

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
June 11, 2024**

This regular meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, June 11, 2024.
Council President Rosso called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

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

Present: President Rosso, Stark, Kovach, Gee, Cizl, Wtulich, DeBottis, Petrucci,
Mayor Radeff, Finance Director Fallis, Law Director Graves, Service
Director Hastings.

Excused: None.

Attending: Members of the Fire Dept., Citizens, videographer.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Council - *Motion by Kovach/Second by Cizl to accept the minutes of the May 28, 2024 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas all.

CORRESPONDENCE: Monthly report of court receipts for May 2024- \$5,133.00

PRESENTATIONS: Mayor Radeff submits Morgan Herene for the position of Member of the Community Center Advisory Board. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Stark to accept the appointment. ROLL CALL: Wtulich, Kovach, Petrucci, Stark, Gee, DeBottis, Cizl.

Yeas All. Mayor Radeff submits Gabe Kemble for position of Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. *Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to accept the appointment. ROLL CALL: Cizl, Petrucci, Stark, Wtulich, Kovach, DeBottis, Gee. Yeas All. Mayor Radeff submits Cathy Moore for the position of part-time Secretary to the Mayor. *Motion by Kovach/Second by Petrucci to accept the appointment. ROLL CALL: Gee, Kovach, Wtulich, Stark, Cizl, DeBottis, Petrucci. Yeas All.

Mayor Radeff says almost two weeks ago there was a big accident on Lake Rd. Officers from the village were chasing a vehicle into Sheffield Lake down Abbe Rd. and it crashed into one of the garages on Lake Rd. I spoke with Chief Novak and we thought it was appropriate to do a letter of commendation. I want to make sure we recognize our three wonderful firemen here: Lt. Mariner, Lt. Bowman and Firefighter Venczel. Mayor proceeds to read the letter.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Roads, Drains, Water, Sewer and Refuse: Chairman Wtulich reviews the minutes of the June 3, 2024 meeting. *Motion by Wtulich/Second by Gee to accept the sewer credit of \$122.40 at 395 Parkview Dr. Yeas All. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. **/Safety:** Chairman Kovach reviews the minutes of the June 5, 2024 meeting. President Rosso asks it's not a temporary situation moving the weekend dispatchers to county? That's a permanent solution, based on you're not going to hire a fourth person. Mayor Radeff replies correct. If for some reason it wasn't as beneficial as we thought it would be, we would hire that fourth person. President Rosso asks so, there will be

a third shift Friday night, or is it midnight Friday night that it cuts over? Mayor Radeff replies midnight Friday night. There is an hour of overlap. President Rosso asks before we made this decision, did we look at statistically the number of calls per day? I would just think a Saturday has got more calls than a Monday or Tuesday. Mayor Radeff responds the chief is the one consistently doing those statistics and I know he provided those at the last safety meeting. I can't speak to that; this has really been his project. President Rosso says in my experience in the past, the response time is usually a little longer to get to whatever department you need to get to going through a 911 call. Now, I have never called 911 in Lorain County, but I've called it in other counties. Mayor Radeff replies I don't know. Councilman Wtulich asks how it went last weekend with that. Everything went well? Mayor Radeff replies yeah, I know there was a water leak and there was a little adjustment on how they're going to contact Pat. Usually, it was dispatch contacted a police officer who contacted Pat. *Motion by Gee/Second by Cizl to accept the report. Yeas All. ***/Buildings, Lands, Vehicles & Equipment: None. /Ordinance: None. /Finance: None. /Council Representative to the Joyce Hanks Community Center: Representative Gee reviews the minutes of the May 30, 2024 meeting. /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: Mayor Radeff reports first thing I want to announce is Senator Manning announced his appropriations for the cities in his district. We found out yesterday we have been appropriated \$600,000 towards our rec center/fieldhouse project. Obviously, I know there have been some questions about that the last couple months. We have a couple funding sources we are waiting to hear from which will hopefully be in the next week or two. We plan to put together a nice presentation on that. This came out of the meeting back in February and I know Pat and I went and spoke with Mr. Manning directly. In the senate this year, they had \$350 million dollars that could be appropriated for transitional projects. I think we got the third highest appropriation of any city. This is a project Pat and I have been working on and we have identified other grant and funding sources. Now that we have a good starting point, we can go after to help further fund the project. We felt this was going in conjunction with our connectivity plan. The new cruisers have been in. We have one wrapped right now and the other ones are being wrapped and then will be put out for their sirens and lights. Those should be ready to go by hopefully July 1st. Safety town is in progress this week. Officer Pool is the one kind of running that and they are gonna do a graduation on Friday. The police dept. informed me that they have 4-5 candidates. Two of them should probably fill their last full-time spots by the end of the month. That would put us at full capacity. Hometown hero banners; we have about 40 so far that were submitted. Those will hopefully be in this week and we can start putting those up. I have met with the new rec director a couple times so far and we are in the process of developing a master plan for the rec dept. Once that is done, I can share it with council and the city. Brookside High School last Saturday had their centennial picnic and it was a great turnout. We had the fire and police represented there, we had our new street sweeper there and it was just a real good event, a huge turnout. Councilman DeBottis asks can you share with us a total cost of the rec center? Mayor Radeff replies I'm gonna wait

