

**Minutes of the Safety Committee
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
June 4, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, June 4, 2014. Chairperson Stark called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Stark, Cizl, Wtulich, Mayor Bring, Fire Chief Card

Absent: Police Chief Campo, Law Director Graves (excused)

Attending: Concerned Citizens

*Motion by Cizl/Second by Wtulich to accept the minutes of the May 7, 2014 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

Reports from Safety Forces:

Police Chief Campo – None.

Fire Chief's report – Fire Chief Card reported I gave you guys a report. I just started it with the new guys that we are bringing to you on Tuesday which I talked about them in the report and explained the interview process. We are as long as everything goes according to plan we are going to start them on the 16th training at our station and then I will put them on shift after they are done with a 2 week period of training. I have also been getting quotes from different vendors for things and I got a quote back for that utility truck; it is a state bid so we don't have to get 2 or 3 of those – it is state bid pricing for everything on it. I have attached that and it is less than the \$40,000.00 that we were going to earmark for it. I also got quotes for the power cot and loading system; there is 2 vendors now. When we got the one that we had there was only one vendor that sold those without a striker but Ferno has one. So we are researching that one and my guys are going to be looking at that in the morning, the vendor is bringing it out at 8 o'clock in the morning for us to look at it. If you guys aren't doing

anything at 8 in the morning stop up and look at it. I think Ferno has actually done a very good job, the cot loads itself as opposed to strikers where there is an actual loading system mounted in your truck. This cot you just put the cot in it, just the way the legs come up you don't ever hold any weight while you are putting it into the squad. It is very nice. Engine 63 the air conditioning has been out for over a year and we are getting close to getting that fixed as well and the fuel gage has been broken also for about a year or two. It has been a while. We never know how much fuel is in it. Myself and the Lieutenants are going to continue working on getting prices for equipment. I have sent the gear was sent out to be certified safe so hopefully it will fit some of these new guys we will be getting so we won't have to buy any. If we do have to buy some and it doesn't fit them the company that certifies it also rents gear so if we have to rent gear from them we can get them gear pretty quick from them. I talked with them on the phone and it can be a pretty quick process. It does cost \$175.00 for the first month and then at first he said \$75.00 but then he said \$25.00 a week from then on until we gear that we buy. Chairperson Stark asked the Hazmat equipment, have we started looking at that? Fire Chief Card answered yes I just was just talking with Chief Young he has a trailer that is already set up for that. I told him that I was looking to get one for us up here and he just said well why should we duplicate it, why don't you just call us for ours if you need it. So we are going to be working on setting up some training between the departments so we are going to train together on setting up Decon and we will use his trailer. The trailer I was going to get was going to be Hazmat and it was going to be long enough to do some dive rescue stuff up in the front so maybe in the future but not right now because I don't have anywhere to put a trailer and couldn't put dive gear in it even if we had it because I can't leave it outside in the cold. So maybe in the future I will talk to you about a trailer again or diving stuff. Right now I think it is smarter to just go ahead and share. Chairperson Stark stated we haven't had that much use for it so why buy it if we can share one for now. Mayor Bring stated just like Tim said you never know when you are going to need it but if they are willing to share that with mutual aid and everything else going on I think it is an excellent idea. Fire Chief Card advised even in those situations like if they come up here for a meth lab and we use some of their stuff I may have to replace

some equipment and then I can fill out a form to the county and maybe that person can reimburse us. It works with big companies when they do the spills in their town but I don't know how it works with private individuals but we can try. Chairperson Stark stated we didn't do the ski jets the one year? Mayor Bring answered we are not going to do that. Fire Chief Card advised it is a good idea but I don't have the manpower for it and you have to train on it. If I had 4 guys what I am going to do send 2 of them out on jet ski's. It would be a big overtime thing and Avon Lake has 2 and if we need them we can call them for theirs. Chairperson Stark stated so with bringing these 2 on that will get us through for now and then I know we have 2 leaving. Fire Chief Card advised Steve is retiring the beginning of next month, he hasn't given me his papers so I don't know the exact date yet. I kind of have an idea but until he gives me the official papers and then Langin says he is leaving right after the beginning of the year. Aaron Crittle – the rumor is he is still planning on leaving us as well. Chairperson Stark asked so we will be looking for another body potentially down the road then? Mayor Bring advised we are also going to actively look for probably 4 part-time people so yes. With Civil Service the list is good for 2 years and I will tell you we had some excellent candidates. They did the first round of interviews and narrowed it down to 8 and then Tim and I sat in the last interviews and I just candidly talked to them. It was very refreshing to talk to these young men, they were very intelligent and very well versed/very well spoken and they also all had goals. I asked them about their education and all had a very good education and they all had a very strict background of growing up. I told Tim that these last 8 guys there was not one of them on there that I would not have welcomed in our department. I think we are very fortunate for the people that came and applied because like I said I was very impressed by these gentlemen. I am very pleased and I think we picked well, you know we are losing good experience in these 2 people that are retiring but these 2 people coming also have extensive experience. As the other ones leave we will actively replace them but also this part-time will help out as far as overtime and stuff. Some of the other candidates made a notification stating that they would be willing to come on as part-time. Chairperson Stark stated a lot of companies are doing sharing between stores and stuff, have we attempted to maybe raid other departments to maybe have people that want to pick up

