

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
January 22, 2013**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Council President Richard Rosso called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

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

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

Present: Rosso, Belaska, Smith, Kovach, McCullough, Erdei, Stark, Elliott,
Mayor Bring, Law Director Graves, Finance Director Smith, Service Director Smith

Absent: Treasurer Woods (excused)

Attending: Concerned Citizens, Zoning; Rinderknecht, Members of the Media:
Avon Lake Press

READING OF THE MINUTES:

A – Council – *Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska to accept the minutes of the Council of January 8, 2013 with any corrections. Yeas All.

B – Council Worksession - *Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska to accept the minutes of the Council Worksession of January 15, 2013 with any corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: *None*.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Bring presented we met with Mrs. Fenderbosch over in Avon Lake about propane fueling and she did a graph and what I had to do was put 3 cars in there for the year 2013. We were talking about the costs of the propane versus gasoline which gasoline has been averaging around \$3.25 a gallon and the propane – we put in there at \$1.96. Then you look at the propane tax per gallon there was a credit of it says 50 cents, the government is giving 50 cents out right now but we don't know if that is going to last or what is going to happen with that. So that would actually take it down to about \$1.46 and even at the worst case scenario they don't do that, right now propane is selling for \$1.36 so we put a high number in there for right now just to give some numbers to you. So there is a costs savings automatically there and then you will see it is \$6500.00 down there below that and that is what it costs per car to be converted into the propane fuel. It is a tank that you put in there that is very safe, the Police actually took one of the tanks and set it up and they actually took a firearm out and shot it and it did not hurt the tank so it is really safe. So to convert 3 cars at \$6500.00 each and as you go down – if you look at the number of years and if you go over to 2016 you will see \$6500.00 and then you see \$1800.00 below that; what that \$1800.00 is is that you can take those out of cars that you are going to decommission and put them into the other cars and the conversion is only \$1800.00 instead of

spending another \$6500.00 on that. So it becomes less costly as you take those out and you convert those over, so once you put it in there you can basically use over and over again. The government is giving a 10-year interest free loan that you can purchase these conversions and if you look down there is average miles driven and we took an average of 30,000 miles a year per car. There is listed oil changes and everything else because the fuel and the propane is actually more efficient so technically you will need less oil changes, oil filters and etc. When you look at the net savings on the first year, we took 3 of our cars and did that and the net savings is \$11,361.00. If you look at the purchase of the 3 it is \$19,500.00 but you don't have to pay that up to 10 years. So the first year you would save \$11,000 so if we did another the next year you would save \$14,000 and if you did another 3 cars it would be \$21,000 and on and on and on. If you add all those up it is a significant costs savings and basically they are saying the first 2 years you only have to pay 10% back of the loan so that is why those numbers are down there and then at the end of 2 or 3 years you can pay the loan off because of the savings. It is something that Avon Lake is going to have that fuel station installed and the only drawback is for right now is that we would have to travel over there to do the fueling. So you are adding about 6 miles round trip and I think every shift change they do the fueling, so that is kind of the only drawback. There are a lot of other states that are acting on this and I think we should look into this because of the costs savings and wear and tear on the cars and we can get more mileage, etc. out of them. I am going to pursue this a little bit more and they want us to act on this right away but I still want to do a little more research on this. Like I said the biggest thing I have a problem with is going over there to fuel so I would like to see what it would cost to get a fuel station around here. If we had to go back and forth for that I think we would try to do something like that. The propane is converted into the car but it also still has a gasoline engine in it so you can still just flip a switch and have regular gasoline. So it is not like if they are out chasing somebody and they say oh crap we don't have any propane, we don't have to run over to Avon Lake – they still have gasoline in their car. You know we are all talking \$20,000 some a year, that is a lot of money. So take a look at that. President Rosso asked on the line that says total city investment, are we making this statement here that on the third year that you are going to pay back the state \$19,500.00? Mayor Bring answered correct. That is what you are borrowing to get the 3 but that is what she put in there for the numbers but it is \$19,000.00 for the 3 years in a row because you are actually doing 3 cars each year and that is why I had her put that in. President Rosso stated but then it says total city investment \$19,050.00 and I am assuming that is the payback each year. But then the third one says \$19,500 and are we really going to pay that back in the third year or is that supposed to be \$1950.00? Mayor Bring answered they give you 10 years to pay it back and Mrs. Fenderbosch said you could pay this back in 2 or 3 years because of the savings. They aren't telling you to pay anything the first 2 years, they are giving you a little bit of a grace period to get the savings going before you have to pay that back. Councilperson Belaska stated you said they are wanting to hurry on this, is

