COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:
Monday, September 14, 2015

TIME:
7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:
DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
MICHAEL MCHALE, President
PAUL NARDOZZI, Vice President -- absent
SAL VERRASTRO
TIMOTHY BURKE
CAROL SCRIMALLI
THOMAS HALLINAN
MICHAEL DEMPEEY
THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. HALLINAN: Can I ask you all to keep standing for one moment and please let's remember a good Dunmorean who just passed away, Harry McGrath. Ask everybody to keep him in your prayers and his family.

(Moment of Silence.)

MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey. Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Nardozzi. Mr. McHale.

MR. MCHALE: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public comment on agenda items.
ATTY. CUMMINGS: Before we commence there are two additions to the agenda that did not make the printing. The first is the approval of IHM land development plan final approval and a motion to approve collection fees.

MR. VERRASTRO: Will they be number 10 and 11? How are you going to --

ATTY. CUMMINGS: I have them in as 5A and 5B.

MR. VERRASTRO: Okay. Thank you.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next is a motion to approve the minutes.

MR. MCHALE: First, Tommy, does anybody have any public comment on agenda items first? Anybody like to speak about anything on the agenda?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Sorry, Tom. Motion to approve the minutes. Do I have a motion?

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and
second. On the question.

MR. VERRASTRO: On the question, Mr. President, I'm going to abstain because I wasn't at the last meeting.

MR. MCHALE: Okay. Anybody else on the question?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

MR. HALLINAN: Aye.

MR. BURKE: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Aye.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Abstentions.

MR. VERRASTRO: Aye.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Number five, a motion to approve and pay the open bills.

MR. BURKE: I'll make that motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor
signify by saying aye.

     ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

     MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

     (No response.)

     MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

     ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number 5A, motion to approve the IHM land development plan final.

     MR. MCHALE: Do I have a motion?

     MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

     MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

     MR. MCHALE: A motion and a second.

     On the question.

     (No response.)

     MR. MCHALE: I think Tommy may have explained it earlier. This is a formality for Marywood College for one of their development projects that has been reviewed, Joe.

     MR. LORINCE: Planning Commission reviewed and all comments were addressed.

     MR. MCHALE: Okay. As with the Lackawanna County Planning as well?

     MR. LORINCE: Yes.
MR. MCHALE: Anybody else on the question?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item 5B, is a motion to approve the Borough of Dunmore Solicitor Fee Schedule for collection matters. Mr. Hallinan had requested an update on the delinquent refuse account.

There are about 500 from 2014 alone. By case law, we're required to have approve a set fee schedule for the matter commencing with opening the file, issuing the first delinquency letter through final lien satisfaction and execution of judgment.

It's -- the fee schedule is lower than a lot of collection agencies. It's on parity with the smaller communities in the area. And it basically assures everyone is
treated fairly and the same because everyone will get the exact same fee.

MR. MCHALE: Looking for a motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six is a motion to accept Ordinance 2015-3 approving the Intergovernment Cooperative Implementation Agreement for the Scranton-Abington Planning Association Regional Plan known as SAPA.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'd like to make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion. Do I have a second?
MR. BURKE: I'll second.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number seven, is a motion to move forward with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Five Leg Earmark Project at Electric Street. This area specific project will include the installation of all new street lights and mast arms along with reconfiguration of the timing of the lights to improve the movement of the traffic in this area.

The entire intersection will be re-evaluated with regard to turning lanes and traffic patterns. Where allowable the turning lanes will be added and the entire intersection repaved and restriped accordingly.
New ADA curb ramps, curbing and walks will be installed as required. All work will be within the existing right-of-way and no existing properties impacted.

MR. HALLINAN: I make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: Do we have a second?

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and second. On the question. Quickly on the question if anybody is interested in this, this is down near the school where, I guess, it's four-way stop in an odd configuration there. But anybody who has children who has driven them to school understands the issues down there. So this is a matching grant, Vito?