shifts? Mayor Bring answered once they are full-time here and once you are in the union, it is just like some of the guys are working over there in Sheffield Village that have worked here before but the unions don't really want that to happen so there is a conflict of interest there. Chairperson Stark stated wasn't sure, they say sometimes it saves on money and training if you can shift people. Mayor Bring stated the other thing is if somebody gets hurt who pays for it; compensation, insurance and this and that. Good idea but how it works we don't know. One other thing for the Fire Department before we move on is that Mr. Card has not been happy with the 911 service that we have had and he had asked me to look into that and I call approach the county and try to get this corrected. We are paying for that and if we can't hear people or get on the radios when we get to a certain area we are blacked out so we have to get that corrected. I will be meeting next Monday with the other Mayor's from all the city's around here so I am going to mention that to them. Fire Chief Card advised the other Chiefs are also discussing this with their Mayor's because it is not just me. There are little issues that we keep bringing to them and we are told that they are going to get fixed and it just seems like they never do. Some are like, command to dispatch and you get no answer. They are supposed to be paying attention to us especially if we are at a fire or if we do have incident command set up because if something goes wrong and there is a mayday – there is a possibility because it is so busy on the scene that somebody may not hear that but dispatch should hear that and if they can't hear us because their system isn't strong enough to pick up our radio traffic then that is an issue. I personally feel it is theirs because they want to be our communication center and I don't know how to make them fix that. Avon Lake is having the same problem because we are both right up on the lake – we don't have a 360 and there is nothing out on the lake catching a signal and throwing it back to us. So Avon Lake has a lot of dead spaces and we have a lot of dead spaces along the lake and pretty much all the commercial buildings and in Erie Shore Landings – no radio signals get out or at least they don't make it to dispatch. If I am talking to my base right here, I can hear them perfectly clear and if I am at my house in Lorain and one of my guys hits the base radio I hear it perfectly clear but I don't pick up their radio traffic very clear. So I am not sure of what the issue is there but I think it needs to be looked into by them and we have

mentioned it to them and they have sent people out from Vasu or wherever to check it out but we never get an answer. There are more things than that that we have written down so there is a very long list that has been compiled. It is nice having a central dispatch because it takes a guy that used to sit at the desk out working. I do like the way we are receiving our calls now it is the communication after the call because if my guys are in the Shopping Center and they don't hear the tones go out then what good are the tones. Mayor Bring advised the other day was the perfect example because he was sitting at my desk the other day and no tone but then the radio comes on. You know the levy was not only for manpower but was for equipment and I don't want to have these guys going out without having the proper equipment and have something happen to them. This is the kind of stuff you take very seriously because it takes one time and something happens to one of these guys it isn't worth it. Chairperson Stark stated that is the stuff we should have been doing but put off for so long that we can't put it off any longer. Mayor Bring stated exactly you push the envelope as far as you can and we are at that end right now. We are very fortunate that nothing has happened and we have gotten by now it is time to take care of that stuff.

Mayor Bring advised Police Chief Campo has been sitting down and going over things of what we want to do over there as far as the Police Department. I informed everybody today that if everything goes well Tuesday that we will be actively starting to reorganize over there. I asked them if anybody had any problems and they said no and they are very excited because they have been just kind of like on a shoelace over there so they are anxious to get their stuff going too. We did have another police car go down yesterday and the part I think is minimal hopefully. I think that they fixed that today I hope so we are back up to 5 cars. It was in the paper from the Avon Lake Press that I ordered those cars but I did not order those cars. I haven't done anything until City Council approves what we have. I know Mr. Edwards had put that in the Avon Lake Press that we had ordered and there was a couple of other things that we had done but we have done nothing. We are waiting for City Council to okay all of that. Those cars will not come in until October so hopefully for whatever reason these 3 newer cars that we have which are the Crown Vic's which were one of the last ones that were made. They seem to be breaking down a

little bit more than we were anticipating. These cars won't come in until October after we get an okay but still we did need to get these things going. The Police Department is getting extremely busy here in the last couple of weeks. Our guys have been working their tails off and I know the Fire Department has had a lot of calls here lately too but the Police Department in particular; we had a robbery right across from my house. My dog could have given you the description because she was standing there growling and barking the whole time and I didn't turn around to look but she saw the whole thing. We did catch that male within a half an hour and that was solved – that was an armed robbery with a knife. There has been a lot of other things that have been going on that the Police are actively going out there with – it has been busy. Now that summer time is here things have picked up dramatically and we have had people coming in and complaining about resident and their neighbors and this and that. I did get a quote from the camera's and that is all in place and ready to go and that will start immediately as soon as you guys okay everything.

