

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO  
March 10, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Council President Rick Rosso called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, Law Director Graves, Treasurer Woods, Superintendent Hastings

Attending: Concerned Citizens, Demo Board Chairperson Gee, Civic Center Nicola, Park Board Prokay, Members of the Media

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

*Council – February 24, 2015* - \*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the minutes of the February 24, 2015 Council meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Monthly report of court receipts for month of February 2015 - \$5924.00.

Thank You from Sheffield Bicentennial Commission for donation of \$5000.00 for the Bicentennial Monument.

Law Director Graves advised Mayor Bring is requesting an executive session to consider the appointment and discipline of a public employee's and for review of collective bargaining negotiations and for review of current litigation.

\*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to adjourn to executive session for reasons noted by the Law Director. **ROLL CALL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Yeas All – Stark, Wtulich, Kovach, McCullough, Smith, Cizl, Erdei.

\*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to return to regular session. **ROLL CALL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:** Yeas All – Cizl, Erdei, McCullough, Smith, Wtulich, Kovach, Stark.

Law Director Graves stated let the record reflect that the City Council of Sheffield Lake did adjourn to executive session for the discussion of the appointment and discipline of public employees, to review collective bargaining negotiations and current litigation involving the city.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Bring submitted Elizabeth Prokay for the appointment of member of Park Board. \*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the appointment of

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Elizabeth Prokay for membership to Park Board. ROLL CALL TO APPROVE:

Yeas All – Smith, Wtulich, Stark, Erdei, Cizl, Kovach, McCullough.

Mayor Bring swore in Elizabeth Prokay as Member of Park Board.

Mayor Bring and Superintendent Hastings presented new meter program from Ray Swartz from Neptune which is a water meter company. Mr. Swartz advised I am the sales manager for Neptune company, we are a provider of the Neptune water meter. The Neptune water meter is a meter that is made here in the United States and I will say that again, we are proud to say our meter is made here in the United States in Montgomery, Alabama. We are a foundry that forests bronze meters, we provide meters throughout the United States and other country's as well but Neptune is as far as the technology and what the city is looking for is technology that will provide the ability to read the meters. Currently, every one of the residents here have a water meter at their property and the goal is to be able to read these meters much quicker. Currently you are reading on a quarterly basis and hopefully through even these winter conditions over the last couple of months it has been very difficult because all these meters are located in your yard buried under 2 feet of snow at times and even more throughout the last couple of weeks. So it has been very difficult and it is also very dangerous trying to dig those and go into everybody's yard and gain that information. As a manufacturer we provide technology to a lot of communities and maybe some of the questions that you might ask a little bit later; why do we need to improve the ability to read these meters but the technology itself provides the ability to bring that information back to the utility very quickly without having to have somebody go out and go house to house to collect that data. The purpose of that is 1) so that we can read the meters more efficiently but 2) to provide all of you and even Council and the city with more information so that information comes back to you. If there is a problem with something we can let you know much sooner than you would if you would go 90 days and had a toilet leak and didn't know about it, something that you weren't aware of and now you have a very high water bill. With this technology, what we are going to do and I will just show you the meter; it has a couple of major components. You have the chamber which measures the water that goes through the meter, we have the dial or register which shows the information much the same way but we also have a radio transmitter that sends that RF signal up to the water tower and then relays it back to the office right here and it does it every single day. We actually read this meter 24 times every single day so that we can determine if there is something going on, if you have a toilet leak or if you left the garden hose on – that information every hour as that meter turns, it will say that it was read at 12 o'clock, 1 o'clock, 2 o'clock in the morning and therefore if that goes continuously that would be a continuous leak that you have and if it happens day after day we can contact you letting you know that there is a potential extreme water usage that you are going to have at the end of the month. If you shut the garden hose off, fix the flapper valve - you can minimize that water bill instead of

