

Minutes of the Safety Committee
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
July 7, 2021

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday July 7, 2021. Chairwoman Stark called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Stark, Gee, Erdei, Mayor Bring, Fire Chief Card, Acting Police Chief Corr.

Excused: None.

Attending: Law Director Graves, Councilman Kovach, Councilman Radeff.

MINUTES:

*Motion by Gee/Second by Erdei to accept the minutes of the June 2, 2021, meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

Reports from Safety Forces:

Acting Police Chief's report – Acting Chief Corr reports we got everyone qualified on the AR-15's and M16's on Monday. Those will go back in the cruisers. We ordered 2 new cruisers and I was told they won't be in until close to the end of the year. We will be purchasing 2 new digital cameras for the officers on shift so that every officer has one. I ordered new lockout kits for every cruiser, and we are going to start doing that for the citizens. I believe we stopped that in 2013, but I think it is a good service. We are looking into transitioning from 45's for our handguns to 9mm. We will be talking with some experts in the field. I do want to get our police dept. involved in the community way more than we ever have been. I will need some feedback from different programs going on in the city. I heard we do Monday morning coffee with seniors, and I would love to be there for that. I want to do shop with a cop again starting in November. I will also be looking at coffee with a cop, that is a national program. Vehicle maintenance reports are sent over usually every Monday. Cars are doing pretty good. Member Erdei asks did you get 4 new tires for your vehicle? Acting Chief Corr replies yes, 2 cruisers got a set in the last week or so and catalytic converter gets fixed tomorrow. It helped that the city bought the extended warranty on some of these cruisers. Member Gee says the first time you come with the seniors; I really need someone to explain the lock boxes to them. Some of them really need those. Chief Card says that would come from us. When he comes, I will too. Member Gee says you are scheduled already, and I'll let you know the day after the meeting.

Chairwoman Stark asks you said we are now purchasing instead of leasing the 2 cameras? Mayor Bring replies no, these are digital cameras for on scene crime photos. Law Director Graves says I can tell you as a prosecutor, that is desperately needed. Chairwoman Stark asks in regard to Friday night and the parade, do we have that all situated? Mayor Bring responds we are going to have the police out there at the intersections, etc. and hopefully there will be no nonsense.

Fire Chief's report – Chief Card reports we are up to 562 runs this year. I did not have vehicle maintenance reports, because I have not gotten invoices from Avon Trucks. We had

to take Engine 63 to Avon Trucks today because the A/C wasn't working. They charged it and didn't find any leaks and it is working now. Engine 61 will be going to South of the Square for bodywork and painting of the roof on Monday. It will be there for 2-2 ½ weeks. From there it will go to Gorilla Graphics to get wrapped and then down the street to Williams for its annual service tests. The radio contract has been signed and we are waiting for the free radios they are issuing. Those do not include installation or the fire mics for our radios, those are costs we will have to incur. Member Erdei asks I saw them out there with the fire houses, are those all in good shape? Chief Card replies as far as I know. On Sunday, they are taking everything off of Engine 61 for when it goes in, so that hose will be drug out and tested as well. Member Gee asks how many weeks will Engine 61 be gone total? Chief Card replies I'm hoping to have it back by mid-August.

