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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, August 8, 2016

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:

DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

MICHAEL MCHALE, President

MICHAEL DEMPSEY, Vice President

TIMOTHY BURKE

CAROL SCRIMALLI

THOMAS HALLINAN

VINCE AMICO

SAL VERRASTRO

THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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(Pledge of Allegiance.)

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale. And Mr. McHale is absent. Mr. Dempsey will chair the meeting. We'll suspend the order of the agenda this evening. When the storm struck that caused a lot of devastation to a lot of homes and improvements in the Borough, Michael McHale called me.

I called Senator Blake. Senator Blake called Michael McHale back in seven minutes to review what was going to be necessary, what was in place, and what he could

1 put into play. And Senator Blake is here this
2 evening to give everyone concerned an update on
3 where we are and what we need to do and what
4 the future may look like. Senator?

5 SENATOR BLAKE: Good evening, ladies
6 and gentlemen, I appreciate the opportunity to
7 be here and thank Council for the opportunity.
8 I'm going to talk a little bit about
9 communications I've had with -- and I want to
10 acknowledge Dave Valvano is here from
11 Representative Farina's office as well.

12 We did reach out to PEMA. We did
13 reach out to Pennsylvania Emergency Management
14 Agency to inquire with them on the process
15 associated with any state aid or trigger for
16 some federal or state aid in disaster relief.

17 This challenge really comes down to
18 what the Borough is currently involved in and
19 that means data collection about damages, not
20 only damages to public property but the cost
21 associated with the cleanup effort or any
22 public safety overtime, public works work that
23 the communities had to undertake in order to
24 deal with them just inflicted by storm.

25 To our knowledge, Dunmore and

1 Scranton were the two communities that might
2 have been most severely impacted. But we also
3 have word that there may have been some damage
4 in the North Pocono area.

5 I think it's important for me to set
6 expectations here because this a difficult
7 situation for all of you personally who are
8 affected by this. And I'm not sure that I'm
9 going to be able to provide the satisfaction
10 you need to hear tonight about the kind of aid
11 that could be provided.

12 The threshold for federal or state
13 disaster relief is a very high threshold. The
14 total damages of 25 million dollars is what
15 triggers the possibility of support coming back
16 to the community from the state. Now, that is
17 the highest threshold level. And we think we
18 would have to continue to collect data.

19 And I know the Borough continues to
20 do so. We need to see the disaster assessment
21 reports the communities are doing and tally up
22 these costs in order to justify the possibility
23 of a declaration by the Governor of a disaster
24 area and thus the triggering of any federal or
25 state support.

1 I would tell you that -- and we
2 basically have record of our communications
3 with PEMA, Rich Barbolish who is the emergency
4 management coordinator for the county I think
5 has been working in concert with the Borough of
6 Dunmore and with the City of Scranton.

7 And again, it really depends on the
8 nature of the damages and whether we get to
9 that threshold. I should tell you in addition
10 to the high threshold of 25 million dollars, we
11 did do legislation back in I guess it was 2014.
12 It was called Act 187 of 2014 where if, for
13 instance, we did not get to that high threshold
14 of 25 million in damages and costs that the
15 Governor if he was persuaded by the data that's
16 still being collected, he could still do a
17 declaration of emergency.

18 And if he was able to justify that,
19 it could lead to some lower level of support.
20 Most of the support that could be provided,
21 however, and this is really -- I just need to
22 be very candid with you about it is support for
23 the public damages that were inflicted.

24 And that means roads and sidewalks
25 and other things that are publically owned and

1 managed and control of and not protected by
2 insurance. There is also if disaster aid is
3 possible, there is usually some support for
4 small businesses that might be affected.

5 Unfortunately, at least insofar as I
6 understand it now, not a lot of support for
7 private owners who don't have flood insurance.
8 I just need to be candid with you about that
9 because I'm not sure what that could mean going
10 forward.

11 I will tell you this, no matter what
12 happens going forward you have my full
13 commitment to try to find any discretionary
14 dollars that could be brought to the Borough to
15 help, meaning your private owners or the
16 Borough itself in terms of recouping costs that
17 might have been incurred in the cleanup
18 operation and in providing public safety during
19 the event.

20 So you have my commitment. And I'll
21 continue to work with local officials and with
22 county officials. But the process we are in
23 right now is assessing damage, documenting that
24 damage, documenting the costs associated with
25 that. And that information needs to be

1 aggregated probably with the help of Lackawanna
2 County's EMS and then conveyed onto PEMA.

3 I will tell you this, PEMA also
4 confirmed because they were working with the
5 County Emergency Management Coordinator that
6 they had an event in our incident management
7 system, their knowledge center at PEMA. So
8 it's kind of like a place over. They know that
9 events occurred. They had got anecdotal
10 information about damages being inflicted and
11 communities being affected by it.

12 So they have the record of the event
13 in their system. Right now it's a matter of
14 data collection about damages. And I expect on
15 the base of what I've heard from Council that
16 data collection continues. So anything that
17 can be identified in the community as traceable
18 to this event needs to be conveyed to the
19 Borough so they could assess those damages and
20 affix costs to their repair, okay?

21 The other thing I will tell you is
22 that I'm going to continue to work with the
23 City of Scranton and with the county in trying
24 to find out whether or not we can get some
25 support for the private owners that were

1 affected. So I'll continue to try to do that.

2 MR. HALLINAN: Senator, is there a
3 timeframe for this data to be -- you said is
4 being held? How long before we have to move
5 forward with this?

6 SENATOR BLAKE: I think you want to
7 be as quick and as thorough as you can be.
8 I'll convey the same to Scranton City Council.
9 I know Mr. Wechsler is here tonight. I know
10 the city's involved in that same data
11 collection process. If there is anecdotal
12 information about damages that occurred, we
13 need actual proof that it's traceable to this
14 event. And we need to affix costs and those
15 reports are formal in terms of PEMA
16 expectations of what that information looks
17 like. But I think as quick and as thorough as
18 we can.

19 MR. HALLINAN: One more question,
20 would all the towns, say, like Scranton and
21 Dunmore be included in that total amount or
22 would it just be Dunmore, Scranton or is it the
23 storm amount?

24 SENATOR BLAKE: I think it's the
25 storm amount. And I think that you need to --

1 MR. HALLINAN: Even Roaring Brook
2 might be included.

3 SENATOR BLAKE: I think aggregate
4 data for the county. I think we have to put it
5 all together as traceable to this event. And I
6 think that's the only way we get close to the
7 possibility of meeting that threshold. It's 25
8 million is a big number.

9 And by the way, that number must
10 exclude anything that is covered by insurance.
11 It's only the net. So that's an important
12 consideration. But they have the event in
13 their system. And they are expecting to hear
14 back from us in terms of the damage data from
15 any community that's been affected. My advice
16 is let's get the information as quickly and as
17 thoroughly documented as we can.

