COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:
Monday, April 8th, 2019

TIME:
7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:
DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
MICHAEL DEMPSEY, President
THOMAS HALLINAN, Vice President
MICHAEL MCHALE
CAROL SCRIMALLI
VINCE AMICO
THOMAS EHNOT
MICHAEL HAYES
THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor
TIMOTHY BURKE, Mayor

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Before the roll call a minor amendment. The agenda 5A will be personnel matters. Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Ehnot.

MR. EHNOT: Present.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hayes.

MR. HAYES: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.

MR. MCHALE: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public Comment on agenda items.

MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody like to address Council on agenda items only?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Number four, motion
to approve the minutes.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion?

MR. AMICO: I'll make that motion.

MR. EHNOT: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second. I have a motion and a second. On anyone on the question?

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

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

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

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that motion.

MR. HAYES: Second.

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a second. Anyone on the question?
(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: 5A personnel matters. A motion to approve the retention of Lindsey Zarick, police officer on a part time on-call basis.

MR. DEMPSEY: Tom, I believe it's hiring of. She hasn't already worked for us, right?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: I'm sorry.

MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. I'm looking for a motion there.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a second. Anyone on the question? Briefly just on the question, our part-time reserves of police officers are depleting from different
officers getting other jobs in other townships.
So we need to keep adding them to our rotation.
Anyone else on the question?

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six is public comment on other items.

MR. DEMPSEY: Is Gary here? Okay, yes, sir. Please come up to the podium and state your name and address.

MR. PYERON: My name is Tom Pyeron. I'm representing the residents of Tigue Street, the 100 block of Tigue Street. And we have a problem, water problems. And I have some photos here I would like everybody to look at and some comments we made on this if you would like to see them.

And I also have a video on my cell phone and another resident has a video on their
cell phone of the situation. These are the photos and my comments on the back. We have this water problem that came up on 9th of March.

And it's coming up through the road. And now it has expanded and is perking up through a larger area. It's probably about a 50 foot area on those photos. It's coming down at a pretty good pace. And the videos, you could hear the sound the water and everything.

Now, what's causing -- it's causing a lot of potholes. Some of the potholes are above my ankles. And it's caused by the big trucks, cars, all the rest of the traffic. And it's getting to a point now that one section of the road will be impassable.

The other thing we're concerned about is the possibility of sinkholes because this water is coming according to the water company, it's untreated water. They don't know where it's coming from. But it's quite an issue. So if you would like to see the video I could show you the video. I'll pass my cell phone down or whatever you would like. We need to have something done on this.
MS. SCRIMALLI: Did you say this is on Tigue Street?

MR. HALLINAN: Back by Dunmore Roofing.

MR. PYERON: Yep. So we want something to be done about this because the water company's been there. I've got a list of the dates this started how a vehicle got stuck in there. The partners, 5:00, 5:30 in the morning they are trying to pull a car out that got stuck in the hole. The police department put cones around it. But it's getting worse. Something has to be done.

MR. HALLINAN: This never happened before?

MR. PYERON: It happened about 20 years ago. And the water company repaired it. And it was some type of water line someplace in the area. They have been back and forth since I think the 18th of March. And the matter is getting worse.

MR. EHNOT: Sir, where did you say you think the water is originating from?

MR. PYERON: I think it's an untreated waterline coming from the old
reservoir out there. And, in fact, there's a PennDOT ditch along side of Tigue Street that was put in when the ramp was put in. And it never had water in there. There's water in it now. Where it's coming from, what's going to happen? My house is right on the edge of that. And I get water now under my floor. If we have rain for two or three days, I have to be pumping it out continuously. I am concerned that it may fall down and start to flood me out.

MR. DEMPSEY: If we can have your phone number, sir, we can get you in touch with Joe Lorince.

MR. PYERON: We've been in touch with him.

MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Right, but we have to get the borough engineer up there and with the water company to take a look and see where the cause is coming from to see where we can -- to see if we can get a game plan and see, first of all, whose responsibility it is.

MR. PYERON: That's the biggest thing because it seems like nobody is taking responsibility for it. And it's been going on
since March 9th.

    MR. DEMPSEY: Are you going to stick
around in the meeting? You can give me your
number afterwards and we'll put you in touch
with the right people.

    MR. EHNOT: Sure. Yes. Yes. And
the other thing is all the potholes on the
street. Somebody came up and patched two
potholes and left the rest of them go. These
issues have to be addressed because it's
going to be a bad situation.

    MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. We'll take care
of it.

    MR. PYERON: Great. Thank you.

    ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

    MR. DEMPSEY: Would anyone else like
to address Council tonight?

