

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
January 12, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, January 12, 2026. Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Wright, Fritz, Keely, Mayor Radeff, Service Director Hastings, Council Representative Kovach.

Excused: Barker, Rec Director Pederson.

Attending: None.

**MINUTES:** \*Motion by Keely/Second by Fritz to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2025 meeting as written. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None.

**MAYOR REPORT:** Mayor Radeff reports the only thing to really report on is the grant regarding the bathrooms. We did not get that grant. We went to Nature Works. We were a close second. They only awarded one in Lorain County. They told us to resubmit the application and they did give us a couple pointers. We feel very confident submitting it this year that it should come to fruition. Chairman Wright asks you said for the bathrooms? At Guenther? Mayor Radeff replies yes.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Service Director Hastings reports as we continue to consider the construction of a rec center/field house, the city had bought all those parcels over time and created a new plat for the entire subdivision, if you will. However, it still has the designation of R1 zoning. So, it is necessary and I think a good time to start the process of rezoning that as a park property. That opens up the ability for so many more things, whether it be a recreation center or construction of courts or whatever we may do. This evening, I was hopeful that we could get a motion second and so forth to have the mayor, have the law director draft legislation to have it rezoned as a park. That would trigger it going to planning commission. You know, we fill out a process just like anybody else does. It's just unique that we own it ourselves, but it is a necessary component. As you know, I did clear out trees. The main reason I chose to do that is because we have talked about it becoming park land and you have a very short window of time because of the environmental limitations, the Warbler, various other birds, fish and wildlife, there's restrictions. You have to get past October 1st before you can do that work, which ironically is also why we cleared out the trees at Gunther at that time, because you have passed that environmental, you have a small window of time. So that would be, if the board were to discuss and or support that being rezoned, that would be helpful. I had the pleasure of

speaking with the commander at the VFW and they are interested in donating funds to build a shelter at Memorial Park. I had met with other members of VFW with our grant writer to pursue the same goal and we still could, you know, we intended to pursue that actually, the mayor and I and Ms. Summer talked about pursuing that at a later date, but they interjected and Rodney said that they are on board and would like to do that. So, it'd be helpful if the park board also supported that. It's moving quickly. I'm getting quotes and such now and hope to have all that information to Rodney by the end of this week. It would be a shelter pavilion, similar to what we have at our parks now at Guenther, Gary Green and Freedom. However, those are a little too big. So, we would scale that size down and position it so that we maintain respect for the memorial portion of the park and get it closer to where we have a playground, some picnic tables, the bocce ball and so forth, but positioned in such a way that should there be a ceremony, residents and guests for any VFW ceremony or anything related to that memorial, would also be able to use it. Ferndale Park; we recently removed the backstop. This was something that the mayor asked me to pursue actually in '25. That is original equipment; it was dated, old, bent, etc. So, we have removed that and we do have the capacity to erect a new one. However, we did reach out to a company to get some quotes and the gentlemen, I'm not coordinating that, our lead man in the parks is, but I know the gentleman has done work on baseball fields. He comes highly recommended and that is coming in the near future. I have a meeting with engineering tomorrow. One of the topics of that is an update with ODNR and the Army Corps of Engineers on our continued efforts at the boat launch. We do have to get submerged land leases and so forth for some of the rocks and jetties that are there and then come to a final decision on whether we will submit a submerged land lease for the opening that we closed or draw up plans to have it put back to the way it originally was. It's worth noting that the decision was made to close that because the city was experiencing failure on the concrete wall, had to have new rebar and concrete and so forth put in and we watched the wave actions and that's the primary culprit. With that being said, we did put Armor Stone in front of that wall now and that is one of the examples of the submerged land lease we would need. So, when you have this wall in the lake and you install a series of boulders to protect it, you are required to have a submerged land lease. It's not unusual that a property owner repairs and fortifies their land prior to getting this because it's, you know, you're saving existing assets, but nonetheless, it's something you have to follow through with and we continue to work towards that goal. Chairman Wright says of course I have questions, but let's start in order of what Mr. Hastings had talked about. So, with the rezoning of the property across the street from the community center, do we need to be specific here in our motion regarding the number of parcels or any potential future acquisitions or can it be pretty generic in what we say here? Service Director Hastings replies no, I think it can be generic in that the board supports, you know, this is a decision-making body, the park board. The board supports the rezoning of the property owned by the City of Sheffield Lake across from the community center. It does have a subdivision plot, but all of that will be hammered out by the

