

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO  
May 20, 2014**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, May 20, 2014. Council President Rosso called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

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

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

- Present: Rosso, Kovach, Erdei, Cizl, Wtulich, McCullough, Mayor Bring, Finance Director Smith, Law Director Graves, Treasurer Woods, Police Chief Campo, Fire Chief Card
- Absent: Councilman Smith, Councilperson Stark, Service Director Smith (excused)
- Attending: Concerned Citizens, Members of the Media

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

*Council – May 13, 2014* - \*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2014 Council meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

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**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

***Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse: None./Safety: None./Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment: None./Ordinance: None./Finance & Audit: None./Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center:***

Representative Cizl reported we had a meeting last night at the Community Center and for those that aren't aware, we meet 4 times a year. We completed our safety inspections; Department of Health and Agriculture and everything was fine. We have now instituted the rate increases that were approved last month. The Board of Elections used our facility for the primary election day early this month and they are very happy with it. We have a number of issues going on with the building in terms of building repair; the roof is leaking and Pat Hastings is the Chairman of our Committee and we discussed before the roof is probably being aggravated by the fact we have the solar panels on the roof. So with the wind and the winter that we have had it is putting some extra stress on the beams and it is causing some leaks. It is probably going to have to be looked at. There is also a leak on the west side thanks to all the rain that we have had in the last month. I looked at it also and I wanted to tell Service Director Smith that we put some treks underneath the siding and water is coming down the wall on the west side and coming into the

actual hall. I think the Service Department put some treks that is used for decking which they put it on underneath the siding but it has buckled and the water coming down the side is getting underneath there but it is going to need some attention. I wanted to tell Mr. Smith about that if he isn't aware of it. On the east side of the building there is a light there and it is hollow and I think there are bird's getting in there and building some nests. It is minor but needs to be taken care of. The parking lot is in dire need of repair and it is on the agenda of the appropriations for this evening. Ohio Edison is going to be removing the telephone pole that is right next to the building and in the process of doing that and running underground cable – they are going to accept the costs of that. As we discussed earlier that hole has actually affected the solar panels and the power savings that we are gaining by that. They are going to remove that pole at no costs to the city. Pat has updated the restrooms and the faucets and drains and the building is being used quite a bit and continues to be used. Debbie Suarez who is in our audience tonight is in the process of organizing summer craft program. Meals on Wheels is going on; they serve up to 85 meals a day for the senior citizens and a number of services; nursing and health clinics. The Community Center continues to be used by many other organizations on a weekly/monthly basis. Our next meeting will be August 18, 2014 at the Joyce Hanks Center./**Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals: None./Council Representative to the Planning Commission: None./Council Representative to the Park Board:** Member Kovach reported we discussed the movie night that Councilman McCullough and I have sit for June 27<sup>th</sup> and the consensus was you do the Dolphin Tail movie first. There seems to be quite a bit of interest throughout the city for when we pull that off. So hopefully that will be a nice night and it will be good for everybody. Mrs. Prokay who has started working on a picnic for this fall – that is in progress, she has a couple of people on her committee. She didn't have a lot of notes at this point. She hopes to get one or two more people involved in it and hopefully we can get the picnic going on like we had several years ago. Councilman Cizl had brought an idea that perhaps we do a landscaping/gardening type of award based on possibly 4 wards/one for each ward. He brought it before the Park Board last night which was right after another meeting he was at. We had already adjourned but we did discuss it last night and the Park Board is on board with doing something with that and will give Mr. Cizl another month and hopefully he will work with the Chairman of Park Board on that and he quipped as they are both retired and nothing else to do anyway.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MAYORS REPORT:** Mayor Bring advised I think before you you have a proposed 2014 equipment and capital improvement note that we are bringing to you to look

at. Obviously in light of the passage of the levy, this is some of the things that we have been holding off purchasing that we are in dire need of. I am going to go through this item by item and I have both Chief's here. So after I get done with the Police list Chief Campo can answer any questions that you may have as to what that equipment will be used for and please don't hesitate to ask. Then when we get down to Fire you can ask Chief Card about the same thing. Then I will explain the rest of this to you. For Police right now we are looking at 2 brand new Ford Explorer's and if you ask why we are picking out the Ford Explorer's it is because the Crown Vic is no longer being made for Police cars by Ford. So your choices are Dodge, the Fords and you have a couple of choices on the Chevy. The Dodge Charger, we were sitting talking to the gentleman about that and it is actually the same price as what the Ford Explorer would be. We didn't really look into the Chevy's as we are getting tax dollars from the Ford plant over there and in our community I think we should look at that. We have workers here that work for the Ford plant but we are also getting tax dollars from that. So that kind of swayed us to look at these. We actually did a little investigating with other cities and they said the Ford Explorer's are performing very well and Tony can expound upon that a little bit more. The costs on these were the same exact costs – I called another city and they were exactly the same costs. So with the equipment that we are looking at getting two of them would be \$70,000.00 and that is for both units. You see the line item right below that is camera for 2 units – you would have to do an additional \$4000.00 for each car for camera's for those units. We looked at taking the camera's that we had on the existing cars but they told us they won't transfer over to new units. So we would have to purchase 2 camera's to go along with those units. Also – replace 20 outdated Tazers and they are very costly. That is being questioned and we are not 100% sure that we are going to use those but we wanted to put that down and we will bring more to you as Tony is looking into that and he is doing a little investigating on the Tazers. We have portable radios that we have had and right now the radios that we use are hand held portables when they get out of the cruisers. Right now we are having a communications problem between the dispatch and the portable radios and we are having a very hard time even understanding what the Officer is saying and that is a big safety issue. Those things all need to be replaced and also we are going to digital and that way we can communicate with the rest of the neighboring departments. Right now we are not able to do that. We are talking about doing some mutual command center in working with the schools, with Sheffield Village and if something would happen over there we would not be able to communicate with the radios that we have right now. They are very outdated. In the dispatch area; the computers, monitors, radio equipment need to be updated. Finance Director Smith advised that is actually the whole department. Mayor Bring stated a lot of times right now if they are doing a

report, when they come in after their shift. Half way through their report the monitor will actually go blank and cut it out and then they have to do the whole report all over again. Also it says 1 unmarked car – used and that would be used for our Detective Bureau which we do not have right now. That is the list for the Police. President Rosso stated conversations a while ago about narrow band, is that what this is? Police Chief Campo answered all our radios are already narrow banded. That was done a year ago. These radios will be digital ready so that they will be ready to go in the future when everybody converts to digital. We are going to have to do it sooner or later in the future and these radios will be ready to be converted to digital – they are digital ready. Instead of having to buy new radios again in a couple of years when everything is converted over to digital. President Rosso stated when we went to narrow band that was something with the county; all the other cities were going to narrow band. Police Campo answered no that was a federal mandate. President Rosso stated I know we talked about it for a while – about the money. Police Chief Campo stated that was at no costs that was done through EMA. Councilman Erdei asked now that have some money to play with, do we have a chance to have any kind of grant with all this that is on this paper? Mayor Bring answered the problem with a grant is you are going to have to wait. These 2 cars alone if you order them right now today will not arrive until October. Grant money we would be more then glad to look at any of that stuff but the problem is a lot of that takes a lot of time. Right now we don't have a grant writer as you know. Is not saying that we are not going to look at everything we possibly can for that but some of these things are immediate needs; like the radios and the cars. We didn't put vests on there because that is one of the things we are going to look at for the grants and there is a couple of other items we didn't put on there because that is exactly what we are going to do. Councilman McCullough stated I have no problem with the new cars, ours you can hear them coming down the street. The question I have is why do we need 20 Tazers and why do we need 18 radios? Police Chief Campo answered that will give us 3 spares and that will give us 1 for dispatch in case the radio console goes out in a storm or whatever. Anticipating possibly another hire in the future and that will be a radio for that person and a spare as they do break. Councilman McCullough stated so we outfit each and every Officer with a radio. Police Chief Campo answered correct and we also have a policy that they are to have them on to and from work – Officers respond right to scenes. Councilman McCullough asked they can't share Tazers, they all need their own Tazers? Police Chief Campo answered that is what we have been doing and they wear out so much faster. They got beat up from being carried 24 hours a day. When we have Community Days, we have 10 Officers out and we have 10 Tazers – by the time we have 6 people working the Carnival/2 people out