18 MR. AMICO: Question, how are people
19 supposed to get the ball rolling? To whom do
20 they provide the information?

21 SENATOR BLAKE: Councilman, I
22 imagine your --

23 MR. DEMPSEY: They can provide
24 information to either myself or --

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Actually we'll set

1 up -- I was unaware that it should be
2 accumulated by the Borough. So tomorrow
3 morning the office will set up a filing so that
4 anything that does come in from any of the
5 residents will be documented as to time, date,
6 and the address and the property owner that
7 delivered it.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

9 SENATOR BLAKE: And my heart goes
10 out to you that has been affected by this.
11 It's never pleasant to have to deal with some
12 kind of natural disaster that upsets your life
13 like this. And I'll do everything that I can
14 to try to provide the Borough with any support
15 that we can from Harrisburg. And we'll
16 continue to work with the federal delegation
17 with this as well. Thank you.

18 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you very much,
20 Senator. I really appreciate you and Dave and
21 you guys coming up here and, you know,
22 providing that information to our residents.
23 It's truly appreciated and we thank you with
24 all the work that you guys do. With that being
25 said, I'll move onto the next item which is

1 public comment on any agenda items, please.
2 Seeing none -- oh, I'm sorry, I didn't see you
3 over there.

4 MR. PANE: My name is Sam Pane. I
5 live at 216 Green Street in Dunmore. My
6 question is this. Due to the storm, I did
7 receive sewer backup in my home.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Sir, this is just
9 public comment on agenda items. You'll have a
10 chance on non agenda items later on in the
11 meeting. This is just public comment on items
12 on the agenda.

13 MR. PANE: I'm sorry.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: No, not a problem.

15 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number four,
16 motion to approve the minutes.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion
18 to approve the minutes.

19 MR. BURKE: I'll make the motion.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

21 MR. AMICO: I'll second.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: On the question?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. DEMPSEY: All those in favor
25 signify by saying aye.

1 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: All those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
5 so moved.

6 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Number five is a
7 motion to approve and pay the open bills.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion
9 to approve and pay the open bills.

10 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that
11 motion.

12 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and
14 second. On the question.

15 (No response.)

16 MR. DEMPSEY: All those in favor
17 signify by saying aye.

18 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
22 so moved.

23 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six is
24 personnel matters, if any.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: No personnel matters,

1 Tom.

2 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number seven
3 is a motion to approve financing of three Mack
4 truck refuse collection vehicles subject to
5 final review of the Solicitor. The -- this is
6 for the financing to purchase of the trucks
7 which was approved six months ago. They were
8 on order.

9 So we have a borrowing resolution to
10 cover the \$600,000 at favorable terms with
11 Fidelity Discount and Deposit Bank. It's a
12 line of credit that will be 3.5 percent. And
13 then when the trucks are received, it will
14 convert into a standard long-term loan.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion
16 to approve the financing of the three Mack
17 trucks.

18 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that
19 motion.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

21 MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody on the
23 question? Just quickly on the question, we
24 did -- as Tom said we did approve this about
25 six months ago. It is budgeted for. We're in

1 desperate need -- as, Didge, you know we're in
2 desperate need of new trucks. So just so you
3 guys are aware that it is a budgeted
4 expenditure. All those in favor signify by
5 saying aye.

6 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

7 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Ayes have it and so
10 moved.

11 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number eight
12 is a motion to appropriate cell tower funds of
13 \$5,000 to Dunmore Midget Football and
14 cheerleaders and \$5,000 Dunmore Youth and
15 Soccer league.

16 MR. BURKE: I'll make that motion.

17 MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

18 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a
19 second. On the question. On the question,
20 just quickly, we get money from the cell tower
21 that's up here. It's been budgeted for
22 purposes of recreational activities, the parks
23 and everything like that.

24 So these are two worthy causes that
25 are in desperate need of some funds. So we

1 thought it would be good use. So with that
2 being said, all those in favor signify by
3 saying aye.

4 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
8 so moved.

9 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next item is number
10 nine, public comment on nonagenda items.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: Sir.

12 MR. PANE: My name is Sam Pane.
13 And I live at 216 Green Street in Dunmore. And
14 my question is this. The day of the storm I
15 did receive backup. And did not realize it
16 until I was down in the basement because I live
17 at 216-218 Green Street for 79 and a half
18 years. So I never had backup before.

19
20 (Mr. McHale enters the meeting.)

21
22 MR. PANE: About five or six years
23 ago, they came up -- the sewer company came up
24 and repaired a line that runs through St.
25 Mary's Cemetery through my backyard. They dug

1 down 18 and a half feet. My sewer line from my
2 house to the sewer line is down 11 and a half
3 feet.

4 What they did is, they slid in a 10
5 inch pipe into a 15 inch pipe and went all the
6 way down to Pine Street with it. My -- called
7 the sewer company. No one has called me back.
8 I'm completely frustrated with them. Who is
9 responsible for it?

10 I think because they reduced the
11 pipe size from 15 inches to 10 inches, it
12 caused a backup because I'm the first one on
13 the line in my home. No one has called me
14 back. One guy by the name of Mike, I promise
15 I'll call you back. No one.

16 Mr. Barrett, I called him because I
17 have his phone number from the work they did
18 previously five or six years ago. No one has
19 called me back. I'm completely frustrated. My
20 basement was finished. It is now unfinished.
21 Estimated damages, I couldn't even estimate it.
22 Okay? What should I do?

23 MR. DEMPSEY: We can certainly get
24 you in touch with the Sewer Authority and have
25 somebody give you a contact.

1 MR. MCHALE: I came in halfway.

2 Forgive me.

3 MR. PANE: That's all right.

4 MR. MCHALE: Leave your number, Mr.
5 Pane, and I'll have someone contact you
6 tomorrow. I promise.

7 MR. PANE: No one's called me back.

8 MR. MCHALE: I'll take care of it.

9 MR. PANE: I won't be home tomorrow.
10 I need a couple of days. I need a vacation
11 after this.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody else?

13 MS. RICE: Good evening, Council,
14 and Solicitor. My name is Mary Rice and I
15 reside the 214 North Apple Street. I, myself
16 and my husband and a few other neighbors are
17 here hoping that you can help solve some of our
18 dilemma.

19 As our neighbors we have the Dunmore
20 High Rise. When the high rise was open many
21 years ago, of course, many of the seniors that
22 live there didn't drive. So there was ample
23 parking for all the residents and ample parking
24 when the residents needed assistance from
25 nurses, etc., cleaning people.

1 We are certainly in a dilemma right
2 now. There are at least -- and I'm giving it
3 the lowball end three or four cars that do not
4 have a place to park in the parking lot of the
5 high rise. So naturally they are entitled to
6 park on the street. We're aware we don't own
7 in front of our houses or anything else.

8 We tried try to be good neighbors.
9 However, some of the seniors do not observe the
10 rules of parking. This afternoon, for example,
11 a lady pulled in front of my house. I was
12 sitting on the porch. And I said, ma'am,
13 you're parked right on top of the stop sign.
14 Can you back up, please? Someone coming down
15 Andrew Street making a left onto Apple is going
16 to have a problem. In one ear and out the
17 other.

18 She proceeded to go to her house.
19 We have had to take steps -- and I have
20 pictures here to show you, we all have
21 driveways. We had cars block our driveways.
22 We've had to call the police many times.

