

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
January 27, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, January 27, 2015. Council President Rick Rosso called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

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

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

Present: Rosso, Smith, Stark, Cizl, McCullough, Kovach, Erdei, Wtulich, Mayor Bring, Finance Director Smith, Treasurer Woods, Law Director Graves

Absent: Service Director Smith (excused)

Attending: Concerned Citizens, Demo Board Chairperson Gee, Members of the Media

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Council – January 13, 2015 - *Motion by McCullough/Second by Erdei to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2015 Council meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

Council Worksession – January 20, 2015 - *Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2015 Council Worksession meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse: None./Safety: None./Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment: None./Ordinance: None./Finance & Audit: Chairperson Stark reviewed the minutes of the January 20, 2015 meeting. *Motion by Erdei/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All./**Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center: None./Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals: None./Council Representative to the Planning Commission: None./Council Representative to the Park Board:** Member Kovach reviewed the minutes of the January 26, 2015 meeting to include volunteer Girl Scout Julia Mohrbah with partner Leah Wright who are planning an Easter Egg Hunt for Julia’s Gold Award tentatively scheduled for date of March 21, 2015 at Gary Green Memorial Park with a rain date of March 29, 2015. Member Kovach advised we will have to check rain date with Julia as that date is Palm Sunday. It is probably Saturday, March 28, 2015 for a rain date. Mayor Bring advised we did

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have a company approach us today about donating their time and labor to pour the pad for the skate park and then also Jonathan Wright had also approached us for Guenther Park for putting handicap slips in, there is some elderly/handicap parents/grandparents that come to watch the children so they would put some slips in right off of Walker Road and he has approached Griffith Paving and they are talking about doing that. So they will come back to the Park Board for that.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Bring reported a couple of months ago we had talked about purchasing a plow truck for the Service Department that I brought to you guys. We are probably going to bring that back to you at the next Council meeting. If you guys want to see a presentation by that time then we can do that. I can give you all the spec's on the truck, whatever you would like and Tammy will tell you real briefly here how we could finance that. Finance Director Smith advised our road income tax fund has historically over the last 5 years paid off Walker Road which was about \$30,000.00 a year and I paid a little more last year to pay it off. But that would basically release for the payment on this truck so we would have the money available. Mayor Bring advised it would be a 5 year payment and then the warranty on it would be 7 years and then in that 7 year time frame we would probably end up purchasing another truck at that time too. We do have to start planning for all these things and we have been talking about this as far as equipment goes. I will kind of state here with the safety about what is coming in too. But we need to get into a pattern, I know Rick and I and I think Steve and Alan – we all sat on Council and they talked about saving money for the ambulance and when it came time to buy that we didn't have anything set aside so I think we ought to start planning for all this stuff. President Rosso asked how much money does that ¼% income tax for the roads bring in. Finance Director Smith answered about \$415,000.00 a year and approximately ½ of that goes to other loans that we have had along the way that we have outstanding. We have 2 bonds that we are still paying for some Issue II money that all comes out of that to this point. Like I said we did pay off Walker Road last year that was a revolving note which we paid about \$30,000.00 a year on it which would take the place for this piece of equipment. President Rosso advised my only concern is, well I want to be careful of I guess is when the residents passed that ¼% that was additional money to go directly into the roads and now we are using it on equipment. Finance Director Smith answered no it was roads and equipment, that is what the language says. President Rosso advised it was not to pay off Issue II, bonds, it was not to pay other stuff – that money was going to go into the roads. Finance Director Smith answered it has, those are all road notes and those are all Issue II which is 0 interest money. President Rosso advised it was to put roads down in the city, it is not putting a road down when we are buying a snow plow with it. We sold it as it was going to go into the roads and we just have to be careful of it and I understand