MR. RUGGIERO: 80/20.

MR. MCHALE: 80/20 matching grant. The 80 percent is $280,000 from the state's end. And we'll have to match 20 percent of that. So we're looking probably a year down the road, Vito?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes. This is just a grant that's renewed and revitalized from years ago. We found a few years back as it stays area specific. So the enhancements of this
area strictly with this grant money. And like you said, President McHale, it's 80 percent that we're going to obtain from this earmark project. It's already been earmarked for the Borough of Dunmore.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you. Anybody else on the question?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number eight, is a motion to award the contract for the Dunmore Borough Firehouse Addition Project to Perry's General Contracting.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: We have a motion. Do
we have a second?

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

MR. MCHAILE: We have a motion and a second. On the question. Quickly on the question, this was publically bid. I believe seven or eight contractors attended the opening. I was -- the opening of the bids at the Borough Building. I was there as well as Joe Lorince was there and the two engineers who ran the meeting.

Mr. Perry's contracting was the obvious low bid better -- lowest responsible bidder and lowest bidder. So I guess that's -- do you have anything to add on that?

MR. VERRASTRO: This was the project that we got the grant money for. Originally the grant is 345,000. And I believe the low bid came in at 426,000. And we have the available funds that we don't have to take out a loan for the rest of the money for the project.

So I see it as a win for us because the building is in deplorable condition and needs a ton of work. That was the whole reason for going for this grant to begin with.
Plus, it will make it open to us as far as in
the future whenever we start dropping firemen
and we have to hire again. It's female
friendly because of the way the sleeping
quarters and the bathrooms will be set up.

If we have a female firefighter that
applies for the job, we'll have no restrictions
in that area. And it will open it up to us
possibly getting different shift schedules in
the future contractually -- we were close at
one time to a different schedule that would
have saved the Borough a lot of money.

But with the condition of the
building and only having one bathroom facility
that didn't have a shower in it. They
weren't -- they were reluctant to do it at that
time. So there's a lot of possibilities when
this opens up.

MR. MCHALE: Yeah, exactly what Sal
said, if anybody has not been in the firehouse
I'd ask you to call and take a tour. It's a --
it's eye opening. So we're pretty proud of
getting this grant and being able to bring this
project to fruition after talking about it for
the better part of the five years that I'm
here. So that's all I have. Anybody else on the question?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Number nine is motion to award the contract for the Community Center gym floor sanding, painting and sealing to Miller Flooring.

MR. MCHALE: I'll look for a motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?
MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next number ten, Gerard Hetman Coordinator, Lackawanna County Department Community Relations.

MR. MCHALE: I don't see Mr. Hetman here tonight.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Farina's office has been moved under public officials as necessary. We're now open for public comment on non agenda items.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to address Council tonight?

MR. DUNCAN: Just a few things. I work for Traditional Home Health and Hospice. I talked to some folks that are here tonight about this already. One of our nurses, Donna Seymour, her son was starting back for his sophomore year at Penn State.

They were about a half hour ahead of him. He was behind them when they were moving. They made it all the way back to Penn State. They got a call that the son was life-flighted to Geisinger Danville. He fell asleep at the
wheel and he rolled his car six times. He's trached. He's vented. He was in a medically induced coma. They removed the medication. He's still in a coma.

Traditional Home Health is over at the corner of Tripp and Drinker. I'm sure you all know where we're located. I talked to Chief Marchese Friday and Rich Barth. And they are going to try to help us. We're going to get the street tied off.

We're going to have a benefit for this guy October the 4th from one to four because the medical expenses are just unbelievable for this family. We get about 15 days a year. She's already used up all of her time.

People are trying to donate their days left to her and we're still not able to cover it. So financially we're just trying to help her out. They asked me if I could talk to anybody at the Borough. And I said if ever -- this is never a good time but this is the time to do it because we have Council tonight.

