COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, November 14, 2016

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:

DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MICHAEL MCHALE, President
MICHAEL DEMPSEY, Vice President
TIMOTHY BURKE
CAROL SCRIMALLI - Absent
THOMAS HALLINAN
VINCE AMICO
SAL VERRASTRO
ANDREW GENOVESE, Controller
THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.

MR. MCHALE: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public comment on agenda items.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve the minutes.

MR. BURKE: I'll make a motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: 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: Motion to approve and pay the open bills.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that motion.

MR. VERRASTRO: 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 six is a motion to award the bid proposal to the
lowest responsible bidder for the HVAC Renovation Phase I project at the Dunmore Community Center as recommended by the borough engineer, Reuther-Bowen. G. Weinberger Co., $218,387.00, which includes the required Performance and Payment Bonds.

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

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: Do I have a second?

MR. AMICO: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. Just for the audience, this is for the HVAC system on this side of the building is malfunctioning.

For those of you who come in the summer months understand how hot it was. The air conditioning was broken. We put in a portable unit for the time being and the heat now is malfunctioning.

So this unit we've had many, many experts in here trying to fix it and to no avail. So we had engineers come in and draw plans for a new system to better serve both the seniors and the number of parties that we have
here and the offices over there.

So this is Phase I as we go through the entire building and look to the HVAC system that may have to be replaced over there as well. 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 seven is a motion to accept the proposal from The Guardian Group Life Insurance Company of America for a short term disability plan in compliance with Article 14, Section 1; Sub-Section B of the DPW Collective Bargaining agreement.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. Quickly on the
question, this is just to be in compliance with the DPW contract that they are offered -- the members are offered short term disability. This is just a -- we put it out to bid and this is the awarding of such bid. 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 eight is a motion to approve Lackawanna County accept the sale price of $2,000 for a property located at 115 Gibbons Street in the borough as the property was exposed to Tax Claim Bureau sale, Judicial sale. Failed to garner a bidder at either and is now in the unsold property listing. This will return the property back to the tax rolls of the Borough of Dunmore.

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

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 nine is a motion to authorize borrowing from First National Community Bank in the amount up to $9.4 million dollars at an interest rate not to exceed 3.375 percent and to authorize the President of Council and the Borough Solicitor to take all actions necessary to bring the matter to fruition. Mr. McHale, this requires a voice vote -- roll call vote.

MR. MCHALE: Before I entertain the motion, so that everyone is clear, if approved the proceeds will be used to refinance approximately 5 million dollars in current debt for a better interest rate and thus savings to
the Borough.

And secondly, to pay capital improvements such as the new heating system for the Community Center that we just voted on and to pay down the debt that we owe to the fire, police, and nonuniform pension plans currently listed as unfunded liabilities in the pension plans. I'll look for a motion.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that motion.

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

MR. AMICO: I'll second.

MR. MCHALE: On the question.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Roll call.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Burke.

MR. BURKE: Yes.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Yes.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Yes.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Yes.

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.

MR. McHALE: Yes.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number ten is a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-7:

Now, this 14th day of November, 2016, it is hereby resolved that any property blighted or otherwise shall be brought into compliance with the provisions of the International Property Maintenance Code as amended prior to and as a condition precedent to receive a LERTA tax reduction or abatement benefit.

MR. McHALE: Tom, is this specific to the property that is listed on the agenda?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: It will cover the property listed on the agenda. It's specific to all properties that comply for LERTA.

MR. McHALE: Do we have to do a second one for it?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: No, this would cover this property. The property would be subject to this resolution.

MR. McHALE: Okay. I'll look for a motion.
MR. AMICO: I'll make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: Do I have a second?

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 eleven is a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-8 in conjunction with the application for traffic signal approval for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. This resolution and adoption will repair, replace, restore the existing school warning system located in front of 501 East Drinker Street Holy Cross High School. The scope of the work will encompass the work necessary to ensure proper safety and operation.

MR. MCHALE: Do I have a motion?
MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that motion.

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

MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: A motion and a second.

