

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
November 2, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Tuesday, November 2, 2015. Chairman Cizl called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Cizl, Rosso, Mayor Bring, Stark, Kovach, Smith, Erdei, Wtulich,
McCullough

Attending: Demo Board: Gee

*Motion by Erdei/Second by Smith to accept the minutes of the September 1, 2015 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

SEWER CREDITS/UNPAID CHARGES FOR TAX DUPLICATE:

728 Hollywood in the amount of \$93.80. After a brief review/discussion, *Motion by McCullough/Second by Kovach to TABLE for further information. Yeas All.

675 Devonshire in the amount of \$207.70. After a brief review/discussion, *Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to TABLE for further information. Yeas All.

714 Oakwood Ave., in the amount of \$197.65. After a brief review/discussion, *Motion by Kovach/Second by McCullough to TABLE for further information. Yeas All.

778 Lakewood Beach Dr., in the amount of \$308.20. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Stark to approve the sewer credit of \$308.20. Yeas All.

President Rosso advised Dennis what do you think about until the Water Department or whoever has had the ability or the time to go out and do an investigation on these sewer credits to not even send them to Council. Mayor Bring advised what I am doing right now, I am taking a sheet of paper with a list things that they need to put on there and the other thing is I am going to have one of the guys in the Water Department if they did do it or they didn't do it and if they did do it then I want a little note from them saying what exactly they found. That way no more of this stuff though. Councilman McCullough stated when they say they have a water break and it is summer time you should see a discernible difference in the grass where that water is being watered heavily and where it is not. I don't care if it is 6 feet down or not that is going to eventually get to the surface and that you should be able to see it, almost see the outline of it. Chairman Cizl stated I know we have the authority in the committee for these but I really don't feel comfortable making any judgements without some committee or some government agency making a recommendation to us. Councilman McCullough stated what I am saying is is one of the things is in summer time is how you can tell. President Rosso stated that is the other thing as you

are putting this list together and stuff, would it be possible for the Water Department to submit them the Friday before. Mayor Bring advised I agree and for some reason they were scrambling today which I don't know why. President Rosso stated if we get them the Friday before then everybody has got a few days to get a chance to read them, if they didn't check their email today they wouldn't have seen them.

Councilman McCullough stated this one suggestion and this will never happen while I am on Council, just a suggestion something that might help. When these people ask for a sewer credit, right now they are writing something out. If they are given a check list and they are giving something that is under penalty of perjury I attest these facts are to be known and true, you are going to get more of the real thing rather than shoot somebody left something on. Unfortunately somebody's hot water tank blowing up is probably going down our drains. Not saying it is, I know when ours blew up it went outside but I didn't take any time to put a sewer credit through it was only like \$20 or \$30. I am just saying that that is something I would consider maybe and I don't know maybe that has to go through Ordinance. Mayor Bring advised first of all that would have to go through the Law Director which I think is going to be a waste of time. I think if I just do this format and make it real easy and simple and make sure the employee of the Water Department checks it then I will have an idea and that way I can ask questions and you guys get it a little earlier and be done. I have found out under oath they don't always tell the truth. If it means money out of their pocket and they thing they can get away with it then they are going to get away with it. Chairman Cizl advised I agree with Rick, we as a committee and I bet they are scrambling the day of a meeting – then it would for another month. Mayor Bring advised I know that Kay called over for how many sewer credits and they were still working on them at 12:00 when I was still here. So I have to ask and that is why I was almost late getting over here because I was over there talking to Pat about all this and he was telling me what was going on. I told him I need to know because obviously I didn't find out until today. The fact is if these don't get in here on time then fine they will have to wait another month.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mayor Bring advised we did get the first shipments in for a number of the water meters. They have been cutting the holes with the plasma cutter and that is going quite well and I am anticipating that is going to start next week. Once they get rolling here they are going to send a crew in and get quite a bit done. I would imagine you guys are going to get some phone calls from these people running around and stuff. Hopefully everything is going to be good, we have already had meetings on it and they are all identified and the trucks are going to be identified. We should be in good shape with that. Something that did happen is that we had a company come in and they are putting fiber optics in our city and I think the company is based out of Kentucky. It is a pretty large company and they are putting it all over the State of Ohio and everywhere else. I think Verizon is paying this company to do this. They went underground, they had one of those machines that