there a cut off time or is there a reason why? Mayor Bring answered they are trying to get a grant going and have participants with it as that is where they are going to get their money for the grant so they can build their facility. Councilman McCullough stated along the lines of what Rick just asked I guess I am not following it, it is \$19,500 for the first year and that gets us the first 3 vehicles. It is \$19,500 for the second year and that gets us up to 6 vehicles and \$19,500 for the third year and that gets us to 9 vehicles correct? We go from \$17,000 owing the state to \$35,000 and then we have a total city investment that kind of washes and it goes down somehow the balance is even though we are washing the total investment required the balance goes down \$4000 and then the following year the city investment is \$5400 but the balance goes down to \$15,000 and then after that the balance is nothing and we are only paying \$5400 a year for the change-over. My question is \$19,500, \$19,500, \$19,500 comes up to \$58,500 and these numbers below it our investment required doesn't add up to \$58,500? Mayor Bring answered you are correct, the first year you are converting 3 cars and the next year 6 cars and the next year you would be at 9 cars is the we figured it so they are adding those savings and when she put that into the computer that is what it spit out as far as what the savings were. Councilman McCullough stated so these aren't your numbers, these are hers? Mayor Bring answered those are her numbers, like I said \$11,000 was just for 3 cars so as you add more cars that is where the savings is. Councilman McCullough stated I am not talking about the savings, I am talking about the investment – our payback, it doesn't add up. Mayor Bring stated like I said she punched those things and that came off the computer and I don't know that she had that correct. Finance Director Smith stated something is wrong, it is not right. Mayor Bring advised I will get a new sheet, she was going to come tonight but she had a schedule conflict. She has been working on this for about a year. I talked to her about CNG (compressed natural gas) and that is strictly used for diesel so that is a whole different ballgame. Law Director Graves asked is there a benefit to multiple communities going into together on this? Mayor Bring answered that is what the no interest loan is about, that is why they want to get that together. I think Avon is going to come on board. What is going to happen is if they get enough on board that the fueling station for them is going to be free. I know that the Sheffield/Sheffield Lake schools a number of years ago converted all the buses over to that, they had absolutely no problems as far as the buses running but then the fuel costs went up on it. I think since then the fuel costs have gone back down. Law Director Graves asked as the vehicles reach the – as the miles pile up and the vehicles reach the end of their useful life can these kits be transplanted from? Mayor Bring answered yes that is what the \$1800.00 is. Councilman Kovach stated on this converting them from one vehicle to another, were they specific like if we go from Ford to Dodge; will it swap to different cars or is it brand specific? Mayor Bring answered they did say that – it wasn't brand specific, it might be an additional costs because there are some connections that have to be converted. So they took a round number of \$1800.00. The cars that we have now for the Police Department are not

being made anymore so there is a capri that is being made, there is a dodge charger that is being made. That is what a lot of these city's are using now and they don't recommend putting it in a car with 70,000 miles or more because you are not going to get the benefit out of it. Councilman Kovach asked you are filling up each shift? Mayor Bring answered I think that is what we are doing now aren't we Kay? Clerk Fantauzzi answered yes. Mayor Bring stated that is a set rule for them. Councilman Kovach asked where are they going to put the fueling station over there? Service Director Smith answered by their service department. Law Director Graves asked these savings are based on a gas guzzler, an SUV or large car? Mayor Bring answered she put a number in there that we thought the mileage, we said 30,000 miles and we are saying about 13 miles per gallon. Law Director Graves stated so if the vehicle was getting more than 13 miles per gallon already the savings would go down? Mayor Bring stated I think that is what the average is on those cars with all of the idling time and everything else that we do it uses up a lot of gas. On shift they never shut those cars off. Councilperson Belaska asked would it be possible to put a little mini service station here. Mayor Bring advised Avon Lake gets it for free, I would imagine the costs of it is pretty high so that would be something in the future. I haven't even looked at that. President Rosso stated didn't at some point, I know we have talked about this over the years; wasn't the fueling station like 100,000 or 200,000.00 or something like that. Fairly expensive, more than that even. Councilman McCullough stated if we go this way, there is classes for mechanic to learn how to work on? Mayor Bring answered I asked her if you had to be certified to do this and I don't think she answered me on that. Service Director Smith answered they use an outside source in North Ridgeville because their certification is on gas. Mayor Bring stated the reason I asked is we have our mechanic and he gets through that maybe he could do this for less but I didn't know that as far as a warranty and I don't know if there is a warranty once you do this and if you have an outside source they take care of that. The tank is one thing but there is several connections and she had it on the computer and I think there was about a dozen different connections on the car. Councilman Kovach stated we just sent a guy to school for compressed natural gas, he stayed home and did an online class. It is not that extensive it is more fuel lines. It is no different than if you have a gas stove at home and you converted to propane, you are changing jets – that type of thing. Service Director Smith stated I just want to add that I did some research too and have been doing some research – the City of London Ontario started converting their police cars in the late 80's and they run their whole Police Department on propane and it has extensive public information on the internet. So I would urge you to look at that savings record but they have a track record going back over 20 years. Councilman McCullough asked Chevy is not going to pull the vault out and turn around and figure out a way to make that battery last longer and become a police cruiser with it are they? President Rosso asked Mayor Bring how often do you go to the Chevrolet Board meetings and get involved in their future plans? President Rosso stated why would you expect the Mayor to answer a question if a

private company is going to produce an electronic police car in the future. Councilman Smith stated whoever supplies you with the propane usually they will supply you with the equipment for nothing because they did me. I don't the tank or anything but they bring it in as long as buy the gas from them they usually come in and put the equipment in. Mayor Bring stated the thing with the Officers I guess it would take some training to learn how to do this because the last thing you want to do is be caught doing some fueling and not know what is going on but again you also have the alternative gas tank which is still on the car where you just flip a switch. Councilman Erdei advised I have talked to a couple of mechanics who have said those engines burn a lot cleaner and a lot less wear and tear on the engine. Mayor Bring concurred my understanding is when you use propane and then you switch back from propane to gas the car as far as pick up is different. You get so use to stepping on the gas and the car goes at a certain speed, I guess when you put the propane in it actually reacts quicker too. The very cold weather does not effect this at all. This is going to be an on-going thing and I am going to try to get more information.

