

**Minutes of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
January 5, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer & Refuse Committee was held Monday, January 5, 2026. Chairman DeBottis called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Rosso, Kovach, DeBottis, Fogel, Petrucci, Gee, Cizl, Morrow, Service Director Hastings.

Attending: Citizens.

Excused: Mayor Radeff

*Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2025 meeting with any corrections noted. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

SEWER CREDITS/UNPAID CHARGES FOR TAX DUPLICATE:

-545 Irving Park Blvd. requesting a sewer credit in the amount of \$1,091.48.

Service Director Hastings states where the resident explained a leaky toilet as well as the faucet fixture providing receipts for the installation of a tub and shower valve and so forth. Unfortunately, on the application it says did the leak water enter the sewer system and the resident marked yes. That unfortunately tells me that it would not be eligible for a credit, because they're admitting that it went down the sewer. I'm not sure. Admittedly, I've been on vacation for two weeks. Normally, I would have called this resident but for those reasons I would deny the credit at this time. It's a similar situation with 712 East Dr., again describing the toilet with a picture of the supply valve, but again the resident acknowledged that the leaked water went into the sewer system. Also, I might note that the volume of water at 93 units is over 60,000 gallons of water. The likelihood of that staying in that bathroom and not going down the drain is... So, while these bills are high, I would recommend that we deny them both. President Rosso asks do you want to call them? Service Director Hastings replies I would, yeah. President Rosso says so my recommendation is we just don't do anything and leave them on until next month. If we deny them, they've got to reapply. If you want to investigate further, I just say we don't take any action and leave them on for next month. Committee is in agreement.

-712 East Dr. requesting a sewer credit in the amount of \$733.58. (see above)

Member Morrow asks why do we have the policy? I'm just wondering why we have the policy that if it goes down the drain into the sewer, we would traditionally deny it. Versus if it runs out into somebody's yard, we're okay with it. Service Director Hastings replies well, it's all based on the cost of treating sewage. So, we'll use an example; If you have a leak in your front yard and it's clearly not going down the sewer, you see the water puddling. The system is set up that we bill sewage based on the metered use of water. If you have, for example, five units of water, you'll also be billed for five units of sewer. But if you can illustrate to the city that, hey, I had a leak going on here, it did not go down the sewer pipe and ultimately did not make it to Lorain for treatment, which carries a fee; the city wouldn't be billed for it and the resident can apply for a credit. Assuming they can prove, one, where the leak was and two, that they had receipts and so forth, you know, to justify it. If that makes sense to you. President Rosso says if it doesn't go down the sanitary sewage, we don't pay anything, so why charge them a fee we never paid? Service Director Hastings replies obviously all of our sewage is metered at the border in Lorain. So, the leaked water was never metered. Therefore, we are collecting on a service that we didn't provide.

Member Morrow responds I'm just saying that it would be hard for us to prove otherwise if somebody just said, you know, hey, no, it did go down the drain and if they know that policy, they could always cheat the system if they wanted to. Service Director Hastings replies admittedly, it's much easier when it's a leak outside and the water department's actually on site and they see these things. Things like this are getting questionable, you know, where the burden of proof is certainly higher. Another thing, quite frankly, that I noticed at the end of '25, was a few residents who were putting in new lawns and, you know, asked for that credit. I'd almost like to institute a policy where they let us know in advance so that our metering software would see that usage, because once again, I'm taking their word for it. Member Morrow replies I know like when I lived in Sandusky, if you had variation from your average, you either got an email or a text from the city that asked you whether or not you have something running like that, so that you can check it before you got a \$1,000 bill. Member Fogel asks if it is a city ordinance or state policy for the sewer credit. Service Director Hastings replies for the credit, it's a local ordinance. Chairman DeBottis asks if we end up denying these, then what recourse does the homeowner have, if any? Service Director Hastings replies I guess they could appeal it. I'd have to brush up on that. There might be something in the code that allows them to come to this committee for that. Member Cizl says maybe this is a good time for the new members to explain how this is in line for people applying for a pool filling, etc. Service Director Hastings replies so, we also have what we call pool credits where they can come in, give us the dimension of their pools, fill out a form. Again, obviously that water that's used to fill a 15,000-gallon pool in no way is getting treated by the City of Lorain. So, that's just another alternative. It would