law director actually. So, just in support of rezoning R1 to park property, those lands across from the community center and owned by the city. Chairman Wright asks so, before we go there, is there anyone on the park board that doesn't support rezoning that specific property to be park property from R1? \*Motion by Keely/Second by Fritz to support the city administration to rezone or pursue rezoning of the city acquired property across from Joyce Hanks Community Center from residential one to the appropriate zoning for park property. Yeas All. Chairman Wright asks What is this specific zoning code that would need to be moved to? Service Director Hastings responds considered public park property. So, things such as setbacks and fencing, stuff like that, changes when it becomes public property. You don't have the rigid requirements. In other words, if we decided to build a tennis court and you wanted a six-foot fence, there would be no problem with that. If you did that on R1 in my backyard, six foot is not allowed. Well, I should say eight feet. Six foot is allowed if you wanted to go eight, 12, that kind of thing. That's just an example. Chairman Wright asks the shelter at Memorial Park, is it elevated? Service Director Hastings responds No, it'd be a concrete pad. Very similar to what you see, it's just the footprint is smaller. I did look at some fancier options. They actually come in the way of, they're sold in the way of a carport, but it's like a cedar. Everything's cedar designed, cedar posts. It has the more decorative around the edges. I think it's a hip roof. It's not just your simple pitch. Chairman Wright says I would like to see a shelter at Memorial Park. If we have somebody at the VFW that wants to build that shelter, I think it's fantastic. \*Motion by Fritz/Second by Keely to allow the VFW to contribute funds and installation of a shelter at Memorial Park. Yeas All. Chairman Wright asks the backstop at Ferndale, is it gonna be replaced? Service Director Hastings replies yeah. Chairman Wright asks the submerged land lease, what's the nature of that? Who is the lease with? How is it applied for? Who governs all that? Service Director Hastings replies it's governed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and it's saying that you are, in the place of where Lake Erie is, we put all that Armor Stone. We just submerged the land, we submerged stone. Therefore, we have to have a lease with the state of Ohio, because we removed that footprint of water. So, the entire boat launch, as it sits now, predominantly, is a submerged land lease. When you see a pier go out, it's a submerged land lease. That's the nature. Even when a homeowner does that work. Council Representative Kovach says any homeowner on that lake, they wanna do a break wall, or anything in that water, they gotta apply for a submerged land lease. Chairman Wright asks is there a cost to that? An application fee? Service Director Hastings replies no, well there's a cost to engineering to help me. Chairman Wright asks really, the state just wants to know, and map, and record the work that's been done underwater? Service Director Hastings replies exactly.

***PARK/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS:*** Rec Director Pederson is excused.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Member Fritz says backing up to Guenther, I did notice that the trees were removed. So, is that process complete? Service Director Hastings responds yeah, the tree removal and stump grinding is complete. The back of the parking lot, we have stored asphalt grindings that we're gonna use as a base for the new parking lot. I am talking just briefly with engineering to make sure, and probably get some grade shot, make sure that the drainage will be appropriate, catch basins. We do have the capacity, with catch basins and so forth, to run some pipe, which I think I will. We're moving forward as designed with the parking lot in the back. Member Fritz asks is there a timeline for the parking lot to be ready? Service Director Hastings responds I don't have a firm timeline. My goal is to make sure we can start moving material before the spring and the thaw, because it would be terribly wet. Member Keely asks is there a plan for the western side of the parking lot, against the residential houses for drainage to be put in there? I do know from my past experience that it gets pretty wet against the backyards of those houses, and I'd hate for the neighbors to be upset. Service Director Hastings responds when we remove the material that is sitting there currently, I can address it. We definitely have the capacity to. I only remember one complaint that we did address, but that's when we had the soil there, and it was just literally shedding on them. It is marked by our designer as overflow parking eventually, but I need to move that material to answer your question, and there is a catch basin available that we can most certainly make improved drainage. Mayor Radeff states you can see, too, that obviously Ford went way further down with the fence than they originally thought, so they actually covered the whole part. Council Representative Kovach says they're doing landscaping now. Mayor Radeff says I know they've put like hundreds of thousands of dollars into that. It was really nice of them to really help out with that and really help out with some of those neighbors over there. Chairman Wright asks so, your belief is that parking lot will go in in 2026? Service Director Hastings replies yeah, there's approximately three million dollars going in in that section of town here this summer. They're there right now, Columbia Gas doing a major reconstruction. That's in advance of us going in, putting in new road, new drains. We have another grant for new sidewalks over the entirety of Guenther Park with high visibility crosswalks connecting to Avon Lake. So, there's a lot coming together, many millions inside of like a four-month window of construction. Chairman Wright says it reminds me; the Soccer League reached out to me. They were looking for dates as well because they're worried about interference with running the league during the spring. Any thoughts on that? Service Director Hastings replies I'm trying to think when Columbia Gas is gonna be done. I think I'm selling the job, the ODOT job for the sidewalks in May. When do they start, April? Chairman Wright replies probably. Service Director Hastings replies we have temporarily allowed Columbia Gas to mobilize and have a storage yard there. I told them they need to be all but gone in the start of April, one, for soccer, and two, because then I have ODOT coming in, but ODOT and that construction, we can avoid the park. Mayor Radeff asks can you have the president of them reach out to us? Because we probably should have a conversation with