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getting a water bill of \$300.00 by just wasted water that you weren't aware of. Part of that is to have that information come in every single day if you contact the billing office. They can provide you that information to say here is your bill at the end of the month if you are moving out rather to send somebody out there to collect it and you have to wait an hour for them to gather that information. So the importance of this is one to help understand the information that comes back to the utility much more efficiently and also to provide the homeowners of this community with better information so that you can address that. If you get a visa bill you don't want an estimated visa bill or American express bill and that is the same way with the water system. If you get exactly what you use you are paying for, you don't get a high bill one quarter and a lower bill the next quarter – you are going to get exactly what you use. If you got your whole family in for Christmas, you are going to get that slightly higher water usage but on the other months you are not. As far as the technology, we have been putting these systems in in a lot of communities around the area. Some of the nearby communities that we have already completed some of these systems is the City of Lakewood – they have 15,000 of these meters and it is an older community much like this community as far as the density. It was very important for them to gather this information so that they a lot of tenant properties where people are moving in and out and it is very important to have this information. They get those readings very quickly as well the City of Elyria, the City of Lorain and we just completed the City of Girard and the City of Warren Ohio. So there is a lot of communities that are out there, they are improving this technology. These meters generally last about 20 to 25 years, so whatever you put in you want them to last for the future and with this technology you are not going to have to somebody coming in and opening your pit lid every single month in order to gather those readings. So it is real important that information comes back and the utility can help you with the information as we are moving forward. Part of the process is to do this over a couple of months, so there is roughly over 3200 services here. So that is a process of replacing those meters. The city is evaluating the decision of how to do that very efficiently so that we can go through and get all of those meters done. So it might be a possibility that the city looks for us to support them on getting that process done so that the data gets in very quickly so that you are not inconvenienced in this process. When they install the meter they are going to simply shut down the water for a few minutes and it should only take about 10 to 15 minutes as far as the water being turned off. In most situations since we don't have to gain access into the home, what we will do is just knock on the house to notify somebody if you are planning to take a shower or do something then you will know that the water is being turned off. We can check where the water is being used from the curb there to verify if the meter is moving at the time then they know that something is being used. If there is not, they will just turn the water off and replace the meter and put all the new technology in. As far as the technology it looks much like your previous meter but

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we have condensed all the radio information right inside the register or the dial and the technology will pull all that information from your home to the next location which would be the water tower or any tall building and then we relay it back into the billing office. So that information will happen very quickly, in a matter of seconds and it will do that a couple of times each hour. As far as the technology, we put together to explain some of the do's and don'ts of the process to just kind of explain what is going on. Mayor Bring asked the metal is made out of what? Mr. Swartz answered we use a bronze meter, we are one of the largest bronze foundries in the United States and a lot of the other manufacturers are going to a palmer or plastic material. It is less dense but the regulations a few years ago as of the first of 2014 required all meters to have; as far as the safety – there was no lead required in any of the meters. Neptune actually did this about 12 or 13 years ago. We wanted to make it safer and that is when they first started talking about companies like Moen – had to go through that process to make sure that they didn't put any materials in there that wouldn't be safe as far as coming in contact with water. But Neptune was years ahead of that, we stayed with the bronze material because we know especially in conditions like this – a lot of the meters will freeze and make it very inconvenient. The bronze meter is the toughest, the strongest material in order to handle that and when they are put in those pits, as often; the pit lid is not subtly placed on top of there that cold air goes right in there and could damage that material. So we have consistently – all of our product is made with a bronze material. Mayor Bring advised the other thing is the antenna – we are probably going to have to drill some holes in the covers. Mr. Swartz advised the meter sits below, some of your meters if you have never looked at where your water meter is at. They are anywhere from 24 to 48 inches down in there inside your front yard in the water line. What we do is this meter sits below grade and the radio transmitter is actually below grade and could be filled with water. In order for that RF transmission to come out, what happens is we have an RF antenna and is the only thing that is placed on the top of the pit lid. Just you will just have that small saucer on top of your cast iron lid. That RF signal will send that transmission out and many times it will go a mile or a mile and a half to 2 miles to that water tower and than relay back to the office. There is no concern about having that RF signal coming out of your pit lid if it is filled with water. Sometimes in the spring with all the thaw, those pits will fill up with water. Some of your driveways, some of your garages are filling up with water as it tries to go everywhere. But we put this RF antenna, it is a heavy duty material – you can drive over it if it is in your driveway. Mayor Bring advised the only thing that would effect it is if somebody would park an RV or something over top of that antenna or some very thick ice that would inhibit it. Mr. Swartz state snow is air until it becomes ice but as far as that RF transmission, we send this and as far as the signal, if a vehicle or a boat or something is parked right over it – it doesn't easily have that signal to go the distance. The technology is made so that the city if there was a few properties

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where they do have something parked over it, they still can use a hand-held tool to collect those readings. They would let you know, if there is any way you move your boat just slightly over so that we can get that RF signal out but as far as the transmission it works and sends it about every 7 to 15 seconds so that if it doesn't get received on the first signal it repeats that same RF signal every couple of seconds in order to get back to the utility. There is an RF lithium battery in this and it will last for 20 years, so once you get in there you shouldn't have to get back into that pit for many years to come.

