COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:
Monday, June 8, 2015

TIME:
7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:
DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MICHAEL MCHALE, President
PAUL NARDOZZI, Vice President
SAL VERRASTRO
TIMOTHY BURKE
CAROL SCRMALLI
THOMAS HALLINAN
MICHAEL DEMPSEY
THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor - absent

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
MR. MCHALE: We don't have Mr. Cummings here tonight. So please indulge me. I'll try to get through this as quick as I can. We are going to take on the agendas that were passed out tonight number nine is going to be deleted.

We'll explain that a little bit more. Well, I'll explain it. The noise ordinance -- this was put on. PennDOT requested this. We really just want to get some more information before we waive our noise ordinance, maybe put a couple curves in there whether they can work at certain times and not disrupt the neighborhood, try to minimize the inconvenience for the neighbors that are going to be affected by the work.

And in its place, we're going to make a motion -- put another thing in, I apologize -- make a motion to approve the purchase of a vehicle for the Code Office. And it's not to exceed $27,000. So that will take the place at number nine. So start with the roll call. Mrs. Scrimalli.
MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Nardozzi.

MR. NARDOZZI: Here.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. McHale is here. Is there any comment — public comment on agenda items tonight?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none. Motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that motion.

MR. BURKE: Second.

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. Motion to approve and pay the open bills.

MS. SCRIMALLY: I'll make that motion.

MR. NARDOZZI: 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. Number six personnel matters, first we'll go to the Summer Program. Every year we have a Summer Program at the three parks in the Borough. This one owned by the Borough and St. Anthony's and Sherwood Park.

We're going to do it again this year. We have a listing of employees that some
are returning, some are new that we're going to approve tonight pending their clearance checks by the police department. So I'll take a motion to approve the Summer Program hires.

MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

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. Second personnel matter is a part-time police officer Corey A. Lucas. This is just to add him to the available part-time personnel for the Chief to schedule. I'll look for a motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second it.

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. Number seven, motion to approve the purchase of six new police vehicles from Kovatch Ford, Incorporated.

The terms that we propose to accept is $20,000 down payment, payment in arrears for $74,517.29 for three years at 3.06 percent interest. I'll look for a motion.

MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that motion, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: We have a motion and a second. On the question. Quickly to explain, we're required to buy new vehicles for our police department when they hit a certain amount per the union contract.

We're coming up on a few of them.

We -- last time we bought four or five
vehicles. The Chief is requested six which includes a new Chief's vehicle as well. This is a payment in arrears. It's a lease. It's a lease purchase agreement.

So if there's a bargain purchase op at the end of it. So it's in theory a three year purchase of these vehicles similar to what we did last year, same company is building them, same finance company as well. And they are all on COSTARS as well.

So they are competitively bid by the State and we're allowed to use these guys like this. Anything else? We do have a plethora of old vehicles, some of which are no longer running. And there will be a public auction for those in the near future as well.

As soon as we get these which I think Chief anticipated a month to two months. So I have a motion. Anybody else on the question?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Can I say something?

MR. MCHALE: Nope. 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. I apologize, sir, at this time we don't take comments. We'll take another comment right after the end of this.

Number eight, a motion to approve and accept a professional service contract between the Borough of Dunmore and Ufberg and Associates, LLP, for labor Council matters.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

MR. MCHALE: We have a motion and a second. On the question. Michael, do you want to address this or do you want me to talk about it quick?

MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah. Over the years -- I haven't been here that long. But over the years we haven't been that enthusiastic about our representation in the past. So we wanted to go a different way.

Bob Ufberg and his firm comes highly
recommended. Myself being in that position or at least a colleague of his, I don't do a lot of work with him but, you know, same area of business I don't particularly do labor law. But he comes extremely highly recommended.

He met with us. He came up here, you know, he's gone over our contract. He's given us some great ways to, you know, that he could help us over the years. We understand it's not going to be short term fix for all the problems that had happened in the past with arbitrations.

But we're hoping that he could help us move forward in a different direction. So I think he's the right way to go.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Mr. Dempsey. Anybody else on the question? All those in favor --

MR. DEMPSEY: One last thing I want to say.

MR. MCHALE: Sure. Please.

MR. DEMPSEY: Bob -- his law firm does -- it's only labor law. He represents, you know, dozens of different municipalities. That's all his law firm is focused on. They
have no other practice other than labor matters. So I just wanted to make sure I got that out.

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

MR. VERRASTRO: We'll send a letter of thanks to the old --

MR. MCHALE: Lars Anderson.

MR. VERRASTRO: Lars Anderson and Mr. Goldberg for the time that they spent with us.

MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

MR. VERRASTRO: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else?

(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. Number nine restated, motion to approve the purchase of a vehicle for the Code Office not to exceed $27,000.

MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that
motion.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

MR. MCHALE: I have a second. On the question. Just for the public's knowledge, the Code Office had a vehicle for years. This is coming out of the Code Office account which is with all the stuff going on at Marywood, not saying that there's a surplus; but we find it budgetary feasible to bring out a vehicle for these guys.

They have been using their own cars and not looking for reimbursement. But it's -- you know, our Counsel has said that it could be a liability to us. So we're going to try to move forward with this. They looked through two COSTARS companies.