Mayor Bring presented moving onto revenue and possible levy, what we are going to ask for is a ½%. We had talked about a ¼% and we have legislation for a ½% and that doesn't mean you guys have to act on this. Mr. Rosso and I spoke and we are going to give you guys a week and you guys are going to have to make up your mind after I speak with you tonight with what you want to go with. President Rosso advised the Council, Dennis and I spoke this morning after some conversations I had after Worksession and then Alan and I spoke yesterday about things and just feel getting this tonight and making a decision tonight is way too quick and we are going to have a special Council meeting a week from tonight – next Tuesday for nothing more than to discuss this topic. Mayor Bring stated I think that is a good idea and Rick and I agree with it because it will give you a chance to digest this. I think we have to partner together with this because if we are not all on board then there is no sense in me standing here talking to you. President Rosso asked do you have a problem making it Tuesday? Councilman McCullough answered can't make it. President Rosso stated when we are all done talking, we will try to pick it a day when we can all make it because it doesn't have to be Tuesday. I would like to pick a day when we can all make it. Mayor Bring stated the first part I am just going to read to you and you guys all have a copy of that; the City of Sheffield Lake has steadily lost revenue since 2008 and the general fund was \$3,120,632.38 and in 2011 it was down to \$2,902,818.57 and we continued to lose significant revenue from the State of Ohio. The state has been engaged in a pattern of progressive reductions in funding of local government. Incorporating projected losses for 2013, since just 2010. Local government funding to the City of Sheffield Lake has been reduced annually by approximately \$194,773. These cuts resulted in a compounded total loss of local government funds of approximately \$287,677. That is relative to the quarter percent we were talking about originally which is going to be just a little less than that - \$270,000 for a quarter. Why I am telling you this if you do the quarter can we still function – yes, are we going to

do any hiring or anything else – no. So if you want the city to move forward that is what the additional quarter percent would be beyond this. In addition, Sheffield Lake's personal property tax and public utility reimbursement revenues of \$110,820 in 2010 have been reduced to \$0.00 in 2012 – these cuts were to be phased out through 2018 – instead the state cut them completely mid-year 2011. In 2010 the City of Sheffield Lake received approximately 383,000 from Ohio Estate Tax disbursements. These funds have also now been reduced to zero with the elimination of the Ohio Estate Tax. Decreased real property values and high foreclosure rates have resulted in additional losses in property taxes have resulted in additional losses in property tax revenues of approximately \$40,000 + annually. Health insurance costs to the city have increased 21.2% since 2010. Fuel costs have risen by 68% since 2009. All of these cuts in revenue coupled with ever-increasing costs have resulted in total net losses in revenue to the City of Sheffield Lake of approximately \$500,000 annually and a compounded total loss over the last three years of approximately \$1,000,000.00. In a city with an annual general fund budget of approximately \$3,000,000.00, these losses have been devastating. Just a little information some of the people that were here that aren't here anymore, Kenny Keenan who was one of our Police Officers is gone. Now we did replace him with Monica so that kind of a wash. Andrea Woods was one of our secretaries here, that position has not been filled. Jerry Paysor was an Officer and that position has not been filled. Mark Zgodzinski who was a Dispatcher and Animal Control Officer who retired and that position has not been filled. Joe Byrd has passed away unfortunately in the Water Department – that position has been replaced. Mike Conrad was our Fire Chief, we do have a new Fire Chief Tim Card but that position was not filled. John McCallie retired recently, he has been replaced with a new mechanic. Dawn Cain was another secretary in here and she has not been replaced. Law Director Graves advised we also have not replaced Sgt. Schuster or Captain Komlosy. Mayor Bring concurred so we have not replaced any of those people and the reason we haven't replaced them, we just had Larry Shepherd also retired. So the Officers over there are expecting 2 new men and we can't do it. I am flat out telling you by mid-year this year we will not have enough money to supply our part-time position of Officers because we can't. So we are going to have to be very careful of how we do this. Some of these people that have since retired, I am not saying that we didn't need them – there is a couple of them that we probably weren't going to add another person because they have left. You look at stuff and you cut back and you say yes we can get by but now it is at a critical point where the people we have in the office over here, you come in and we only have a couple of people and if somebody takes a vacation or somebody gets sick and then you don't have anybody here. The Building Inspector – he is all by himself and he takes a vacation and then we don't have a Building Inspector; Wendy fills in as part-time. We got 2 girls over there in the Service Department and when they take a vacation they have to make sure that the other one is going to be here so there is somebody there. Parks – we have 1 person on parks and he is part-time. So this is all

in the play of what makes the city better and what makes the city function and what we can do. So there is a few positions there in my feeling is that we probably need 1 at least and maybe 2 full-time Officers to make up for what we have. When you get into the Fire Department – Tim is constantly asking for more people. I don't always agree with that but I think we have to at least look at part-time people over there. It costs us \$50,000.00 a year extra because of minimum manning and we can't fill that because it has to be 3 full-time but if we had some part-time people over there it could help doing some of the shifts. The problem is the part-time we have to get all the gear and everything and it is very costly to bring in. As a Fireman you have to gear them up and that is a costly process and that is kind of why we haven't done anything with that. The needs; obviously we have been talking an ambulance, our oldest one is 13 years old and the second one is 9 years old. I will elaborate this at Safety because I have a little bit of news for you but that is an on-going thing and it becomes a safety issue because it is costing us a tremendous amount of money to keep these things running and every time we think we are getting ahead Tim says the brakes went out or this went out or that went out. General maintenance always happens on vehicles but when you get to be that old it becomes every day something else is breaking. My biggest concern is that we have somebody in the back of that ambulance and it breaks down and I think everybody up here would be heartbroken if we lost a resident or something would happen to somebody because our vehicles aren't up to standard. I am not saying that they aren't up to standard right now but I am getting concerned that they are getting to the point where we do need to do something. Police cars; Shawn Corr is constantly coming in my office saying we need new police cars and new police cars. We still have the lease program still going so we have to pay those off. We have got a couple of cars that approaching 100,000 some miles – I think there is 3 of them. The newer ones are getting to the point where I think they are 70,000 miles. We spend a lot of time on the road believe it or not in this little city of 2.5 square miles and these cars wear out. We would probably need an additional 3 cars. The dispatch area that we have over there, we have some serious issues over there. Every time we have a power outage the back-up batteries don't seem to be working and there are some wiring issues and some other problems over there we need to address. Recently the girls were plugging in a heater to keep warm and it blew out the whole thing. We had Mr. Kingsboro over there who replaced some stuff and now they are not allowed to plug in the heater and I am getting heat from them saying I need the heater because they are girls. We still have some radio issues and other problems over there. If you look at the Fire Department, I have also looked into a back-up generator for them and there is some more equipment we need over there. We continuously apply for grants, we have been pretty fortunate to get a lot of these but we can't rely on grants forever because at some point we are not going to get any and a lot of stuff are matching funds that we can't apply for because we don't have the money for them. Recently we had the EPA come in and talk to Mr. Smith, we have some issues over there that we have to take care of; there is drainage, our con-

