

**Minutes of the Safety Committee  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
March 4, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, March 4, 2015. Chairman Wtulich called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

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

\*Motion by Cizl/Second by Stark to accept the minutes of the February 4, 2015 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

***CORRESPONDENCE: None.***

***PRESENTATIONS: None.***

***Reports from Safety Forces:***

***Police Chief Campo*** – Police Chief Campo reported I have distributed the 2014 stat's, if anybody has any questions on those. We were down in numbers in some important places. I have the MOU from Lorain County Commissioners that we need to sign for entering into the new world. It is the software system that the entire county will share among all the Police Departments. We will be able to access each other's data, reports, bookings from the county jail. There is all kinds of different things, there is a computerized dispatch program with it. All the departments as of this week are on board and I was pretty resistant to it at first because of the way we will have to maintain our system for a while until we build a new system. At some point we will just stop using our old system, so we will have to have 2 systems in place for a while. All the departments in Lorain County are getting on board with this and there is a cost savings. The county is paying for the software and our yearly maintenance agreement will go down but we have to go with a 10 year agreement with this. I talked to Law Director Graves and he suggests that the legislation for the city to enter into this agreement is requested by this Safety Committee. So I am bringing that to your attention this evening. I have a copy of the MOU here and I can answer any questions about this system that anybody

would have. The one main problem we are going to have here is they are already doing build sessions. That is what they are calling them; build sessions for this data base ware. There are 3 or 4 day sessions where they need somebody from each department at these sessions to enter in your businesses, your Officers, your precinct's, your different wards. All the information that we have amassed for years in our systems to now build this new system. I don't know how I am going to have people at these 4 day sessions from now until August 30<sup>th</sup>, there is probably 14 or 15 of these sessions that are 3 and 4 days each. I don't know how I am going to have somebody at those, I guess I will figure it out but it is going to be difficult. Our Sergeant that I wanted to send already told me today that he is on vacation for 2 of the weekly sessions. They told us that it is minimum 3 sessions that you have to be at out of the 4 each time. There is 3 or 4 a month from now until August. So I don't know how I am going to do that, maybe I will ask the Mayor for another provisional full-time appointment while this is going on. I don't know how we will do it otherwise. Mayor Bring advised of what an MOU is and what this does is that they can communicate information if they arrest somebody or if they pick up somebody they can pick up data from other cities and communicate like that. It is just another tool and the problem that we are looking at is that some of the old information that we had stored which Chief Campo does use on occasions. As a matter of fact he uses it quite a bit, going back and checking somebody if we arrest someone because a lot of our arrest are people that are in this community and there is not a lot from outside the community. The background from years and years and years ago tells them everything they know about this person. So that is the only thing that he is worried about losing that and keeping that in the storage somehow. I think that we are going to find out about that or do we know. Police Chief Campo advised they want \$18,000.00 to transfer our existing data into this new program and nobody is paying for that. The bigger cities are already on this; Lorain, Elyria, the Sheriff's Department. The little cities are now all getting on it and none of them are paying for the data transfer, so what they are doing is running their old systems without maintenance agreements with them – canceling them and running the old systems to just be able to go in and get data from and not enter anything new but use the new system. With the hopes of building that new system up to where your