So I have some large posters. I know I talked to Chris if we can get some of
these up at the Borough, you know, at the doors and everything. We're just trying to maximize the word. I have it on my Facebook page.

I talked to Representative Farina's Office because Dave right away stepped up to the plate. We got -- Dave got it on Representative Farina's page and everything. So I just want to pass this down to Council if you can all take a look at it. I have other posters and stuff in the car.

Chris said we can put the big ones up here, right, Chris? And I'll just pass one around to the public if you just want to pass it around and at least take a look at it.

MR. VERRASTRO: Gary, this is -- we can advertise this on the website for you also.

MR. DUNCAN: If we can do that, thank you. Whatever we can do. I'm just trying to maximize the word. I have it on my Facebook page if you want to share it. We're really just trying to help them. There but for the grace of God. Whatever you can do to help us.

I know her. The whole family would appreciate it. If anybody wants any extras let
me know. If they have any businesses or anything they could think of where they could get these things up because -- just whatever you could do.

MR. RUGGIERO: Do you have that electronically?

MR. DUNCAN: Yeah, this is what I have electronically.

MR. RUGGIERO: If you could send that to me I'll have it on the Facebook Dunmore home page.

MR. DUNCAN: When I get out of here tonight I'll send it to you. And I thank everybody that could help us with this thing. We are having another Dunmore Neighborhood Watch meeting a week tonight, September the 21st. Everybody knows it's 7:00, same time, same station. We'll be in this room. So everybody as always, always welcome to attend.

When I sent everybody the minutes from the last meeting from the Dunmore Neighborhood Watch meeting, I have Barton and Drinker. It's Church and Drinker. It's the -- that light is still out. But it's Church and Drinker. Tom Hallinan is looking at me because
he and I talked. We text routinely. How's that. But the N number is correct. It's N46479. But it's Barton and Drinker. It's right in front of Dino's gas station. N as in Nancy, 46479, okay? And that's actually Church and Drinker.

MR. HALLINAN: And that's for anybody. If you see a poll that's out just that get that N number and turn it into us at the office. There's no problem with that whatsoever.

MR. DUNCAN: And then an update on the crosswalk at the tank. I know you said you were going to talk to them and see what you can find out.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll have it for you by your crime watch meeting. The Borough did that and then the state -- they are supposed to come through with plastic tape for the arrows by Turkey Hill crosswalks as it goes down the project. When, I don't know. But I'll get a better date for you.

MR. DUNCAN: I know I'm always busting your chops. But you're the guy that I seem to talk to the most. Mr. Genovese will
appreciate it.

MR. HALLINAN: I understand.

MR. DUNCAN: Joe, I'm glad you are here tonight. Green Ridge Street, the Ford Hyland residence, the neighbor is here tonight if you have a chance after the meeting if you could talk to him. He has some concerns about the branches and stuff up there.

And the other concern was over Buenzli Court the one house with the collapsing -- the roof in the back. It's the second floor.

MR. LORINCE: We sent him letters. He's not responding to us. The next thing we got to do is an inspection of the property. He took a building permit out and everything to fix it. But he never started it. I think his wife is sick.

MR. DUNCAN: I got another inbox --

MR. LORINCE: Last I knew his wife was sick.

MR. DUNCAN: Thanks. I appreciate it. And thanks for everybody and anybody that could help us with --

MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Manley's problem
with -- I know the Mayor got in touch with Ford Hyland and just no feedback. I think do what we have to. Like, he's ignoring. So --

MR. DUNCAN: Thanks.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you. Anybody else like to address Council?

MS. HALLINAN: Kelly Hallinan, 1723 Madison Avenue, Dunmore. I'm not going to read anything tonight. I have a whole different attitude about the whole thing. Now, that all of the minutes are posted finally on the website anyone can go back and where they see Mrs. Hallinan since May if you read it's kind of comical.

When I first came I was told to call the police about the problems in the neighborhood, call the police, call the police, get citations. Make sure you get them cited. I did.

