

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
March 6, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, March 6, 2017. Chairman Cizl called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

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

Absent: Wtulich (excused)

Attending: Park Board Gee, Concerned Citizens

\*Motion by Erdei/Second by Gee to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

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

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Hastings advised I just wanted to continue to update the committee on predominating the sewers. As I have told you on behalf of the Mayor I have submitted the water pollution control loan fund nomination probably 9 months ago, and that is coming to fruition now. We are going to be with the EPA tomorrow and talk about the project as a whole for all 3 pump stations and then have Council consider us submitting the formal application. This is to have all of the pumps to be replaced. They are about 20 years old now and to upgrade them with VFD's for soft start which is the ability to pump to not amp up and not smack the water right out, it slowly amps up. All of the flow meters and all of that data equipment is all but unfortunately not working now. So, it is ready and a few safety upgrades as far as the iron that the men stand on, the screen floors and different sensors and things like that. All of which are ready for attention. □ That is coming and of course, I will talk to David on preparing that for your consideration. Along the lines of the sewers as well, I have also been keeping you abreast of the sewers as well and I have also been keeping you abreast of the City of Lorain who treats all of our sewage and how they have been in touch with us. There is a section of our agreement with them in section 4.2 that allows them to negotiate during the term and of the at most importance to them is the volume of sewage that we are sending and that is during rain events predominately is the problem. I have given the numbers before and on an average day 100,000 gallons. In February, our rain event sent 5 million gallons in a 24-hour period. So, they are requiring with the arm of the EPA, which they are under mandate from that, that we somehow limit and control that. So, much like the Water, we prepared a capital improvement plan. We had to modify it a little bit with

the emergency of the force main but now that that is on line, the Mayor and I are retooling that to present to you as well. That will include a lot of the upcoming work; 1) the pump stations that we will put before your consideration right away and 2) some substantial work on eliminating this I&I (inflow & infiltration). Along that line, there is some equipment that we are including in the capital plan, one of which I mentioned at the Buildings & Lands Committee. That is for our sewer truck, believe it or not it is 11 years old, a \$239,000.00 piece of equipment when we bought it and by all means it is still a great truck but we are starting to take it in a little bit more regularly for maintenance. After a decade, things are going and when that happens, we have to put Avon Lake on notice and then contact them to come and help us in the middle of the night, which actually happened in February. We had a plugged sewer and they were able to assist us. Of course, that would be part of a capital plan that would be not necessarily this year, but within a 1 to 4 year stretch for everybody to discuss and consider. But the value of the truck has depreciated down to \$35,000.00 believe it or not. We have it professionally appraised and they estimate that value to go down to \$9,000.00 to \$12,000.00 within 3 years. So, it is a good time with the STS discounts that we get on buying equipment anyways to be at least proactive and talk about it. The other important piece of equipment that we had demoed recently was the sewer camera. Again, we do have one about 20 years old antiquated as it uses VCR's to give you an idea of what we are dealing with. Those are pretty invaluable for going in our 50 plus miles of pipe and seeing where the infiltration is occurring whether it be through the laterals of private homes or cracks in the pipe. We demoed on Lake Breeze where we anticipate to do a lot of work this year and immediately found some areas of concern. So, if you contract it out it is about \$2.00 a foot, the equipment itself is expensive at about \$60,000. However, you would have it for a maintenance program here so these are the kinds of things that are in the plan that I just want to keep everybody in line with what we are looking at. The City of Lorain emailed me Friday and I responded today because they are adamant on getting a file total on our limit per day. I wrote one of my famous long reports and went there with David to keep them at bay and I would be happy to share that with you guys if you are interested. Basically, asking for the ability to assess the problem and see what we are dealing with, our flow meters are actually out of service now. So, we rely on their equipment and then we contract out from time to time the flow. So, this is a topic that I can back in the records that the city has been dealing with since the 70's. There are big reports from back then so it is just on-going and I think that today you have the strength and the law of the EPA who is adamant that we no longer bypass into Lake Erie and to improve our efforts to stop that. So, that is all that there is for sewers and I would conclude by saying that the annual road list was open today along with fuel and aggregate in which several companies bid this year on asphalt replacement which is good. We had it in the Builders Exchange, in addition to the 3 the city was contacted by a couple more who chose not to bid. The numbers are favorable and we