On the question. Just for the audience, this is school zone signs that are actually up. This is just giving authorization I guess, Tommy, to turn them on or to finish the project?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: It will authorize PennDOT to finish -- complete the work and sign off on it.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody who could drive by, you could see the majority of the work is done. 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 twelve
is a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-9 to
appoint United States Magistrate Judge Thomas
Blewitt, retired, to serve as hearing officer
to preside over local agency regarding
plaintiffs' certain retired police officer and
fire unions claims for cost-of-living
adjustments and to execute the necessary
paperwork for that appointment.

    MR. MCHALE: I'll look for a motion.
    MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that
    motion.

    MR. MCHALE: Do I have a second?
    MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second.
    MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
second. On the question.

    MR. DEMPSEY: In June of this year,
certain participants of the Borough's fireman's
pension plan and police pension plan filed a
complaint against the borough and the Borough
Pension Board in Lackawanna County Court of
Common Pleas.

    In this lawsuit, the participants
brought a mandamus action seeking cost of
living adjustments to their pension benefits.
Instead of immediately proceeding with this
action in the Court of Common Pleas, the judge has ordered the parties to schedule a mutually convenient time to conduct a hearing under the local agency law regarding Plaintiffs' claims for cost-of-living adjustments as set forth in their complaint.

The Borough and the Plaintiffs have agreed that former United States Magistrate Judge Thomas Blewitt shall serve as hearing officer to preside over a local agency hearing regarding Plaintiffs' claims for cost-of-living adjustments.

Therefore, I move to pass the resolution appointing Judge Blewitt as a hearing officer in this matter to execute the necessary paperwork for that appointment. That resolution reads as follows -- that we just read.

MR. MCHALE: So we have a -- Tom, correct me -- I have a motion and a second.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yes.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else on the question?

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number 13 is personnel matters, three in number. The first would be to appoint Benjamin Kimball as a part-time firefighter.

MR. MCHALE: Tom, for the record, on the prior motion just for -- just to close the record. The motion passed. And the Borough's special labor counsel the Ufberg Law Firm is directed to number five Judge Blewitt on his appointment to proceed accordingly. I apologize, Tom, for doing that.

Number 13, personnel matters, part-time firefighter Benjamin Kimball, look to hire that gentleman. I'll look for a motion.

MR. BURKE: Motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. This is just adding to the ranks of part-time firefighter. Chief
DeNaples is in the audience. Chief, you did all the interviews, background checks. I know you're pretty detailed before you even bring anybody in the part-time roster. And this just covers vacation shifts and their union allows.

We'd like to get obviously more men on the floor. We're doing so with part-time firefighters. And Chief is doing his best to shake the trees to get as many part-time firefighters. This is the first one we've seen. Hopefully we'll have a lot more just to add. Again, they're at will employees when there is available shifts Chief assigns them. Correct me if I'm wrong, Chief.

CHIEF DENAPLES: That is absolutely correct.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, sir.

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: Personnel matter number two is retain Donna Kunda as a full-time accountant for the tax office.

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

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that motion.

MR. MCHALE: Do I have a second?

MR. AMICO: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: A motion and a second.

On the question. This is for the position in the tax office that I believe three positions over the past several years we hadn't filled. We did advertise for the position. Approximately 10 people applied for the job.

We went through the interview process. Because of the salary some people did turn it down. But we did have several employees to interview. The majority, if not all, picked Miss Kunda to -- for the position. So, Tom, again forgetful me here, did I have a motion and second?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: You did.

MR. MCHALE: I did. Anybody else on the question? All those in favor of hiring
Mr. Kunda 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 three under personnel matters, is a motion to take Olena Shemchuk from part-time tax collection office employee and promote her to full-time status.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll second it.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. Olena is an office employee who has been with us several years. And this is -- she's a -- how do I say it -- an entry level clerical position that is just moving to a full-time status.

Mr. Ruggiero did do an analysis of the office and there is a -- there is probably a need for several more individuals both in the helping out at the Police Department Office, the Code Office, and General Office slash Tax
Office. Olena has been a phenomenal employee on a part-time basis. So we're just moving her to full-time basis as a clerical -- clerical entry level person. I couldn't think of the word. Forgive me, I'm fighting a cold. I can't hear out of my ear. I'm falling apart here. 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 14 is public comment on nonagenda items.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to -- I'm sorry, let's do our Lackawanna County representative.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yes, sir.

MR. HETMAN: Good evening as always folks, Gerard Hetman, Lackawanna County. At this time of the year, we come up on our
Christmas and holiday events. So everybody asks us when those happen, what time and where. They changed a little bit over the past years. And there's some changes in a good way for this year.

