

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
May 12, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, May 12, 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, Mayor Bring, Stark, Cizl, Kovach, Wtulich, Smith, Erdei, Treasurer Woods, Law Director Graves, Finance Director Smith, Fire Chief Card, Superintendent Hastings

Absent: McCullough (excused)

Attending: Concerned Citizens, Fire Lt., Davis, Demo Board Chairperson Gee, Charter Review Gee, Service Dept. Tom Kepic & Willy Trowbridge, Park Board Prokay, Civil Service Huffman, Members of the Media

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Council – April 28, 2015 - *Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl to accept the minutes of the April 28, 2015 Council meeting. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE:

PRESENTATIONS:

Proclamation for the young women for the management of the 2015 Easter Egg Hunt – Leah Wright and Julia Mohrbach. Mayor Bring advised I had so many people tell me how well it was organized and for these young women who did a fantastic job and it was very well attended and everyone had a wonderful time. So we want to recognize them and give them this proclamation to honor them for all their hard work. They are also on the Girl Scouts too.

President Rosso submitted the names of Stanley Zaborski and Jack Petrucci for the Charter Review Commission.

*Motion by Cizl/Second by Erdei to approve Jack Petrucci for the Charter Review Commission. Yeas All.

*Motion by Kovach/Second by Smith to approve Stanley Zaborski for the Charter Review Commission. Yeas All.

Mayor Bring swore in Stanley Zaborski and Jack Petrucci for the Charter Review Commission.

SAFEbuilt – Steve Vogel and John Cheatham reference Building Department. Mayor Bring advised Steve Vogel has actually been doing some part-time work for this and then John has been overseeing some of this. He has been doing a real good

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job and a little bit busier than we thought. We have been hearing good things. Mr. Cheatham advised SAFEbuilt is a third party contractor for municipalities nationwide. We run Building Departments, we also have a subsidiary that does planning for anything that is related to the infrastructure. SAFEbuilt has been around since 1992, this is a growing trend within the United States of America and also within Ohio. There are like 7 companies like us doing business in Ohio and a lot of communities, a lot of municipalities whether they are city, village, townships, counties are going to third party because it just makes sense economically. It just makes sense on every level. SAFEbuilt is very large in Colorado – that is their home domicile. They came into Ohio basically 2 years ago into Bay Village that was their first city. On December 1st we went into Olmsted Falls and we are there also. We do back-up and part-time work for Berea and some contract work for overflow in some other communities. Basically you have a copy of the contract, I assume all of you have read through that. That is a very standard contract that we use. Basically we come into a place, we run the department just as you would run it. If we were working for the city and on the city payroll and the Mayor is still in control. The City Council is still in control, we attend the meetings as required be it ARB if you have that or BZA or City Council or Planning Commission. All the checks, all the money still go to your Treasurer and still made to the City of Sheffield Lake. We run the department just as if it is your department. We enforce the state codes in the state of Ohio, there are mandatory codes; commercial/residential and that is what we enforce. Then the local ordinances of each community, we enforce them once again just as if we were your employee and in fact we are, you are our client and we are your employee. When we work with contractors, architects, engineers, homeowners, community people, business owners – they don't know that we are not a City of Sheffield Lake employee except that our car says SAFEbuilt and our business card does. So we are very committed to the community. Once we are in the community 1 year we give back to the community a certain percentage of all the revenue in charitable giving and in fact I got notice today that they were sending me a check for \$1000.00 for the Clock Tower in Bay Village and another \$1000.00 for a charitable organization in Bay Village that makes meals for cancer patients. We are very giving to the community, we are a part of the community, we are all local – none of us are from out-of-state. I live in Parma and Steve lives in Avon Lake. I worked 14 years prior to coming to Bay Village for Medina County and prior to that the City of Massillon and prior to that I was a builder for about 20 years. Steve also has a building trade background and he has been in this area for many, many years even longer than I. So we are local people, we are not outsiders – we are both local too. That kind of sums up quickly what we are about and then if you have any questions. Mr. Steve Vogel states I have spent - just a brief history, I have spent the last year in Willard in Huron County. I sat up the first residential building department there in Huron County and I think that is going well. The Building