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what you are saying and I am not trying to say I totally disagree with it. Law Director Graves advised the ordinance doesn't mention equipment, it does say for maintenance and resurfacing and repair – doesn't say equipment. President Rosso stated I am going to stress the fact, I am not here saying we don't need a snow plow. Dennis and Tammy are exactly right too, we need to get ahead of the game. I just want to make sure – if we get on too slippery of a slope that we end up years down the road and we have a problem. Councilman McCullough stated that was going to be my comment that I can remember it being sold as this is all going into the roads. However, if we are using old equipment which we are and beating up the roads we are probably doing more damage to the roads then what we would be saving by spending the money on buying the new truck and my point is the new trucks probably have rollers on their blades rather than what they call them – skates. Mayor Bring answered we have them on there now. We added them on and they are \$1000.00 a piece. Councilman McCullough stated but I am saying Rick, I think the fact that we are going to be using a newer vehicle will tear up less roads and therefore protect the tax-payers money that you are collecting on building new roads that makes sense. I think using less salt is going to start helping us on the roads too, for the side streets that we really don't need to pound them with salt every time it snows. Councilman Cizl stated I am not contesting any of this but didn't you say last year that the state is giving you grief about paving Abbe Road? Mayor Bring answered yes and we keep telling them no because it would take the entire budget to pave that road. We have probably averaged since I have been doing this about \$240,000 to \$260,000 a year paving the roads. We have done that and we are going to continue to do that too. The process that we are doing now seems to be working a lot better than what we did before. Yes Abbe Road is something that has been brought up and it will continue to be brought up but I look at it as the state wants it done but we can't afford to do all of our budget on that. So we will keep looking at that and see what they are going to do. Councilman Cizl stated I am not pushing to see that it gets done, I am just thinking of keeping the focus on what the issue was for. I am not against the snow plow either, I know that we have a lot of needs. I just wanted to make sure that was not forgotten too. President Rosso stated the plus side with oil dropping this year, we ought to be able to get our raw materials a little better and hopefully we can get a little more bang for our buck. Mayor Bring stated when you look at the diesel costs, our fuel costs are still very high because all those trucks are diesel so that price hasn't dropped at all. President Rosso stated Speedway is under \$3.00 now. Mayor Bring advised it is still expensive – it is not \$1.98. I don't know if that is going to reflect in the asphalt prices or not because the asphalt prices were actually higher than concrete prices by the end of last year. We have not gotten any new bids, we are going to put the bids out for the parking lot and the Civic Center so we will probably get an idea for that. I don't know how fast they react with that stuff, if that is something that they bid for like future – so I don't know how that is going to

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work. You would think that would be in our favor but I don't know. It's a good question but I can't answer it. President Rosso stated I know you can't but when we passed it I think was \$30.00 a barrel and we said we couldn't do as many streets when it went up to \$100.00 a barrel because we couldn't afford it and now going the other way hopefully we can get a little more. Councilman Erdei asked how old is our newest vehicle for the plows out of the fleet? Mayor Bring answered I think it is a 2008, somewhere around there. Councilman Erdei stated oh then the rest of them are below that, so maintenance wise we would be saving. Mayor Bring stated the issue is where they have the electronics and everything else is underneath the engine and this new truck it is behind the seat and that is part of the problem. So far this year knock on wood Rob has done a lot of maintenance over the summer to get the trucks going and we have had a few problems but nothing major. It has been pretty good. Like I said we can continue on, that is just the way we have always done but eventually it is going to catch up to us. That is you guys job and I can only do what you say. *Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All./

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:

None./TREASURER REPORT: None./SERVICE DIRECTORS REPORT:

Mayor Bring advised I think at the last meeting I briefly brought up the fact that people calling after hours, we had 4 more calls after hours this last weekend. Two of them were on Pasadena for the same residents, somebody down that street had flushed a bath towel the first call we got for there. The second time was similar to a bath towel and they plugged up the sewer twice. So we unplugged it twice so that was on us because it is our sewer and then we had 2 more calls and they actually called me at home demanding that we come out and we went out and in neither case it was our fault again. I think we had 2 more water breaks this last weekend and we have got a big cold spell coming up so I am assuming that is going to hit again. Here is another one for you, I have been preparing you guys about the water meters. The last company did their presentation to us and went over everything and we gathered all the information. The initial report I thought was going to be around \$700,000.00 but it is actually going to be 1.2 million dollars. I am going to be bringing that to you with all the benefits and what can happen and obviously the 1.2 million dollars is a number that is pretty substantial. I told Tammy this and I don't think we have an idea of how we are going to do this yet. I kind of just want you guys to know what is going on so I am going to bring this to you guys again and will give you the pro's and con's of that. That will be upcoming pretty soon. I have got a pamphlet that is about 20 pages with all the information on it and I am going to read it over again so that I can come to you and Pat is probably going to come with me. I am just going to give you a start on it and he is probably going to take over the presentation to explain everything to you. What I would like to do too is if we can maybe advertise this to let people know about it in the city so that if they want to come to this so they know what is going on and knowing where their money is going to go if this happens. That is why I am trying to get you guys going