tainments. Service Director Smith added there is the stormwater audit to be compliant with our NPDES permit phase II went into effect and the audit identified a whole bunch of things; we need a water separator, grease trap separator, we need to have it plumbed, we have to tie in all our outside catch basins to the separator & sanitary. Just a lot of new regulations and stuff that we have to meet, those issues are part of what the stormwater audit identified. Finance Director Smith advised some of those are going to come out of the general fund. Mayor Bring continued there are certain areas that we do have some money such as this and we are being frugal with what we are doing and I am throwing things out at you just to show you what we are needing. These aren't all coming out of the general fund. In the Fire Department we lost the utility vehicle 4 or 5 years ago and we never replaced that and that is something that we need. We have done without it and I got Len doing one of the old pick-up trucks and we are going to convert that over for the utility vehicle and that has probably got 80,000 miles on it. That is what they are going to use for right now so we make do. I told you the trucks for the parks, Jerry's truck is on its last leg and we looked into that last year and I think we looked at a truck and it was either \$18,000 or \$20,000.00 so Jerry is still driving the same truck. We passed the thing with the water and we have a lot of water lines and stuff like that are bad which is different revenue. Then you have our existing buildings; roofing, air conditioning, heating and everything else that we are looking at. The radio read meters that I told you about that I would like to do and that is probably another fund but I am just giving you this. If you get questions and everybody is going to throw at you – the shopping center is costing us a fortune but the shopping center is actually holding its own. We are making do with that. We are making progress and trying to see what we can do as far as to sale or whatever else we can do with that thing. When the people come to you and say you are spending all this time down there and doing all this, that is not 100% true because we are getting the costs back from that so far with rent roll so we are doing alright with that. That is going to be something that is thrown into our faces but it is not true and you have to make sure that when you are talking to them that that is a whole separate entity. Finance Director Smith advised I just want to reiterate that the shopping center is its own fund, its own entity and not a dime of general fund goes into powering or maintaining it or anything, we want to make sure that people understand that so they don't think that is why our revenues are down. President Rosso advised it is going to be an issue, you are going to have to as Kerry mentioned last Tuesday and you are going to have to a committee put together and then someone is going to have to work this to get it passed. I had found what I think Mike Conrad put together for the 2006 presentation, so it was 2007 the last time we increased it and then had to spread out as to where the monies were going and Dr. Evans and Kerry's Mom was the Treasurer and both Chief's were on it. But I found that and sent it to Tammy just so we could use maybe pieces/parts but it is something like that to get the people informed where that money is coming from and it has been 6 years. Mayor Bring stated it has been 6 years and that is pretty much I think what we discussed the fact that when that was passed

they anticipated it being 5 or 6 years and that is how long that revenue would last. I think any of us anticipated what the state has done here lately because the money that they continue to take from us is tremendous. In defense of the Governor, Tammy and I were talking today he is making it more attractive for businesses to come into our state to do business. There are people that have moved out and have come back because of the taxes that he is allowing them – it is less and less expensive to come to the State of Ohio. A number of years it was very expensive for the business to come to the State of Ohio and not it is so much. I know one of the flooring companies that our company deals with recently moved back in here because it is less expensive. He is attracting that business but in the meantime the local governments are suffering. We have to figure out what we are going to do with our little city here. If you do the ¼% and like I said we can survive but if you do the other one we can get back to functioning as a city that we can still get things moving. Is it like we are all going to do cartwheels that we have all this money – no, we are still going to be very frugal and just going to get by and try to give the people the most services we possibly can. President Rosso asked wasn't there another potential cut from the state for next year? Finance Director Smith advised potential but we have not heard the official on that which would be the balance of the local government - \$176,000.00 and that is all we are getting this year which we used to get about \$326,000.00. President Rosso stated that presentation in 2006 had in there that the state has frozen the local government fund at \$300,000.00 and it looks like they are going to keep it frozen in the future and they didn't freeze – they cut it! So at a ¼% we will hold our own and then when they cut that next year, if they cut it next year then we are under water again right? Finance Director Smith answered exactly and even the ¼% isn't going to make us whole from what they have already taken. We have always been frugal, I think we have all done a good job; all the departments have done a good job as far as trying to maintain, provide services and be costs effective but the ¼% is just barely getting by. President Rosso advised Kerry's last comment Tuesday – we don't want to go back next year and ask for another ¼%. Finance Director Smith stated he is right and the more I thought about it, I tend to be frugal and I don't want to pass it along to the residents necessarily but we haven't asked for any equipment levies and we haven't asked for any other salary levies for the safety services since 1998. We have taken on any of the cuts that they have received through the general fund. Mayor Bring advised a lot of it has been reduction in manpower because we keep continuously not replacing people who retired. You know I got in here and was all excited and it came summer time and was going to do all these things and we didn't have any people. You have no crews; the few you have have vacations, sick times, etc. and you have no people. Service Director Smith stated with Joe Byrd's passing, our 4th Road Department guy didn't take that position which left the Road Department with 3 people – it is not safe to send 1 man out on certain jobs. So it has limited the functions of the whole department by not having 2 – 2-man crews which is one of the reasons we have looked at efficiencies' with the equipment and upgrading equipment to get a lot