Councilman Wtulich asked is there any talk about getting that full-time Detective? Mayor Bring answered the Detective is going to have more hours than we have now. Tony is comfortable with the hours that he has and if we need to we will add more hours to it and it will be up to him. We do have 2 Officers on dayshift now so that is back and we are going to actively look to hire another full-time Officer. Mr. Gonzalez has been coming in a few more days and it has been working out pretty good and we have had some cases lately that are keeping him very busy. In probably another month we are going to be putting a bike patrol out on different days for about 4 hours towards the evening hours and they will going up and down the bike paths and some of the boat launch and stuff like that. So we are going to have another person out there so at some times we will have 3 people on a shift. There was a brief discussion on detective cases. Councilman Cizl asked how are the parking bans going? Mayor Bring answered it has leveled off dramatically we are now getting people off out of town. We had a guy that wrote a letter the other day that this is the most ridiculous thing he has ever seen in his life and he has lived here for 56 years. I actually graduated with this guy. He was parking on his grass made a big issue out of it and I pinned that up on the boards just to show the response they are getting. He has done this a lot and just never got

caught for it. Chief Campo asked the other day what I thought about it and I said I think we still need to continue this process but it is down to like 5 or 6 a night. People are still upset that but I think there are a lot of people who are very happy about it. I have gotten phone calls saying we should do this 24 hour basis which we can't do because that would a disaster. There is a lot more people that much happier about this. We had an accident the other day on Erieview where somebody backed into another car pulling out of the driveway because they were parked there. We have got 2 or 3 trouble spots but overall it has been pretty good. We had 75 junk cars that we got removed or taken care of and we are going to start that process in another month or two again. I have been driving around seeing some more so Shawn will be back on day shift and he will start that process all over again. Overall it is very young kids who borrowed their mom and dad's car and didn't tell them that they got a parking ticket and then 3 or 4 days later they come in here and screaming and yelling either that or people that are from out of town. I have gotten that are doing driveways so they call me and we put their names up there and we let them park until the work is done. We that have functions or events so they call and we let them park. So people are starting to catch onto to that and actually the people that call thank us. I talked to Avon Lake and it took approximately 6 months before everything calmed down over there with their parking ban. Chairperson Stark stated I had a neighbor on my neighborhood that the person showed up unexpectedly at like 9 o'clock on a Friday night and when the cops came and tried to give him a ticket he explained I can't call city hall because there is nobody at city hall. The cop said there is nothing that we can for you. Mayor Bring stated all they have to do is come see me the next day or call me and I will take care of it. I have given Fran some leeway on that and she lets me know so I can take care of it. Chairperson Stark stated we had talked about the Chief's getting together about the schools. Mayor Bring advised they are working on that. I think Tony has a meeting next Tuesday I believe. Chairperson Stark stated I don't if there is something we can do but we have had 4 bomb scares this year at the junior high and they have actually had kids that had a hash tag with the number and how many bomb scares that they have had. It is getting to a ridiculous point is there something we can do. Mayor Bring stated it is not just us – North Olmsted. Chairperson Stark stated isn't there something we can do

that if it is Sheffield Lake that we can over after the parents for this. It seems like nobody is willing to do much at least from the information I am getting. The kids all know who is doing it but nobody seems to be upset about it it sort of is a common place thing now. I don't know if we made it tougher on the parents or we could go after the kids if they live in our city or Sheffield Village. You know we could work together to try and do something that maybe these kids would give it a little more thought before they start writing on a bathroom wall. Mayor Bring stated I would imagine if they get caught they are going to be in a lot of trouble. They don't realize how much trouble they are going to be in. That is taken very seriously in light of all the things that have happened. There was a brief discussion on no tolerance.

Law Director – None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, *Motion by Wtulich/Second by Cizl to adjourn at 7:34 PM. Yeas All.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE AFFIRMATION: This meeting of the City Committee of the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio was held and conducted under all Rules and Regulations Governing The Sunshine Laws of the State of Ohio as they may apply. All meetings are recorded and available in Council's Offices.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Kay Fantauzzi

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Leanna Stark

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Rick Rosso

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Alan Smith

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committee Of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is A true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Safety Committee of June 4, 2014.