COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:
Monday, May 13th, 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: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Ehnot.

MR. EHNOT: Here.

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. Burke.

MAYOR BURKE: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public Comment on agenda items.

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

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.
ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number four is a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-2 entering into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement and memorandum of understanding between the County of Lackawanna, the Dunmore School District and the Lackawanna County Land Bank subject to the Borough retaining a right of first refusal on all properties to be sold.

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

MR. EHNOT: I'll make that motion.

MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a second. Anyone on the question? Just quickly on the question, the land bank basically is through Lackawanna County and they try to acquire blighted properties, vacant properties, abandoned properties in Dunmore and try to basically get them -- take affirmative steps to clean them up and put them back on the tax rolls.

So with that being explained, I will look for a motion -- I'm sorry, I'll take a vote. 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 enter into a Standard Service Membership and Indemnity Agreement with Pennsylvania One Call System.

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

MR. HALLINAN: 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.
ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six on personnel matters, there's three subparts. The first is appoint part-time police officer Marissa Finn.

MR. DEMPSEY: I will look for a motion.

MR. AMICO: I'll make that motion.

MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a second. Anyone on the question?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Again, we're just adding Marissa -- I mean the motion is to add Mrs. Finn to our part-time list of police officers to help sub in when we can. Our part-time list has been depleted. We're losing people to full-time jobs.

So we do need to add more police officers, especially during the summer months. So with that being said I will look -- I'll take a vote. 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: Subpart B is the part-time DPW worker Michael Vieira.

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

MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that motion.

MR. EHNOT: Second.

MR. DEMPSEY: A motion and a second, anyone on the question? Again, just quickly on the question. Mr. Vieira will be added to our part-time list in order to help us out during the summer and as far as we need with regard to any absences, vacations, and whatnot. 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: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item six subpart C,
a motion to appoint full-time firefighter Walter Howells.

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

MR. AMICO: I'll make that motion.

MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and second. Anyone on the question?

MR. AMICO: Yeah, on the question, this summer we hired two firefighters from our Civil Service list and Mr. Howells was next on the list. And in addition, he's been with the department for three years as a part timer. That's all I have.

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

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number seven
is public comment on matters in general
commencing with Gary Duncan.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Duncan.

MR. DUNCAN: 117 Barton Street.

Just want to make sure I sent out the minutes
from last month's DPW meeting -- I'm sorry, our
Dunmore Neighborhood Watch meeting. I bring
that up because we have the one Council meeting
we didn't have last month. I just wanted to
make sure everyone got it.

I know not everybody responded. I
know some of the folks did respond and they got
it. If you didn't get it, certainly send me an
e-mail. I'll get it out to you tonight. I
already talked to Chris Kearny and everything.
He assures me -- I know next week Tuesday is
election day.

But we're still clear to have the
Neighborhood Watch meeting here next Monday.
So we're still going to hold it as we usually
do at 7:00. So those of you who can make it,
you're more than welcome. Thank you very much.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Gary.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you, Gary.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Other members for
public comment.

MR. DEMPSEY: Would anyone like to address Council tonight? Yes, sir. State your name and address for the record, please.


My name is Ron Altenhain. I reside in Swinick Development at 11 Debbie Drive. I'd like to tell you a little bit of my qualifications to speak on this matter. I have been an over-the-road truck driver for 42 years. I have driven over three and a half million miles.

I also own and operate my own trucking company. And I'm very well versed in the laws and the rules pertaining to the operation of the equipment. I resided on Debbie Drive for about five years now. And the problem is getting worse.

It's not the trucks that are coming into the development to make deliveries or pickups. They are using Swinick Drive down to Reeves Street crossing over into the Industrial
Park as a shortcut. A lot of them are local
guys. A lot of them are truck coming off of
81. GPSs are bringing them through here.

It gets even worse when the DOT sets
up -- the Pennsylvania DOT sets up an
inspection on Dunham Drive to catch the trucks
coming into the landfill and do inspections.

Word gets around and then the trucks
all start coming through Swinick to avoid the
DOT inspections. The streets -- the blacktop
is starting to roll from the weight of the
trucks. They come through and they're shaking
the house.

A lot of local guys are running
modified exhaust, no mufflers. And they find
it funny or I don't know what their deal is to
use the engine brakes at every stop sign they
come up to, which serves no purpose at all.
All it is doing is damaging the truck and it's
not even slowing it down. It's just making a
racket in the neighborhood.

There are signs at the corner of
Jessup and Reeves stating no trucks, local
deliveries only. At one time there was a sign
where Prospect become Swinick Drive. But that
sign has been gone for some time. And that's where the trucks are coming in.

Today we followed a Keystone container truck through the development, came around the corner on Swinick Drive. Some of the cargo on top of the box trailer he had, the cargo spilled on the side of the road mud and dirt.

They're doing a cleanup at the old Gertrude Hawk's building on Drinker Street. Why he came down through the residential area without going over and down Dunham Drive where he should, I don't have a clue. Came down straight down Swinick Drive, made a right on Reeves Street and out through their number two parking area out by the RCA building.

