

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
November 12, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, November 12, 2012. Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Elliott, Rosso, Stark, Smith, Kovach, Belaska, Mayor Bring, Service Director Smith

Absent: McCullough, Erdei and Law Director Graves (all excused)

*Motion by Belaska/Second by Stark to accept the minutes of the October 1, 2012 meeting as presented with any corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

SEWER CREDITS/UNPAID CHARGES FOR TAX DUPLICATE:

a.) 5365 Lake Road; in the amount of \$283.55 – after a brief discussion, *Motion by Belaska/Second by Smith to approve sewer credit in the amount of \$283.55. Yeas All.

b.) List for tax duplicate; in the amount of \$8,044.21 - *Motion by Kovach/Second by Smith to forward this list in the amount of \$8,044.21 to the county. Yeas All.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Service Director Smith reported the 2012 road section repairs are complete with the exception of 150 foot of Community Road on the west side of the drive thru building which will get a small overlay. We will finish up with berm on several of the areas, all sections came out great and Griffith did a fantastic job. Not only did they do a fantastic job, they worked like machines. I can't tell how great of a job they did, it just came off real well. I am currently working on the 2013 road sections target list which is the first list which the roads that we do come off of and also utilizing the 2012 default target list. Those are roads that didn't make it that came off of the 2012 regular target list. I will hopefully have that completed in December so that we may go right into the new year with the annual bid and I will be bringing that back. We have finished with Forestlawn Avenue storm pipes and catch basins and have them seeded and straw-ed. Now whether or not they come up is going to be up to mother-nature on how much of the seed will germinate but that is always with rye a weird thing. Hurricane Sandy - the city did some proactive things before the storm such as sweeping the leaves, getting out with the first 2 day rain that we had before Sandy came in if you remember right. We utilize that rain and got the street sweeper out doing the curbs and things. Communication

between the departments was touched on early and in meetings along with cone availabilities and call-out procedures. I must commend Fire Chief Card for his department along with Captain Campo and his department along with all of my personnel was an orderly and safe response by the city services. The first power failure was city wide and lasted approximately 4 hours. First Energy was right there during the following day as winds increased to 50 mph, we had 492 homes that lost power that day. Due to the amount of power outages, First Energy sent in a prioritizing method which was based on most effected per localized outage. Unfortunately we had 4 areas that ended up on the bottom of that county wide list. As an example one resident at the end of Maplevue did not get power back until Saturday afternoon. Ohio Edison kept me informed and I kept the resident informed, her case required Ohio Edison bulldozing on the easement from Abbe Road west through to Maplevue and installing multiple telephone poles and then stringing all new wires. A very large task and they did it in a day and a half. We did end up with full restoration several days before the surrounding communities which told kind of like what kind of response we had. I know that the time to get power was great but the amount of the damages was unheard of here. Ohio Edison did a great job of orderly restoration of services even though it seemed like forever for some people. They had trucks and they were zooming in and out of here. After the Hurricane Sandy event was over, I started evaluating our services, equipment and responses. I had discussions with Fire personnel on multiple department situations and how they could be improved along with generator capabilities and review emergency response issues such as; fuel when we have no power, if the generators were down. For example if an ice storm hits and if something else happens and we didn't have generators – so we are going over all our different procedures. In reality we are one major ice storm from a local emergency greater then Hurricane Sandy. Over this last weekend I observed several residents blowing leaves into the storm curb drains with their leaf blowers. We have asked all residents to please clean up their leaves and get them out of the ditches. Remember yard waste pick up goes until the end of this month – Allied Waste will not pick up yard waste in grass bags after November 26 & 27 of this month. Dumpsters for storm damage have been made available by Allied Waste free of charge and they are at the Service Department. I don't know how long this is going to last maybe until the end of the week. I have asked them to please be patient because we are filling them faster than they can unload and exchange them. I said you guys to do this and then not come and dump them isn't going to help us. So we are working with them on that. I do ask that dumpster fee issues be discussed here by Roads & Drains and to support that and I welcome that discussion. We are working on wash down areas in each department, for example; we have capped floor drains over in the Water Department and will be utilizing a system as a temporary reservoir – wash the vehicles and then we suck the water out of the floor drain traps into the sewer vac and go and dump it at a dumping station which is at Shell Cove for that