on bikes/Officers working at the stores that hire Officers. There is 10 to 12 guys out sometimes on a Community Day night. If we only had 6 Tasers or 6 radios. Mayor Bring continued with the Fire Department – 1 utility vehicle, an F350 with utility boxes. Obviously we haven't had one for a few years and I think the last one lasted about 15 years and I would anticipate this truck lasting about just as long. There is a purpose for that which Chief Card will explain to you. The department vehicle Ford Explorer and that would be the Chief's vehicle. The one that we have right now – the red one, cannot pass the E check. He uses that as a command center and Chief Card can explain that also. A hazmat trailer equipped with required supplies – we just had an incident where we had a meth lab and there is equipment that is needed for that and Chief Card can explain that also. Finance Director Smith advised we are required to have. Mayor Bring continued a power cot for the 2008 ambulance, right now we have the one power cot that we received on a grant and I think everyone on Council has seen that. That has been a God send to our guys picking people up. That cot has been wonderful, so we would additionally like to outfit the other ambulance with that so that we don't have to bring it back and forth. The 6 SBA bottles and Chief Card will explain what we use those for. The next is the replacement of fire hose (enough to replace the old on the rack. Also a gas detector, a thermal imager, fire hose nozzles & appliances, 6 sets Bunker Gear (for new hires – if needed) which will be fitted for the new guys. Fire Chief Card answered we do have some old gear or barely used gear that I just sent out to be certified by a company that certifies it to be safe for use. Mayor Bring advised we are talking about maybe possibly getting 4 part-time Fire Fighters too and that will help out/a relief on some of the overtime and that will also come into the gear. Then cascade for air compressor until (4 – 6000 psi bottles) – that is what they use for going into fires with. We have that machine that was donated by another city that is in use now so that is what these bottles are for. I would like Fire Chief Card to explain the utility vehicle and what it is used for. Fire Chief Card advised we have a bunch of rescue equipment that is on a shelf right now and we don't have any way to transport it. We have been able to stick some of it and Engine 63 but that takes up riding spaces so now we can't put guys in the back of the truck because it is full of SBA bottles, rope rescue and stuff like that. So it will carry our rescue, it will be like a utility vehicle but also have rescue so it will be like a light rescue truck. It will also have saws, cascade bottles on it and some lighting equipment for lighting up scenes so I can get the engine back in service when my guys are investigating a fire and leave that there to light the scene and they can work out of that and the engine can get back in service for the next call. We also use to have a program with the schools in town where we would get the smoke trailer in the spring and I need to have a truck big enough to pull the smoke trailer, it has got a pretty heavy tongue weight. So that is another thing that we would be

using it for. It is also the truck that we just used to do things other than emergencies. We shouldn't be using our ambulances as a utility truck or a truck just to drive around town if we just need to run somewhere to do an inspection or something like that. The Lieutenant or whoever is going to do the inspection should just take that and do the inspection opposed to driving ambulances everywhere. Ambulances costs two-hundred and some thousand dollars and a utility truck cost forty some thousand and I would rather beat up a forty some thousand dollar vehicle then a two hundred thousand dollar vehicle. Mayor Bring requested the Fire Chief to explain the Hazmat situation with the meth lab. Fire Chief Card explained we were lucky that the guy was actually not cooking because if he was cooking it would have created a problem for us because we weren't prepared for it. I don't have any Decon equipment so I wouldn't have been able to Decon these people properly if they were to have been contaminated or if our Police Officers go into a house and find a meth lab now they are part of the problem – they have to be deconned. They have to stay there until we set up Decon. Or if my guys go on an EMS call or any call and we walk into the house with a meth lab now we are part of the problem and we have to be deconned. We have to have the equipment to deal with these incidents. This trailer would pretty much carry the stuff for Decon, we would have pools – those cheap baby pools or whatever and use those to set up in a row. We will have to get garden hoses and a lot of the stuff that I am talking about – if we use it to actually Decon people then it is disposable; it gets thrown away and we will have to buy new stuff to replace it or you can send it out to companies and have them clean it and they send it back. But it probably wouldn't costs as much if we just replace it. Hazardous materials is a nasty business. Finance Director Smith requested Fire Chief Card to explain the depletion of the fire hose over the years – she advised keep in mind we haven't bought anything since 2009 just because we have been living hand to mouth. Fire Chief Card advised right now on my rack I do have a bunch of 1-3/4 hose which is our attack line which is the most used line besides our supply line which is the 5 inch hose. Each truck carries a thousand feet of 5 inch and I 200 feet on the rack. So as we test the hose annually we have been finding the older hoses swinging leaks and it is being taken out of service. Finance Director Smith asked how old is the older hose? Fire Chief Card answered I have some hose that goes back to the 80's. Finance Director Smith advised that is what I was surprised about. Fire Chief Card stated we did just get rid of some stuff from the 70's recently. I need to have enough hose on my rack to at least fill a truck. The SCBA bottles - I have been talking to Tammy, we bought our air packs and we got them on a grant so we got 30 SCBA bottles all at the same time. Well now 30 SCBA bottles in 5 years have to be replaced at the same time. So I have worked with Tammy and we are going to set this up to where we are going to replace 6 bottles a year for 5 years so that in

15 years you can replace 6 and then you can replace 6 again instead of replacing and spending \$30,000.00 in one shot. The 5 gas detector, we just purchased a 4 gas detector to replace of our older detectors that went out of service – it was no longer able to be repaired. Our other old one is about to do the same. I need to have 2 gas detectors in case one breaks so we can have a back-up. This is a 5 gas detector because on house fires one of the gases that is emitted from the burning rubble is hydrogen chloride and this one will detect that. When it is most prevalent is like during investigations when there is no fire but there is still stuff coming up off the rubble and right after the fire when we are in there overhauling stuff – we will be able to detect it and tell the guys to get their masks back on. The thermal imager – we had 2 and 1 of them went outdated and was not able to be repaired so now we have 1 and it is getting the same age or old too so I am going to replace that. I will keep using the one that we have as well but we will have another one that is smaller – it actually hangs under bunker gear with a cord that they can pull it out to use it and let it go it goes back to crawling around in the fire. The fire hose and nozzles – our nozzles are just starting to get old and some of our appliances which are the connections between the hoses that the water flows through. I don't have the hydrant valves, we don't have any hydrant valves in that department and I need those so when we catch a hydrant we should put a valve on one of the 2-1/2 outlets so that if we need to hook something else to that hydrant we don't have to just shut the hydrant down. We can just hook to it and then open the valve. I want to get 2 of those; 1 for each truck. The bunker gear like I explained, we do have 8 sets of old gear if any of the guys that we hire fit in it and it is certified safe then we will use that as opposed to buying new but if they don't fit in it then we will have to order them new gear. The cascade for the air compressor, that air compressor we got from Columbia Station. They got a brand new one on a grant so they gave us this one. We can fill bottles straight from the compressor but it is better to fill a cascade system (big, tall yellow bottles) and then fill our bottles from them and let the compressor fill those back up, it is more efficient. Finance Director Smith stated I would just like to say on the power cot; #1 back injury would cost us well over \$40,000.00 in bwc so that is going to pay for itself without a doubt and save our guys from injury too. That is why it is on the list. Fire Chief Card advised we have the 2 squads; the 2008 – we would like to rotate that more but since my guys have been using that power cot and they haven't had to lift anybody they really don't want to use the other cot. When you get a really heavy person on there and you have to pick them up you really feel it. It would be nice to just keep rotating them so they don't get worn out or they wear evenly. Mayor Bring stated as you know I know Mark is going to ask – are we looking for grants and obviously we will but Mr. Card wrote a grant and we got a brand new ambulance which is over \$200,000.00 and by him doing that and the one that we purchased used that we got

a tremendous value out of – that took a lot of pressure of these items that we are looking at now because you would have been looking at almost \$400,000.00 for 2 vehicles. We are very fortunate, we got 2 vehicles out there that basically we paid \$65,000.00 for and they are very very good and should last us a long time. We saved an average of \$20,000.00 in repairs a year since we have gotten those 2 right there. We will be actively looking at more grants for anything that we can get. Finance Director Smith added but now we will have the match money. Mayor Bring continued we will move onto Parks and Jerry's pick-up truck is on its last leg and we are going to look at a used pick-up truck for him of some sort and we put down that number. Just so you know used pick-up trucks are not inexpensive. City wide – upgrade and add additional cameras in key areas in the city including the boat launch and covered bridge. Obviously we all have cameras up there right now and these would be replacements to some of the ones that we have. The new digital cameras are much better. We had a bank robbery here recently and we didn't have a camera pointing towards that bank and I will have a camera pointing towards that which will be digital and you will be able to read numbers off of somebody's shirt if you wanted to. Also towards the Boat Launch, this is basically for safety reasons for anything that may happen out there. So that is what those cameras are for and we are also looking at getting in the police cruisers that the Officers can pull it up on their monitors as they are going along. So the cameras are a huge asset especially inside the Police Department there. Multi-use ATV's for Parks, Police patrol and Fire rescue emergency – we are looking for something that we can use for all 3 departments there. Fire Chief Card had made a comment sometimes like last year we had a fire that was in the woods at the end of Mariners Circle behind the apartments. They had to actually carry their stuff into the woods. Fire Chief Card elaborated we stretch hundreds of feet of hose and then they were exhausted after fighting the fire in there and then they had to drag all that hose back out of there. Mayor Bring stated the Police will be able to use them for Community Days and of course the Fall Festival. So 2 guys can ride around and also for the parks and bike path. Cameras switch for Council allowing upload to You Tube and basically what that is is so that people can view our Council meetings. People have asked about that and I think this is the most economical way to do it. We will get some feedback on that and see how much it will all be. Finance Director Smith advised we will have a link from our website that you can go on and watch the Council meetings. Mayor Bring advised we have a Council member that is very familiar with this and he has been helping us out – Mr. Cizl, who is a retired Teacher but he did some videography over there and numerous other things so we are going to take advantage of him. Councilman Erdei stated I know one time I mentioned this and you said you were going to check into it about these cameras so if Apples was going to have any kind of security cameras out there to where it