And then the Borough gave the neighbors my name and my complaint information. And I was harassed and had to go to court.

MR. HALLINAN: And not to interrupt, I would think that would be public record anyway.
MS. HALLINAN: No, it isn't. It's an exemption from the open records law from the Right to Know Act 708 (b)\textsuperscript{17}.

MR. HALLINAN: Okay. I'm sorry, I'm just --

MS. HALLINAN: That complaint information submitted to an agency is exempt to protect the person that made the complaint. And also under code, zoning officers are not allowed to reveal the information so that the neighbor could not be retaliated against.

So I'm headed back to court because the person that was found guilty appealed it. So now I have to go back to the Court of Common Pleas. Magistrate Ware did make him move. So he's gone if that makes anyone feel better, Magistrate Ware told him he had to leave or that he was going to go to jail for everything that, you know, he did to me.

Just so that's clear so anyone that wants to make a complaint you're really not supposed to have to your information let out by the Borough or you suffer retaliation. That's okay. I'm a big girl. I could take it.

Also I was told by Mr. Cummings that
he had information that records dating back to 1980 proved that the house next door to me was three units then. Well, that's impossible. The person that owned the house was in jail. His wife and two kids and himself lived there.

It was an attic. I lived there all my life. So this actually if anyone cares to read it is who lived in the house, who owned the house, who rented the house. And they are either Dunmoreans or relatives of Dunmoreans which happen to be all people that I think are friends with all of us that will attest to the fact that there never was a third floor apartment in the house where the person lives that I'm suffering the harassment from and the landlord who gave this person the information.

Also if you read back in the minutes you'll see at the first meeting Councilman Nardozzi suggested that I get a neighborhood petition against the illegal zoning going on in my neighborhood. I got a petition from every single family house in the neighborhood that was not on vacation at the time.

I presented it at the next meeting and last month at the meeting where I asked
what happened to my petition, the Solicitor
never saw it and nobody knew where it went. So
does anybody know whatever happened to the
petition with 30 other signatures of the
neighbors of the 1700 block of Madison Avenue?

MR. MCHALE: Vito, were you ever
given that?

MR. RUGGIERO: No, sir.

MS. HALLINAN: I'm not going to
provide anything else because I really, you
know, have an account with Staples now with all
the ink with all the things that I provided to
Council and stuff and they just seem to
disappear.

MR. HALLINAN: Who did you give it
to?

MS. HALLINAN: Council meeting
members.

MR. HALLINAN: The whole petition?
MS. HALLINAN: The whole petition.

And I was told that it will be given to the
right person, taken care of. And I'd be given
an opinion which I didn't get. I did get a
letter I've been asking since May -- well,
prior to that, the reason it came to Borough
Council in May was because Zoning Board would not give me a determination from the zoning officer as to why illegal additions and alterations are being allowed to the single family homes in my block.

So I did come to Council this May after having gone three times to zoning in 2013. And, yes, a lot of things were addressed. Yes, Council never -- Council did come down and see for themselves. Little things changed due to state inspections that I'm grateful for. But Council shouldn't have had to deal with that.

I appreciate it. But you're not getting paid to do that. Other people are getting paid to do that. The only thing that's like the most fantastic thing in Dunmore to me is DPW. Put your garage out, your garbage comes in. It snows your garbage is cleaned up.

Didge had to come down to see the month's worth of garbage and the maggots and smell and the drugs, which by the way, there was a resident here at the last meeting that asked if Dunmore would consider or ever have considered adopting the one strike rule.
Dunmore passed it in June of 2014. So we do have a one strike rule. So the drugs that were found on the back porch, on the third floor with the month's worth of garbage in the illegal third floor unit, should have been reported and the apartment should have been shut down, which that apartment now is empty because Magistrate Ware made the tenant move.

