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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, November 9, 2015

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

PAUL NARDOZZI, Vice President - absent

SAL VERRASTRO

TIMOTHY BURKE

CAROL SCRIMALLI

THOMAS HALLINAN

MICHAEL DEMPSEY

THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. MCHALE: I think Mr. Cummings
may be running late. I'll take the roll call.
Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Nardozzi is not
here. Is there any public comment on agenda
items?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none, number
four, motion to approve the prior meeting's
minutes.

MR. BURKE: I'll make that motion.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: On the question. All

1 those in favor signify by saying aye.

2 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

3 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so
6 moved. Number five, motion to approve and pay
7 the open bills.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that
9 motion.

10 MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

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

13 (No response.)

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

16 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so
20 moved. I apologize. Number six is a repeat.
21 I put the agenda together today so I blame
22 myself. Number seven, personnel matters. Do
23 we have any?

24 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd
25 like to -- I've been talking with Mr. Didge

1 Judge over the last couple weeks and with the
2 problems with picking up our recyclables, our
3 newspaper, our garbage, we've been falling
4 behind. And it seems like our sixth ward gets,
5 you know, the end of the stick all the time.

6 So I'd like to make a motion that we
7 hire Kyle Golden a four year part-time employee
8 that's been diligently doing his job. And I'd
9 like to make a motion that we hire Kyle as a
10 full-time DPW employee.

11 MR. BURKE: I'll second that.

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

14 (No response.)

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

17 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

18 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

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

22 MR. VERRASTRO: Just for the record,
23 he's being hired as a laborer, correct?

24 MR. HALLINAN: Correct.

25 MR. MCHALE: Number eight, motion to

1 approve a contract with Home Field Advertising
2 to provide advertising opportunities on Borough
3 properties, the website and social media.

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

5 MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

6 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
7 second. On the question. For everybody in the
8 audience, this is a new company a Dunmore
9 company that's not going to cost us anything.
10 But it's newer but they have a lot of
11 experience in creating advertising
12 opportunities for the Borough.

13 And we'll get a large percentage of
14 that revenue, whether it be on the walls in the
15 gymnasium, on, you know, Didge's building up
16 the DPW headquarters, so on and so forth,
17 anything that we can do we'll get some revenue
18 out of that.

19 So it's a kind of a win/win
20 situation. It's a Dunmore based company with a
21 couple gentlemen who have been extremely
22 successful in their personal business that are
23 coming together to do this. So we're excited
24 for the opportunity. Like I said, it's no cost
25 to us, just advertising revenue. So anybody

1 else on the question?

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah.

3 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Dempsey.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll add to that.

5 What they do is, they come in and they look at
6 all of the Borough's assets, community center
7 being the big one, dump trucks, park benches,
8 you know, basically whatever the Borough owns.
9 And it's as simple as selling advertising space.

10 So if, you know, "X" bank wants to
11 come in and put a sign on a wall or something
12 like that, you know, they'll pay the Borough to
13 put the sign on the wall. And the Home Field
14 Advertising takes basically a cut or a
15 percentage of that and they go out and do all
16 the work. It doesn't cost us anything.

17 Obviously it will be done
18 tastefully. We'll have a say. There's not
19 going to be 45 signs in here of different
20 companies so just to add to what Mike said.

21 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else on the
22 question?

23 MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, it's more or
24 less for like our street light polls, stuff
25 like that going through the corners, walkways

1 that we have, stuff like that.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Um hum.

3 MR. MCHALE: We have the ability to
4 say yes or no to anything.

5 MR. VERRASTRO: Yes.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: And it's just as an
7 additional stream of revenue that we've never
8 had before. So that's just -- we're
9 continuously looking for additional streams of
10 revenue because we live in a bedroom community,
11 it's, you know, it's all tax base. That's
12 where we get our chunk of -- if not all of our
13 income. So this is just a different way of
14 adding to that revenue stream.

15 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else on the
16 question?

17 (No response.)

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

20 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so
24 moved. Number nine is public comment. Does
25 anybody like to speak tonight? Mr. Duncan I

1 know is here. Do you want to speak first, Mr.
2 Duncan? I forgot Mr. Duncan one time and
3 honestly it's bothered me ever since about a
4 year ago and for all the work he does in the
5 crime watch -- the Neighborhood Watch, forgive
6 me. I yield to you.

7 MR. DUNCAN: Did everybody get a
8 copy of it from the last time?

9 MR. MCHALE: Yeah.

10 MR. DUNCAN: Everybody got it. I
11 just wanted to make sure. You were able to
12 open it?

13 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah.

14 MR. DUNCAN: We're going to have
15 another neighborhood watch meeting a week
16 tonight 7:00 right here. Just a couple things
17 and I know Didge is here tonight and
18 everything. And one of the things that came up
19 last time Didge was a request for new
20 signage over at Jessup and Reeves Street. Did
21 we order new signs for over there?

22 MR. LORINCE: Yeah, the signs came
23 in today.

24 MR. DUNCAN: I want to thank you
25 again for getting the tree at Warren and Ward

1 taken out. Again, that was really -- a lot of
2 people weren't happy with that situation so
3 thanks.

4 The dumpster behind Nina's we talked
5 about it briefly. I continually hear from
6 people them. I know I went by the one day and
7 it was overflowing.

8 MR. LORINCE: We talked to them
9 about picking up more.

10 MR. DUNCAN: Can they get another
11 dumpster in?

12 MR. LORINCE: One's enough. They
13 just need to pick it up more often.

14 MR. DUNCAN: Okay. You spoke to
15 them about it. I talked to Richie Barth about
16 the PP & L truck down on Larch Street. The
17 problem down there with the branches still, the
18 utility lines. I didn't hear back from Rich.

19 Sal, if you see him, can you ask
20 him if -- he told me he was going to drive by
21 and double check it. A couple of days later
22 there was men at work signs. There was no men
23 working. So that said, can you check with him
24 and ask him to get back with me? He was going
25 to do a drive by. They are still up in the

1 power lines. The branches and everything are
2 growing through there. And that was something
3 that came up at the meeting.

4 Speed bumps over at Warren Street
5 over by the high school. I don't know if they
6 were repainted or who we have to get in touch
7 with with that. That was a concern.

8 MR. JUDGE: They are the schools.

9 MR. DUNCAN: I'm just asking about
10 it. It came up at the meeting.

11 MR. MCHALE: We'll talk to the
12 school about it, Didge.

13 MR. DUNCAN: Thank you.

14 MR. MCHALE: I agree. I go there
15 every day. If you don't know that they're
16 there --

17 MR. DUNCAN: Yeah.

18 MR. JUDGE: We painted all the other
19 ones down there. If you want them painted too,
20 no big deal.

21 MR. MCHALE: Just add it to your
22 list, Didge. Yeah.

23 MR. DUNCAN: Thanks. And then as is
24 always the case down at Ferguson Place, you
25 know, Adams and Larch, that neighborhood,

1 Ferguson Place 2, 4, and 6, those are the
2 numbers Ferguson Place. The brushes are still
3 grown over. The bushes rather, are still grown
4 over and everything down there.

5 So just that's it for the
6 neighborhood watch stuff. I have a question
7 for you. On the person that was hired part
8 time to full time, was that for a person
9 somebody retired or are we just short a person
10 or just down one or what was that?

11 MR. BURKE: We were working short,
12 Gary, the DPW for probably last 8 to 10 years.
13 We made cuts and never replaced retirements for
14 probably 10 years.

15 MR. DUNCAN: I just wondered --

16 MR. VERRASTRO: We actually did a
17 layoff in 2010 and we haven't replaced anybody
18 since then.

19 MR. DUNCAN: Okay.

20 MR. MCHALE: And it kills us, Gary,
21 when we get into hunting season, heavy vacation
22 season because then we're down to --

23 MR. DUNCAN: Sixth ward we're always
24 running behind. So I just -- when I heard I
25 was just curious about that. The Borough

1 Manager I did see the advertisement for Borough
2 Manager in the newspaper. I just wondered how
3 that -- if that is progressing, if we have
4 applicants or where we're at with that one?

5 MR. MCHALE: We do. We closed on
6 Friday. I don't know if any on Council have
7 reviewed the resumes. But we'll have probably
8 a personnel meeting in the very near future to
9 discuss what we're going to do there. But
10 there's approximately 12 applicants.

11 MR. DUNCAN: Thanks. Just a few
12 more, on the website the new Dunmore dot org
13 website, I know we can pull up the ordinance
14 and everything on it. But the whole thing is
15 downloaded. And I was scrolling through it and
16 it's really hard to follow.

