

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO  
March 16, 2021**

The regular meeting of the City Council Worksession was held Tuesday, March 16, 2021. Acting President Pro-Tem Kovach called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Kovach, Stark, Wtulich, Gee, Cizl, Radeff, Erdei, Mayor Bring, Law Director Graves, Superintendent Hastings.

Excused: President Rosso, Finance Director Smith.

Attending: None.

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

\*\*\*\*\***COMMITTEES**\*\*\*\*\*

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**ROADS & DRAINS: None. /SAFETY: None. /BUILDINGS, LANDS, VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT: None. /ORDINANCE: None. /FINANCE: None. /PARK BOARD: None.**

\*\*\*\*\***ADMINISTRATIVE**\*\*\*\*\*

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**MAYOR:** Mayor Bring reports we did receive \$1.75 million from the American Rescue Plan Act; we are scheduled to receive half this year and half next year. We have until 12/31/24 to spend the money. There have been some preliminary ways we can use that. I saw something about infrastructure, possibly water and sewer and police, fire, etc. Three things I am anticipating spending some of it on this year and next year is instead one 1 police car this year, we are thinking of getting 2. Also, the camera system for the sewers, that is if we are able to spend the money on these. The other thing we were looking into is a new ambulance. That is around \$300,000. That purchase would probably go into effect in August and then it takes about 9 months for them to make that vehicle and bring it in. Councilman Radeff asks is that \$300,000 total or just for the ambulance? Mayor Bring replies just for the ambulance. Total would be about \$500,000. Councilwoman Gee asks since infrastructure is part of that, is there any way possible about a new sewer vac? Mayor Bring responds we had that rebuilt, we are good with that. Councilman Cizl states designation of that money, stimulus vs. windfall, I was just wondering, I haven't read anything. Mayor Bring replies we got \$600,000+ last year in CARES ACT and we did use that for wages, etc. We want to use this money the right way. The three mayors met recently about the Ford plant and we had a representative

that we talked to. They said they are not going to move forward with the extension over there. I know the union sent a letter out saying they were going to contest it. I got a call yesterday from a Ford rep and they said the plant is in stable condition. We will just wait and see what happens with that. Acting president Kovach asks what are the thoughts on what to do with the old ambulance? Mayor Bring replies I have been kicking that around. I will talk to the mechanic and see what he has to say, we may use it for a trade in or sell it outright. It is still in good condition. Councilwoman Stark asks can we have some extra security or police put on Walker Rd. because they shut down the 2 railroad tracks today? There is a lot more traffic. Mayor Bring replies I saw that today. Is it shut down for a while? Councilwoman Stark replies a week, I think. Mayor Bring replies I will talk with Chief Campo and see. Councilwoman Stark asks if they do strike at Ford over this, how much money will that stop? Mayor Bring responds I would have to ask Tammy. Councilman Cizl says with Ford, it was just a plan to expand. Everyone that has their job now, theoretically will keep their job. They were just hoping to expand. Mayor Bring responds correct. Law Director Graves states even though the large expansion will not happen, they have stepped up production of the F-650 and F-750. Things are actually pretty good at the plant. Councilman Radeff asks we talked about a snowplow, is that something the money can be used for? Law Director Graves replies all the guidelines for the use of these funds have not come out yet, we are still waiting on that. We only know vague generalities. /**SUPERINTENDENT:** Superintendent Hastings reports I am finalizing with administration our annual bid and will be presenting that in the form of a resolution. We have another piece of legislation I would need help on for our NOPEC grant, part of which is for flashing stop signs at Walker Rd. I hope to bring forward surplus of used or no longer needed equipment, but perhaps we will wait for the ambulance. Councilman Erdei asks did you hear anything on the water tower yet? Superintendent Hastings replies yes, I met with them yesterday. There would be two functions performed at first. One through Dixson Engineering who does a full study of the tower and one alternative which is retrofitting the existing tower. They will do a study on that. Then our primary city engineer through Bramhall will do a pressure study to determine whether or not the city even needs a tower. The purpose of a tower is to provide pressure. Our tower right now is too short, sitting at 150ft. tall. It exerts less pressure than Avon Lake even pumps to us, so if the water went up, it would stay there and stagnant which is why it is empty. I never considered retrofitting the tower because while it can be done, you can cut the legs off, lift it up with a crane and weld legs to it, it seems like a tremendous amount of work for a 1968 tower. However, with today's pumping technology and mixers, there are able to retrofit these tanks. This would be the best alternative and the cheapest. Unfortunately, it is

