

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
February 4, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, February 4, 2013. Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

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

Absent: Rosso, Law Director Graves (excused)

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Belaska to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2013 meeting as presented with any corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

SEWER CREDITS/UNPAID CHARGES FOR TAX DUPLICATE:

- a.) 826 Idlewood, in the amount of \$97.02 – after a brief discussion, *Motion by McCullough/Second by Smith to approve sewer credit in the amount of \$97.02. Yeas All.
- b.) 689 Lafayette, in the amount of \$141.12 – after a brief discussion, *Motion by McCullough/Second by Belaska to approve sewer credit in the amount of \$141.12. Yeas All.
- c.) List for tax duplicate; in the amount of \$5,010.43 - *Motion by Belaska/Second by McCullough to accept and forward this list in the amount of \$5,010.43 to the county. Yeas All.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Service Director Smith reported salt building is working out fine, lights are good and looking forward to getting the grounds moving along. We are also looking forward to the first weather breaks to getting in and start cutting back easements “overgrowth” in roadways and ditches. So that is something that we are going to be getting an early jump on. I want to remind everybody that the refuse rate will be going up May 1st so June’s billing will reflect an increase of 3.5%, from \$18.083 to \$19.49. That is a contractual time scheduled rate increase. The sewage rate for additional sewage above 100 cubic yards will also be going up once Lorain solidifies the exact amount and David who is working on it. The actual rate formula and everything is done, we just haven’t gotten the rate. They have been in turmoil since they lost their utilities Director to the French Creek Sewer Treatment Plant. So we will find out when we get our bill of what that will be, currently we are at \$2.94 per 100 cubic feet so expect that to go up. Councilman McCullough stated

the increases we put on for the water and sewer. Service Director Smith stated those are base rate increases. Councilman McCullough continued the increases that we put on at the beginning of the year for the water and sewer are those covering what you guys needed covered. Service Director Smith answered yes. Councilman McCullough asked is there money left over that eventually you can start working on the infrastructure after this year and understanding that it was a light year? Service Director Smith answered we are steering money into a capital improvement fund – yes. Councilman Erdei asked no one has brought it up in a while but how are our pump stations doing, the pumps that we had cleaned and rebuilt? Service Director Smith answered the pump stations that we have been working on, we haven't had them cleaned yet and that is going to be an expensive bill to have the sediment removed from them. We have had an attempt by a company to do it and failed, gave us a credit and our money back. It is a 26-foot lift from one pump station, the pump that they used was humungous and it wasn't enough and that was a pump company – the same company that has been pumping out Louisiana, New Orleans, same company but they didn't have a pump big enough up here to set out there and ended up having to go back. We will be attempting that this year. We are going to be working on a hydro-logical model for our existing 3 pump stations and Mike Bramhall will be doing it and it is going to establish the flow from one station to the next to the next and to Lorain. This hydrological model, we will be able to plug in changes and differences and see what kind of affects they are going to have on our systems. Instead of doing the old school way where you take measurements and our outdated equipment that is in the pump stations doesn't work. The flow meters you can't buy parts for – they are broken and have been work for years. This way we will be able to plug in changes into this hydro computer model and that will tell us the affect and that is the way it is done. We have already had a meeting on that and we will know a lot more as time goes on. It is going to be well worth it and it is going to tell us a lot of what we need to know before we go adjusting. We still have to do mechanical things such as the PM's on the control panels, the gas analyzers is something that we need to get back and in there. You don't want guys going down in a hole and not being able to get up after 2 breathes but we have got the money to do that with capital improvement which is the way it is supposed to be. We do have some deck securing that we are going to have to do in there stainless steel walk decks were secured with regular steel bolts into the wall in a corrosive environment. That is not good so we are going to have to correct that. We are going to go from there with the results of the hydrological model with Bramhall and make our recommendations from that point on. The one thing that we have isolated is going to be the Sheffield tie-in to the forced main on Lake Road by Sheffield directly across where Sheffield intersects Lake Road. We might have an issue there, as some of you might remember there used to be issue but I am looking at a fix for that issue which is with an engineer, digging it up and moving the tie-in. That is a common problem believe it or