Mayor Bring's report: Mayor Bring reports the guns Shawn talked about, the 45, is a revolver and you don't train with that gun, it is an accessory gun. It is an off-duty gun. We want the same type as our service gun, because if you train with that then it's the gun you want to use. I think we are going to take those out of service. We are getting new computers in the downstairs area. Right now, the guys sit upstairs and do their reports. We are getting a new computer in the chief's office. We ordered more ammunition for training. Lorain PD gave us 1,000 rounds to get everyone qualified, but we have to give that back. They have been exceptionally helpful through this transition. We are going to meet with the chief and go over some of the things they do, and he has offered assistance in many different aspects. We are going to go back to having computers in the car. We are not in the new world system. I believe us and Oberlin are the only two cities that aren't. I think we are going to end up going with the new world. We are getting new keyed locks which are similar to the one that goes from city hall to the police station. We are getting 4 new ones and then are going to replace the door out at the sally port. We are also probably going to close our jail. The regulations and criteria would be pretty extensive for us. My understanding is that Lorain put several hundred thousand into it and they still weren't in compliance, they have since closed it. We talked to the administrator and asked if we put the money into it and are in compliance, are we good to go? He replied if I am in this position yes, but if not, I don't know about the next person. This could go on for eternity. At this point, since we take most of our guys to the county, I think we are just gonna close our jail. We are going to keep the 2 older cars; some guys are going to do off-duty work in other cities and instead of taking new cars, we will use those cars. They pay us for that, and our guys make extra money from it. With everything going on, there will be some additional training. We are going to have an agency come in and do it. Law Director graves states one of the things we will be doing is city wide mandatory training related to the workplace and what is appropriate. We will be addressing some issues going on. Mayor Bring says Shawn is very proactive, so transitionally we will be getting new equipment, etc. that has been pushed aside. He is a little overwhelmed right now and the next few weeks will probably be difficult for all of us then in the coming months we will probably have some kind of civil service test and move forward. Member Erdei asks how is our police force? Are we up to date on manpower or do we need another person? Acting Chief Corr replies we do need manpower. Mayor Bring says we are going to interview somebody next Friday for part-time and will probably have to do an additional full-time. At least one full-time, maybe more and a couple part-time. 2

of our part-timers are probably going to go over to Lorain. They will stay on the force, but we offered very good jobs over there in the court and would be foolish not to accept. Law Director Graves states when we do run the civil service test, 1 of our 3 sergeants will become the permanent chief. That is if 2 take it, if only 1 decides to, we will have to open it up to patrol to make it competitive. We are under the impression that one of the sergeants is going to be retiring, so potentially we would have to replace 2. Chairwoman Stark asks in light of what has happened, do we have a plan in case things happen over the next couple weeks? Mayor Bring replies we are anticipating anything. The problem is social media is not the best thing, what you hear on there and what is true are not always the same. If we hear something, we will try to be prepared.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: *Steve Kovach, 850 Hollyview Dr.* states in regard to the parade, I have spoken to Shawn about what we are doing, and I think we have it under control. It is going to be relatively large. The Shriners will be there and the Elyria Vintage Scooters Club. Sheffield Village will be there along with our police and fire depts., the sheriff's dept., color guard, the Brookside band and cheerleaders are coming and representatives from the (inaudible) association and good representation from the school. Rocky has been working diligently with me. The regulars who come with their cars will be there as well. I will speak with Pat about how to get the boat launch closed. Mayor Bring says we will get it done. Mr. Kovach says I don't know if you want the front of the shopping center taped off. We normally did that because we had the crowd sitting in front of the carnival. Chief Card says we will put it like we do on the south side of the road. I do it because it is the distance we need from the fireworks. Mr. Kovach asks is there anymore word on that commercial? Mayor Bring replies that's not gonna happen. Member Gee asks what is the official new route? Mr. Kovach replies we are going to start at city hall/VFW and will go Richelieu to Harris and down Lake Rd. We always stopped traffic at Harris but now we will have it blocked before Harris and they will probably be forced to go down Treadway. Acting Chief Corr responds they will be blocked going down Treadway and will have to turn around and go another way. Member Gee asks did you get food vendors? Mr. Kovach replies yes, it's not a full variety, but we will have some. Member Gee asks did you get the email I forwarded you and Rocky from that gentleman? Mr. Kovach replies yes, already spoke to him. There will be 2 outfits selling glowsticks. Chairwoman Stark says thank you for coming and keeping us updated.

Andrew Smith, 742 Harris Rd. states I know we are in a transition with the police dept., and I am the social worker for the school district and in this time, we are hoping for a stronger alliance. Especially when it comes to wrap around services. Supporting our kids who are suicidal, have mental health issues, experience domestic violence, etc. I like what I am hearing from Acting Chief Corr in terms of the community engagement. My hope is we are able to work together to support our kids. There is negative representation out there and we need healing.

Mayor Bring says in talking with Shawn, I think we are going to go around and mend some fences that have been ignored for quite some time. We are going to be more active in the communities. Any input/help, send his way.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, *Motion by Erdei/Second by Gee to adjourn at 7:30 PM. Yeas All.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE AFFIRMATION: This meeting of the City Committee of 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

Brandy Randolph

I, Brandy Randolph, 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 July 7, 2021.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Leanna Stark

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Rick Rosso