17 I don't know if there is anything we
18 can do to break it down and make it more user
19 friendly or what. You're scrolling through to
20 look for small subsections of it and --

21 MR. DEMPSEY: The ordinances?

22 MR. DUNCAN: Yeah.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: On my computer you
24 just hit find button control F.

25 MR. DUNCAN: Right. I did that.

1 But you're scrolling page by page by page by
2 page, ask if there is anything they can do to
3 make it more user friendly. The ordinance for
4 the town then for quiet time, can I get a
5 specific time what the official time is for
6 parties and everything?

7 MR. MCHALE: Chief?

8 CHIEF MARCHESE: I think it's 11.

9 MR. DUNCAN: Well, 11? That's what
10 I tried to pull up. And I can't even find it
11 in there. I scrolled and scrolled, everything
12 that you said and we just can't get to it.
13 Halloween on our block over there, I'm here
14 tonight to talk to you about all the neighbors
15 that were concerned.

16 I have church on Barton Street.
17 There's three private driveways on that street.
18 Last week it was shut down for a party. We
19 have a burn pit there. We have disco music
20 blasting and other rock and roll music blasting
21 until 2:30 in the morning.

22 I have -- my one neighbor that was
23 upset about it has an adult son with special
24 needs. And her tenant has a 18-month-old baby
25 and they're pregnant with their second child.

1 Mrs. Lam{sic} is probably about 85 years old.
2 Mr. and Mrs. Roche, she's in bed. She's in bed
3 right now with a fractured shoulder. My
4 neighbors next to my house have a tenant who
5 has to go to work at 4 a.m.

6 The party went until 2:30 a.m. It
7 was loud. It was unbearable. I know the PD
8 were called. Whatever happened, no shutdown in
9 noise. And they had other parties, but this
10 one was out of control. A lady on Delaware
11 Street asked me what the noise was on Barton
12 Street. So it was a loud, loud party.

13 And I understand a party but until
14 2:30 a.m. to have that many people. If the
15 people that had the party went to Barton Street
16 they would have been assassinated. It was that
17 bad and it was that loud. It was that unruly.

18 So before the party happens next
19 year for Halloween, I'd like at least the
20 people that are responsible -- the people in
21 charge of the Borough to realize there's people
22 that have to have access to that street. They
23 put men at work signs up on that. There were
24 no men at work.

25 The barriers were still up the next

1 morning. People that live on the street had to
2 move the barriers to get into their driveways.
3 So I'm here tonight to tell you, I'm the one
4 that was asked to come and speak about it.
5 Most of my neighbors are elderly.

6 But it certainly adversely affected
7 the quality of life. And I just wanted to
8 bring it up for my whole neighborhood. I hope
9 it doesn't happen next year.

10 MR. VERRASTRO: Who shut the street
11 down? Did they get a permit to do it?

12 CHIEF MARCHESE: I think that's the
13 one Didge called me about.

14 MR. JUDGE: He called me, Sal. I
15 was away. I didn't give them the barricades.
16 I called Sal.

17 MR. DUNCAN: They put their own
18 barricades up.

19 MR. MCHALE: In the future, any road
20 that --

21 CHIEF MARCHESE: If it was that bad,
22 it should have been shut down.

23 MR. MCHALE: Any time a road gets
24 shut down, Council has to get it shut down.

25 MR. VERRASTRO: What we did last

1 time was, it had to go through the Chief to
2 be approved and the Chief --

3 MR. MCHALE: I'd rather so everybody
4 knows about it put it in public.

5 MR. VERRASTRO: Because the fire
6 department won't know the road was shut down
7 either.

8 MR. MCHALE: That's my point, yeah.

9 MR. DUNCAN: This lady's son has
10 epilepsy. So if we have to get emergency
11 vehicles through there, it's a situation. The
12 fire burned until 2:30 in the morning. I
13 thought there was a no burning ordinance in the
14 Borough as well.

15 And I know we talked about it at
16 Neighborhood Watch meetings at and other
17 meetings where I had Council members in
18 attendance who verified that. So there are a
19 lot of red flags with this one.

20 I'm asking in advance next Halloween
21 if it not occur because there are people that
22 have to use their driveways. And we have a
23 person with special needs medically. I'm in
24 health care 42 years so I understand that.
25 Okay. That's it for tonight. But please keep

1 it in mind for next year. And somebody please
2 get back to me on what the ordinances are so I
3 have it in black and white. People are
4 hesitant to call the PD. They don't want
5 repercussions. There's no hesitancy in letting
6 me know.

7 But I really didn't need to know.
8 It sounded like -- I probably had Led Zeppelin
9 about 1977 playing in my house. So it was that
10 bad. Thank you.

11 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

12 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

13 MR. BURKE: Sal, would you be able
14 to have one of the police officers at the
15 meeting inform Gary what time the noise
16 ordinance is?

17 CHIEF MARCHESE: Yeah.

18 MR. BURKE: Thanks.

19 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to
20 speak tonight?

21 MS. CUFF: Hi, Sharon Cuff, Spring
22 Street, Dunmore. I wanted to talk about the
23 website a little bit. I didn't know -- I mean,
24 I wasn't sure. I used to e-mail Vito with
25 different things about it. I wasn't sure what

1 the status was there. So I wanted to bring it
2 up here. I think we've talked about before
3 about what should be on the website and
4 uploading different things and user friendly
5 which Gary just brought up getting the agendas
6 for meetings put up, which today's was not.

7 The news, I know we talked about
8 that, the news stories and things like that
9 being put on the website. I'm just wondering,
10 who is in charge of deciding what goes on the
11 website?

12 MR. DEMPSEY: The news articles are
13 automatically uploaded. We have no access to
14 what news articles. It's usually the word
15 Dunmore populates in Google and they just
16 automatically go to the website. We have no
17 control over what news stories. Basically any
18 news story with the word Dunmore in it I
19 believe gets put on the website. That's how I
20 understand it.

21 We don't send them news stories.
22 And they don't put them on physically every
23 morning. It automatically populates.

24 MS. CUFF: Okay.

25 MR. LORINCE: Sorry, there's two

1 websites. I think that's what the --

2 MR. MCHALE: There's three website.

3 MR. LORINCE: Dot com is gone now.

4 MR. MCHALE: Is it finally?

5 MR. LORINCE: Yeah, dot org and

6 there is Dunmore --

7 MR. DEMPSEY: Dunmorepa.gov.

8 MR. LORINCE: PA dot gov. So I
9 don't know which one you're looking at but
10 there's two different websites.

11 MS. CUFF: Which is the newest
12 website?

13 MR. DEMPSEY: Dot gov.

14 MR. MCHALE: Dunmorepa.gov.

15 MS. CUFF: Right. With the news
16 feeds, that's the one I'm talking about.

17 MR. LORINCE: We also have org too.
18 Dunmoreborough.org is still a website though.

19 MS. CUFF: But do the newspaper
20 articles and news articles go up on that one?
21 I don't think so. I think it's only the new
22 one.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah.

24 MS. CUFF: So I'm a little concerned
25 over -- well, I'm a little concerned for

1 several reasons. The sewer line odor issue.
2 There's a stack of articles and not one of them
3 was on those news feeds, nothing. Again, we
4 had two --

5 MR. MCHALE: We had nothing to do
6 with that though.

7 MS. CUFF: And I get that. We've
8 clarified that. I know now. But that might be
9 something you could address with who you're
10 paying to do this website because I would think
11 that it's pretty newsworthy since these are all
12 the news articles related to it that were not
13 on the website.

14 Again, I don't know that there's
15 been any other time in Dunmore where two
16 facilities were evacuated in one evening to my
17 recollection. I'm living here a long time. I
18 don't recall. So again, I'm going to say this
19 is probably a pretty newsworthy event. Nothing
20 was on the website, nothing, not one article.
21 I've been checking. And again, there's a whole
22 slew --

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Again, we don't have
24 control over that.

25 MS. CUFF: I see that now. I didn't

1 know who did. But I would definitely address
2 that with whoever you're paying.