span to hot tubs for those who have them. As I said, the latest trend was the watering of the grass, and our sewer is admittedly an expense. So, I don't deny that they have the right to try to do that, but I definitely want to institute a policy where the city knows in advance so that we can watch the software. Member Petrucci asks I guess what I kind of have a hard time with is people letting it go, like this one, for four months. I mean, if I got that water bill and it was double my normal amount, I'd be running up here saying, you know, and checking all around. To let it go for three additional months after that, I don't understand that at all. I know that that newsletter that goes out with the water bill, I wonder if a short blurb in there, just reminding people, if you notice a big difference in your water bill or your usage, please contact us right away. Don't let it go for four months. Service Director Hastings replies agreed, some have let it go. When I use an example of a line breaking in your property, in your yard, I mean, that could be a \$5,000 bill with excavation and replacement. Residents have shared with me they let it go because they're simply trying to put the money together, with the idea that they'll get that credit, but it does seem wasteful.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

MAYOR/SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Service Director Hastings reports I wanted to comment briefly on flock cameras. I think I heard that going through City Council. This is a camera system that I believe captures license plates and is used by law enforcement for various purposes. Nonetheless, this program came through my office on right-of-way permission permit, if you will. Unfortunately, both of the locations that they've identified, one at 301 and 6 and then another one at Walker, are in conflict with some ODOT projects we have. Doesn't mean that we can't get them there, but I had to write back to them today and let them know that I needed to compare their potential location with our ODOT design plans and discuss it with engineering. The idea, as I said, I think I vaguely recall it being discussed either in a committee or a council. So, I don't want to be the cause of slowing the program, but as proposed, it is in direct conflict with our planned improvements. I had mentioned in the last meeting, in roads and drains, some grants and work that we have scheduled around Walker Road, including sidewalks, the road being redone and so forth. In advance of that, we have been working with Columbia Gas, and you'll see them mobilizing here as soon as this week. They'll be replacing gas mains along Walker Road between Abbe and Lynne. They'll also be going down portions of Cove Beach, Pleasant View, and State Route 301. That construction is really just to get in advance of all the work the city is planning. We pretty much do that on all our projects, and that area was identified as having some old gas services and mains. So, as you notice, construction developing on the east end of town, that is the reason why. As it relates to grants, you may have saw in the paper this Saturday, the State of Ohio here to start out 2026, issued various grants and CHIP awards. The City of Sheffield Lake was awarded a

quarter million towards East Dr., a sewer project that we had applied for. This is going to complement the work going on West Dr., which includes new infrastructure, and new pavement and so forth. Sheffield Lake would be a recipient of the CHIP funds, which is the home assistant programs for financially qualified to do various home improvement projects. I'll have more on that as the months go on. That award is critical, because there is local funds as part of the East Dr. project. I will need to calculate our local funds and peel that off of the road list that we will do in 2026, and then make sure that we're clear on finishing up West Dr. I hope to have in front of the committee and then city council our annual road list in February so that we can get that out to bid. That would be for interior street paving, the remaining sidewalk escrow, and then stone and fuel that we buy annually through bid. I'll be working with our new law director, Pat, on the legislation to bid and award Phase 5 of the Lakefront Connectivity Trail. That's going to be in and around State Route 301. We'll include new traffic signals, new lights, new pedestrian crossings, etc. We're at a point now where I need council's approval to bid that job on behalf of ODOT. That's a local-let project, meaning that the city was given the right to be the project manager and save funding on the project. The construction portion alone is estimated at \$981,571.25. I wanted to report I have mentioned in committee meetings and perhaps on council about a problem with the sanitary sewer that the city pumps to the City of Lorain. They had a failed pipe. It's been some time now. They are engaged in bypass pumping. It impacted severely the port side apartments. I just talked to the safety service director in Lorain today and they finally have a contractor approved. They also have approval from the railroad, because this line goes under the railroad and they hope to mobilize by the end of the week. As part of that plan, I have asked our engineers to help me research the easements along the railroad tracks that belong to the City of Sheffield Lake for a four-span sewer. I'd also like to explore the installation of a check valve with telemetry, so that this never happens again. I've been around long enough that I actually saw those constructed in the 90s and the problem that we have, I've never seen before. It definitely has been problematic for port side. I'll keep you updated on those repairs and wanted to keep you abreast of the ongoing conversation. The final thing I had this evening was Republic services. I have mentioned in committee and perhaps council the fact that our contract expires in April. While we do have the right to go out to bid, we have been having discussions with Republic. Through the years I think Republic has responded to the complaints that we've had and continues to do a good job. So you are aware, the proposal that they have for the city now would include a 4% increase each year for the next five years beginning May 1st of 2026, assuming this makes it through council. We currently are at \$22.78. So, in May of 2026 of this year that 4% would equate to \$23.69. For comparative purposes I pulled a couple of the cities around. Elyria has been in the paper quite a bit. So, 2026 our rate proposed at \$22.69, City of Elyria \$35.05, City of Avon Lake \$26.88, City of North Ridgeville \$24.27 and Avon \$21.85. So, these rates, even with the increases, are still favorable and in most cases lower than our neighboring communities. I'll have to talk to the mayor on how he wants to present this to

