

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO  
October 24, 2023**

This regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, October 24, 2023. Council President Rosso called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

\*\*\*\*\***ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**\*\*\*\*\*

Present: President Rosso, Stark, Radeff, Kovach, Gee, Cizl, Wtulich, Shaw, Mayor Bring, Finance Director Smith, Law Director Graves, Service Director Hastings.

Excused: None.

Attending: Citizens, videographer.

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

**Council** - \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to accept the minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas all.

**Worksession**- \*Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to accept the minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None.

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**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse:** None. **/Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment:** None. **/Ordinance:** None. **/Finance:** None. **/Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center:** Representative Gee reports next Monday is the senior citizen's Halloween party, anyone over the age of 50 can attend. We did not have the advisory board meeting due to the fact that we did not have a quorum. We hope everything stays calm and nice for the remainder of the year at the community center. **/Council Representative to the Park Board:** Representative Kovach reviews the minutes of the October 16, 2023 meeting. **/Representative to the Planning Commission:** Representative Gee reviews the minutes of the October 18, 2023 meeting. **/Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals:** None.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MAYOR/SAFETY:** Mayor Bring reports we had HR training and finished that today for all departments. There was a press release by the Fraternal Order of Police Lorain Lodge #3 stating under the current leadership scheme in the City of Sheffield Lake, there is little cooperation between the two cities and the current mayor has a track record of unethical and dishonest conduct. I talked to the police chief and fire chief to go over a few things. I asked the police chief if he thought that was reasonable or in any way correct on the way they stated that. He wrote me a letter saying, "I wish to formally address your concerns about the City of Sheffield Lake Police Dept.'s relationship with other agencies in the area. The Sheffield Lake police dept. has no

complaints or given any complaints against other agencies in Lorain County. We rely on other agencies for mutual aid on a regular basis and assist each other where we can for a multitude of investigations. The Lorain Police Dept. and the Village of Sheffield Police Dept. are two of our most prominent sources for resources, information and investigative assistance. Without their cooperation, we would be unable to achieve our mission of providing the best possible service to our citizens. The law enforcement community in Lorain County is a team dedicated to the protection of our communities, we are a proud member of that team.” Mayor Bring states it’s shameful that that lodge would put that out there without even having talked to our police chief, because that’s not true. I’ve talked to the chief in Lorain several times and he and I have a very good relationship. Is there a problem? President Rosso replies Mr. Shaw believes you were campaigning and is disappointed I let you go on, because I didn’t consider it under your campaign. Mayor Bring replies I’m not campaigning; I’m straightening out something.

\*Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All. **SERVICE**

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Service Director Hastings reports the service dept. stands ready for leaf pickup and in the meantime have been finishing up some asphalt work. We are also doing some catch basin repairs that Councilwoman Stark had pointed out. I am hoping to get one of the final requests on drainage done on Lafayette. Our water and sewer depts. were with a contractor today and we are scheduling the removal of one of four KSB pumps at pump station one. Councilman Shaw says I met with the resident at Devonshire and Lake Rd. this week and we talked about the watermain break there. I think she has been working with Law Director graves on a few things. She asked me to touch base on a few things. She is \$30,000 in the hole right now between the storm and the watermain break. The water was coming out fast and your guys did a great job. Do you know about how much water was dumped out? Do you guys monitor that or is there a way to track that? Service Director Hastings replies typically we don’t calculate it although there’s formulas to do so. We take weekly readings. If you want that information, I can research it. Councilman Shaw replies no. I was just talking to her and I think her basement had 5ft. of water in it. It was touching the air ducts and ruined the brand new furnace she put in. All the water was being pumped into her yard. The neighbor just refinished their basement and it is all ruined again. Is there anything that can be done for that portion of Lake Rd.? Service Director Hastings replies the water main on Lake Rd. is a heavy cast 12in. and that is not what broke. What broke was the line on Devonshire and the city is under a plan to replace water mains which hasn’t been done since 1968. I just picked up another \$220,500 grant for a water line. We are focusing on the side streets, but not looking at a total replacement at this time of the Lake Rd. main. The water dept. responds very specifically to procedure and process as dictated by the Ohio EPA. Service Director Hastings briefly describes the process. \*Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All. **FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT:** Finance Director Smith reports in the packet tonight is the September balancing report. \*Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. **LAW DIRECTORS REPORT:** Law Director Graves reports on the legislation on the agenda. Councilman Radeff asks for the animal control, that’s just adding a duty, right? It’s not like the person has to clock in and clock out? Law Director Graves replies no, this does not create a new classification within the union contract. It creates an assignment that could be assigned to any member of the

