COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, December 14, 2015

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:

DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MICHAEL MCHALE, President
PAUL NARDOZZI, Vice President
SAL VERRASTRO
TIMOTHY BURKE
CAROL SCRIMALLI
THOMAS HALLINAN
MICHAEL DEMPSEY
THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor
ANDREW GENOVESE, Controller

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
(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. Dempsey.
MR. DEMPSEY: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.
MR. HALLINAN: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Nardozzi.
MR. NARDOZZI: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.
MR. MCHALE: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public comment on agenda items.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody have any comment on agenda items only tonight?

(No response.)

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve the minutes.

MR. MCHALE: Tom, can we hold on one minute?
ATTY. CUMMINGS: Sure.

MR. MCHALE: Do you want to speak on agenda items?

MR. ROGATO: Yes.

MR. MCHALE: Can you state your full name and address for the record?

MR. ROGATO: Ralph Rogato, 703 Smith Street, Dunmore, PA 18512. This is regarding motion to approve the minutes. Is that the minutes of the last meeting?

MR. MCHALE: Yes.

MR. ROGATO: I'm a little confused. I went to the Borough Building. They say it takes two or three weeks for those minutes to be processed. How could they be approved if it takes that long for them to be processed?

MR. MCHALE: We take minutes at the first meeting of the month. We get them approximately two weeks later.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: They do not become a public document until approved by Council.

MR. ROGATO: Thank you, Mr. Cummings.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: You're welcome.

MR. MCHALE: Tom, just two things.
Number ten -- for the record, number ten is going to be deleted from the agenda tonight. It's getting moved to the next meeting. And just for everybody who is here, there is going to be a Sewer Authority meeting -- a public -- it's not a meeting. I take that back -- an informational session starting on this Thursday that we set up.

The national consultant who did the presentation down at Marywood, most of the board will be here, our attorneys will be here, our executive director will be here trying to get information out to the public like we promised.

And this Council was not pleased that the meeting was at 1:00 on Tuesday when a lot of people couldn't get to work. We're going to try to get everybody back together, try to learn some lessons from the last meeting when specific questions were asked and not answered.

And we're going to do our best to get the information out to everybody. So Thursday at 6:00 in this room. Everybody hopefully could attend. Tom.
ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve the minutes.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

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

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number five, motion to approve and pay the open bills.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make the motion.

MR. BURKE: Second.

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

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.
MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six is personnel matters. There's a motion to transfer Kyle Stanton from active reserve to regular duty firefighter.

MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

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

MR. VERRASTRO: On the question. So everybody -- this is part of contractually we need to have a 15 person -- 15 union people on the floor contractually. And as an active reserve they are allowed to fill a position for so long. The 15 person to be made whole is a regular full-time firefighter.

So that's what we're doing tonight. We're not adding anybody. He's already there on the floor. It just kind of changes his status and some benefits a little bit for him.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else on the
question?

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: I believe the other personnel matter will be handled by Attorney Ufberg.

MR. MCHALE: Please.

ATTY. UFBerg: Where would you like me?

MR. MCHALE: You can go up to the podium. This is Bob Ufberg our labor attorney along with Mary Dempsey from the Ufberg Law Firm.

ATTY. UFBerg: Very briefly, there is a gentleman by the name John Luciano. You may know that Mr. Luciano had applied for a position with the Borough in the Police Department.

And the -- our discussions it's my
understanding that Council was about to make an appointment anyway to the department. My recommendation is Mr. Luciano is qualified. My recommendation is that he be engaged effective as of the same hire date as the other gentlemen who were hired. There were I believe five. Date of hire would be August 10.

There's a question as to what the effective start date would be. My understanding again is that he was at the time and I believe still is gainfully employed. So that would probably dovetail with whatever his notice requirement would be assuming that he would be accepting the position.

But the date of hire would be August 10. Rate of pay would be same as for all others hired $18.36 per hour, 40 hour work week. All other terms and conditions again the same as other hires and we would, of course, have effective if assuming he takes the position based upon my discussions with this Council.

I think there would be very little difference in pay. Whatever it would be we would be responsible for that difference.
Again, it's very small. And I think it's well worth it rather than engaging in a protracted lawsuit. Everyone knows that no one likes to pay legal fees. It's a good way to save some fees and kill two birds with one stone.

MR. MCHALE: I'll look for a motion to take Attorney Ufberg -- Attorney Ufberg and Attorney Dempsey's recommendation.