would scan the area a little bit to help us out. Instead of having the one camera at the Boat Launch and shooting it all the way across. Mayor Bring advised I did ask about that and the problem is you have to run cable and it is kind of costly. He explained all that to me and I said oh. If you go wireless that is a possibility but it is not too feasible and basically you have to have some kind of a cable coming in otherwise it is kind of costly. I may be looking at it down the line but for right now I'm not going to do it. One other thing that other people were asking me about was tornado sirens and I will throw this out while you were talking about that – I did look into that and I had a meeting today with all the Mayors which I am going to report next and I asked them about that and they said it is not worth the money because basically if you are outside you can hear the sirens but if you are inside and you have your windows shut you can't hear the sirens and they said it is not worth putting up. Finance Director Smith advised they are \$30,000.00 a piece. Mayor Bring continued so I did ask about that. Councilman Cizl stated regarding Police and Fire, I know you have mutual aid from other cities, can you elaborate – I know we have been mandating since 2008 can you elaborate on how our equipment compares to other cities? Fire Chief Card advised we are starting with the grants that we have gotten; 2008 fire truck and then E63 is a 1996 but that truck is still in good condition and in 2 years it will be 20 years old and I actually want to get that refurbished so I am going to try to get a grant to do that. I think we are pretty comparable. Since we got the new squads, now it is going to be even harder to get a grant for that because I had an average of 12 years for vehicles but now that is gone. Mayor Bring stated when you see some of these ladder trucks Mark like Avon Lake has and even Sheffield Village, those are a million dollars. We have 1 – Erie Shore Landings that would come into play on that and other then that we don't have any buildings that would be effected. With Sheffield Village and Avon Lake being that close, we are not going to buy a million dollar piece of equipment that we don't need. Some of the larger ambulance that you see in the other communities, I know that Sheffield Village did buy a larger one and Avon Lake has a larger one and Avon has one. But with our streets, it is really not proactive to have one of those large units because we can't even get up and down the streets with them. So what we have is very suitable for our city. It is not like you are going to carry 20 people in an ambulance. They might have a huge large unit but we are still doing the same job that they are doing, there is not a need for something that large. We are not going to spend 4 times as much money for something we don't need. The purpose that we have had and Tim will tell you that getting up and down these streets – our ambulances work great. They do have other equipment that we don't have but you can but millions and millions of dollars worth of equipment and it doesn't mean you are going to be better then what we have. We have great personnel and we have very good equipment and we need to

some new stuff to replace some of the things that we have but there is no need to spend millions of dollars for nothing. City wide repair and replace roof on the old Fire Station that is leaking and in terrible shape and we need to look at that without even questioning that - that is the one on Lake Road that we store food in now for Meals on Wheels. We also have to replace the roof on the current Fire Station, the sky lights are currently leaking and that roof is shot. Replace PD front door and remodel Dispatch surrounding area. The PD front door is all rusted out and on its last leg. The area inside Dispatch – there is ceiling tile missing and bunch of other things that we need to just upgrade. Replace city hall doors, recondition council chambers; that is just paint and doing some stuff. Kind of updating a couple of things. Repair downstairs storage and bathrooms. Replace walls and ceiling in Building Department which is in poor condition. Resurfacing Community Center parking lot and that was something that was brought up by Mr. Cizl that is needed. When they do voting there they were talking about it the last time that they were not happy with the parking lot. Also the city hall parking lot which is out right here. If you take a look at all those numbers that is what we are adding up and Tammy can explain that rest of that to you real quick. Finance Director Smith advised we roll over these notes every year and we have been paying them down, in 2008 they were \$918,000.00 and they are down to \$50,000.00 this year. So we have paid them down in nice chunks and that is 8 years and that is my plan for these notes here is to pay them down in short order. We don't to have money sitting out there for a lengthy period of time but the notes will give us that luxury. We have \$50,000.00 from our old note from last year that we are rolling over and paying \$100,000.00 on that this year but we are going to roll over \$50,000.00 for the equipment that is 402, for the capital improvements that is 196 for a total of 648 that I scheduled to pay in actually probably 7 years but I am going to give it 8 just to make sure I have everything in order. I have bond counsel working on this right now and since we don't have a meeting next Tuesday, I have to renew that old note by June 12<sup>th</sup>. You will see in my appropriations I appropriated for the costs to reissue this not. If we just do the old note by June 12<sup>th</sup>, we are going to have to pay for this amount again whenever we do this. That is why I try to as soon as we knew the income tax increase passed that we would have this luxury that we could this now and get this passed on June 10<sup>th</sup> so I can have all the paperwork in order. I will have all the paperwork in order before then but I will just need legislation completed that evening. Councilman McCullough asked how long is this note going to be good for? Finance Director Smith answered 1 year, we roll it every year. Councilman McCullough asked how much are we going to pay down per year? Finance Director Smith answered up to \$100,000.00 a year. Councilman McCullough stated so we are looking at 8 years you said. Finance Director Smith answered at the most, I am actually looking at probably 7 for what I have

scheduled. But in the event that something comes up and we need a small chunk for one issue or we can reissue a note for a small item or something that we decide to put in. If we decide to do any capital improvements to the parks or something like that we can roll that in but stay on schedule of repayment. Councilman McCullough stated Tony, this one comes back to you – how long are those Ford Explorers going to work on the road. What is the life expectancy, how many miles a year are we putting on a unit now? Police Chief Campo answered our 2011's have right around 60,000. Councilman McCullough stated so about 20,000 a year. So are these Explorer's going to last 120,000 miles. Police Chief Campo stated or better. Councilman McCullough stated we will be paying on this note for 8 years and if those things don't last 8 years. Finance Director Smith explained there is 3 notes being issued; 1 is a capital improvement - \$50,000.00 from a prior issuance which was the Boat Launch, the other one for the equipment – that will be paid off before the capital improvements because anytime you put out any money for equipment you want to pay that one off first for that exact reason because the life expectancy of what you are financing isn't that long so that one will get paid off and I will show those schedules every year as I pay those down. Those will be actually 3 separate notes within the borrowing and you will see that that 402 will go down first before we get to the capital improvements because capital improvements you could go up to 20 years to pay off but we are not going to do that either. In 1996 we borrowed \$200,000.00 on a bond to do some improvements here at city hall at the time – the basement and such and we are still paying on that. That is a 20 year bond for \$200,000.00, had a taken out a note – well I didn't have control of it then but had I taken out a note that would have been paid off in a couple years – 2 or 3 years. I don't see a lot of use with bonds and you will notice I have not issued any bonds in my tenure. I like that notes – they are more flexible and we can pay them off quicker and we stay more liquid and our bond rating agencies love us. We got an increase in our bond rating last year because we pay down our – even though we don't have any money we are still making sure that our debt is getting paid and that is what is important for the city and it is important to the banks as well. President Rosso asked if we borrow this money, we can talk about some of these things on this list? Nothing really with Police, Fire or even Parks but if we decide hey we really don't want to do that one or instead of that one we can do this one – we could still tweak the actual expenditure. We are not committed to everything on this list exactly right? Finance Director Smith answered correct with your approval we can make those adjustments – absolutely. President Rosso stated so if we say hey we don't want to do this but we want to do that instead – we are not locked in? Mayor Bring answered right, we have already nixed a few things on the list. You get excited and then you start adding up the numbers and it starts to get costly. President Rosso referenced it much like a

Christmas list. Finance Director Smith advised we looked at it as most dire needs for anything. Councilman Cizl asked how cash strapped will we be and for how long that we will be cash strapped for other expenditures that we may want to do, for example; we did discuss improvements in the parks and whatever else. Finance Director Smith advised this year we are not going to recognize a lot of money obviously because it takes effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will see some withholding funds that will come through before the end of the year. Next year and she explained it takes a couple of years to catch up when everything starts to flow the way it should and as far as the park capital improvements – we are going to have now the ability to have matching funds for the grants that we will be writing for those 2. So those shouldn't costs a whole lot of money for what we have planned. If we want to put up some picnic gazebos or things like that or new playground equipment but we can get grants for a lot of that. That is why that is not on these lists. Mayor Bring advised the main concern in which we all talked about was Police and Fire and that is what I want to get taken care of first and that is what we are addressing. On that list – it doesn't say anything about manpower and we are going to address the manpower situation. I didn't put it in there, they just interviewed 8 gentlemen today and they are going to interview 7 more tomorrow. They are going to get it down to 8 people and then we will re-interview those again. Finance Director Smith stated those are replacement personnel. Mayor Bring continued at 7:30 this morning I met with Mayor Zilka from Avon Lake and Mayor Jensen from Avon, Mayor Gillock from North Ridgeville and Mayor Hunter from Sheffield Village. We met and talked about the water issue, Mayor Gillock probably got the worst of everything that happened here so we sat and talked for a couple of hours determining how we are going to address this problem. We all came to kind of a consensus of they need retention ponds but they also need to get the water to the lake and some type of a piping system. The commonality of all of this together is that we use one engineer who is Bramhall's Engineering. So we discussed sitting down and talking with him and seeing when he can sit down and engineer out and as a group we thought instead of being one city going to our state to get funding for this we thought if the 5 cities sat down with Avon being a pretty formidable city right now, Avon Lake is pretty formidable, North Ridgeville has 31000 to 32000 residents – you get a more powerful force. With elections coming up, people are going to start listening to you so we thought we would approach Bramhall first to get some kind of an idea of what engineering costs would be, how to get this water removed and then we were going to invite the media in to let everybody know what we were talking about and moving forward with this step. Obviously this meeting today was just to see that we are all together on this, they have been talking about regionalization for years and something that David and I have talked about but they talked about with Fire Departments, they talked about with Police