until I get the whole proposal and everything together. We did a first plan to it and site planning and some engineering. Obviously, it came in at this is the perfect rec center and it came in very high. That's what typically we do and use to go after grant money. Once I find out this other grant source, we will do a presentation and be able to really narrow down what we feel it's gonna cost. Councilman DeBottis asks so, we don't have a cost then? Law Director Graves replies not an accurate one. Councilwoman Gee asks are we gonna have to be purchasing anymore land for the rec center? Mayor Radeff responds to build the rec center, no. Councilwoman Gee asks for parking, we have enough land ready for all that's needed? Mayor Radeff replies correct. When we did our engineering, we did it based off the land we already have. Now, if we wanna expand later on, purchasing land would be a possibility. Councilman DeBottis asks how much are the hometown hero banners going to be costing for citizens? Mayor Radeff replies \$105. President Rosso says that's for two years. Councilwoman Gee asks did VFW sponsor any of the hometown hero banners? Mayor Radeff responds they are in on the group, but I don't know what they provided the chief. Right now, everyone who has turned in a banner, has turned in a check. There are people who have donated money to support someone that could not afford one.

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Service Director Hastings reports I want to start by recognizing a local resident who took on an Eagle Scout project and presented to the Park Board the idea. His name is Austin Brandt and his project was to build a skate board repair station similar to the bicycle repair stations we have. It was built at Ferndale skate park. It has the tools necessary for typical skate board repair on a chain. I wanted to recognize Austin Brandt publicly for a job well done and a great example of the scouts working with the cities. The road contract has been awarded and I have walked the job with the contractor. I do not have a firm schedule as of yet, however we do have it unofficially agreed upon that we will have it done before school starts. Also, the water line I have been referencing between Dunny and Brookside, those plans were successfully submitted by engineering. Our goal now is to solicit proposals for both that project and the Forest Lawn Ditch project; both are not anticipated to reach the threshold of public bidding. We will reach out to several local contractors. As far as our parks and trails, we have several million in funding for the connectivity trail and currently, while you don't see construction, we are involved in the right of way acquisition and property appraisals. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. / **FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Finance Director Fallis reports last week I got the opportunity to attend the Ohio Professional Association of Treasurers training and it was a very, very good conference. The treasurer of the State of Ohio requires finance directors of all municipalities to take so many hours of credits in investment management and also the state auditors requires that financial directors take a fiscal act training as well. I was able to get some of the training accomplished in those two areas and also able to get 38 hours of CB credit to maintain my CPA license. I learned a little bit about how municipalities can invest money, how they can borrow money, etc. We are going to be faced with purchasing some larger expenditures for some fire equipment and I learned if you prepay for those things, you can get a discount. One thing I found out is how do rating agencies like Moody's/Fitch, what do they look at, what financial benchmarks do they look at to determine/to improve a city's rating. One of the key things they look at is your cash position at year end. We will try to be mindful of that as we move forward to make sure that we maintain a healthy cash

