

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
December 4, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, December 4, 2023. Chairman Wtulich called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Wtulich, Rosso, Stark, Kovach, Gee, Cizl, Service Director Hastings.

Attending: None.

Excused: DeBottis, Radeff, Mayor Bring.

*Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2023 meeting with any corrections noted. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

SEWER CREDITS/UNPAID CHARGES FOR TAX DUPLICATE:

None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

MAYOR/SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Service Director Hastings reports the city met with the contractors and engineers today for a preconstruction meeting on Warwick Dr. Tentatively, Columbia Gas will be starting next month with replacing the existing gas services. Our contractor will follow up in March. We have a completion deadline of early June. We discussed the challenges we will face being a dead-end street with maintaining traffic. We started tour #5 of leaf pickup and anticipate being done in the next 10 days. I reported on a water break on Ivanhoe and we successfully repaired that. Unfortunately, we had another one on West Shore Sunday morning. The homeowner next to that was the recipient of about 60,000 gallons of water in their basement. They also had flood damage in August. I do believe he will file a claim with the city, although historically the city is not liable for those things. I met with him today. When we activated the line after repairing it, it broke again in another spot. We did just pave that section and replaced the valves, but not the water main itself. We have some ordinances that have fee schedules for the use of our dumpsters. It has been my policy that residents from time to time can use our dumpsters without payment. It is becoming problematic in that many people are using our dumpsters now and I find that they are full in the course of a weekend. Most likely I will install gates again around public service. I have had to upsize from a 12 yard to a 20 yard dumpster to keep up with the amount of people using them. President Rosso asks if you install gates, it will only be able to

be used during the day when someone is there? Service Director Hastings replies yes. It hasn't been a problem for a long time. I believe it is a good service for the residents and the fees are reasonable. Do you recall why it was stopped, that program? President Rosso replies I think there was a concern about maintaining it. Short discussion had about program and how it worked. The sewer rates will be increasing in January. That is in part due to the city of Lorain wanting us to get to 50% of in-house use. I did not pursue an increase in water rates. I will talk with the incoming administration on how they want to pursue these improvements. The need for infrastructure is there. My capacity in writing grants will subside in that I will be resigning that position at the end of the year. Not that I won't write grants, but my current salary of \$25,000 a year is citywide and I produce grants for every dept. in the city. Member Kovach asks we haven't had any word from Avon lake in regard to any increases to water prices from them do we? Service Director Hastings replies no, those come in July. Member Gee asks anymore news on Devonshire and Tennyson and the neighbors on Lake Rd.? Service Director Hastings asks where the water break was? The storm system that failed has all been replaced and is brand new, but the waterline is the same age as the one on West Shore. The city has been proactive in installation of new waterlines, but there is a tremendous amount more. Chairman Wtulich asks are we widening the road on Warwick? Service Director Hastings responds no. Chairman Wtulich asks the water main on West Shore, what's the cost to fix the problem there? Service Director Hastings replies at this point, you could say we need to replace it in total and I don't know that number, but it's 6 figures.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Sewer subcommittee. Chairman Wtulich states in talking to Rick, he would like Pat, Matt Harper and DeBottis to be on that subcommittee. My suggestion is I wonder if we should hire a stormwater engineering firm to find out what needs done. I think it's going to turn into a money thing and how do we fund it. President Rosso says there could be more people on it, those ones were my suggestions. Service Director Hastings asks has there been discussions on if this is an evening thing or day thing? President Rosso replies there's been no discussion because we are really just trying to set it up. Based on who is on it and their availability. Service Director Hastings asks isn't it the point of this committee? President Rosso responds Matt had come to council and asked if something could be setup and what needs to be done, etc. I bring it up because we told him we would look into it. Member Kovach says it could probably just be added as a line item to this committee's agenda. Service Director Hastings says I am just trying to wrap my head around availability in the evenings. I do quite a few meetings and have other commitments. Member Gee says a big part of the infiltration from storm water is because of homes not being connected correctly, right? Service Director Hastings replies correct. Member Gee says if we start fining the homeowners and making them

correct it, that's a lot of money for the homeowners. President Rosso replies you can't complain that you have an issue with storm water and sanitary lines and say you know the problem but are gonna ignore it because we don't want people to have to pay to fix it. Short discussion had about previous talks on how to fix the situation and current issues.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl to adjourn at 7:21 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.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE

Brandy Randolph

I, Brandy Randolph, duly appointed Clerk of Committee certifies this is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Roads & Drains Committee of Dec. 4, 2023.

CHAIRMAN

William Wtulich Jr.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Richard Rosso