COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:
Monday, January 13th, 2020

TIME:
7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:
DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
1414 Monroe Avenue
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MICHAEL DEMPSEY, President
THOMAS HALLINAN, Vice President
CAROL SCRIMALLI
VINCE AMICO
THOMAS EHNOT
JANET BRIER
ELIZABETH ZANGARDI
MARY WALSH DEMPSEY, Esquire, Solicitor
TIMOTHY BURKE, Mayor

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

MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. McDonald Zangardi.

MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Ehnot.

MR. EHNOT: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Brier.

MS. BRIER: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Next, public comment on agenda items.

MR. DEMPSEY: Would anyone like to address Council tonight on agenda items only?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

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

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?
MR. AMICO: I'll second that.

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.

MR. RUGGIERO: Number five is a motion to accept the letter of resignation.

Chairman Dempsey?

MR. DEMPSEY: I will look for a motion to accept a letter of resignation from Attorney Tom Cummings.

MR. AMICO: I'll make a motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

MS. BRIER: I'll second.
MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a second. Anyone on the question? Quickly on the question, Attorney Cummings did submit his letter of resignation as solicitor today. And I want to thank him for all of his -- I think he was solicitor for 20 years.

And I just personally want to thank him for all the work that he accomplished in the Borough in that timeframe. I got to work closely with him for the last six years. I appreciate everything that he did for me in that timeframe. So anybody 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: The ayes have it and so moved.

MR. RUGGIERO: Number six under personnel, "A" under personnel would be a motion to approve an RFP for Solicitor of the Borough of Dunmore.
MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that motion.

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

MR. EHNOT: I'll second it.

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.

MR. RUGGIERO: Number seven is public notification. The first is the paper and cardboard recycling, the changes and the calendars.

MR. DEMPSEY: I don't think we need a motion.

MR. RUGGIERO: I don't know if Mr. Amico on the question wants to just explain
what's going on with that.

MR. AMICO: Yeah, I'll go over this real quickly. There's a paper at the table if anybody has a chance to check it out. It basically is the CliffsNote version as to what is to be expected as far as changes that have been made at the Lackawanna County Recycling Center.

Newspaper and cardboard will no longer be commingled, meaning you can't put them out at the curb at the same time. So Mr. Ruggiero and Mr. Judge came up with a schedule, which, you know, the taxpayers will be receiving in the mail. And it explains in detail as to when you are supposed to put out your newspaper and cardboard.

But again, they can't be commingled. Newspaper is newspaper. It's very self-explanatory. Cardboard is little more nuance. And in the explanation it says cereal boxes are cardboard with their bags removed. Corrugated cardboard is okay, tissue boxes, cracker boxes, etc. Again, this paper pretty much explains it.

And if there are any questions from
what happened last year with plastic and cans and bottles, again, this paper explains it. So if you have any questions you could call the Borough. You could call the Recycling Center. And again, it's very -- this paper is very self-explanatory. Thank you.

MR. RUGGIERO: Thank you, Mr. Amico. Mr. Dempsey, anything else on "A" of the public notification?

MR. DEMPSEY: Not on the cardboard recycling. But I would look for a motion on the changing the meetings. I would look for a motion on that.

MR. AMICO: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: The meeting change would be from meeting twice a month to once a month would be the second Monday of every month instead of twice a month. Instead of the second and fourth, it would just be the second Monday of every month. So, Mr. Amico, would you be able to redo that motion, please, a little bit more specific?

MR. AMICO: I would like to make a motion that we have a meeting once a month as opposed to twice a month.
MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. I have a motion. Do I have a second?

MR. EHNOT: Second.

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a second. Anyone on the question? Quickly on the question, the reason for doing this is, you know, we do have two monthly meetings. At the second meeting, it's just a work session. There's really never much going on. It just seems to be -- I don't want to say a waste of time because no meeting is a waste of time.

But it's not feasible for what we're doing. But if we do have to have a meeting, if we have to have an extra meeting, they are already advertised and we can get the notice out to the public if there's a need for a second meeting a month. But for right now we're just going to -- looks like we're just going to go with one. 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.

MR. RUGGIERO: Number eight, public comment starting with Mr. Gary Duncan from Dunmore Neighborhood Watch.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Duncan.

MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Barton Street, Dunmore. Some things never change. That's a good thing. First and foremost, I just want to congratulate all of the Council members on their new terms in office those that got sworn in last week. I was here. It was great to see a packed room.

I hope we can have a packed room all the time. And I want to congratulate the two newest Council members and wish you nothing but success in the years ahead.

And I give anybody who runs for office a lot of credit. I think you put your whole lives out in front of the public. So from me to you I appreciate it. Dunmore Neighborhood Watch, we have our monthly meeting next Monday, January 20th, 2020. It will be at 7:00. It will be in this room.

If any folks have changes in e-mail
since we're in a new year, if you got a new
e-mail address to the new Council members, I
think I have both of your e-mails. Mrs. Brier,
if I could check with you I just want to make
sure I have yours. If it's the hotmail one I
have it. If it's a different one, I don't.