And I did send a letter to the Borough requesting the apartment be shut down unless they could provide me with the appropriate documentation that I've been asking for that I still haven't gotten saying that procedure was followed. And it was done correctly. It is not been. There is no paperwork. I'm not getting the paperwork.

I did get an opinion today in the mail from Mr. Cummings and Mr. Lorince. I already had an opinion. I wanted a written determination with the copies of the paperwork of the procedures under Municipality Planning Code of how they were allowed to change after the 2000 ordinance because mind you, I have been in that house every day of my life for 57 years.
So to tell me there were apartments and houses that weren't and families like the Gurnari and the Kernans with five people in their family, six people in their family lived in a one-bedroom apartment with one bathroom? That didn't happen. Everybody knows that didn't happen.

So if we're bored with this, next time I'll come back with the fact that there are still rats and I'm a block away from the elementary center where rumor has it that rats have been found. Rumor. I'm just telling you. We already know they're in my neighborhood. I have pictures.

And that -- I will come back with my dog found a vent in the cemetery down below the elementary center at the high school where the grease that gets dumped down that big sewer which I've seen happen, the cafeteria dumps the grease down the vent outside the cafeteria and it rolls right down to the cemetery.

And how I know that is my dogs on a walk through cemetery were going into it coming out smelling like a carnival full of grease. So I'm sure the expired people that
have been buried there for so many years aren't frying french fries and making this happen.

    It's coming from somewhere. So if we're all bored with Madison Avenue until something happens like I said it would, something is going to happen. There's been a lot of stuff happening. I'm kind of letting it take its own progression. The neighbors are fighting over parking.

    People are moving out. You know, it's a transient neighborhood now. The person that was asked to leave by Magistrate Ware was only there three months. The person across the street that was asked to leave was only there two months. There's for rent signs back up there again.

    Also if I can't get the proper determination procedural code, maybe I'll go back to the people who were denied three-unit apartment buildings. There's a man named Chris Eshelman who owns apartment buildings. He's from Scranton. He was denied to make a two family a 3 family after it burned in the alley behind me.

    And then Mr. Davenport, I believe
he's the owner of Dunmore properties, that's how this all got started. I think everyone got away from how this got started. I got a letter from the Borough to attend a meeting because someone that lived across the street from the home that I'm talking about next to me wanted to keep it as a three unit.

Zoning said, no, you can't because that's a single family residential zone. So kind of contradictory. So I'm going to let everything, you know, go as it's going until something comes out or something terrible happens unfortunately. But I'm not going to invest any more money into it.

It already cost me $500 deductible on my car. My car got hit. No police report. I had to go to court. My husband and daughter had to miss work. I've had to put sound barrier window treatments up. I've had to put shades up to keep the creepers that lived next door from staring at my daughter because it's only 5 feet away from my house which is against coded ordinance.

And I've also had to pay a huge electric bill because my daughter wouldn't put
a fan in her window without getting high from the guy doing his drugs on the third floor back porch which is right outside her bedroom. And my back hurts. And I said enough.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to address Council tonight?

(No response.)


ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yes, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Do you have anything tonight for us, sir?

MR. VALVANO: Yeah, Mr. President. We received several calls about the project on Drinker Street specifically what's going on on Warren Street. I spoke with PennDOT with George Roberts and I let Mr. Hallinan know they were three weeks delayed getting started with that project.

It was supposed to have been -- done Warren Street by the time school started. It was a delay from utility work. There's still a delay. They are waiting for PP&L to come back to relocate the polls so that they could
finish. There was also some questions about the sidewalk there and part of a driveway. That was all easement work that that's why that part of it happened -- the portion of that easement and I guess it was the tradeoff instead of paying the homeowner and whatnot.

There was also questions on the sidewalks on Drinker Street. I guess the assumption was that -- or Blakely Street, I'm sorry. The sidewalks were going to go on Blakely Street. And from what we're being told -- and I relayed that to Mr. Hallinan. And he spoke with Mr. Pichiarella as well, only where the widening is going to take place are where they are going to be getting some new sidewalks.