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

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second.

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

(No response.)

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

MR. NARDOZZI: Aye.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Aye.

MR. BURKE: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Aye.

MR. HALLINAN: Aye.

MR. DEMPESEY: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

MR. VERRASTRO: I abstain.

MR. MCHALE: I'm sorry, six yes and one abstention. Sorry.

ATTY. UFBERG: Thank you.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Attorney Ufberg. Thank you, Attorney Dempsey.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number seven, is a motion to approve the final budget for the 2016 operating year.

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

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. We kind of went over this last week -- or I'm sorry, last meeting. And this was wholly the same as was there minus the large surplus that we were showing. And that's really been absorbed to make an even more reasonable budget than it was before. We kept taxes this year at the same trying to use some of that extra money that inevitably will be there to maybe to pave a
road or pay down debts or put into a rainy day fund. We really haven't set those perimeters yet.

There are a couple things still outstanding, the binder insurance policy, our worker's comp insurance policy hasn't been finalized. So they are projected at the high end right now. At least that's what the estimates were. But there's buffers in there just in case, of course.

And on the purchase side you'll see in two motions from now we're going to put some new Pak Masters on. Pak Masters are the garbage trucks that are there. We have been running other ones for five, six years I believe, Sal?


MR. MCHALE: And they weren't brand new when we got them. They are only single axel in the back. So we can only put so much on it. Not to bore you but that's been budgeted as well as a new addition to fleet.

I think you all know -- I don't think they are on the road yet, Sal, forgive me but the five new police cars that have been
delivered.

CHIEF MARCHESE: We're waiting for the radios.

MR. MCHALE: Radios put in. They're beautiful. You'll see them out on the road soon. They're all SUVs, state of the art, top of the line. It's in the budget as well. Obviously you know about the fire house if you have driven by the facility as well, that's in here as well.

Mostly that was paid with a grant but there is a portion that we have to pay for and is in the budget. So those are the highlights. But taxes remain the same from last year. We're running a lean budget. There is not a lot of fluff in here. We're able to put a lot of these additions that we just spoke of through watching our budget over the last seven years -- I'm sorry, five years since we turned it around, got our refinancing into a lot better rates advantageous.

We had people coming after us instead of begging people. To give you an idea our TAN rate will be a 1.3 percent this year. If my memory serves me right, with the closing
costs, Scranton's was near about 18 percent. It shows once you get your financial house in order that things start working. So we're proud of where we are right now.

We got a lot of work to do. We're not sitting on our accomplishments. And we're going to run a lean budget, stay on Sal like we do and Didge and all the department heads and keep this lean and tight and hopefully come back to you next year with another tax drop. So that's the budget. Anybody else on the question?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second, correct?

MR. VERRASTRO: Yes.

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number eight
is a motion to approve the 2016 tax ordinance setting the General Obligation Tax at 20 mils; Debt Service 19 mils; Pension Service one half of 1 mil; Public Street Lighting 1 mil; Fire Equipment Training 2 mils; Firefighter Services 1 mil; Rescue Services one half of one mil totaling 44 mils.

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

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

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

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number nine is a motion to approve the purchase of three Pak Masters through the COSTARS Program.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that
motion.

MR. BURKE: Second.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. Just for those who don't know, COSTARS Program is a state run program that they negotiate on a group basis to get the best rates on any type of equipment that we can get.

It helps us not having to put it out to bid. We're in compliance by going through the COSTARS Program. But we get the buying power of the state. So we jump on this when we have to. But we're still looking at two different companies to supply these as well.

So we see the need. The -- to give you an idea to not -- I don't want to say hide anything, but the one quote that we got is $187,000 for one. So it's a significant investment that we have to put forward to obviously pick up the garbage.

And, you know, our fleet is old and tired, working well. The guys work well with it but they are constantly breaking down. So this is an investment we think we have to make.

MR. VERRASTRO: These are the bigger
ones, correct?

   MR. MCHALE: These are bigger. I mentioned it before and not to bore you I promise. The single axle they are only allowed to put so much garbage on that truck. It may take a lot more, but the landfill -- and Mr. Judge in the back could probably explain it better.

   The landfill will disallow it. If the cops catch it, we get fined if we have too much on that single axle. This double axle on the back will let us almost literally double what they can do so we can stay out longer. They could be more efficient. Maybe we can have less guys and use the smaller ones for leave pickup, especially those of us in the sixth ward who are always a day behind. We think the efficiency will come in that regard too. So that's about it. Anybody else?