truck. This temporarily eases our restraint on washing of vehicles as set forth by the Ohio EPA in our stormwater audit. Bramhall Engineering has helped us get through with the NOT's (notice of terminations) and we had 5 of them not filed with the Ohio EPA. After a project is completed, such as Cove Beach, Ferndale, the boat launch – none of those NOT's were filed so we had to do that. The salt building, I hope everyone has had a chance to look around the side there and see what is going on. We have got the block mostly constructed and are preparing to base for asphalt inside the building and the block area and outside in the loading area. As soon as the base is filled and tapped, we will continue with the arches and get them up and start putting the frame up attaching everything and getting the sub structure up. Again this building will hold approximately 450 ton of salt, on the average we use between 800 and 1200 ton a season. So as you can imagine that will hold us pretty good. Norfolk and Southern is cleaned and graded, the ditch on the north of the railroad tracks as I have said all the effected homeowners along the ditch have received letters about dumping in the ditch. Hopefully they will understand the importance of this and refrain from dumping there. We did have Jon go door to door with a handwritten letter and we will see if that helps. CMI which is the company that does the city's computer software company has finally given us a written response a week and a half ago. I have a meeting with them this week but basically they said they were rushed into the situation and we have to design a way of checking their methods. It seemed like a lot of passing the buck to me which is why I asked if we could discuss these things. The sewer contract with Lorain, David is not here and that is moving along. It looks like things are going to be positive for us in the City of Lorain with an extension, we have nothing set yet and that is still in process. Last and not least, I would like to make a correction as reported by the Avon Lake Press November 7th, it was stated that our sewer pump stations were backed up for a while which contributed to some flooded basements – this is **not correct**. What was said was our sewer pump stations were backed up for a while and the loss of electric power shut down sump pumps which contributed to some flooded basements. I did want to correct that because I know a lot of times and I had several calls during the storm with people saying what are you doing with the pump stations – you are turning them on and they on flooding our basement. Where this information comes from doesn't make any sense to me but this is an example of where it could come from. Councilperson Belaska stated I wanted to ask you, did you have any issues with – because of all the Sandy issues with all the trees down and everything, did you have an issue with anybody trying to barricade through to dump illegally at all. Service Director Smith answered during the storm once we got the okay from Allied Waste that we were going to have lots of brush/tree damage/water soaked materials – Allied Waste opened up to free dumpsters to us so we didn't restrict anything. We just kept them going and are still doing that. Councilperson Stark stated you said we were one ice storm away from a general event, do we have a plan as a city to avoid what we

like to call the Lipa situation? Service Director Smith answered yes we have several disaster plans, we have an emergency management response prodigal which is run through the emergency services for which everyone has separate duties and how we report to command. Depending on the nature of the event and how severe it is. The reason I said that is I wanted everyone to be aware, this was the first time in northern Ohio we have seen major power outages due to a weather event. As you saw the need varied from community to community, when we were 100% restored – Avon Lake still had 1600 people without power and Avon had 500 people without power and Lakewood I believe had close to 5000 people without power just as we went 100% restored. So that told us a lot about how the response would be from the utility companies. There is a very good possibility we could have been part of that longer range, part of every emergency program is reviewing it after an event to see what changes you can make and how you can make things better. The Army Corp I believe contacted Captain Campo and Chief Card or it might have been the Department of the Army in getting the National Guard so that if there is a major response/what our generator needs would be and we were already working on that when they called. There are a lot of different plans; there is an emergency water plan/an emergency disaster plan/EMA. Councilperson Stark stated just with everything that went on, I know that I had friends out in Philadelphia that didn't have power for a week and a half and they weren't expecting it. Councilperson Belaska stated next week is the third Monday where everybody will be taking out they're trash, there shouldn't be issues with people with garbage bags and sticks as long as they are properly cut to bring to the curb. Service Director Smith answered it is just like every other bulk and at the same time we have dumpsters for yard waste and flood damage items; carpet and stuff like that while we have the dumpsters free. We are trying to load them and get them out as quick as possible. The only thing I am really requesting with the dumpsters is an orderly progression, we have had a slight problem of being overwhelmed over there and 2 or 3 trucks rushing in at the same time, so if every one stop at the window before they come flying through the gate. Councilperson Belaska advised I think you did a wonderful job and I would like to commend the city on how you move forward with this storm.