3 MR. DEMPSEY: I will see if they can
4 add the words like Scranton Sewer Authority to
5 see if that will upload it.

6 MS. CUFF: Perhaps, Keystone
7 Sanitary Landfill? Since that seems to be
8 pretty much a hot topic.

9 MR. MCHALE: Again, we're not
10 deleting those that have Keystone in it either.
11 We have no control over that.

12 MS. CUFF: No, I'm not saying that.
13 But, I mean, this is the website for the
14 Borough. So I think if you're going to do it,
15 and that's Vito, you know, we had talked about
16 a lot getting this up and running and being --

17 MR. DEMPSEY: There's been a lot of
18 Keystone articles on the website.

19 MS. CUFF: You know what I mean like
20 to kind of make it user friendly so people can
21 access anything to do with the Borough by going
22 on to this one location.

23 MR. MCHALE: You could e-mail
24 Michael. You have my e-mail. You have my
25 text. You can send me messages. Please send

1 them to us. We'll try. And Vito too. Vito is
2 working as well.

3 MS. CUFF: Again, i wasn't sure.
4 And I'm not being -- I'm just saying I'm just
5 saying --

6 MR. DEMPSEY: It seems like you're
7 accusing us of not putting newspaper articles
8 on there.

9 MS. CUFF: I'm getting to why I'm a
10 little bit upset. The Department of Health
11 actually contacted me because they did send --
12 again, that's another thing that we can ask
13 your people who are doing it maybe the DEP, you
14 know, things like this are immediate released
15 press releases that have to do with Dunmore.

16 I think that would be beneficial to
17 have. This Environmental Justice, this DEP
18 news release that would be beneficial to have
19 on the website. Again, I didn't know who is in
20 charge. I'm asking. But I'm upset because the
21 Department of Health did say that they
22 contacted -- they sent this community health
23 update to the Borough and asked specifically if
24 it could go on the website.

25 And they contacted me because they

1 said maybe we don't have the right site. But
2 we don't see it up, could you reach out to
3 them. I said I certainly will. I was not
4 pleased that it wasn't on.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: No one contacted me
6 and asked me to put that on the website. But
7 if you did and you sent me that, I would
8 have --

9 MS. CUFF: No, I didn't. This
10 was --

11 MR. DEMPSEY: No, I'm saying in the
12 future I could have it put on the website.
13 That's not a problem.

14 MS. CUFF: Okay.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: I have no objection to
16 that. None of us do.

17 MS. CUFF: Right. So if we wanted
18 something on there we can go through you but
19 you guys aren't in charge of putting it on
20 there.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: That's right.

22 MS. CUFF: But you could tell
23 them -- you can reach out to the website
24 people.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Yes.

1 MS. CUFF: Going forward maybe these
2 are things that you could kind of clue them in
3 and say look for any kind of press releases
4 about Dunmore, Scranton, you know, things like
5 that I think would be helpful to be on there.

6 MR. MCHALE: I don't disagree with
7 you.

8 MS. CUFF: And, I'm sorry, I don't
9 mean to be -- but I was a little bit of upset
10 and embarrassed.

11 MR. HALLINAN: I also think that the
12 Borough as Michael had said we get in touch
13 with them, there also should be an
14 administrator on our side that, you know, just
15 because the word has Dunmore in there or
16 Scranton Sewer Authority or something maybe
17 doesn't mean it gets up loaded either.
18 Somebody has to review this before it gets
19 posted.

20 MS. CUFF: Yeah, I guess --

21 MR. HALLINAN: It could work either
22 way.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: I don't care what
24 stories gone go on. It's in the newspaper --
25 it doesn't --

1 MS. CUFF: I know, Michael, but so
2 many people don't get the newspaper anymore
3 because they simply don't want to pay the cost
4 of the Scranton Times.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: I don't blame them.
6 It's --

7 MS. CUFF: Exactly. I mean --

8 MR. HALLINAN: On the question, can
9 I ask you a question? Does everything -- like
10 you said, do they pull from the newspaper or
11 anything Googled no matter where --

12 MR. DEMPSEY: It just goes
13 automatically. Anything with Dunmore in the
14 headlines it goes.

15 MR. HALLINAN: We got to have some
16 kind of oversight or God knows, what if it was
17 something and I hate to say pornography or
18 something with the word Dunmore in it. You
19 never know.

20 MS. CUFF: Right. But those weren't
21 up there. So it's not pulling everything up.
22 So again, it's just something to look at. And
23 again I know I could send everything. But it's
24 not my job to send everything to you guys to
25 review to get on the website. That's why you

1 have the website administrator. So just --
2 that's all I'm saying. We got this new website
3 on board for a reason. Let's utilize it to its
4 fullest potential. That's all I want.

5 MR. MCHALE: You had a list that you
6 sent me about things that you had. I had every
7 one of them changed. All of the board minutes
8 were up. And again, at the beginning of the
9 meeting, I apologize, I did the agenda tonight
10 at 5:00. That's my fault. Vito was out of
11 town.

12 My fault. So it wasn't up because
13 of me. There was an error because of me. But
14 I usually don't do the agenda. So we're
15 trying. I promise.

16 MS. CUFF: Okay. And just lastly, I
17 know the last time I was here I think we talked
18 about the draft letter which Michael did send
19 me regarding the odor issue. I don't believe
20 it went out.

21 MR. MCHALE: It did go out and we
22 got responses from both. I could post those
23 tomorrow as well. We sent them to the Sewer
24 Authority and to the state -- the DEP.

25 MS. CUFF: I didn't know. I reached

1 out to Michael. But there was some issues that
2 prevented --

3 MR. MCHALE: We already got
4 responses.

5 MS. CUFF: Okay. I thought you said
6 you were going to send me a final one if it
7 went out. That's okay. Thank you. Yeah, and
8 the other thing is Scranton Council has been in
9 the paper, you know, headlines twice at least
10 that I know of, you know, just pushing --

11 MR. MCHALE: We sent the same exact
12 letter and we were not in the paper, same exact
13 letter. And we got responses right after. It
14 wasn't in the paper. We can't control what
15 they write.

16 MS. CUFF: Thank you.

17 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else tonight?

18 MR. FETSKO: My name is Brian
19 Fetsko, 234 West Drinker Street. I have a
20 question about does Dunmore still own the
21 property in Dickson where --

22 MR. MCHALE: We do.

23 MR. FETSKO: Is there any plans for
24 that?

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Not as of right

1 now, no. There's a lot of restrictions on it.

2 MR. MCHALE: Yeah, a lot of
3 restrictions.

4 MR. VERRASTRO: Last thing we were
5 trying to do we're talking about doing a solar
6 park. But that fell through also.

7 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Correct.

8 MR. FETSKO: What was that?

9 MR. VERRASTRO: We talked about a
10 solar park but it fell through.

11 MR. FETSKO: Those people that
12 don't know me in Dunmore, I have been involved
13 with DGR Soccer for the past 13 years I think.
14 One of the things was realized over the last
15 couple years, especially the last five years,
16 there's a huge boom in the growth of soccer,
17 youth soccer, not just in our area -- or not
18 just in Dunmore but the whole area of
19 Northeastern Pennsylvania.

20 I was actually thinking it might be
21 a good idea to look at, you know, maybe
22 building fields there. If you could, like,
23 basically make almost like a centralized
24 location maybe you have 10, 12 fields -- full
25 size fields, that could actually start pulling

1 in revenue in a couple years doing tournaments
2 like with different leagues and stuff like
3 that.

4 It's just a thought. I just --
5 soccer seems like it's growing more and more
6 every year. I just know in our league alone we
7 have -- we went from 156 kids six years ago to
8 560 kids this past year. I'm also president of
9 NEPSAY which is -- it does like the greater
10 area from Mountain View to Wallenpaupack,
11 Honesdale, down to Old Forge, Riverside area.

12 There's 14 or 15 leagues right now
13 with just about 4500 kids in all of those
14 leagues. And that's just for a rec soccer
15 program. If you got to the part where we
16 started pulling in tournaments that have travel
17 programs, then you could start charging higher
18 fees for the tournaments.

19 And eventually you will start to be
20 able to do yearly, like, tournaments you could
21 actually start generating a ton of money for
22 the Borough and surrounding businesses.

23 MR. MCHALE: Tom, if I'm speaking
24 out of turn, please tell me. I think one of
25 the restrictions -- there's a lot of

1 restrictions on it is we're allowed to do
2 recreation facilities like that that he's
3 talking about, correct?

4 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I'd have to look at
5 the Dickson City current zoning ordinance
6 because we're bound by the restrictions in the
7 deed which are voluminous and very restrictive.
8 We're also bound by Dickson City zoning
9 ordinance and what's allowed in that particular
10 category.