23 One of my neighbors has a rental
24 property and he does have a driveway for his
25 tenants up and down. However, sometimes the

1 people park so close to his driveway his
2 tenants can't get out. So they have been
3 parking on the street. Well, when there is no
4 parking left, we're getting nasty notes on our
5 cars from people in the high rise. You have a
6 driveway, why are you on the street, etc., etc.

7 Presently, Apple Street is really a
8 one-way street. If you try to get two cars
9 going north and south, you can't. You can't.
10 You have to pull over and wait for someone. It
11 doesn't help either -- and I know there's a
12 problem with stop signs. The stop signs are
13 practically unreadable.

14 If you sit and watch, it's an
15 accident waiting to happen, especially right
16 now with the work going on on the O'Neill
17 Highway. They take Apple Street as a shortcut.
18 But something has to be done. We've tried to
19 be patient. But it's beyond right now. We're
20 all in an uproar.

21 We try to keep our homes in nice --
22 asset to all of us. And we feel like we're
23 being held hostage right now. We did have
24 another problem with the high rise but thank
25 goodness Joe Lorince and Denise Muraca helped

1 us through that and that has been taken care
2 of.

3 So today we're here asking for some
4 help. I don't know what suggestions you have
5 or what can be done. But we really are in a
6 dilemma. I have some pictures here to show
7 you.

8 MR. MCHALE: Chief Marchese, can you
9 make it a point to set up patrols up there and
10 enforce the parking both in the driveways and
11 the stop signs. I agree with her. I came down
12 there the other day. It's a nightmare to get
13 through.

14 CHIEF MARCHESE: Yeah, I talked to
15 the Mayor before the meeting.

16 MR. DEMPSEY: Joe, with regard to
17 the high rise, can you write a letter to them
18 or you know --

19 MR. LORINCE: I'll go down and see
20 Jimmy Dartt.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: And just have them
22 abide by --

23 MR. LORINCE: They were suppose to
24 purchase the house in front to put extra
25 parking in there. Did they ever purchase that?

1 MS. RICE: No, the person that
2 assessed the property, it's assessed so low he
3 would be crazy to sell, Joe. It's a nice
4 property. There is a garage in the back.

5 MR. LORINCE: I know the county was
6 trying to buy it.

7 MS. RICE: Two or three times. But
8 that's not why we're here. We're not here
9 about that house. We just want some answers of
10 what we can do. In the winter when it snows
11 it's even worse because, of course, the snow is
12 plowed and it's in piles and they park all
13 ways.

14 MR. MCHALE: We're going to send the
15 Chief to do some enforcement up there. I drove
16 by there over the weekend. And it took me ten
17 minutes just to get down one street. He'll
18 make it a point to start doing some enforcement
19 through there both on driveways and at the stop
20 signs. And we'll keep on top of it.

21 Joe will speak to the high rise as
22 well and we'll keep in touch to see what we can
23 do. I did attempt to see the manager of the
24 high rise on Friday. Unfortunately, she wasn't
25 in.

1 MR. MCHALE: Okay.

2 MS. RICE: I didn't want her to
3 think we were discussing this without her
4 knowledge.

5 MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

6 MS. RICE: There is also on one side
7 of the street there is no parking signs
8 between -- I don't know if it's eight to six.
9 That's completely ignored.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: This is Andrew Street?

11 MS. RICE: I'm right on the corner
12 of Apple and Andrew. Thanks.

13 MR. MCHALE: We'll do the best we
14 can. Thank you. Anybody else like to address
15 Council? Please come to the podium. State
16 your name and address for the record.

17 MS. LARUSSA: Kathleen LaRussa, 141
18 Swinick Drive. I just want to bring to your
19 attention my house got flooded twice last week.
20 I'm on the very bottom of Swinick. And I know
21 we did get a lot of rainfall. But I don't know
22 if the storm drains or the sewer drains maybe
23 needed to be flushed out or checked or
24 something because our street was like a lake on
25 the bottom.

1 I have a lot of pictures too of the
2 water. I mean, it just went back to my
3 neighbor's house is set back. It went back to
4 her front porch. And, of course, I'm the only
5 one at the bottom of the hill that gets the
6 brunt of it because my house is closer. I
7 actually lost a car that day.

8 My daughter's car was totalled
9 because the water was up past her window. And,
10 of course, I had damage in the basement as
11 well. But I don't know if that has something
12 to do with it -- the sewer lines or the water
13 drain lines they weren't really catching all
14 the water. So I don't know if somebody could
15 check into it or I don't know anything about
16 it. I just know that it was really backed up.

17 MR. MCHALE: Ma'am, we were up in --
18 we meaning Joe Lorince and myself, Didge Judge.
19 I had the Sewer Authority up there as well.
20 Forgive me, I don't know exactly where you live
21 but we did identify one issue up on the upper
22 part of Swinick.

23 MS. LARUSSA: I'm on the lower.

24 MR. MCHALE: But hear me out. I
25 think it may have caused your problem. Joe,

1 correct me if I'm wrong -- where a ton of the
2 water from upper Swinick's was not going into
3 the sewer. It was going into the upper part of
4 Sherwood Park. And a lot of that was literally
5 going right through the land and going down the
6 hill into the lower part of Swinick's and it
7 was just unbelievable. So they are putting in
8 a drain in the upper part to catch a lot of
9 that water.

10 Hopefully that will alleviate a
11 little bit of the problem for the people on the
12 lower end of it. But nonetheless, if you could
13 tell me where the drains are where you think
14 they may be blocked we'll send a truck up.

15 MS. LARUSSA: I actually went out
16 there to look at them and I was trying to feel
17 with my hand. There was nothing blocking them.
18 They were -- just couldn't take the water. One
19 right in front of my next door neighbor's house
20 and the one on the next corner. And we have
21 three or four drains.

22 MR. MCHALE: Can you give me the
23 corners where I could at least send them up
24 there to --

25 MS. LARUSSA: Well, I'm at 121

1 Swinick Drive. It would be the house to left
2 of me. I don't know what number that is.

3 MR. MCHALE: The 100 of Swinick,
4 okay. And then it's the part of Swinick that
5 goes around. It's the very last -- it's behind
6 the YMCA.

7 MR. HALLINAN: And you take all the
8 water.

9 MS. LARUSSA: My house really -- I'm
10 not here to complain or anything. I'm just
11 saying my house got the brunt of it because
12 everybody else is up higher. So I think I got
13 the most damage in our area. And then the one
14 at the next corner on Swinick and I think
15 it's -- I think it's Thomas Drive, that drain,
16 the water was pushing out of it because I
17 couldn't even get into my driveway.

18 So I just thought maybe you could
19 take a look at it and see if there is
20 something. I don't want that to happen again.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: Sure.