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Department here is well established for a number of years but I think I can bring the experience that I gathered there here to benefit the City of Sheffield Lake. So hopefully that will be a benefit to the citizens and businesses also. President Rosso asked I have 2 questions and hopefully that will get the ball rolling. The first question is and I did read through the contract, I will admit I did not read word for word but skimmed through it where I thought I knew it well enough. I am trying to understand how often there will be a representative from your firm in this city. Mr. Cheatham advised Steve will be here 5 days a week and the contract line which I don't typically get into except in a question/answer session, they put in there a minimum guarantee just in case it is the dead of winter and things are slow that he will still be here at least 1 hour every morning. Just so when people are willing to walk in and talk to him, they know he is here. Of course vacations excluded, whatever. But he is here as long as he needs to be – 5 days a week to get the work done and I am sure Tammy and the Mayor can say that in the couple of weeks he has been here that he is here a lot of hours doing office work, returning calls. How many phone calls did you return today? Probably about 50 from over the weekend and he is here every day to perform the functions. Now if you are slow and you are not busy and here it is 2 o'clock in the afternoon and there is nothing to do – he will pop over to Bay and help me there a little bit or whatever or Olmsted. But this will be his first priority, he is going to be kind of captive here is kind of the way it is. He is a CBO, in the company he is a Deputy CBO which means I am his Supervisor but he can perform the same functions I can legally. He is an electrical inspector, Building Inspector, mechanical, plumbing – he has all the certifications. President Rosso continued so a normal day he comes in and say no one has an appointment or no one stops in and needs a building permit or any sort of permits. But there is some construction going on in the city, you would then/part of your day would be to check that job site/to review that and make sure they were doing things up to code. I guess what I am really trying to ask is how much will he be available for someone who says hey I need something so I am going to call the Service Department now or the Building Department? Mr. Vogel stated I carry a cell phone and all of our policies is to be available 24 hours a day. I mean I don't think people are going to call Sunday at 3 in the morning but they could call my cell phone at any time and the fact that I live in Avon Lake helps. The only thing that I would do is go to Bay Village and help out and on a rare occasion maybe go to Olmsted Falls. I think that if anybody needs me I am there within the hour. If it is an emergency I am definitely there within the hour. President Rosso stated so we have a way to contact you and say I got a problem with or I need something, something just came up and we could call you within an hour you would be available. Mr. Cheatham stated all of our cards have our cell phone numbers. Mr. Vogel stated I know that is something different I think from a government Building Department stand point to a private. In the government basically you are there when the hours of a business are operating and then you are not there anymore. We

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look at it a little different, if you need us on other hours I have no problem arranging times with people, scheduling when they would want to meet with me. It helps to have a cell phone to do that. President Rosso advised I am just trying to understand so if the question ever came up – hey, we used to have somebody in there from 8 to 5, 5 days a week and now we don't and I got a problem at 2 o'clock on Thursday how do I get a hold of him. Mr. Vogel stated I know and I don't know the exact hours I know we are going to have a permit technician there too and that will help a lot because those people that put in will be very knowledgeable about issuing permits and the requirements and they should be in the office the hours that are scheduled so people will know that they can come in any time at the permit place there and get most of their questions answered. About the only thing they can't have done is an inspection but they can schedule it or get a plan review, we will see to those rather quickly as soon as they come in. President Rosso continued maybe this falls under too much of the contract/language negotiations, the way I read it was your company will get a percentage of the permit fees but how I read it on the property issues; property violations – where a Building Inspector would go out and say this property has got an issue, it needs to be cited. That I thought was an hourly rate? Mr. Cheatham answered it is and the reason for that is most of the communities we work in, they typically have someone in the Service Department that does the exterior maintenance or the property maintenance because most of the smaller towns – it is not a full-time position. So the way we have done it is that we have an hourly rate and when we do that we do charge for by the hour because there is no revenue attached per say unless we go out and write something up that they end up getting permits for or that sort of thing. That is standard contractual language across the board. In Bay Village they have a gentleman in the Service Department that walks the streets and does property maintenance and also helps plow snow, rake leaves and do a sidewalk program, he is a city employee. In Olmsted Falls they have a gentleman that is there about 20 hours a week that does the same thing – the property maintenance, both of them I oversee in case there is any need for me to oversee them. When they come to me and ask for advice and I run out with them to check something I never put that down in charge. When I charge is when the city comes to me and this happens once in a while, they will come to me and say John you know we have got this house and we don't really think it is something that Bob or Gary or whomever should look at – we want you to go out and look at it for whatever reason and then I am going out and I am doing a consultation or an inspection on a property and writing it up and taking it to court or whatever – that we charge for. Once again that doesn't happen that often. I don't know what your property maintenance is here, your exterior maintenance if that is a big issue or not I really don't know. But once again this is standard language that there is a per hour charge when we do property maintenance. Mayor Bring stated when we sat down we talked about this and we understood what that language said and right now we have Mr. Smith doing that and we are going to continue that