more efficiency out of it but we probably should have never went below 4 people in that Road Department because 1 crew of 3 people a majority of the time versus 2 crews of 2 people doing 2 different things. Councilman McCullough asked what does it cost to put it on the ballot? Councilperson Stark stated I am going to make a statement about this because I did find out some information, if there is nothing else going on the ballot for Lorain County that would be on our ballot for the primary I believe. If the mental health does not go on, there will be an additional fee just to put ours on there. Now they can start charging more and more of it back to the city as well so we could be incurring a bigger cost. Finance Director Smith advised I can find out. Councilman McCullough asked we don't have about, it costs about this much money? Councilperson Stark answered at the meeting they didn't want to give it to me at that specific meeting. Councilman McCullough stated if there is something else on it how much would it cost us? Councilperson Stark answered it is going to cost us an additional but they wouldn't give me that amount at the time. President Rosso asked do you know what the other costs – not the additional costs but the base costs? Councilperson Stark answered they were waiting for – there was some legislation and they were waiting for their payment too. Service Director Smith advised I thought it was \$1275.00 and that would have been a couple of years ago. Councilman McCullough asked the follow-up question would be how much does it cost us to have a special election if this goes down? President Rosso advised I want to say special elections were like 5000.00 to 15,000.00, I can't remember which number which this one should be less than 5000.00. Councilman McCullough asked what does the ½% bring in – projected? Mayor Bring answered \$540,000.00. Councilman McCullough asked would it bring in if we just cut out the credit, would it bring in the same amount or less? President Rosso answered it would bring in a little less because if you up the percentage, people who work in this city pay the extra percentage if you eliminate the credit people that work in this city don't pay anymore. So you technically get a little more and then if you look down the road and say we get fortunate enough to bring more business in or something in the shopping center, they would be paying the higher rate. Councilman McCullough asked would it be an easier sale if we sold it as a ¼% permanent and ¼% for 5 years? Look at that option of selling it as a quarter/quarter, if we put it on twice – it is 2 separate issues? I realize you have to pay for each issue but would people tend to maybe give us the ¼% and then if we tell them listen we really need a ½% but we are going to show for 5 years that this is why we needed a ½% and we will show you what we did with our money. It would be a way of selling it to the people. I don't know how everybody else feels about that but I am looking at how you are going to have to sell this and show everything. Just a thought and granted we would have to revisit it again in 5 years. Finance Director Smith advised I am thinking around \$6,000.00 but I didn't want to say it out loud. When we put the quarter percent on for the roads, that was almost \$3400.00 but the last time we put the other quarter percent on it was \$5800.00. So I am seeing that the costs are rising but I can't imagine that it is going to be. President Rosso stated I

would say for a special election you are probably looking closer to \$15,000.00. Finance Director Smith advised so the least amount would be \$6000.00. Councilman McCullough advised Finance Director Smith what if we tried to sale it as a quarter/quarter; quarter permanent/quarter for like 5 years and I know Len just said we would competing against the schools but Len I think if we tell the people listen we really need a $\frac{1}{2}$ but we need a $\frac{1}{4}$ just to get started and we need the true half just to start returning our services to some level – give us 5 years to show you that we needed this money and then in 5 years we just go for that other $\frac{1}{4}$ or the other thing we can look at is putting a bond levy on. Finance Director Smith advised you usually need a purpose for that. Councilman McCullough stated we would do it for wages. I realize our expenses would be doubled for putting 2 issues on the ballot and I don't think we would be confusing people and you don't know people might say here we are going to give you a quarter percent for 5 years but we are not going to give you the other quarter percent permanent. At least we can try to grab at something, maybe they will push something through – if it is not the whole half maybe they will go will go a quarter and keep us somewhere but we go for the whole half at one swoop and we don't get it then we start trying to back pedal and go you know what we are going to cut this, this and this and we still need a quarter. Finance Director Smith advised we are going to have to cut this, this and this. We have squeezed every drop of blood out of this that we can. Councilman McCullough stated this 540,000 – this is for the year, not the 6 months that you just quoted? Mayor Bring answered for the year. Councilman McCullough stated so we are actually looking at June 1st or July 1st for the increase? Finance Director Smith answered we would have to make it for July 1st. Councilman McCullough asked so we are only getting 270,000 this first year where we are already struggling? Finance Director Smith answered no we wouldn't get a lot of that at all, we would have to waylay some of our costs. We could float a note to get us through. Mayor Bring advised it is one thing to know you are going to have it but it is another thing to know you are not going to have it and just have to make cuts. Avon Lake Press John Edwards advised there is not going to be any school issue in 2013 – 2014 or 2015 they are going to put the renewals on. There is not going to be any new school issue this year. Finance Director Smith asked does anybody have any specific questions that you want me to investigate? Councilperson Belaska asked are you going to keep this legislation in front of us for next Tuesday or are you going to try to rewrite it? President Rosso answered first of all there is no legislation in front of us this evening, there is nothing on tonight's agenda. What they have there isn't what we have been talking about, if you split it up. Councilman McCullough stated on the 29th I can move something. President Rosso conferred with the rest of the Board that Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 7 pm for a special Council meeting for the discussion of potential income tax increase. Finance Director Smith asked do you want us to have a couple different versions? President Rosso answered I would say yes, I think what we have thrown around so far is a quarter percent plus another quarter percent that has a 5 year life and a $\frac{1}{2}\%$. Law Director Graves advised rather then