MS. BRIER: That's it.

MR. DUNCAN: Okay. So we're good to
go. I talked to Joe Lorince today. And we're
going to get everything over to you folks. We
haven't mailed them out yet. I will get them
over to you. There was some computer
situations going on. But we'll get all of the
minutes out from the December meeting.

And then like I said, we'll meet
next week here. And then if I can, aside from
the neighborhood watch with the new Council and
everything, Mr. Dempsey, do we have any
assignments like who is a liaison to what
department and those things?

MR. DEMPSEY: I'm going to do that
during my public official comment.

MR. DUNCAN: I just wanted to ask
about that. Okay, thanks very much.

MR. RUGGIERO: Thank you. Anybody
else on public comment?

MR. DEMPSEY: Yes, sir. Please state your name and address for the record, please.

MR. JOHNSON: David Johnson, 601 Shirley Lane. I was before Council last year. And I'm coming back. The road in front of our house is in deplorable condition. It was paved. The patches were fixed last year.

Please don't do it again this year. That whole section should be cut out and filled in properly. Everybody is running on either side of it to get around it.

The other comment that I had and I might be talking to the choir here, but when somebody comes to DPW or to Council to dig up your road, I don't know what regulations you have. But I would think when a utility company or somebody digs up the road, they should come back and fill it with gravel.

They should probably put a cement surface on top of that. I don't know what it would be 6 inches, 8 inches and then pave it so it wouldn't settle. The last thing that I would suggest is maybe when they dig up the
roads you make them post a bond. And if the road settles in 12 months or 18 months and it's not fixed, call the bond and have it fixed. Why should the taxpayers end up paying for something that a utility company dug up? And you could look at right in front of my house again at the stop sign.

You could go up to Jessup Street. They cut right across the middle of it. And there's a good -- and it must be murder on the plows when they go by. And, you know, I don't know if you do it or you don't do it, but why should we keep paying for somebody that digs up our roads?

If we make them post a bond and if the roads are fine, fine. Cancel the bond. If it isn't, call the bond and let it pay for the work. But I think something should be done. And the street in front of us, please cut it up and pave it right. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, sir.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Sir, you said that was 601 Shirley Lane.

MR. JOHNSON: 601 Shirley, Reeves
and Shirley.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Joe and Didge, can you guys take a ride by there and see what it is and see who the pave cut -- who it was and maybe we can contact them and get it cut up and paved. Maybe. I don't know.

MR. HALLINAN: And to answer your question, we do -- we do have specifics for them to come in. A lot of times what's happens is they make an emergency cut and then they just come in -- then it waits all winter long. And then they sub it out and a contractor comes by and we don't know -- we don't have control.

They give you, like, maybe a day of notice that they are going to come in and to watch all of them at once -- yeah, it's pretty hard. I don't mean to make any excuses. But they do have how they should be done. I mean, at one time they had that they were going to do the whole road.

But a lot of roads are being -- what do you call right now too -- the water company is putting new lines in. So the roads are pretty bad in Dunmore at this time. And when they get to paving them and they're going to
pave curb to curb when they finish that stuff up, that's a whole other subject.

MR. JOHNSON: Like I said, they responded last year and they passed through it with some kind of crazy machine. They poured something into the holes. But everything that was patched came up. And the road, every time somebody drives over it, it just makes it worse. Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: I hear you. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Anyone else like to address Council tonight? Please.

MS. ENGLISH: Good evening, everybody. My name is Katelyn English. I'm with Lackawanna County Community Relations Department. I'll be your new coordinator. I'm looking forward to working with everyone.

There are a few events and dates we'd like to share. Lackawanna County Parks and Recreation has a winter golf clinic beginning February, ending in March. Adult sessions, there's four weekly sessions Monday through Thursday and Monday and Wednesday; youth sessions ages 8 through 16, there's four
consecutive Fridays.

Lackawanna County Parks and Recreation also has its Easter egg hunt scheduled for Saturday, April 4th located at the McDade Park. The event is open to all ages. Lackawanna County and Luzerne Counties are holding public meetings to gather input on draft plans for downtown Scranton and Wilkes-Barre Pedestrian and Bicycle network.

The downtown Scranton session will be January 14th at the Lackawanna Heritage Valley. The downtown Wilkes-Barre session will be January 21st.

The Lackawanna County Office of Environmental Sustainability has put together a pickup and drop-off Christmas tree schedule. This is up on our county Facebook page at this time. And that is all I have. Thank you so much. And I'm looking forward to working with you.

MS. BRIER: Are all of those dates on your website?

MS. ENGLISH: There are fliers that I could give you. I did give -- I think Vito?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes. They are at the
Borough Building. I could send them to you.

MS. BRIER: No, maybe we can put them up on the website I'm just thinking for the public.