position throughout the city if we have to go out and borrow money for some more major capital expenditures over the next couple years. I met with some folks from Huntington and they provide services for us to invest in securities if we want to do that. Right now, interest rates are real high and we wanna minimize our risk if interest rates go to still keep a pretty strong level of interest to income to help support our financial position at the city. Right now, our money is overnight money. We need to put some money out in 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 years. It's very secured, it's all FDIC insured. We aren't going to do anything risky at all. On the local end, I'm working on the May month end close. Councilman DeBottis asks you made a comment about borrowing money for projects so it looks like we have more cash available so our ratings look better? Finance Director Fallis replies I'm not necessarily going to do that, but I'm going to be mindful that our cash is strong at year end. If the city is going to go out and buy a firetruck that's gonna last 20 years, we don't wanna use cash to pay for that up front. We wanna use that where we would borrow money to pay for pretty much all of that, because you don't wanna put that financial responsibility on the backs of the taxpayers. That's something that should be financed over a 20-year period. If we decide to buy a building, etc., we would look at borrowing money over 20 years because that's going to last at least 20 years. Councilwoman Gee asks did you hear back from the state about getting the extension on the audit that you asked for? Finance Director Fallis replies I have not heard back from them. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All. /**LAW DIRECTORS REPORT:** Law Director Graves reports I attended the last two days of the conference as well as I have for the last ten years. It's always very informative and benefits the finance dept. immensely. Law Director Graves goes over the night's attached legislation. *Motion by Gee/Second by Kovach to accept the report. Yeas All.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: *Kathleen Janosik, 4252 Hawthorne Ave.* says explain the 911 for these people. Mayor Radeff says it's more of an internal logistic where instead of having dispatch, the phone calls not gonna come here it's gonna go to Lorain County 911 and then gets dispatched to us. It doesn't change any process. Ms. Janosek asks can I call straight over here on Saturday and Sunday? Law Director Graves replies you can call the non-emergency number and it will be forwarded to 911. Ms. Janosek asks so, I have to call 911 Saturday and Sunday? Service Director Hastings responds you don't have to do anything different, it's all automated. It will automatically go to a dispatcher in another location. Mayor Radeff says nothing changes for the citizen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

COUNCIL #011- TABLED- AN ORDINANCE VACATING PORTIONS OF PARKVIEW DRIVE, IVANHOE AVENUE AND FERNDALE AVENUE AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

COUNCIL #023- SECOND READING- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TABLE 1105-2 OF CHAPTER 1105 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE REGARDING WRITTEN NOTICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING REVIEW PROCEDURES AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

COUNCIL #025- FIRST READING- AN ORDINANCE INCREASING THE RATE OF PAY FOR THE POSITION OF COMMERCIAL PLANS EXAMINER EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2024, AND THE DECLARING OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilwoman Gee asks do we currently use the same person every time as far as the building standards? Law Director Graves replies in order to maintain a state certified building dept. there are a number of different positions that we are required to fill; Chief building official, commercial inspector, residential inspector, plumbing inspector,

electrical inspector and each of those has to have a backup. Currently, we have a commercial plans examiner and a backup plans examiner. Councilwoman Gee asks so, we already have those on our staff? Law Director Graves replies those are appointed positions; council has approved those positions. Councilwoman Gee asks and both of them would get these rates? Law Director Graves responds yes. Councilwoman Gee asks roughly how many hours do they use in a year for example? Law Director Graves replies I can give you an example that I am personally familiar with in regard to the Ford Motor Company which is a massive project, exponentially larger than any other plan review that you would probably ever encounter. I believe the total hours for plan review last I checked was around 75 hours. That would be a total of around \$7,500. Councilwoman Gee asks would both of them be working at the same time? Law Director Graves replies no, you have your primary and if that one is unavailable, we would call upon the backup. Councilman DeBottis asks the people we use have been bonded and insured? Law Director Graves responds yes, and certified by the state.

COUNCIL #026- FIRST READING- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO EXCHANGE AMMUNITION WHICH IS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, AND UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED FOR AMMUNITION AT THE SAME VALUE WHICH IS USABLE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT 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 7:58 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 June 11, 2024.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Rick Rosso

MAYOR

Rocky Radeff