come with lots of different proposals, I can have the legislation on my computer and when Council decides what they want and when Council decides what they want to do it should not take that long to amend it. Finance Director Smith advised RITA already gave me a quarter and that is about \$270,000.00 plus a year. Councilman Kovach stated what I am suggesting is you running the numbers as to what we can buy with that. If you we can this much with a ½ or we can only buy this much. Councilman McCullough advised we return these services with a ½, we get to keep these services with a ¼. Finance Director Smith advised with a quarter all we are going to do maintain really because right now we are treading backwards. President Rosso asked is the ¼ going to allow you to replace those extra people in Police? Finance Director Smith answered no. The only reason we have survived to this point is because of those people who have retired or gone out on disability, those people that have gone out by attrition is the only reason we have survived. Had we still had a full crew and nobody had retired we would have laid people off by this point, we would have had to. Mayor Bring advised the unfortunate thing is if we lay off people, we are still paying. Finance Director Smith advised so in order to actually save us money, we have to lay off like 3 people to save enough for 1 person because we are self-insured on unemployment. Mayor Bring advised you would think if you lay this person off and it won't costs you anymore – that is not true.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse: None./Safety: None./Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment: None./Ordinance: None./Finance & Audit: Chairperson Stark reviewed minutes of the January 15, 2013 meeting. *Motion by Belaska/Second by Elliott to accept the report. Yeas All./**Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center: None./Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals: None./Council Representative to the Planning Commission: None./Council Representative to the Park Board: None.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Bring advised thank you for allowing the presentation and lengthy discussion. There is one thing, there was something brought up the other day for the sign park over there and apparently it got through the grapevine at Amvets and I had the previous Commander that was in charge call me at my residence and he was extremely upset and said to me that he had heard a rumor that somebody had said that somebody at Amvets was complaining about the sign over there and all the Board members got together and not one of them had said that they had complained about that. They were really upset that about that and they wanted me to pass that along. He told me Dennis we have known you for all these years and if we have any issues he said we will contact you personally and they just wanted to make sure that that was clarified immediately. Also Mr. Rosso was also informed of that and I talked to him. President Rosso advised the same thing as Dennis said, I had talked to 4 of

the Board members and just let you know they started with "I didn't even know there was a sign and I couldn't tell you that it was missing." I don't think Amvets has an issue. Councilman McCullough stated I was approached at Amvets. President Rosso asked was it by one of the Officers? Councilman McCullough answered yes and I will take it up with that Officer. Mayor Bring stated like I said they called me personally and they were extremely upset. President Rosso asked it wasn't Sons of Amvets was it? Councilman McCullough answered yes. President Rosso stated well we talked to Amvets, we didn't talk to Sons. Mayor Bring stated just passing it along. Councilman McCullough stated that is what I was told. Mayor Bring reiterated just passing it along because they called me at home personally. There were a few choice words and I won't get into it. *Motion by Belaska/Second by Stark to accept the report. Yeas **All./FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT: None./TREASURER: None./SERVICE DIRECTORS REPORT:** Councilman Kovach asked in regards to the sign, we already discussed that Jerry is planning on routing a new sign. Service Director Smith answered it has already been done. Councilman Kovach stated I am just saying so there is work on the sign, that also can go back to. Mayor Bring advised I actually apologized to him, I said I am sorry that we didn't do this but it has been knocked down twice and he said well again we didn't know about it. I did tell it being taken care of because it was brought to our attention. We had every intention of doing it, we had lack of time and manpower. Service Director Smith stated he brought it down to my office and I actually saw it that day. Mayor Bring stated we had actually asked Jerry the very next day after Council meeting to see if he could take care of that and if Jerry couldn't do it I was going to have one of the businesses that I deal with make it but it is done. Councilperson Stark asked did we have to send any of the salt trucks or anybody out for plowing today? Service Director Smith answered oh yea. Councilperson Stark stated the roads look nice considering so they did a good job. Service Director Smith advised they were out real early. Mayor Bring advised 2 o'clock this morning. President Rosso asked do you have a minimum amount of snow plow that you have to have before you send a truck out? Service Director Smith explained if you guys remember right when we bought the new trucks and the calibration of the trucks, there was an old standard out that was the previous Service Director and he told the cruisers you hit the brakes and if you slide and you call the salt trucks out. The problem with that is, I plowed for 30 years snow and ice management. You hit the brakes on a cruiser and you slide you are already too late. So what I did was I evaluated the procedures with Pat in 2011 and we instituted those new procedures which the heat off the Police Department because what was happening is Police Officers were afraid to call somebody out too early. So what we did was we put a checks-n-balance in there and we have them call, there is no too early and then Pat makes a determination before he makes the call. In other words it sped the whole process up by several hours. So I hope everybody notices the level of security that has been increased and that is how we look at it. We don't want anybody dying on our watch. President Rosso stated I agree but it was an awful small dusting amount to pay