not with sanitary sewer systems and forced mains, our intersecting manholes are combiners where they take in sewage from a trunk line and at the same time they are from a forced main, it causes a backup or reduction in flow on the gravity fed line. So part of this model that I am talking about, the reason that this all came about was to verify whether or not we actually needed to do a project by moving the forced main farther west down the line away from Sheffield so it wouldn't intercede but would speed the flow of Sheffield up as it got into the main trunk line. So that is something that we are going to be looking at too. It is all tied in together Mark, there is a lot of different things going on with the pump stations that eventually if we can eliminate maybe one pump, get it going either to Ridgeville, Avon Lake or a separate interceptor to Lorain – we might be able to eliminate our SSO's or our overflows into Lake Erie. Currently I don't believe there is a lakefront community that has done that. So that is something that we are really working hard to try to do. Councilman Erdei asked has is things going with EPA? Service Director Smith answered the stormwater audit which is for all the facilities owned by the City of Sheffield Lake; Fire, Police, Service, Road, Water, Sewer, Utilities, City Hall Departments and adjacent property. It was the analysis of all our drains and our stormwater and where everything should go – we had a list of 7 violations. The 7 violations that Bramhall has helped us answer to the EPA, we are in the process of taking care of them. The salt building was one and was in process long before the audit. We are working with the engineers on it and we are acting in good faith with the EPA, so we are moving right along. There is a continuing process though that we have to go through with the stormwater on the facilities, we have a grease trap that we are going to have to put and tie-in all the buildings to. You are going to have an appropriation of money coming up for \$10,000.00 which is going to be coming up and that is what that is going to go for – the stormwater and engineering for all that we need; the separator, the grounds, the easement next door where the fence is – our southern border of the city property is not on the city's property – it is on the church's property for some odd reason. David is working on an easement with that with the church so there is a lot involved with getting it right and correct. Councilperson Stark asked cold patching – when are we going to be able to start doing that? Service Director Smith answered we have been doing it. Councilperson Stark stated I noticed on Erieview where we recently paved there are some potholes starting to pop up. Service Director Smith asked on the new pavement? Councilperson Stark answered on the new pavement. Service Director Smith advised I will have them check that, we won't cold-patch that – that will be cut but I will have them check it. Chairman Elliott asked what happened on Lake Breeze, was there a main break. Service Director Smith answered we had a water break, we actually had a leak and where it was coming up wasn't where it was at at the pipe. Once they got down into the black rock then they followed the water flow which took them about 10-feet to the north at the intersection. It wasn't an easy one but they still got it done within the normal time frame. Mayor Bring advised that is

something that is going to have to be addressed because if you go down Lake Breeze you got about 25 patches and it is just a continuous thing. We were talking about it again the other day, we were just talking about where some that money is going to be spent because that has to be fixed because they got clamps on top of clamps on top of clamps and it is really bad. Councilman Erdei stated from reading and everything that main line was 1927? Service Director Smith advised I have a map that I have put together in my office and you are more than welcome to come in and take a look at it. It is a history of breaks done with color so you can literally just look at the map and see where the problem areas are in the city. Irving Park is one, Lake Breeze is another – there is certain sections of West Drive, sections of Lakewood Beach, some of the streets off of Irving Park. You can see that there is definitely a connection with age and when they were put in. Councilman Erdei asked is this something that eventually we are just going to have to just replace thing instead of keep repairing it constantly. Service Director Smith answered that is what we are working on. The other thing to keep in mind when you go to do a project like that, if at all possible you can combine other utilities at the same time, such as; water line, sewer line. They are different depths of course but it cuts down the closing of the road, the amount of time and everything else. Kenilworth is another one that is really, really bad just so know and it is bad because its elevation is too high for the sewers to work properly and it is going to need some engineering. Sheffield seems to be fine, if we can fix this little cliché that might be occurring and that is going to be a big deal to. We got something really bad going on in Irving Park and we don't know where it is at – a lot of I&I and a lot of water. I know Bill said that when he was Service Director many years ago but I think there is more going on there than just the clay tile. Most of those houses don't have basements so they are not a sump pump problem yet we have more of a surge of water on a street that has a density like that with no basements then we do on a street that is loaded with basements that got sump pumps pumping into the sanitary which you never know whose house is doing it but you can pretty much tell by the flue and downspouts. Councilman Smith asked they have storm sewers don't they? Service Director Smith answered yes they do. They have curb drains and storms. Councilman Smith stated the sanitary runs through the backyards though. Councilman Erdei stated that ditch that runs north/south with Irving Park that the dead-end streets that branch off to the west of Irving Park. Service Director Smith stated Buckeye and that is to the east and that is flowing good. We are going to get in there and clean debris; cross trees and stuff but we don't have any major blockages in there anymore. It is flowing pretty good. We actually went out there during this last heavy rain before the snow and we looked at the trouble spots – Madison, between Buckeye and Maple where it goes into the ditch, we are going to remove that pipe and double up its size. It will go from a 12-inch to possibly a 24-inch or 36-inch so we get that whole thing to flow into that ditch and then of course we will turn it when it gets into the ditch. Then we have some cross-overs that we are going to have to put in on Buckeye due to the

