

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
January 4, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, January 4, 2016. Chairman Cizl called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Cizl, Rosso, Mayor Bring, Kovach, Smith, Erdei, Wtulich, Stark, Gee,
Superintendent Hastings

Attending: Park Board Gee

*Motion by Erdei/Second by Wtulich to accept the minutes of the December 7, 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. TABLED. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to UNTABLE. Yeas All. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Stark to deny the sewer credit request of 728 Hollywood in as much as no further information has been given to us after 3 months. Yeas All.

714 Oakwood Ave., in the amount of \$197.65. TABLED. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Stark to UNTABLE. Yeas All. *Motion by Kovach/Second by to deny the sewer credit request of 714 Oakwood Avenue in as much as it has sat for 3 months with no further information brought to us. Yeas All.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Superintendent Hastings advised I just have 2 things to report, at our last meeting we had discussed seeking funds for the force main and I did review the funded project list from the Ohio EPA and Sheffield Lake is on it. So that is good news. It is \$39,000.00 for the design and engineering and \$424,000.00 for the construction. Admittedly the document is 107 pages long so I haven't read it completely but basically we qualify for a standard loan. We did not meet the hardship criteria because our median income was a little bit too high and I will be following up with the EPA. We will start the design immediately and hopefully have it for bid by spring. Chairman Cizl asked and this is for? Superintendent Hastings answered this is for the force main project, the replacement for the force main. The other problem with the pump stations, the base plate and fitting that are compromising the performance will be here on the 13th of January so we will have that prepared pretty rapidly after that. President Rosso asked is that the pump station over on Devonshire? Superintendent Hastings answered yes. President Rosso stated explain to me this whole force main, what are we talking about; from where to where? Superintendent Hastings explained the force main; all the sewage is

pumped through 3 stations that gets to Devonshire and then 2 dedicated lines pump it to Lorain for treatment. One was built in 1959 and it has failed repeatedly and we have repaired it a dozen times or better. Mayor Bring added it has got lateral cracks in it. Superintendent Hastings concurred it just continues to break. We have it repaired for an emergency but if we experience high water and run it it will undoubtedly fail. So we are seeking money. President Rosso stated so we have 2 lines running from Devonshire to Lorain, one of them is okay and one needs replaced or are you going to replace both of them. Superintendent Hastings answered no just the one, the other one was installed in 1995 and it is in good shape. We originally were going to/we were holding off on that on the ladder part of the capital improvement plan because of the whole sewer system if we are successful to run some to Avon Lake we could have otherwise abandoned that or resized it or look at it a different way but that is an unknown and we have to deal with the sewage today. President Rosso stated so it is \$39,000.00 in engineering and \$424,954.00 for the actual construction. Superintendent Hastings stated that was a influence through Marcy Kaptur's legislative liaison. I met with him and they were pretty instrumental, the application period had expired but they let Sheffield Lake apply. I actually applied with 3 different sources and was turned down and then it became a problem. So through Marcy Kaptur's help we were able to submit past the deadline and ultimately get approved. President Rosso asked is this a low interest loan? Superintendent Hastings advised that is part of the 107 pages admittedly but we qualify for a standard loan which is 20 years and it is based per capita the median household income and on the market. I have to put all that together, it's a formula and I quite frankly don't have it exactly. President Rosso stated so they dig up the old one and replace it or they will put in a whole new one and abandon the existing one that is bad. Superintendent Hastings stated that estimate is for either traditional excavation and replacement or pipe bursting and pipe bursting would essentially not destroy the neighborhood which would be a nice alternative. The machine will blow it up and pull a new one behind it and it would all be underground without any disturbance because that thing runs right in everybody's front yard along the edge of the road down Devonshire, on the east side of the road. It goes around the bend up Devonshire through the woods to the railroad tracks and a sharp right and then it goes through a weir in Lorain where they monitor it by gallon and bill us accordingly. Then the other one goes straight down Devonshire West up through the paper street Dorchester through the woods but that one is okay. President Rosso stated this is what we are hoping to get done and that is why we kind of put off Devonshire repaving because we have to dig that up. Superintendent Hastings concurred yes we would have looked foolish to have done it. The down side is our original application was for \$624,000.00 to include the widening and repaving of the road so we have forgone that under this emergency. I would certainly hope everyone would consider that in our paving project for the season - Devonshire. Councilman Erdei stated at one point weren't you guys talking

about joining the 2 pipes, like making a junction and having one pipe go through. Superintendent Hastings answered yes but the design now is that these 2 pumps are separate and have 2 chambers and 2 pumps on each and what I consider a design flaw. In this situation we are not able to run all 4 pumps through one line because they are separated and I wanted to connect them. So that you can always use it for maintenance and two if you ever experience this kind of problem again, when it rains I am rather nervous. President Rosso asked you are going to do that? Superintendent Hastings answered well that is separate, I have already started on that because basically it is probably under the threshold for bidding and I generally wouldn't even need much engineering. I have pretty much already gone over it with our engineer and it is more of a pipe fitter quote.