OLD BUSINESS: *Ditch cleanings; Day Ditch by Holl/Shoemaker Ditch – north of Richelieu, east side by Buckeye.*

NEW BUSINESS: *Dumpster fee's evaluation* – Service Director Smith advised the issue is going to be whether or not we want to continue with the additional use of dumping and giving residents the ability to dump refuse. Do we want it to be self-sufficient or do we want it to be just a given. That is not up to me as the fee's are set as it was discussed before. Currently it is about \$340.00 for a 40-yard dumpster is our tipping fee on that – that is an additional dumpster not supplied by the freebies under contract. Earlier this year Allied Waste mistakenly charged us the new rate which will be going into effect in the spring which looks like it is going to be \$393.00 per

dumpster which is almost \$400.00. So a 40-yard dumpster for \$400.00 if you do the math which is fairly simple. A dump truck which can carry in volume 4 yards, say approximately 4 yards; 4 cubic yards with 10 of them would fill that dumpster. You can come down to how much a yard you need to charge, the range is anywhere to break even would be around the \$15.00 cubic yard would be about break even. So a 40-yard dumpster at \$15.00 a yard – that is \$60.00 for 1 truck times 10. So a 40-yard dumpster at \$20.00 a yard, so the costs would be \$400.00 to dump that 40-yard dumpster. If we were to charge \$20.00 a yard we would be making money on it, it would cover the costs of labor for pushing it down, managing it and everything else. If we don't want to worry about that, we just want to charge then we can figure out the costs to a break-even point of what it is going to charge to dump that dumpster. So if the dumpster is \$400.00 that would be \$10.00 a yard to break even. We still have to pull guys off of the road to push the dumpster down we still have to call guys in off of projects to drop what they are doing and push the dumpster down because the Allied Waste truck is there. We have a lot of lost time and time is money and it is costing us and it is a lot. It is up to you but I would recommend at least \$10.00 a cubic yard. Chairman Elliott advised to me we are already charging a fee anyway for dumpsters, we might as well raise the rates so we can break even on it I would think. Councilman Smith stated you said the magical word – you said dump truck, our fee schedule doesn't cover dump trucks so if you are worried about the dump trucks. Service Director Smith stated it covers full size truck, full size van or a double load truck, the double load truck says dump truck. That is how I got it. Councilman Smith stated so you are telling me that you can put 4 yards of stuff in a pickup truck? Service Director Smith answered yes, double load dump truck. Likewise station wagons, your covering station wagons and station wagons are what – mini vans is the definition today of a station wagon. Councilman Smith advised not according to ours it is not, we have got station wagon and we have got mini vans. What are you looking to do? President Rosso stated it says double load truck and then you assume that means a dump truck. Councilman Smith stated that means a dump truck that carries 4 yards – that is a huge dump truck. Service Director Smith asked do you how big 4 cubic yards – do you know how big 4 cubic yards is? 3 X 3 is a cubic yard, 6 X 3 is 2 cubic yards and then 6 X 6 is 4 cubic yards. Councilman Smith stated you got a 6 foot bed/8 foot bed – how high has that got to be? What kind of fee's are you looking to charge? Service Director Smith answered I just want to break even that is all I want to do why is it such a big deal? Councilman Smith stated I would agree with that providing that our guys aren't filling the dumpster up because our guys are putting stuff in there right, the city is putting stuff in there? Service Director Smith answered very minimal. Councilman Smith stated if you are going to raise the fee's though. Service Director Smith interjected listen I am not going to raise them, it is up to you guys to raise them, not me. Councilman Smith stated that is why I am talking here. I mean we are using them, depends on how much we use them versus customers using

