

**Minutes of the Safety Committee
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
February 3, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, February 3, 2016. Chairman Wtulich called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

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

Attending: Councilperson Gee, Park Board Gee

*Motion by Cizl/Second by Stark to accept the minutes of the January 6, 2016 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

Reports from Safety Forces:

Police Chief Campo – Police Chief Campo reported I have a couple of things. Vasu has completed our tower out back here, I am sure you saw the new big tower to fix some issues and allowed to now be able to connect to 911 for new world. They had trainers in from 911 today to start training for new world, so we are getting that going and hope to move forward real fast there. We met with the school and the Fire Chief Card in continuing training preparation for school emergency response. Hopefully we will never have to do it but to be prepared for active shooters, bomb threats and things like that. Our crime rate is continuing to stay pretty low thankfully. I have been increasing our training hours, they are going to do in steps every year. This year it went from 4 last year to 11 hours this year and 8 of those hours have to be done at an 8 hour school in Richfield. They are going to reimburse the city as they do every year \$20.00 per hour for the training but that doesn't cover it because an Officer makes more than \$20.00 an hour. This is going to be overtime and then you have to bring somebody in to cover his shift while he is gone. So that training is going to cost us more and more every year and they keep continuing the hours. Today I got a packet from the Governor; Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board and basically this is a smaller version of what the DOJ has put in place in Cleveland. This is the state's in my opinion smaller version of it and what they are going to

make us do now starting every year is completely unreasonable. I don't know how we are going to do it, maybe Lorain or Elyria they have a couple of inside support unit guys that they can just put on this. But when you have a department like ours where you are just getting the schedule filled, I don't know how we are going to do this. There is everything from on-site inspections of our policies that are going to have to be all rewritten as far as use of force, use of deadly force, fire arms. We have to have continual training in recruitment and hiring. We have to have Officers assigned to that assignment of recruit men and hiring and they have to be continually trained and they have to be tested in recruitment and hiring and equal opportunity employment. I am going to try to assign a Sergeant this duty and between him and I try to meet these requirements. We have to apply to the state to certify our Police Department and if we don't fit their criteria I guess we won't be a Police Department and we have no choice we will have to do it but it is pretty ridiculous. Chairman Wtulich asked is there any grace period or give us any time to prepare? Chief Campo answered yes I think they want submissions to start I think February 16, they are going to start taking what they call the applications to have your department certified and then within so many days they will respond with a on-site inspection date where they are going to review our policies. Then what is going to happen is nothing as they are not going to put their stamp on anything. We will probably have to rewrite all our policies and they are recommending that we get some kind of outside – not just us but all departments, they are recommending in outside help to meet these. Chairman Wtulich asked like a consulting firm or something like that? Chief Campo answered they recommended a guy who they say peer to peer assistance who I am sure he charges. He is not going to travel the state for free or they recommend from the International Association of Chief's of Police and I know they charge. They do promotional test and they charge for everything when they come out. We will see where it goes and we will do our best but it is going to be a challenge. Councilperson Stark asked can you bring in someone or can someone volunteer to help like if it is typing stuff or does it have to be a Police Department's person or could we if say if it was a retired Police Officer or if someone just wanted to come in. Could they do that to help you guys out? Chief Campo answered the actual sitting down and typing of it is not going to be the problem. The sitting down at word pad is not going to be the problem, it is going to be the research and the time and sending people to training. I don't have anybody that is a trained recruitment in hiring equal opportunity Officer and who is going to test him. It all takes money and we are not going to be able to meet all these guidelines without

spending money, whenever there is training there is money. I consider this completely unreasonable. We have never had a deadly force issue in the history of this Police Department and we probably haven't had a use of force issue. I mean the last time anybody tried to sue the city for force I think he said the garage door closed on his head when he was walking in and we gave him a couple of dollars to go away. Just for example, we don't have people getting beat and shot – we don't have that issue here and most small departments don't.