full of lead paint, so those kind of things would need abated. Councilman Cizl states going back to the stimulus, I am trying to think what are major finance plans would be, something we would need for multiple years. Would the separation of the sewers, a major project, would there be any extra money from the stimulus? Superintendent Hastings replies we don't have a separation of sewers where the sewer and sanitary share a same pipe. We do have cross connections where older homes footer tiles are tied into a sanitary pipe because it wasn't against code at the time. The city is on track to solve our I and I with the purchase of the camera. The real challenge and expense are approaching the homeowner and identifying those cross connections and asking them to remove it. The only way I see to use the stimulus for it is through loans and I highly doubt we could navigate that. Quite frankly, there are programs through the Ohio EPA that could do that.

**/FINANCE DIRECTOR:** Excused. **/LAW DIRECTOR:** Law Director Graves reports I have been in communication with the people that own the 100-kilowatt wind turbine at the Shoreway Shopping Center. As you are aware, in April of 2010, we entered into a 10-year renewable energy services agreement and that was commissioned and became operational somewhere around October 2010. That 10-year agreement expired in October 2020. In our pursuits to find a buyer for the shopping center, it has come up time and time again. Unfortunately, most of the parties interested don't see the benefit of the turbine and the first question they ask is what is going on with it. We are pursuing having it decommissioned and removed. Lead council for NextGen and the LLC who is out of Maryland have an agreement right now to sell all 100-kilowatt turbines to another company in Ohio, Power Grid Partners Limited. The way it is structured right now, they own that turbine, we allow to be on city property and then we get the ability to buy the energy at a reduced cost that we pass on to Apple's. I have been in communication with the parent company of Apple's and explained to them the addendum to their lease for this turbine was just a 10-year agreement. They understand that. We just have to guarantee no interruption of service when it is taken down. I spoke to Power Grid and they will take it down, but they don't want to just haul it away. They are looking for another use for it. They asked if the city had anywhere else, they would like the turbine to go. He said how about a local business or school. So, I am going to get him into contact with the schools. Acting President Kovach asks when do you think that will occur? Law Director Graves replies whenever we make arrangements. I would say the next 30 days. Councilman Cizl asks does any of the power from that support the lights in the shopping center? Law Director Graves replies no. Councilman Radeff asks should we have the driveway ordinance on? Law Director Graves replies yes, we put together a draft revision of the driveway ordinance for consideration at Worksession. With the last

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Worksession being cancelled, I think it fell through the cracks. Basically, revising it to allow new construction of driveways to be either concrete or asphalt and driveway additions to be gravel regardless of the material of the primary drive. So long as it met the requirements. Trying to create the registry, etc. has become unworkable.

**/COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**/OLD BUSINESS:** Councilman Erdei asks is anyone interested in the bowling alley? Mayor Bring replies we discussed it last night and I believe Mr. Kovach will bring it up at the council meeting.

**/NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:** Councils Agenda –

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this council, Motion by Erdei /Second by Cizl to adjourn at 7:27pm. Yeas All.

**CLERK OF COUNCIL AFFIRMATION:** This Meeting Of The City Council 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 offices.

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CLERK OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES

*Brandy Randolph*

I, Brandy Randolph, duly appointed Clerk of Council of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of WORKSESSION of March 16, 2021.

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MAYOR

*Dennis Bring*

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Rick Rosso*