   MS. SCRIMALLI: And hopefully less trips to the landfill.

   MR. MCHALE: Less trips to the landfill as well. I have a motion and a second. Anybody else on the question?

   (No response.)
MR. MCHALE: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number 10 has been continued to the next meeting. Item number 11 is a motion authorizing the Solicitor, the Treasurer, and President of Council to finalize the Tax Anticipation Note for 2016 at the best available market rates.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make the motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

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

MR. VERRASTRO: On the question, are we going for the same style and type as we have now?

MR. MCHALE: We're going for a million dollar Tax Anticipation Note. The way we set it up in the past couple of years and you'll see it reflected in the budget. It's a million dollars if we need it. We never really
needed it. She's -- she being Denise our Treasurer has borrowed $200,000 the last couple years and we immediately pay it back.

It's like a line of credit on your house. It's open for the entire year. We've only used 200, cut down on the interest cost and really paid it off by April the last three years anyway. So I reflect it in the budget as 200 in revenue, 200 in expense. But it's a million dollar line of credit if we need it, which I'm positive we won't.

But it's out there. And again on the interest rate, it will be around 1 to 1.5 percent interest rate. We have to finalize it. But one of the things they needed is a final budget. That's why it's still negotiating up until the end of the year. Anybody else?

MR. VERRASTRO: Just for the -- that's 1.1 percent of what we use, not 1.1 percent of a million.

MR. MCHALE: Exactly. No. It's what's borrowed. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?
(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number 12 is public comment on nonagenda items starting with the Lackawanna County report.

MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council. Gerard Hetman with Lackawanna County's Community Relation's Department. To begin this evening to follow up to last month's meeting I was asked for a status update on the Laurel Street project which is a CDBG funded project.

I checked with Sandra Opshinsky who works in the Planning and Economic Development. She manages all of our CDBG funding projects. Her words to me were that the bids will be -- the project will be bid in either March or April of 2016. That was the simple explanation that she gave me. She didn't elaborate further than that. If Council or anyone here would like a more detailed explanation or a followup to that, I'd be happy to do so.

But that's the information that I was given regarding the Laurel Street Project. Just a few other items, the Santa on the
trolley run at the Electric City Trolley Museum
run through this weekend. There is a schedule
on Saturday and Sunday. And particularly on
Saturday, December 19th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
the museum will host what they call the holiday
celebration at the Electric City Trolley
Museum.

It combines a ride on the trolley.
There's different prizes for children and
adults. It combines it with a holiday party at
the Trolley Museum. It includes arts and
crafts, refreshments, live music, tree
decorating, a couple of other fun activities.

It's just a good way -- people
sometimes ask when there is a trolley ride if
during the holiday season there is more to do
than just get on and off the trolley. So this
is just a main -- fulfilling that with kind of
a Christmas themed fun events to go with that
particular trolley ride.

There's another thing, Penn State
Extension is going to start ramping up with the
start of the year with all of the seminars,
programs, lectures, hands-on activities,
gardening and/or physical health. First one is
a webinar series called Tree Fruit 101. It's an introduction to growing tree fruit commercially. Sounds kind of crazy, but they do a lot of these things. Anyone with a green thumb, they are really useful. It doesn't start until March but it is open for registration now.

And we're going to have a lot more of those to come through January, February, March, April timeframe. Those come out of the Penn State Extension Office and everybody can benefit from those. That's all I have for this year.

MR. NARDOZZI: I have one question.

MR. HETMAN: Sure.

MR. NARDOZZI: Is the county going to have the Winter Golf Program again this year?

MR. HETMAN: I would imagine that we will. I haven't heard otherwise. It's always planned by our Parks and Recreation Department. I will ask Bill Davis our Director. I will probably see him tomorrow. I'll follow up with him on that.

MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you.
MR. HETMAN: I'd just like to thank all members of Council and everyone here, your administration staff and all the residents for a very good year of working together. I appreciate all the cooperation that I get and hopefully see you next year.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thanks, Gerard.

MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, Gerard.

MR. HALLINAN: Thanks, Gerard.

MR. ROGATO: Ralph Rogato, 703 Smith Street, Dunmore, PA. I want to thank Mr. Cummings for getting me the copy of the Civil Service for -- it is fire and police correct, sir?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: It's general Civil Service for everything that is covered in the Borough.