**Resident** asked is there a cost to having that antenna? Mr. Swartz answered it is part of the entire package because we don't know which pit is dry and which one is filled with water, we recommend putting it in with every one of them so the entire package would include that. He showed meter and antenna.

**Resident** asked where is your company from and how long has it been in business? Mr. Swartz answered Montgomery Alabama and has been in business for 150 years. Neptune has been around for a long time, we started in New York City and about 35 years ago they moved to Montgomery Alabama. It is a one house manufacturing facility, everything is made in one facility. It is from raw materials, bronze material which is made up of brass and zinc and then all the injection moldings are made for the plastic components; the register and the cables.

**Resident** asked does the city plan on testing it or have they tested it already? Is the city planning on putting in 50 of them in and running them for a month or year? Mr. Swartz answered one the steps that the city has already gone through is they have been pulling some of your older meters to test the accuracy of them to determine how well they are, just like a vehicle that has 200,000 miles – you want to make sure of how well it is doing. We have already tested a number of meters for accuracy, we pulled the existing meters in Sheffield Lake. As far as the RF transmission, how we do the collection – we do a propagation study which is a way of looking at a model saying that we look at elevation changes which this is generally a pretty flat area. We look at the number of density buildings; tall buildings nearby. Say for Cleveland, a lot of the buildings are right there so you have a shadowing as far as the RF technology. In this area most of the communities the homes are not more than 2 levels so we have very good transmission and the water tower sits about 120 to 140 feet so we have very clear line of site in order to receive that information.

**Resident** asked what if the meter isn't underground, what if it is above ground? Mr. Swartz answered we have a situation for that, there might be small businesses or meters that are put in the house and what we will do is we will put that RF transmitter meter inside the home or business and then we put that RF transmitter on a capsule so that we can put it on the outside of the house. Resident asked that is freeze proof? Mr. Swartz answered that is freeze proof, water proof. Resident stated I mean the meter? Mr. Swartz answered many of your meters will be submerged from the point that they are put in until the day they are pulled out.

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There will no meters outside in northern Ohio that will be here because your water lines will freeze. You will see meters like this in Florida that are above ground but they have got beautiful weather and unfortunately we only had 2 of that. They will all be below ground in a vault or in an above ground building that is heated.

Sometimes you will see a small box that businesses will have. President Rosso stated I just want to clarify something because I want to make sure Stan that we gave you right answer. Mr. Zaborski's question about have we tried some of these in the city, we have pulled our current meters and tested them and found that there is 80% correct. We have not installed any radio meters anywhere in the city and have tried that. So if that was your question I just wanted to make sure that you didn't walk out here saying we have already got 50 of them somewhere in the city. Mr. Zaborski asked you do intend to do that right? Superintendent Hastings answered the bid would be guaranteed, whatever bid that the city would put out – it would have a product guarantee. Mayor Bring advised we actually have some radio read meters in Madison Street that have been there for 5 years? Superintendent Hastings advised since 2007. Mayor Bring advised we installed another brand in there just to try them out and we just checked them recently and they are still operating. The accuracy of what you have now is if you get a glass of water from the faucet the city is not actually registering that right now and these new meters will be much more accurate as far as how that all works. Mr. Swartz stated as far as the testing process, a lot of communities have already installed them and that we see a lot of utilities go out and look at those other systems and see how long they have been in. This product has been out for many years and the technology is there. What the city may do and what is often a normal practice is they will put in a number of meters in to verify that they have accuracy, they are working and transmitting, sending that signal for 30 to 90 days and that gives them a clause to say we can continue or until you demonstrate to us that they are working efficiently. It gives a way of saying let's not go any further if it is not going to do what we expect it to be. Mayor Bring stated I did ask him too about going to the City of Lakewood and some of the other places and I did ask if we could go there after they were installed and we will do that.