Mayor Bring stated it is kind of an unfortunate thing that they are dumping stuff on small cities like this again and total lack of funding. It is not just our city; Lorain is going through cuts and Elyria is going through cuts. I don't know how these departments are going to do this. This is absolutely ridiculous and I know that I am going to make a phone call down there and tell them that where is the funding coming from and how do you expect these departments to do this stuff. You can't just arbitrarily start making demands on all these departments and all these cities if there is no funding in the process. This should have been a year process of notification and everything else, you can't all of a sudden just dump this on somebody and I think it is totally wrong. This is just my opinion. All this stuff that is going on in Cleveland and everything else, you know asking for ½% income tax and a lot of that contributed directly through the Police of all the money they have spent here recently and all the stuff that is going on and this is escalating. This is the kind of stuff that happens, so where is the money going to come from. Again we finally start getting over the hump where we can start doing things and now they are going to knock us back down again and it is just wrong. Councilman Cizl stated unfunded mandates – we had it in the school district which is all politically motivated at least that was. Mayor Bring stated whoever thought of this and all of a sudden just dumped it on us. You know there was other things, there was cuts coming down the pike that we got notified through the state and it was almost a year in advance. Tony just got this last week or just the other day? Chief Campo answered I got this in the mail today. We knew the Governor had a review board looking at different things in Ohio Police Departments but the specifics of it that I just got today I did not see that coming. Mayor Bring stated I would urge all of you to get on the phone and call them and say how are we going to fund this. You are Council people just like I am the Mayor but it has to come from somebody in the city government and everybody start complaining about this. What this is going to do is take away from the residents being safe because all of our manpower is going to be working on this instead of protecting our city and then we are going to have funds taken away

from us that we can't get equipment to keep our guys safe. Chairman Wtulich asked do you have a number and who we can call on this? Chief Campo gave 614-466-7782 and that is the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services in Columbus. Councilman Cizl asked so Ohio only has the issues, there is no other states in the country that has this issue right? Mayor stated the Governor has put this down and he has been out running around trying to be the President but obviously he is behind this but again where is the money going to come from and where is the manpower going to be from. We are one of how many little Police Departments and I am sure that we are not going to be the only ones complaining about it.

Fire Chief's report – Fire Chief Card advised you got my annual report and I also gave you the maintenance sheets of the vehicles that have had work done on them so far this year. So far we are up to 103 calls and that is 20 or so more than last year. But it will probably all even out in annual and probably end up about the same amount. Sometimes we are busier and sometimes slower. I submitted that AFG for the SCBA's and 2 Life Pac 15's – cardiac monitors so hopefully we will hear about that within the next few months. We have just been getting everything going for the year so I really don't have too much exciting to tell you. We did have a house fire I think it was last Wednesday and our guys did a good job getting there quickly and putting it out. Chairman Wtulich asked is that under investigation? Chief Card answered we are pretty much done with that and it is undetermined as far as actual ignition source or whatever but the story was a candle lit something in the bedroom. She did have candles all throughout the house and we did find through the rubble one of those little tea cup candle things melted at the bottom where the dresser was. There is nothing suspicious there. Councilperson Stark asked did it make the newspaper? Mayor Bring answered yes it was there I think Thursday morning. Chief Card advised it wasn't a big article because nobody got hurt and we put it out quick. Mayor Bring advised they got it out in like 10 minutes but there was a lot of damage to a small house. Councilman Cizl asked this wasn't the same house that we heard a complaint about couple months earlier that had no water or they were throwing garbage in the backyard? Mayor Bring answered yes that was it. Councilman Cizl asked that same house? Mayor Bring answered that wasn't with the water, this was more for family issues and garbage and other things. Chairman Wtulich advised we got your report and actually had time to look through it today – really nice job on that. I got the Police report also – both were really nice. Mayor Bring stated it is really good to get those reports and see some of the crime that has gone down.