So we do have a call into PennDOT to get actual maps of the project, where the sidewalks are actually going to go so we can get together and fill in the blanks to see what can actually be done because it might end up with being a mishmash there. We don't want to see that happen. So we're in contact so far.

MR. HALLINAN: May I? We talked about this. And the probe was it all stemmed
from a complaint. And when we saw the project
I don't want to misquote numbers but it started
off if I'm not mistaken as maybe a 12 million
dollar project. And it got whittled down to
like a 6 million dollar project. And my
question was, why does Dunmore always get,
like, the short end of the stick?

All the other towns they get the
streets paved. They get lighting. We were
going to get sidewalks in just the widened
areas. Our lights were staying the same. And
how this came about -- and I don't even know if
we can, you know, advance -- come back and
reinvent the project.

But what I'm looking for is that. I
want to get sidewalks up and down through
Dunmore. I want to get lights and make our
town look, you know, aesthetically welcoming as
you come into our town. And Mr. Valvano's
office through Representative Farina have been
more than, you know, bending over backwards
trying to get us, you know, whatever we could.

And we're going to try to keep
pushing this. And I hope we can get -- I want
to get Representative Cartwright involved.
We're going to find money and see what we can do.

MR. VALVANO: We're waiting for Sandra from the Governor's office to call us back. We're going to see because again that project started, you know, before we, you know, the new district. So we're just coming up to speed on that. But we said, we're going to work hard on that and see what we can come up with.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. I appreciate everything that your office has done. Like I said, we're the second largest community in Lackawanna County. And you go into Jessup, Olyphant, Jermyn, Moscow is absolutely beautiful what they've done up there. Why can't we get the same? And that's my only question to all of our state officials, and, you know -- and I thank you for what you're doing.

MR. VALVANO: We have one request so far. I don't know if there is anymore. We had one request from St. Anthony's Park Association for an LSA Grant. Again, the deadline is September 30th. So that was the only request
that we had through our office for projects in Dunmore.

MR. MCHALE: Were you going to say something?

MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, originally, Tom, with that project they had a big thing down there and put a presentation on. They had a picture on a tripod -- an easel that would blow your mind. It was -- they probably spent thousands of dollars on the sales pitch for this.

And we had beautiful lighting going in, sidewalks. I distinctively remember asking if they were going to fix the water problem going down towards where La Cucina is. They were going to take care of all of that. How it got cut back to what it's cut back to now, I don't know. It's a shame though. You're 100 percent right and thank you for going up and --

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Do you still have the pictures?

MR. VERRASTRO: That was all stuff they took with them that day. I don't have it. It was a 4 by 4 sheet of -- it was beautiful.

MR. HALLINAN: We don't want to go
backwards pointing fingers or anything. Let's just move forward and see. I mean, we can play the blame game forever, you know.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'm not trying to blame anybody.

MR. HALLINAN: No. I understand -- just even with the audience -- and I thank Representative Farina's office. They are going out of their way to keep in touch and tell us what's going on. And I hope Harrisburg can find something for the Borough of Dunmore. Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: I want to echo what Tommy said. Thank you. He called me every day telling me how much he's talking to you guys and the -- and just the help that we're getting and Tommy too. He's really taking this as his project and he's really fighting for it and thank you for helping out.

MR. VALVANO: Well, even on Warren Street I thought there was going to be a portion where actually three concrete blocks were not going to be changed. And, you know, we called and, you know, we talked to -- Representative Farina called George Roberts
and said we can't have that. So they agreed.
We got an e-mail on that. I did share it with
that PennDOT agreed to take out that three
block section -- not three block but three
concrete block section and replace it.

MR. MCHALE: That's how it looks
right now. I saw it the other day. It
looks -- I'm glad. But thank you again.
Please pass that along to Representative
Farina.