council, but I'm going to recommend that his office at least present it to city council for approval. Member Fogel asks would the contract remain the same, the terms as far as bulk? Service Director Hastings responds yeah, technically it is limited. They don't want you, the people who are moving out, to unload their curb. Member Fogel says it doesn't matter what they want. Service Director Hastings replies oh no, there is a limit. As it is now, it is suggested as four. The city would still have a four-roll-off yard waste 12-roll-off construction dumpsters, free service at the community center, free service at public service and police. In the case of city-wide emergency, they would provide up to two additional dumpsters. It's also worth noting that in this contract, there would be a discount for seniors based on the homestead exemption that is determined by or with the support of the county. But to be clear on your point, Mr. Fogel, the contract does clearly identify a four-item limit per week. Member Fogel asks is that a change from the original contract? Service Director Hastings replies the original contract was suggested, which is a very key word, suggested four-item limit, which I've called them out on a few times. Member Fogel asks in the new contract that isn't suggested, it's mandatory? Service Director Hastings replies it is clearly identified as four items. So, the alternative to that would be a company like Kimball, where it's kind of pay-as-you-throw in the city of Avon Lake; a volume of bulk. They literally record that data as they're picking it up. Member Fogel asks can't we go back and renegotiate that with them before you present it to council? Service Director Hastings responds I did try. It's challenging, but absolutely. Member Morrow says with the Flock cameras, I'm very much in favor of Flock cameras. I like the technology and everything, though some cities have problems in sharing that data with the surrounding cities. With the spillover that we've had from a crime that's originated in Lorain, are we signing an agreement with Lorain and is that being looked over by an IT person to ensure that that data can't be sold to any other type of company, which that's a worry that a lot of, I guess, more conspiratorial people are worried about, that that data is being sold. Not necessarily by our city by having the flock cameras, but by an agreement with another city that we might have to share that data with them. Service Director Hastings replies that, admittedly, I'd have to confer with the police chief and the mayor. My reference to it this evening was solely the fact that they're seeking a permit, which is in conflict with some improvements we're putting in, but I'd be happy to share that for you. Member Morrow asks Walker Rd., since we're doing the improvements along Walker Rd., and I saw the design that was for the Gunther Park that was there, and I know I'm not part of the park committee, but I really wanted to pick somebody's brain on why we put the parking at the back of the park rather than right up along the side of the road and have diagonal parking there as like a buffer between the park and the thing, and then you don't have to plow and do the maintenance all the way into the back, and you don't have to worry about somebody back there parking, doing drugs, or anything like that. I just had that question and I'm assuming that even if you were to change the design of that park now or, you know, that the improvements that are being done to the road wouldn't have any effect on if you were to change the design of that