22 MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

23 MR. HALLINAN: No.

24 MS. LARUSSA: I know it was a bad
25 storm. And I understand we got a lot of rain.

1 But I'm just a little nervous for next time.

2 MR. MCHALE: Understood.

3 MS. LARUSSA: That's it. Thank you.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

5 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

6 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

7 MR. DEMARTINI: My name is Joe
8 Demartini. I live right down the block at 1310
9 Monroe. Pertaining to the flood on the 25th,
10 the Senator mentioned something about 25
11 million dollar threshold and to estimate the
12 damages. Who is going to pay for somebody to
13 come over and estimate the damage of my home or
14 anybody else's? Do we have to hire somebody to
15 do that to say well my house has \$100,000 worth
16 of damage or 60,000 or whatever the case may
17 be?

18 Is the Borough going to provide
19 something along the lines through a government
20 agency?

21 MR. DEMPSEY: I don't think the
22 Borough can do that on a private property
23 owner, Tom? I think the Senator also said the
24 money will be -- it's going to be tough to get
25 for private homeowners without flood insurance.

1 MR. DEMARTINI: Well, the funny
2 thing is, is we're in a no flood zone so you
3 can't get flood insurance. I mean, what are we
4 left with? I'm a disabled vet. I live on a --
5 enough money to live on. My foundation on my
6 house and my garage is destroyed. As is some
7 of the people that live right behind me here --
8 just washed away.

9 What am I supposed to do? My wife
10 is on a respirator because she has a lung
11 disease. What am I supposed to do, walk away
12 from my home? Where do I go?

13 MR. DEMPSEY: I would contact
14 Senator Blake's office.

15 MR. DEMARTINI: I would appreciate
16 that because it's the bottom line for me. I
17 mean, I'm either stuck there with a sick wife
18 or I'm going to get somebody to fix this
19 damage. Somebody is responsible for blocking
20 up those sewers. And somebody has to pay for
21 it. It's as simple as that.

22 You can't keep passing the buck from
23 one guy to the next guy. Somebody said, yeah,
24 it's okay to do that to the sewer, no problem.
25 And we got hit with a freak storm and look what

1 happens. I have no recourse, nowhere to go.

2 MR. MCHALE: When you say someone
3 blocked the sewers, is that --

4 MR. DEMARTINI: Well, the sewers
5 were blocked. There was no water coming down
6 the hill here. It was coming down to our yards
7 and down to the street. None of the sewers
8 were carrying water. Down by the ice cream
9 stand here, and I live just forward of it.

10 They were all blocked off with
11 cinder blocks. Wire baskets with rocks in it
12 folded over so no water could get in there.
13 But the water had no where to go.

14 MR. MCHALE: That was -- for the
15 record, that was not the Sewer Authority who
16 did that. They were working on power lines and
17 they are required to put a mesh over it so
18 nothing when they are working on the power line
19 goes into the sewer.

20 Now, they are claiming that did not
21 prohibit the water to go down. There was just
22 so much water in the sewers even with those --

23 MR. DEMARTINI: Somebody mentioned
24 there was work going on up here just hearing
25 through the grapevine through other people that

1 I've been talking to through the area that
2 somebody had shut down the sewer, are doing
3 work up here at the park or somewhere around.
4 And none of the water is going through the
5 sewer lines. That's what -- I mean, I'm here
6 only a 11 years. But I have neighbors behind
7 me that have been here 40-something years and
8 never saw that happen.

9 MR. MCHALE: I tend to agree with
10 you. I have been here in Dunmore for the
11 better part of 45 years. I've never seen like
12 it happened. I got water in my basement. I
13 have owned my home 15 years and never had a
14 problem like I had.

15 MR. DEMARTINI: Well, I know it's a
16 freak of nature that happened. But in the
17 meantime, I have nowhere to go. What do I do?

18 MR. MCHALE: It's not the answer you
19 want to hear. I understand. Believe me, we're
20 trying to figure out if we can get any help
21 from the government. I wasn't here but I know
22 the Senator was here himself and Farina's
23 office.

24 MR. DEMARTINI: The sad part is I
25 have nowhere to go. I probably have to move

1 out, walk away from the house. That was my
2 only chance to get the home. I final got it.
3 And I get washed out because of the problem
4 that was not caused by me. And now I have to
5 walk away. I mean, it's just a sad story.
6 Where do we go from here?

7 Somebody has to say something to me
8 that's going to be encouraging enough for me to
9 hold on. I'm pretty much at my wit's end.
10 It's the truth. God bless America.

11 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

12 MS. CONSTABLE: Hi my name is
13 Francine Constable. I live at 212 South Apple,
14 214 South Apple in the center of the river.
15 And again, freak storm -- 47, I've lived here
16 most of my life and now an Archbald resident.

17 I do have tenants in that property.
18 And I only ask that in your dollar figure that
19 house and that street has flooded for 47 years.
20 No one has ever fixed the problem. So in your
21 engineering and in your dollar figure that you
22 go to FEMA with, please reengineer that street
23 and your drainage from the top of St. Anthony's
24 down to South Apple because for 47 years it's
25 flooded, not to this degree ever.

1 I've have two sumps and backup in
2 the basement. I've had even in 2006 with the
3 flood -- with the melt and everything, I had
4 maybe 3 inches of water in there. I have 3
5 feet in the basement, boiler, hot water heater,
6 down to the cinder blocks, down to the
7 foundation.

8 Foundation in the front actually
9 parging it, reenforcing it now. All new
10 footers, all new wood in the entire basement, 5
11 feet of water in the garage. In-ground pool
12 that was empty filled and liner and everything
13 ripped. So this was totally never seen before.
14 But you do have a problem in Dunmore.

15 That's been there just like the
16 Green Ridge problem and other places. But in
17 your dollar figure, please use this to
18 reengineer the drainage in that area. And I'm
19 sure you could increase some dollars for FEMA
20 because it's flooded for 47 years that I'm
21 alive. Thank you.

22 MR. RUPP: Gentlemen, ma'am, my name
23 is Jimmy Rupp. I'm a Borough resident for
24 over 40 years. I own the property the 210
25 North Apple Street and the property at 209

1 North Apple Street. I want to back up with
2 what Mrs. Rice said in regards to the parking.
3 I provided cinder blocks on one side of the
4 block on 209 and concrete barriers on 210. The
5 reason for that is they are parking on the
6 sidewalks, parking in the yard, okay?

7 I've done my best to try to maintain
8 the properties as best I can. I also had an
9 ugly cone out the front. I've had three cones
10 taken because I can't get in my driveway. So I
11 urge, you know, whatever you guys can do,
12 ma'am, would be appreciated because the
13 arguments that happen on street just the other
14 day somebody ran the stop sign and it backed up
15 traffic.

16 And the guys are out there screaming
17 at everybody. It's not a good situation. So I
18 don't know whatever you could do. We
19 appreciate it but the parking is an issue.
20 Thank you.

21 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

22 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

23 MS. SHULTZ: Pat Shultz, 633

24 Sherwood Avenue. I first want to thank before
25 I start off Didge and his crew because I could

1 tell you that I lost the entire contents of my
2 basement last week and then it flooded again.
3 And I could tell you the stuff I put out on
4 that curb you guys were great. So thank you.
5 They came out quickly.

