter into the agreement right away, I don't intend to sign the po and sign the check right away. I honestly am very doubtful that we will end up doing that at all. Then 6 months from now if the thinking changes with the new administration then you are more than welcome to but I don't think it would be very responsible to go ahead with that this quickly right now. \*Motion by Huska/Second by Bring to accept the report. Yeas All./

**FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:** Finance Director Smith advised in your packet tonight you have the appropriation ordinance that we discussed at Finance. I have no problem if you want to hold off on that, there is nothing that I can't re-appropriate in July. I know there has been discussion on some of those things changing so I am just leaving that up to you guys. Also, I left you with a copy of the 2012 Tax Budget which is not thin because we had no firm commitment on this local government. None of those cuts were taken and we are going to have to be looking at that. If not for the tax budget then obviously for the 2012 budget in December which we have a few months to work on that. We will have to be making some tough choices. Mayor Piskura stated first of all everybody knows the tax budget means nothing for us because we are on the alternate method of apportionment but we do it and try to keep it fairly accurate. If you look at where we are at with the local government funds this year it was \$323,000.00. We generally carry-over between \$140,000 to \$180,000.00 since I have been here, so think down the road 2 years from now we are going to be \$150,000 \$180,000.00 short of where we are right now and we are short in every department that we have. The only reason that we are even surviving is because we haven't hired anybody and we haven't settled the Fire contract yet. I just wanted everybody to be aware of the pending difficulties. \*Motion by Huska/Second by Bring to accept the report. Yeas All./

**TREASURER REPORT: None.**

**SAFETY DIRECTOR: None.**

**SERVICE DIRECTOR:** Service Director Smith advised as you know I have not been here for 2 weeks so my list is short.

The solar panel project is started at the Civic Center and we are looking for completion in August barring no weather issues or no other major engineering difficulties. The Road Department has been filling pot holes for the last several weeks and jetting driveway pipes as the 2 top priorities. So I know you are probably getting a lot of calls from your constituents because the rain has just delayed the pot hole filling over a month now due to weather conditions. I have 2 requests that I did present to you, if you have any questions feel free to ask or refer to a committee is fine. I am going to have that free light evaluation done at the buildings and the Civic Center through Firemans and Lake Erie Electric. I know that Mr. Gardner applied for a CDBG grant but I am going to go this route anyways, it is free and not costing us a penny. \*Motion by Huska/Second by Bring to accept the report. Yeas All./ENGINEER: **None.**/LAW DIRECTORS REPORT: **None.**

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:**

*Ann Marie Woltman, 649 Sheffield Road* stated a couple of weeks ago when we had that meeting with the Post Office officials, they had stated that they would be putting questionnaire's at the Post Office for people to fill out. Well they never arrived, so I got the phone number and called her – the Post Master and asked her, I think it was last week whether they would be coming and she said they were still working on them. Yesterday when I went to the Post Office, there was this notice since there had been a community meeting there will be not any surveys distributed to the community to fill out. Then there was an address to send any comments to this person in Cleveland. There was no date but luckily the person there did stamp it when it was received, there is no date on this notice saying when your comments had to be sent in by. So to me it is like a cover-up, just like someone had mentioned they have already decided what they are going to do. So I wondered what Council was going to do to notify everybody in the community about this. Since I don't know I called today for her and the Post Master was on vacation and I don't when these have to be submitted by but I was hoping to place this in a couple of places in the community where people that don't go on a regular basis to the Post Office can read it. So my question is, are we going to do anything as a Council regarding the closing of the Post Office? President Podmanik answered as far as I know no discussion has been held here with Council as to any kind of resolution, certainly any member of Council can propose it. But at this point and time I am not aware of anything that Council would do or possibly could do. They had their meeting and most of you folks attended including Mr. Bring, I am not sure what kind of pull we even have there as far as the Post Office goes. Ms. Woltman stated I don't know either but I for one knowing that election time is coming again, I want to see something in the candidates report that they have done something for the community. Whether this be Council members and I don't even remember who else is running, Commissioners – whoever is running, I want to see

something in there for the citizens here in Sheffield Lake. President Podmanik stated certainly we are not the only ones with Post Offices closing. Do we own that property Mayor? Mayor Piskura answered we own that property and the Post Office has exercised the continuance of their lease I think through 2016 or 2017 but I can't remember which. So financially as far as the ownership and the property, it does not become a concern for us well down the road.

**Mark J Erdei, 4015 Tennyson** stated with Lorain and Sheffield Village starting to not drag their feet on their projects off of Colorado Avenue with that complex and what they are doing over there on those 48 acres. Mayor Piskura asked are you talking about the sewer? Mr. Erdei answered yes and then eventually putting in. Councilman Kovach added I think it is an enterprise zone is what they really are going after. Mr. Erdei continued well they were looking at retail and everything going in there from what I understand. I can't really specify where I heard that but it is a pretty good source. What would happen if that thing gets going and then our plaza – it would definitely take anybody that would probably be looking forward to moving into our plaza, they would probably be scooting over there in 3 years or whatever. Even the bank after their lease is up. Do we have anything still going to where we can get tenants in there? Mayor Piskura answered the property was marketed in Los Vegas, I have not heard anything back. I know that there was a few people interested but there is always a few people interested. As far as what is going in the Village, you know more than I do because I haven't heard anything like that. I don't know that I can answer your question.

**/UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.//NEW BUSINESS:** \*Motion by Huska/Second by Kovach to amend tonight's agenda to include Council#037. Yeas – Huska, Elliott, Stark, Kovach, Bring/Nays – Smith. \*Motion by Bring/Second by Kovach to approve the Mayors recommendations for part-time seasonal help for Shawn Ackers, Jade Carney, Brandon Danchisen. Yeas All – Bring, Smith, Huska, Stark, Kovach, Elliott.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Council#033 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance approving the recodification, editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and the declaring of an emergency.

\*Motion by Huska/Second by Bring for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Stark, Huska, Kovach, Smith, Elliott, Bring.

\*Motion by Huska/Second by Bring for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Kovach, Smith, Huska, Elliott, Bring, Stark.

**Ordinance Passes#33-11**

Council#034 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Middletown Ford and/or Accord Financial Group for the purchase of a Fire Department utility truck and the declaring of an emergency.

**No action from Council – failed to a first reading.**

Council#035 – FIRST READING – an ordinance amending section 1345.08 of the codified ordinances of the City of Sheffield Lake regarding occupancy permit inspections for single-family rental units and multi-family residential buildings having two or more residential units.

Council#036 – FIRST READING – an ordinance amending section 161.02 of the codified ordinances of the City of Sheffield Lake regarding expiration of variance upon failure to apply for building permit.

Council#037 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance providing for the establishment and increase and decrease of certain funds within the annual appropriations ordinance of the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and the declaring of an emergency.

\*Motion by Smith/Second Kovach to amend Council#037 to remove the first 2 items (decrease – 101.220.5130 and Est & Incr 101.220.5324) at this time. ROLL CALL TO AMEND: Yeas – Smith, Huska, Kovach, Stark/Nays – Bring, Elliott.

\*Motion by Smith/Second by Kovach for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas – Smith, Kovach, Huska, Stark/Nays – Bring, Elliott.

**Suspension failed to a first reading.**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by Bring to adjourn at 7:40 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

*Kay Fantauzzi*

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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 Council of June 28, 2011.

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*

MAYOR  
*John J Piskura*