MR. ROGATO: Okay. So it applies to both departments. And I did receive your letter that there was items missing from that that we do not have.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: I believe that came from the office, yes.
MR. ROGATO: Are we planning on updating that or maybe just adopting the State Civil Service Code instead of reinventing the wheel, we can just put a rubber band around it.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Not my call.

MR. ROGATO: Mr. McLane?

MR. MCHALE: I'm Mr. McHale. Yes, absolutely. We talked about that before and it's definitely on a long agenda I could tell you that.

MR. ROGATO: Don't you just have to change the name at the top and you could also adopt the applications in there and everything will be the same in the state. In the current one though, it says about when you hire an officer, you hire a fireman. Is there a probationary period?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: I would advise specific questions on the act if you put them in writing I would be glad to respond to them rather than off the cuff at a meeting. It might be misconstrued or cause the Borough a further problem.

MR. ROGATO: Well, it just mentions something in there that within 180 days of the
hire that that person must work -- live within
the Borough. I did read it, Mr. Cummings. So
anyone hired within 180 days whether it's the
fire company or the police would have to move
into the Borough.

Over the last few weeks I got a
chance to meet a lot of the police officers --
police officers, not cops. And we do have one
of the safest areas in the area. But I know
there is a lot of things going on. And I'm
going to help that gentleman in the back with
the citizens' patrol.

And I did -- was told today by
Mr. McLane -- or Mr. McHale that he did receive
my application regarding the Borough Manager's
job. And I look forward to the interview.

Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Duncan, please.

MR. DUNCAN: Thanks. I'll be quick	onight. I know I asked everybody on Council
got a copy of the minutes from the last meeting
in your e-mails and everything. We're going to
have a meeting obviously next week. I know
it's Christmas season and everything. But
we're still going to have a meeting a week
tonight at 7:00. So everybody is certainly welcome to attend.

I want to thank the folks Didge and everybody who got out. A lot of the things that were on the last Neighborhood Watch meeting were already corrected. So, you know, thanks to everybody who took care of that. And I know, Tom, you're still working on some other things on that. So thanks a lot in advance for everything. And hopefully you could make it next week but I know it's a rough week for everybody.

I just want to ask again if there is a way we can get the minutes for the meeting -- the agenda items posted on the website. I know I've asked that in the past if we can still get that on before the meetings. Sometimes there's not enough copies for the people who come.

MR. DEMPSEY: It was on the website Friday.

MR. DUNCAN: Okay. I couldn't find it. Okay. But it's posted.

MR. DEMPSEY: It's under Council and it says meeting minutes and agendas.
MR. DUNCAN: Okay. So tonight's agenda was on Friday. And that's it. So I hope everybody has a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year. And I hope to see you all next week at the next neighborhood watch meeting.

MR. MCHALE: Thanks, Gary.

MR. HALLINAN: Thanks, Gary.

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

MR. LOWE: How you doing? Jack Lowe, 1104 Taylor Avenue. I just want to find out about the new street lights that you put up. First of all, before I get into this, I want to thank everybody for doing a great job here. The new street lights you put up are not as efficient as -- well, I know they're efficient.

But they don't shine out the light like the other ones did. We had a lot of trouble. I live on the Scranton/Dunmore line. We had a lot of trouble with drugs in our alley. I was finding needles and everything. We fought for a street light. Put a street light up and everything was fine.

I could tell you right now where the
street lights -- they shine directly straight down in front of the lights. There's no light in between the two street lights now. It's dark like it was before. I feel that there will be a lot of trouble in the future with people breaking into houses.

There's a lot more dark areas now with these new street lights. I don't know. I know you're not going to change anything. But I just don't think they are the greatest things right now. And I just -- I'm not happy with them. Have a nice Christmas. Take care.

MR. NARDOZZI: Thanks, Jack.

MR. HALLINAN: Maybe we can also take a look into see what your area looks like and get maybe an additional street light in there. I feel the street lights myself are brighter. But again, they shine in a more condensed area.

MR. LOWE: In front of my house -- the front of my house used to be lit up and now it's not. I have a tenant up there that says they might move.

MR. HALLINAN: A lot of people say they shine in their windows, shine on my front
porch where now it's not doing that anymore
and it is brighter. But I think, you know,
I'll take a ride through your area and take a
look at it.

MR. MCHALE: Please let us know.
We've had overwhelming positive response on it.
I'm not discounting what you're saying. Please
don't take it that way. If there is individual
areas that we have to recheck. Maybe there
are. Joe and I met with them -- Joe Lorince
and I met with them. Maybe there is a bigger
wattage we can put down there.