The way they reported the robberies, they broke it down a little bit differently. When you say robberies but a lot of it is breaking into cars and stuff like that. So they tried to break it down a little bit better for everybody. Like Avon Lake has had a big deer issue and we had 3 reported deer issues and there is probably a few more than that actually happened but we only had like 3 reports of vehicles hitting deer. So that has been at a minimum and some of the other crime like I said if you take a look at it a lot of it has gone down. If you look at the cruiser miles because those are up so that means the guys are patrolling more. So they are out there doing their job and when they are out there doing their job it just makes it better for the city because the crime rates go down. Chairman Wtulich asked do we have a crime tip line for anything suspicious or if you think somebody is doing something? Police Chief Campo answered not a separate tip line or anything – no. We have been posting on Lorain County CSI a couple 3 times already and that is a tip submission type thing you do through Facebook. I set up a Facebook for the department just for the tips that come in, it is not like a Facebook page with pictures and all that. It is just to receive tips off of the Lorain County CSI Facebook page. Other than that – no, we don't have a separate number. Chairman Wtulich stated well that should be good, do you get anything on that or is that helping? Mayor Bring stated we just did, Tony did a real nice investigation for 2 females stealing food out of Apples and he spent a good portion of a couple of weeks looking for them and he was on a mission and he did catch both those girls. The one girl was supposed to show up for court I believe on Tuesday in Avon Lake and she didn't show and the other girl that he had caught was out stealing stuff again at Walmart and she fled and got in more charges. But he did catch both of them. Police Chief Campo advised we have our bank robbery on there too but has not steered up any leads unfortunately.

Councilman Cizl asked if somebody calls about a safety concern or whatever and they want to remain anonymous and obviously the phone calls are recorded, should they say something? I was in a situation, it wasn't a safety issue but because of the situation I wanted to be anonymous and the Dispatcher said okay no problem but I didn't realize what a concern that would be. You know if the policeman would say we had a complaint, so and so Councilman said this or whatever else. Police Chief Campo answered no we don't do that. We don't force people to give their names either, not even on routine calls if they don't want to. The Dispatchers will say would you like to leave your name and if they say no they don't say anything. Councilman Cizl stated when I call I introduce myself right of way so they know but at the same time I thought I prefer not to. Police

Chief Campo stated if someone wants to leave a tip on drugs or something and want to specifically remain anonymous that is no problem. Councilman Cizl stated that is good to know. Mayor Bring advised normally when you call in they have a caller ID they know who you are anyways, not everybody is registered. We have a couple of people who call all the time and they do have unregistered numbers and they still know who they are but they don't announcing who they are. That is a courtesy. Councilman Cizl stated in a neighbor situation it could blow up obviously and something that is legit but if you are going to say something about your neighbor it could blow up and become a bad neighbor situation. Fire Chief Card continued at that fire, I think I got a chance to tell Tony yet but the Police Officer was very helpful at the beginning of the call when things are happening real fast. I think it was Sergeant Corr, he helped with the pump operator as far as getting the hydrant hooked up. The Lieutenant and pump operator were very thankful for that because that was the 3-man shift that we have so they were already short-handed and it was just a big help. Thank You Tony.

Mayor Bring stated like I said in the State of the City Address, all of our departments are doing very well. I would honestly say that the Fire Department and Police Department right now are probably the best that I have seen in a long way. Their comradery and the jobs that they are doing, they are hustling and doing stuff and it has been really good. It is good for our city and I think that they are going to try real hard this year to keep the crime down. I think the guys are out there and walking through businesses and introducing themselves and get the kids to know who the Police Officers are not be afraid them will help us out too if something happens because kids know more than anybody else does in this city. I would like to see more of that. I know that the Firemen go out and if they go to Apples or wherever and pick up food, they are always smiling and talking – it is just good to see. I have been very, very happy with them, I have actually been happy with everybody. Chairman Wtulich stated I did see one of the Police Officers and he had a swarm of about 5 kids parked at Apples over the summer and he was interacting with them.

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 7:22 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.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Kay Fantauzzi

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Bill Wtulich, Jr

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Rick Rosso

and/or

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 February 3, 2016.

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Alan Smith