go underground, they fill out a paper for a permit and they paid that fee but they were supposed to have engineering and an engineer on site and everything else to watch over and make sure that everything was going well. Meanwhile they hit a gas line, we had everything marked out on Ferndale where they were supposed to go, all in blue lines with the water line and everything. They were supposed to go a certain depth and we found out that they were crisscrossing our water line and going over top of our water line with fiber optics and doing a little research with that there was another town that actually hit one of those fiber optics and it cost the town \$250,000.00 to repair. So Pat took me over there and we shut that project down so I want them to tear that out that they have already put in so we are in a battle with them right now. We are having a meeting with them tomorrow but they were supposed to go down I think 42 inches or down 27 inches and they were on the wrong side of the street. Like I said there is no way that we can repair that water line if something would break without hitting that fiber optic. So this is going to be an on-going thing so you might hear a little bit about this or you might not. The people that were doing the job were Russian, the 3 workers couldn't even speak English but the head guy was also Russian but he at least spoke English but he said all I am doing is my job. So I told him you are not doing your job anymore because you are shutdown so they continued down there a little bit so then I sent the Police over there and shut them down. Since that we have probably got 15 phone calls from this company and now all of a sudden they want to be real nice to us. We are not real happy with this, I just want everybody to know. Chairman Cizl advised I noticed there was a massive gas break or shutdown on the 900 block of Warwick Drive, they came to the house and said we are shutting off all the meters and will come back. Was that the same street – Warwick? Mayor Bring answered no that was something else. The one they hit the other day they shut down and they did correct. When Columbia Gas comes in and they start running lines or checking lines they actually run camera's and stuff down our sewer lines and they also do like almost an x-ray so that they know how far down they go and everything. They take the time and it is all engineered out and everything is very professional when they do this. This was just a total cluster and they just started dwelling but unfortunately they got all the way down Harris Road before we caught them. That other thing was something else. Chairman Cizl stated I just happened to be there and "road closed" and the guy knocked on my door and said we are shutting your meter off and you won't have gas for a while and we will come in and check your house when we turn it back on. I told him I won't be here and he said do you want to leave your door open. Mayor Bring asked did the guy have a tag on him, everything was legit? Chairman Cizl answered yes he was from Columbia, there were 20 people and one of them was someone I knew. Mayor Bring stated if you have pilot lights and stuff like that they just come back in for your hot water tank that is why they need to turn it on so they can check that stuff for you. He continued with report, we got the striping done on the roads so that is all taken care of. We are continuing to clean out