6 A couple issues on the street, when
7 the work was done on the water line a couple
8 years ago, they took the curb away from the
9 front of the house. It was never replaced.
10 They put some kind of temporary patch job. And
11 it lasted about two weeks.

12 So I think the amount of the water
13 that I got was really exasperated by the fact
14 that there was really no curb to hold any of it
15 back. In addition, we had the mulch from
16 Sherwood Park block the sewer drains on both
17 sides of the street.

18 And my entire yard I think it had
19 more mulch than Sherwood Park had. So again I
20 lost, the only thing I was able to save thank
21 God was my furnace. I lost things that
22 belonged to my son who is 31 years old, things
23 you could never replace.

24 So I'm asking please take a look at
25 the curbs, the drains and what we can do to

1 stop that. My neighbor Kim lost her water
2 heater. She lost her furnace. She lost her
3 son's bedrooms and the entire contents of her
4 basement, everything. And that was a finished
5 basement. Everything is gone. And again, in
6 front her house, no curb at all. The water was
7 actually coming up over the one step she has
8 going in her front door.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: That was the 600 of
10 Sherwood you said?

11 MS. SHULTZ: 633 Sherwood. And my
12 neighbor Kim lives the 307 Barnard. Thank you.

13 MR. LORINCE: Mike, I just want to
14 interrupt. When we were up on the top of the
15 mountain --

16 MR. MCHALE: That's -- when I spoke
17 before about -- that's one of the ones that
18 come right down from Sherwood Park that I saw
19 some of the devastation on the Grande house --
20 forgive me, I think they are the end one there.
21 They were devastated as well.

22 We -- Didge, the engineers from the
23 Sewer Authority believe that a lot of the water
24 on the upper part of the park is literally
25 washing through the park whether it be

1 underneath or whatever.

2 There was nothing catching the
3 water. I know it was -- forgive me. We were
4 there last week. I'm fighting a cold so
5 forgive my -- they were putting in a big drain
6 up there to catch all of that before it even
7 went into the park.

8 It was all marked out this is
9 weekend I know that. They are going to work on
10 it this week. So hopefully that eliminates a
11 lot of the future problems that you may have.
12 It doesn't help with what you went through
13 already. I know.

14 MS. SHULTZ: I don't know how I
15 could put a dollar figure on what I lost.

16 MR. MCHALE: I agree. I agree.

17 MS. SHULTZ: And again, no curb.

18 MR. MCHALE: We can help you there.
19 Is Mr. Judge here? Could you put that on your
20 list, buddy? He'll call us. But he has it on
21 his list to check on your curbs and we'll put
22 in curbs.

23 MS. SHULTZ: Okay, thank you.

24 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

25 MR. DREWES: Hi, I'm Tom Drewes.

1 I live on 1209 Monroe. We had actually have
2 three sewers at the bottom right outside of our
3 house on the street. We worked from the time
4 the storm started until the time the storm
5 ended to keep them clean.

6 The problem was like Joe said,
7 all -- they were doing construction up on
8 Popular Street. All the sewers were blocked
9 with this so-called bag of rocks, two cinder
10 blocks and then the orange over it. It was
11 done weeks ahead of time. And it wasn't
12 removed until after the storm.

13 MR. MCHALE: They got washed away
14 with the storm literally. And I agree with
15 you.

16 MR. DREWES: I know. But there was
17 some still there after the storm. And they
18 took them away. Funny how that works. All the
19 water came in. If you're familiar with 1209
20 Monroe right down here in the middle at the
21 bottom, the water started coming from both
22 sides. It was up to my waist in the street --
23 in the street.

24 And our sewers were clean. They
25 were clean. So I've been there for over 20

1 years, never ever had a storm -- well, we've
2 had storms like that. But we kept the sewers
3 clean and they never overflowed down. Now, my
4 neighbor had 7 feet of water in her basement --
5 7 feet.

6 They haven't been back into their
7 house since. Their electric is off. Their gas
8 is off. The fire company came and did a great
9 job. But they are still not back in their
10 house. Ours is -- went into the garage and
11 thank God my basement door stayed closed.

12 Their back windows broke open.
13 Their back door broke open. So, you know, I
14 don't know where to go. You're saying that we
15 have to pay now to get somebody to give us
16 damages and then report to you.

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No. That was a
18 question. That was a question --

19 MR. DREWES: I think everybody needs
20 to know that.

21 ATTY. CUMMINGS: But that was a
22 question. Nobody said that you have to pay an
23 estimator. What was represented was that we
24 have to document 25 million dollars worth of
25 loss from the storm in general. Now, the

1 gentleman brought up a good point.

2 If I come in and say, you know, my
3 basement was wiped out. It's going to be eight
4 for my furnace, a thousand dollars for my water
5 heater, so I have 9,000 damages. I'm not sure
6 and I won't know until tomorrow when we talk to
7 Senator Blake's office when they call PEMA
8 exactly what would be accepted.

9 But I think the main point is for
10 everybody to document everything that they can
11 and give it to the Borough so we can submit it
12 with Scranton and with Moscow and Roaring Brook
13 and Elmhurst to try to come up. I just don't
14 want anybody to think they have to pay an
15 insurance appraiser/adjuster to give an
16 estimate on the basement. If it's a generally
17 known number.

18 MR. DREWES: Well, the insurance
19 adjuster just comes in and says nothing is
20 covered because even if you have flood
21 insurance it's not covered.

22 ATTY. CUMMINGS: But that would be
23 the type expert that could certify an appraised
24 value. What I want to make sure of nobody goes
25 out and does that because we don't know if it's

1 necessary or not necessary.

2 Senator Blake was kind enough to
3 come down. We'll check with him tomorrow
4 morning and that will be available at the
5 Borough Building but also on the website in
6 short order.

7 MR. DREWES: We also have a sewer
8 from the back of our house at 1207 my
9 neighbor's house. It was coming in reverse.
10 So the water was coming from where we back up
11 to the PP & L. So it was coming this way
12 towards the houses. So not only were we
13 getting hit from the front, we were getting hit
14 from the back as well.

15 Nothing covered. We had a piece of
16 furniture that actually was like a train going
17 through our fence. It actually lifted up,
18 knocked our wooden fence right off and ended up
19 in the neighbor's yard. The electric company
20 who was doing the work, do we have a name for
21 them?

22 MR. MCHALE: I don't. At the Sewer
23 Authority meeting they represented it was
24 the -- Tom, do you remember if it was the
25 company that was putting all the cinder blocks

1 around?

2 ATTY. CUMMINGS: It was
3 subcontracted through PP & L.

4 MR. MCHALE: It was a PP & L
5 subcontractor. I'll try to find out.

6 MR. DREWES: Yeah, I think we all
7 need to know because I think down in our area,
8 I think that was a lot of our problems. You
9 could talk about, you know, the situation where
10 you put in a great big sewer.

11 But if, you know, you have all the
12 problems like that, it's going to create major
13 problems for all of us. So, I mean, you
14 can't -- I mean, three days before if we get a
15 storm we're all screwed. I'm sure, Joe, we're
16 saying the same thing.