And we're trying to negotiate down the best price for one of these vehicles. So this will give authority to Vito and Attorney Cummings to finalize a purchase prior to next meeting. So anybody else on the question?

MR. VERRASTRO: What was the number we're going to -- the approximate number?

MR. MCHALE: Twenty-seven. 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. Mr. Hetman.

MR. HETMAN: Good evening as always, ladies and gentlemen, Gerard Hetman from Lackawanna County. Good to see you. To begin this evening, the first item we'll talk about is the one that comes up every year in the summer months we get many questions as to when it starts and when the schedule falls in place for it and that is the distribution of the Farmer's Market nutritional vouchers.

This is a program that's run through the State Department of Agriculture in Pennsylvania and administered at the county level to the various Area Agency on Agings across the Commonwealth.

So in Lackawanna County the Area Agency on Aging will distribute the vouchers.
And these are for seniors to be able to go to the local farmer's markets and redeem those vouchers for fresh fruits and produce.

We have a schedule here the dates that those will be distributed on. They begin at 9 a.m. on at the dates specified here on the sheet. And it ends whenever the supply of vouchers runs out. It is a first come, first serve operation.

The date is closest for you folks it would be right here at the Dunmore Senior Center. It would be Tuesday, July 14th. There are a plethora of other dates. And folks can go to any drop-off site in the county. It doesn't have to be the one closest to them.

This one obviously will be convenient for most of the folks here and for your friends and relatives. People do have to provide proof of age, driver's license or birth certificate, any type of official document with a person's age on it and also their address.

They could be a utility bill, anything that was mailed to them that says where they live just so that they could prove that they live in Lackawanna County.
MR. HALLINAN: Do you have a flier for this?

MR. HETMAN: Yep. We'll give it to you.

MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

MR. HETMAN: With that, they also if someone can't come themselves, they could fill out what they call a proxy form which is available from the Area Agency on Aging. And there's a phone number on here.

The Area on Aging asks that someone using a proxy call them to notify them what person will be going to pick up the vouchers for them and that person has to sign a sheet that day saying that they picked up the vouchers for the person who is a senior citizen. It's a well-known program and we'll be happy to leave it here for you.

After that, one of our initiatives comes up later this month which is our third annual Lackawanna County Job Fair. This is the same drill we've done the last two years. It's at PNC Field on the upper concourse level. So rain or shine we'll have the event.

It's Thursday, June 18th from 1 p.m.
to 5 p.m., free and open to the public. We have approximately 60 to 70 private sector employers come in and speak about their jobs that are available to the public.

There are, of course, full time opportunities that are talked about but also part time positions for anyone that may be a student looking for summer work or maybe a senior looking for something to supplement retirement and then also internships and seasonal opportunities.

We ask them to bring everything and talk about everything that they may have in their company. So we see a variety of the different industries represented. We have folks from near and far that come, Binghamton, Williamsport, Stroudsburg. You name it.

And lots of close folks also. So anyone that's looking for a job, again any students or anyone looking summer work is more than welcome. And lastly we'll leave you our application for what we call the Commissioner's Task Force on the big idea concept.

We talked about it a little bit last month. Our three particular ideas that have
been pitched with Commissioners at conferences and in letters to our offices, letters to the editor. The forming of the Task Force reaching these three ideas to discuss them and maybe get some community experts together to see if they are feasible to do here in Lackawanna County and the surrounding area.

One deals with the recreation of the Lackawanna County Fair or I should say the creation since we never had one before. Also one dealing with what we call a Steam School science, technology, engineering, arts, and math.

And lastly making Lackawanna County some type of destination point, a development of perhaps an amusement park or some other type of activity for business that would lure people here for overnight stays. So our deadline that we're asking for is approximately by the 12th of June.

So there's still a little bit of time left. And it's open-ended. So there's no firm deadline. We do want to start -- get this committee meeting later this month. So if anyone is interested in those, feel free to let
them know and then contact our office and we welcome their input. That's all we have.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, sir.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thanks, Gerard.

MR. HALLINAN: Gerard, the vouchers for the food vouchers, is there an age on that?

What's the --

MR. HETMAN: People have to be 60 years of age or older.

MR. HALLINAN: And no income level?

MR. HETMAN: There are income levels. How it works is they -- when people come to pick them up, they have to sign a form attesting that they're --

MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

MR. HETMAN: The income that comes in here and they're federal income criteria guidelines.

MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

MR. HETMAN: Single people, 21,775 annual income per household. Married folks would be 29,471, and a three person household would be $37,167. It's a self declaration statement. It's asking that your gross income
is at or below the Federal income levels. I don't think they actually ask for a tax return or anything. They just ask that you do it on your honor attesting to that.

MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

MR. HETMAN: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Duncan.

MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Barton Street. Before I start, Mr. McHale, I don't know -- the hearing's going maybe -- the vehicle for the car, did you say $27,000?

MR. MCHALE: Yes, sir.

MR. DUNCAN: Okay. I just want to go through some of the things from the neighborhood walk and the neighborhood watch. Did Vito forward to you folks all of the responses?

I just have a couple of questions and then a couple updates because I got some additional communication today when I got home from work about one of the concerns. I know Vito is not here tonight. And I know Joe Lorince is not here.

But I still want to still push this out here, let everybody hear. 516 Fourth
Street, the neighbor that's got the concern wants to remain anonymous. She doesn't want to get into a war. But 516 Fourth Street is an apartment house.