them too about a couple things. Chairman Wright replies yeah. Service Director Hastings replies it'd be helpful to know their schedule at the very least. Scott is absorbing the recreation director, even with youth baseball, which is an otherwise a city function. A lot of people look to call the city for; how do I get my son signed up? When does the league start? Same with soccer. A lot of those questions come to the city. Chairman Wright replies I know that they're trying to put together their schedule right now. They're trying to figure out, I think they're gonna open registration next week, and they're trying to figure out who they want to have a six- or eight-week season, when do we start, all that kind of stuff. So, while they're thinking through that, they're also cognizant of the construction going on there. They had asked me to ask about that, but I'll get them connected to you guys to try to coordinate that kind of thing. I see at West Shore Park, we've got the playground replacement on the agenda. Do you think that's something that the city administration grant writers will put some focus on this year? Service Director Hastings replies we submitted it. well, we submitted it for across the street, West Short Park South, all that playground. Now you're talking about in the community, the community center itself. Yeah, that would be another application that we could consider. Chairman Wright asks when do we learn about that grant submitted for the south side of the road? Mayor Radeff responds I'll find out. Chairman Wright asks is there any update or news on the splashpad? Service Director Hastings replies no, I just today started the process. I'm going to reach out to Jeff Snyder. That is who originally gave us the quotes that were used, both in grants and in sharing with Ford Motor and we have several playgrounds installed in the city from that company. So, I just pulled out his information today and we'll be calling him this week. Council Representative Kovach asks do you think that might be in this summer? Service Director Hastings replies I'm hopeful. It's a lot of work going there. Chairman Wright asks the connectivity trail, is there another phase slated for this year? Service Director Hastings responds yeah, we are going to be doing phase five and I'm currently advertising for construction inspection. That project's \$1.4 million and it'll go from the Lincoln Trail to Cove Beach. That's considered section five, phase five. It'll include new traffic signals at State Route 301, new pedestrian signals. Then that void between where we just stopped at Harris, to the Lincoln Trail is phase three B. That's also funded. That'll go out for construction next year. Then we'll finish it up with the final phase to the city of Avon Lake the following year. Mayor Radeff states then obviously you can see off of Oster and behind Ferndale. They pretty much did all the prep work, so I'm assuming that they're going to be ready just to concrete it once the weather, in the spring. Member Keely asks do we know if the Metro Parks have any intention to let us continue a trail maybe south down Idlewood along that wooded section, so where they're working right now, just continuing it southward. I know it comes across the street, across Idlewood to connect up, but maybe continue it south down towards the corner. Service Director Hastings asks you're talking on the east side of the road? That's Sheffield Village. I would suggest instead to close the gaps in the sidewalk on the west side so that people can walk down Idlewood on

sidewalks, because there's some gaps. I mean, what you're suggesting is not impossible, but it's nothing that we could do. Mayor Radeff says they originally had like a long-term plan of putting a bunch of paths and bridges in that area, and I know they've been waiting on the Army Corps of Engineers for years, so that's why it even took a while, he said, for him to commit to doing our part, but he's like, well, your part's not in the woods. We'll just do it. I don't think he was gonna wait for their answer, but they have a big plan for that. Service Director Hastings reports we have been talking about trail expansions, number one at Freedom Park. We just had that conversation, the mayor and I with our grant writer, because there's a couple other opportunities. Mayor Radeff says the metro parks were highly involved in our ATP grant. I know they're getting to the point where they'll have the plan done, and I'm not sure what all they had said they're looking to commit to. I know they picked a couple spots, but I don't know. Service Director Hastings says our ATP grant that we received where we're putting together a ATP master plan. It stands for active transportation, and it's between the village, the schools, ourselves. Mayor Radeff says it's been going on for a year. We had some maps out. They're almost done with the actual plan, and they will present that. It also gives a list of grants related to that as well, but the metro parks have been at almost all those meetings, so I know they picked some spots that they want to commit to. Service Director Hastings states but briefly, just so I can finish up on what I was saying, as far as that, Freedom Park currently has an asphalt trail on the west side of it, and it's in poor shape, so while we're exploring grants, the mayor and I and the grant writer were talking about the entirety of the park having a loop, and then using that as the mechanism to go west in the back of Lakewood Beach Park, as well as the means to go east, where Councilman Fogel has already brought up the topic of a bridge again over Day Ditch, which we have talked about in the past, but he's eager to get some improvements in Ward 3. Mayor Radeff says some of our discussion with ATP was we've done good at connecting all these paths we have, but they're all more central, so we need to connect those paths to the east and the west. Member Keely says a bridge over Day Ditch would be very, very nice. Mayor Radeff replies but we figured before we do the bridge, we need something to connect it to. Chairman Wright asks where would the bridge be, at the south end of Ferndale Park? Service Director Hastings replies no, I'm talking at Day Ditch near where you dump into Ferndale Park. This is how people from Sheffield Road, Oliver, Roberts, East Drive, West Drive, if they were to walk and bike to the east, they could get on our bigger trails by covered bridge around a community in Sheffield where they converge.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Keely/Second by Barker to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 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.

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CLERK OF COUNCIL

*Brandy Randolph*

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CHAIRMAN

*Jonathan Wright*

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 Park Board of January 12, 2026.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Rick Rosso*