park. Service Director Hastings responds well, the design of the park, obviously the sidewalks is a grant and that's going in first, or this year as well as the road. I was on the committee for the parking. A lot of the conversations had to do with the fact that the public and all these kids and everything, especially with that splash pad, are away from the road, but I would suggest maybe you take that up with our park board, because it's probably stretching the topic of roads and drains. Member Morrow asks do we have an estimated line loss for Sheffield Lake? I know in dealing with Grapevine, Texas, that at one point we were losing 50% of our water through an aging water infrastructure and it wasn't until we actually measured what the water was produced versus what we charge and since we don't produce the water, I'm assuming, do we have a way to know what flows into our city and then what actually makes it to the consumer? Service Director Hastings replies yeah, absolutely. When I took over this, one of the first things I did was replace all the meters that were over 40 years old so that you could make these calculations. What you're describing is what we call lost water revenue and back in 2016 that figure was 17%, right now it's probably 7. Then the city used that money of the lost water revenue and I started building a debt service with the OWDA to replace. No water line was replaced in Sheffield Lake since 1968. Member Petrucci asks the increase with Republic, is that gonna be 4% every year? Service Director Hastings replies yes. Chairman DeBottis asks on the homestead exemption, do you know how much of a discount? Service Director Hastings replies no, but I can get that for you. Chairman DeBottis asks do you know what the average is for some of the other cities that offer it? Service Director Hastings replies I think in the case of Elyria where I had quoted their figure at 35.05 in 2026, that rate for a senior was 29.00. Elyria, I think is the only city left that has privatized rubbish pickup and they are paying dearly for it. Chairman DeBottis asks do we know what the process will be? Service Director Hastings replies it says Republic Services is solely responsible for the defining of a status of an eligible senior citizen and will utilize the Lorain County Homestead Exemption guidelines as a standard. Beginning May 1 where I had mentioned \$23.69, it is reduced by \$1 to \$22.69 with that potential exemption. Chairman DeBottis asks the grants for the sidewalks, does that include the Lake Breeze project also? Service Director Hastings replies it does. Chairman DeBottis asks are all those sidewalks gonna be replaced? Service Director Hastings responds no, just the voids, to fill in the gaps. Maintenance issues fall on the homeowner. Chairman DeBottis asks on the Portside Apts., was the backup the same issue that I had called you about? Service Director Hastings replies no, that was the Residence Condos. Chairman DeBottis asks and you said a back flow to be installed? Service Director Hastings responds my recommendation is to install a back flow. What happened is when the pipe failed on Root Rd. which receives 5-600,000 gallons of sewer water every day, our pumps are pushing, it couldn't go here. The next place out was through that apartment. A check valve would prevent that, but it's important to have some telemetry behind that so that somebody knows that that thing has closed. A good example is if you ever look next to the library at the Wind Jammer Apts., in front of the parking lot you

will see a little gray box with a red light. That is exactly what that is designed for. Member Gee asks how is everything going on the north part of Alameda? Service Director Hastings responds everything has kind of stopped right now because a portion of all that infrastructure work was in conjunction with a recreation facility or field house. Member Gee asks but you got accomplished what you needed to? Service Director Hastings replies oh no. The infrastructure is still there and old. The only thing I did was clear it out, you know, the trees. You have a very isolated window of when you can take down trees because of the environmental, the certain birds and fish and wildlife. Much like in Lake Erie, you're not allowed to work after April 15th because of fish spawning, things like that. Taking down trees is the same thing. Member Gee says you had discussed earlier about the camera, if I remember right, we talked about those cameras about 3-4 years ago and we realized that if we did the program that was free for now, we really couldn't afford the expense after that. Did something change with the price? Service Director Hastings responds yeah, again, my purpose this evening was only to tell you that I'm not able to submit a permit. President Rosso states Flock is a police project. Pat's involvement is they said hey, we need to put a camera here and he said well, you can't because we are doing something. So, Pat doesn't have answers. Details will come from police and the administration. Very brief discussion about cameras. Member Morrow says I wanted clarification on Republic. It was my understanding that they actually own the landfill for the county. Like in Erie County, it's actually owned by the county government, the Erie County Landfill is, and I know that they put in way too large of a landfill when they put theirs in. It's like 60 acres. It's like double or triple most other counties' sizes, and hence they normally have lower rates for tipping. So, it's very hard for another company to compete against Republic here, but that doesn't mean that depending upon the price of diesel fuel or that, that you might be able to ship that to Erie County to go to their landfill. Service Director Hastings replies yeah, agreed. For example, Kimball and Avon Lake, I don't believe they use Republic. I think they head out east

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Member Fogel says I have several new business items this evening related to drainage capacity, public safety, trail connectivity, public health concerns, and quality of life, including stagnant water conditions that contribute to mosquito and rodent activity. The first one is the 800 block of Grantwood Ave., drainage failure, flooding, and public health. A resident in the 800 block of Grantwood Ave. has raised an ongoing drainage concern. There is approximately 120 feet of open drainage ditch with the reverse pitch causing stormwater to pool and flood backwards. The ditch has also accumulated decomposed vegetation, which prevents drainage and causes periodic flooding in the resident's basement. I also notice that there is no sidewalk along the 120-foot stretch. So,