old system is. Now we have been online in our department since 2002 but our dispatchers spent a whole year, 8 hours a shift entering card files on people into our system from the 50's. It is a very valuable data base, we live by that system – that is everything, that is our whole city. To let that go, I was really resistant to that but the other benefits are out weighing us not going to it. Mayor Bring asked does this help you too Tim? Fire Chief Card advised I guess once they get that installed there will be something on the antenna that we will be able to piggy-back off of that and according to Vasu should help our communications with our portable radios and our mobiles. Mayor Bring advised we do have dead zones now, they walk into a building sometimes and they can't hear anything and it has been a huge problem for the last 9 months to a year. Fire Chief Card stated I put that in my report about the communications - that is what I was talking about the cheaper way that Vasu was talking about. That is what he says we could go that route and we could still have an issue and then the next thing is voters and repeaters and all that and I am not getting clear answers from these people. Police Chief Campo advised we need that legislation sooner than later so we can start attending these builds and get caught up to where everybody else is at. Councilman Cizl asked can we get a copy of the memorandum of understanding, you know if we have to recommend it but obviously I go by your recommendation. You know, coming from us I would just feel more comfortable understanding it. Police Chief Campo advised Law Director Graves told me that he would request that it be recommended by the Safety Committee that the legislation be done. Also our new hardware is as we speak being installed in the station. That is going to be a huge help to us, our hardware is breaking down all the time and it takes sometimes a half hour to log in to do a report. The company is at our station now putting the new hardware in and hopefully that will be done here soon. Councilperson Stark asked the person that you have to send over to the data, does it have to be somebody from the Police Department? Police Chief Campo answered yes. Councilperson Stark asked so you couldn't swear somebody in to be an honorary something or another and let them go? Police Chief Campo answered no, there is training involved all our dispatchers are probably going to have to go to these sessions at some point and get trained on the computerized dispatch. I need to send an Officer who is going to be actually involved with the

system and has knowledge of what we need in the system. Somebody who has not been around for a while is not going to know what we need in the system. I wanted to send Sergeant Corr, as a matter of fact that is who I am going to send. That will take him off weeks at a time, off of his patrol shift and I can't spare somebody as it is off the road. We are just shorthanded. Mayor Bring stated the problem with the new system is people like me who are old and you get on a computer and you don't know all the technology stuff so they are going to have to learn a new system. We have got some gentlemen over there that are a little older than the younger kids who pick up things very quickly. So this is going to be a learning process for all our Policemen. So we need to get this down and be able to teach these guys how to run this because once it gets in the system then we will have to go full board with it. It is like everything else, everybody can learn things but sometimes it takes a little longer than others. Councilman Cizl stated so our person is going to be providing the training because he is getting the training, he will be providing the training to all the other Officers when they need it right? Mayor Bring stated they are going to help out too. Police Chief Campo stated I am not sure how that is going to happen, whether they will send people here to actually train our users or they will have sessions at the county 911 building. I don't know if we will have to send people there or they will send people here to actually learn the use of the actual program. This system will do everything, it will be our evidence bar coding system that we have been using for years. We canceled the maintenance agreement on that a long time ago because of the cost. This will have one of those with it. The server will be at the county, we won't have to maintain a server here anymore. They will be responsible for that and the cost for the maintenance agreement are being broke down by the number of Officers. Ours is going to be much smaller then Lorain's or even Avon Lake's, so the cost benefit is there. Councilperson Stark asked so would it be better to do a temporary person for say 90-days or 2 part-timers? Police Chief Campo answered I am not really asking for that right now, I just through that out there as an idea only because I don't know how I am going to do it. If I have Sergeant Corr at all these build sessions I don't know how I am going to fill his shifts but we are going to have to think of something. Then while he is on vacation I need to have somebody there in his place. So that will probably be our head Dispatcher

Martin. We have to have somebody at these sessions. Councilperson Stark stated I just didn't know availability wise if it would be smarter to look at 2 people part-time so you had a little more flexibility. You know if we went down that road what would be. Police Chief Campo stated another option would be to take my Detective and put him in uniform to fill these shifts. I hate to do that because then when I need him to work a case he is not there. Councilperson Stark stated I think it be if you are going to put somebody in for 90 days – that would be your better bet.