17 MR. MCHALE: Yep. Okay.

18 MR. DREWES: Thank you.

19 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

20 MS. JANUEZ: My name is Gina Ibock
21 Januez. I live at 202 Sunset Drive up in the
22 Naphin Hill Development. For those of you who
23 aren't familiar with Naphin Hill, we're like
24 the second highest point in Dunmore. I had
25 major water in my basement. My father built

1 that house. I moved in when I was seven. I'm
2 there 47 years. I never had water damage until
3 this storm.

4 Nicole Drive when that development
5 was put in slightly above me, Pudgie Perry was
6 responsible for putting in the drainage and the
7 sewers. Once that was put in, there was also
8 storm drains placed on Sunset Drive. I have
9 two storm drains in front of my house, one
10 right at the top of my driveway. It was a
11 geyser.

12 Everything from Nicole Drive came
13 through bypassed -- Mr. Perry happens to live
14 right across from me -- bypasses his storm
15 drain, comes straight across the pitch of the
16 road is incorrect right into my driveway. I
17 had curbs there. Every time they get -- the
18 road gets redone, the curb is taken away. I
19 now have no driveway. I have pits this high.

20 I can't get a vehicle in my driveway
21 if I wanted to. I have a drain that is a
22 french drain at the base of my driveway. It
23 goes under my house out in the backyard. My
24 macadam from my driveway was in my built-in
25 pool. And it just continues down the hill.

1 Everything from Nicole Drive on our end of
2 Nicole Drive comes through under Mr. Perry's
3 property out onto Sunset Drive.

4 There is no place for the water to
5 go. Mr. Lorince was nice enough to come up and
6 Didge Judge came up and his guys did a great
7 job. Again, days and days everything in my
8 basement. Unfortunately I just moved things
9 from another house from my husband from his
10 parents' that we could never replace. And I'm
11 there 47 years. This is ridiculous. Something
12 happened with those drainage pipes.

13 There is a large pipe and then it
14 suddenly goes into a smaller pipe. There is no
15 place for the water to go. I'm the first storm
16 drain on the block. So it has no place to go.
17 It hits and bounces straight up. And I put
18 sandbags in front of my driveway.

19 Now it comes though the yard and
20 down into my driveway. With this sewage
21 when -- when my first husband was alive and
22 they were putting in these drains and putting
23 in these sewers on Sunset Drive, Mr. Perry was
24 trying desperately to cover up the sewer in
25 front of our house, which I never had until he

1 put that in.

2 One of the neighbors went out in the
3 cover of darkness. He lifted the lid which is
4 illegal. We know that. And my husband can't
5 talk about it now. He's gone. He's dead.
6 They said there was no bottom in that sewer.
7 Now, I have health issues. And I want to be
8 able to sell my home. How could I?

9 I don't know if I have raw sewage
10 underneath my home now. I was lucky not to
11 have sewage in my house. But there is a lot of
12 issues with the Nicole Drive drain and sewers
13 into Sunset Drive down into Naphin. There's a
14 definite issue. I'm the only one on Sunset
15 Drive that flooded, never had this issue. So
16 there is something.

17 So if you need to up your dollar
18 amount, you better look at the way the sewers
19 and drainage was put in up there because it's
20 not right. Every time it rains since, we were
21 a nervous wreck just watching it. And I took
22 pictures. I have video. No where -- you know,
23 the water was coming up this high out of the
24 storm drain in front of my house. It's
25 ridiculous.

1 So I feel so bad for the people that
2 were really, really worse off than me. But I
3 could honestly tell you there is a lot of
4 issues that need to be looked at. And I'm
5 afraid with this sale going to the water
6 company, we're all going to be left.

7 In all honesty, would you want to
8 buy my home knowing that there was problems?
9 No. Neighborhood is great. I'm the last older
10 home there. I shouldn't have these issues.
11 Mr. Lorince and I talked before the meeting and
12 he had said he was going to have the guys come
13 up and put curb back in front of my driveway
14 which is at least a start.

15 But a lot of the storm drains were
16 all blocked further down the street which
17 wouldn't affect me. But there is one --
18 there's weeds coming right up out of it. It's
19 not even used. So the pitch of the road has to
20 be wrong. Someone has to come up and really
21 look at it and pay attention.

22 MR. MCHALE: Joe, could you put this
23 on your list and have Mr. Lopatka and call me
24 and I'll go too? Get up there this week ASAP.

25 MR. LORINCE: Seems like the storm

1 basin is right in front of her driveway. So if
2 the driveway pitches down a little bit, so if
3 it does overflow, it goes right to the house.

4 MS. JANUEZ: Where the water comes
5 from across the street --

6 MR. LORINCE: I think he needs to
7 move it away from --

8 MR. MCHALE: Can you have Mr.
9 Lopatka get up there this week ASAP?

10 MR. LORINCE: Yes.

11 MS. JANUEZ: But the line from
12 Nicole Drive to Sunset needs to be looked at.

13 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Lopatka is our
14 engineer. I'll go up with him and Joe. If
15 need be, I'll have the Sewer Authority come as
16 well and I'll keep you in touch.

17 MS. JANUEZ: Okay. Thank you very
18 much.

19 MR. BURKE: Gina, did you say the
20 line when you lift the lid and it's bottomless?
21 Is that what you said?

22 MS. JANUEZ: Yes. And
23 unfortunately, people that could prove it are
24 no longer with us. So I would love for the
25 Sewer Authority to come up, for the Borough to

1 come up. Let's all lift that and actually put
2 the myth to rest.

3 MR. BURKE: Can you go and lift that
4 lid tomorrow? We'll send Didge up and lift the
5 lid tomorrow.

6 MS. JANUEZ: I would like my husband
7 or I to be there so I if could call you in the
8 morning?

9 MR. JUDGE: I'll give you my number.

10 MS. JANUEZ: Okay. Thank you. We
11 would like to have that. Whether it's a myth
12 or not, we don't know. But it's very
13 important.

14 MR. MCHALE: Sure. You deserve it.

15 MR. BURKE: And I think you're right
16 too. There is a worry too once the Sewer
17 Authority is sold, this will be Dunmore's
18 problem. These storm basins that you're
19 talking about, people are saying sewers, which
20 I think in some instances they are referring to
21 storm basins.

22 Which will be Dunmore, you, the rate
23 payer's problem once the Sewer Authority -- we
24 do have a lot of problems as you could see.
25 And that 24 million that we're getting for the

1 Scranton Sewer Authority from that will be gone
2 just like that in one product.

3 MS. JANUEZ: And it's a shame.
4 Well, the Nicole Drive project was just done
5 within the past five years. But, you know, we
6 were great. And those residents have had to
7 fight to have the roads paved and then the
8 issued started. So it's like, what happened in
9 there?

10 And again unfortunately, Mr. Perry,
11 he's my next door neighbor. I couldn't speak
12 to him. He would not speak to me. He was
13 trying to drain his pool while I was -- I had
14 everything out in front of my house Tuesday
15 morning. We were up all night putting stuff
16 out. And he was draining his pool.