I sent photos to Vito and Joe Lorince. She sent me a series of photos. The photos sent by the neighbor states -- and this is a quote. It's an apartment building. They, the tenants of this apartment building are using it as a business.

There are vehicles being repaired Monday through Saturday. They are starting 8:30 a.m. The back alley -- these are all quotes -- is where everything is taking place. The odor of gas and noise all day is unbearable.

She sent me photos today when I got home. Now they have a boat rammed in the back of this house and they are doing boat repair. So I doubt that it's set up as a garage. But there's a lot of stuff going on there. And it's not just -- this is the neighbor who is contacting me.

I have other neighbors come to me and call at the house which is exactly what we
want that. I want the communication.

But the other folks are also calling me concerned about the noise level and everything going on in the back of this property. So if we can at least pass it along so that whoever can get up there, you know, I'm sure they are not doing it on a day when it's monsoon season.

But when dry seasons comes around again probably in a few days maybe they'll be back out. So whatever you have to do so we're all on the same page. And then just a couple other things and I'm glad Didge is here tonight --

MR. VERRASTRO: Gary, was that 516 or 416?

MR. NARDOZZI: 516.

MR. MCHALE: Okay.

MR. VERRASTRO: I -- when you said it, I want to make sure I had it right.

MR. DUNCAN: I have a tendency to talk fast. Tell me to slow it down and certainly for you. I'll get you a copy. I will e-mail you everything so that you have it. That may make it a lot easier.
Didge, 113 Smith Street, did you get all of these? Did he send these to you? When I say him -- Vito. 113 Smith Street exposed utility cap. The response was DPW will assess which utility company.

The same thing is at 612 East Drinker and 618 East Drinker. Those addresses have the caps, so whatever you can do just so that you're aware of that, okay? Just bear with me here I want to go through these.

Oh, 2033 Delaware Street it's an abandoned home and needed a tidy up. The response was on a summer when help is hired. When does the help get hired? Anybody, sorry. I'm looking at you. Anybody.

MR. MCHALE: We're trying to address that. Everybody is really in school right now so they're freeing up this week.

MR. DUNCAN: So at the end of week hopefully?

MR. MCHALE: We're hoping. We're trying to get them as soon as possible.

MR. DUNCAN: You think a week?

MR. MCHALE: By next Monday at least two of them are starting.
MR. DUNCAN: I just want to know --

MR. MCHALE: Understood.

Understood.

MR. DUNCAN: Thanks.

MR. MCHALE: Five of them are being hired for grass cutting and --

MR. DUNCAN: Great. The Adams Avenue, they are not here tonight. But the Adams and the Larch area and behind Nina's and every --

MR. MCHALE: Joe will send a list and we'll take care of all of them.

MR. DUNCAN: Thanks a lot. I appreciate it not just for myself, I'm speaking for everybody. The garbage collection fees, we talked about them a while ago. Where do we stand on that? I don't miss meetings. Maybe I fell asleep or was comatose.

MR. HALLINAN: I spoke to Mr. Cummings and we are moving forward with collecting it. And we have been making some collections. They're starting off slowly. We had to purge the list because there was some, like, homes that were bought and weren't, you know, they shouldn't have been charged a fee or
whatever.

So he straightened all that out.

From what I understand when I asked him last week that we are -- money is coming in from that and that's good.

MR. DUNCAN: Do we have a time frame to remediate the entire situation or --

MR. HALLINAN: We talked about that. I don't know if we, you know, we want to see how this is going before we take the next step. But obviously there will be a next step because it's not fair to the people that have been paying all of these years. And that's what we're trying to do.

And we're not here to embarrass anybody by any means. But, you know, if you're in arrears, we're going to try to get this money whether we collect or lien, one way or the other. And that was my plan from day one along with the rest of Council.

MR. DUNCAN: I still have a couple questions.

MR. MCHAILE: Please.

MR. DUNCAN: The lights on the polls, I got the response from -- who is the
new company? I saw Didge one day. I was
getting off Tighe Street coming back from one
of my patients and I saw Didge up on Tighe
Street at the convenient.

Drinker Street from the bank down,
those lights are out. Who is the company now
to replace the lights? I took -- I live there
so I walk the dog that way. They were still
out last night. Who is the new company that is
going to take care of the new lights and --

MR. HALLINAN: That's Joe Kries.

MR. DUNCAN: And do we have a
contact number for that?

MR. MCHALE: Gary, we'll contact
him.

MR. DUNCAN: I just want to know
what the policy is.

MR. HALLINAN: And, Gary, not to
sound like we're sidestepping you, what we also
had a problem is, you know, one person calling
this Council person so now what we want to do
is get everything to either Vito or Sally Judge
that would be.

And then that way, there's one point
for, you know, keeping it coordinated of what
polls were contacted and which ones were fixed and then he would report in. And what we're asking him to do is even knock on the neighbor's door or the person that's complaining and say, hey, I was here or even have a door tag and that this light has been repaired. So we think it's a two-way street.

MR. DUNCAN: If I get tips from the general public about it I'll just do what I did and I'll forward it because these numbers West Drinker Street -- and I provided the N numbers to you folks, 115 West Drinker. And on one of the polls at 119 West Drinker there's no N number on the poll but the light most assuredly is out.