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process because it is working very well. He is doing the trees, the grass, the property maintenance and I was going to explain that in my report tonight. SAFEbuilt also has their own cars, they're own laptops and they're own equipment and we supply them with a deck and room downstairs to have they're office in. But other than that they do have their own vehicles and everything. President Rosso stated so if someone calls and says I have an issue at property X on Warwick, Mr. Smith would go over and at least do the initial yes - there is a definite and then schedule something with SAFEbuilt to go over and do the formal inspection. Mr. Vogel stated Mr. Smith and I have interacted a lot in the last couple of weeks. President Rosso stated it is probably not a true perception but my perception was our Building Inspector drove around and said oh that house needs something or that house needs something and it probably didn't happen that way. I know if it is a really a bad issue someone is going to call the city complaining and we can schedule it, I was just concerned about the other ones. Mayor Bring advised the other thing that we also agreed to in which I have already talked to the Police Department. The Police Department right now are doing junk vehicles but I am also going to have them go around because they are also going through the whole city all day long and to start looking at like weekends where projects start up and they don't see a building permit on the window, they are going to report back to me and I will turn it over to these guys or Mr. Smith to follow up. I will probably let Mr. Smith follow up first and then have Steve follow up afterwards. We have already had a couple of instances of where I have gotten emails from concerned citizens and he has taken care of both of those and stopped the one project with a sticker. What we are trying to do now is the Police are going to get involved and this is working out a lot better. One person was not able to take care of this city and I will flat out tell you that - that was not working. The gentleman was in until about 10 o'clock in the morning and then he was supposed to go out and do inspections and stuff and I know those were not getting done. So anyways the Police are going to take care of junk vehicles and they are going to check on properties and then Mr. Smith is going to take care of the trees and the rest of property maintenance and everything else. Then SAFEbuilt is going to take care of everything else. President Rosso stated I just wanted to make sure that we didn't have a situation where I had meetings setup for an hour or two and then you said oh I am going to take the next 6 hours and drive around and look for someone to put in a violation and we were paying an hourly rate on top of that but I have no problem that the Mayor explained we got a complaint or Mr. Smith found something that we need and schedule your time to go. So you are probably rarely going to be an hour. Mr. Cheatham advised that is true and once again it is true property maintenance, like at Olmsted Falls they asked me to come out and condemn a house so they could tear it down. If we are going out to do a stop work order - that is not property maintenance. We are going out to check on a site that we have not heard from for a while we wonder are they still working or what is going on - that is not property

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maintenance. It is scheduled specific, usually reactive – the Mayor or Tammy comes and says this street, this house – we have got a problem and we need you to look at it right now. President Rosso stated those are the questions that I had of making sure that we had enough coverage and obviously driving around looking for things. Mr. Cheatham stated one other thing that I do want to mention with your coverage, in the event that it gets real busy over here – Ryan Homes comes in and decides to build 100 homes here and things like that, we will bring other inspectors in. You are not stuck with just 1, we will cover you and take care of it. We have a commitment to every city that we give next day inspections, you call in for inspection by 3 or 3:30 or whatever – it is all the next day. So if Steve gets busy, he gets buried in planning review I will be over here helping and my inspectors will be over here helping if it gets busy like that. You won't ever have to complain or worry about it not being covered. Councilman Erdei asked on your percentage of what you make off of our city, is that standard setup percentage or is every city different? Mr. Cheatham answered no that is standard, Bay Village is that way/Olmsted Falls is that way and once again you today pay a salary, you pay benefits, you pay PERS, you pay vacation time, their sick time, you pay for them to have a vehicle – you pay all that. We have all the expense and the overhead on us except as the Mayor said we do use your space and your deck or whatever minor equipment that sort of thing. Office supplies – we provide our own, cars are our own, all of our payroll – everything is us. So you no longer have any expense so rather than going negative, now you are getting a percentage of the revenue and everything is pure profit for you. This contract is identical to Bay Village and Olmsted – it is a normal contract. President Rosso stated I did not bring it with me this evening but the Mayor had provided some information a little while back about our expenses of the Building Department over the last so many years and at the rate of what we would have paid and got the percentage back which I don't think that is any big secret is 85% and we get 15% back, we would be making more money than we have ever made any given year because of our expenses go down to 0. I didn't bring it but to try to get everyone up to par that we have done some research here. Councilperson Stark asked you said there is 7 other companies that do this type of work? Mr. Cheatham answered yes all of them but 1 are just local companies and they operate very differently than us, most of them. Most of them do not maintain offices in this city, they have a central office and they just drive there for inspections and plan review. There is one at least that does maintain offices. Councilperson Stark asked you will have a permit type person that can be here almost every day – 5 days a week and then you guys would come to do your daily but it would fluctuate so you are looking at 2 people most of the time in the city. Mr. Cheatham stated she is not all day, I think the way we sit it up initially is that she will be here 4 hours a day because of your work load what we perceive it to be. If that changes and I have already talked to her, she works for me in Bay – I have 2 and I am going to send 1 over here and hire someone else there part-time. I