11 So it may be something that a deed
12 restriction allow but then we would have to go
13 in for curative amendment under Dickson City's
14 ordinance. And everything we've looked at is
15 cost prohibitive. And I agree with you, soccer
16 has blossomed. It was a long time coming.
17 It's a great sport. I think there's less
18 injuries.

19 There's opportunity for more people
20 to participate. And I would say that it may be
21 doable. But I would also say that I know that
22 some of -- when we first acquired it 10 years
23 ago or so and we addressed it with local
24 representatives, they came in and said, you
25 know, we can't really just do something for

1 Dunmore against Dickson or Dickson against
2 Dunmore or like leave Throop out, so if you
3 wanted to do something on regional basis then
4 they would look at funding for that.

5 MR. MCHALE: And I think that's
6 where your biggest obstacle will be funding.
7 We'll help in that regard, not necessarily
8 giving you money but using our contacts with
9 the Senator's office and the representative
10 here. I'm sorry, go ahead.

11 MR. FETSKO: The one with U.S.
12 Soccer, U.S. Youth Soccer, they do do a lot of
13 grants in funding to help develop, like our
14 area every -- all those leagues that we play,
15 they'll have one -- Dunmore just has Sherwood
16 Park to play.

17 We're looking into building another
18 field at Crowley Park over right below
19 Marywood. But like Valley View has three
20 fields in three locations. Mountain view has
21 two fields behind the school. So it's very
22 scattered how everything is. So like part of
23 my thinking is, you know, some of the local
24 leagues will come there.

25 And, you know, they have -- they

1 don't have to worry about cutting the grass,
2 getting everything done themselves. Everything
3 is there. They'll play. It makes life easier
4 for all the parents, the players, the leagues
5 just go to a centralized location. And I think
6 like one of the big things -- I'm sorry, I got
7 off topic.

8 Like I was saying, U.S Youth Soccer,
9 U.S. Soccer they both do grants that you could
10 get like a couple -- depending on how much --
11 how big of an area and how like their overall
12 plan is, you could actually get like a couple,
13 you know, like up to a million dollars to do a
14 project like this.

15 And Adidas does do donations for
16 this. And there's a couple other programs like
17 I think one is called footprint fields or I
18 can't remember off the top of my head -- also
19 helps with that. Musco Lighting I think is
20 another one that, you know, that does grants
21 and stuff for lights.

22 And plus with all the business
23 around it, the car dealerships and stuff like
24 that, they are all big into donating into
25 programs like this because that's, you know,

1 you go to any location where you have 5,000
2 kids going for a weekend that means you have
3 2,500 parents at least there, 2,500 cars. So,
4 you know, everybody is going to be looking, you
5 know, you have people looking to do
6 sponsorships for the field and stuff like that
7 just to have their name there. And so like I
8 do think it can be really a good idea to do
9 with the land there.

10 MR. VERRASTRO: I agree with you.

11 MR. MCHALE: I think it's a great
12 idea.

13 MR. VERRASTRO: When I mentioned the
14 solar park, there was a certain percentage of
15 it at the time that was going to be for
16 playgrounds and fields and walking trails.

17 MR. MCHALE: That's where I was
18 thinking.

19 MR. VERRASTRO: And we were trying
20 to get something to coincide with that so that
21 there was a revenue source to maintain it
22 because that's a big undertaking. I would love
23 to see it. And if we can figure out a way to
24 do it, I'd help for as long as I can.

25 MR. MCHALE: Likewise.

1 MR. VERRASTRO: But that's a very
2 big thing to have done. And being that we
3 don't -- like Tommy was saying, it's not in
4 our -- in the Borough itself. Everything we do
5 as soon as we come up with an idea the first
6 thing we do is we have to ask Dickson City if
7 they will entertain it.

8 And then we go from there. So maybe
9 it's something that we can work with the county
10 to help with it. I don't see anybody up here
11 that would refuse to do something like that.

12 MR. FETSKO: Like you're saying
13 with the solar park, there was -- I was just at
14 the field -- I think it was -- I don't know if
15 it was Long Island or somewhere in New Jersey.
16 I travel with -- my daughter plays highly
17 competitive travel soccer. So I travel, you
18 know, everywhere from North Carolina up to
19 Massachusetts this past year going to different
20 types, you know, different fields, different
21 locations.

22 But there was one that did have
23 solar fields or like solar farms right next to
24 the fields that I asked them about that and
25 that's what they said they did with it to

1 offset the cost to maintain the fields.

2 MR. MCHALE: Yeah. Tommy, again, if
3 we can make sure that this is a possibility
4 before we -- before he or anybody goes down the
5 road, see if it's a possibility that we could
6 do this and maybe form some type of an
7 authority that will oversee and try to go get
8 grants.

9 I know we'll definitely be included
10 again as Sal said I don't think anybody would
11 go against it and maybe get Dickson City
12 involved as well and the surrounding
13 communities and start an authority where
14 everybody can go to their municipality and get
15 some money or get to the state government and
16 even, you know, the grant opportunities you
17 spoke of.

18 I know major league baseball helped
19 the little league over here years ago and put
20 up one set of lights. So similar in the soccer
21 arena it sounds like the same opportunities
22 exist as well. So I think the first step we
23 would have to do to first see if we're allowed
24 to put fields there because again, it's highly
25 restrictive because it was Dickson City's land.

1 And it was before me, before we
2 bought it. So we'll have Mr. Cummings take a
3 look and see if it's doable, we can get in
4 contact with you and go from there, all right?

5 MR. VERRASTRO: The cost would be
6 enormous. The land is very raw. It's wooded.
7 It's hills. There's pits. There's a lot of
8 internal infrastructure there. There's no
9 utilities whatsoever up there in that area.
10 It's going to be a big undertaking.

11 MR. FETSKO: Like, I don't see this
12 being done like next year. This is, like, you
13 know, five or ten year plan. I just do think,
14 like --

15 MR. VERRASTRO: You have to start it
16 to get there.

17 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

18 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

19 MS. HALLINAN: Kelly Burke Hallinan,
20 1723 Madison Avenue, so as to not to offend any
21 Council members this evening, the history of
22 the issue I have been presenting to them since
23 May can be read online on the Borough's new
24 website. That's dot gov -- except for the
25 omitted minutes meeting from May. They are

1 still not posted.

2 MR. MCHALE: Again, we're not
3 omitting anything. If you let us know that
4 there's one not there, I went through all --
5 she has every single one probably saved
6 herself. I went through my e-mails and sent
7 them to the web company. So that's not on
8 purpose.

9 MR. HALLINAN: Is that the May, 2015
10 minutes? Is that the one's that aren't up
11 there?

12 MS. HALLINAN: May's.

13 MR. HALLINAN: May's of this year.

14 MS. HALLINAN: Yeah. In return, I
15 will be offended if I'm interrupted during the
16 time allotted to me the public to address
17 Council with my concerns. Aside from the
18 multiple ordinances that I've informed you of
19 that remain broken and not enforced in my
20 neighborhood, I've covered yet another fact
21 that should not be ignored.

22 It's an ordinance stating that any
23 unit within a building can have no less than
24 850 square feet of living space. Once again,
25 Google MLS you could find a lot of information.

1 How true it is, you know, it can't be that far
2 off in other words because they are
3 advertising. That would be false advertising.

4 But the home on Madison Avenue that
5 I did report to you that was a single --
6 Kernan's house, five people that could not live
7 in a one bedroom apartment was advertised as
8 having 1,008 square feet. That was for the
9 single family home.

10 Well, if you divide that by two, it
11 comes out to 504. Now, that's before the
12 partition walls are put up, another stairway,
13 everything else. So this is what I'm trying to
14 get across to you. These are tiny apartments
15 of being altered illegally within family homes.

16 This is an ordinance that doesn't
17 have to go through zoning. It doesn't have to
18 be proven. It's fact.

19 Families don't rent one bedroom
20 apartments. We're losing our families. We
21 have lots of apartments. And your diligent
22 efforts, you know, to get the Borough
23 financially sound and to keep taxes low is very
24 much appreciated by parents raising children
25 that own homes in Dunmore.

1 What you're doing now is being
2 greatly appreciated by the growing amount of
3 apartment building owners that don't even
4 reside in Dunmore that are collecting three and
5 four rents and paying tax on one property,
6 which I've investigated they're paying lower
7 taxes than me even though they are next door to
8 me, down the street from me where they don't
9 belong.

10 Another thing is, we've had to hire
11 additional police officers. I feel that that
12 only proves that our town now has a problem
13 because of if more protection is needed, from
14 what and because of who? Not the Borough
15 families. Sting operations aren't done on
16 Borough families that I'm aware of.