Departments – for that to work would be very difficult but for this to work with 5 Mayors who all agree that we have to do something. It seems like our storms are getting more powerful. There are all kinds of problems on how we are going to address but everybody looks above ground, they look at houses, they look at trees, they look at buildings but nobody is looking at what is under the ground here and I think throughout the whole State of Ohio the underground needs to be addressed. At some time the funding for that is going to cost millions and millions and millions of dollars. We put in and I can't remember when we put our outfalls in, I think we borrowed 2 million dollars. Finance Director Smith corrected 2-1/2 million dollars. Mayor Bring continued 2-1/2 million dollars to put that in and without that our city would have been under even more water. It is not helping the residents that got flooded this time, I got flooded – we all got flooded. But it is not helping the problem but somehow we have to address this situation. I know you are all here today and you will all get a chance to speak. I just want to let you know that the other Mayors are concerned about this – Mayor Jensen is the one that called this meeting. We are not fluffing this off, we know the problem is there. I think in their area over there I think they have built a lot of the housing developments that may have not addressed the situation over there. I don't know exactly what their problems are but in our case we have been addressing it but we have to do a lot more. We have to clean our ditches and do much more maintenance. We have 3 pump stations that were open completely for 8 hours so everything that was in our sewers was running straight out to the lake which we had to report to the EPA. If we had not done that everybody house in the city would have flooded. We do have periodically because that is what has to be done. That water was shooting out of those pump stations into the lake for 35 feet out before it hit the water, that is how much pressure was in there. There was a tremendous amount of pressure and a tremendous amount of volume of water, we had over 6 inches of rain in a couple hour period. The first wave that came through I talked to one gentleman and he told me he didn't have a drop of water and he told his wife that he was going to go get another pump just in case and he drove over to Avon and came back and he had 3-1/2 foot of water in his basement by the time he got back. The second wave that came through I think pretty much got everybody in the city, everybody that I talked to whether it was a little bit or there was a lot. I took out 62 buckets of water of my house and I didn't even come close and I waited until the morning and pumped it all out and cleaned it. That is the most water I have ever had in my house. We have had Hurricane Sandy that came through and that was a tremendous amount of volume of water but that was over probably a period of 3 days. But this rain that came this last time was really bad and I think tonight we are supposed to get more rain. I don't know but we all – 5 Mayor's discussed this in a meeting, the storms seem to be getting larger but we

are going to sit down and actively figure out how we can get this water out of their cities and our city and get it to the lake. But when you take it all out and you put it into the lake and you have to deal with the EPA and everything else. All that water has to be tested because you are taking all the runoff's from houses, driveways and whatever contaminations that you have is going to go out in the lake. They want that all tested and obviously that is all going to cost money. We will be having more meetings about that and I will update you but I will tell you the property that was south of us which was 52 acres which was in Sheffield Village which Bangoff's old field because I lived there when I grew up – they had corn out there that they had planted and the water came off the fields and went onto Richelieu there and we had corn stalks on our streets out there from that water running off of that land over that ditch into the streets. So that is how much water came off of that too. \*Motion by Erdei/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All./**FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:** Finance Director Smith advised you have an appropriation ordinance before you and she reviewed the list. \*Motion by McCullough to accept the report. Yeas All./**TREASURER REPORT:** **None.**/**SERVICE DIRECTORS REPORT:** Mayor Bring reviewed the report sent by Service Director Smith, he read excessive rainfall May 12, 2014 caused wide spread basement flooding, yard flooding, over-running ditches, storm sewers and full pipes. The sanitary system was overwhelmed with I&I; inflow and infiltration – all 3 pump stations were in overflow well over 8 hours. The best we could to keep up with the storm, basins cleared and opened a long unclogged residential driveway pipes. A lot of the clogged ditches were due to leaves from last fall which are not cleaned from the ditches. Debris floating from washout areas also contributed even blocking Richelieu and Buckeye with wood chips, logs and debris from fields south. Many basements flooded with both rain water and sewer as the sanitary system could not take any more water. As you know Sheffield Lake has a lot of older homes which contain foundation drains and cross connects. These contributed but with this much rainfall in such a short time no system locally could handle this. We were under a flash flood warning, a flood warning, 2 tornado warnings during this rain event. The city was able to secure 2 – 40 yard dumpsters immediately from Republic Services and made them available for flood damage on the west side of the Water Department to any resident. This along with Pride Day helped a lot and luckily we had bulk pick-up today on our regular bulk pick-up day. The Service Director is currently filling out public property damage assessment paperwork concerning public infrastructure and property for Lorain County Office Emergency Management. As far as relief funds for residents I have not heard anything back yet. Pride Day was May 17<sup>th</sup> on Saturday we had Pride Day and the weather was kind of miserable that day, I was there all day. We had quite a few people stop and drop things off. It was actually down quite a bit from

what the normal days are. We had a couple of people volunteer to help clean up. They came back and they were soaked and wet within an hour and it was not a warm day. We sent most of those people home. We did put the Karate Dance Group on the covered bridge to plant flowers. There were 2 fallen trees on the railroad ditch behind Holl and I contacted Norfolk and Southern in Georgia as no local offices answered the phone. They are contacting the appropriate office to have it checked out. Due to the excessive flooding on Holl, there were a lot of questions concerning the ditch and whose responsibility it is to keep it clean. David answered this with a letter explaining that the city does not own the ditch and who the property owner is. As of today we had a list 20 individuals who have contacted the city about basement flooding. Just for information – I took a quick ride through the city yesterday and there were a lot more than 20 residents that were flooded. I would estimate it between 50 to 75, we had damaged goods placed out for bulk pick-up and this does not include those who had use of the flood damage dumpsters on Pride Day. Republic Services said they were planning on getting through the whole city today. Mayor Bring advised I called Mr. Smith at I think 2:30 to find out what their plans were and he told me that they were going to try to make it through the whole day and pick up all the stuff. So we are going to check that tomorrow to find out if they did and if they did not call them again and find out what the plans are. Mayor Bring continued on the report, the last item the Girl Scouts Brownie Troops are planting flowers this afternoon as part of Pride Day. That is the end of his report. Also he has a maintenance program that is planned for 2014 Oakwood/Ferndale north of Ivanhoe – pipe removal, ditch grading and base, Oakwood/Ivanhoe north of Hawthorne pipe removal, ditch grading and base, Devonshire/Forestlawn – forced main installation, Walker Rd/Woodruff to Lakeview – re-grade the ditches, Lafayette/Richelieu – there is pipe replacement on Richelieu to Lake, Roberts/Forestlawn/South – pipe removal, surface drains and ditching, Idlewood/Ivanhoe north to Richelieu – pipe issue, may remove some base, Hawthorne/various sections of Pasadena – various bad base and radius issues. A lot of this is cleaning out and doing ditches and piping. Councilman Wtulich asked what was that that you said about the ditch on Holl? Mayor Bring answered they had some trees that fell over over there, the railroad had dug that out last year and some of that eroded and they had to contact the railroad but they had to go to Georgia to get the main office. I think David had more on that. Law Director Graves advised this is the north/south ditch that crosses Holl/Knickerbocker/Belle/Brockley/Forestlawn. There were property owners that expressed concern that during the heavy rainfall that they actually lost property into that ditch. The city has a maintenance easement as that is a drainage corridor for the city and as the easement holder our obligation to the residents is to make sure that that easement remains open and that the stormwater drainage flows un-

impeded. Lateral support and maintenance of that ditch is the responsibility of the property owner. At the Holl, Knickerbocker, Belle, Brockley portions – that ditch is actually its own independent parcel and there are varying property owners that actually own that. As you go south and across Forestlawn it actually is on people's property and that would be their responsibility. Councilman Erdei stated I don't have a question but like you said the way these storms are coming in now and dumping a lot of water, we definitely got to figure something out. Especially with these other Mayor's because I got flooded myself and Bill here got flooded and this isn't the first time. We have to do something about it because this is getting to be ridiculous and when you have storm sewer and sanitary filling up that fast – we have to start thinking of the future and putting in pipe or whatever to handle it a lot better because we want to draw people into our town, we don't want to push them away because of flooded basements. Mayor Bring advised again we are the end users and unfortunately we are on the lake so everybody's water comes to us. Avon Lake is in the same situation and that is part of the problem Bill. That is kind of what we discussed today, how do we get that water to the lake. It is a major problem but it is also huge costs. Law Director Graves stated I just wanted to remind everyone, in 2008 I was part of a group with Leadership Lorain County that obtained an \$80,000.00 grant to commission a study on how there can be more regional collaboration and mutual cooperation for storm water management. That study was conducted by Lorain County Community College and I don't know what ever became of that. I don't know if they completed the study but it was turned over to the College to do the study but it was for regional approach for stormwater management. I would be curious to know what the findings of that were. \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to accept the report. Yeas All./**SAFETY DIRECTORS REPORT: None./LAW DIRECTOR REPORT:** Law Director Graves reviewed the legislation. Councilman McCullough stated I have a question, how am I supposed to vote on the trash contract when for the third time in the 2 years my trash didn't get picked up. I can't vote on that, I can't even support that anymore. It happened again last week – its nuts. Law Director Graves advised on the whole they have been pretty fair to the city and the rate which is the primary thing, the rate that they are proposing over the next 5 years is one of the best in the county. The additional dumpsters that they are providing is very favorable. The recycle bank program had no additional costs to any residents that I don't think any other community has. I know for a fact that Avon Lake does not have that. Overall the provisions of the contract are very good, if there are individual problems – that is a problem with an individual driver and should be reported immediately. President of Council Rosso advised Mr. McCullough your role is to look at the whole city, not the fact that your particular garbage didn't get picked up. So if you think it is fair for the city, look at it that way versus. I guess you got to put blinders