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have already talked to her and said if you are there and it takes 5 hours to get it done or 6 hours or 8 hours you stay until the work is done. She is on our payroll and while we are contractually saying she will here 8 to noon or whatever it is every day. She might be here longer than that during busy times or seasonal times. Once again you can talk to Mayor Sutherland or Mayor Donegan and I am sure that they have no complaints at all, after 2 years at the one and about 6 months at the other. Councilperson Stark asked do you guys hire locally sometimes? Mr. Cheatham answered absolutely, in fact I am looking for a part-time tech right now. I interviewed a lady, I got to tell a funny story. I interviewed a lady from Avon Lake for a permit tech and I asked her what she wanted to make and she said I just came from Cleveland Clinic at \$41.00 an hour and I told her I wish I made that. She was a nice lady but it was not what she was looking for. Councilman Kovach asked in regards to the scenario that you mentioned of getting a building development going in and they want to build 100 homes and you would bring in additional inspectors, do you have those on your payroll at this time or do you hire private contractors? Mr. Cheatham answered no we hire as needed. I am not at liberty to tell but there is 2 other jurisdictions we are talking to a little bit east of here and I already have 1 gentleman hired that is ready to pull the trigger on him as soon as their City Council approves us. We have people apply throughout the year and we keep kind of a running folder on them and as we need them we hire them. Councilman Kovach asked are they on your payroll, not a private contractor pickup? Mr. Cheatham answered yes we never use a third party with one exception and that is the same that all cities do and that is a commercial plans exam – we have someone that does all of our commercial plans exams and most cities do that and he lives in Avon Lake so he is local also and his office is in Westlake. President Rosso asked so I just want to make sure, you hire these people full-time to work for your company. So it is not a scenario where you might hire a full-time Building Inspector from Avon Lake hoping that he could come over and fill in sometime during the day or show up after his day was done right? Mr. Cheatham answered yes we are talking in the event you got like a Ryan development or something like that. President Rosso stated right. Mr. Cheatham explained first of all my inspectors all float some as needed with the work. That is one of our business moto's, like my guys in Bay Village they will run over to Berea or over to Olmsted wherever needed. President Rosso stated I didn't ask my question correctly, they are your employees – they don't have 2 full-time jobs? Mr. Cheatham answered no. President Rosso asked so they are not a full-time at city X and then you? Mr. Cheatham answered no, we have one exception to that and that is that Tom Carlton who is the CBO at Avon Lake is also a part-time back-up when we get in a pinch he mostly will do some commercial plumbing for me in the evening and he may go a month and not have any and then suddenly we get hit with a bunch and what happens is we will like, for example; St. Ralphs is building a new church in Bay. They will say we really need this plumbing but we need it at

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5 o'clock, well my inspectors quit at 4:30 and I will say Roger or Steve do you want to stay late and if they hesitate a little I will call Tom and Tom will catch it on his way home. So we have Tom but he is the only one. President Rosso stated in my mind I am just trying to find availability to make sure our residents get people when they need it. Mr. Vogel stated I will say one thing if you did have a Ryan Homes come in with 100 homes we would know well in advance. We would know months if not a year in advance and I am sure we could gear up. Mayor Bring advised also to remind you that we did have a CBO that we were paying on a monthly basis of about \$500 and then we also had a electrical inspector that we called as needed and these guys don't have that – they take care of that so we do not have to pay the other gentleman for that. Councilman Cizl asked obviously we are Lorain County and we are not Cuyahoga County – you work with Bay Village and also Olmsted Falls. You have been here a couple of weeks now and most of your funding comes from permit fees I am guessing right. Mr. Vogel answered right. Councilman Cizl continued so in comparison to Cuyahoga, I guess we are going to be hearing we no longer have a Building Department and how is our fee structures compared to what you are receiving from Bay Village. Mr. Cheatham answered that is a very good question, number 1 - you **do** have a Building Department, it is just you are using a third party as opposed to what you were doing but it is your department. The second part of that question, I believe Mr. Graves had showed me your fee schedule and said it hadn't been looked at in quite a while and I actually gave Steve something that I came up with for you to look at. The bottom line is we enforce your fee schedule, it is part of your ordinance and we can't enforce anything but that. If you choose because it hasn't been looked at in several years to increase those fees to make them more competitive with other jurisdictions; the Village and others around here then that is what we will enforce but we enforce exactly what your ordinance says – nothing more and nothing less. Mayor Bring advised when I went over to the City of Bay Village I did not tell anybody who I was, I just walked into the City Hall there and I kind of just said do you guys have a Building Department and they said yes we do. I sat down and talked to their girl at the desk for probably a half an hour and she had no clue to who I was and I asked her all kinds of questions and she answered them. Finally after a matter of time she said can I ask who you are and I said well I am the Mayor of the City of Sheffield Lake and she said oh you want to talk to John. Very informative, very nice and had no problem answering questions – so it was a very relaxing, informal meeting and then when I talked to John I talked to him for probably about a half hour too. I had also talked to the Mayor over there and I had talked to her right-hand person and talked to a few builders about the transition and everything else and I heard nothing but good things. I just wanted to relay that message. Mr. Cheatham advised I do want to thank you Dennis but I do want to say we are very, very oriented. The one thing that we have is a rule that we don't break and that is no bad attitudes and customers are first and foremost, everything

