

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
May 2, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, May 2, 2016. Chairman Cizl called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

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

Attending: Park Board Gee

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to accept the minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

**SEWER CREDITS/UNPAID CHARGES FOR TAX DUPLICATE: None.**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** *Mayor Bring* advised the on-going issue with the water meters, we had 400 to 600 that were not read and there is a hand-held reader and they have not trained anybody over there in the hand-held. The person that they did train was Pat and only for a brief time. I mean he doesn't even know how to use it yet to be honest with you. But when they took him out there they did the hand-held and read all these meters supposedly. So when they brought it back and we were going to apply the bills the other night, Lisa noticed that none of those were registered. So she called NECO which is part of the Neptune thing and said none of these are recorded and they said how come you didn't use the hand-held and Lisa told them I don't know anything about the hand-held. She told them I am not trained on that and there is only one person that was and he went out with the salesperson and they said to Lisa why are you using the salesperson and Lisa told them because that is who you sent out here. There was a big to-do, back and forth and finally our Lisa just said look I am just going to turn it over to the Mayor. So then her whole attitude on the other end of the phone got really nice and said well let me find out exactly what is going on. So needless to say, the hand-held did not register about 400 to 600 people so they are going to get estimated. We called them and I talked to David and we were going to send a nasty gram to them and they promised they would have everything fixed by tomorrow. So what they are doing is they are actually putting the other receiver up on the water tower. I walked over there tonight and they were there putting all the ground work in and they are going to come back tomorrow and put that up there. That should be able to read the rest of the city and we are still going to put up another one which is up here yet if need be but that should resolve that part of the problem. So we are still going to go through one more episode here with these estimates on some people. I put it on the BUZZ and I think we put it on the water bill just to inform everybody. But like I said we are just trying to get through these final

hiccups and get this through. I have been much more adamant on taking care of the problem and they know that I am not happy about it but they are trying everything they possibly can to correct it. All I want to do is not have the people coming in and screaming at Lisa over there. So we are getting there but I just want to let you guys know so if anybody calls we are very close but still got a couple little hiccups. He continued we talked about the crack sealer recently so we are actually going to start that process real soon here. We figure we are going to do it before it gets to be too hot and get this thing going. So we are probably going to spend between 12,000 and 15,000.00 on that but I will say that it is much needed and that will save a lot of money on the repairs. So that should start pretty soon so if you see the guys out there. The other thing is that we still have a couple of water leaks going on, actually one is right in front of Mr. Rosso's – if you look at that little blue arrow out there. We have a major leak in front of your house and your water is going to get shut-off by the way. Our usage, we were between 31 and 36 million gallons of water for the month and we are now down to 18 so that is how much water we were losing. The one in front of your house is supposed to be a pretty good size and this all goes back to us trying to figure out where the water was going and what was going on so this is what we are finding out. The gentleman did the whole city and I think he found 11 more and 4 of those were just very small so we took care of those right away. So they have 7 more to do but the one seems to be a little bit larger and all the rest seem to be relatively small. But with that little piece of equipment there that that gentleman has and I don't know how much it is but he charges \$7000.00 but that \$7000.00 compared to the 18,000.00 that we were spending in one month so it was well worth it. But I will probably be looking into seeing how much one of those pieces of equipment are and the reason being is that he actually zeroed in on exactly the spots where the water was. Our guys get close but they end up digging spots here and there and with this thing it pin-pointed right to the spot. So I am going to look into it and if it is way too much I will let you know but we will be trying to find some piece of equipment like that. We have had some pretty good size rains here and the city has fared pretty well with all this stuff. We still have a lot of ditches to do. Sheffield Village was working over on Oster Road and they connected some more water into our drains and we are going to have to talk to Mr. Hunter about that because he said there is no more water coming our way but I have to do a little research on that because they did hook up those drains before they were open ditches. I did have a gentleman stop in and complain about a couple of little streets as far as them not getting paved. It was by Dock's Tavern and back in there which that street has always been a gravel street. I told him what our plans were and that we have been methodically going through the city and paving some of the streets not like we were before. He then said well some of the streets are falling apart even though you have paved them and I told I agree with you 100% but I said the streets were not engineered for the amount of heavy traffic like garbage trucks, buses and everything else. Originally and I know some of