on in this situation. Councilman McCullough stated I am putting blinders on, I am one person – if they are not picking up mine how many more are they not picking up. Mayor Bring advised I will say that they dropped off 2 dumpsters for us for free. They just went out today and they picked up most of the things. I can't say 100% but in North Ridgeville they actually got charged for all the dumpsters – they had 40 yard dumpsters – they had 40 of them dropped off and they got charged for all of them. Our city did not get charged. President Rosso stated I would say ask Len because he would be the one to take the calls if they didn't get their garbage picked up and see how often it happens because he is very good at keeping that information. Law Director Graves advised in the course of our negotiations with Mr. Kidder, we raised concerns about individual problems that have been reported and he takes those very seriously and again that should be reported and that is something that they would deal with with an individual driver. If he is not driving the route properly or if he is being negligent in the manner in which he is picking up the trash. Councilman McCullough stated but David that is what I am saying I am a Councilperson, I can't get it picked up. Mr. Kidder's statement to me was when I was having trouble with the recycle driver was well we pull your green can and give you another blue one – I have 2 blue cans, I am not recycling because they don't want to pick up my recyclables. That was his speech before and that is what I am saying I just want to get it on record. This isn't a matter of residence thing, this is a matter of I am a Councilperson and this is not getting done. Mayor Bring stated it doesn't matter if you are a Councilperson or the Mayor – it doesn't have anything to do with who you are Kerry, it is for all the residents. It has nothing to do with you being a Councilperson and it has nothing to do with me, I am a resident and that is all we have to look at. You should not get any preference because you are a Councilperson. Councilman McCullough stated you are right, I didn't ask for a preference. President Rosso stated I will admit today that I was quite surprised I saw them out picking up, they actually had 2 cars with 4 people in it behind them to help and I am assuming anticipating the large amount of extra because of the storm and being a bulk pickup day. But they actually had 8 people following the garbage truck and when they would hit a big spot they would all get out and help. Law Director Graves continued with report – we did get a solid waste grant and our proposal was to put in for new recycle receptacles, park benches and informational kiosk for the parks specifically and the new nature trail extension. So that should be really nice when we get that all in.

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to accept the report.

***CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY:***

***Matthew Harper, 4146 Holl Avenue*** stated I am one of the residents that flooded the other night. I have a few questions; (1) the Mayor spoke about the Mayor's getting together – do you have a proposed date of when things will maybe start to

go through that? Mayor Bring answered honestly I don't because like I said when we talked today we were just trying to feel out what we could do and how we were going to proceed. The next step would be that we are going to contact Mr. Bramhall, so from that we are going to take another step after that. When you are dealing with 5 different cities, it is going to take a little bit of time but I don't have a date at this time. Mr. Harper asked is it possibly more than a year probably? Mayor Bring answered these next meetings are going to happen real quick because we want to get this going as fast as possible. Basically right now it is of what happened but also because you have elections coming up. We are going to approach the state; Congress people – Marcy Kaptur and some other people and also the County. We are going to approach it all 3 entities, however we can make it happen – federal, state and county is what we are going to go after. Mr. Harper stated my biggest concern is most of us on Holl we flooded 3 years ago and right afterwards I probably lost \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 worth of damage and at that point I did not have the insurance. I was not aware of the actual extra enforcement on the backup which is fine – it is what it is and it is part of being a homeowner. So I redid my whole entire family room, I live in a split level and 3 years later now I am in the process of having to do it again. That is my biggest concern and that is actually my wife's concern. She doesn't even want to start doing anything down there until you guys might have an idea of what is going to happen. Mayor Bring advised well after all the meetings and everything else then you are getting to the funding and that is going to be the biggest obstacle and that is what we all talked about is how we are going to split all this up. If the state steps in or federal steps in, none of them act in a very quick way. I am kind of hesitating talking to you but I am trying to figure out of how I am going to answer you with is this process going to be very quick – I highly doubt it. Mr. Harper stated I am not going to hold you to a date, I was just wondering if you have an idea. Mayor Bring stated right now I cannot answer that and that is as honest as I can be. But I am not saying that we can't as a city not have our Service Department go over there and figure out what is going on and how we can move the water faster because that is in-house and we will look at doing something with that. If the pipe size needs to be larger or something wherever this is coming in, crossing over or whatever – we can do that. We do have Mr. Bramhall, we had him doing some engineering for us. He is looking at our pump stations and several other things and that would be one of the projects of how we are going to get this water resolved. So we have been proactive but again I can't go out and do things without proper engineering and funding. But our Service Department will – if they see a bad pipe or something they will tear it out and redo that. Mr. Harper stated another thing that I have noticed is actually I have been on my street for 14 years and never had a problem until after they redid the streets. Now I don't know if anything could have happened when they redid it,

I opened one of the drains up and I don't know if I was allowed to or not but I opened up one of the drains on the street and I noticed that half of it is filled with concrete. There is a 12 inch pipe that crosses the road underneath the road and half of that was filled and it was only partially opened. Now I went a couple down and some of them down there were fine, I don't know if that could have been part of the problem of what is causing this. Mayor Bring stated what I can do is have it camera'd and find out if that stuff is down there – we have a truck that we can get that out of there with. Then we also have that big white truck that you see going around – we do jet them out. Here is the problem it is very difficult when you have a sewer system and we find hammers and find paper towels, we find balls – you name it. When contractors remodel these houses, they dump paint down there, they dump drywall compound down there. When they tear the toilets out sometimes, all the debris goes in there. So just because the drain is clean one day doesn't mean the next day that is not going to be clogged. So we have to do it on an on-going basis and that is what I have tried to explain that we started going through the city and we have been hitting some of the trouble spots with our camera, the time that it takes to do that is a lot. So just to run a camera probably 200 to 300 feet takes 4 to 5 hours in one day and the jet for a couple hundred feet takes 4 to 5 hours so the process is a long time but since now that we see there is a problem on this street we will send the guys over there and they will start actively looking into that but I can have them start probably next week and start with the camera and find out if somebody illegally dumped something in there that is blocking it. We can start that process and that has nothing to do with these meetings, we can do that in-house.

Mr. Harper stated my other question and I am not sure who is directed towards but you spoke about the ditches going down north and south on Sheffield and you said those are owned by the people who are living on either side of it or is that owned by the city? Law Director Graves answered none of it is owned by the city, it depends on which area you are talking about. The southern portion; Holl, Belle, Brockley – those if you look at the county auditors website, you can actually pull up the map and that section of that drainage corridor, those are separately owned parcels – the creek itself are separately owned parcels. They have private owners, not the neighboring property owner. But that creek itself – there is a church that owns some of it and there are other named owners, a couple of the parcels are actually owned by the State of Ohio probably reverted due to unpaid taxes or something like that but maintenance of that is the responsibility of the property owner. The city would go in to open that up if drainage became impeded. We have an easement to make sure the stormwater flows and as you go north across Forestlawn the creek seizes to have independent parcels but actually runs through private property owners. Mr. Harper stated is there anything we can to – I don't want to say the word “make” but have them clean those out. I took about 50