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we do is around customers and he proved that by not identifying himself to Tina and she just was giving him the information he asked for. We look at the owners whether they are a property, whether they are a tenant in a rental, whether they are a business owner. We look at everybody equal and we give everybody the best service we can and we try to work with builders, with designers and try to educate them. We try to look for ways to make things pass. We are not out there as the new sheriff on the block type of attitude or anything like that.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse: Chairman Cizl reviewed the minutes of the May 11, 2015 meeting. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to approve the sewer credit in the amount of \$135.66 for 885 Lake Breeze Rd. Yeas All. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to approve the sewer credit in the amount of \$226.10 for 630 Pasadena. Yeas All. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to approve the sewer credit in the amount of \$293.93 for 612 Pasadena. Yeas All. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to approve the sewer credit in the amount of \$77.52 for 4860 Northwood Dr. Yeas All. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to accept the report. Yeas All./**Safety:** Chairman Wtulich reviewed the minutes of the May 6, 2015 meeting. Member Stark added we also had a brief discussion, there had been some talk about people seeing city vehicles outside of the city. Just so people are aware, we do have to go to other cities and we go to training meeting. So if you see a Sheffield Lake vehicle – maybe in Parma, it is because our guys are having to go to training. It is not because they are just driving wherever they want to but they have to take these vehicles outside of the city. We had people complaining about it and honestly they have things they have to do. So it is not that they are just going out to buy lunch. So if you see them out there, we know why they are out there. Just to nip that in the bud please. Law Director Graves advised I know in the minutes of the Safety Committee there was legislation discussed in regard to the appointment of the provisional temporary full-time that will just be by motion and will not require any legislation. So when the Mayor is ready to make that appointment, it will just be by motion to approve just like any other appointment. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Stark to accept the report. Yeas All./**Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment:** Co-Chairman Erdei reviewed the minutes of the May 7, 2015 meeting. Councilman Cizl asked was there any discussion about the snowplow or anything else? President Rosso answered there wasn't at the last meeting, there was back in February. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Smith to accept the report. Yeas All./**Ordinance:** Chairman Kovach reviewed the minutes of the May 7, 2015 meeting. *Motion by Erdei/Second by Wtulich to accept the report. Yeas All./**Finance & Audit:** Chairperson Stark asked with the passing of the school levy and the official closing of 2 schools within the city, I believe we are losing 2 schools right? Mayor Bring advised 1 here and also Barr Elementary. Chairperson Stark asked is there a way we can sort of forecast how much money

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we are now going to lose in taxes because that money will be going to the Village and not here since we passed the levy. Mayor Bring answered that has already been done. President Rosso advised I already have a call into the Superintendent and I will be talking to the Treasurer there too./**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.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYORS/SAFETY REPORTS: Mayor Bring reported the Fire Department are going to have some cars out here tomorrow that they are going to flip over. I think Pat is going to flip them over with the backhoe and they are going to be training with that. They will have them removed by Friday because we do have Pride Day on Saturday, May 16, 2015. So everybody just be aware of that. If anybody wants to come down and watch they are more than welcome to watch that. We were having problems with our radios in the Fire Department. We had a fire in one of the apartments, a small fire and while the Fire Fighters were inside the apartment they could not hear the people that were on the outside. We have had some dead zones throughout the city. So we called the Village because they have repeaters and we were going to do some testing on that and found out that the Village never had the repeaters put in which they didn't even know. So then we called Avon Lake which had the repeaters that were put in and they brought them over to our city. So we did go in 5 different locations in the city and the radio was crystal clear. So we are going to purchase some of those repeaters and I think they are about \$8000.00. Finance Director Smith advised total for all vehicles, they are mobile. Mayor Bring continued that is something that I am going to go back to the county and ask for a little relief on some of this. We did have the Boat Launch cleaned out and that was done last week or about 2 weeks ago already, so we did get opened and everybody is enjoying the Boat Launch. We did spend about \$7000.00 to have that cleaned out but that was about 4 times less then what Avon Lake spent on theirs. Just to kind of let you know as we do get a lot of traffic from that and it is good. We do have a movie coming to the Boat Launch – it is called My Blind Brother and that is going to be in June. They wanted to do it in one day but I think they are going to end up doing it in 4 days, so they are going to be using our Boat Launch on and off for 4 days. I think it is the 1st through the 4th. So if you see somebody down there with lights and action equipment you will know what it is all about. It is kind of nice that they recognize our city and they are going to use that, so we are kind of excited about that. Also we do have a circus coming in August. Finance Director Smith advised it is the first Saturday in August, 2 shows; 2 pm and 5 pm. Mayor Bring continued Council did give me the ok to move forward with the water meters and we will put those out for bid and we are also going to break down what the costs and get back to everybody. So we are moving