you guys have been here forever and some of these streets are just gravel and dirt. You know they put gravel over top of them and then they pave over top of this so it has never been really properly engineered. He said why are you doing that and I told him that is the best we can do and I said if you want the whole street done as far as curbs and drains, I said we would be able to do one street a year so your street would be 50 years away from getting done. Just so you know because he was all bent out of shape about that but I was trying to be blatantly honest with him. Yes, we still have problems but we are trying to do the best we can and we are trying to get some of these streets done. We still have a lot of streets falling apart and I do agree with that but we have two hundred and some thousand dollars a year that we spend on the roads and we spend every dime on that stuff and that is what we are doing. If any of you guys have any other ideas other than that I don't know what to say but that is the best we can do. We are going to continue doing the cleaning of the ditches and then the other stuff and like I said we are going to try. Scott started this morning and with him being on board and able to operate some of the equipment some more things will be getting done here very shortly. Councilman Erdei asked is that a hand-held device that guy has that he goes around and checks for water leaks? Mayor Bring answered it is kind of and he puts these muff's on and has some kind of detector but I don't know how much it is. But he also has if they hear something and they can't find it they have a drill and they drill down and they take core tests and that is when they pin-point exactly where the water is. It is pretty nice to have something like that because when we got over on Thelma over there, I know that road has got spots everywhere because we were having all kinds of issues because that road has 8 inches or 9 inches of concrete over it. So it makes it kind of hard to find stuff when it starts running underneath it. We dig it up and find out it is 20-feet away over here. Councilman Erdei stated these lines like in front of Rick's house, those water lines are what 50 years old or better. Mayor Bring answered yes and 8 inches but the sewer line is 12 inches. So the water that is actually leaking is going into the 12-inch sewer line. President Rosso stated I would say those water lines are a lot older 50 years old because we are and they have been there ever since we have been here. Councilman Erdei stated I drive around the city and I still notice people have their gravel driveways or whatever and their pipes underneath it are caved in. You clean so many ditches like on Lafayette there, some people are cleaning all their ditches and then you still got 2 or 3 that are not getting taken care of and then all that water is backing up. That is the property owners responsibility, is there anything we can do or say? Mayor Bring answered that is what the Property Maintenance Officer is and he has been addressing a lot of other issues but that will be the next thing on the list. As a matter of fact we have some stuff down here on Lafayette, one of the lady's driveways is up in the air and blocking the last 6 or 8 houses on Lafayette and causes back up. If they don't do that then we will probably go in and just tear it out and assess her because it needs to be done. Councilperson Gee stated on that pump plate