That's a long dark stretch when you're walking through there at night. It's from the bank right across from Fidelity going down to the next block towards the high school.

MR. HALLINAN: I'm wondering if it's the -- what do you call them? Sometimes they're on and other times they're not.

MR. DUNCAN: These are totally dark.

MR. HALLINAN: I know sometimes when you make your complaints I ride around and
look.

MR. VERRASTRO: Call the Borough office and ask for Sally Judge. That's the most direct route.

MR. DUNCAN: Sally Judge. I guess Monday to Friday she's there from 8:30 to --

MR. VERRASTRO: Four.

MR. DUNCAN: We're almost done, guys. The next community walk is going to be held next Sunday, June the 14th, 2015. We're going to park up at the Old Laurel Hill. For those of you that were at the last neighborhood watch meeting, we had a neighbor that came down and was very vocal and had concerns in that area.

So we're going to revisit the Mill Street, Chestnut Street, Elm Street. We'll take that entire corridor. We'll do what we always do. We'll meet at noon. So any of you folks that are free, we certainly -- Tim came with us on the last walk and gave us a -- protection on his motorcycle.

We were glad to have him with us because he paved the way for us so-to-speak. We were really glad to have him with us. And I
know, Tom, you and Nibs came in the past. So certainly the more the merrier. But we really do welcome you guys.

I think when you come with us and you know it yourself, you see so much more on the walk than if you drive through it at 5 or 10 miles an hour. So if you could find the time, I'd appreciate it.

And then obviously the walk will be Sunday, June 14th at noon. The next Dunmore Neighborhood Watch meeting will be next Monday here at 7:00. Again, I know you usually make the meetings, so those of you that can make it. Sal, I know you've been at them. We certainly appreciate the fact that you show up and I think the citizens show up.

One of the folks that always comes to Dunmore Neighborhood Watch and never misses, I got a call from her last night. She's Jeanne Van Wert that lives up in the Bunker Hill section. She's at the Dunmore Nursing home right now, Dunmore rehab.

She had to have a leg amputated. She called me up and told me why she can't come to a neighborhood watch meeting. And
she's so concerned about still what's going on. We talked about the graffiti up by the bridge at Carmella's and everything.

You know, even when folks can't be at the meetings, I guess the analogy is it's still important even to somebody who had a leg amputated. So for those of you that pray, keep Jeanne in your prayers because she's really -- could benefit from the prayers right now.

And we appreciate the involvement, especially you folks that are always at our neighborhood watch meetings and you folks that come out to the neighborhood watch. A lot of new faces here tonight and sorry if I don't know you but there's a Dunmore Neighborhood Watch Facebook page.

My name is Gary Duncan. Duncan, not like the donut. It's on my Facebook page. So you're all certainly more than welcome to join us. I think the folks that come to our meetings would say we give everybody an opportunity to verbalize their concerns and we actually do follow up on everything. Thanks a lot guys.
MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Gary.

MR. DUNCAN: I exceeded my five minutes for the first time in three years and change.

MR. MCHALE: That's okay. Anybody from Mr. Valvano's office here tonight?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Okay. Number 13 public comment on non agenda items. Just if real quick if we can -- not a lot of -- last time we had a lot of feedback. And we have a stenographer trying to take notes. Anybody who would like to speak, please just come up and state your name for the record so she could keep an accurate record. Thank you. Sir, go ahead.

MR. MCGRAW: I want to thank Council. My name is Jim McGraw. I live at 2028 Delaware Street. And I have been there for over 80 years. So I'm very familiar with Dunmore. And maybe a little over a month ago, Mr. Judge and DPW with the Council's approval put a stop sign about four houses up from Webster Street.

And there's probably a lot of
Dunmoreans that say why do we have to have a stop sign say a hundred yards up from Webster? Well, I'll tell you why.

I was driving up there about maybe two weeks ago. And if that stop sign wasn't there, there would be a boy on Barton Street dead. We're concerned about other problems in the town, but there's certain things that have to be done immediately when it's safety. And they responded and it saved the boy.

Now four houses up there's an alleyway right across if you are familiar with Tommy Golden's old funeral home, two boys come down on bicycles. And the one boy leading was racing. And I'm familiar there. And I was going about 10 miles an hour. I hit the brakes, blew the horn.

And it took that kid approximately 40 feet to stop. By the time he applied the brakes, there was a car parked that I was further down but if it was anybody else because I live on that street and I see people in the Sixth Ward coming up there 20, 30 miles an hour.

They are racing to get kids to
school and now school is out. And it's time to
put the brakes on and pay attention to the
children. We want to save lives. And they may
be your children.

And there is a state law that kids
on a bicycle under 12 years old will have a
helmet. And there's a lot of parents in
Dunmore that didn't go out and buy the kids a
helmet and they are out on the street where
they could be seriously injured.

And if it wasn't for the Borough and
Mr. Judge getting that stop sign, maybe I would
be going 20 miles an hour and strike that
child. And how he stopped is he hit the curb
in front of Tommy's. And I said, oh my God to
my wife that if he goes off that bike he's
going to have a fractured skull. No helmet.
And Joe Finnerty lost a child maybe what, 15,
20 years ago -- fell off the bike, fractured
skull, died.