17 And any time I Google someone that
18 is the Dunmore man as the Scranton Time calls
19 them, they are renters, which is fine. But
20 they are living in tiny one bedroom apartments.
21 Where if the houses weren't converted, a nice
22 family would be at that address, my point with
23 proof.

24 As a taxpayer, I'm asking Council
25 once again make enforcement of our zones and

1 that signed the petition and explain to them
2 you're not going to address it or why you're
3 not going to address it or --

4 MR. MCHALE: I'm not being wise,
5 but you said not to speak. Do you want me to
6 answer that?

7 MS. HALLINAN: Oh, yes. I'm asking
8 a question. Thank you.

9 MR. MCHALE: That was received and
10 noted. We talked about it the last couple
11 meetings I think. To my knowledge and Joe jump
12 in if I'm wrong. A lot of the things that you
13 brought up are on the other side on the zoning
14 side. They think it's defensible.

15 I'm not taking -- we're not a
16 legislative body here. But, I'm sorry, we're
17 not a judge here to say yes or no. Joe and his
18 attorney have made us aware of their standing.
19 You don't agree with it. So we've spoken to
20 the petitions. They're asking for enforcement
21 of the ordinances. We spoke to Joe. Joe has
22 support on the other side.

23 I'm not saying you agree with it or
24 I agree with it. And then the attorney who is
25 a very learned zoning attorney opined on it. I

1 feel for you. I told you this the last 10
2 meetings. I feel for you. I just don't know
3 where we're -- where we go. I wish I had an
4 answer for you.

5 MS. HALLINAN: Well, that's another
6 thing. No one but Michael Dempsey cared to
7 look --

8 MR. MCHALE: Cared. That's not --
9 I'm going to interrupt you. I have stuff going
10 on every single night, okay, personal problems.

11 MS. HALLINAN: I didn't say Mr.
12 McHale. I said no one other than --

13 MR. MCHALE: Cared enough. You said
14 nobody cared enough. I sat with Joe for an
15 hour and a half. I told you I would try to get
16 down to you. I know other people too. We
17 care. You know that. That's not fair to say.

18 MS. HALLINAN: Well, it's not fair
19 for you to say that a very good lawyer for --

20 MR. MCHALE: He is.

21 MS. HALLINAN: Well, if you saw what
22 I was presented, I don't think you'd feel the
23 same way.

24 MR. MCHALE: I did see it. I read
25 everything that was given to me. And that was

1 given to me. I don't disagree with you. Don't
2 take it that way. There is defense on the
3 other side. I don't know -- we're not judge
4 and jury. That's -- I wish I could do
5 something for you to ease your pain. You made
6 note of my mother's problem and, oh, that's not
7 too close. You know what, they drive right
8 next to the house every single day.

9 MS. HALLINAN: I didn't say that's
10 not too close. I said how close -- I don't
11 know where you live. I said how close are they
12 to your --

13 MR. MCHALE: The car has hit our
14 house several times. That's how close it is.

15 MS. HALLINAN: I don't know where
16 you live.

17 MR. MCHALE: But you made that
18 comment though. That was my point. I don't --
19 I don't disagree with you. But there's a
20 defense on the other side. And I'm not trying
21 to be argumentative with you. I feel for you.
22 I just don't know what we can do.

23 MS. HALLINAN: Well, this is not a
24 zoning issue. This a black and white issue.

25 MR. MCHALE: The 850? Is that what

1 we're speaking of the 850? Joe, do you have
2 anything --

3 MR. LORINCE: I'll check the
4 building ordinance. But I don't think that
5 stands. These are properties that are already
6 been there.

7 MS. HALLINAN: No, they weren't.
8 This house was bought in 2011. It was a single
9 home. It's advertised as a single home.

10 MR. LORINCE: I talked to Paula
11 Kernan myself.

12 MS. HALLINAN: Yeah, and Paula and
13 her daughter lived there.

14 MR. LORINCE: Paula said in 1960 she
15 bought the home -- her family bought the home.
16 Her -- they bought it as a two family home in
17 1960. Then they converted it to a single
18 family. And in 1974 her dad died and converted
19 it back to a two family for the extra income.
20 And it's been a two family since 1974. I got
21 an affidavit from Paula Kernan and she gave it
22 to me.

23 MS. HALLINAN: That's not true.

24 MR. LORINCE: Do you want me to call
25 her a liar?

1 MS. HALLINAN: Well, do you want to
2 look at -- what about the relator that went
3 through the home in 2011 and advertised it as a
4 single family home? Where did five Kernans
5 live in a one bedroom apartment?

6 MR. LORINCE: I have the names and
7 everything. I could give them to you who lived
8 there.

9 MS. HALLINAN: Well, I live right
10 there too. So it didn't happen.

11 MR. LORINCE: She even told me in
12 2007 you were in the apartment when she was
13 building her own because --

14 MS. HALLINAN: Because she lived
15 there. And I took care of her mother for
16 her --

17 MS. LORINCE: -- calling her a liar.
18 She gave me an affidavit, Kelly.

19 MR. HALLINAN: I don't think this is
20 the forum to be going back and forth like this.

21 MS. HALLINAN: Okay. Well, there's
22 an ordinance. There's an ordinance.

23 MR. HALLINAN: I understand what
24 you're saying. And you understand what we're
25 saying too. We've got direction from a lawyer

1 on our side also. So I don't know personally
2 where you go with this. But I know -- I don't
3 know what you're looking for us to go in and
4 throw them out of their house? Is this what
5 you want us to do?

6 MS. HALLINAN: No, I want the
7 ordinances followed.

8 MR. HALLINAN: I understand that
9 moving forward, but you're bringing up the
10 stuff from the past. And I wasn't involved
11 with it. I don't know how many people on
12 Council were. I know I'm talking too much now
13 as it is because I don't want to see anybody
14 get sued here.

15 And then -- but it's -- I don't know
16 what to tell you. You're showing us this.
17 We're hearing from a lawyer. Joe told you he
18 has an affidavit. Do you see the picture here
19 what's going on?

20 MS. HALLINAN: I see what's going
21 on.

22 MR. HALLINAN: In your mind and also
23 what we're saying also but you don't want to
24 hear us.

25 MS. HALLINAN: You do realize I

1 lived in this home all my life.

2 MR. HALLINAN: You're talking about
3 the Kernan home that he's telling you has an
4 affidavit. The lawyers are already telling us
5 things. Kel, nobody's -- we're sympathizing
6 with you. I want to bring in an ordinance
7 where I could -- and I shouldn't even say it
8 now. I want to stop rental properties. But I
9 don't know if I could move forward with that.

10 ATTY. CUMMINGS: May I caution you,
11 you're getting into areas -- you're going to
12 cause problems for yourself by making
13 representations as a city Councilman.

14 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

15 ATTY. CUMMINGS: May I ask while I
16 still have this right, the 850 square feet,
17 what ordinance is that from?

18 MS. HALLINAN: Dunmore's. It's
19 right there. Did you get a copy?

20 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No.

21 MS. HALLINAN: Okay, well, here's a
22 copy for you. It's 5441 conversions of year
23 round dwellings in an R2 zone and they have to
24 have 850 square feet. These properties that
25 were single family homes now have three

1 apartments in them.

2 You know, maybe one of them is big
3 enough. Kernan's definitely wasn't big enough.
4 I mean, I'm not -- I'm certainly not going to
5 bring a lawsuit up and get -- and have the
6 solicitors make a lot of money and have my
7 neighbors paying taxes to go through a nine
8 year court battle so the judge could go, she's
9 right or they're right.

10 That's ridiculous. But once again,
11 I'm the one being affected. The equity of my
12 home has dropped incredibly. Life every day is
13 miserable which Mr. McHale's mother can
14 appreciate. So you're Council. I'm a
15 taxpayer. Here I am. I have a right. You
16 have a job. And besides that, we're friends.

17 MR. VERRASTRO: Kel, I agree with
18 you. But I don't know -- and not pertaining to
19 the house next to yours, but I don't know how
20 many houses that are out there that have less
21 than 850 square feet that went through zoning
22 and got approved for it.

23 MS. HALLINAN: That's my point.

24 MR. VERRASTRO: But there's an
25 ordinance here and if somebody comes in for a

1 permit and they go in front of the zoning, they
2 might have gotten permission to do it.

3 MS. HALLINAN: That's my point. But
4 I didn't get anything when I requested it
5 showing me that that happened. That's how I
6 started out requesting documentation, didn't
7 get it.