MR. VALVANO: And there's also we
had a meeting -- I'm sure Tom shared with
Council about the bridge over at Bunker Hill.
So we're working on that too. So last we spoke
it was the ordinance that had --

MR. HALLINAN: I'll bring that up
when I speak, okay? Thank you for that too.

MR. MCHALE: A potentially massive
project. Thank you again. Mr. Ruggiero, do
you have anything tonight?

MR. RUGGIERO: No, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Kearney?

MR. KEARNEY: No.

MR. MCHALE: Joe.

MR. LORINCE: No.
MR. MCHALE: Mr. Judge.

MR. JUDGE: I want to apologize about the recycling. We had trucks breakdown last week. We'll get caught up with it. I know the whole five wards are out.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Didge. I talked to you more than I talked to my wife.

MR. JUDGE: We'll get caught up.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Didge.

Anybody else? Tom, do you want to start us off tonight?

MR. HALLINAN: Sure. I'm only going to talk for about two minutes.

MR. MCHALE: Yeah.

MR. HALLINAN: First of all, I had a complaint from the Bunker Hill bridge in Dunmore. There's a little sign there if anybody goes by it says please fix our bridge. So I had a good friend of mine he wanted it painted, he wanted it paved. So I started looking into it. I said what can we do?

And I actually grabbed the bridge report that was done on that bridge from March of this year. And when I read the report and kind going through it, you know, obviously I'm
not an engineer. So we had a little meeting
with obviously Mr. Farina's office we sat down
with and sat down with people from the county
and we had an engineer come in from PennDOT.

And I sat in it with Mr. Cummings
and we just kicked around what can we do about
the Bunker Hill bridge. And I said can we
piecemeal this, like, how can we, you know,
sandblast, you know, the girders or something
and just start fixing it in pieces so we can
make it last because we can't build a new
bridge.

And he said more or less, Tommy, if
you want to help me out here, they said this
bridge would actually cost you more to fix it
piecemeal than to build a new bridge. And I
said, well, how do we go about building a new
bridge? And the guy from the state said what
we have is a project here where we can come in,
you hand everything over to the state, they do
the engineering, the design, build the bridge
and then we buy it back for five percent of the
total cost of project.

So right now when he told us that
this project could probably if it was done
right today $7 million. But obviously by the time you get through all the engineering, God knows what they'll find and however they're going to decide whatever they are going to do with the bridge, it could run up to $10 million, $12 million.

That was the -- just a guesstimate by the engineer from PennDOT. He said that's nothing set in stone. So realistically we could have a $10 million dollar bridge for $500,000, which we would get through our funding of what, Tommy?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: The matching grant would be through CDBG and through our liquid fuels and we would accumulate that over the planning, the stage of the project. So when the bridge was completed and turn key back to the Borough, we would set title and we would have accumulated the money for 5 percent of the total project to remit to PennDOT.

MR. HALLINAN: So what we're looking at here there's -- I feel there's no recourse. I'm not an engineer. I'm not a professional. But we can't just keep throwing money on a bridge that it's eventually going to be
downposted which means they are going to reduce the weight of the vehicles that go across.

I mean, we're at -- we're probably just legally getting busses over. I don't want to get into all of that stuff. What I want to do here is I want to make a motion that we start moving forward with this to see, one, is it feasible and start this project to get it on PennDOT's TIP Program.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Prior to the motion, I would suggest you open to the floor for any public comment.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to address Council on this topic tonight?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none --

ATTY. CUMMINGS: There being none, it would be appropriate for a motion and a second.

