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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

C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

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

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. McDonald

4 Zangardi.

5 MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

6 MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Scrimalli.

7 MS. SCRIMALLI: Here.

8 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Ehnot.

9 MR. EHNOT: Here.

10 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Dempsey.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

12 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Hallinan.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

14 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Amico.

15 MR. AMICO: Here.

16 MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Brier.

17 MS. BRIER: Here.

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

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

22 (No response.)

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

24 MR. RUGGIERO: Motion to approve and
25 pay the open bills.

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

3 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that
4 motion.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

6 MR. AMICO: I'll second that.

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

9 (No response.)

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

12 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

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

17 MR. RUGGIERO: Number five is a
18 motion to accept the letter of resignation.
19 Chairman Dempsey?

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

23 MR. AMICO: I'll make a motion.

24 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

25 MS. BRIER: I'll second.

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

7 And I just personally want to thank
8 him for all the work that he accomplished in
9 the Borough in that timeframe. I got to work
10 closely with him for the last six years. I
11 appreciate everything that he did for me in
12 that timeframe. So anybody else on the
13 question?

14 (No response.)

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

17 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

18 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

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

22 MR. RUGGIERO: Number six under
23 personnel, "A" under personnel would be a
24 motion to approve an RFP for Solicitor of the
25 Borough of Dunmore.

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

3 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that
4 motion.

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

7 MR. EHNOT: I'll second it.

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

10 (No response.)

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

13 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

15 (No response.)

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

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

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

24 MR. RUGGIERO: I don't know if Mr.
25 Amico on the question wants to just explain

1 what's going on with that.

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

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

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

25 And if there are any questions from

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

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

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

14 MR. AMICO: I'll make that motion.

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

23 MR. AMICO: I would like to make a
24 motion that we have a meeting once a month as
25 opposed to twice a month.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. I have a
2 motion. Do I have a second?

3 MR. EHNOT: Second.

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

12 But it's not feasible for what we're
13 doing. But if we do have to have a meeting, if
14 we have to have an extra meeting, they are
15 already advertised and we can get the notice
16 out to the public if there's a need for a
17 second meeting a month. But for right now
18 we're just going to -- looks like we're just
19 going to go with one. Anyone on the question?

20 (No response.)

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

23 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

24 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

25 (No response.)

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

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

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Duncan.

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

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

18 And I give anybody who runs for
19 office a lot of credit. I think you put your
20 whole lives out in front of the public. So
21 from me to you I appreciate it. Dunmore
22 Neighborhood Watch, we have our monthly meeting
23 next Monday, January 20th, 2020. It will be at
24 7:00. It will be in this room.

25 If any folks have changes in e-mail

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

7 MS. BRIER: That's it.

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

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

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

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

25 MR. RUGGIERO: Thank you. Anybody

1 else on public comment?

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

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

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

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

21 They should probably put a cement
22 surface on top of that. I don't know what it
23 would be 6 inches, 8 inches and then pave it so
24 it wouldn't settle. The last thing that I
25 would suggest is maybe when they dig up the

1 roads you make them post a bond. And if the
2 road settles in 12 months or 18 months and it's
3 not fixed, call the bond and have it fixed.
4 Why should the taxpayers end up paying for
5 something that a utility company dug up? And
6 you could look at right in front of my house
7 again at the stop sign.

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

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

21 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, sir.

22 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Sir, you said that was
24 601 Shirley Lane.

25 MR. JOHNSON: 601 Shirley, Reeves

1 and Shirley.

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

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

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

21 But a lot of roads are being -- what
22 do you call right now too -- the water company
23 is putting new lines in. So the roads are
24 pretty bad in Dunmore at this time. And when
25 they get to paving them and they're going to

1 pave curb to curb when they finish that stuff
2 up, that's a whole other subject.

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

10 MR. HALLINAN: I hear you. Thank
11 you.

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

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

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

1 consecutive Fridays.

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

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

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

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

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

25 MR. RUGGIERO: Yes. They are at the

1 Borough Building. I could send them to you.

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

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

7 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

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

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

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

13 (No response.)

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

15 MR. RUGGIERO: Public officials.

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

18 MR. LORINCE: No.

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

21 OFFICER JORDAN: No.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: Didge?

23 MR. JUDGE: No.

24 MR. DEMPSEY: Chris?

25 MR. KEARNEY: No.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Mary -- Attorney
2 Dempsey?

3 ATTY. DEMPSEY: No.

4 MR. RUGGIERO: Nothing.

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

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

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

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

22 Eddy Creek, which runs along
23 Marshwood Road and Little Roaring Brook which
24 runs along Dunham Drive eventually goes into
25 Roaring Brook finding its way into Lackawanna

1 River. I requested a public meeting on this
2 issue to DEP and I'm yet to hear back.

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

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

18 The only problem, sometimes it takes
19 them an hour or two to show up. That's up to
20 you obviously if you want someone to come to
21 your house. Personally it's not on my agenda
22 to have someone come to my house after 8:00 at
23 night. But I do lodge a complaint whenever
24 there's a mal order. So again, the number is
25 provided.

1 MS. BRIER: With regard to that, I
2 wrote to Colleen Connolly and asked her to
3 provide a -- I wrote to her as a Councilwoman
4 and asked her to provide a report on the number
5 of odor complaints they get in a month and
6 bring that to Council on a monthly basis.

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

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

12 MS. BRIER: December 5th.

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

15 MS. BRIER: So January 23rd.

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

18 MR. DEMPSEY: Anything else, Mr.
19 Amico?

20 MR. AMICO: Thank you. I appreciate
21 it.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Hallinan.

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

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Ehnnot.

1 MR. EHNOT: Nothing, I would just
2 like to welcome Pack 66. Thanks for coming.
3 Hope you learned something. Good luck.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Scrimalli.

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

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

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

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

22 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Just
23 quickly as Gary mentioned, I just wanted to run
24 through who the -- each Council person is a
25 liaison to separate departments. So I just

1 wanted to announce who that person was and
2 which department they have.

3 Myself will be Schautz Memorial
4 Stadium.

5 Mr. Hallinan will be the Dunmore
6 Community Center.

7 Mr. Amico will remain the Fire
8 Department.

9 Mrs. Brier will be the Finance
10 Chairwoman.

11 Mr. Ehnot will have the Police
12 Department.

13 Mrs. Scrimalli will have the
14 Department of Public Works.

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

17 Other than that, the last thing I
18 want to say is we will have the garbage
19 calendars out now that we have a final version
20 of it. We will have them out as quickly as
21 possible as quickly as they can get them
22 printed. We were held up just because of the
23 recycling issues. And, Mr. Duncan, your hand
24 is up
25 but --

1 MR. DUNCAN: Can you repeat those?

2 I couldn't even write --

3 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a list.

4 MR. DUNCAN: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Will the new schedule
6 be posted on the website?

7 MR. DEMPSEY: Absolutely.

8 MS. BRIER: We will be doing a
9 mailing?

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, mail --

11 MR. JOHNSON: I heard you say mail.
12 I just wondered if it would be out there on
13 the --

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

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

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

22 MR. DEMPSEY: Second?

23 MR. AMICO: Second.

24 MR. DEMPSEY: A motion and a second.
25 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

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ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
so moved. We're adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
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6 is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my
7 ability.

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