them versus cars versus trucks versus dump trucks versus contractors – all because you don't have enough time to police it. What makes raising the rates when it is hard to police it? Mayor Bring advised every time you turn around we are getting nickel and dined to death and all Len is asking for is the girls have to take their time out, stop what they are doing and have to go out there and check it and these people are going back there – we don't have anybody back there all the time. If you want to pay somebody \$10.00 an hour to stand there all day we can do that but they are throwing stuff in and it goes over the sides and then they throw in the garbage so our guys have to go pick it up and put it back in – it is a nightmare. I would rather personally stop it. Councilman Smith advised I think it is part of doing business as the city but. Mayor Bring stated but you can't keep letting things go Alan, every time we turn around you don't want to raise this, you don't want to raise that – we don't have any money. Councilman Smith stated I just said the magical words we are tired of getting nickel and dined to death. That is what the residents are doing getting nickel and dined to death. Mayor Bring stated but we don't have them money Alan, we don't have the money. If you don't raise them, I will stop the dumpsters completely. I will do it on my own. Councilman Smith stated I am just giving my opinion. Mayor Bring stated so am I. Chairman Elliott stated I am going to go down the line right now, we can answer the question whether we want to continue this program or whether we want to stop it. If everybody is in favor of stopping it then we might as well stop this conversation right now and we will terminate it. The question is do you want to continue the dumpster program or stop it; Stark – if it is not costs effective we need to stop it/Smith – we need to discuss it, that is what discussion is all about/Belaska – the Mayor could be right about this, it is a shame that it is taken advantage of. I think we need to discuss it more, it is a great opportunity when you have something available like this to the city for the residents and I think it is a shame that it has gotten out of control. I can either way with it./Kovach – if we can't break even there is no sense having those dumpsters especially if you have got people coming in with dump trucks. If they are coming in with dump trucks then they should be able to avoid the fees./President Rosso – you get 1 free dumpster a month and then how many do you fill up and how many more do you get a month. Service Director Smith answered this year we got 21 free extra 40-yard dumpsters. President Rosso stated I don't care about the free ones, how many do you pay for a month? Service Director Smith answered approximately 2 – 30-yard dumpsters. President Rosso stated so you get 1 free one and you are paying for 3 and you are dividing the 3 up into different types if I remember correctly. Service Director Smith answered we have a free 20-yard and I am not including the 20-yard – that is free per the contract that they just gave us. The big 40 is for trees, branches and things like that. Then we have a 30 over on the other side. Service Director Smith stated we fill them up every couple of days. President Rosso asked how much money do they generate on your fees? Service Director Smith answered the last month that I did because I had to figure it all out, we collected like