We'll double-check areas that anyone
that -- I think, Joe, do you know where he's
talking about?

MR. LORINCE: There's bigger
wattages.

MR. MCHALE: Maybe we can do that.
We'll check them. We promise.

MR. NARDOZZI: Joe, are there --

MR. VERRASTRO: They go in I believe
78 watts and there's 150-some watts. And there
is different ways you can -- some styles you
could actually put a reflector in to disperse
it differently. So after we get them all in
we'll look at areas that we need to treat on an 
individual basis.

MR. NARDOZZI: Sal, are those lights 
can you readjust them?

MR. VERRASTRO: They are fixed. But 

it's the way that you put the shell on it, the 


type of lens you may be able to change to 
deflect it different ways or something.

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

MR. URBAN: Good evening. Jen Urban 
with the Dunmore Pride Committee. We just 
wanted to extend our thank you to the Council 
and the residents of Dunmore for a successful 
Home For The Holidays. We appreciate all of 
your support. And we want to let you know that 
we would like to get together in the new year 
and see what we can work out for next year. 

We plan to move forward and become a 
nonprofit. And we're in the works now meeting 
with some different groups to see how to go 
about and do that. But we would like to work 
together and we have some ideas. So we'll do 
that in the new year. Thank you again.

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'd like to applaud
you guys.

MR. NARDOZZI: Yeah, you guys did all the work.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

MS. GOLDEN: Yeah, just to reiterate -- Katie Golden. You know, Didge, he helped us so much, Council, the support, Sal, thank you so much. We know we kind of winged this and brought it on short notice. You know, we planned this in two months.

But we're hoping, you know, in the future that like Jen had said a few more, you know, events to be held. And this Saturday we are teaming up with good St. Nick here we'll be giving 700 brand new coats to give away to underprivileged kids in the Borough. So we will be doing that here this Saturday from 9 to 12:30. We'll have Santa, cocoa, and donuts. So again, thank you so much for your support.

MR. DEMPSEY: Is Hal making the hot chocolate?

MS. GOLDEN: You know we really couldn't do it without the support. So, you know, we're grateful. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you guys.
MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you.

MR. VERRASTRO: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you guys.

Anybody else tonight?

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Kearney.

MR. KEARNEY: No.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Marchese -- Chief?

CHIEF MARCHESE: No.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Judge?

MR. JUDGE: No.

MR. MCHALE: Did I miss anybody?

Andy?

MR. GENOVESE: I'd just like to wish everyone and their families a happy holiday season and a safe and prosperous new year.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, sir. Mr. Cummings.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Sal, would you like to start us out?

MR. VERRASTRO: Sure. Didge, the roads are perfect this year. This is the best
job you have done with snow removal. I would
like to thank everyone for coming. I hope that
you're happy with what we've done this year
financially with our budget and the direction
we're moving in.

And I would like to thank everybody
up here for what they have done with it on
Council and the support that we had and the
people and the public --

MS. ROGATO: I would like to explain
to you people why I'm here. I'm just as good
as anybody else is here. I'm Ralph's mother.
And I have a problem. And I don't like people
presenting the stuff that they are doing to our
home and to our property.

We have had the police come up and
nothing has been done. First, it was our car.
Now it's a window -- my big window. Now it's a
truck. Now something has to be done with
Dunmore. I raised a boy in Dunmore. He lives
in here. He lived and born here. Why should
he be treated like this?

I raised a half-decent boy. And I
thought for the life of me that I could see
there was people -- the kind of people doing
these things to us.

Now, I've been under pressure. I've been under doctor's care. And this has got to be stopped. I've been in and out of hospitals for quite a while and nursing homes. This has to stop.

I feel bad for you and your people. You get old and this is what you do to them? Ignore them, don't give them the results of any kind, put them in nursing homes. Is that what you people do? Why, because we're not humans? We're animals? No, the animals are outside, not inside. I've said what I had to say.

Now I have to sit down. And I need help for everything I have to do. So you people should be happy and thankful for the Lord to give you the things that you could do. Get up on your feet in the morning and do what you could see with your eyes.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you, Mrs. Rogato.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Thank you, everybody. Have a happy Christmas and a safe one and we'll see you next year. Thank you.
MR. MCHAILE: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Just Merry Christmas to everyone. And good job, ladies, excellent job. Family had a great time at the festival. And Merry Christmas, Happy New Year to everybody.