8 MR. VERRASTRO: But we don't --
9 we're not in charge of zoning. I can't --

10 MS. HALLINAN: This was prior to
11 coming here. This was prior to coming to
12 Council. I had no intention of coming to
13 Council. The only reason I was coming to
14 Council was because the woman on Walnut or Elm
15 or something I got a phone call that another
16 woman was having a problem and they would like
17 me to go because they heard I had the same
18 problem and it was the week before elections.

19 So I thought it can't hurt. So I
20 came. I never came to you before, never had a
21 problem with before. But to insinuate, you
22 know, the police don't do a good job. I never
23 said that. The police do a fantastic job. The
24 fire department does a fantastic job. I said
25 it a million times.

1 The problem is there's ordinances
2 that aren't being enforced. We're losing our
3 town. We're losing our families. And it's a
4 shame. And I lost a lot of money and a lot
5 sleepless nights. You know, my husband and I
6 work like probably most of you have, did two
7 and three and four jobs to get that house to be
8 a beautiful family home. For what? We can't
9 enjoy it now.

10 You can't -- I showed you the
11 pictures. You don't want me to talk about it.
12 But the people in the audience don't know.
13 They haven't seen all the pictures.

14 MR. MCHALE: Who doesn't want you
15 to talk about it? Seriously, who doesn't
16 want -- you've talked about it. And we've
17 listened. And we're trying.

18 MS. HALLINAN: I was scolded a
19 little last week for bringing the same thing up
20 when I was -- it was to inform the people that
21 weren't here at the other meetings.

22 MR. MCHALE: Did he scold you?

23 MS. HALLINAN: Yes, he did. Did you
24 miss that? Were you not here?

25 MR. MCHALE: He's trying to explain

1 exactly our part. You may not agree with me.
2 And again, I don't want to apologize because I
3 didn't do anything wrong. We listened to that
4 side of the story. You have a definite side of
5 the story. I don't disagree with that. It's
6 just a matter of -- I don't know if this is the
7 forum.

8 And you agree. I don't want to
9 spend a lot of money on lawyers and everything
10 either. I'm just trying to get a happy medium
11 to make everybody happy. If the ordinance
12 stands as they are if there's a problem and if
13 Joe's not doing it so be it.

14 I went up and looked up at every one
15 of those houses. And there is sworn
16 affidavits. There's support in there for just
17 about everything, not saying that I agree with
18 it. Maybe some of it you claim it was
19 doctored. Maybe that's true. I don't know.
20 But there's one side of the story and there is
21 your side of the story.

22 And we have legal opinion on that
23 side to back up a lot of the stuff that Joe has
24 that incidentally -- and I said this last time
25 too. A lot of the stuff that I saw was not on

1 Joe's watch. That was the five years he wasn't
2 here. His name gets thrown a lot, just in the
3 defense of Joe.

4 MS. HALLINAN: Not by me.

5 MR. MCHALE: I'm not saying that.
6 But his name has been thrown a lot. I just --
7 I wish I could do something for you today to
8 make you happy. I really, really, really do.

9 MS. HALLINAN: The matter of the
10 fact that you're saying you have this, you have
11 that. That was where I started here. I
12 started requesting proof of why they were
13 allowed against ordinance. I still haven't
14 gotten anything.

15 MR. MCHALE: Joe, have you sent a
16 lot of the stuff that you showed me?

17 MR. LORINCE: I --

18 MS. HALLINAN: No.

19 MR. LORINCE: Her husband was in.

20 MS. HALLINAN: Yeah, and he got
21 building inspections after 2005.

22 MR. LORINCE: No, I gave him
23 everything. The day we sat with Tommy I had
24 all the files.

25 MR. VERRASTRO: The stuff that you

1 showed me?

2 MR. LORINCE: Yeah. Everything was
3 in front of me. You were here. You and your
4 husband were.

5 MS. HALLINAN: You gave me a UCC.

6 MR. LORINCE: No, I'm talking about
7 all the documents the six apartments you
8 complained about. All the documents are there.

9 MS. HALLINAN: We did not receive
10 them. We did not get them. And we did not see
11 them.

12 MR. LORINCE: I'll give you copies
13 of them.

14 MS. HALLINAN: I got building
15 inspections after 2005.

16 MR. LORINCE: I'll give you a copy
17 of them all.

18 MR. VERRASTRO: Joe, you got to read
19 through them and make sure there is no Social
20 Security numbers on them and policy numbers on
21 them just in case, just black that out, okay?

22 MR. MCHALE: Anything else?

23 MS. HALLINAN: No, that's all.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to

1 address Council tonight?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. MCHALE: Seeing none. Number
4 ten, public officials. Chief Marchese.

5 CHIEF MARCHESE: No.

6 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Kearney.

7 MR. KEARNEY: No.

8 MR. MCHALE: Joe.

9 MR. LORINCE: No.

10 MR. MCHALE: Didge.

11 MR. JUDGE: No.

12 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Cummings.

13 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No, sir.

14 MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Scrimalli, do you
15 want to lead us off tonight?

16 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll just be quick.

17 Thank you. Regarding the Scranton Abington
18 Planning Association, we've had additional
19 municipality who has passed a resolution to
20 adopt with SAPA and that would be Newton
21 Township. So that makes a total of eight.

22 And we just want to congratulate all
23 the members of SAPA for their hard work and
24 thank them all. I also want to congratulate
25 Vince Amico, also Michael McHale, Michael

1 Dempsey, and Sal Verrastro on your election.
2 Congratulations on that. And I think that's
3 all I have tonight. And, Kelly, I feel your
4 pain. And, you know, that's all I could say.
5 Thank you.

6 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke.

7 MR. BURKE: Congratulations to all
8 the candidates. Kelly, I mean if our
9 solicitors could give us a direction to go on
10 on this, right now I don't see a direction
11 either way on where to go with it. I feel for
12 you just like everybody else does.

13 But until we can get a direction to
14 go on this, I don't want to see this repeating
15 itself. But your problem exists. And I don't
16 know how to overturn it without lawyer's advice
17 on how to overturn it. If you get that advice,
18 I'll be behind you. But we have to go by what
19 our lawyers give us. That's what they're paid
20 for.

21 I don't know if we can set up a
22 meeting with the Zoning or -- with the Borough
23 and the Zoning to get together and with our
24 Zoning Solicitor to try to figure this out.
25 Maybe that's the way to go. I don't know. But

1 right now I'm saying we have to follow what our
2 solicitor tells us. They're the lawyers, not
3 us.

4 MS. HALLINAN: I understand.

5 MR. BURKE: But I really do feel for
6 you just like everybody else does. We need
7 direction from them where to go with this. And
8 maybe it is meeting with the Zoning and Council
9 and you and Jed and your neighbors going over
10 this. I don't know.

11 MS. HALLINAN: Well, I just wanted
12 to make sure that the neighbors know that I
13 presented that petition and why it wasn't
14 addressed in all of these months. You know,
15 that was the big thing that I wanted to get
16 across. And I appreciate everything you're
17 saying.

18 But like you just mentioned the
19 neighbors, I feel bad because I can't walk up
20 and down the street and report everything. I
21 don't have their e-mail addresses. I don't do
22 that. So I would like them to know what
23 happened to it. You know, they wanted to know
24 everything about it.

25 They signed it. They made an

1 effort. Some of them did come. Some of them
2 did ask me to get back to them and I did take
3 their e-mail addresses and reported to them. I
4 just wrote them a general report because the
5 petition hasn't been acknowledged more or less.

6 MR. MCHALE: It has been
7 acknowledged.

8 MS. HALLINAN: See, I don't get
9 anything back. How would I know that? You
10 know, I don't get anything back.

11 MR. MCHALE: I see your point. When
12 we had the petition Joe was informed. And the
13 petition more or less asked for enforcement of
14 the ordinances in no uncertain terms. We met
15 with Joe. We reviewed everything, gave it to
16 his attorney. And I'll put together a letter
17 explaining that. I see your point and you want
18 to get something out to everybody. I'll put
19 something together this week.

20 MS. HALLINAN: I'd appreciate it
21 when you get the time.

22 MR. BURKE: The problem too, it
23 seems like -- I guess we have ordinances that
24 we can't even enforce if this is true
25 everything that our lawyer -- like I said, our

1 lawyer is not coming telling us to go after
2 this person or that person. And that's the
3 only person that we can take legal advice from.
4 And we have to protect the Borough too. And I
5 see -- I wouldn't want it to happen in my
6 neighborhood what's happening in your
7 neighborhood. I'm sorry it happened.