17 And it was coming right out of the
18 drainage hole, not even going near his storm
19 drain right across the street trying to get in
20 my storm drain but going over into my garage.
21 And I went over pounding on his door. And I'm
22 like, are you serious? And he laughs at me.

23 It's like, okay, you got your money.
24 But guess what -- so something has to be done.
25 And it is a concern because of everything being

1 sold.

2 MR. BURKE: All these problems here
3 definitely wouldn't be covered by 24 million
4 dollars in my opinion.

5 MS. JANUEZ: I laugh, the gentleman
6 that contacted me from my homeowner's came up
7 from North Carolina. He's like, well, you
8 know, if you're in a flood zone and you don't
9 have flood insurance -- I go, wait until you
10 see where I live. It's called Sunset Drive for
11 a reason.

12 I could see straight out to 81.
13 There is nothing above me. You know what I
14 mean? You don't expect. When my children were
15 young, I'd say don't worry about it. If we
16 flood, we don't have anything to worry about.
17 The whole world is gone. And then this
18 happens, 16, 18 inches of water I had. Thank
19 you.

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

22 MR. HOGAN: My name is Bob Hogan. I
23 live on Hill Street in Dunmore. Witnessing and
24 now listening to the impact this had -- two
25 rain events actually. I suggest, I mean,

1 there's been a lot of suggestions about how
2 they are going to burn the monies that may come
3 from the Sewer Authority sales for Dunmore. I
4 firmly believe that every sent of that money
5 should be spent directly for the benefit of
6 getting rid of these problems. In other words
7 enact our storm management requirements.

8 MR. BURKE: I agree.

9 MR. CZANKNER: My name is Dave
10 Czanker, 423 Throop Street. Good evening,
11 everybody. I would just like to ask Council is
12 there a list of roads that are currently being
13 put together of the damage that we received two
14 weeks ago? I want to add our alley which is in
15 the rear of 400 of Throop and Sherwood.

16 And for the ones that know the great
17 job that Didge and his staff does trying to
18 maintain it. It was holding up pretty good.
19 But now that the heavy rains came, it washed
20 away a majority of the road. Our neighbor who
21 isn't here tonight he had other business
22 matters George Kochis{sis} I believe sent
23 pictures down to Council; is that correct?

24 MR. HALLINAN: Yes.

25 MR. MCHALE: Yes.

1 MR. CZANKNER: And I just hope that
2 those pictures are worth a thousand words of
3 the damage that was received on that alley and
4 distributed in people's yards and driveways and
5 their aprons.

6 And as you know, it causes a concern
7 for pedestrians who walk, cars, tire damage,
8 rim damage, children trying to ride bikes. And
9 I know that we try to put our kids first with
10 safety and along with, you know, having a great
11 Borough that we live in.

12 So I just want to be sure that our
13 alley was going to be included with the
14 damage -- the assessment that we're going to
15 put together.

16 MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Yes.

18 MR. HALLINAN: Before the damage, we
19 took a ride through -- a couple of Council and
20 I. It really needs to be paved. Before -- I
21 didn't see it after.

22 MR. CZANKNER: It was holding up
23 with Didge's staff and we know it was holding
24 its own. But I think with the tsunami rain
25 that we had for a full week, it just took

1 everything away that Didge and his staff did.

2 And it was just down to the base.

3 And I just think it definitely has to be milled
4 and resurfaced.

5 MR. HALLINAN: With the kids leaving
6 Sherwood, I'm sure a lot of them take that
7 route on the bicycles --

8 MR. CZANKNER: Yeah, it's a busy
9 alley. Anybody that lives up, you know, where
10 I lived for the last 54 years -- I don't want
11 to tell my age. But it's an alley that's used
12 by many cars, great place to walk your animals,
13 your dogs, cats, whatever.

14 Like I said, the kids used it to
15 stay off Throop Street and Sherwood and they
16 used the back alley. And it's a great place to
17 walk up to the second alley which is the 500
18 block. As you said, Tom, you get to Sherwood
19 Park.

20 MR. HALLINAN: Right.

21 MR. CZANKNER: So we appreciate you
22 taking that into consideration and see if you
23 can solve this. Thank you for your time.
24 Thank you.

25 MR. MCHALE: Thank you. Anybody

1 else like to address Council tonight?

2 (No response.)

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

4 MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Scrimalli, you
5 want to lead us off tonight?

6 MS. SCRIMALLI: Yes. I do want to
7 thank you all for coming. My heart goes out to
8 all of you who had damage. Please continue to
9 contact the Borough with any of your issues.
10 And again, thank you. Good night.

11 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke.

12 MR. BURKE: Yes, like Senator Blake
13 said, collect all your data, bring it up to the
14 Borough. And I really feel for you. I've been
15 flooded -- not as bad as the stories that I've
16 seen here. I was at Mr. Morgan's{sic} house.
17 I saw the damage there. It was unbelievable.
18 He's been getting it for years.

19 But this is a problem that's going
20 to exist as long as we have a combined storm
21 system and it's not separated. We have a storm
22 like this, it's going to happen again. It's
23 hopefully like Mr. Hogan said, we spend that
24 money from the sale of the Sewer Authority just
25 for the storm projects because that's going to

1 go very quick.

2 Also on another note, Gary's
3 meeting Neighborhood Crime Watch, Monday, 7:00,
4 next Monday at 7:00. And congratulations,
5 Gary, for your promotion. Really proud of you.
6 You made Dunmore proud, Buddy. But like the
7 problems -- and there's a lot of people that
8 couldn't make this meeting.

9 I know it's terrible. But try to
10 collect the data like Senator Blake said and
11 get it to the Borough Building as soon as
12 possible because they are going to look at
13 that, you know, because there will be storms
14 after this. And they are going to be
15 questioning what storm did this happen in. Try
16 to get it to the Borough Building as quick as
17 possible. That's all I have. Thank you.

18 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

19 MR. VERRASTRO: Also like to thank
20 everybody for coming. We do understand there
21 was a lot of damage in the last couple weeks.
22 We would like to do everything that we can to
23 address it. Just keep all the data coming in.

24 And also I want to thank Didge, DPW,
25 police department, fire department, they really

1 have been doing a lot the last couple weeks.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. BURKE: Mike, if can I go back?

4 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke. Yes,

5 please.

6 MR. BURKE: There was another issue
7 a neighbor brought up on Mill Street about
8 power lines going in there. The same power
9 lines that are going in -- down at Grove Street
10 worried about what could happen. Joe, can you
11 try to get a spokesperson here to tell us to
12 explain more about these power lines?

13 MR. LORINCE: I did talk to somebody
14 from P P & L and they said next meeting if you
15 want a spokesperson here.

16 MR. BURKE: Yeah, I do. I want a
17 spokesperson. There is people concerned about
18 the power lines. Is it stronger than the
19 current power lines that are there? I know
20 there is people concerned about things like
21 cancer, leukemia, living that close to power
22 lines.

23 And that's one of the concerns. And
24 I'm concerned too for my friends and family in
25 that neighborhood there and from down in the

1 Grove Street area because I do not know. We
2 weren't explained by PP & L if there could be
3 any problems. Should there be any monitor set
4 up? I don't know.