almost \$300.00 in fees and we paid out close to \$750.00 in that same time period. President Rosso stated \$300.00 in fees doesn't seem right on what we are charging. Are we sure that we aren't getting people back there that aren't paying. Mayor Bring stated it happens occasionally. President Rosso stated you bill \$300.00 and let's just say a pick-up truck; full size truck is a pickup truck is \$22.00, so you are telling me only 15 of those paid and filled 3 dumpsters or 4 dumpsters? Service Director Smith stated then you have people that come in with a trailer. President Rosso stated but they should be charged different. My point is you get a free one that we are charging people to dump into that we are not paying for so that is all to cover the costs of the next one. But if we say we are spending. Service Director Smith stated that statement is misleading. President Rosso stated no it's not. Service Director Smith stated yes it is, that 21 free dumpsters that we paid that Allied Waste made a mistake on a clerical error that we don't have to pay for normally. President Rosso stated our contract calls for 12 free dumpsters, 1 free one per month. Service Director Smith stated normally we would have had to pay for them 21 extra dumpsters. President Rosso stated okay forget about those 21, just listen every month you get a free 40-dumpster that people fill up correct – that they pay to fill up. So that is profit, that is 100% profit on that dumpster and that should cover the costs of dumpster #2 and now you are telling me you only made \$300.00 a month and we filled up 3 months – no 4 dumpsters. Service Director Smith stated each month is different. President Rosso stated at \$22.00 a truck that tells me only 15 trucks paid to go into that gate, 15 trucks filled up 4 – 40-yard dumpsters? That seems like we are missing some charges. Service Director Smith stated we very well could be missing some charges because when the 20-yard is full for free residents, residents bring shrubs up and will throw them in the 40-yard because the 20-yard is stuffed and Allied Waste won't pick up. President Rosso stated that is back to Alan's point of managing the dumpsters. Now the other thing, you talk about it is \$300.00 a month and you said double the costs for employee expenses. Service Director Smith stated I haven't done a costs analysis. President Rosso stated so roughly you wanted \$400.00, \$200.00 was the charge and \$200.00 to cover our expenses right? Here is the only problem I have with that, if this goes away you are not going to cut your expenses so where do you save money? Mayor Bring stated we won't be dealing with all the nonsense, we won't have any man hours, the girls won't have to worry about it. We will take the free dumpster and use for it for our own service that we use it for and that would be it. Service Director Smith advised hey listen if Council so chooses to just have free dumpsters for the city; city wide on a regular basis so be it. So pass the law and make it happen. President Rosso stated so going back to you want to make it a yard charge instead; a charge per yard versus a charge per vehicle which probably does make more sense. If a guy has a pickup truck and he has a bag in the back is different than a full truck. Service Director Smith stated our charges are based on a per yard container; we have 40's, 20's and 30's. President Rosso stated I am not talking about the dumpsters, I am talking about what

we charge residents. But who is going to look at it and say that is 2 yards or that is 3 yards? Mayor Bring stated we have 2 girls in that Water Department and you all know that. President Rosso asked do you think they are going to be able to look and tell hey that is a yard or hey that is 2 yards? I don't have a clue, I couldn't tell you if that is 3, 1 or 50. Service Director Smith stated 1 yard is a 3 foot cube, lift up the trunk on any car and you are going to have a trunk space of a little over a yard. Councilman Smith stated I got a 4-yard dumpster that has been in the back of my shop for the last 20 some years – it is a 4-yard dumpster and I know exactly how much stuff you can put in a 4-yard. Service Director Smith stated so imagine bringing in brush that is not tied down and secured and squeezed into a space that is laying in a pickup truck. Volume wise that is 4 yards, if it is sitting 6 feet wide by 3 feet tall – that is 4 yards. Mayor Bring stated a lot of this stuff is fluffy and even though you jam it down, we are getting charged 40 yards but we are not putting in 40 yards. President Rosso stated but you are charging them for the volume when they bringing it in. Service Director Smith stated we are not charging by the pound, we are charging for the volume or the space that is being used to house that refuse. That is why I was trying to make the analogy if you have a bunch of branches laying in the back of a truck and it is 3 feet tall by 6 feet long – that is 4 yards of volume. President Rosso stated okay but I am just going back to let's go with if you charge \$10.00 a yard is \$400.00 a dumpster and the dumpster is \$200.00 a piece, if you get 1 free one so that is 3 dumpsters at \$10.00 a yard. Service Director Smith asked what do mean the dumpsters are \$200.00 a piece? Mayor Bring advised \$390.00. President Rosso stated so you get \$400.00 for the first one so the free one pays for 2. Mayor Bring stated Rick there is times when we use it for the city, our guys do. Councilman Smith stated I would like to see the charges versus vehicles that go in there. I mean what kind of vehicles; mostly pickup trucks, dump trucks. Service Director Smith answered yes pick-up trucks, trailers and mini vans – a lot of mini vans. Councilman Smith asked who brings trailers? Service Director Smith answered residents with a lawnmower trailer. Councilman Smith asked how much is the charge for trailers? Service Director Smith answered you have to figure it up in volume and make a comparison size. Councilman Smith stated so right now for a trailer we are losing because we have nothing in here that we charge for a trailer, so how many trailers get dumped? Service Director Smith answered the trailers that have been coming have been yard refuse and since the dumpsters are free they have been going in the yard refuse dumpster. Councilman Smith asked they bring trailers in with yard refuse; big trailers or small trailers? Service Director Smith answered yes. Chairman Elliott stated is that lately or is that because of the storm or is that pretty common? Service Director Smith answered normal pruning yard waste, shrubs, etc. I had one gentleman over on Harris Road that brought about 8 trailers full of shrubs in and yard trimmings from getting rid of trees on his property. There is nothing to say that they can't do that. Councilman Smith asked which dumpsters do you fill the most; yard waste? Service