MR. HALLINAN: I would like to make a motion to start this project which I think is a good idea.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion. Do I have a second?
MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you for the garbage fees, Mr. Cummings, I -- you know, I think we're looking there to try to start, you know -- I mean, what's fair is fair. People pay their taxes and these guys are getting away with it. And I just want to find somehow to recoup it for them. Just do the right thing. Pay your taxes. Thank you.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: And in fairness to Council, this has been discussed at multiple meetings and so everybody has had full and final notice that we are about to commence the collections because it does get expensive but everybody has already received multiple
MR. HALLINAN: Thank you very much. And I'd like to make a motion that since we have been losing some of the kids back to school and everything, I'd like to make a motion that Mark Lavelle, Jr., be put on the Dunmore Community Center as a part-time employee.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion. Do I have a second? Do we have to open it up, Tom?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: For the formality. It's a personnel action.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to comment on adding a part-time employee to the Community Center roster?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none. I have a motion. Do I have a second?

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: All in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.
MR. MCHALE: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

MR. HALLINAN: That's all I have.

Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I would just like to thank everyone for coming, of course, but also, Kelly, thank you for your input. When you bring these issues forth, we try to commence some kind of a fix or some kind of solution. And I do hope that these issues will be resolved. And you keep bringing them here and that's all we need to address them as they come.

As far as Mr. Farina's office, I know that Dave left. But I do want to thank Frank Farina's office for trying to help us with this Blakely Street project. That's all I have tonight. And thank you again for coming.

THE COURT: Thanks, Carol.

Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Vito, did you check with Dave? I didn't know he was leaving early what
I called you about last month was about a project for St. Anthony's. Can you give Dave a call and find out if that's what it was?

MR. RUGGIERO: They are applying for the LSA Grant.

MR. BURKE: He told you that?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. BURKE: Okay. Also I want to apologize to the Hallinans. I don't know what to say. I'm embarrassed. I'm sorry you have to go through this. I don't even know what to say to you. It's wrong. You went through hell it seems like for no reason at all. And I don't know. I apologize.

MS. HALLINAN: I appreciate that.

MR. BURKE: I'm so sorry. That's all I have.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, I like to echo what Timmy said. I'm sorry we can't get a straight answer for you. I really am. But also I believe this month we go back to our two meetings a month?

MR. MCHALE: Yes.

MR. VERRASTRO: So we're having a
meeting two weeks from now. Thank you for
coming. Have a good night.

MR. MCHALE: Quickly, Mrs. Hallinan,
I told you a couple meetings ago that I have a
similar situation with my mother's. And I
think Timmy says it well. I don't know what to
do. I apologize. It's not on a backburner at
least the people that are sitting up here that
I know and talk to every day.

MS. HALLINAN: I'm trying to get the
proper board to take care of it.

MR. MCHALE: We understand. Believe
me and if what you complained of was across
from me, a lot of stronger words would have
come out of my mouth. You at least held it
together. So I give you credit. We're not
going to stop. We're going to keep trying.

MS. HALLINAN: Thank you. I
appreciate it.

MR. MCHALE: That's all I have.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Before you close,
there is a great deal of litigation state wide
as well as nationally to protect tenants. And
some municipalities have paid exorbitant fees,
multiples of hundreds of thousands based on
good intentions and well meaning ordinances.

So since the last meeting and with the requests made, gone through those court decisions and what other communities are doing and it would appear that Council perhaps should revisit the nuisance ordinance, the refuse ordinance, and the littering ordinances as well as the procedure for the property maintenance code complaint enforcement. If -- it would be my suggestion that Council instruct that that go forward.

MR. MCHALE: Can we direct -- I could direct you to do it --

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yes.

MR. MCHALE: -- to look into it?

Please do.

MR. VERRASTRO: Can we get a policy in place for the Police Department where to go --

ATTY. CUMMINGS: For what department?

MR. VERRASTRO: For both police and fire if we have a policy in the book we're having to give them the guidance to go with that --
ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yeah, I'd be happy to meet with both the police and fire chief, not really a policy but maybe an education program and guidance.

MR. VERRASTRO: Exactly. Thank you.


ATTY. CUMMINGS: That's okay. Feel like I was home.

MR. MCHALE: Do I have a motion to adjourn?

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion. A second?

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.
CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

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