***Fire Chief's report*** – Fire Chief Card reported 2 of my guys are going to bring over the rescue board that the Coast Guard donated to us so you guys can see what it is instead of me trying to explain it to you. He continued on vehicle maintenance, squad 72 – the brand new one, well I guess it is almost 2 years old now just went out for an oil change and tire rotation and we also had some warranty issues with it; the oil pan was leaking so they had to fix that. There is an issue with the heat that they apparently don't know what they are going to do with because Chevy just doesn't know what to do with it. So they are putting a bulletin out on that. I guess that is the beginning of them admitting that they have an issue because our ambulance wasn't the only chassis in that shop that had that issue. There were other vehicles like school buses that are on that same chassis that weren't getting the heat when that are at idle. If you are driving down the road it gets very hot but when we are idling on scene and it starts blowing cold air. We need heat especially when it is cold like it has been. So we are trying to figure out what the issue is with that with our ambulance right now. Squad 71 which is the 2008, that one needs the turbo rebuilt on it and that is going to be an estimate of about a thousand bucks. It keeps throwing codes and Avon truck came out and checked it a couple of times and he just said that if it keeps throwing the code over and over eventually we will have to rebuild the turbo's so we are just going to go ahead and get that done here shortly. We got 66 and 75 are in service and 66 has been working out pretty well as a chase vehicle, if they don't need 3 guys on the call they have been returning to the station and the third guy has been returning to the station and has been available to respond on second calls as a first responder and that has happened a few times already. This year so far we are at 171 calls and I am still waiting to hear about the AFG grant and also I talked about in my annual report about the Ohio Fire Training

grant. I am still waiting on that as well. You guys probably remember appropriating the legislation for the donations that I have got. The one was from the Coast Guard and then the other one from Amherst Eagles. I finally got the check from Amherst Eagles last weekend and Lt. Novak ordered that vehicle stabilization kit – I think it was on Tuesday and we should be getting that pretty soon. The training that we have been doing EMS training, the hospitals have been coming out and training us on shift which is pretty nice as they come out about 3 times a month on a Tuesday so that they can hit every shift and they have been giving us some EMS training for an hour which helps. We do have lots of hours that we have to accumulate over a 3 year period so it is pretty nice. On 66 – we are working on getting 66 set up with all the equipment that it is going to carry. The only thing that has been slowing us down is we have to pull a truck out to pull that into the bay so I have to wait until the weather gets a little warmer so we can pull the truck out and let it set out in the parking lot. We do have a generator, it is in the back of 66 but it is not mounted the way it is going to be mounted. Once the weather breaks then we will get the equipment mounted in there the way it is supposed to be so it doesn't move while we are driving. That is going to basically carry all of our rope rescue and water rescue stuff that we have that has been sitting on a shelf or stuffed in engine 63 which will free up space on engine 63 for firefighting equipment. Chairman Wtulich asked what is that AFG grant that you mentioned? Fire Chief Card answered that is the Assistance to Firefighters grant. I applied for a new SCBA's; 22 of them and if we get it we will get 22 packs and 44 bottles; 2 bottles per pack and they will be updated all to code for all the new codes that have come out in 2013. I also applied for a new fill station. Columbia Station donated that one that we are using now, it is old and whenever we fill the cascade bottles that we got. It takes almost an hour to fill one bottle. Well then we have to shut the machine down for an hour and let it cool off because if you continue to fill the bottles the engine over heats and it just shuts itself off. Plus the new generator's are rated to fill up to 6000 PSI where that one can only go to 5000 which is better for the cascade system to fill all those bottles at 6000 and then we don't really have to run the generator that much – we can just fill from the bottles. The Firefighters brought the board in that was donated from the Coast Guard and Chief Card advised they had it pro-rated at