MS. ENGLISH: I'm happy to get your e-mail as well and include you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

MR. RUGGIERO: Katelyn, I could send you all that as well.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you. Anyone else like to address Council tonight?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

MR. RUGGIERO: Public officials.

MR. DEMPSEY: Let's start with Joe. Do you have anything?

MR. LORINCE: No.

MR. DEMPSEY: I see Officer Jordan. Do you have any anything?

OFFICER JORDAN: No.

MR. DEMPSEY: Didge?

MR. JUDGE: No.

MR. DEMPSEY: Chris?

MR. KEARNEY: No.
MR. DEMPSEY: Mary -- Attorney Dempsey?

ATTY. DEMPSEY: No.

MR. RUGGIERO: Nothing.

MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Janet, do you want to lead us off on public official comment?

MS. BRIER: No, I just want to thank everyone for coming. It's great to have a big crowd and people that are engaged citizens in the Borough and thank you for coming.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Amico. Thank you, Mrs. Brier.

MR. AMICO: I have two things this evening. Again, on the table I left a piece of paper, one of which explains Keystone Landfill's request to operate basically another leachate treatment plant at the landfill. And the request is asking to be able to discharge treated leachate into Little Roaring Brook and into Eddy Creek.

Eddy Creek, which runs along Marshwood Road and Little Roaring Brook which runs along Dunham Drive eventually goes into Roaring Brook finding its way into Lackawanna
River. I requested a public meeting on this issue to DEP and I'm yet to hear back.

I have a series of e-mails that, you know, if you want to check them out you can. But if anybody has -- if anybody wants to request a meeting, again, the information is on the table. And the second thing, on the back side of that paper on Friday night -- I'm sure other people on this Council received phone calls about an odor in the Borough probably around between 4:00 and 10:00 at night.

So if you do smell something, whether, you know, it's from the landfill or it's not, whatever is unexplainable to you, there's an 800 number that you could call. Please document it and someone from the state should come to your house.

The only problem, sometimes it takes them an hour or two to show up. That's up to you obviously if you want someone to come to your house. Personally it's not on my agenda to have someone come to my house after 8:00 at night. But I do lodge a complaint whenever there's a mal order. So again, the number is provided.
MS. BRIER: With regard to that, I wrote to Colleen Connolly and asked her to provide a -- I wrote to her as a Councilwoman and asked her to provide a report on the number of odor complaints they get in a month and bring that to Council on a monthly basis.

And I also had a question about the letter. What is the timeframe for public comment? I couldn't see it.

MR. AMICO: Thirty -- 30 days from the application.

MS. BRIER: December 5th.

MR. AMICO: The Borough received it on December 23rd.

MS. BRIER: So January 23rd.

MR. AMICO: I'll find that out. I'll get that date.

MR. DEMPSEY: Anything else, Mr. Amico?

MR. AMICO: Thank you. I appreciate it.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Hallinan.

MR. HALLINAN: I have nothing this evening. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Ehnot.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Yes, I do want to thank everyone for coming. And I want to thank Mary Walsh Dempsey for joining us. And I appreciate all your hard work and I want to welcome you.

And I do want to take this opportunity to thank Thomas Cummings for his work as a solicitor for the past 20 years. We appreciated him as well. And the, Boy Scouts, thank you for coming. And that's all I have for tonight. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mrs. Scrimalli. Mrs. Zangardi.

MS. ZANGARDI: I'm good. Thanks to the Boy Scouts for coming. You're the future of our little town. Stay involved. Thank you very much.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Just quickly as Gary mentioned, I just wanted to run through who the -- each Council person is a liaison to separate departments. So I just
wanted to announce who that person was and which department they have.

Myself will be Schautz Memorial Stadium.

Mr. Hallinan will be the Dunmore Community Center.

Mr. Amico will remain the Fire Department.

Mrs. Brier will be the Finance Chairwoman.

Mr. Ehnot will have the Police Department.

Mrs. Scrimalli will have the Department of Public Works.

And Mrs. Zangardi will have the Borough Zoning, Code, and Health Office.

Other than that, the last thing I want to say is we will have the garbage calendars out now that we have a final version of it. We will have them out as quickly as possible as quickly as they can get them printed. We were held up just because of the recycling issues. And, Mr. Duncan, your hand is up but --
MR. DUNCAN: Can you repeat those?
I couldn't even write --

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a list.
MR. DUNCAN: Okay. Thank you.
MR. JOHNSON: Will the new schedule be posted on the website?

MR. DEMPSEY: Absolutely.
MS. BRIER: We will be doing a mailing?

MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, mail --
MR. JOHNSON: I heard you say mail. I just wondered if it would be out there on
the --

MR. DEMPSEY: Absolutely. All our social media, our web page. We're going to mail it just for people who don't have access to that type of electronics.

All right. With that being said I will look for a motion to adjourn.

MR. EHNOT: I'll make a motion to adjourn.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second?
MR. AMICO: Second.
MR. DEMPSEY: A motion and a second.

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.

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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