

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
November 14, 2023**

This regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, November 14, 2023. Council President Rosso called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

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

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

Excused: Mayor Bring.

Attending: Citizens, videographer.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Council - *Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to accept the minutes of the October 24, 2023 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas all.

CORRESPONDENCE: Court receipts for the month of October 2023- \$1,533.27.

President Rosso states I received an email from the mayor regarding a new hire for the service dept., Tristan Ness who works for our parks dept. He is interested in becoming full time in the service dept. Service Director Hastings gives Mr. Ness' credentials and recommends him. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to accept the appointment of Tristan Ness to the service dept. **ROLL CALL:** Stark, Gee, Wtulich, Kovach, Radeff, Cizl. Yeas All.

President Rosso reads resignation letter from Magistrate Brusnahan.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse: *Motion by Wtulich/Second by Kovach to accept the sewer credit at 788 Lake Breeze Rd. in the amount of \$148. Yeas All. **/Safety:** None. **/Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment:** Chairman Wtulich reviews the minutes of the Nov. 13, 2023 meeting. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. **/Ordinance:** Chairman Radeff reviews the minutes of the Nov. 13, 2023 meeting. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. **/Finance:** None. **/Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center:** Representative Gee reports next Monday is the Thanksgiving party. Representative Gee gives the dates for upcoming activities at the center. Keep in mind if wanting to rent the center, it is usually booked 18 months in advance. **/Council Representative to the Park Board:** None. **/Representative to the Planning Commission:** None. **/Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals:** None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR/SAFETY: Excused. **SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Service Director Hastings reports I attended the Lorain County Solid Waste Policy Committee and it was unanimously passed throughout Lorain County. I had GIS technicians out last

week to update our asset points in the system and train staff on recording lead lines. I have 1 of 8 KSB sewer pumps scheduled to be removed this week and taken in to the factory for repairs. Leaf crews are on their second tour of the city, currently on Lafayette and heading west. I have a presentation scheduled tomorrow with NWACA to pursue federal TLCI funds. Councilman Shaw asks is there any update to the sewer grates that were sinking on East and West? Service Director Hastings replies we did pursue ordering them, however with it being leaf season, that is the same 3 men. So, once we get out of leaf season. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. /**FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT**: Finance Director Smith reports tonight you have Council #045 which are appropriations. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. /**LAW DIRECTORS REPORT**: Law Director Graves reports on the legislation for the evening. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: Stacey Plum, 453 Buckeye Dr. I have a question about #043 that you are putting a on hold for now. Kelsey was already sworn in for that position at the beginning of the year and has done some of the work and has not been paid for it. I'm wondering why this is taking so long to be wrapped up and get her paid for work she has been doing. President Rosso replies this was directed from the administration. Law Director Graves says this is an effort to try and rectify an ongoing problem in the community and to utilize an employee who has all the qualifications to do the assignment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: President Rosso says Mr. Shaw was attending the commissioner's meeting this evening and I asked if he could give us a recap of that meeting which was in regard to health insurance for employees. Councilman Shaw says they discussed raising the health premiums 17.5% which would affect not only county employees, but Sheffield Lake employees. The increase equates to about \$432 for the family plan, about \$100 per pay, \$2,00 a year. They are changing some things like getting rid of the 80/20 split and making 100% coverage on everything, but increase the premiums. ER copays would go to \$300 a visit instead of the \$25-30 they are now. It's a big increase and negates the raises of almost every single union employee that just got a raise. They will vote on this Friday. Commissioner Moore made some comments about maybe taking the 17.5% and splitting it up over 3 years. The biggest issue is that currently the county healthcare fund is sitting on \$20 million and they want to keep raking in the cash. They have not spoken to any city or anybody about it and kind of sprung it on us. I'll be there this Friday; it is at 9-9:30 if anybody else wants to go. It's a smack in the face to all of us. Councilman Kovach asks are they changing insurance companies or just raising the rates within the company they are using now? Councilman Shaw replies they are going to remove the county health plan out of grandfather status, stay with Medical Mutual and change some stuff. Because the county is self-insured, they have the ability to say we are going to pay for that. They are saying they are going to change what the plan will cover. They are including some cardiovascular health, mental health, etc. The commissioners have the ability to approve anything they want. They can say yes, we will cover this or no, we will not. President Rosso asks if they pass this on Friday, it will take effect? Councilman Shaw responds the first paycheck in January. Councilman Wtulich asks our union contract are set, so we would incur that cost, right?

Finance Director Smith replies yeah, we incur it, the employees pay 12.5%. Law Director Graves says and the city picks up the difference. Councilman Cizl asks so this affects not just Sheffield Lake? Councilman Shaw responds anybody on the county plan and if they leave, it could drive the premium costs higher. Councilman Cizl asks have there been any discussions with locals? Councilman Shaw replies no, they just sprung it on us. They have been having these conversations since January/February and just made it public 2 weeks ago. Councilwoman Gee says I suggest being there before 9am. President Rosso says I would like to thank Mr. Shaw for attending and coming back to update us. Law Director Graves states I believe our contract expires the end of next year. I think there was an extension through Dec. of 24. That is something going into the next year we can certainly look at and make changes in the plan.

*Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to amend the agenda to include Council #046.

Roll Call: Kovach, Cizl, Gee, Wtulich, Stark, Radeff, Shaw. Yeas All.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

COUNCIL #041- SECOND 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.

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

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

*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee FOR ADOPTION.

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

Ordinance Passes #41-23

COUNCIL #042- SECOND 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- SECOND 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- SECOND 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 #045- FIRST READING- AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, INCREASE, AND/OR DECREASE OF CERTAIN FUNDS WITHIN THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO, AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

*Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl 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: Stark, Gee, Wtulich, Kovach, Radeff, Shaw, Cizl. Yeas All.

Ordinance Passes #42-23

COUNCIL #046- FIRST READING- AN ORDINANCE VACATING PORTIONS OF OAKWOOD AVENUE AND TENNYSON AVENUE AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

*Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl FOR ADOPTION.

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

Ordinance Passes #43-23

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: President Rosso states with the holiday and short week next week, we are cancelling finance and work session. Hope everybody has a great Thanksgiving.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this council, *Motion by Kovach/Second by Wtulich to adjourn at 7:38 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.

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 Nov. 14, 2023.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT
Rick Rosso

MAYOR
Dennis Bring