about \$2000.00 and I think brand new that is somewhere between \$3500.00 and \$4000.00. So they donated that to us, if somebody is out in the ice we can push that up to them and you see the sling on the bottom of it there. After they get them hooked in that sling then they get their arms in that orange sling and the rope underneath it is attached to the rope on the shore and you just pull on that and it will just pull the person right up onto the board. It was very nice of the Coast Guard to give it to us. When they came out to give us the training they brought theirs and they mentioned that they had that one that was just sitting there and they were going to fix it up and donate it to us. Mayor Bring asked will that float too? A firefighter advised yes it does float and it has built in ice picks if you need them, they are spring loaded so you just push them in and the picks come out so you can kind of pull yourself up and drag yourself onto the ice. Fire Chief Card explained that sling was something extra that I didn't know they were giving us – that yellow sling; that brand new is about \$350.00 and they pro-rated that at \$50.00. It is used but it all works. Mayor Bring asked did we send them a letter of thanks? Fire Chief Card answered David said he was going to and I am going to send them one to. Mayor Bring advised we need to bring them here so we do a thank you. Fire Chief answered I will call him and maybe have them come next Tuesday. Councilperson Stark asked how many calls are we having to make out there because I have seen people out ice-fishing a little farther out? Fire Chief Card answered so far we haven't had to deal with any ice rescue this year. The last time we actually had an ice rescue was a dog. When we out on the ice, the ice was over a foot thick – it was thick enough to drive a vehicle on. I still wouldn't walk out like where you see it packing up out there that is where you are going to find the cracks and all that that you could fall in. Then if the ice moves when you are in the middle of the ice you are just crushed, I wouldn't walk on it but it is strong suppose ably. I drive down there and look and I do see the footprints walking off the beach out onto the ice. There was a brief discussion on the iced over lake and it is unsafe to walk on it.

Mayor Bring advised if you look at the Fire Department report, just vehicle maintenance – 2012 was \$19,000.00, 2013 was \$12,000.00 almost \$13,000.00 but this past year was \$7,000.00 and that is basically attributed right to those ambulance that we got. That has been a huge benefactor. If

you go into the Police Department, patrol division; domestic dispute calls which we have quite a few of them is down considerably from last year and then total domestic related calls is down over 30 which is very good. Calls for service/on patrol is down almost 5000, traffic stops are down a little bit/traffic citations are down a little bit – so anybody that tells you that we go out and ticket everybody it is not true. It is way down. Even the misdemeanor adult arrest are way down/juvenile arrest is considerably down and total criminal arrest is down. Also if you look the patrol miles are actually up so I think the guys are out there doing their job. In calls for service, in dispatch is down considerably there too. If you look at the juvenile report; activity – 2012 was 49, 2013 was 39 and 2014 was 1. So that is down considerably too. What you are seeing in this report is that the Police are out there doing their job and the same thing at the Fire Department. They earn their money and they are doing a good job and the crime in our city is down and that is what we want to get because then people want to come in and live in the community that they can feel safe in. I would say that is pretty good because we live next to a city that if you look in the paper has quite a few violent crimes and knock on wood we don't have that. I just want to bring that up because that is always good news when you see that kind of stuff. The 2 new cars have been working pretty good and I think that we are pretty satisfied with that. We have a couple little things, we haven't had any major problems with the new Explorers other than the camera's. Police Chief Campo advised the camera's they sent us didn't work, they sent us new ones without question and we installed them and they work. Those were the only issues and the radio's that came out of the old cars didn't work so we had to purchase those. Mayor Bring advised which was no big deal they weren't that much money. So far those things are working out and we unfortunately got to use them during incumbent weather and I wish it would go away. Even with all the snow and the ice it has still been pretty quiet around here, it has been good. I don't think, have we had any structure fires? Fire Chief Card answered no, Avon Lake did – they have had 2 and our guys were at the fatal fire that they had and they just had one on Lake Road last Friday. Chairman Wtulich thanked the Chief's for the annual reports.

**NEW BUSINESS: None.**

**OLD BUSINESS: None.**

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee, \*Motion by Cizl/Second by Stark to adjourn at 7:30 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.

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CLERK OF COUNCIL

*Kay Fantauzzi*

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

*Bill Wtulich, Jr*

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Rick Rosso*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Alan Smith*

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committee Of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is A true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Safety Committee of March 4, 2015.