**Resident** asked the sonar or whatever you call it on top of the lid? Mr. Swartz stated the RF antenna which is the only portion that you will see is the saucer here and it has a locking mechanism that is attached right to your cast iron. Resident stated say it gets broke when run over by a lawnmower or kids break it or whatever, who is responsible for the cost there? Mr. Swartz answered it is under \$20.00 and if it does get damaged, one of the things that we have done where it happens the first time we replace and if it happens multiple times – what they have is a mechanism that we can put it below grade. It reduces the distance but we can use a simple plastic plug to hold this device underneath the lid because we find that if you got a snowplow it is going to come right up underneath it so we don't damage them. We see about 10 or 15 of them may damage the first year that are in

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those locations that are taking heavy traffic or snowplow. We will take care of the first one would be on you.

**Resident** stated that was my concern – the lawnmower. Mr. Swartz advised there will lawnmowers that will catch it and we have seen them dented or slightly cut and they work fine, there has been no problems with it. We have heavy vehicles that drive over them but this is a way of getting that information above the cast iron lid. Some of the other choices were to replace the cast iron lid and put a palmer lid/a plastic style lid which is a lot lighter but it is that extra cost and really with this we only see a few of them that ever get damaged in communities. The number are not nearly as high.

**Resident** asked you are going to take the old meter out and put the new one in the same place? Mr. Swartz answered the old meter is coming out and the new meter is going exactly where it is. Resident reiterated not another hole? Mr. Swartz answered no other hole. Resident asked the only fuel for this is that battery? Mr. Swartz answered there is an RF transmitter that requires a lithium battery, it is a 20 year battery that will send that signal. Resident reiterated no electricity? Mr. Swartz stated no electricity, nothing – so this will operate whether you are occupied or not occupied, so this property is vacant at the time it will still read and if water is going through it then it will let them know that the meter is leaking inside. Resident asked anything that would interfere with that signal at any time under any circumstances? Mr. Swartz answered it is an FCC license frequency that we have to transmit, it is under the utility market as far as in between different bandwidths. There is possibilities that you could a lot of RF interference around it in order to deter or limit that signal but it has rarely in a situation. You would have to be putting a lot of Rf signal in there. We don't put them in hospitals or something where radiology departments – they try to protect that so none of that stuff is there. **Resident** asked as far as the top receiver is there any concerns of corrosion from salt or lawn chemicals? Mr. Swartz answered we have had these in for 25 to 28 years already and it is a heavy duty corrosive resistant – this is just an aluminum piece on the top and what it is is just an RF coil and it minimizes the exposure to it. We are not putting a big antenna up to it, we are not putting a big antenna up in your yard. It sits right on top of your pit lid, some of the cast iron pit manufacturers make a recessed area so that it sits flat but if look at it it is only about a quarter of inch. Mrs. Gee corrected no I am talking about it getting corroded? Mr. Swartz answered no there won't be any corrosion, it is a plastic material except for the aluminum plate where the coil is epoxied coated inside there as far as the RF signal.

**Resident** asked what about a snow shovel, some of these pit covers are on sidewalks and we run snow shovels over sidewalks all the time and they would have to damage that I would think? Mr. Swartz answered if you look at your cast iron lid, it has got raised letters on it. I have a drain at the end of my driveway and I catch that on there but as far as a general use with a shovel. It is probably going

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to stop the shovel more than anything else on a physical level. It is more of if you have got a snowplow, heavy duty snowplow that is coming at it at a high rate of speed in order to take that. The nice things about it is it doesn't damage the meter itself or the RF transmitter. The RF antenna – if they do get damaged they can be simply replaced very quickly. The nice thing about it is we will know that they are not working because we are getting that signal every single day.

Councilman McCullough stated 2 things; you said Lakewood, Elyria, Lorain, Girard and Warren which migration path, are they all using the full fixed or are they using different styles of service? Mr. Swartz answered that is a very good question and what a lot of utilities have been doing is this technology can still be read with a handheld device or we put it in the car where they have a big laptop monitor much like the Police Officers who will drive by and be able to see those reads being collected. A lot of those utilities 10 years ago started that process so they are now just getting to that point where they are saying I have been able to drive by and collect those readings and I want to put that collector up there so that I can minimize having to send my personnel out there to read them. Councilman McCullough stated another part to that question is say you go with the whole fix, you guys provide the server right? Mr. Swartz answered that is correct.