The first one is the annual tree lighting at courthouse square. This year it's Thursday evening December 1st at 5:30. It moves up to Thursday because on Friday evening we have a bunch of fun good events coming up. The first one which we'll leave a colorful poster for you. Maybe we'll put up a couple here at the building or the Borough Building.

The holiday market that's run by the Scranton made local artist. The first year they did it, it was at courthouse square. Last year they did it in the former Bon Ton space at the mall. It was well received there but with some of the new tenants moving into that space and with the Globe Store open at least temporarily there is spaces in the building after we purchased it.

The holiday marketplace will take place in the former Globe Store first floor this year. So it opens up Friday evening
December 2nd at 5:00. It runs through the weekend. But we're going to have a special celebration that Friday night.

We've got some donations from local businesses to purchase some decorations, some trees, and lights very similar to the sketch here. And we're going to have a little celebration right at 5:00 to open it up Friday, December 2nd.

That same evening, the Festival of Trees was held for a long time at the Electric City Trolley Museum. And then last year it went into the mall in the annex to the former Bon Ton will open again in the annex of the former Bon Ton in the mall that same night. The Festival of Trees is open then from that Friday through January 1st during normal mall hours.

So you could track it down again in the mall from what I see different community groups and businesses have their trees decorated in that space. And there's two other ones I'll note on the Electronic City Trolley Museum to kind of replace the Festival of Trees is what they're calling trim a tree challenge.
I think they went to one or two elementary schools in the school district and asked them to decorate a tree. So if you happen to visit the Trolley Museum at that time, no extra charge admission. It's just kind of an extra nicety for the holiday season.

And last but not least, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Santa train -- we'll leave that flier also -- comes down from Carbondale through the valley and sorts and ends second year in a row now at Steamtown at National Historic Site.

The first year we did it at Steamtown we even in the rain it was 2014 we had a great crowd. Last year it was a nice day. We had a massive crowd. The problem is trying to keep everybody fed and orderly in line for pizza and food.

So if you get a chance to check out any of these things, please do. Some of the dates have changed. Some of them are new. So that's all we have for now. And I will come back in December and fill you in on the end of the year. That's pretty much it.

One thing we will note is regarding
the Globe Store, we're hoping to offer some public tours of the building over the next couple of weeks. We'll try to make that announcement as soon as we can. A lot of folks have called and asked can we get into the Globe, can we see anything, just check it out for nostalgia sake.

A lot has changed since the first time you've seen it. But we'll try to do our best to give some public tours over the next few weeks and, of course, give advanced notice just to let anybody see the building before construction begins who would like to check it out.

MR. MCHALE: Thanks, Mr. Hetman.

MR. HETMAN: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to address Council? Mr. Duncan?

MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Barton Street, next Monday neighborhood watch at 7:00 in this room. Mr. Genovese who has the barbershop down on Blakely Street down by the tank, I was there Saturday for a haircut.

He asked -- and I really don't know. I know at one point we did some speed checks
within the Borough. I think Officer Lydon did it at the time. I don't know. He asked if we still do that. He said there's cars just flying up and down Blakely Street, coming down off of Short street right by the tank.

One of his customers almost got hit last week. And I was hoping Sal or somebody would be here tonight.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll let him know.

MR. DUNCAN: But if you could, he also said he lives over on Williams Street. Do you know where the Hospice is at, Tommy, when we took the walk that time right down at the bottom of the hill. He's on Williams right down by the Hospice and he said the cars are flying down there too. He's just disgusted.

I don't know if we still do speed checks or anything. But I told him I come to these meetings and he asked if he I could let you know. So if you could follow up on it or something. Thank's a lot.

MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

MR. DUNCAN: Thank you, folks.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to address Council tonight?
MS. CUFF: Hi, Sharon Cuff, 315 Spring Street, Dunmore. Okay, so this morning I received a notice from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. And I was just wondering if Council -- you were copied on this letter. I was wondering if you received it yet. It was dated November 9th. It was sent certified mail.

MR. MCHALE: We could have, Mrs. Cuff. I don't go to -- we don't go to the office every day. And they don't let us know immediately. I will check tomorrow to make sure that we did.