some of the ditches. There was a whole list of projects and we are getting pretty much caught up on all that and we will probably be after this winter time working on next year's road list. We did get turned down for that grant for the pump station over there, a little bit of politics in that. One of the reasons why we got turned down is because we haven't applied for anything for a number of years. The reason we haven't applied for anything in a number of years is because we didn't have any money so we made the comment yes we didn't apply but we couldn't afford to have any matching funds so that is why we didn't. I told Pat to ask them do you realize what the situation is and he said yes we are but it is still that you get points taken off. So anyway we re-applied for another grant and after talking with a gentleman he was not very happy with us at first and then we kind of gave him what was going on with our sewer and everything else because we actually applied for catastrophe and he said why would you apply for catastrophe and Pat politely explained the situation of overflows to the lake. So he said no that isn't any good so we told him what the situation is and that pump is a huge problem over there and it is going to cost us a lot of money and we are asking for money to borrow at a rate and also get some other things. That being said we did reapply on a different grant so hopefully that will take. I just think it is ashame that we get kicked back because we haven't applied because we don't have any money. Now that we can actually afford to start doing some projects we get put on the bottom, we were actually dead last on that out of 53 and that was the reason. So anyway we are taking care of that. Again the water meter thing is going to get going here so this will be interesting to see how this all works out, I am actually excited. Councilman Erdei stated on South Street, we were riding our bikes that one storm sewer or whatever, I don't know if they hit with the tractor when they were cutting that or whatever but it is knocked off its foundation kind of. Chairman Cizl stated the grate is off the concrete? Councilman Erdei stated yes it is the one that sits up too high for the ditch and it is knocked off I would say at least maybe a foot or better. I don't know if that is the way it is supposed to be because I didn't stop and inspect it but I mean it looked kind of not right. Mayor Bring advised somebody may have hit it I will have them check that. Councilman Erdei stated one other thing this company that is running this line, they couldn't put it up from telephone pole to telephone pole? Mayor Bring answered that was discussed. I will tell you that Avon Lake, North Ridgeville and Avon all shut them down too because they had similar problems and then they came in with their engineering and once they came in with their engineering which they should have done over here then everything got straightened out. We are not trying to chase them away we just want it done right but we are not going to allow them to put that on our water line like that because like I said it would just be a matter of time until we would have a break and hit that. First of all I don't think our insurance company is going to pay \$250,000.00 for us breaking a fiber optic. Chairman Cizl stated I know when the schools ran their fiber optic it was above ground for the connections to all their computers and all that. Councilman

Erdei stated it is easier to repair. Chairman Cizl stated I have 2 questions; someone read their minutes and asked you are starting to do leaves. I kind of told them yes we are in a trial basis so they asked are we going to be doing anything to help the senior citizens or whatever else in the community? I told them not at this point the Mayor said this will be gradually do this. Mayor Bring stated this year will only be that we will get the machine out to do some of the ditches to prevent some flooding and then in the spring time we will probably do some more of that and then later on next fall is when we will probably get some small program and work gradually into this. Right now we absolutely don't have the manpower, we got the machines but we did not get one of the trucks as they wanted a little bit too much money. Right now we couldn't afford that so we are going to convert one of our other trucks. No I can't promise that and I know the senior citizens but we would be jumping all over town for that right now if we do that for them then we should do it for everybody. We just have to be careful of that. Chairman Cizl stated I think they are coming from other cities have the leaf collection this time of year and we don't do it. Mayor Bring advised it is very costly to have that done and that is why we haven't done that in a long time plus we didn't have the machine but it will get going we are just in baby steps. Chairman Cizl stated the other question was and I wish I would have seen my personal water bill because I didn't my wife took care of it. They said is it true that we are already paying for the meters and they haven't put them in yet. Mayor Bring stated yes. Chairman Cizl stated I told I assume but they have already started – that is what I said. Mayor Bring advised we had to purchase them and everything else. Chairman Cizl stated they kind of assumed I think that they would start paying for them when we get them. Mayor Bring stated when you build an erector set you buy the thing then you put it together but you still got to pay for it. Councilman Smith stated you had to have that to borrow the money. Councilman Wtulich asked do we have a program for replacing the street signs, do you just call? Mayor Bring answered yes you need to call. Councilman Wtulich stated I noticed there is a lot down, a lot missing when we were going around doing that voting for Halloween. Mayor Bring stated we will have to check that, what happens is they are actually stealing them. There was one other thing that I wanted to bring up is we have a water meter over by you on Thelma or Gayle that has been leaking for about 3 months now or I should say it is a valve that is 1920 something and if that thing breaks. We have been trying to fix it we are going to have to shut down Lake Road, we are trying to be real cautious. We have been over there 3 or 4 times and we thought we had it and it is still leaking. It may not be a good thing. Councilperson Stark stated so except my water to go bye-bye. Mayor Bring advised that is the thing if we get in there, do you do it during the week when people are at work or do you do it on the weekends – what do you do? Once it is shut down it is a whole new valve so it is going to take almost a whole day to fix that and that is if everything goes together correctly because it is so old. Councilperson Stark stated the last time didn't we have 5 other holes blow in the one