    MR. DUNCAN: I was at another
meeting, I apologize. 117 Barton Street, just
a quick announcement, neighborhood watch next
Monday, 7:00. So I hope to see you all there.
If anybody needs any of the minutes or
anything, get to me and I'll get them out to
you. Thanks a lot. Sorry about that.

    MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Oven.
MS. OVEN: Kathryn Oven, I live in Dunmore. My concern is the recycling in the borough. So I have some photos for you that you were -- that you can look at. This is basically throughout the borough. It's cardboard out with garbage. It's not out on Thursday or Friday. It's out Wednesday for Thursday. And it's piled in with the garbage cans.

So if you look at the form we have for the recycling, it doesn't actually say cardboard anywhere. On the green spots which is paper, I guess that's where cardboard is supposed to be picked up as well. So my concern is that we're really doing very little recycling in Dunmore.

And now with the changes from the Recycling Center there seems to be a lot of confusion. I picked up these papers during the week. And it basically says what you can and can't put in. I put it on Facebook asking people to share and then Lackawanna County Recycling put out a different one. So there is some confusion that says you can't do cereal boxes. That one says you can.
Some say you can't do pizza boxes.

Some say you can. Someone told me that Dunmore is no longer recycling. If feel like there's a better way -- we need to find a better way to get this information to the people. Cardboard is a no-brainer. I have to drive my own to the Recycling Center at this point because I don't know when it's going to get picked up.

And if it's getting picked up, I've seen the recycling, the cardboard that's out and going into the garbage trucks. It's happened to people I know. And I don't know what the answer is. I'm happy to try to help the borough in any way. But I think we need to get this message out that recycling is important and we have to do something better.

MR. DEMPSEY: We put it out on our website. I think it was the flyer from the county. We also sent it to Scranton Printing. That was on April 1st, I believe. And they are sending a mailer to all homes because not everybody has social media.

MS. OVEN: So the mailer that's going out, is it this mailer that's incorrect or is it this that's telling what to recycle?
MR. DEMPSEY: That one. It's a form of the county's.

MS. OVEN: Okay. That's good news. I think there is a problem with this one going out.

MR. DEMPSEY: No. That goes out in the beginning of the year. We already sent that out. But we can change it for next year.

MS. OVEN: Yeah, I think people need to understand. I don't know if we can do some type of incentive programs for people that recycle, but considering the crackdown that they are doing now, they are recycling a lot less.

I mean, we're living in a borough with the third largest landfill in the state. I think it's really on us to, you know, set some precedent and recycle. It's important. Like I said, I'm happy to help.

MR. DEMPSEY: Any ideas you have we're all ears. We're happy to do anything.

MS. OVEN: I think really just getting information to residents, whether it's flyers, whether it's signs, whether it's phone calls, whether it's, you know, meetings here at
the DCC. But people obviously aren't doing this intentionally. I know it's more work to recycle. I get it. I drive myself to the Recycling Center myself.

But really, you are looking at something like cardboard, that's a lot of waste that could be recycled. And the plastic is iffy. I know there's issues about what's recycled and what's not. But the cardboard is really -- it's pretty frustrating to see it. And it's all over the borough. All you have to do is walk around.

So I don't know, like I said, I don't know if you want to set up a committee that tries to brainstorm how we can be better but it's just a concern that I have.

MR. DEMPSEY: That works for me.

MR. HAYES: It's a great idea.

MR. DEMPSEY: Can we have somebody get in touch with you and then we can figure out --

MS. OVEN: Sure. Yeah, I'm happy to help.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

MS. OVEN: You're welcome.
MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody else like to address Council tonight?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

MR. DEMPSEY: I'll start with Chief DeNaples.

CHIEF DENAPLES: I have nothing tonight.

MR. DEMPSEY: Chris?

MR. KEARNEY: Nothing.

MR. DEMPSEY: Chief Marchese?

CHIEF MARCHESE: No.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke.

MAYOR BURKE: Yes, I had meetings with Sal and the police department last week, a couple of days during the week with different shifts. And we were talking about the ATV problem. And we're brainstorming to put things together. Chief came up with some good ideas.

I really think too that we should have myself and the Chief go down and speak to the school, make a meeting with the school board and educate them on ATVs because, I mean, a lot of people heard about the accident and
thank God the kids are okay. They are pretty
banged up but they are going to be okay. But
the Chief's -- you know and the police said,
you know, gave me some really good ideas. And
I think we should talk to the school board
and -- I mean the school children. Set it up
myself with Sal and try to educate them on what
can happen. And, you know, they are against
the law.

And the chief and I were talking too
about maybe talking to Tommy and talking to the
state maybe getting the meeting set up with
Senator Blake and maybe changing the laws where
we have to register your ATVs. I don't know if
it's the state law or not if Tommy could --

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yeah, you have to
license them every year.