8 But maybe it's time to rewrite our
9 ordinances so we could get -- so they are more
10 enforceable because right now it doesn't seem
11 like to me anyway I could be wrong, but it
12 doesn't seem like they're enforceable.

13 MS. HALLINAN: That's my point.
14 That's why I presented all the ordinances that
15 are visible right there that happen after 2005.
16 You have affidavits. I mean, who can fight
17 with that? But you know the Kernans, right,
18 Tommy, Jimmy, the Kernans?

19 MR. BURKE: No, I don't know them.

20 MS. HALLINAN: Well, anyway, it's a
21 family that grew up down street from me.
22 There's five people, lots of cats. They didn't
23 live in a one bed apartment. It's just common
24 sense. These homes the way they were built. I
25 have two kitchens in my house. I have two

1 electric meters. I have two water heaters.
2 My sister lived there. My brother lived there,
3 you know, they're big houses for the most part.
4 Kernans isn't. But nonetheless, I don't have
5 anything to prove otherwise. I bring this
6 because I have proof in here. I could show you
7 but it doesn't seem like the Borough can show
8 me. So that's the point.

9 MR. BURKE: I just ask, Joe, if you
10 could bring everything that Kelly says she
11 hasn't seen if you can get that to Kelly and
12 Jed and copies to the neighbors that signed
13 that petition. One way we have to try to get
14 this straighten out. I don't know what the
15 answer is.

16 Like I said, we pay our solicitors
17 good money to give us the answers. We give the
18 solicitors good money to come up with these
19 ordinances. And in your case it's -- it
20 doesn't look like it worked. And so maybe it's
21 time for a change.

22 Maybe we got to meet with Zoning and
23 solicitors and write up new laws. Until they
24 tell us how react to yours, I don't know -- I'm
25 sorry about that.

1 MS. HALLINAN: And I do understand
2 that. But every time I see something, I find
3 something, I bring it to your attention.

4 MR. BURKE: That's all I have.

5 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

6 MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, I'll start,
7 Kelly, I don't know how else -- it's not that I
8 don't care. Mike talked about a situation. I
9 think that -- and I don't want to speak out of
10 turn when Timmy was saying what's enforceable,
11 what's not enforceable. My father and mother
12 went through something similar years ago.

13 There was a house two doors down and
14 it all starts out innocent. It was like you
15 said your neighborhood. You grew up together.
16 You know each other. Well, he decided that he
17 wanted to put a house, you know, because he
18 faced two streets. He wanted to build another
19 house for income on top of a garage that he
20 had.

21 Well, nobody cared in the
22 neighborhood. He got his permits. He built
23 his house. Then he, you know, he already had
24 two family house in the front. He passed away.
25 His son passed away. His daughter-in-law was

1 renting it to everybody and anybody.

2 And it got to a point where they
3 were having -- there was a pitbull on my
4 father's back porch attacking my father's dog.
5 I solved the problem by buying the house and
6 evicting everybody. That isn't everybody's,
7 you know, I'm not saying that's your fix
8 because it isn't.

9 It was just something that we fell
10 into it. And it started out as the guy who
11 owned that house was a friend of my father's.
12 He thought he was doing his friend a favor.
13 And he went and he -- I mean, when all of that
14 stuff was being done he went, he got an okay.
15 He did it.

16 And now years later it was a big
17 problem for the neighbors. It's unfortunate.
18 It happens. And I don't know how to address it
19 because there is always going to be somebody
20 that will come in and ask for something and at
21 the time he's going to be in good relationships
22 with all of his neighbors and then years down
23 the road, sometimes it turns into something bad
24 and sometimes it doesn't. I don't have that
25 answer.

1 I did try to address it. I sat with
2 Joe. He showed me all the stuff that was
3 there. I probably spent about half hour, 45
4 minutes. I didn't go through it maybe as
5 detailed as Michael did. But I saw some stuff
6 that, you know, when you were saying things
7 were changed and I started looking at it, I'm
8 thinking, jeez, how many times did I write up
9 something and I'm not defending it because it
10 could have been changed like Mike said.

11 Or I put a three down and scribble
12 it out and I put a two when I was doing
13 paperwork for somebody. And maybe it's our
14 fault for allowing official business stuff to
15 be done like that and not handed back and say
16 do it on a clean sheet, you know, I don't want
17 that there.

18 I can't prove or disprove that stuff
19 was changed on it. So I don't know how to go
20 after it. But it's not for lack of not wanting
21 to help you, if I could. I hope you understand
22 that.

23 MS. HALLINAN: I do understand. I
24 understand the position completely. But you
25 have to understand mine where --

1 MR. VERRASTRO: I do 100 percent.

2 MS. HALLINAN: -- I requested things
3 and I didn't get anything back.

4 MR. VERRASTRO: And I apologize. I
5 see your point like Mike said about the
6 petition. It's not that we didn't recognize
7 it. I think that -- I don't think there's a
8 person up here that doesn't want us to get a
9 letter together and send it out to show that we
10 did receive it. And for that, I'm sorry. I
11 wish I could do something more than we're doing
12 right now.

13 I just don't know where to go with
14 it right now. Other than that, the only other
15 thing I want to kind of bring up -- and I want
16 to maybe start to touch base on it and most of
17 this is probably going to have to come from
18 you, Tom. It's not a problem now. I see it
19 being a potential problem in the Borough years
20 from now.

21 Drones, I think we need to create an
22 ordinance on what they're restricted to do and
23 not do and where you could use them because
24 I've seen them advertised. You could buy these
25 things for under a hundred dollars. They will

1 become every kid's Christmas gift.

2 It's not like a kid playing with it
3 that I'm worried about. I'm worried about like
4 when people start to use them when they are
5 living next door. And now you're sitting in
6 your backyard and something is floating over
7 your house that you don't know about looking in
8 your window or listening to your conversation
9 on your back porch.

10 Is there a way where you can make
11 restrictions where you can use it that it
12 could only be used in areas or fields? Is
13 there something we can do to --

14 ATTY. CUMMINGS: As long as we don't
15 conflict with federal regulations, yes.

16 MR. VERRASTRO: Well, I don't know
17 if that is something that Council wants to
18 start looking into a little bit. But I see it
19 as being a big privacy issue down the road with
20 stuff. And we have nothing on the books for it
21 whatsoever to protect us if something was to
22 start to happen. So I don't know, could you
23 just start to look into it for us?

24 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Absolutely.

25 MR. VERRASTRO: Is anybody against

1 it?

2 MR. HALLINAN: No.

3 MR. VERRASTRO: It's going to be a
4 problem. There will be an issue with it sooner
5 or later. It's going to be we did nothing
6 about it when other towns were starting to.
7 And thanks for coming out and see you soon.

8 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

9 MR. VERRASTRO: Have a happy
10 Thanksgiving.

11 MR. HALLINAN: First of all, I
12 chuckled, Sal, because I thought you said
13 drums. And I was like every little kid gets
14 drums. My God, we're going to do away with
15 kid's drums at Christmas time. Drones. Okay.
16 It's drones. I'm getting old. I can't hear.

17 Kelly, again, if you think I scolded
18 you, I'm sorry. I didn't scold you. I hope
19 I'm still invited over for Thanksgiving dinner.
20 I did look into a thing that you did bring up,
21 Kel, because it kind of bothered me and I'm
22 sure a few other citizens where you quoted 43
23 percent from the census as renters in our
24 Borough here.

25 And I want you to know I did look

1 into that. And I'm getting conflicting numbers
2 now because what I'm getting also is that is
3 the census numbers and that our tax rolls are
4 showing a different number because census might
5 come into the high rise and count every one of
6 those as a rental.

7 It goes up to St. Mary's Villa up
8 there, every one of them, St. Joseph's.
9 Everyone's a single -- they are all considered
10 units as rental units, not just one. Count
11 them all up, the high rises. I don't know,
12 Joe, was it the dorms, also.

13 MR. LORINCE: Marywood and the
14 sisters --

15 MR. HALLINAN: And again, before
16 we -- I want to check into that too because
17 then that brings our rate down to homeowners
18 versus renters and renters are like 13 percent
19 which doesn't seem kosher to me either. I
20 still want to check into it a little bit more.