Councilman McCullough stated how long is that server good for? Mr. Swartz answered the server is going to be for about approximately 5 years as far as the server. You could utilize the city server or the server could be remotely be at an offsite, we actually host a number of utilities with a server. We know that with the maintenance that is needed, we will host that server if upgrades need to be done we would upgrade those. For the most part, the server is not going to be needed to be replaced. It may just not have proper access, so whatever was today 5 years from now might have greater increase needs. Councilman McCullough stated may I see just the antenna – I think I can explain this which he did.

**Resident** stated we live where there is 4 water meters connected underneath it, so they would just put 4 of them on the lid? Mr. Swartz answered that is correct. They would all be clustered.

Councilman Smith stated I know they start out accurate but don't they have a way of self-testing themselves to make sure they are calibrated right over a period of time? Mr. Swartz answered that is actually a very good question but what happens time is they are able to monitor what is going on. I know in the City of Lorain, at one of the steel mills – all of a sudden the meters stopped reading and after 2 reading periods we are not having increased usage. What we are able to do for the utility is monitor what is going on and start to say after so many years in the volume of water that has gone through it the meters are stopping to drop in accuracy and that could just be because you have got lime debris or something that you just cleaned out some lines and all of a sudden the meters got clogged up. This is not just a meter reading system, it is an information system. It is providing the city with a benefit to manage and monitor what is going on. If you pump every



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drop that goes into the system which gets billed, the water rate – you don't have to pay for the water losses and if you have water losses in the system meters aren't as accurate and people are stealing water then you have to raise the rates. So if you have a very accurate system that provides truly what you use, you are only paying for what you use. Councilman Smith asked that was my question, those meters stay pretty accurate? Mr. Swartz answered these meters will stay very accurate with the quality of water that we are getting from Lake Erie for over 25 to 30 years.

Councilman Smith asked if there is a discrepancy. Mr. Swartz answered everything is covered for the first 10 years, if that meter doesn't stay accurate they send it to us and we replace it.

**Resident** asked if they put these in do they have to raise the water rates? Mayor Bring advised this is about 1.2 million dollars. So if you take that number and Pat has done that number for 20 years it is about \$1.50 a month. Now we are still talking about that, we could take a bond out and do this but that is kind of what we are looking for. Just to let you know, if you have a leak say if your water line broke and right now the way we are doing it and we estimate it for 2 months and we got out there by the third month you are probably going to have a \$300 to \$400 water bill. That bill is because we didn't get a chance to detect it, this actually detects it every day so that leak would almost pay for what you are going to pay in 20 years. Right now, the way things are going and everybody is complaining because we estimate 2/3 of the city every month and all our guys – that is all they are doing; service calls and non-stop phone calls with complaints left and right. We are one of the last ones that still go out and physically walk and send 3 guys out there to go in the pits. It is just like this last month with all the weather it has been an absolute disaster.

**Resident** asked will our water bills go down after this? President Rosso stated no they will go up because they will be reading accurately. Mayor Bring advised breakdown of water bill; total is \$74.29, stormwater utility is \$4.85, capital improvements is \$2.13, refuse is \$19.49, sewer is \$23.38. This water bill was \$16.68 and that is what would go up another \$1.50. Now your sewer bill will also reflect into that also because there will be more water flowing through it.

**Resident** asked how many man hours is this going to save the city? Superintendent Hastings answered approximately 480 hours annually. Resident asked we will get an accurate reading every 30 days instead of a longer time. Superintendent Hastings answered you will get one every day but you would be billed for the month. The whole idea is not so much in the labor cost because the men won't be out of work but it is to get them to the maintenance side of our aging system. This is really as we said in the Worksession the foundation for all of the problems of the water utility, everything is old and some of our repairs go back to 1928. The money to generate to fix all these things starts with proper data from the meters from all the water we purchase and this is the step necessary to do that according to our research. Our utility is monitored every 3 years based on our size and volumes

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of water and the EPA's very first recommendation is you have to update your meters. Another recommendation that nobody wants to recognize but it is unfortunately true is that we are below the State of Ohio's water rates as far as the optimum maintenance and operation of a utility. So we bare that in mind when we do this and as the Mayor and the Administration figure out funding strategies we consider that as well.

Mayor Bring advised we are going to wrap this up and we will have another presentation on the 24<sup>th</sup> with another company. This is not the end of this right now, we are in discussions right now. Neptune is on line so you can look up your company if anybody needs to do that. Mr. Swartz thanked residents for coming and their questions. He stated I am a citizen as well and it is important for the information to you and as well for me knowing what is going on.