bargaining unit in addition to their regular duties. Councilman Shaw asks for the income tax one, is there a red line agreement that shows all the changes that were made? Law Director Graves replies yes, the way it would be is any stricken language would be stricken with a line through it and any new language is italicized and that is in there. Councilwoman Gee asks David, could you clarify if someone is renting the community center, does that include the parking lot? Law Director Garves responds I would suggest that it does. I don't have a firm answer on that, but I would expect that if you rent the center, there is an expectation that you would have access to the parking lot for your event. Councilman Wtulich asks for the animal control, do we have somewhere to house the dogs? Law Director graves replies we have kennels that you assemble and can be stationed at various places. Mayor Bring says there has been ongoing things with the county and our chief is reluctant to put a dog/animal in a cruiser, possible fleas, etc. According to the county, the police should be involved in this. I am trying to figure out what is right and wrong. It's bad out there, we have had numerous dogs that have gotten loose. I think if we ignore it, the city will be in worse shape. It makes perfect sense that if you have a cruiser and are transporting people, you don't want fleas or anything. We would have to have a designated car for that and it would have to be cleaned each time. Councilman Wtulich asks we are debating multiple places to put the kennels? Or where would they be setup? Mayor Bring replies that is still to be determined yet too, because we haven't moved forward on this. It's very temporary. We aren't going to house them; it will be a quick turnaround. Councilman Kovach says the county uses a pickup truck with boxes in the back with steel cages. Mayor Bring responds correct, and we do not have that particular vehicle available right now. \*Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Councilwoman Gee says a resident contacted me and was concerned about ducks being closed in a garage at 747 Roberts St. I told her the city really doesn't have anything to do with that and I suggested she contact the county. I couldn't find any source online. Law Director Graves says a when we passed our legislation regarding poultry and fowl, it regulated not only the number you can have, but also proper enclosures. This is the first I've been made aware of that.

Councilman Shaw says at work session we brought up the economic development committee and we pushed it to today's meeting because there are more of us here. Reading the proposal I have along with the one we currently have, they basically mirror each other. I took mine from Avon Lake and revised it. The current one is 4-5 members and the one I put together is 7. Everything else is almost the exact same. I know there was an issue, well not issue, but the Clerk of Council as secretary so I think that's something we would have to take out. We have had the current one since 2016 and it's never been put in place. I think it's an important thing for the city to move forward and bring in more development. President Rosso asks do you think it's in a form where it's ready to take action on or does it need tweaked? Councilman Shaw replies the only tweak would be removing the Clerk of Council as secretary. President Rosso asks Mr. Radeff do you want it to go back to ordinance for one more review? Councilman Wtulich replies yeah, I think we should look at the amount of council members on there and maybe look at marrying our other committee. President Rosso says we will send it to the next ordinance. Councilman Radeff says the big difference is between who's

choosing the members. It might just be an amendment to the current ordinance. Councilwoman Stark asks then it would come back to work session? President Rosso responds yeah.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilwoman Stark says just a reminder that there is an election coming up. Ward 1 and 2 vote at the community center, Wards 3 and 4 vote across the street. There have been changes and you must provide a valid ID, it can not be expired. Councilwoman Gee says trick or treat is on Halloween from 6-7:30. Trunk or treat from Brookside Cardinals PTO is tomorrow night at Sevits Stadium starting at 6:30 until the candy runs out.

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**COUNCIL #040- FIRST READING-** A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee FOR SUSPENSION OF THE RULES.

ROLL CALL FOR SUSPENSION: Kovach, Cizl, Gee, Wtulich, Stark, Radeff, Shaw. Yeas All.

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee FOR ADOPTION.

ROLL CALL FOR ADOPTION: Radeff, Wtulich, Stark, Kovach, Gee, Shaw, Cizl. Yeas All.

**Resolution Passes #40-23.**

**COUNCIL #041- FIRST READING-** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 1361.16 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF SHEFFIELD LAKE REGARDING BUILDING AND ZONING PERMIT FEES AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

**COUNCIL #042- FIRST READING-** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 191 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE REGARDING EARNED INCOME TAX AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

**COUNCIL #043- FIRST READING-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME) REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL, AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

**COUNCIL #044- FIRST READING-** AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 155 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE AND ORDINANCE NUMBER 3-23 REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** None.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this council, \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Wtulich to adjourn at 7:39 PM. 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 COUNCIL of October 24, 2023.

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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**  
*Rick Rosso*

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**MAYOR**  
*Dennis Bring*