MAYOR BURKE: Okay, so if -- do they
have to come to the borough and license them?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: No. And it's not
with PennDOT. It's with -- not DEP, the
environmental resources. It's a regular annual
registration.

MAYOR BURKE: Maybe if we can talk
to Blake and see if they change the law that
they have to register with the boroughs too. That way when they register we'll have a serial number and we'll have a picture of their ATV. Because right now, you know, we don't chase the vehicles because we're worried about accidents. And that's a safety issue itself chasing these kids on them. Some are adults actually too. But it is against the law to have your ATV on the street. I also think I would like to ask Council if they would reconsider too the Moosic law about they have an ordinance -- and Sal brought this up to me last year and I brought it up to Council.

If you bring your ATV into a gas station without -- on the back of a truck or trailer, the gas station in Moosic, they're fined, okay? I know it's not going to stop all ATVs. But the police told me about this before. Sal that -- you know, it's -- we called up the borough myself and Vito last year -- actually the same month last year -- a year this month.

And they said it put a dent in it. She said you're never going to stop it all. I also suggest too that we put up signs in
certain areas -- strategic areas. Sal has the
guys going out at special times and trying to
catch the guys. I said we can't chase them.
But I think these are things that could help
deter it.

Because right now, I mean, a lot of
gas stations you drive by you'll see ATVs
parked there getting gas. So if they are
sitting there, they are there illegal. The
Chief, myself, and Council, we're all worried
about -- anybody getting hurt.

It could be you walking your child
down the road and you don't know because I'm
getting reports they're all over. And with the
warm weather, the Chief, they'll be even more.
But I'm just asking Council if we could go over
that again, the borough ordinance again of
Moosic and see if we can adopt just to try to
put a dent in the ATVs.

And I would like to thank Sal for
all of his help on this and working with the
police department to come up with ideas.
Thanks, Sal. And I look forward to setting up
a meeting with, like I said, with the principal
and seeing if myself and Sal could talk.
And if we can ask, like I said, if we look into talking with Senator Blake and seeing if they could register in Dunmore. That way we would have the picture of the vehicle. We know what family has the vehicle. So we know what house it is. So I really think something has to be done before we have another terrible accident. And that's all I have for tonight.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mayor Burke. Attorney Cummings?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

MR. DEMPSEY: Carol, do you want to lead us off?

MS. SCRIMALLI: Yes, I agree with you. We do need to do something about the ATVs. I'm glad you brought that to our attention. I'm hoping we come to some kind of a good action that we can do. And I do want to thank, is it Mrs. Oven? Thank you for bringing to the attention of Council the recycling issue.

I also think that we need to do more. I know the county is also -- we're at their kind of -- we have to do what they tell
us to do with the recycling. So I think
someone should try to talk to the county and
see what more we can do there also, not just on
the local level here.
          And also with the problem up on
Tigue Street, I mean, it's -- I'm glad you guys
came. I see it myself every day, the problems.
The potholes are terrible. So I do hope we can
get a fix on those and just keep us informed.
You could always just either call myself or
call the borough about the potholes especially.
But the water problem, you did contact the
water company on that?

  MR. PYERON: They've been up there
quite a few times already.

  MS. SCRIMALLI: Is the problem very
similar to what happened 20 years ago?

  MR. PYERON: It's worse now.

  MS. SCRIMALLI: It's worse. Do you
happen to know if it comes with rain?

  MR. PYERON: No. It just comes out.

  MS. SCRIMALLI: Thanks again. And
you'll leave your number with us. Thank you
very much. That's all I have. Thank you all
for coming. That's it. Thank you.
MR. EHNOT: I have nothing tonight.

Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, sir. Mr. McHale?

MR. MCHALE: I have nothing tonight.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: I have nothing tonight. Thank you.

MR. AMICO: I'm good. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: And Mr. Hayes.

MR. HAYES: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just real quick, Mrs. Oven, as you know, I have been a big advocate for recycling.

I have been posting different things for the past several years. The change in county that is obviously something that we take very -- we take very to heart here.

So I'll be glad to -- we rely on to partner with people in the community to help to get the problem resolved as well. A lot of those boxes in that picture are from my pizzeria. So I want to make sure that, you know, we are being part of the solution, not part of the problem.

So let's work together. And let's
get this fixed. And I thank you for coming today to -- everyone coming today to voice your concerns. We're here to help. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, sir. And I don't have anything either. So with that I will look for a motion to adjourn.

MR. HAYES: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

MR. MCHALE: Second.

MR. DEMPSEY: Anyone on the question?

(No response.)

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

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

(No response.)

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

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Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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