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forward with that and this will be an ongoing thing for a while. We did put the road bid out and that is due back in Wednesday. So that is out and we will hear from that, so we will be actively looking at what roads we are going to pave this year. Mr. Hastings also wrote a grant for the Civic Center for the parking lot and we are waiting to hear back on that and hopefully we get that and we will pave that regardless – we are going to pave that anyway and we are going to pave the outside of this parking lot this year. The other day I met along with Lorain, Vermilion and Avon Lake with Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur about developing the lakefront. She is actively looking to bring money to our city and any other city that wants to move forward and do this. The reason for this is that she is trying to get a group effort going instead of just having 1 city commit their funds to this. We had about an hour and a half meeting about that, this is going to be ongoing to find out what monies are available and how to approach this and where things can be developed. There was a whole bunch of questions asked about all of this. There was a lot of other people there, so we will be actively looking into doing something. She made a comment that the Cedar Point, about 2.5 to 3 million people go to that a year. Guess how many go to Amish Country – 7.5 million. So she said the reason is there is something to go to and if they can get 7.5 million dollars to go see the Amish she said we should be able to attract somebody to come see our beautiful lake. So we will be pursuing this and like I said this is ongoing but it is nice to see somebody that is actively in our court to help not only our city out but the rest of the cities along the lakefront too to see if we can't promote ourselves. Councilman Erdei asked what is going on with the Bowling Alley? Mayor Bring advised the Bowling Alley basically after the sale and everything else is sitting kind of idle. We had Kiwani's come in there and help us tear out some of the lanes and they got about 2/3 of the lanes cleaned out. We had the gutter failing on the backside of the building which was on the east side and water was running into that so the wood that was taken out was sitting in there and got wet. It was very unattractive and we are trying to rent the place out, so we hired a company to go in there and do the rest of the demo and take the ceiling tile down and clean it all up and we are actively pursuing renting it. We have had some people looking at it and we also did some just basically painting, fixing some of the wiring in there. So it is a shell right now but it is a good shell and we have had some very good activity on that. I just want to let you guys know, I can't say anything right now but trust me we are working very hard to fill that building up. One other thing that I did forget, we have been sending out letters to properties and that is what Mr. Smith has been doing. These are letters, they are not fines, they are not anything but property maintenance and it is a nice letter just saying please, we would like to have you clean this up or take care of this. We are giving them relief if they do not have enough time to do that and there have been some comments made that we are trying to get rid of the poor people out of this community and several other comments that are very derogatory and it has nothing to do with poor people. It has

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nothing to do with anything else, we are trying to make the city a little bit cleaner and there is a lot of people that do take care of their properties and right now I don't believe it is fair for the people that do take care of their properties to look at a mess. So this is what we are trying to do and like I said we have been very nice about it and we are going to continue to be very nice about it but we are going to be very vigilant about it. Mr. Smith has been sending these out and I went along with him to check out a lot of these properties and he has probably sent out 70 some letters and we have probably had about half of those people already be in compliance of these. So it is working and it is just basically cleaning it up. I just wanted to let you know. We have had some major ones go out that if they do not get taken care of we will cite those. Those are very few, there is just a couple of those. So if you hear anything or people complaining about it, I should have brought a copy of the letter to you to show you what it is. It is actually not a threatening letter or anything else but it is working. So that is what he is going to continue to do, he is also going to go after the grass, trees and a few other things. Like I said it is general maintenance on property and trying to get everyone in compliance. Councilman Erdei stated they pulled the siding off on the side of the Bowling Alley? Mayor Bring answered it is getting put up probably this week – new. Half of that was blown off and was all faded out so we bought red siding to match the rest of the Shoreway to make it look more presentable. We are going to paint those doors red, the gas meter is going to be painted red, the top strip that is blue is going to be painted red so it will actually all match. Councilman Erdei asked did you ever correct the problem with those solar panels on the Civic Center to prevent it from leaking? The last time I talked to you you said you were going to have somebody look into it? Superintendent Hastings advised we have the warranty paper signed and I had a contractor repair the roof. The problem was the repairs that they made did not adhere to the original cover. So those were removed and redone and has been okay since plus I got the warranty paper taken care of as well. That was only because it was such a large project with about 12 different contractors, it was just a paperwork shuffle. Councilman Erdei asked so that solved our leak problem hopefully? Superintendent Hastings answered yes so far, they are always susceptible to the wind. Treasurer Woods advised a couple of us were out night fishing the other night and when we came into the boat launch, the light up by the library that is shining down is actually a hazard, it blinds the boaters as you are coming into the harbor. You have a real hard time picking out where the entrance is because of the light shining down and then reflecting back up into you. One of the guys on the boat was a Coast Guard guy and he said that is not too good. Councilman Kovach stated isn't that just a square box, doesn't it just need adjusted? Treasurer Woods stated I think that is all it needs is readjusted. Superintendent Hastings asked for clarification; adjusted down or up? Treasurer Woods advised I think maybe up because I think it is coming down on an angle and the way it is reflecting off it just comes right back. Mayor Bring stated we

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have cameras setup there so we are trying to keep an eye on the beach and everything else so that is why we have it setup that way. I will take a look at that and now that you mention the lights, we have put new lights in here. These are LED lights and these lights costs about \$50.00 a piece and they replace the 4 bulb fluorescent and the energy that they use will be paid for in 1 year and as Mr. Rosso reminded me we also paid to have them installed so in 1-1/2 years every light that we put up will be paid for and they are supposed to last 30 years. Do I think they are going to last 30 years – no but they are much more efficient and they use a lot less wattage and the light seems to be a lot better. Finance Director Smith added much more pleasant. Mayor Bring quipped Mr. Rosso accused me of being a sales person. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas

All./FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT: Finance Director Smith advised I have Council#022 which is just a one appropriation change and it is an increase in community policing and as you know at the beginning of the year, anything I carry over I usually do but I missed this one and this is the first one I really need and it was for the DARE Teacher that Mr. Wtulich had talked about. This is money that has been donated to the Police for community policing and it just sits there waiting to be used for community events and contributions for the Police Department and things like that. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas

All./TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Woods advised my report is attached and Rose said to say hi to everybody. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas **All./LAW DIRECTOR REPORT:** Law Director Graves stated you do have the 2 pieces of legislation which he explained and are listed below. *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY:

Romolo DeBottis, 868 Lake Breeze Rd stated the gentlemen that were here, we are not under a contract with them yet? President Rosso answered we are under a 45-day contract that expires at the end of May. Mr. DeBottis stated so right now if we call it just goes directly to them as far as a building permit? Finance Director Smith answered right now we are all trying to help out right at this point. We have one of our clerks who is also a Building Inspector who has been doing the permits and helping him out until we can get established and get everything to handle the load for now. Mr. DeBottis asked then we are going to go with them full-time eventually? President Rosso advised that is the question in front of Council that I believe the Mayor is going to present but I don't think there has been an official decision made yet. Mr. DeBottis stated the thing that I would like to see obviously if we do hire these people full-time, I think that the person that we had before did a terrible terrible job and just me personally when I would call on properties that I felt that were either a code violation or weren't maintaining their properties. I have never seen one of those issues really addressed and I just basically got tired of calling. I figured you know what let's just live with it, I love Sheffield Lake and have lived here 80% of my life and like the Mayor said sometimes I put it in the

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back of my mind maybe they don't have the money to fix it. Over time, the only reason why some of these properties I felt even got fixed up is because a lot of those homes - they abandon them and the banks took them away and then the new owners went in and fixed these homes up. That is basically what me and the wife have had to live with on Lake Breeze Road. There was probably a dozen homes that were so terrible and I would say that half or three quarters of them now have been fixed but that is because they lost their homes or gave them up and then they went in and fixed them. But me calling the person before just never worked, so I just basically got tired of it. So I hope that if these people do come in I hope we don't expect what we don't inspect with them also. I hope that if we call they at least go out and try to address the issues because it is not cheap to live in Sheffield Lake. So I think these people who are saying we are trying to drive out the poor people, I don't think that is the case. I think right now anyone living in Sheffield Lake with the taxes that we pay and the homes are starting to go back again, I am glad to see that the home values - it is not cheap to live in Sheffield Lake. But in turn there are people that just don't keep up their properties not because they are poor but because they are lazy in my opinion. We have let it go on for so long that they just expect it now and if there is any type of resistance they are going to fight it. I hope that we handle it in the long term. Even if it comes down to if we do have a small percentage of people that can't afford to fix their homes, maybe we can setup some type of a community situation where we can go out and donate paint, help paint or maybe give them the paint so they can paint. There is other communities that do that but I think that is a small percentage. I think the bigger percentage they don't want to do it because we have never forced them to do it. That is the thing I would like to see the city do so hopefully that does happen and if we do hire these people, I hope when we call they do come out. I used to call on the weekends when I would see weekend projects going on and I was told you know what, it is the weekend I am off - don't bother me. Then the project goes forward and then they make them turn off the siding to do whatever or do this or do that but again it is always half-ass in my opinion. So hopefully people will do the right thing here and I think if that is done, I think a lot of people can move forward and take pride in their property. Right now, I would have a lot of resistance in selling my home because of what is around me. I don't think I would get the value that I should get out of my home and that has always been the big joke here in Sheffield Lake - \$150,000 or \$180,000 home and a home that you probably couldn't even get \$10,000 or \$15,000 for it because it is so bad. So I really think we need to improve in that area. Also too the big joke was always if you want to build something build it in Sheffield Lake because they will pass anything. I think we have to get rid of that stigma also. There is places like Avon, Avon Lake - they say they are too strict but I would rather have them be too strict then less. I go into some of these homes that are for sale during this last recession, I mean there was newspaper in the ceiling that was for insulation. There was just