that you were going to return that we didn't need, did you decide whether to return it or keep it in stock if we needed it. Mayor Bring answered honestly I don't know. Councilperson Gee asked the gentleman on the corner of Ferndale, how did that work what Pat did over there for his issue with the odor coming out of the storm drain? Mayor Bring answered I don't know if he took care of that yet either. I also had some people emailing me about tearing up some of the roads with water leaks and stuff. So I had some people email me and say when are you going to fix this and I emailed them back and said look it just started getting a little bit nicer out so please be patient. We are methodically going around and repairing these so people have to understand it just started getting nicer out. I am getting a lot of emails about things like that and there is only so much we can do and with the ground being saturated if we throw down grass seed right now it will either get washed away or it is not going to grow right away. We fixed some of them but we still have several of them to go yet. Councilperson Gee asked is there any further information on that tarring trailer? Mayor Bring answered no we have the last reading coming up on the second Tuesday of the month. Councilperson Gee asked who is going to be in charge of keeping that cleaned out after we buy it? Mayor Bring answered the guys that are using it will be. This will be a lot easier to actually clean then the other one, the other one they had to actually physically get inside and do that. I don't believe they are going to have to do that in this one. Councilperson Gee asked they keep record on all of that? Mayor Bring answered yes but after 20 years I would say we pretty much got our money's worth out of that and if we can get 20 years out of this one then it should be great. Chairman Cizl asked on the back of the water bills, are they still saying 2015? Mayor Bring answered they might be, I will have to have CMI check that out. Chairman Cizl stated I thought mine said 2016 and somebody said nope mine is 2015. He continued the one thing that I am hearing more than anything else as far as the water meters is, I know that the winter and I know we paid for and authorized it months ago and I know we have to wait for the winter and all the installation but most people seem to be unhappy with the fact that they are paying for the water meters and they are still being estimated. Is there anything that I can say as a Councilman? Mayor Bring advised the thing of it is that we had to order the water meters and we already paid for the water meters and it was all part of the process. It is not instantaneous and it is what it is. It is like any project you do there is a cost and when you live in a city you have cost, the city cannot absorb everything that goes on around here. Just like the water usage and everything else and people have to understand that. It is no different than Columbia Gas, your electric or your phone service or anything else. They come out and put in a line you are still paying for that line regardless. You are still paying for the gas you get so it is the same thing with these water meters. We have had a few people complain about that and I got 1 or 2 emails about that and I just email them back and said we paid for this stuff and it takes time to install it and get everything hooked up. It was three thousand and seven hundred and some meters and they think

it should be done like that, it doesn't happen like that. Chairman Cizl stated I just wondered if there is some assumption on residents thinking that once they are installed then it will be paid for versus we pay for them and we will wait for them to all be installed. You know it is like well I paid for it and I am not getting the benefits, I am just wondering if that is probably the issue? Mayor Bring answered yes they are, it just probably hasn't happened. It is basically now but after tomorrow when they get everything and everybody will be hooked up. You can't possibly do that where these are in but those are not so we can't charge them, it is ridiculous and I have heard that a couple of times. I always ask them are you seriously asking this question and they always say I don't get it and I tell them neither do I. I stood in the Water Department for 5 or 6 days just a couple of weeks ago and took all the calls and all the people coming in there and I explained to them and for the most part I think that everybody understood. There was a couple of them that just totally misunderstanding on how things work and it is what it is. I can't satisfy everybody.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*Ditch cleanings; Day Ditch by Holl/Shoemaker Ditch – north of Richelieu, east side by Buckeye – addressed above.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mayor Bring advised remember that Pride Day is coming up, May 21<sup>st</sup>. So if anybody has anything to be thrown away we are going to be over here. Councilperson Gee asked is there a list on the city site of what they are taking this year or not because there is always an issue about wet paint versus dry paint. There is always that issue every year. Mayor Bring answered last year we didn't take any paints at all and I think they were saying and no gasoline, no propane tanks and stuff like that. Councilperson Gee asked so it will be on the city site. Chairman Cizl stated I took 20 gallons of old paint to the recycle place in Elyria, I was there by noon and I was out by 10 after with no questions asked. President Rosso stated throw kitty litter in it and you can throw it away in regular trash. I bought a \$3.00 bag and threw it in all the cans and they are all hard by the end of the day. Councilman Wtulich asked are we accepting brush over there yet? Mayor Bring answered I still got a little bit of a pile over there yet but within the next week or so. I will see if I can't get that taken care of here in the next day or two and then we will start accepting that again. Councilman Erdei asked did that collar come in for that sewer yet? Mayor Bring answered I don't know. They mentioned something the other day because there was another one for another area in the city and I know they have both been ordered but I don't know if they came in. I just heard them talking about it when I was over there, I am assuming that it has got to be getting real close. Councilperson Gee stated the guys had a call at around 4 this morning, was that because of the rain or did something else go wrong at the pump station. Mayor Bring answered it is always on over-flow when we have the heavy rains. Chairman Cizl asked anything on the force main progress? Mayor Bring answered more to the point we are just waiting to get all the rest of the things so we can put the pipe in.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei to adjourn at 7:22 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

*Mark Cizl*

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Rick Rosso*

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 May 2, 2016.