Director Smith explained we have a 20-yard dumpster close to the front of the Water Department. Councilman Smith asked no which do you fill more often, yard waste or the regular junk one? Service Director Smith answered I can't answer them fast enough to tell that because as soon as the 20-yard is full and we call in for a fill, we start shipping people to the 40-yard with their yard refuse and they come in and they pile the stuff on top of the 20 and leave whether or not they are stirred back there. Rick once made a point we are not policing, we don't enough manpower to police it and that is absolutely true. I don't have enough manpower to police the dumpsters every second. Yesterday that gate was open, it was open for 3 minutes and I had 3 vehicles in the back in that time frame. By the time I walked to the Service Department to drop off a statement to Frank and turned around and came back there were 3 vehicles unloading brush at the same time. Mayor Bring advised we had 20 bags sitting on top of the dumpster when we came in this morning. Councilman Smith stated to me it sounds like you have more of an issue with the yard waste than you have with anything else because that is all you keep talking about is bushes and yard waste, grass and in all honesty Len that was the program you put together. Service Director Smith answered the 20-yarders is, yes. Councilman Smith stated you just said it is constantly overflowing into our 40 that they use. So maybe that wasn't a good idea to get a free yard waste dumpster so maybe you should cut that out and keep with we no longer take yard waste. Service Director Smith stated that would be fine, we are going to be even more restrictive to the residents then because they are going to have to put this stuff out at the curb which is fine with me but they are not doing it now. Councilman Smith stated we have been dumping dumpsters for how long and then all of a sudden we have got this overload of yard waste. Service Director Smith stated no all of a sudden I figured out how much it was costing us, let's get that right. If you don't want me to figure out what it costs I won't. Councilman Smith stated I would rather compare apples to apples instead of apples to oranges because you don't know how many trucks you have, what kind of trucks or trailers, whose dumping the most, more yard waste. Service Director Smith advised the contractors don't dump anymore, they have been caught this whole year. Mayor Bring asked how much time do you want Len to spend on this at \$25.00 an hour. Councilman Smith stated that is part of his job Dennis. Mayor Bring stated it doesn't matter Alan, he has got a lot of things to do I am not going to have him spend 8 days trying to figure this out. I have got a good solution and we won't have this conversation anymore and it will be done – period. Councilman Smith stated that is your prerogative. Mayor Bring advised it will be and it is my prerogative and that is what I will do because I am tired of arguing about all of this. If we raise anything Alan you have a fit, we don't have any money Alan. Councilman Smith stated you have been nickel and diming our residents since you took office Dennis. Mayor Bring stated it is done, we are not doing it anymore thanks to Mr. Smith. Chairman Elliott stated Dennis if you are to change your mind basically at the next meeting and come

up with something where we can break even, if not then we don't need to discuss this anymore. Councilwoman Belaska asked will we still have Pride Day? Mayor Bring answered I will get to that next year.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Kovach/Second by Belaska to adjourn at 7:51 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 Offices.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Kay Fantauzzi

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Eric S Elliott

and/or

ACTING CHAIRPERSON

Debra Belaska

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Rick Rosso

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Eric S Elliott

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committee Of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is A true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Roads & Drains Committee of November 12, 2012.