overtime when we are strapped for money at 2 in the morning, so that is why I was curious is there a minimum? Finance Director Smith advised let's keep everything in perspective that we are hurting in general fund, your roads are doing fine along with the water and sewer and we have taken care of those problems. Everything else that doesn't get covered by those funds; roads, refuge, water, sewer (the enterprise funds) – that all drains back to general fund. A lot of those like the personal property tax that got cut, that was in a levy but to make it up it comes back to general fund. That is why it has hurt general fund but I wanted to clarify that because I don't want people to think that we are not going to take care of the streets. President Rosso stated I don't think people are going to worry about that you are not going to take care of the streets. Service Director Smith advised Rick you and I both have family and friends that work in the snow and ice business. There is a thing called ice bonding, you get the salt underneath the snow before the snow hits and you decrease ice bonding. If you don't and you are salting after it you have ice bonding on the road. Pre-salting and salting ahead of the game eliminates or reduces the amount of ice bonding on the surface of the road. It is a procedure that I feel that I have the authority to dictate and implement and I don't feel that it is a waste of time or money when you eliminate the possibility of having additional circumstances because you cut corners and have an accident - I cannot way that and that is how it look at it. President Rosso stated first of all I am not questioning your authority or questioning that you didn't do the right thing – just asking a question. Service Director Smith reiterated that is the correct answer – it is the reduction of ice bonding ahead of the game and you can check on that. President Rosso stated I am not going to check anything because I believe what you are telling me, I am going by it sure didn't seem like to me to have trucks out that early but if you think we did trust me I am not even going to pretend that I know anything about it. Mayor Bring asked where do you work? President Rosso answered Mayfield Heights. Mayor Bring asked how many of these streets were plowed and salted – all of them. I drove all the way out to Fremont today and every one of those streets had some type of salting. President Rosso stated between here until I got on 480, there was none of them 100% clear like they were here I will give you that too. Councilperson Belaska stated they were predicting bad weather and it would have been unfortunate if you wake up in the morning and we had to start off the wrong way with people going off to work. I agree with you, you did the right thing. We didn't know how the weather was going to turn out, they were calling for a bad forecast. Service Director Smith advised don't forget too when the temperatures drop down into the teens you use twice the amount of salt to get the same result, when it drops down to 0 you use a little bit more and so on in order to get your wet surface. Councilperson Belaska asked did we ever find out with the jeep getting hit and getting it fixed and everything, do you know what happened with that? Service Director Smith answered we don't know what happened, there was a police report filed on the Cherokee. All we know is that somebody slid off, there were tire tracks coming in off of Richelieu. We feel we know but have no proof of it, possibly with the snow-

plower across the way there but we can only go by what the police report says. They followed tracks in off of Richelieu into where the vehicle was parked. Councilperson Belaska asked I thought we had cameras back there? Service Director Smith answered they would not be showing going down Richelieu. Councilman Erdei asked do we have enough salt to get through this winter? Service Director Smith answered yes as of right now we have half of our minimum requirements on site. Well a less than half. *Motion by Belaska/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

/SAFETY DIRECTORS REPORT: Mayor Bring reported we had a small fire at Lakeview Blvd., all the way down at the end of the street. Our boys were there on Sunday night – it was just a mattress fire but even though it is a mattress and it was small it is pretty dangerous. Everything is okay with that. Also, Fire Chief Card did bring another ambulance to us to look at and this has been the third time that we have looked at it. I think I brought this to your attention. This was a used vehicle that has 21,800 miles on it and it is like brand new. So we looked at it again, it started off at \$70,000 some dollars and Tammy said you are going to sell this to us for \$60,000.00 so anyway he wrote it up for \$60,00.00. David will explain the process we have to go through later and I think we are going to act on this and get us through a little bit of a crisis here. *Motion by Belaska/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

/LAW DIRECTORS REPORT: Law Director Graves reported Civil Service Commission is going to meet tomorrow at 4:45, a couple of really important issues they are going to be discussing. I did file a dismissal today for the Bowling Alley litigation after a long eventful process. I think at the end the settlement that we reached is beneficial to the city and the best possible resolution that mattered. He reviewed legislation on agenda and also proposed legislation. Council#003 which is the ½% income tax which has been discussed and we will have a special Council meeting scheduled. He advised on proposed Council#004 for the purchase of an ambulance, we have had informal discussion on the proposal of this ambulance. Even though it is a used vehicle, it still requires competitive bidding. So what we are going to need to do and again if Council would want to add it to the agenda – that would be appropriate. He reviewed heading of Council#004. This will need to run in a newspaper of general circulation for a period of not less than 2 weeks. Once that is done any proposals that the city has you could enter into that contract. Council#005 – I mentioned this earlier, unfortunately we really didn't get the straight story from the recent person that we were dealing with from Rite-Aid earlier when we passed the amendment he had indicated that all terms were acceptable and approved. Apparently they were not and we have had subsequent negotiations and really the point that it came down to was the installation of some new automatic doors. The Mayor and the Service Director have discussed this issue and we did obtain a quote from Cleveland Door to go ahead and do this and that was acceptable with Rite-Aid and so what this piece of legislation and Rite-Aid has already executed this extension. So this would be the same terms with 5-year extended term and then a couple of option periods after that with the potential for the lease to run through October 31, 2027 with the city also agreeing within the