Councilman McCullough stated how old is this technology that you are using for the full fixed? Mr. Swartz answered this specific technology has been out for about 20 years. Councilman McCullough stated in 20 years after the guarantee is over, the technology still going to be good where we might have to just replace meters right? Mr. Swartz answered that is very important and Neptune is a manufacturer and we are working with a lot of these communities. Legacy product is very important to us, 20 years from now I would say it will be much different then what we have today but we bare in mind there is communities – the City of Elyria has had product out there for 20 some years. Councilman McCullough stated who is on full fixed right now. Mr. Swartz answered the City of Lorain, the City of Girard, the City of Warren.

**Resident** stated what if we don't want it? Mayor Bring answered if we are going to do something city wide, we are change everybody's meters out. Resident stated why should I pay out a \$1.50 a month for something that I do not want and in 5 years you have to replace a part in it and 20 years you have to replace something else in it that is going to cost how much money. He said the battery is going to go in 20 years and he something else is going to break in 5 years. Mr. Swartz advised no that was the server and as it is with all PC's there might be upgrades which are support upgrades and there would be some small modifications. Resident stated so what is that going to cost us. Mr. Swartz answered if the city already has existing servers things can be moved into that but as far as the changes; the servers can be as little as \$3000 to \$4000. Resident debated like you said right now it is reading 80% and I am getting that free small glass of water and I ain't paying but I like that. Mayor Bring stated you are using the water and we are paying for the water so when it is being read it should be paid for. There is nothing free. The city doesn't get anything for free, we have to pay for it and if you are using the water than you pay for it. It is draining the budget because we are paying for it. You will be getting a water bill every month that is accurate is far out going to way \$1.50. We are going to try to keep this information on our website as much as I can and like it said we will have another presentation where everyone can talk again so please

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come back and ask questions. President Rosso advised not by the same company but a radio read, I know people that I work with have it and they have it at one of the gentlemen’s home in Ashtabula and you talk about snow. I mean even the way we have out here, today is spring in Ashtabula. They notified him when he had a leak in his toilet saying, mid-month they sent a letter we are noticing a usage in your house around the clock, middle of the night when we don’t think anybody is up – you might want to take a look. So they can identify if you leaks reading every hour. Another gentleman I work with is in Madison and looks the radio reads there too. But back to your comment back there, you might think you are getting a free glass of water today and but we buy our water from Avon Lake and we pay for every drop, so your money that is going into this city is being used to pay that. So you are really not getting anything free. Resident stated we pay property taxes. President Rosso stated it is not your property taxes, it is utility bills. Again the meters are old and need to be replaced and doing it this way is going to free up city employees to do other things. We only have 3 people in our Water Department.

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**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse:** Chairman Cizl reviewed the minutes of the March 2, 2015 meeting. Mayor Bring corrected – we have 684 fire hydrants in the city. \*Motion by Erdei/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas

All./**Safety:** Chairman Wtulich reviewed the minutes of the March 4, 2015 meeting. \*Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas

All./**Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment:** Chairman McCullough reviewed the minutes of the March 5, 2015 meeting. \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to accept the report. Yeas All./**Ordinance:** Chairman Kovach reviewed the minutes of the March 5, 2015 meeting. \*Motion by McCullough/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All./

**Finance & Audit: None./Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center: None./Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals: None./Council Representative to the Planning Commission:**

**None./Council Representative to the Park Board: None.**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MAYORS/SERVICE/SAFETY REPORTS:** Mayor Bring advised recently we had our Building Inspector resign from his position, we are actively looking into getting somebody else to fill that position. We have been having meetings and we had meetings today about it and we will on-going meetings. The girl who is in city hall, Wendy also has licenses and she is able to give out permits and our Chief Building Official Phil Lahetta; we called him and he is looking at plan reviews and taking care of the majority of the bigger stuff. In the interim, we are taking of it that way. But we will be actively filling that position as fast as we can to get that back up and running. Councilman McCullough mentioned the vac truck that went down. We did a little bit of investigation on that and that truck actually broke