by my house? Mayor Bring stated yes but those were fixed, this is down at the other end. Councilman McCullough stated leaf collection; is there any way that you could possibly model when that happens or get some permission like they do in Avon Lake. They use retired guys and they pay them minimum wage that would more than love to do the work. They get out there and have their own little thing and they work 2 months or whatever it is and they are done. Mayor Bring answered I would have to get the ok from the union. Councilman Smith advised I don't think they use retired people. Councilman McCullough reiterated yes they do I know 3 of the retired people that work on that. Chairman Cizl clarified what city is this? Councilman McCullough stated Avon Lake. President Rosso stated they could be part-time. Mayor Bring stated when you start doing all this stuff it cost money. Councilman Smith stated the cost is almost \$400,000.00 a year to pick up leaves. What do you think it is going to cost us? Councilman McCullough stated \$600,000.00. Councilman Smith answered try \$250,000.00. Councilman McCullough stated to pick up leaves? Councilman Smith stated if you have overtime paying all the time, picking up leaves 3 times going through the city. You don't pick up leaves once and be done, you got to pick it up 3 continuous times. Otherwise you are defeating the purpose, it is huge money. Councilman McCullough stated but they are using part-time people, they are not using their people. Councilman Smith stated they use their people to run the equipment because they are not going to let part-time people run these equipment's where they are going to get sucked into stuck. I talked to Eddy Moran over there and I know how much it cost to run, they spend that much money on picking up leaves. We did a survey in the city when Dennis was on Council and the figures were \$200,000 to \$300,000.00 because you got to do it so many times for so many weeks and we got how many guys and you are going to be paying all them guys overtime all the time that you are going to work them to death and the money is just going to keep stacking up. It is a big chunk of change that is why baby steps is the best way to go. Mayor Bring concurred you are 100% correct.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ditch cleanings; Day Ditch by Holl/Shoemaker Ditch – north of Richelieu, east side by Buckeye – discussed above. Mayor Bring advised the street over there by Bill – Holl Avenue, we did find a piece of debris in one of those pipes and I think that might have been part of the problem why we were getting some flooding and since we removed that we haven't had any problems now. So we did find something. Chairman Cizl asked was that underneath the street? Mayor Bring answered yes. Chairman Cizl asked what was the debris? Mayor Bring answered another piece of pipe that broke off and they found it. It doesn't take much when you obstruct the course of the water, it is going to go someplace. We are going to continue to try and get more of that out and we are talking now about the other ditches that runs all the way along there that is actually on private property and figure out how we are going to address all that stuff too because that is getting worse too. We haven't figures that

one out yet. Chairman Cizl stated it is not going to get any better. Councilman Erdei stated I see from Abbe headed west on Walker you guys been digging and sewer pipe in. I haven't been down that way in about a week but have they gotten any farther down or are they stopped right at that person's property? Mayor Bring advised we are going to go a little further but we are not putting any more pipe in, it is going to be an open ditch and then we are going to level all that off. We haven't gotten to that but I wanted to get some of that done before winter time so in case we get any of those heavy rains that water does drain because we were getting a lot of flooding on that corner down there. Part of the problem which we are probably going to have to address is that since the one gentleman bought the farm to the south of us over there on Buckeye and stuff, he tiled all that but it seems like we are getting much more water coming our way and I think that is creating a little bit of flooding problems. We are going to have to figure out what is going on with that, that is going to be storm water which we are getting penalized for so that is something that we need to start talking about. I am going to do a little more research on that and figure out where all this water is coming from. The last few rains over there back in Buckeye has really gotten inundated and then that whole woods which never held that much water, the deer were actually coming out of the woods because they couldn't lay down and there was a foot of water in the whole woods over there. That is just way too much to be coming out of there for just rain. Something is going on and we got to figure it out.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Yeas All.

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

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Kay Fantauzzi

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Mark Cizl

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Rick Rosso

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Alan Smith

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committee Of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is A true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Roads & Drains Committee of November 2, 2015.