And that's how serious it is. And
people could come to this Council meeting and
claim, oh, we have stop signs every so many
blocks. They have them because people don't
obey the speed limit. You're out there and
you're in a hurry and you're the only one in
the town that has to go fast. Well, there's
kids living in this town that you have to obey
the speed limits and help the policemen out.

And I'll come up on two addresses
now that I'm finished with that. It's 2032
that house in the alley that Frankie died and I
think maybe the bank owns it that the property
needs to be kept up. And then across the drug
house that was on Delaware Street at 2031 and
33, it's overgrown now with brush and so on.

And when you get time, we'd
appreciate you taking care of it. And I know
you will. But for anybody in this town that
complains about the stop sign, when you save a
life, you did a hell of a good thing and you're
to be complimented.

MR. MCHALE: Thanks.

MR. HALLINAN: Thanks.

MR. BURKE: Thanks, Mr. McGraw.

MR. NARDOZZI: Thanks.

MR. HALLINAN: Michael, was there
a -- did we used to have a free helmet giveaway
or something like that at the police station?

MR. VERRASTRO: Last year I believe
Sabia's garage gave them out.

    MR. MCHALE: Captain Springer, do you --

    MR. HALLINAN: Would that be happening again this year, do you know -- a helmet giveaway for --

    CAPT. SPRINGER: I couldn't hear the question.

    MR. HALLINAN: Bicycle helmets giveaway. I think they used to have it every year or something.

    CAPT. SPRINGER: There's grants for that. So I'll get together with the Chief and I'll look and see if there's a grant. And I'll have him get back to you.

    MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

    MR. HALLINAN: Or like you said, Sabia sponsored it, whoever.

    MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

    MR. HALLINAN: But thank you. Thank you, Bill.

    MR. VERRASTRO: Don't get her mad. She didn't start.

    MS. HALLINAN: I didn't start yet. Don't get me mad. My name is Kelly Burke
Hallinan, homeowner in the 1700 block of Madison Avenue. At the last meeting I informed Council about illegal conversions of single family homes into multiunit apartment buildings being allowed by zoning in a restricted single family zoned neighborhood as designated by Dunmore's own zoning map.

The Zoning Code Enforcement Officer has yet to provide me with requested proof of legality and variances for these properties. Logically if, in fact, required documentation does exist, it would have been presented to me by now.

I have been requesting this information since July of 2013. Pennsylvania open records laws and Pennsylvania Municipality Codes have been broken by Dunmore's Code Enforcement Officer. You'll find that information in these highlighted areas within our ordinances that are posted online for public record.

Serious issues, detrimental to our health and welfare have since began. In addition to the current rat problem, these three-unit rental buildings have been allowed
to be connected by the Borough to a small sewer branch line originally designated to just a few single family homes within my neighborhood.

Overwhelming of the sewer branch line is a health hazard. By allowing all of this to continue, the Borough can be held responsible for placing our health and safety in jeopardy, decrease our property values and our right to quiet enjoyment of our homes.

Our once beautiful sought after neighborhood now has abandon property and dwellings in deplorable condition due to them being nothing more than money making rental businesses.

Absentee landlords and their tenants lack the pride in your home and neighborhood mentality that Madison Avenue homeowners have always lived by. Dunmore is slowly losing its sense of community by all of these factors. We should not as taxpayers have to plead for your service and correction of this matter.

The ordinances are clearly written, recorded, and posted online with confirmation with no amendments for our block. I checked with Mr. Lorince and he told me there are no
amendments for the 1700 block of Madison Avenue.

Years of nonenforcement of our municipality's ordinances is visible within our neighborhood and many others. Mr. Lorince has refused to act or perform his duty as required by law. The Borough's officials must correct the situation caused by a salary employee that Dunmore Council had hired for these duties.

And someone had asked me then where my petition was last time if it was such a big deal. So here's a petition signed by 30 other homeowners in the 1700 block of Madison Avenue. I have proof of the decrease of property values in our block alone.

I have a list of properties in Dunmore that are listed and online on multi-list realty for over a year. And it shows a decrease in values in those also. But I contacted the Sewer Authority as far as the sewer line goes in my statement. That came from the Sewer Authority.

As far as rats in sewers, rats are in all sewers. They only live and choose to go to a neighborhood where they have access to
nesting and they have available food source.

So the last time -- and since 2013 I keep
telling everyone about garbage. There's
transient tenants or six monthers. Six to nine
months they are in and out.

They don't own garbage cans so the
garbage is left on their back porches, on the
sides of houses, and then out on the street all
night. So the rats definitely have food
source.

What I'd like to know is, you know,
I provided more than enough information. These
are ordinances that are for the public to read,
public record posted on Dunmore Borough dot
org. I'm showing you the violations. And I
got one line from Joe Lorince and one line from
anyone that spoke to Joe Lorince. And that is
they are all legal.

But I have yet to get any kind of
documentation that would stop me to continue
going on this. And through this and through
going to people's houses, there's a lot more
people. You're going to get North Webster
Avenue people here. You're going to get Monroe
Avenue people here.
MR. HALLINAN: And, Kelly -- she's my relative just to make everybody -- we have been down there. I have been there with Michael Dempsey. Carol's been there. Timmy Burke's been down there. We have been there with the Sewer Authority.