pictures yesterday just from Holl – the different sides and I think it is fair that is overgrown. I have pictures of tires that are down in there. There is one spot that I saw free running water from Holl just to Belle – one spot. I would have to say that that probably also had a lot to do with the free flow not being there for all the sewers. I am guessing the sewers tie into that and that is what runs it out. Mayor Bring stated sewers don't run in open ditches – storm sewers. I had the Building Inspector write letters to some of the property owners last year and stated that we needed to have that cleaned out and they completely ignored us. Mr. Harper asked so none of the storm sewers tie into that at all? Mayor Bring asked sanitary? Mr. Harper clarified the storm sewers that are running down our streets. Mayor Bring answered yes. The only other thing that we can do, if the city went in and did that and we could assess the property owners but we would never get our money back out of it. But that is the other possibility. Mr. Harper stated that is the ditch that ultimately runs under the covered bridge and out. Mayor Bring answered correct, it is full of trees. The other thing is that you got Willow trees that grow extremely fast and they are way overgrown. Mr. Harper stated I don't know if there is anything that we can do or we can contact, I mean as soon as possible I would have to say to have that down. Mayor Bring stated I think we sent out like 15 letters and even to the State of Ohio and David got involved with the State of Ohio and the State didn't do anything to it either. We can do it but it is going to cost us money and we could assess the property owners but to cut down – I think we had 27 trees cut down and I think we spent \$4000.00 on that. I would assume to cut all those trees out you are probably talking \$60,000 to \$80,000.00. You know once you cut the trees then you got to grind all the roots and everything else so once you get those down then you got to go in there and clean it all out. Anything is possible, it is the funding. I understand it and I agree with you because I mentioned 2 years ago about getting some of those trees cut down. Mr. Harper stated my biggest thing is I don't want to go put another \$10,000.00 in my family room and it happen again. That is my biggest concern. There was 10 of us that were together that night for 12 hours pumping water out of each other's houses. Mayor Bring advised one of our trucks went down that road and he was praying to God that it didn't stall because he thought he was going to get killed. He felt terrible because he was going down there and he said the water was actually making waves. He said he had never seen that before in his life. He is a younger kid but he said it was really bad. Mr. Harper stated I just want something done about it, it doesn't have to be tomorrow, I just want it addressed and I want it done and I want it done right because I don't want to put the money into my house and lose it in 2 more years. Councilman McCullough stated I got one thing to say and I can tell you this and this happened on Lake Breeze and what the Mayor said is right, Avon Lake and much more so us because we really don't grow anymore. We just take everybody

else's bunt – Lake Breeze Road, it was coming out of the storm sewers flowing down the road trying to get to the lake because the storm sewers were so full that it flowed up my street and flowed up into my garage, water was going uphill it wasn't going downhill. It was that much water so I can appreciate what you guys are saying but like the Mayor said we are on the north end of that crap. We get all that and you said about your road and something else that I will discuss with you later, I don't know if it is your road or if it is something else that happened in the meantime but Harris Road was raised up a few years ago and that kind of pushes it all towards Lake Breeze. Mayor Bring stated I think it is the pipe size is what it is. There are things that we could probably do which we will, like I said waiting for what we had a meeting about is not going to solve your problem. We have to do that in-house and we are going to address some of that. The bigger picture is what they are going to talk about – that will help too. I think in 6 years we are going to have that money paid off for the original money that we took out to put in the stormwater utility in the city. Finance Director Smith added which we are way ahead of then other communities by the way – North Ridgeville would like to be where we are at right now but that loan will be paid off in 6 years will which give us the ability to maybe borrow some more money too and help with that situation. Mr. Harper advised I can't wait 6 years that is just too long. Mayor Bring stated we are not going to wait that long but once that note is paid off which is over 2 million dollars so we can go back and borrow more money and do this stuff. Again we will do that, I will make sure that the guys are down there with the camera. Are you ever home during the day? Mayor Bring asked if you get a chance to jot down those manhole covers and stuff and you can let me know. Mr. Harper stated actually one was right out in front of Bill's house. Mayor Bring stated okay if you can let Bill know and I can let the Service Director know, this way the guys know which one they are looking for.

**Linda Mullins, 4048 Ivanhoe; west of the shopping center** stated Monday night first I got flooded with human sewage. I started with the sump pump that was rising out of the storm drain in my basement floor. I started seeing clear and then darker and then this black like tar. We pumped it out for 5 or 6 hours and I was up until 4 in the morning just trying to get through the basement to salvage anything. It came up so fast and so quickly that everything in my basement so destroyed and it wasn't my stuff it was my grandson's. The next day I called the city because we have storm sewers running down Ivanhoe; one at the shopping center and 2 gentlemen came out and looked down there and said yep their clogged and went and got the truck and flushed them out. Now that was a little too late because they; the 2 workers and Len Smith who – this is another story. They all agreed it was the storm sewers were clogged. Now I know they say you can't guarantee but how many times do you have to remodel or how many times do you have to fix things

up. I bought my house 6 years ago and I spent \$4200.00 to replace every plumbing pipe I had to ensure that nothing ever backed up in my basement. I mean why you have basements and family rooms if you aren't supposed to use them as part of your house. My grandson lost every stick of bedroom furniture – I presented everything I had to Mr. Graves to see if he could be of any help to me because I am a single woman, I don't have money to go to Service Pro or to help with the cleanup. If it would have been just water I could have wiped everything off and used it but what do you do about feces all over everything in your basement. When I went down the next day, I was shoveling feces into a black plastic bag and when it got full I would tie it up and sit aside to start again. I am 65 years old, I have my daughter helping me who hasn't been feeling well. I am just upset and mad because when I asked if there was any way I could receive any help I kind of got a well what do you want us to do about it attitude and that bothered me. But then I was thinking about something that 2 years ago when our rates got raised, I asked the people at the Water Department what is that for and they said well capital improvements and then my neighbor is Kerry and I even asked him and I remembered this now because he said well it's your capital improvements for water and sewer. Where is that money, where did it go? I would like to see what we did for the sewer but this has never happened before and now I am stuck with an empty basement and afraid every time it rains and Len said yes that is from our sewers and that is called grease – we use to absorb the odor and to kind of break things up but if you have ever lived with a basement full of slime and it is still to this day and it has been a week – it still smells like human sewage. I have bought pumps and I have bought cleaner and it still smells. But Len Smith came out and he admitted that it was from the storm sewers which you know there is no guarantee but that doesn't help me want to stay in Sheffield Lake because what if it's not going to ever be guaranteed and I never can fix up my basement which is why I bought it or what do you do – run down today and I still don't have a dryer because every time I dry clothes in it this junk comes on my clothes. Those are things that I don't have money to replace and it is just sad, I know that everybody in here that got flooded has problems. I would have welcomed the water, I would love for it to have just been water, to dry it off and to go on with my life but that didn't happen. Then Len says I am going to have a special truck come up because you have got so much stuff, my curb and guess what you can go see it now because guess what nobody picked it up. It is from my driveway to almost the end of my property so he says I am going to have a special truck come and get your stuff Saturday, so me and my daughter and my son-in-law and my grandson we worked our butts off. We had to tear drywall out 3 foot up in the entire basement, we had to tear all the paneling off because like I said this isn't water – this is feces. We did all that and we had everything out there in bags, we had things in boxes and we

had things tied up and then of course here come the scavengers that were willing to take stuff even though we put a huge sign “please don’t take this stuff, it has been in feces”; don’t touch it because we don’t know what kind of disease people can get. So that is all over my yard now, all over the lawn so Len says oh no, they are taking care of it because they understand the problem they will be out. If they don’t get it today they will get it tomorrow. Well here comes the truck and they took about a fourth of the stuff and then they leave me this little note that says over the limit and not contained. So is that stuff going to sit there forever? This note is from Republic that Len said he would contact and get a hold of them and obviously he didn’t talk to the right person because they left and it is still out there. When you walk by that stuff you can smell it and there is little kids that are digging in it and it is disgusting. So I waited until and I called him and that is when he said oh we will get it all, we will get it all and he didn’t. So they were supposed to come Saturday and they didn’t and I thought maybe Monday and they didn’t and then they came today and picked up a few things and by the time I got out there to say wait a minute you got to pick this up they were gone. Then I find this tag and we are talking furniture, beds, dressers, desks. At one point my grandson got in a tub and was floating through feces to go in and try to find his wallet and find his IPAD and some kind of computer disk. I am like is this even possible that this is happening so what do we do. So that is what I am saying if our bills keep getting raised or money put aside for sewers and water where is it and where did it go and what was done with it. That is my point that is all I am saying because I need help. I don’t have thousands of dollars to hire things and that is why I went to Mr. Graves and tried to get some help. I have called the Red Cross and they were out of stuff, I went to the place in Lorain and registered for that and they said that could take a year – they don’t know if they are going to get anything. I just don’t know what to do but I wanted to bring it to everybody’s attention because I am telling you the night it happened I thought I am getting out of Sheffield Lake but now it is probably everywhere but something has got to happen, something has to get better. Who wants to live with feces in the basement? President Rosso stated I was asking David if we had a limit on bulk day, I didn’t think we did. Law Director Graves stated shouldn’t be. Mayor Bring advised I drove by her house 4 times today just to find out if they did it and that is why I called Len at 2:30 when your stuff was not picked up. That is specifically why I called to find if they were going to come down and they said yes and obviously it didn’t get picked up. We will call them tomorrow morning, if they can’t pick it tomorrow then we will have to go over there with the backhoe or something and pick it up in a truck. Law Director Graves advised we will follow up on it. Councilman McCullough stated I went over to Linda’s as soon as I got home from work tonight at quarter to six she calls me over there. Most of her stuff was bagged, some of the stuff I could see where he could

have said no to that and I would have helped you out and brought it up here. Some of the stuff was very light bagged I didn't understand it. I mean literally anybody could pick it up with one hand. Mayor Bring stated but it was late in the afternoon and they have said over the limit because their truck might have been over the weight of what they could carry – that might be it but as I said I not going to say anything until I find out tomorrow morning.