MS. CUFF: Do you mind if I read it now into the record? You'll be getting it anyway. So I just kind of want to ask a few questions about it. So the letter is dated November 9th, 2016. It's a notice of violation. And it was sent to Keystone Sanitary Landfill and Dunmore Borough Council and Throop Council was also cc'd on this letter.

Dear Mr. O'Brien, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has determined that Keystone Sanitary Landfill was
in violation of the Solid Waste Management Act as of July 7th 1980, Section 601 -- I won't go into all the sections in the letter, I guess -- the Municipal Waste Management Rules and Regulations found at 25 PA Code Chapters 271 to 285, as follows:

Number one, on April 25th, 2016, Keystone notified the Department by telephone that an overflow of the pretreated wastewater from the effluent pump station had occurred that day. The spill had been discovered by Keystone at 5:58 a.m., but Keystone did not contact the Department until 1:53 p.m.

Therefore, Keystone failed to immediately notify the Department by telephone to report the required information as required by 25 PA Code 91.33 in violation of 25 PA Code 273.201.

The Department acknowledges that a written report of the April 25th, 2016, incident was received on April 29th, 2016.

Number two, as a result of the department's review of files, including but not limited to the March, 2016, Geophysical Survey and Keystone's May 17th, 2016, response to the
Department's Environmental assessment review letter dated October 13th, 2015, the Department has determined that leachate the lagoon liner leakage and/or pipe boot penetration leakage, and/or pipe leakage has been occurring at the west lagoon.

Therefore, Keystone failed to maintain sufficient structural integrity to prevent failure of the lagoons in violation of 25 PA Code 285.123 and 273.201C. The Department acknowledges that Keystone has applied and received approval for a minor permit modification for leachate storage lagoon improvements.

Number three, as a result of the department's review of ground water analysis data in the area of the leachate lagoons, the Department has determined that groundwater degradation has occurred.

Therefore, Keystone has failed to store waste in a manner that does not cause groundwater degradation in violation of 25 PA Code 285.116 and 273.201. The Department acknowledges that Keystone has conducted investigations into potential sources of
contaminants and implemented measures in an attempt to abate the introduction of contaminants into the environment.

Within 15 days of receipt of this notice, please submit a response to the Department that identifies how Keystone will prevent these violations from occurring in the future. Keystone's response should also include an explanation and status of how the groundwater in the area of the lagoons and/or effluent pump station has been or is currently impacted.

Keystone should include a plan for any proposed abatement and a plan and schedule to at a minimum, monitor the MW-8, MW-4AR, MW-15A, MW-23, which are the wells. The response should be sent to my attention to the letterhead address.

You are hereby notified both the existence of the violations as well as the need to provide for prompt correction. Under the Solid Waste Management Act, each day a violation continues is considered a distinct and separate offense.

The violations noted herein may
result in enforcement action under the Solid Waste Management Act. This notice of violation is neither an Order nor any other final action of the Department. It neither imposes nor waives any enforcement action available to the Department under any of its statutes.

If the Department determines that an enforcement action is appropriate, you will be notified of the action. It is signed Rachel Miller, Compliance Specialist, Waste Management Program; cc'd Dunmore Borough and Troop Borough.

So, I guess -- I mean, I know you didn't receive it yet. But I have two questions; one, I would like to ask Council if just hearing this -- and I know you'll want to read it yourself and review it a little bit more, if you are as outraged as I am that you are now just finding out about something that occurred six and a half months ago, groundwater contamination.

That's a pretty big deal; wouldn't you say? I would say all of us -- and this is where I'm imploring Council to please get in touch with DEP. Find out why this is
happened -- six and a half months. There has
to be somebody who needs to answer for this.

The next issue is, I'm just
wondering -- Joe, I think -- I'm not sure what
the --

MR. MCHALE: Miss Cuff, you got to
talk to Council because it's on the record. I
apologize. I don't mean to be --

MS. CUFF: Okay, sorry. I think Joe
is the -- our liaison -- I'm not sure,
enforcement up at the --

MR. MCHALE: Nope, not anymore.

MS. CUFF: He's not.

MR. MCHALE: Not anymore.

MS. CUFF: We don't have anybody?

MR. MCHALE: No.

MS. CUFF: Okay. We don't have
anybody that's -- okay. My next question was,
they should be just as outraged because they
weren't notified. And that's what they're
here -- I thought to kind of work between the
two entities. But I guess we don't have
anybody anyway.