are converting it right now for a final tabulation because they give it in square feet/square yards and one quote is, while the numbers are the same I have to convert them. So, I am preparing that for the Mayor and we should an answer on that relatively quick. I believe that is all I had for this evening. On leak detection, which the Mayor had me quotes on that which we did last year and was pretty successful. As you know, we reduced our monthly purchasing of bulk water approximately 7 to 10 million gallons, however, that is a snapshot in time where a year later we are looking to do it again. We actually reached out to some neighboring cities of who was the best and got that company that did great. As it turns out the gentleman who is the main player, his uncle started the business sold it to another group and this other group the nephew worked for for some time and they had some differences, and he has now gone out on his own. So, we are going to use him for some singular leak detection. We have a couple of leaks on West Drive that are not coming to the surface very well but we know that they are there. We make sure that he has the equipment that we have all seen and then look to award him the bid. He is coming in thousands less than his competitors. So, we are still working on that for this spring. So, the inflow & infiltration with the camera work, the joints are every 3 or 4 feet and when you see heavy tuberculation where the pipe has separated and all that water is coming in X 50 miles the next step is to grout the pipe or line the pipe. Lake Breeze actually looked really good, I was showing the Mayor as far as the boring as far as the pipe goes, it is very clean as the guys cleaned it in advance of this and it looks good. But the joints are not good, they actually have a machine that will go in and expand in the joint and it injects that grout around it and then it deflates and moves onto the next one. So, those are some of the needs that we can stop the I&I. We will still have to go and work with the residents undoubtedly because I am convinced that there are a fair amount of downspouts or sump pumps and things like that, we can work with the residents, not against them. But in the end, it is all money that the city is paying to treat to the tunes of tens of thousands of dollars. We can correct and the EPA is pretty much mandating it. Councilperson Gee asked is there any relief being offered for residents that when their homes were built they were automatically tapped into the sanitary with their downspouts and now they are not allowed to be tapped in that way? Is there any relief out there since the EPA is mandating this to begin with? Superintendent Hastings answered well depending upon your income the CHIPS grant is still available here in the city and they have used it for sewer work before, but when it comes to just the downspouts, a simple separation in splashing it out is at least a cheap and logical step to stop it. But as far as redirecting it to pipe and so forth I would say the first answer is CHIPS grant based on income. As for private funding I am not aware of any. Councilperson Gee stated so a resident all they have to do is disconnect and run it the old fashion way out into their yard basically. Superintendent Hastings answered correct, assuming that the volume isn't too profound the city could help them determine that by die testing. So, we can help homeowners figure it

out. President Rosso stated isn't the bigger problem is that the footer drains are tied to the sanitary instead of the Stormwater. Superintendent Hastings answered that is significant, but it is an arguable point. One of the companies that we used in the past, the name escapes, but Ed Kelly runs the business, they did our flow monitoring and they worked in Avon Lake extensively. He has been in the business for probably 40 years, he argues that that is not that big of an impact. I am torn myself, I think that is a significant amount of water. But through smoke testing or this camera work or die testing you can now determine that, the volume of it. President Rosso asked, but technically, legally if I came to you and say can you test my pipes and see if I have the wrong connect across or whatever you call it and I do then I have to fix it? Superintendent Hastings answered that is correct and that is why we have 0 requests. Chairman Cizl stated until someone decides they want to replace their basement, then the Building Department can determine that it needs to be separated. Superintendent Hastings answered right, we actually work with the Building Department on the inspection and they do 8 inches past the foundation and then we take over from there. So, we have identified many times where just that situation has happened, they put exterior sumps up or some other means of separating it and it is required because like you said once we see it it is a violation. Chairman Cizl stated on that same note and I mentioned this a couple of months ago, but how did Avon Lake get all of their residents to have to buy into that whole process of getting the whole city to separate their I&I? Superintendent Hastings answered they actually have combined sewers, their sewers by design are running their rain water, their toilets and sinks into the same pipe to the same sewer. So, that is a combined sewer, a little bit separate then what we are talking about. So, if you have a sump pump that is designed to the storm sewer and over the course of your time in a home, you disconnect it and hook it to the sanitary, that is not a combined sewer that is an illegal connection. In Avon Lake, they clearly had a lot of situations where they had combined sewers and the EPA prohibits it. So, you have to appreciate it that both in Avon Lake and Lorain is in there with mandates of complying. If you go for the loans, they have a substantial amount of loans to make their improvements and then they have given the homeowners until I believe 2018 depending on where you live to correct the problem. They have also worked with the EPA on securing low interest loans available through the water bill for that improvement which might answer Rosa's question, we could potentially seek that as well. But at the end of the day if a homeowner does not comply, big brother will come on your property and separate it for you. So, you have several years to do it, but at least in my reading and this is through media, not in a contract that if you don't, they will and charge you. But the real point though is that combined sewers and what we have are a little bit different. Mayor Bring stated we do have the videotape tape that we can put on a laptop of the sewer now that the camera went through there and showed the leaks if anybody wanted to see that. The guys did take the truck down there and hooked up the apparatus and cleaned that out.