**Jack Palur, 802 Sheffield Road** stated I am kind of representing all of this group in this back corner here because we all kind of live in one of the lowest spots in Sheffield Lake. By the way flooded basements is nothing new. I have lived here for 53 years and we have probably had 12 or 15 different floods and the worst was 6 feet of water in our basement. Raw sewage is not uncommon, we have all had that – I have 6 or 7 times had raw sewage in it. We thought it was going to get better when ODOT came in and did the Ferndale project but it seemed to make it worse and Hurricane Sandy did a number on all of our homes. This gentleman here had 3 feet of water in their basement and across the street had 4 feet and this gentleman here had 3 feet and I had about 3 or 4 feet. So last year my wife and I spent \$10,000.00 to completely refurbish our basement because the Mayor was in my basement last summer and we actually had to raise up our sewer line and we put a new flap in and that would be the third flap and this storm this past Monday was apparently so bad that the creek between Rick's house and mine crested for the first time – I have never seen that before and it actually started coming into towards my foundation to flow into the basement that way but the water actually found a way in after all these flaps and all the work we did it found its way in through the drain of the washing machine filled my washing machine up. Now if I didn't think fast enough I would have had 3 or 4 feet of water but I got the sump pump in my washing machine creating another crock basically and pumped the water out into my backyard. That saved the basement from getting 3 or 4 feet of water, what I am saying this creek that runs between Rick's house and mine when they did the Ferndale project they put a grate on the bottom – I call it the community street creek, it wraps from Sheffield and goes all the way down Community Road behind the homes there. That water created a lake behind Rick's house and I will let him talk about that. It never crested that high and I believe the reason why was because not only was the sewer system able to keep up but the grate was just jam packed clogged. So we called the city – Rick and I and of course there were worse cases I suppose but nobody could get to it and nobody came out. I asked could you come out and just look because all we are asking really is somebody to take a look at that creek and perhaps clean it out once in a while. I don't know if it is his property or my property, pretty sure it is not on my property line as ODOT made that pretty clear and the city has come out in the past and has cleaned it out. Last summer they came out and they used the backhoe and



unfortunately they ripped up my yard in the process but they did clean it out. It doesn't really take a backhoe, it just takes a couple of guys with some rakes and a shovel to clean it out. We know there is going to be a lot of rain tomorrow and somebody should really clean that out. The same situation is going to happen. My basement floods, their basement floods – I am just letting you know whatever is happening in that area which is one of the lowest spots in Sheffield Lake – it is worse than anywhere else. My question is with 2 functioning flaps, how could water still come into my basement? Was the pressure that much in these drains, I would have to assume that the pipes are too small? Mayor Bring stated it is not that they are too small but when you get that much water again it is hydraulics; some people make the mistake of actually plugging up their floor drains and the water gets under that and it will actually blow your concrete right up from underneath there – that is how pressure there is. Water has a tremendous amount of pressure, I wish I would have had Pat here today because he is probably one of our guys that has been here the longest to tell you some of the things that it has done. I don't know about what you are talking about as far as cleaning that up over there but I will have to go over there and look. Another thing and I have tried to explain this but we have 3 guys in our Service Department and 4 guys in our Water Department – sometimes for them to get out and I know you don't want to hear it but we don't have enough manpower. They try to do the best they possibly can but part of the maintenance program that we are doing is trying to do all that stuff but it has been neglected for a number of years, let's put it that way. I totally agree, that was one of the first things when I got in here that I wanted to do but again with 3 guys; we get on a project over on Maple which we are cleaning out but it takes a long time to do that stuff. Mr. Palur stated I guess I am here tonight just to make sure that it doesn't get lost. Mayor Bring advised I know and I know you have spent a lot of money I know that because I saw what you did over there. Mr. Palur asked can anybody explain to me why if we have flaps in place, how is this water getting past those flaps? Mayor Bring answered Mark has a flap in his house and he can't explain it to you. Councilman Erdei answered I got it to and I had a plumber come over Sunday and when they built the house apparently I had my clean out and I had put in front of my backflow valve. So the clean out is the closest to the road so if I look and I don't have to screw around with the backflow valve, I can pop the cap on my clean out and see it. Mr. Palur stated Monday night, we have a clean out valve too – Monday night I went out around midnight and I pulled that cap off and before I could get it all the way – boom it shot into the air and water starting shooting out of there. Mayor Bring stated it did at my house too. Councilman Erdei stated the problem he said was that my drainage/storm sewer is tied into that pipe. Mr. Palur stated that is what they told us and we actually removed it, that is why we have the water drain and the sewer drain are completely separated now. We

actually eliminated that possibility. Councilman Erdei stated the only thing I can say and this is probably going to be my next step because I am tired of getting flooded too is I am going to put a manual valve inside my house for that sewer line. Mr. Palur stated the only thing I can think of is to put a stop valve on my washing machine. Councilman Erdei stated well I am saying because I spent a lot of money in my basement too and I am just getting tired of it. My wife and I just look at each other, she left work the one day I think it was Tuesday – she left work just to come home to check it. Mr. Palur stated I can understand this gentleman's frustration about how long do you want to stay in a city when your basement is a sewer. This is the first time in all of the 53 years and all the storms and the flooding that we have had where we were like this is getting really dumb now. Why don't we just live in a house without a basement in another community but I don't know where that is going to go though. Councilman Erdei stated well I know one thing for sure is the next step is I am putting a manual valve right inside my house and I can handle. Worse case could be I might just put another sump pump in the other corner of my basement where it isn't finished. Mr. Palur stated but all the pumps in the world aren't going to work when the creek next to us is rising to the point where it is just going to flow right in.

**Homer Browning, 820 Sheffield** stated I am here to amplify and back up what this guy said. I have heard the Mayor speak about good equipment and great personnel and what have you but we have a ditch there, a drain basin right there that they are talking about that nobody will take the initiative to clean. I mean I can accept an act of God, can't you? But when it is an act of people just totally disregarding and not doing the basic things of keeping a drain clean to let the water naturally flow where it is going to go. That is what gets my goat you know. Why can't you people do something instead of talk about it. President Rosso stated we do but there is only 3 people that work in that department. They started on the east side of the city and they are working their way west. Mr. Browning stated we want them down there where we are at. President Rosso stated you want them because you want – it affects you. The people on the east side want them because it affects them and we only got 3 people. We have a plan and we work through it. Mr. Browning stated Mayor you know where I am talking about? Mayor Bring answered yes. Mr. Browning stated you know where the problem is right? Mayor Bring answered again here the is the problem, it probably got filled up with debris this last fall from the leaves and stuff but everything got filled up this fall. Mr. Browning stated that was last fall, this is mid to late spring. Where was the people when there was ample opportunity to clean that crap out. I would clean it out but it don't belong to me and I don't feel like going over there and just going doing it. Mr. Palur stated I was told by a service worker to stay out of that creek. That is why I don't go in there. Mr. Browning stated I am willing to do it, I am willing to clean the crap out

but I am paying taxes and I live in this city and I expect people to do what they are supposed to do. When I worked I had a job and I had to do it, we didn't talk about it – they said this is what you do and that is what we did. You can talk a problem to death, you can engineer a problem to death and you can shake and bake and jive and do all this kind of stuff but we would like to see some action. The only action you people understand is when we take it upon ourselves, take the initiative and just basically vote you out. We want some action, there has been enough talk. Mayor Bring asked what haven't we done that you don't think we have done? Mr. Browning stated you won't even clean the basin out. Mayor Bring attempted to explain – we work every day. Mr. Browning interrupted with I saw a guy come in there with a backhoe last year or the year before and he was there about 3 minutes and he moved out and tore that guy's yard up. If they would have had a guy out there this year with that equipment that you are talking about and the great personnel for 3 minutes we might not have had no problem there because the water would have went out to the lake. That is all I have to say, why don't you wake up. All this talking about all kind of non-descript insignificant stuff and people taking enormous amounts of time to articulate their problems when you got a whole bunch of people that like to talk and get it off their chest. You should have a time limit, give people 5 minutes and then give everybody a chance to talk before they leave.

**John Aybar, 784 Sheffield** stated we moved in that house 33-1/2 years ago – flooded and I came right over here to the Water Department and walked in there and seen the “Head Cheese” and I said your water is in my basement and I would like you to get it out. He said to me it is not my water it is yours. At that time he told us we got the pipe laying over here in the yard and we are fixing the problem 3 years ago. I still got water coming in this valve that they say is going to take care of the problem. 8 o'clock until 3 in the morning water coming up my floor drain. These guys you talk about your 3 workers – I see them guys driving around in the trucks, I don't see them working. I don't work, I am retired but I will tell you what if I worked like they did I wouldn't have had a job. I see them just driving around. That is all I see them do. Just like this guy, clean the drains – that is all he is asking you. The city isn't there to help me with my basement. I had no idea they put dumpsters in here for people to bring stuff into, I didn't see that anywhere. The last I heard they took them out because they can't have a dumpster in here anymore for us to pay to put our trash in or shrubs. President Rosso stated it was in the Avon Lake Press. Mr. Aybar stated I don't get the Avon Lake Press. President Rosso asked then how else would we put it out? Mr. Aybar stated I don't know but I didn't know it was there. You send me a water bill every month, why couldn't there have been something on the water bill. Our rates went up from \$50.00 to \$87.00 in the last 3 years. It says trash and improvements – mine is not improved.