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stuff there that I couldn't believe were ever built that way. Also too Mr. Mayor someone said a little while back that we were inspecting, knocking on doors as far as the rental properties? Mayor Bring answered we are checking on all that as far as the taxes and everything else, that is another thing that Mr. Smith was doing and we are going to do that. They will not be able to rent the property unless their taxes are up and paid. Mr. DeBottis asked has that been completed? Mayor Bring answered he has done that part of it – yes. Mr. DeBottis asked how many violations did we have? Mayor Bring answered I couldn't answer that, I would have to find out. It was obviously 2 million dollars between the 2 communities that were back taxes. We are going to meet with the Mayor's meeting at Lorain County Community College and that is going to be discussed again. Mr. Snodgrass was at the meeting that I went to and Marcy Kaptur was there but he does not do the collection of taxes. He passed that off and he would make a great quarterback because he passed that off right away. That is Mr. Talarek, County Treasurer – that is his job. So we will be discussing more of that. You know 2 million dollars is 2 million dollars and like I told him now that people know that they don't have to pay the taxes and they can go for years without paying it – it doesn't long for people to catch onto that. We need to stop that now. President Rosso advised I was trying to look through the last Council meeting minutes where Mr. Smith did some reporting on the numbers but I do not find the exact answer to your question. Mayor Bring advised he did the amount of rental properties but I don't have the number of people that didn't pay the taxes though. It is being checked, everything./**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Councilman Kovach advised I am just going to give another continuation reporting what has been going on with the Bicentennial Celebration. I will go through about half of this schedule because it will take me up to the August 1st weekend. The majority of it is the ongoing lecture series, there is actually one going on tonight at the Civic Center, Tuesday May 19th there will be a lecture at the Garfield Cementary walk-through Repository of Sheffield's history, Tuesday the 9th of June lecture series will be at the Civic Center – The Sheffield's Founding Fathers/how Sheffield was originally settled. Of course Wednesday July 8th from 2 to 4 o'clock will be a tour of the old Brookside School and a last chance to tour the old school before it is demolished – Middle School rather. Wednesday July 8th at 4 pm is going to be the dedication of the new Brookside High School and Middle School/ribbon cutting, presentation which will lead into that afternoon which leads into the week of Community Days. I have already gone through that schedule so I won't bother with that until later on as we get closer. Tuesday July 21st is Bicentennial lecture at the Sheffield Village Municipal Complex and that is Sheffield and the California Gold Rush part 1 the Buckeye Company. Wednesday the 22nd will be a lecture series at the Municipal Complex again Sheffield and California Gold Rush part 2. Wednesday the 29th is going to be Sheffield Night at the Lake Erie Crushers Stadium. Saturday August 1st will be the Bicentennial picnic and that will be at the Burrell Homestead which is

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part of the Lorain County Metro Parks. I have actually got the time for that which is going to be 11 am to 5 pm and Sunday the 2nd will be the dedication of the monument at 1 o'clock at the old Sheffield Village Hall and then possibly one for Dennis here being a vintage athlete, they are going to have a vintage throwback baseball game. You get to watch, they bring in 2 teams that play against each other in vintage uniforms and that. That does as I just noticed competes with the circus that is coming to town that weekend but it is what it is. Last but not least and I have discussed this earlier with the Mayor, we are going to be purchasing some of the banners to put down Lake Road and some other areas in the community which the Mayor and Superintendent can decide where they want to put them all. They measure 2 foot by 5 foot and I am going to let the Mayor and the Finance Director handle that. Councilperson Stark stated I had brought up last week about some small business and discussed it a little bit and I wondering if at Council Worksession if we could talk about doing a small business Saturday or small business week that we could get the local people to go and frequent some of our businesses or do like a small business of the month but I was going to bring that up at Worksession to discuss maybe some things as a city that we can do to promote some small businesses that we have locally. President Rosso stated feel free to bring up anything you want at Worksession, Mr. Smith will be here running it then. **NEW BUSINESS:** Mayor Bring advised if anybody turns around and smiles you are on camera tonight. We are testing a camera system out and I have been talking about this for 3-1/2 years and we are working on that. There are 2 cameras sit up tonight but there is no audio on it so none of your voices are going to be heard but you will be filmed and recorded. We are going to move forward with that, we are going to be getting another camera that will be facing the audience and will be getting the audio for that. So we will be contacting WOW or You Tube or however we are going to do this for people that don't believe that we actually have meetings. We will be able to show them that we do. A lot of people at home can't come to meetings and I know people miss that so I think that this will be a big help and everybody can see what is going on and watch this from their room in the house. We are kind of just testing this tonight. Treasurer Woods advised on Memorial Day, if anybody wants to have a nice little breakfast – Amvet's puts on a breakfast at approximately 9 o'clock. The guys go around to the different parks and cemeteries and we do a 21 gun salute for Veterans and we end up at Amvet's and then right after that we have breakfast. So if anybody would like to come, you are all invited.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Council#021 – EMERGENCY – an ordinance authorizing the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio to participate with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the purchase of sodium chloride for the 2015-2016 winter season, and the declaring of an emergency.

*Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl for SUSPENSION OF RULES.

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

*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei for ADOPTION:

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

Ordinance Passes#21-15

Council#022 – 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 the declaring of an emergency.

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

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

*Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl for ADOPTION:

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

Ordinance Passes#22-15

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: President Rosso stated this Saturday May 16 is PRIDE DAY from 8 am to 2 pm up here at city hall where you can drop off things.

Councilman Kovach stated all that information that I read off to everybody is right on line you can find a lot of this at www.sheffieldbicentennial.org and you can also visit the Bicentennial Shop where there are quite a few things that people maybe interested in; jersey's, t-shirts. Finance Director Smith advised as well as www.sheffieldlake.net - our website.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this council, Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to adjourn at 8:26 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.

CLERK OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES

Kay Fantauzzi

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Rick Rosso

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 12, 2015.

MAYOR

Dennis Bring