Mayor Bring stated the rest of the water meters did come in and they are starting to put those in today, so probably 2 weeks and we will be finished with all the water meters in the city which is pretty good. The other thing is something that actually Pat discovered that Lisa got involved in. There is a base rate on your water and your sewer and everybody pays that but something that was discovered is that when these people buy these rental houses and they are fixing them up and they shut the water off and they also shut the refuse off. Then when people go to Florida or on vacations for the winter they also disconnect the refuse and sometimes the water depending on what is going on. Pat was looking at that, the base rate for the water which is part of our capital improvements should be still charged for that purpose no matter what. We were talking about also the refuse, there was a small base charge on that albeit not that much. But then in talking to Lisa we get charged per use on each resident because we turn it in as how many people have actually got their garbage picked up for that week or whatever and we turn that in so we get charged for that. So we are only getting a base rate on some of these, we are actually going to be charged more for that. The purpose of looking into this is that we are losing money on the capital improvements for the water and we are going to be looking into maybe seeing if there is already an ordinance in place for that already? Superintendent Hastings answered yes absolutely. Mayor Bring stated we just haven't been following through that and we haven't done that in a long time, so we are going to look at doing that again because we are losing I think about \$63,000.00 annually between water and sewer. The sewer thing might be a little bit more complicated and we may not end up doing that, I don't know because then we ultimately will end up losing money on that. So that is a couple of things that we have been looking at. We keep looking more and more into things that haven't been done and haven't done in the past and forgot about. President Rosso asked is the base water rate \$6.00? Mayor Bring stated so it is very minimal but if you add those all up. President Rosso stated I think years ago when Bill Gardner was here and we moved it prior to the \$4.00 maybe he explained it as these people that go to Florida for the winter time still have to pay the base rate. Chairman Cizl asked are you still thinking of eliminating the garbage refuse – you are

going to try to capture the base rates right? Mayor Bring answered right. The problem is with the refuse if we just charge the base rate and the people leave and we are not collecting that then we are getting charged full amount and then we are going to lose money on that. It is a little bit more complicated because Lisa was telling me about that. The water thing is basically already set in place and we already have that. So we may look at doing that again. The next 4 years too we are going to continue doing the same thing with the roads; grind them down and fix them up. We will be looking at getting a road list for this year again and getting that going again too. Councilperson Stark stated we had talked about there was some water pipe main issues over on Erieview/Thelma area that we had talked about at one point. Mayor Bring advised there was a valve problem over there which the last time they went over I think they actually got that fixed now. One of the things too is the buildings here; Fire Department, Service Department and stuff for water was never metered. So when we were looking for leaks and looking for the water bill and trying to figure out exactly how much we use. We had meeting after meeting trying to figure this out and going over all kinds of formulas and couldn't quite figure out what was going on. Now with these new water meters we are going to start metering these buildings so we will know exactly how much water is going where and everything else. I didn't even know that to be honest with you until later on and actually Pat told me that these buildings were never metered and we could never get an exact idea of how much the water was. Chairman Cizl advised I think that is good. I know the EPA report that we read and I think Pat shared it with us that was one of their recommendations so that is good. Mayor Bring stated this way when we get down to doing the budgets and everything else and that particular department just like this, you know there is another \$63,000.00. We always look to increasing fees for everybody and raising up, let's figure out exactly where all this money is going and that is what we have been trying to do. That is kind of the goal, let's get our house fixed first before we start charging more money.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ditch cleanings; Day Ditch by Holl/Shoemaker Ditch – north of Richelieu, east side by Buckeye – Mayor Bring stated if you notice there has been quite a bit of that and these guys are continuing to do this. The weather has been exceptional and the guys have had more free time because of the water meters and some of the other stuff. We haven't had a tremendous amount of breaks so that part of it is good. If I could add one more thing everybody has been in the paper saying all these cities are saving money on salt, we are not going to save any money on salt because we are in a consortium. You have a minimum amount that you have to buy which is the exact same amount that we bought last year so we are still going to spend that amount of money this year on the salt because that is what we promised to buy. So we will still spend the same amount but you are not paying for the overtime, you are not paying

for the wear & tear on the trucks and you are not paying the fuel costs. So there is a lot of savings there but as far as the actual salt everybody is all happy. Some of these other cities and I don't know how they are buying it, if they are buying direct basis just through that and maybe they don't have to do that. The way we have been set up and it has worked for us very well and we have got a big bin back there if we have to store this stuff for the winter so be it. I would rather see it sitting there then being on the streets and going into the lake. We will be looking and Pat and I have been talking about doing the brine and some of the other stuff basically because of the lake, we are probably going to do some kind of a report on that in a few months too. That seems to be a better process but we will see.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to adjourn at 7:20 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 January 4, 2016.