5 But I feel safer and most of the
6 people would if they explain the lines and how
7 much power is really going through on these
8 streets. Thanks, Joe. I appreciate if you
9 could get someone to speak to us at the next
10 meeting. That's it, Mike.

11 MR. MCHALE: Thanks, Tim. I'll
12 quickly go. First and foremost, I want to
13 apologize for my tardiness and my dress. I had
14 an outing for my company today that I haven't
15 missed a meeting in the six years that I sat up
16 here. And as much as it was very far out of
17 town, I wanted to get back.

18 So we left early to get back here to
19 hear your concerns. And I got, you know,
20 wearing the hat of the Sewer Authority as well,
21 I don't think my phone stopped for days. And
22 to be at some of the houses that I've seen, to
23 be in my own house and see of the devastation
24 that went on, it's tough to put into words.

25 So hearing everything when I came

1 in -- again forgive my tardiness if I missed
2 you. It's been a long couple weeks. We heard
3 you. We're doing everything we can to help
4 you. I promise that I won't stop. I can't --
5 I talked to Didge more in the past three weeks
6 than I talked to my wife. And that guy any
7 time you call, he picks up the phone and comes
8 and does stuff.

9 And I know someone here tonight said
10 all the stuff they put out and my wife and I
11 had to do the same and lost a lot of good
12 memories. But these guys, you know, the night
13 of the storm I called. I think he had 12
14 people come in. The firefighters, they all
15 came in.

16 Police department, Chief Marchese is
17 over there. They came in. We've tried to
18 clean the streets as quick as we can. I know
19 the water damage is something of a concern
20 that we have to take care of. To see -- I
21 think you're seeing the street sweepers out
22 there.

23 We're trying to get back to somewhat
24 normalcy as quick as we can and to try to help
25 with the devastation that we heard tonight

1 and that we've all seen. And I think some of
2 us up here have felt. So I -- the whole thing
3 with the Sewer Authority sale, you know, a lot
4 of people that are here tonight may not have --
5 we've talked about it a ton at these meetings
6 and I represent this board. I represent
7 Dunmore on the Sewer Authority.

8 And it's been a ton of work to try
9 to get to the point of a sale. Do I agree with
10 the sale? I still don't know. Seeing what
11 happened here, Tim talks about the combined
12 sewer and waste water that part of it is being
13 sold, so not to say that we're handing over a
14 problem that we have; but we also still have to
15 take care of the storm water issue outside of
16 the combined Sewer Authority.

17 So if whatever number if it does go
18 through -- and understand that there is four
19 voting members on Scranton that more or less
20 control that. I'm not passing the buck. Don't
21 get me wrong. I'll vote what the seven people
22 here choose to do. That's the way I going to
23 vote. We do it in public. We talk about it in
24 public.

25 Any questions that are asked we can

1 definitely -- we'll answer to the best of our
2 ability. And I think Mr. Hogan's been at many
3 of these meetings too where we have talked
4 about this. We'll continue to talk about that.
5 It's an issue. It's not an issue that's done.
6 And it's not going to be sold for several,
7 several months at a minimum.

8 I look at Mr. Cummings because he
9 spends the majority of his time reading through
10 the documents that continue to come our way.
11 So I apologize again for my voice. And I ask
12 you as the other members have to keep telling
13 us, you know, what you see, what the problems
14 are, you know, curbing, things that we can do
15 right away.

16 Didge and his crews will get there
17 right away. You're going to see the street
18 sweepers out there trying to clean the streets
19 as best we can. And like I said, to get back a
20 little bit of normalcy. It doesn't happen --
21 it doesn't help what happened already.

22 But we're going try to help you
23 there as well the best we can. So that's all I
24 have tonight. Mr. Dempsey, do you want to go
25 next?

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, sure. Didge, as
2 always, another bang-up job by you guys. And I
3 don't see Chief DeNaples here. But, Vince,
4 please tell him a terrific job. And again,
5 Chief Marchese. I just want to thank Senator
6 Blake for making the meeting and as well as
7 Dave Valvano from Frank Farina's office.

8 Just please keep the data coming in.
9 As you heard Senator Blake say, 25 million is a
10 very large number to reach. So we need as much
11 data as we can. So please keep us informed.
12 We'll do as we have been everything in our
13 power to help everybody out. So I appreciate
14 everybody for coming tonight. Thank you.

15 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

16 MR. HALLINAN: Again, not to
17 reiterate what everybody else is saying, but
18 this is -- this was devastating. And that's an
19 understatement to anybody that took on any sort
20 of water.

21 Mr. McHale, his whole -- he probably
22 wouldn't want to tell you because he's been out
23 there since the first -- the storms first
24 started. I met him down on the street. He was
25 standing there in the pouring rain. I even

1 told him to go home. And he was out countless
2 hours.

3 I'm sure Mr. Burke and other Council
4 people have been out there. And we weren't
5 going to solve the problem that night. We
6 tried to do what we could. Didge, the fire
7 department answered well over 50 calls and is
8 there every time we need them.

9 The police closing streets, I mean,
10 I know it's devastating but the town you have
11 to appreciate the help that you have here.
12 We're going try to continue that through
13 Senator Blake and trying -- relieve some kind
14 of pain. I know it will never go away. It
15 really hurts.

16 But everybody went through it. And
17 my heart goes out to everybody in this audience
18 and even the other people that aren't here.
19 But thank you. And I'm sorry for the pain
20 you're suffering.

21 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Amico.

22 MR. AMICO: I used to think being
23 the first Council person to speak was
24 challenging. But it's more challenging being
25 the last. I think everything that has been

1 said is what I would say. One thing I would
2 add is whatever information that we have, we'll
3 put forward on the website.

4 I'll make sure that it gets on the
5 website whether it be how to contact your
6 representatives or where your information --
7 how information is going to continue to flow.
8 But I'll contact the website people tonight and
9 make sure everything gets out there.

10 Once again, I would like to thank
11 the State Representative and Mr. Farina for
12 being here tonight. And I really -- it's
13 usually these meetings are not very well
14 attended, especially in the summer. And I wish
15 this meeting wasn't so well attended tonight to
16 be very honest with you because you're here for
17 an unfortunate reason. And my heart goes out
18 to you.

19 If there is anything that you need
20 from me personally or us as a group, please,
21 you know, continue to contact us. And thank
22 you very much for attending tonight.

23 MR. MCHALE: Thanks, Mr. Amico.
24 Quickly, Chief Marchese, do you have anything
25 tonight?

1 CHIEF MARCHESE: I'm good.

2 MR. MCHALE: Joe?

3 MR. LORINCE: No.

4 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Judge?

5 MR. JUDGE: No.

6 MR. MCHALE: I know Chief DeNaples,
7 said that he was at a call so he couldn't make
8 it tonight. Mr. Cummings, do you have
9 anything?

10 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No.

11 MR. MCHALE: With that I'll look for
12 a motion to adjourn.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that motion.

14 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion. Do I
15 have a second?

16 MR. HALLINAN: Second.

17 MR. MCHALE: All in favor?

18 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.
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