next year to install new automatic doors at the center. So what we are asking is for Council to approve this with the appeal of Council#52-12. President Rosso asked what did you say the ages of our ambulances were? Law Director Graves advised the information that I have is that they are a little older, I took this information off the grant request for new ambulances. The oldest one is a 1995 which would make it an 18-year old ambulance and our newer one 1999 which is a 14-year old ambulance. So one is 14 and the other is 18. Councilman McCullough asked where are the funds coming from for this, is this from the internet cafes? Finance Director Smith answered yes, capital purchase. I had them figure it out on a 5-year lease which is basically like a purchase. Biannual payments just to make sure that we always have the funds but we should not problem with that fund. That fund may go away but the funds that are needed for the rest of the payments will remain in there. Law Director Graves continued we also do still have the grant request pending where we have requested an 80/20 grant for up to 2 ambulances. There is virtually no way in the world they are going to fund 2 ambulances but if we were to get 1 then the city would have if we went ahead with this purchase, the city would have some options to either go ahead and replace both ambulances with the grant or if the funds weren't there then to sale this one and go with a brand new one. There would be some options there but the grant is still pending. Councilperson Stark stated I just want to make sure that I am reading this right, this is just for you to go get bids and either bring the bids back to Safety or Council not actually to enter into a contract correct? Law Director Graves answered no this is to authorize bids and then enter the contract for the purchase not to exceed \$62,000. Councilperson Stark stated I am assuming those bids will come back to us? Mayor Bring answered no, why? Councilperson Stark stated because you are saying you are putting out for bids. Mayor Bring advised it is because we have to. Councilman Smith asked what kind is it? Finance Director Smith answered the chasis is Ford E450. Law Director Graves explained bid process – this is an outstanding offer but the reason that the Ohio Revised Code requires this is because the potential is there that someone can come and say hey I have the same vehicle and we will sell it to you for less. So we don't know what might come in but \$62,000.00 for this vehicle is a very, very good deal and chances are that is going to be the lowest and best bid. Councilman Smith asked is this like one of their demo's? Finance Director Smith answered no this is a very wealthy community in Pennsylvania that trade them in like every 3 or 4 years and they get new ambulances. This particular one, the company has not told any of their salesmen that even there and they said that people wait in line really to get one of their vehicles. Tim happened to connect with this guy and I think it is an excellent opportunity. Mayor Bring advised it was \$185,000.00 for a new one so we looked at this and like I said we have been talking about this and this guy has brought it to us a couple of times. Their new vehicle is coming to them so this guy suggested to Tim because Tim said don't sell it unless you contact me and at this price and the money that we have in the account but we wanted to stretch it out 5 years to be more flexible but David threw the zinger in and said we have to put this

out for bid so we have to put it out for bid. We contacted the gentleman again today and just said we are still interested but again David makes sense that if somebody else comes along we will take a look at it. This is a very, very good buy and it will get us through a crisis. Finance Director Smith advised it is a 2008 Ford E450 and has approximately 22,000 miles and it will be available in March when their new vehicle comes in and it is diesel. Councilman Smith asked who makes it? Finance Director Smith answered it is Lifeline Custom Superliner Type III ambulance – the cab/box. Mayor Bring advised the other option that we had was to actually take our box off and put it on another truck and that was actually going to be \$80,000.00 so we looked at this and like I said he came to us the other day and told Tammy \$72,000.00 and Tammy said no we are doing \$72,000.00 – if you can't get around \$60,000.00 we are not even going to look at it. Councilman Smith stated Dennis doesn't need to enter into contract to purchase, the Fire Chief enter into that contract? Law Director Graves advised Council can authorize the Fire Chief to enter into contract. Councilman Smith questioned why is that instead of the Mayor, I was just kind of curious to why that is being that you are the Mayor? Law Director Graves answered normally when we write these the Service Director is authorized to bid and enter into contract but in this case it was the Fire Chief. Councilman Smith advised I didn't think there was any issue but I want to make sure that's all. Law Director Graves advised the Charter says the Mayor unless otherwise authorized by City Council. Councilperson Belaska asked I know there was a discussion at one time with the internet cafes, has anything else been brought up about those? Law Director Graves answered at state level – no, in fact I did have a conversation last week with Representative Matt Lundy and I asked him this question and nothing has happened. The proposed legislation did die in the lame duck section of General Assembly and no word on it being revived. *Motion by Stark/Second by Belaska to accept the report. Yeas All.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY:

Ann Marie Woltman, 649 Sheffield stated I have a question about those automatic doors, is that going to open up that question by other businesses wanting the same thing? Law Director Graves explained each set of negotiations is independent of one another. Rite-Aid has made a long-term commitment I think to the City of Sheffield Lake and initially they were talking about wanting the city to put a quarter of a million dollars into renovations and that store really hasn't had any upgrades in a long time. Mrs. Woltman stated that is expensive, I mean that is almost a 1/3 of the rent that they are going to be paying for the year if that is a condition for them to stay.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None./NEW BUSINESS: *Motion by

McCullough/Second by Kovach to amend the agenda to include Council#004 and 005 to tonight's agenda. ROLL CALL TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE SO-NOTED LEGISLATION: Yeas All – Smith, Belaska, McCullough, Kovach, Stark, Elliott, Erdei.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Council#001 – SECOND READING – an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a sanitary sewer and access easement agreement with Speedway LLC and the declaring of an emergency.

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Smith, Erdei, Belaska, Elliott, McCullough, Stark, Kovach.

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Elliott, McCullough, Smith, Erdei, Kovach, Belaska, Stark.

Ordinance Passes#1-13

Council#002 – 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 Elliott/Second by Belaska for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Kovach, Stark, Elliott, Erdei, McCullough, Smith, Belaska.

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Smith, Erdei, Belaska, Stark, Elliott, McCullough, Kovach.

Ordinance Passes#2-13

Council#004 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance authorizing the Fire Chief to advertise for bids and to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder for the purchase of a late 2000's type III ambulance in an amount not to exceed \$62,000.00 and the declaring of an emergency.

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Belaska, McCullough, Elliott, Smith, Stark, Kovach, Erdei.

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Erdei, McCullough, Smith, Belaska, Stark, Kovach, Elliott.

Ordinance Passes#3-13

Council#005 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance repealing ordinance number 52-12 and authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Fifth Amendment to lease agreement with Rite Aid of Ohio, Inc., for retail space in the Shoreway Shopping Center located at 4100 East Lake Road, and the declaring of an emergency.

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Belaska, Elliott, McCullough, Erdei, Kovach, Smith, Stark.

*Motion by Elliott/Second by Belaska for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Stark, Smith, Belaska, Kovach, McCullough, Erdei, Elliott.

Ordinance Passes#4-13

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by Belaska to adjourn at 8:41PM. 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.

CLERK OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES

Kay Fantauzzi

COUNCILPRESIDENT

Rick Rosso

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Eric S Elliott

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 January 22, 2013.

MAYOR

Dennis Bring