President Rosso stated I just want to clarify we couldn't put it on the water bill the storm just happened last Monday. Mr. Aybar stated okay your right but how long is it going to be there though? President Rosso stated I don't know how long it will be there. Mr. Aybar stated there ought to be a dumpster there all the time for these problems because these problems are going on all the time. If it rains tonight like they say there is going to be people that are still going to need them but the improvements on our water bill has literally gone from \$50.00 to over \$80.00. A guy comes out and reads the meters 1 time, 2 or 3 months in a row it was over \$135.00. Seriously, 4 people right there – we called and they say okay well it must have been a mistake but we didn't get no money back. Or a new billing company or I don't know but the thing that gets me is they come out there and we got this drain and you isn't going to get no water in your house – it is coming in. President Rosso asked who put that drain in? Mr. Aybar answered Sheffield Lake before we moved there – the Water Department is what I was told. President Rosso stated the city wouldn't have put that in. Mr. Aybar stated I was told by the Water Department that that was put in because the people that owned that house before us had so much problems that that they had the same problem that this lady had – raw sewage coming back up in the basement. President Rosso stated the city would not go in on private property and put a backflow preventer in. Councilman McCullough stated I am not going to say that you should have called about the dumpsters because I understand that but since this Mayor has come in we have tried a lot of things and one of the things is he is looking at a new way of making sure of when the snow ban is in effect putting out new signs but if we put out a sign for everything people are going to quit reading them. They have used the marquee for meeting dates and he is working on getting the website done so maybe you can just log onto the website and you would know right away that were dumpsters. Mr. Aybar stated that is probably my fault, I never look but like I said I had no idea it was there. A lot of people on Facebook that follow it they say things like – that is how I knew you couldn't park on the streets at night anymore. I saw that on Facebook. Councilman McCullough stated I found out about the dumpsters on Sheffield Lake BUZZ on Facebook. Finance Director Smith stated sir the dumpsters just came here on Tuesday that is something that Republic did at the last minute because of the storm. By Tuesday we had no way to notify everybody, we just made sure that the girls in the Water Department knew that if anybody had an issue when they called that they could bring something. Mr. Aybar stated when we did get flooded 3 years ago really bad, the city did say we could put it in here. There was always dumpsters, last summer that if you had brush and stuff you could pay the department \$18.00 to dump it. We can't do that no more. Mayor Bring advised we had that dumpster out there and people were coming in and it was supposed to be for brush and we were getting cabinets and trash, etc. So then we

moved it back so then they were pulling around throwing trash in it and then we had contractors from all over everywhere putting trash into the dumpsters after hours too and we were losing a ton of money. Then the EPA mandated that all our dumpsters have to be covered, an illicit discharge mandate. There is also several other things that they mandated that we are not allowed to do anymore and that is part of the reason why we don't have them. We have these 2 stupid little dumpsters back down there with covers on them that you can't put hardly anything in. But when this storm hit I called Republic and they came out the very next day and put those there and I said if anybody calls we have these out here. But I didn't know how else to notify it, it was all last minute and they are still sitting there. Mr. stated one more thing and it is not related to this but what is it with these empty houses with grass growing ass hole deep. There was one with a tree down in the yard forever, right on the corner. Isn't there something that says people have to keep their lots clean? Mayor Bring advised yes there is and unfortunately everyone says we don't do anything but there is a process. If it was easy we do and get it done but it is not an easy thing and David can attest to all the bureaucracy you have to go through as a city – it drives me crazy, trust me. President Rosso stated but I will tell you we will cut that after 6 inches after they have been notified and they get X number of days and we charge them \$200.00. Mr. Aybar stated I think that is great, all these houses that the real estate agents own – hire a guy for the summer to clean them and make money. President Rosso stated we do and then we can't get our money back until that house sells and somebody has fix all the liens, we got X number of dollars in that account. Mr. Aybar stated well you see these empty lots and weeds and the brush and trash dumped in them. I don't to move, I like it here. I like my neighbors and stuff but I did hear 3 years ago we got all this pipe we are putting in the ground and I do see the 3 guys standing around quite a bit from the Water Department. Now is that the same guys that go out and read the meters and drive the blue trucks. I seen one guy standing across the street and I kid you not – talked to the neighbor for 45 minutes. Mayor Bring stated the next time he does that, please call me and I am serious. Treasurer Woods stated in our Mayor's defense he does drive around and gets on these guys case for slacking off. Mr. Aybar stated I have seen it and of course my buddy Bob Coffman – he has got the gift for gab and it is hard to get away from him. But 45 minutes they stood there and talked and that is not getting business done. Mayor Bring stated again like I said call me, I guarantee you he won't stand there the next time. One more thing before you sit down too is that the county has offered to bring kids out of High School into our community and they pay for it at \$8.00 an hour and I just told them today and we are going to bring in probably 6 individuals but 2 of the kids are going to start one end of the city and pick up garbage and go from that end to this end and that is all they are going to do all summer long is just pick up garbage.

Finance Director Smith advised for the last 2 summers we haven't had enough money to hire any summer park kids and that is what we have done in the past. We hire 3 or 4 park kids and they do that so we will be doing that. Mr. Aybar stated these houses that are empty and it is just horrible looking and it doesn't do anything for our community either. Mayor Bring advised by the time we send out all these letters and do everything it is a 2 month process and then we go out and cut the grass and then we get on a program to do it and once we are on that program it starts getting taken care of but the process takes an unbelievable amount of time. Just like you said "get it done" and I would love to be able to just do that but I can't and I am not saying that just because I am saying it. Finance Director Smith advised by the way your yard is always beautiful.

**Debbie Suarez, 811 Harris** stated as far as letting people know what is going on, we started out with that texting program? Finance Director Smith advised we didn't have the money to renew that so I just renewed that and we are going to get back on that program. Mrs. Suarez stated that would be a perfect thing to let people know. Mayor Bring advised I think we only had 100 people sign up for that, it is very difficult.

**Marilyn Henderson, 4149 Holl** stated we endured the same as everybody else with the flooding and sewage and up to our knees. Our neighborhood is the greatest, we love it here and we have the best neighbors. These neighbors all helped everybody, it was wonderful. We went through a catastrophe but we had the support of our all our neighbors, it is just so wonderful and we love it here. I would like to see this problem get resolved quickly if we can move forward and try to find a solution. You know to start small, maybe by cleaning the ditches and work our way to a resolution. I know it is going to take a lot of time like you said – it takes a lot of time and a lot of money. We have endured a lot but we have never endured anything like this before but our neighbors are so wonderful. All night long they were trying to pump everybody's basements out and helping everybody. Still now "do you need help with anything", we have never had such wonderful neighbors and we just love it here and I would love to stay and I would love for this problem to be resolved. Mayor Bring stated I do appreciate you guys talking and maintaining your cool because I saw some stuff on TV where people were shouting and screaming and you people came in here and handled yourselves very appropriately and that is how things get done. I own 5 houses here and 4 out of the 5 flooded because they had basements. Finance Director Smith advised we do have to blame mother nature a little bit because it was coming in my back door from the woods in the back. It was just flooding in, I was able to keep it out. We are working on communication; website is getting updated with links, council meetings to be broadcast, and the texting program. You have a Mayor here that has more of a pulse of what is going on in the city than any other Mayor. He constantly

drives this city during the days and nights, he walks the city and we really, really feel for you and try to help.

**Matt Harper, 4146 Holl** stated the parking ban at night, is that going to get lifted at all or is that going to always stay in effect? President Rosso answered that is going to stay in effect. Mayor Bring advised I can explain it. Mr. Harper said after the meeting.

President Rosso advised the one gentleman said I should put a limit on how long people should be allowed to talk. I feel that if you are going to come up here and state your concerns I don't rush you out until you have gotten all your questions at least asked and comments made. So that is why I let people go. We are here to represent you.

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Council#024 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance providing for the establishment and increase and decrease of certain funds within the annual appropriation ordinance of the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and the declaring of an emergency.

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

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Wtulich, Erdei, Cizl, Kovach, McCullough.

\*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Cizl, Wtulich, Kovach, Erdei, McCullough.

### **Ordinance Passes#25-14**

Council#025 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance adopting debt issuance and management policies for the City of Sheffield Lake and the declaring of an emergency.

\*Motion by Erdei/Second by McCullough for SUSPENSION OF RULES:

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Wtulich, Kovach, Erdei, McCullough, Cizl.

\*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Cizl, McCullough, Erdei, Kovach, Wtulich.

### **Ordinance Passes#26-14**

Council#026 – FIRST READING – an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into the seventh amendment to contract with Browning-Ferris, Industries of Ohio, Inc., BFI and the declaring of an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to adjourn at 9:16 PM. Yeas All.

**CLERK OF COUNCIL AFFIRMATION:** This Meeting Of The City Council Of The City Of Sheffield Lake, Ohio Was Held And Conducted Under All Rules And Regulations Governing The Sunshine Laws Of The State Of Ohio As They May Apply. All meetings are recorded and available in council offices.

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**CLERK OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES**  
*Kay Fantauzzi*

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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**  
*Rick Rosso*

*and/or*

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**COUNCIL PRO TEM**  
*Alan Smith*

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 May 20, 2014.

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**MAYOR**  
*Dennis Bring*