the requested action would be an engineering review of the ditch pitch and drainage capacity, installation of culvert pipe with surface drains, evaluation of covering the ditch and installing a sidewalk surface. Covering this section would not only correct the reverse flow and flooding, but would also eliminate stagnant water conditions that contribute to mosquito breeding and rodent activity. The second is undersized culverts along the Day Ditch, which results in flooding and capacity deficiencies. The culverts crossing the Day Ditch at Holl, Knickerbocker, Brockley, and Belle are undersized and restrict stormwater flow. These structures cannot handle the current volume of stormwater coming off the day ditch and contribute to repeated flooding. Installing larger capacity culverts would significantly reduce flooding throughout this corridor and would directly address the persistent flooding issues on Holl Ave. where residents have experienced repeated problems during heavy rains. The requested action there would be to replace existing culverts with larger capacity structures, design upgrades to allow future culvert extensions enabling sections of the open ditch to be covered, the long-term goal of installing asphalt surfaces or trail connections tied into the existing trail system. Enclosing sections of the Day Ditch would also reduce standing water and help decrease mosquito and rodent populations in adjacent neighborhoods. Number three, the Forest Lawn Trail to Ferndale Park Day Ditch crossing. There is a great opportunity to improve access to the trail system by installing a bridge or a culvert crossing over the section of the Day Ditch that runs parallel to Forest Lawn Trail approaching Ferndale Park. The requested action would be a feasibility study for a pedestrian bridge or large culvert crossing. This improvement would exponentially increase trail access for residents west of Sheffield Rd. and better connect Ferndale Park to the broader trail system. Number four, the 800 block of Marion Ave. A resident there has raised concerns about a dilapidated and unsafe roadway that dead-ends into a wooded area opposite Community Dr. The roadway condition presents safety concerns and limits connectivity. The requested action there would be evaluation of whether the roadway should be repaired or reconstructed, review of installing an asphalt pedestrian path through the wooded area to Community Dr. This connection would significantly improve access to the Forest Lawn Trail system, particularly once a Day Ditch crossing is installed. Suggested committee action, I move that Roads and Drains request Service Director Hastings to evaluate these locations and provide cost estimates, design options, and potential phasing for drainage improvements, culvert replacements, and trail connectivity. Chairman DeBottis asks Mr. Hastings, do you have any of these projects that you know that we've gotten estimates on? Service Director Hastings responds the first one, Grantwood, has a negative flow at about 3in. I've done it myself. The cattails are excavated every few years when the resident calls. I can explore it a little bit more. Maybe it's more problematic with him over there. I haven't heard from him in a while. Holl, Belle, Brockley, Knickerbocker, yes, we are aware that those box culverts are undersized, built in the 1950's. Sheffield Village was

farmland, no significant water coming down, you know, admittedly different now. It's an expensive proposition. I'm not quite sure how to respond to the, you know, you make a motion that I do all this. All of that cost's money. I want to, you know, satisfy the committee, but you know. President Rosso says I think all Mr. Fogel was saying, can you look at these topics and come back with any suggestions for costs of correcting? You're not saying, hey, go replace all the culverts tomorrow. You're asking him to investigate it? Member Fogel replies no, and I don't know if this was the proper way to introduce this to the committee, but I did speak with Pat earlier today extensively. We had talked about this years ago before they cleared out the ditches. President Rosso says I guess you're just saying hey, can we look at this? There are four issues and what I think could fix them, could you please take a look and let us know? Service Director Hastings replies all I'm saying is to provide a solid estimate, I need the assistance of engineering/professional services and there will be a cost there. Member Fogel asks are there grants to replace the culverts? Service Director Hastings responds well, I had a \$400,000 grant to excavate and redo that whole ditch line in I think 2019. So, yeah, there are. I do still write grants a little bit, but I'm not the city's grant writer anymore. President Rosso says a lot of that is private property. Service Director Hastings says we have easement rights. Member Morrow asks do we have such a thing as a master plan for drainage? If so, is that ever made public? Then does the council get to strategize as to what is addressed first or is it just addressed by what funds are available through grants? Service Director Hastings replies I don't have a master plan for stormwater. We do for sanitary sewers, water, but not stormwater. Most of Sheffield Lake, as you know, is built out. So, in some regards, it's more of a maintenance issue. In other regards, it is a matter of what grants are available at the time, and the city would go after it. Member Morrow says yes, because I've seen a lot of, like, these drainage ditches that are overgrown with trees and everything, and the flow on them has to be horrible and they have to, you know, have an effect when we have a particularly fast amount of rainfall that comes in, that backs up, and then, you know, everyone. I can't imagine that our water table here, I mean, I got to believe that our water table is fairly high with all the leaning telephone poles that I see around. Normally, it's a good indication that we have a very high water table. Really, the only way to, you know, get that addressed in a significant amount is either having retention pond someplace where they can flow into, or you've got to keep everything wide open, and that costs money. Service Director Hastings replies a good example of that is Schumacher Ditch, which is going to run between Buckeye, all the way up to Richelieu. We did surveys on that. Again, all private property. So, as I consider having an example of half a million dollars to clean it, the problem I have there is we have no easement rights. So, the city has two options. One, we can compensate them and get the easement, or we could with the assistance of our law director, there are portions of our code that give us, you know, implied easement to go in there. Surprisingly, I