We met in your kitchen. We've walked through the neighborhood. You're absolutely correct. We don't want to lose any neighborhoods to this kind of activity. We do have a meeting. So everybody knows, we do have a meeting set up tomorrow at -- Wednesday at 10:00 with Mr. Lorince and Kelly.

And we're going to talk about it, go through it and try to move forward and straighten out this problem. It's not like we're sitting on our hands and not doing anything. You know that we're down there and we're trying to move forward and, you know, take this and straighten it out.

MS. HALLINAN: And I appreciate anyone that came down, you know, and it was a big deal and you saw for yourself what condition the neighborhood and the homes were in. But the next call I got was that
inspectors were going to come and inspect the
illegal three-unit apartment building that's
illegal and its distance from my home.

And then the inspection, the few
minor things went with flying colors. It's not
to be there. Two units can be there but not
three.

MR. HALLINAN: And I'm not going to
argue with you about this. I'm not schooled in
it. But I will tell you this, we're going to
sit down Wednesday. We're going to present
your side. We'll hear his side. And then
we're just going to move forward to the
attorneys or whoever we have to move with.

But it will be straightened out.
And you're absolutely correct. We don't want
to lose neighborhoods to this kind of activity.
This is how it starts. And this is what -- how
you lose neighborhoods and communities. And we
don't want to do that, not in Dunmore.

MS. HALLINAN: And that's what's
happening.

MR. HALLINAN: Absolutely. I
couldn't agree with you more. I don't think
anybody that's been down there with us when we
talked about this felt any other way besides that. We have to straighten out the neighborhood and that's what we're going to try to do, okay?

MS. HALLINAN: Thank you.
MR. HALLINAN: Thank you, Kelly.
MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.
MR. MCHALE: Thank you.
MR. CLARK: Pat Clark, Jefferson Avenue, Dunmore. First I'd like to thank Chris Kearney and his staff. Friends of Lackawanna had a meeting here a couple weeks ago and Chris and his staff as usual had it in perfect order for us.

It worked out great. So, Chris, thank you very much. Everything worked out wonderfully. Second, the DEP is having a second open house meeting for the public. It's next Monday, June 15th from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Mid Valley High School. So if you guys are available please attend. Obviously you know where we stand on that issue.

Third question is, last meeting Tim had mentioned that he's waiting on legal opinion from I think it was Attorney Jones on
the ability or lack thereof to write a letter
to DEP opposing the landfill. Did we get a
return letter from -- opinion on that?

MR. MCHALE: Tim.

MR. BURKE: He hasn't contacted me
in over a month, Pat.

MR. CLARK: So the attorney we're
paying to represent us on negotiations with the
dump we ask their opinion and we didn't even
get a response.

MR. VERRASTRO: What was the
question? I'm sorry, I was reading something.

MR. CLARK: Last meeting there
was -- two meetings ago I guess Tim made a
motion for the Borough to send a letter to DEP.

And then it never got to a vote.

It was agreed that you're going to
send it to Attorney Jones for his legal opinion
on validity of sending a letter or not. We
sent a letter to Attorney Jones, right, seeking
his opinion on that?

MR. MCHALE: I don't believe a
letter was sent, Pat. I think a phone call was
made.

MR. CLARK: You communicated somehow
with him.

MR. BURKE: I telephoned him. And he said he would get back to me on it, Pat. And he never got back to me.

MR. CLARK: So we have no answer. Okay. I mean, just the public comment period ends June 15th. So that is Monday. So it seems as though we're not going to be sending anything at that point. There's no more meetings schedule?

MR. MCHALE: Not before June 15th.

MR. CLARK: Okay. It seems like a pretty big item to just get no response on given the importance to the community. I applaud you for getting Council on board that's going to be proactive in other matters.

I would suggest that an issue that big when a question is asked, an answer should be given in a timely fashion, especially when there's a deadline on it from a public perception as well. Thanks.

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

(Nobody response.)

We'll move to public officials. Mr. Judge, do you have anything tonight?

MR. JUDGE: No, nothing.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Kearney.

MR. KEARNEY: Nothing.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else here?

Mr. Dempsey, do you want to lead us off tonight?

MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, the only thing I -- first I just want to thank Dick Goldberg and Lars Anderson for their service to the Borough for over the last how ever many years they have been doing our employment work. They did a great job. We thought it was better to go in a new direction and, you know, get some fresh eyes gone on what's going on and see if we can get a better handle on it.

Second thing I want to bring up is Perry's Learning Academy I've gotten a couple calls from parents, teachers that -- Perry's Learning Academy has about 200 students. She gets students from Dunmore dropped off there. She gets students from Head Start dropped off there, Marywood.

And they're having a problem on the
the 100 block of Prospect. And I drop my kids off there not every morning but, you know, a couple mornings a week and I see people speeding up and down that street.

So we're going to start investigating as to how just to make that a school zone. I don't know if it's, you know, getting a couple signs with flashers on it. But, Captain, any suggestion that you could give, happy to take it.