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during the coldest day of the year and while the guys were on a water main break that truck actually froze in use and cracked the pump. We actually turned that into our insurance and they called back and they are covering that \$16,000.00. We didn't lose any money on that repair. We are having some manpower issues, this winter has been very hard with the cold weather. The guys have been working a tremendous amount of hours and we had one person resign and we filled that one with a part-time position which we are going to turn that into a full-time position very soon and that was for the Water and Sewer Departments. Right now we have another gentleman that is off due to injury and today another gentleman walked in and we are down as he is also hurt. So we are hurting as far as manpower. We are going to have to address that situation and we have been talking about that too. Fortunately the weather seems to be getting a little bit better. We are still meeting about the Bicentennial, Mr. Herdendorf had a meeting today at the Civic Center and I hope the 3 entities will get together with all of this and celebrate this as it is very important. That is also on the website too. In the Police Department we are upgrading the computers and some of the software and that is being taken care of right now. So that should be up and running within the next week I hope. \*Motion by Erdei/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All./**FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:** Finance Director Smith advised I have before you an appropriation ordinance for some changes. I will be unable to attend the March 24<sup>th</sup> therefore I am bringing it to you today which she explained. \*Motion by McCullough/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All./**TREASURER REPORT:** report attached. \*Motion by Erdei/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All./**LAW DIRECTOR REPORT:** Law Director Graves reviewed the legislation on agenda. There was a brief discussion on section 2a of Council#012. \*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY:**

**Ron Saigh, 460 Elm** asked is Mr. Wiblin retiring or resigning? Mayor Bring advised resigned. Mr. Saigh stated a suggestion, I would like all future hires to be born and bred right here from Sheffield Lake and try to train those people to do those jobs. Personally I just don't like going outside my city if I don't have to.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.**

**NEW BUSINESS: None.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Council#011 – FIRST READING – an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement for the purchase of a 2016 municipal Plow Truck and the declaring of an emergency.

Council#012 – FIRST READING – an ordinance amending section 1395.99 of the codified ordinances of the City of Sheffield Lake regarding penalty and equitable remedies.

Council#013 – EMERGENCY – a resolution authorizing the City of Sheffield Lake to accept and approve the donation of five hundred dollars from the Fraternal

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Order of Eagles Post 1442 to be used for radios and equipment for Police Department vehicles and the declaring of an emergency.

\*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for SUSPENSION OF RULES:  
ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES: Yeas All – Smith, Kovach, Wtulich, Stark, McCullough, Cizl, Erdei.

\*Motion by McCullough, Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:  
ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – McCullough, Erdei, Cizl, Stark, Wtulich, Kovach, Smith.

### **Ordinance Passes#12-15**

Council#014 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance providing for the establishment and increase, decrease and transfers of certain funds within the annual appropriations 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 – Stark, McCullough, Cizl, Erdei, Wtulich, Kovach, Smith.

\*Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach for ADOPTION:  
ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Yeas All – Kovach, Stark, Erdei, Smith, Wtulich, Cizl, McCullough.

### **Ordinance Passes#13-15**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** *President Rosso advised the Hot Stove Baseball Team for Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Venom Baseball is having a spring fling. Mrs. Stark advised it is a dinner and a Chinese Raffle; golf packages, 55 inch screen TV, I believe there is an Indians package with signed baseball jersey. This is going to be the softball joining the baseball team. President Rosso advised they are having the spring fling on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Breezewood Hall and it is \$25.00 a person. If anyone is interested can contact Mark Racz or Mike Sheaves. He continued Youth Baseball is having one on April 18<sup>th</sup> at VFW – A Night at the Races. Once I get more information. Law Director Graves advised the second annual battle of the Sheffields Basketball Game will take place this Saturday at Brookside at 7 pm. Sheffield Lake will be playing Sheffield Village and all proceeds benefit the Brookside Athletic Boosters and we will be defending our hard fought title. We won it in 2012 and we will try to win it again. It is \$5.00 so come out and proceeds go to a good cause. Councilman Kovach advised in regards to the Bicentennial Commission – they have completed this book, it was written by Charles Edward Herdendorf and it is Sheffield Through Time in regards to Sheffield Township which is basically the Bicentennial. Also the Monument has been cut and it is in the process of being finished and completed. Also the Liberty Tree that you would receive the email on and it is in the process and they would be getting this Liberty Tree sometime in summer and the plan is to put the tree in Memorial Park and the brass plaque is planned to put here at*

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***City Hall. Finance Director Smith advised we have those books here at City Hall, they are \$20.00 and \$8.00 of it goes to the Bicentennial Committee for events.***

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to adjourn at 8:49 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 March 10, 2015.

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**MAYOR**

*Dennis Bring*