got pushback when I had our engineers on that particular section. Like I had to call the police and, you know, get out of my yard, that kind of thing. Chairman DeBottis asks out of these four mentioned, which one do you think would have to take first place for the other ones to fall in line? Service Director Hastings replies well, for Grantwood, I'm going to call the gentleman. Holl, Belle, Brockley, I've talked to engineering about. I'm going to go ahead and move towards getting at least some preliminary numbers so the city, both the administration and council, can explore it. You know, I anticipate, you know, several hundred thousand per street. The bridge, I did speak with Mr. Fogel today. I'm going to reach out to the Metro Parks and get an example of that. So, yeah, I mean, I can work on all these things. I just want the committee to understand that a lot of the things you might ask for is going to come out of my budget, you know, but some of these things we've talked about as well, so it's time. I guess there's a fine line. Member Fogel says I think the culverts are probably the most important, would you agree Pat? Service Director Hastings replies yes, we even built a subcommittee a couple years ago to address that. Not to bring up a touchy subject, but when they talked about redevelopment a couple times, you know, over the last six to seven years at Shoreway and the idea of TIF, that's where I was saying in my last set of minutes that if the city can capture development of any kind at Shoreway and TIFs are used, that money can be used all around that area and Belle, Brockley, Knickerbocker and Holl are all draining in front of Shoreway Shopping Center. You know, so in the back of my mind it was a potential funding source. Member Fogel says I agree with development as long as it's responsible development.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: *Patty Gascoyne, 856 Irving Park Blvd.* says there's a gentleman I'm sure you've heard from Mr. Hastings. There's a fellow on Irving Park Blvd., almost a corner house. I don't even know what the name of the road is. The fellow is in a wheelchair, and I think one of his children is also handicapped. The sidewalk in front of his house and all up and down that road and a lot of the little roads that come off of Irving Park Blvd. are just precarious and dangerous and hazardous. The worst part is right in front of this man's house. If I'm at 856 and that catty corner road is the sidewalk on the northern side of the street, tree roots, fun house kind of landscaping, he can't even use the sidewalk in front of his own house. So, since he is handicapped and it's an old sidewalk, I wonder if there's an angle to search for funding that maybe could be used to find a grant for that sidewalk repair. Service Director Hastings responds depending on income, yeah, the CHIP grant that I mentioned earlier can be used for something like that. Member Petrucci says so, I'm going to suggest that you give him my card and ask him to give me a call so that I can talk with him and maybe get the ball rolling. Member Morrow says I don't even know if this is legal in Ohio. I'm just throwing out a method that they would help people that were

in dire financial straits, that the city would actually go to the county, look for the money, they would bond out a bunch of repairs in front of the people's homes, and then when the home is sold, they would be assessed whatever that cost was plus a certain percentage for the time that they had to wait to be able to get the money. So, it wasn't assessed upon them, but it was assessed upon whomever they sold the house to. Service Director Hastings responds yeah, that's got a lot of similarities to CHIP grant, which is a forgiving grant, and over time it will come off, but if you were to sell, that has to be paid in full. But yeah, I mean, through Councilwoman Petrucci, we can help. Chairman DeBottis states I would like to again congratulate Councilperson re-elect Cindy Petrucci, Councilperson elect Jon Morrow and Councilperson elect Aden Fogel. Let's have a happy new year and move the city forward. Member Gee says and congrats to our chairman for getting re-elected also.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, *Motion by Cizl/Second by Kovach to adjourn at 8:03PM. 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

CHAIRMAN
Romolo DeBottis

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 Jan. 5, 2026.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
Richard Rosso