But we're going to take the ball and run with that and make that a school zone if that is at all possible. So I just wanted to bring that to everybody's attention because I did get a couple phone calls. But other than that, I don't have anything else.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: I really don't have anything Boroughwise. I mean, I'm happy we're getting police vehicles. I'm looking forward when we could put -- I know we're still waiting on some results. It's what I ran on. I want to put more police out on the streets. Kelly and Jerry and the neighbors of the 1700 Madison believe, we have to save our neighborhoods.
This can be an ongoing problem. I've seen it across the street from my house where, you know, somebody tries to make an apartment and you have to actually stop it. But -- and that's about it. And the only other thing is we had a fundraiser. I announced it at the last meeting for Make A Wish and we reached our goal. We raised $10,000 and granted three children's wishes which is phenomenal. So I would like to thank everybody that helped with that endeavor. Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Nardozzi.

MR. NARDOZZI: I have nothing, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Yes. Paul -- I think maybe we should try exploring getting our fire inspector involved with these code enforcement things, especially if we get a police call, maybe have our fire marshal going out on these dwellings with our code enforcement officer and see exactly which code we're enforcing, whether it's a 2006 or 2009. I'm sure they are already fairly
familiar with it. But I think this is what Scranton kind of does. I think they have the fire marshal going. They have their zoning officer going and they have the building inspector go in when there's a type of call that a house becomes a problem.

MR. HALLINAN: Can we have it at our meeting Wednesday morning?

MR. MCHALE: I don't mean to interrupt you. And I don't want to go back and forth. Did you not say that the third floor does not have a fire escape? Last time, didn't you say that? I don't want to go back and forth because I don't want to get yelled at again. Is that true?

MS. HALLINAN: On a few properties.

MR. MCHALE: Right there, you're right.

MR. VERRASTRO: So I mean, with certain codes older houses may be exempt from it because it was grandfathered in before a certain time. We need to get them in and get them --

MR. MCHALE: That's a great idea.

MR. HALLINAN: I would like them at
the meeting Wednesday, okay?

    MR. MCHALE: That's a great idea.

    MR. HALLINAN: Can we get them at
the meeting Wednesday? Is he on shift?

    MR. MCHALE: They're off today and
tomorrow.

    MR. VERRASTRO: He should be back by
then.

    MR. HALLINAN: Will you get to him,
Sal?

    MR. VERRASTRO: Yes, I will call --
yeah, I'll --

    MR. HALLINAN: Tell them meeting
Wednesday at the Borough Building at 10:00.
Thank you.

    MR. VERRASTRO: Okay. Secondly, for
next year I think we need to do this this year
to get an accurate number for it. So maybe we
could have something by our next meeting or
even the August meeting.

    I'd like to try to get some roads
paved for next year. And I think they're
putting it out to bid this year with next
year's numbers on it and give us an accurate
number for our budget.
So maybe if we talk about say for instance Grove Street is deplorable. So if we get a bid for Grove Street, we get a bid for five or six others. If it comes out to 500,000 and we only want to spend 300,000, at least we know which ones we're going to do. We get it put out to bid and we have it in the budget properly for next year because they're all starting to go.

MR. HALLINAN: And again, I mean, we can go on about this. Just from my PennDOT experience, Sal, what PennDOT is starting to do anymore instead of paving a whole street just almost taking out the bad part anymore and saving money that way instead of doing half a lane or whatever.

MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, like up by Parodi Cigar, we're trying to get people to go into the Industrial Park. But if you drive through the Industrial Park you need to almost put your vehicle in four wheel drive in certain parts.

MR. HALLINAN: Top of Potter Street is a mess at Chestnut Street.

MR. VERRASTRO: So maybe even if
we're doing 50 foot sections or streets or repairs. I think we should get a game plan together, get an approximate price that we can put into the budget so that for next year when we approve the streets, we're at least close.

And it's not -- we put a certain amount of money aside and it's only going to take care of a road or two roads or we might weigh it out and balance it differently. But I think we should have an approximate number to make it easier for next year's budget for plugging it in.

So if you guys want to start to when you're driving around pay attention, see what you think. Let's get a game plan together and put this out to bid. Other than that, thank you everybody for coming. And have a good night.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Kelly, you said that Joe never gave you any documentation on --

MS. HALLINAN: The only thing I just sent a registered letter and he sent me back an inspection signed by a man that used to own the house next door to me from 2005. He died
since. It's just an inspection. There's no
variances. There's no nonconforming use.
There's no declaration of anything. He's just
giving me inspections saying I inspected it
myself.

And he actually told me I allowed it
to be a three-unit. I said, Joe, you can't.
You want to put a kitchen in on the third
floor. Joe, kitchens can't be added after the
ordinance. There's an ordinance. I have it
highlighted in that packet. And he said, well,
I did in the past.

I said you weren't supposed to. So
that's the only thing he gave me from the house
next door was from 2005 and he gave me another
one from 2004 that I have here. But the only
reason I got those was I sent him a registered
letter because he will not respond to phone
calls.

When I go up to the building he
tells them to say he left. And I see his truck
there. And I sent countless e-mails. He just
won't respond. I sent a registered letter and
all he sent me was old inspections, which I
didn't ask for inspections. I asked for
variances, you know, anything with nonconform -- any type of legality that is existing. Just because it's inspected doesn't mean it's put there legally.

You could inspect anything. But it doesn't belong there just like sending John Murray and an inspector down to the house next door to me. It's not the idea whether they're safe or not. That's great for the tenants -- (inaudible.)

The idea is there's not supposed to be a third unit there. So the inspection really don't mean much to me. Yeah, it's great. You know, but as far as the fires, yeah, I already have complaint forms filled out to send to the UCC.