elevation of the land, which is keeping it like a hodge-podge of different pools of water that just stay because the elevation is all screwed up but we figure within 2 or 3 cross-overs we could get in there and drain it a lot better and then re-dig and grade the ditches down to the intersection of Maple and Buckeye and Richelieu. Then put in a new cross-over pipe in there going to the east and west and a new cross-over pipe going north and south and that should help and alleviate a lot of that. Councilman Erdei stated I would just like to thank you for having your guys come out and take care of that Howell sign on Lake Road – that snow storm where someone just plowed right over it and flattened it.

OLD BUSINESS: *Ditch cleanings; Day Ditch by Holl/Shoemaker Ditch – north of Richelieu, east side by Buckeye* – Service Director Smith stated I would like to say something. This is down by your house Eric that we are referring to specifically, I had gotten a complaint call/inquiry from a very nice lady that lives at 4252 Holl and she said that this tree out of the ditch starts leaning over her house directly across the street from you on the left side. I actually went over there to look at the tree and it is but I don't remember and I checked the notes that I had from before when I went through that and I don't think that that tree was leaning like that. I am kind of asking if you have noticed it but it is definitely leaning over her house now. Chairman Elliott stated I think her biggest thing was the branch that was hanging from that tree. Service Director Smith advised there is 2 trunks to that tree and the left side is just coming out and going over her house. That is actually not a branch, it is actually 1 of 2 trunks. Chairman Elliott stated I will take a look at it today but with it being so wet it is possible I guess. Service Director Smith stated it is at the point where I might have to take action as I did with the house over on Buckeye. We are limited as to when we can go in and do that, that is now is on the state property. It is something that I wanted to discuss. We are planning on going in and attacking this at some point at this main ditch. Councilman Smith stated that is state property? Service Director Smith answered yes. Councilman Smith stated are you going to call them and tell them to fix the tree? Service Director Smith answered we tried and got a formal letter back telling us to stick it. Councilman Smith shared his concern for setting precedence, if it is somebody else's property and we go in and we take it down – there is a lot of people home's that have trees that are leaning over their houses and falling on their houses. So if you do it for one then you got to do it for all and I understand the emergency thing. Service Director Smith explained it is a city waterway though because if the loss of the vehicle whether it is a tree or a bush or a cliff can block the waterway then our interest is subsidized a little bit more than it is on a wooded lot driving down the street. There was a brief discussion on responsibility of waterways and also eminent danger to homeowners. Councilman Smith advised receiving a call from a resident after the storm Sandy came through and there was a pine tree that was leaning over the house and it was going to come down on a neighbor's house. Do you know who paid for it – the person who owns the

house who paid a tree company to come and pull that tree out so it didn't fall on somebody's house. Service Director Smith explained that was a neighbor situation. We are charged with maintaining that water course and maintaining the flow of water through it, I am charged with that duty. If it is falling on a lady's house out of our area because that ditch is not maintained, I personally feel that it is our responsibility. It is coming out of our water course.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilperson Stark stated I saw on the news last night that Avon Lake has started a policy and it is just to throw out to think about for people that are going through on Sunday's and Monday's and picking through garbage that they have to register with the city for safety purposes but they get \$15.00 out of the deal. Is it something maybe we could possibly look into doing, from a safety aspect it actually makes some sense because you never know. Sometimes you see a lot of people driving through the neighborhood and with things going on like people kicking down doors and other safety issues is it something we have thought about possibly doing. Mayor Bring answered I saw that, I read it. I am actually pretty happy, these guys are picking up our rubbish and recycling it. It would be pretty hard to track them all down. I think it would be rather difficult and costly. I would have to think about that a little bit more, I am not saying no and I am not saying yes. You only have 2 Policemen out there and they are spending all their time chasing these people down. It is a longer process and more involved than just saying that this is what we are going to do.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Kovach/Second by Belaska to adjourn at 7:43 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

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 February 4, 2013.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Rick Rosso

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Eric S Elliott