MR. MCHAILE: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you. Just want to address the ladies of the Pride Committee. I've gotten so much wonderful feedback on all of your hard work. And we're looking forward to next year and whatever else we can help with, you come to us and you let us know. So thank you so much for all of your hard work.

I also want to thank Mike McHale for his hard work on the budget. He's fantastic. So thank you so much. Of course, Didge, thank you for your work --

MR. ROGATO: Keep rolling your eyes.

MR. NARDOZZI: What's the matter with you?

MS. SCRIMALLI: -- and just to thank everybody for coming and have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you.

MR. MCHAILE: Do you want to go?
MR. NARDOZZI: If you don't mind.
Pride Committee, you guys did a great job.
Sorry I wasn't there. I was in New York City
that day. From what I understand, you did a
great job. And I think maybe you should expand
upon it next year. I think you will be a lot
more successful. Wish you well. Anything I
could do to help, I'd be more than happy.

Say thanks to all our employees.
Without our employees, they're our backbone,
the police, the fire, the DPW, the office staff
and everybody here on Council, everybody does a
great job. Mike McHale here is second to none
when it comes to the finances. And I just wish
everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year this year. Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan?

MR. HALLINAN: I remember about two
months talking to Katie about the holiday
committee's plans. And we gave her the full --
me and the Mayor sat down and said full steam
ahead. Good luck. It was truly amazing.

If anybody wasn't there, you missed
probably one of the greatest winter events ever
in Dunmore. I'm so proud that you even
included us in the little bit -- just a little of the hot chocolate that we sold which was actually 70 gallons and we ran out. The guys all helped up here. And I thanked them. And I thank you guys because at least you're bringing something positive back to the community. We hear a lot of negatives out there where people are easy to criticize.

I'm so glad what you girls are doing. It just makes me -- I would love to see a lot more things happen on the corners, more events. I would love to see an ice skating rink out here. I don't know if you guys would like to run with that. I'm sure maybe Chris Kearney is our Director of Recreation could kind of pitch in a little bit.

MR. MCHALE: He's rolling his eyes already.

MR. HALLINAN: Whatever we can do because whatever keeps the kids moving and happy. And I said the biggest thing that you guys provided up there was smiles on children's faces. And that makes it all worth while. Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart and all of Council whatever we can ever do for
you and have a Merry Christmas everybody.
Thank you.

MR. MCHAILE: Attorney Dempsey.

MR. DEMPESEY: Michael, great job on
the budget and as always we're lucky to have
you. Also the Sewer Authority, you're doing a
great job representing us on the Sewer
Authority. I don't know where you find the
time.

But you keep us informed. You went
the extra mile to get Dunmore a meeting. I'm
sure everybody appreciates that and I know I
certainly do and we all do. Girls, the corners
Katie said you winged it. It did not look like
you guys winged it.

It was great. My kids loved it. I
loved it. I loved Hal carrying the big five
gallon thing of hot chocolate. So I look
forward to that again next year. Terrific job
and happy holidays to everybody and thank you
for coming.

MR. MCHAILE: Thank you, Michael.

Just to reiterate always speaking last, you
guys -- it was -- he said it was great. Two
months and it didn't even seem -- it seemed
like two years you planned it. It reminded me of the old Dunmore festivals. It was downtown. It was so crowded like that. I don't know how you could do better. I'm sure you will. And I know now you're being pulled into different things because you were so successful. So that's a testament to you and thank you again. Anything we can do, you know, please let us know.

It really was fun watching Hal carry around hot chocolate the whole time and eating most of the donuts. I really don't have much. I spoke on many of the things tonight. I do appreciate everybody coming here. This is our last meeting. We do cancel our second meeting in December every year. So this is our last meeting of the year. We'll reorganize come January.

And this gentleman to my left is leaving us come January. But he's, you know, worked his butt off for this town as long as I have been on Council. And I'm sure that we'll hear your name again. It's been a pleasure serving with you. I know we'll talk quite often anyway and you'll be around, I'm sure.
MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you, Mike.

MR. MCHALE: With that, I wish everybody a Merry Christmas and happy holidays and look forward to seeing you next year. I'll look for a motion to adjourn.

MR. NARDOZZI: So moved.

MR. VERRASTRO: Second.

MR. MCHALE: All those in favor.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.
CERTIFICATE

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

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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