Dunmore is opted in with the UCC. And there are codes not being followed with the UCC. So I already started filling out complaint forms for what Sal just said properties that do not have means of egress from second and third floors.

And I reported those in 2013. And he said they don't have to. I also have -- I mean, I'm trying to tell Joe I grew up there.
So I know every family that was there. I could get them in here to tell you, no, before this year this was not a three-unit.

Joan Demuro lived in two of the houses, two families. They were never three. So someone illegally put them in or someone signed a paper saying okay now you're legal without it being proper. There's a certain way.

It's supposed to be posted a certain way. I mean, it's all highlighted. They're supposed to be posted. There's supposed to be letters of variances, taxpayers surrounding the properties that are converted they're supposed to get letters but only in a R3 and less district.

We are in a restricted district. So it's not to happen at all in our zone. So they are not legal no matter what he says or what paperwork he has, they are not legal because they don't belong there.

In the case where someone has land and there is a variance if it's requested, it has to be due to a hardship. Well, Attorney Foley that has several other rental buildings
that can't rent two units instead of three next door to me, that is certainly not hardship to him. And Dawn Baldassari and her husband that bought the house across the street and there's a third apartment in there.

They don't have any problems because they have several other buildings. If it was a family, a guy with six kids that wanted to add a kitchen somewhere or another bathroom, different. Single family homes belong right there in that zone. But, no, three units don't belong in anything except for an R3. We're in R1B.

They don't belong there. So they could be inspected and everything that happened it should not be there. And he can't pull any kind of variance. I haven't seen one. He can't correct it. It's his duty to correct it.

MR. VERRASTRO: Was any of this done before the late 90s? We did a rezoning of the Borough. I can't remember the date.

MR. NARDOZZI: '99.

MR. VERRASTRO: Were they there before then?

MS. HALLINAN: They were all done
after that. Joan Guarnari she lived there. She lived at two different properties that I had given you the addresses of last time and they were two. The house next door to me it was always a two family. They only have two addresses.

Kernan's house, I reported to Joe they were changing. It's 1731. Well, now there is two tenants in that they made into a two unit and one is a single --

MR. VERRASTRO: I was just curious of when it was.

MS. HALLINAN: The girl doesn't live there. She moved to Connecticut. So there's another absentee landlord. And the weeds are growing up like this in the yard and the whole bit. It continues because it's being allowed to continue.

MR. MCHALE: Anything else, Tim?

MR. BURKE: Didge, the stop signs, you have been talking to Mr. Valenta{sic}?

MR. JUDGE: Yeah. He's not there all the time. I go by three times a day. I used to see him. I'll get him.

MR. BURKE: I'll give him your
number, okay?

MR. JUDGE: We have stop signs.

MR. BURKE: Thank you. Pat, as far as your question Mr. Jones never getting back to me, I will write him a letter. I think he would have called me back if he found any legalities which he said he would call me back if he found any legalities.

But I will send him a letter myself for an update, which I already sent one but I'll send another. That's all I have.

MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I do believe that, Joan, you did want to tell us something?

MR. MCHALE: Ma'am, can you -- at least for the record could you state your name and address?

MS. DEMURO: Joan Demuro, Foote Street, Dunmore, PA 18512.

MR. MCHALE: I apologize.

MS. DEMURO: I grew up on Madison Avenue. That neighborhood never looked so bad. I do gown Kelly's and stuff. She took us for a walk down street. It's like slum. Never looked like that ever. Monroe Avenue doesn't
look -- it used look like Monroe used to look up higher -- never looked -- it used to be the Hollywood section in Dunmore. That is a scum -- I wouldn't want my kids growing up down there -- would not.

I see other parts of Dunmore turning in that. They are letting too much trash into Dunmore. They are. And it's the landlords. That has to be fixed. You have got walls open, houses with no windows in them. You've got a house across the street with bilco doors right in the front. And the houses, there was no triple families living.

There were single houses. It's a mess. It's a mess. Joe Lorince -- I know Joe. I don't know what he's getting paid for because he's not doing his job. He's broken every single ordinance in the borough -- in the Borough of Dunmore. So you need to do something with Joe.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you for speaking up. Thank you for coming. And thank you for your courage to speak out. It does take a lot of courage so thank you. And I also want to congratulate Vince Amico. Mr. Amico,
congratulations on your win.

MR. AMICO: Thank you.

MS. SCRIMALLI: And that's all I have for tonight.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Mrs. Scrimalli. I really don't have much to add other than at the Sewer Authority meeting last week just -- it's a timely subject because they did a great dedication to the Vietnam War memorial. It's beautiful up there -- Korean war, I apologize.

And the Sewer Authority is going for a grant to beautify that area even for more and help the water runoff in the area. There's renderings to do so. It actually it turned out to be -- make beautiful area even more beautiful if and when -- they are pretty optimistic they'll get the grant.

And it's about a hundred thousand dollar project that will beautify that area and solve a lot of the runoff problems that are habitually down there. So just to give you guys an update and we'll let you know if and when it passes.

I have nothing else for this
evening. Anybody like to make a motion to adjourn?

MR. NARDOZZI: So moved.
MR. VERRASTRO: So moved.
MR. MCHALE: Second?
MR. HALLINAN: Second.
MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.
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