The next thing that I will make you
aware of, is I did follow up when I received
this with another question. And my next question was -- let's see. I'll try to read exactly what I said.

I followed up with this and said do you have any documentation surrounding any incidents post 2016. You know what the answer was? Yeah, there's a similar incident. It occurred in October. We're currently under investigation. So again, I just really -- you know, we all need to work together.

This is a big deal. We're going to end up with big fat superfund site -- all of this. We don't want another Flint happening right here. We have air. We have water. We have soil. So I just really -- I'm just asking on behalf of all the residents and myself.

I'll continue to follow up on my own. But you guys as our elected officials, please find some answers and address this publically to Council what you find out from them and how six and a half months have gone by. And when you do receive this letter, if you could put it up on the web site, make it available.

MR. MCHALE: Will do.
MR. DEMPSEY: Sure.

MS. CUFF: Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you very much.

MS. CUFF: You're welcome.

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

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: Seeing none. I'll go to public officials. Tom?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Chief DeNaples, do you have anything tonight, bud?

CHIEF DENAPLES: Nothing tonight. Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Chris Kearney?

MR. KEARNEY: No.

MR. MCHALE: Joe Lorince?

MR. LORINCE: No.

MR. MCHALE: Andy Genovese?

MR. GENOVESE: No, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Good seeing you here, sir.

MR. GENOVESE: Thank you, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Ruggiero?
MR. RUGGIERO: Nothing.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke, do you want to lead us off?

MR. BURKE: Yeah, thank you, Sharon, I will look into that, Sharon. I'll check my letter box and I'll go through it. But I'll definitely get in contact with DEP and find out why it took so long to be informed of it. Thank you for your work on it. I don't have anything else.

MR. MCHALE: Thanks, Tim. Mr. Verrastro?

MR. VERRASTRO: Nothing tonight.

MR. MCHALE: I'll go third. Again, to Mrs. Cuff, I agree. If anything, why it took so long is outrageous. I agree. I couldn't think of a better word. But we didn't get it yet, which leads us to believe it's taking even longer to get us if it wasn't there today.

If you got it today, maybe we got it today too. But we will follow up as a group. And I know individually we will as well. Just for the people here, the budget process is well under way.
In two weeks we're going to have our other meeting where we will have the first reading of the budget. It will not contain any tax increases. We could say that with certainty. We're very proud of where we've come financially in this.

And for the record, the budget does not include anything on Scranton Sewer Authority, any monies that possibly may be coming our way. It's based on hard numbers that, you know, Chief DeNaples could attest to beating people up every time they try to get something, to refinancing stuff like we did tonight, to making smart decisions in the pensions plan to investing in our capital infrastructure and having three or four very good unions working with us in trying to make this place a little bit better.

So we're very proud of where we've come in five, six years from bankruptcy status into financial stability. And we continue to make strides in that way as well. It doesn't go by. Every time we do a budget, every line item is challenged. I will meet with Chief DeNaples, Chief Marchese, Mr. Judge, Chris
Kearney, all the Department heads, Joe in his area to see where -- I met with some of them already where we can cut in additional areas without hurting the taxpayers with services.

So it's an ongoing process. Next meeting will be the first reading. And two weeks after that we hope to have a final budget to pass that we'll be proud of. That's all I have tonight. Attorney Dempsey?

MR. DEMPSEY: I don't have anything tonight.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan?

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you, Sharon, for that. It's -- I don't know what to say. I got to get to it and find out what happened. And I thank you for doing that tonight. That was very enlightening. Also the Dunmore Pride Committee as you know November 27th they are going to have a tree lighting. Santa will be there. And we'll be serving hot chocolate again I hope. That's all I have.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Thank you, Sharon, and I'll e-mail Roger Belles and Colleen tonight or tomorrow and try to find out why we're just
hearing about this from a resident as opposed to hearing it from him. It's not the way the process is supposed to work. Thank you very much.

MR. MCHALE: That's it. I didn't miss anybody, did I? I'll look for motion to adjourn.

MR. DEMPSEY: Motion to adjourn.

MR. MCHALE: Do you want to second?

MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second.

MR. MCHALE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: We are adjourned.
CERTIFICATE

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

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Maria McCool, RPR
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