Those are actually programmed for the old truck so we have to get that reprogrammed to make sure that it works correctly. It is actually like a chain that goes through there for the cleaning on the tuberculation. If you remember when Tom came in with the pipe, that is what actually goes in and cleans all that out. I was watching the video today, but as that camera went through you could see the leaks going right through to the cracks, so it is kind of interesting to see. It was amazing how clean that line was after that went and did that. Chairman Cizl stated I personally would be interested in seeing that. Superintendent Hastings advised I can email it. Chairman Cizl added along with my request to see a pump station. Superintendent Hastings stated the report that I have has pictures included because I don't know if any of you would care to see, but they are 3 stories down and it is quite an operation humming away for 20 years and I just want to get ahead of it, I think the city is prudent to do so. Chairman Cizl stated sometime when you are heading down there, give me a call. Superintendent Hastings stated sure, we can climb the tower too, that is a nice sight.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*Ditch cleanings; Day Ditch by Holl/Shumaker Ditch – north of Richelieu, east side by Buckeye – None.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Claudette McNeely, 873 Devonshire* stated I have lived in Ohio for 60 some years and this is the first time that I have ever moved into a place where I didn't have a road. 17 years we have been down here with my neighbors, we took up petitions, our road is a dirt road. You can't pass on it and every year we are promised. Now Lafayette, where my son lives has been done twice already. Other streets are being paved and everything but what is the problem. I just want to know, tell me the problem that we have. Chairman Cizl stated I am sure Mr. Hastings can fill you in. Mrs. McNeely stated what is the problem with Devonshire? Superintendent Hastings answered Devonshire has a force main pipe, a sewer underneath that takes all the sewer of the city pumps through. Mrs. McNeely stated now we have a big thing of water in the intersection and the kids can't even catch the bus there no more, they come into our driveways and stand. Superintendent Hastings asked you are on the corner there? Mrs. McNeely answered yes. Superintendent Hastings advised the city has the road list as I am sure the Administration and Council had it on there. However, we withdrew that knowing that we were going to excavate it due to the abrupt failure of the pipe which is now fixed too, obviously, you saw all of the construction. Mrs. McNeely continued another crazy thing too, in front of our house we have a sewer pipe that is sticking up through the sidewalk. Superintendent Hastings explained that is a clean out to clean the sewer. Mrs. McNeely stated the kids are falling over it. Superintendent Hastings advised that is actually the responsibility of the homeowner. Mrs. McNeely state I have never seen nothing like that. Mayor Bring advised but it is not the responsibility of the city, that is the

homeowners responsibility. Mrs. McNeely stated why is it in the middle of the sidewalk. Mayor Bring stated I am just saying, it is not the responsibility of the city and if something would happen you guys would be responsible. Mr. McNeely stated what I can't understand is we are the third owners of that house, why they were allowed to put that sewer pipe in the middle of the sidewalk? Mayor Bring advised there were a lot of things done a long time ago, but unfortunately that is the way things go. Mrs. McNeely stated our house is not that old, it is a new house. We have come down here for years and nobody don't even come anymore because they probably just try everything and nothing works, I have been told for years. Mayor Bring stated that is not true because we have been paving streets for the last 6 or 7 years. We have X amount of money to do it, your street is on the list for this year. Mrs. McNeely stated that is another problem, why are we denied and other streets are being done. Mayor Bring stated I just explained to you, your street is on the list for this year. Chairman Cizl stated yes, it is and they were going to pave it last year, but then there are those roads that you pave and then they have to tear them up for the sewers. But, this year your road is going to get paved because we handled the sewers for the whole part of western Sheffield Lake and we had to get that fixed. So, it would have been silly to pave the road and then have to tear it back up. So, the good news is you are going to get a new street this year. Mrs. McNeely stated I am not even going to tell anybody because it isn't going to happen even in 17 years. Why would I trust you now. Chairman Cizl stated well, you remember that you said that and we are going to call you on that. Mayor Bring stated if you don't believe us then why ask us. Mrs. McNeely stated I will be looking for it and when is it going to start, like the sewer? I am hoping that they will be done before my 4<sup>th</sup> of July party but it comes and goes. Mayor Bring stated probably not until August. Chairman Cizl stated there are 6 to 8 streets being done so, we can't tell you when. President Rosso stated she is talking about last year. Mrs. McNeely stated we don't need it just paved, we need ditches and everything. Chairman Cizl stated that is another issue that you would have to pay for so, you may not want to do that. Mrs. McNeely stated we pay for everything else, so why not. We are always assessed for everything, I have never lived in a town yet that I haven't been assessed for everything, but at least I did have a road. We will see but I am not telling my neighbors, because last year it was, oh we are getting a road. How would you like to live on that road and you can't even pass a car and when the buses come down, we better be able to get in somebody's driveway. If I could get the money out of my house, I would be gone.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Erdei 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

*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 March 6, 2017.