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now so you can kind of talk about this and let the neighbors know so whoever wants to come to this meeting. President Rosso advised I know you have spoken about putting something in place where you could charge back for if we have to go out and it is not our fault. To set-up that charge-back structure, would that go through Ordinance to create that ordinance. Mayor Bring advised we are going to bring it up in Ordinance and obviously it is going to be a very touchy subject because the residents feel that that they have the right because they pay taxes because that is the first thing I always hear – “I pay taxes in this city, you guys should be out here right now” and that is what I heard over the weekend and the guys had just gone home. That sewer didn’t plug up after hours, it probably plugged up during the day sometime but nobody had called in. Obviously the service of the citizens is very important but the calls out after you explain to them – did you call a plumber, did you do this or do that – they say no I called you first. I have lived on Lake Road since 1976 and my wife and I were discussing this because she took the phone call on the first one and she said I don’t think we have ever called the city on a sewer issue or a problem like that. I told her no we haven’t but a lot of people take that as this is who we call first, we don’t call the plumber. So there is a problem there but we are going to have to be careful on how we address this so. President Rosso stated I was trying to think of what the next step to put something in place. Mayor Bring stated the first thing is again we are going to have to put it on our website and on the water bill and some of that stuff. That is going to be the first process and then get people interested in it and maybe people will start coming down here and talking about it but somehow that has to get out there. Councilman McCullough asked what does it cost per meter? Mayor Bring answered I don’t have that broken down, I think it is \$148.00 which includes installation for each meter and so on. Councilman McCullough stated the next thing – people saying about the taxes, is not our Water Department the only entity in the city that is actually self-sustaining and it is actually not driven by taxes. It is actually driven by water and sewer rates. Finance Director Smith concurred correct. Councilman McCullough stated so that is totally different from paying taxes, you can pay all the taxes you want but you have given nothing to the Water Department. Mayor Bring advised the reason they say that they are paying our taxes is because they pay our taxes for the city and they want their services is why they say that. Councilman McCullough understood but stated maybe we need to make that more clear about the water and sewer fund. Mayor Bring advised I understand but it is no different than the gentleman that was here the last time talking about calling refuse about wheel on his cart. Mr. Graves had stated we pay them and the resident had responded he pays us – it is just something you aren’t going to win the argument with. Councilman Erdei asked you did get 2 or 3 companies estimates? Mayor Bring answered 6. Councilman Erdei stated so you feel that this company that you are going to present? Mayor Bring interjected nothing is set in concrete and that is why we are going to have some discussions

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about this because obviously we will have to set down and talk about funding it. You guys are going to get involved in it and we will come to you and if are not happy with what we give to you then we will go back and bring somebody else in here. That company will also do a presentation with you guys. This is not just us – this is you too and everybody else and it is everybody else’s money here and it is a lot of money. We will address all the problems that we have as far as the billing because of the estimates and all the other things. I went to the Mayors meeting the other day and that is what they were talking about with all the other cities; several of the cities are instituting it right now. I think Avon is in the middle of doing it and somebody else. I think Lorain looked into it and they said they can’t afford it right now and I think Ridgeville just did it. It is a topic of discussion and they do work and the warranty on them is very good. I think the warranty is 27 years or something like that. Like I am not getting ahead of everybody but it is just something we need to start talking about. Councilperson Stark asked did the Board of Elections get a hold of you about the grant for the parking lot? Mayor Bring answered no. Councilperson Stark stated it did get approved, so you should be hearing from them, they extended that a little farther then what they were supposed to because it won’t be there anymore. But they did stop me during the week and say that it was approved. Councilman Cizl asked this is about the Community Center? Councilperson Stark answered yes. *Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All./***SAFETY DIRECTORS REPORT:*** Mayor Bring advised the utility vehicle for the Fire Department came in today and that is sitting out front if anybody wants to see it. The Fire Chief’s car is coming in Friday and the 2 Police cars are coming in either Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. Also, a resident called channel 5 to let them know that we only had 2 police cars just to be kind of a pain in the butt but we were down to 2 police cars for a couple of days and we are back up to 4. They were just trying to start some issues and the reason we were down is because we took 2 cars down too. It is kind of a good sign that everything is coming in. *Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All./***LAW DIRECTOR REPORT:*** Law Director Graves reviewed legislation. Law Director Graves advised I would request an executive session following ordinances and resolutions to discuss collective bargaining negotiations. *Motion by Erdei/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTARY: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Council#061-14 – THIRD READING – a resolution establishing and describing the boundaries of a Community Reinvestment Area, and designating a Housing Officer and the declaring of an emergency. (revised)

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:

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

Resolution Passes#3-15

Council#003 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance providing for the establishment and increase and decrease of certain funds within the annual appropriations ordinance of the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and declaring of an emergency.

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

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

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:

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

Ordinance Passes#4-15

Council#004 – EMERGENCY – a resolution authorizing the City of Sheffield Lake to accept and approve the donation of seventeen hundred sixty-five dollars from the Fraternal Order of Eagles Post 1442 to be used for a vehicle stabilization kit for the Fire Department and the declaring of an emergency.

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

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

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:

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

Resolution Passes#5-15

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to go into an executive session for the discussion of on-going collective bargaining negotiations.

ROLL CALL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: Yeas All – Smith, Kovach, Stark, McCullough, Cizl, Erdei, Wtulich.

*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to return to regular session.

ROLL CALL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: Yeas All – Cizl, Erdei, McCullough, Kovach, Smith, Wtulich, Stark.

Law Director Graves advised let the record reflect that the City Council of Sheffield Lake did adjourn to executive session for the discussion of on-going collective bargaining negotiations with the city attorney pursuant to the Sunshine Laws.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by McCullough to adjourn at 8:17 PM. Yeas All.

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

CLERK OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES

Kay Fantauzzi

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Rick Rosso

and/or

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 January 27, 2015.

MAYOR

Dennis Bring