What I was wanting to ask Council to do is replace that -- reinstall that sign that was at where the point where Prospect becomes Swinick when you enter the development. Replace that sign with the sign no trucks allowed, local deliveries only. And also on the lower end of the development behind Jerry's For All Seasons where you come in that way, there's no signage down there.
Somebody is going to end up getting hurt. Now schools are going to be getting out. There's going to be kids playing. I mean, they're going to come down that little hill on Swinick, not be able to stop, overloaded to the top of their trailer, roll over. We're asking for problems.

MAYOR BURKE: Sir, I'll have Sal talk to Captain Barth and order the signs. We can do that tomorrow. We just installed some on Meade Street. We were having the same problem. We'll have signs. Rich will have more tomorrow.

MR. ALTENHAIN: And if we can ask the Dunmore Police Department to step up enforcement in that area. Once word gets around that they are being stopped, cited, it will help take care of the problem on its own.

MR. DEMPSEY: Captain Barth did -- I don't know how he knew about that truck. But he did make a phone call to the people that own that truck.

MR. ALTENHAIN: It's all over Facebook.

MR. DEMPSEY: That's probably how he
knew then.

MR. ALTENHAIN: I spoke to the
gentleman at Keystone very cordially. He was
not aware of the truck being there. Asked me
if it was today. I said, yes, it was today
because evidently he had the same phone calls
last week that they were cutting through again.

They shake the house, you know, when
they're loaded heavy -- the way the pavement is
starting to roll when the trucks come through.
I've been on the road my whole life. I know
what a truck can do to a road. And those roads
in that development were not made for heavy
trucks.

MR. DEMPSEY: We'll get those signs
replaced. And she did assure us that at least
that company it would not happen again. And if
it does, I would encourage you to please let us
know or let the police department know.

MR. ALTENHAIN: We'll take pictures
and do whatever we can do. Thank you very
much.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Hallinan?

MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I got one
thing. Don't you think the sign would be
better off down at Prospect and Drinker rather than -- why let them get in in the first place?

MR. ALTENHAIN: Well, see, where Prospect and Drinker, you might run into a problem where the development is only --

MR. HALLINAN: It doesn't matter if we don't, you know, if we restrict them from the whole area because once they get down there the first thing as a truck driver, I worked for PennDOT for 35 years, do you know what I'm saying? I'm going.

MR. ALTENHAIN: Now that M and K has taken over the Wasbash facility it's even worse because the guys are punching in their GPS 81 south and it's directing them right up through the development.

They come up, see the signs, half of them can't read English. I followed a guy with a 53 foot trailer --

MR. HALLINAN: Yeah.

MR. ALTENHAIN: -- no business being in there. I've got my own trucks. I don't bring them in there.

MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I got you.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you very much.
MR. DEMPSEY: Sir, does it happen at any certain time of the day? It's just random?

MR. ALTHENHAIN: All night long. You know, you could wake up at 2:00 in the morning somebody is sneaking in there because it's a shortcut to get to 81.

MR. DEMPSEY: Chief Marchese, will you alert your guys and have them patrol up there a little bit extra? Thank you.

MR. ALTHENHAIN: Thank you.

ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

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

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

MR. DEMPSEY: Michael, do you want to start us off tonight?

MR. HAYES: Surprisingly I have nothing, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Mr. Amico?

MR. AMICO: I have nothing tonight.

Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Mr. Hallinan?
MR. HALLINAN: Nothing.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Mchale?

MR. MCHALE: I have nothing tonight.

MR. DEMPSEY: Okay.

MR. MCHALE: We're on a roll.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Ehnot.

MR. EHNOT: I'm good tonight too.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Scrimalli?

MS. SCRIMALLI: Nothing for me.

Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Chief

Marchese.

CHIEF MARCHESE: I'm good.

MR. DEMPSEY: Chief DeNaples.

CHIEF DENAPLES: I'm good. Thank you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Chris Kearney?

MR. KEARNEY: No.

MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke?

MAYOR BURKE: Yes, just if anybody has any complaints about the dig up jobs from American Water where they are redoing the roads now, report it to the Borough Building so we can take care of it before they are all done and out of there.
Joe has a list of a lot of names where there was damaged. And also up on Smith Street, they're not -- I was wondering, like, wherever they don't put in curbs can we have the DPW put in curbs? I'm being told, is they are not putting curbs in all the way. And people are worried about water coming down over their sidewalks.

MR. DEMPSEY: We have that brand new curb machine we would like to use. So I don't see a problem with it.

MAYOR BURKE: Okay. That's all I have.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mayor Burke. Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Nothing.

MR. DEMPSEY: Attorney Cummings?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

MR. DEMPSEY: Just very quickly our next meeting that would be scheduled for May 27th, I believe is Memorial Day. So that -- our second meeting for this month will be cancelled. And then as we normally do our summer meetings which would be June -- the second meetings, we'll still have the first
meetings on every second Monday of the month.

    But the second meeting that we have
the fourth Monday of the month will be
suspended as they normally are for summer. And
that would be suspended for June, July, August,
and September. And then we will go back to two
meetings a month in October.

    And if something comes up where we
need to have a meeting, everybody will be
notified publicly. And that's all I have. So
with that, I will look for a motion to adjourn.

    MR. EHNOT: I make a motion to
adjourn.

    MR. HAYES: Second.

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

    ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

    MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

    (No response.)

    MR. DEMPSEY: 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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