21 MS. HALLINAN: -- the county
22 website. There is two other website.

23 MR. HALLINAN: Well, I think our tax
24 base would be pretty accurate of what we we're
25 taking in unless somebody is, you know --

1 again, I'm still going to look into that
2 because if it was 43 percent, I don't want to
3 get in trouble here, Mr. Cummings, but I really
4 would -- I want to phrase this again as looking
5 into some kind of moratorium on people flipping
6 singles into doubles or triples or quads. I
7 don't know -- it's something I want to look at
8 if them numbers are there. I don't know even
9 know if it's legal.

10 But I think like you said, our
11 neighborhoods -- I like our single family
12 homes. And from a guy that grew up in a
13 project, trust me. I shouldn't say I'm against
14 renters because like I said, I know where I
15 came from. And, I mean, but 43 percent renters
16 does seem a little high.

17 I'm checking into your numbers just
18 so you know. Also, the soccer field, good
19 luck. Whatever we can do I know on my part to
20 help you see that forward or keeping -- don't
21 drop the ball. I don't know if it would be a
22 viable time to go to a Dickson City Borough
23 meeting also to bring it up, Tom?

24 ATTY. CUMMINGS: They can, yeah.

25 MR. HALLINAN: Yes. I think you

1 should go to their meeting and talk to them
2 that you spoken to us about it and see what
3 their feelings is also. I have -- I know I
4 think everyone on Council here would back you
5 with that or anything we can possibly do.
6 That's about it. Thank you all for coming.

7 MR. MCHALE: Attorney Dempsey.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Kelly, just so you
9 know, Mike and I did sit with Joe. Michael
10 wasn't with me when we did sit with him. And
11 the problem is, it's a lot bigger than just
12 Madison Avenue. I live in that area too.

13 And we're trying to come up with
14 different ideas to do, you know, a borough wide
15 sort or rental, I don't know, some sort of
16 board that goes to the apartments. I'm not
17 sure what exactly is feasible for us. We're
18 talking about doing something borough wide.

19 And we have been going back and
20 forth with some ideas, just so you're aware of
21 that. And just real quick, Tim, a while back
22 you made a motion for the thousand dollars for
23 the legal research for Sewer Authority. I was
24 just wondering if there was an update on that
25 if we paid that girl. I think it was a girl

1 that you had.

2 MR. BURKE: No. It's not enough
3 money to go through. No lawyer wants to take
4 it.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. That's all.

6 MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Mr. Dempsey.
7 I think I, Mrs. Hallinan, spoke to you in
8 detail tonight. But, you know, you have a bad
9 situation there. I don't know how to explain
10 it. As I said, I wish I could do something
11 tomorrow. I grew up in a multi-family home.

12 There are a lot of good, good
13 landlords out there. Mr. Verrastro runs some
14 very nice ones that I've seen. And you
15 unfortunately don't have one. I don't either
16 at my mother's house. I think Mr. Dempsey when
17 he and I sat with Joe and went through a lot of
18 this stuff we started -- I spoke to Attorney
19 Cummings a while back about trying to think
20 outside the box.

21 Unfortunately for you, a lot of the
22 stuff is behind us. At worse case we have to
23 start thinking prospectively so situations like
24 yours don't happen again. These people claim
25 they have defense to a lot of the things that

1 you oppose. You know, as Hal said I think last
2 meeting, there's one side. There's the other
3 side. And in the middle there's some type of a
4 truce.

5 I really do wish I could do
6 something today. I don't know. I don't think
7 this is the forum. But, you know, I welcome
8 you back every single time. We'll talk about
9 it. We'll try to do everything we can. Lack
10 of effort to try to get down to see you, my
11 mother is very, very ill. So every night I'm
12 there. So please forgive me for not coming to
13 see you.

14 I do live in your neighborhood. I
15 promise you I'll call you one day and say can I
16 come down for an hour. Absent that, we'll keep
17 doing what we can. Hopefully you'll see we're
18 not sitting waiting every two weeks to hear
19 from you. We're trying. We're trying to look
20 at stuff.

21 Joe had stuff all over the place
22 trying to make sure that his ducks were in a
23 row, not to defend against you but to make sure
24 these guys are in compliance. Now some of the
25 stuff from 2005 and forward there's inspection

1 reports. Again, that stuff didn't come from
2 Joe.

3 I'm not defending him there. But
4 there is some indefensible things that were
5 done in 2005 that were done on these
6 properties, inspections, things like that. I
7 don't necessarily agree with. There is
8 documentation though. Do you know what I mean?

9 MS. HALLINAN: I understand. I do.

10 MR. MCHALE: It frustrates me to
11 have to sit and tell you this stuff because I
12 know what you're going through. I wish -- I
13 have friends in your neighborhood. I live two
14 blocks away from you. Michael lives a block
15 away from you. We have -- I don't have all the
16 same problems at my home.

17 My mother is two blocks down from
18 you, same problems. We have to think outside
19 the box to make this go away whether it's law
20 enforcement, shut them down when there's a
21 little thing going on and that. I mean, at the
22 property that I was at, Joe couldn't shut it
23 down.

24 And he'll tell you, I was furious.
25 I couldn't believe this place couldn't be shut

1 down. It think it's going to fall down
2 eventually. Mr. Amico knows what I'm talking
3 about. It's in his neighborhood too. It's
4 frustrating. I feel your frustration. As I
5 said before, I wish I could do something. And
6 we'll continue to work. That's all I could
7 tell you.

8 MS. HALLINAN: I appreciate it. But
9 if I could just clarify, I have nothing against
10 renters. There were wonderful families that
11 rented. The other side of the double houses,
12 you know, in the neighborhood that I grew up
13 with. And I'm friends with to this day,
14 wonderful people that I miss dearly when they
15 moved. But now there's two more --

16 MR. MCHALE: It's a business.

17 MS. HALLINAN: Now it's a business.
18 It's a commercial --

19 MR. MCHALE: I agree with you. And
20 I didn't take it that way. Please don't take
21 what I said that way.

22 MS. HALLINAN: I just wanted to
23 clarify for anybody in the audience.

24 MR. MCHALE: I didn't mean it that
25 way. But there's good renters out there who --

1 when my wife and I got married, we were in a
2 rental place. And the guy would only rent to
3 certain people, not college kids, stuff like
4 that. We were a young married couple with a
5 young child.

6 He wanted his house to be perfect
7 like we all do and that makes a better town.
8 We hired five cops not just because of renters
9 and all that stuff. We needed cops. Over the
10 last several years Timmy said it before with
11 the DPW. We couldn't hire anybody.

12 We were not near bankruptcy. We
13 were bankrupt. Now you see hiring a couple
14 people here and there because we have to get
15 back to at least the minimum. Sal is still
16 complaining he wants three or four more cops to
17 make a full time force -- Sal Marchese, the
18 Chief.

19 So again, please don't take what I
20 say as frustration. I wish I could do
21 something tomorrow for you. I really do. But
22 we're going to keep trying as I think Hal and
23 everybody said.

24 MS. HALLINAN: And I understand that
25 and I appreciate it.

1 MR. MCHALE: Keep coming.

2 MS. HALLINAN: I never got anything
3 back to prove whatever other than what I have.

4 MR. MCHALE: I'll write a letter.
5 Mr. Cummings and I or Joe and I will write a
6 letter.

7 MS. HALLINAN: Other than a few
8 building inspection forms from after 2005.

9 MR. MCHALE: Well, as I said, and
10 probably everyone here went and reviewed, Joe
11 has a file on every one of these properties.
12 And there is substantiation on every one of
13 them. Again, not that I'm defending it, but
14 there is something there. So to go and say get
15 out, we'd get sued the next day.

16 MS. HALLINAN: I don't even --
17 that's not -- I don't expect that. I know that
18 is not --

19 MR. MCHALE: We just want to do it
20 the right way. And as Timmy said, we have an
21 attorney on the Zoning that has opined. And he
22 writes a lot. So it's like five or six pages.
23 But we have to follow their lead as Tim said.
24 So we're going to keep trying. We're going to
25 keep battling. And hopefully we get some peace

1 for you.

2 MS. HALLINAN: Okay.

3 MR. MCHALE: The only other thing,
4 Mr. Amico, I think he's still here.
5 Congratulations, Vince. You know, when you put
6 your name up to sit up here or any seats, it's
7 a big deal. It's -- as I said when first got
8 on here last couple years, you don't make a lot
9 of friends but you do the right thing.

10 Knowing Vince as long as I do, he'll
11 do the right thing. So I wish you well, Vince,
12 and look forward working with you soon.
13 That's all I have. I'll look for a motion to
14 adjourn.

15 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make a motion.

16 MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

17 MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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