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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, January 14th, 2019

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 absent

THOMAS HALLINAN, Vice President

MICHAEL MCHALE - absent

CAROL SCRIMALLI

VINCE AMICO

THOMAS EHNOT

MICHAEL HAYES

THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor

TIMOTHY BURKE, Mayor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

4 MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

5 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Ehnnot.

6 MR. EHNOT: Present.

7 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.

8 Mr. Dempsey. Mr. Hayes.

9 MR. HAYES: Present.

10 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Amico.

11 MR. AMICO: Present.

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

14 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public Comment on
15 agenda items.

16 MR. HALLINAN: We'll take public
17 comment on agenda items only. Anybody with a
18 comment on agenda items only?

19 (No response.)

20 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number four, a
21 motion to approve the minutes.

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

23 MR. HAYES: Second.

24 MR. HALLINAN: All in favor?

25 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

1 MR. HALLINAN: On the question? So
2 approved.

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

5 MR. EHNOT: I'll make a motion to
6 pay the open bills.

7 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

8 MR. HALLINAN: On the question.

9 (No response.)

10 MR. HALLINAN: All in favor?

11 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six is
13 public comment starting with Mr. Hetman from
14 Lackawanna County.

15 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, ladies
16 and gentlemen, Gerard Hetman, Lackawanna County
17 Commissioners' Office. We have several
18 programs here at the start of the year to talk
19 about. I'm happy to say that we anticipate
20 doing a range of programing that you see me
21 talking about here in years past with new
22 additions, of course, including the Lackawanna
23 County Fair and other events as the calendar
24 should dictate.

25 And just as we go on during the year

1 anticipate doing many of the things you see
2 from us and come to expect. So we look forward
3 to a good year in programing. Right now we
4 have three programs from Penn State Extension.
5 The first is the annual strength training
6 classes for older adults.

7 I give this disclaimer every year.
8 They define older adults as someone aged 40 and
9 up. So it's a good program though. It's
10 called Growing Stronger. And Growing Stronger
11 is an eight week program that encompasses --
12 excuse me, 12 week program. It encompasses
13 wellness for older adults.

14 It focuses on both physical
15 education in terms of exercise, aerobics, and
16 strength training and also nutrition education
17 in approving overall wellness in both of those
18 areas. Really neat program. It's offered at
19 the West Scranton Community Center. We call it
20 Active Older Adult Center now. It starts
21 February 6th. So a really good program to get
22 in on. They do a lot of neat stuff with it and
23 we've got really good feedback.

24 They also have open registration for
25 the students in the age 8 through 18. They

1 have their sewing club. They call it the
2 Glenburn Sewing Club. I think most of the
3 folks involved live in that area. It's open to
4 anyone in that age range no matter where they
5 live.

6 It's one of many programs offered by
7 4H. We said this before here, we see more
8 programming through 4H that encompasses not
9 just the traditional agriculture based 4H
10 activity but also many things involving today's
11 science, technology, other hands-on arts and
12 crafts types programing. So there's lots of
13 neat stuff. And this is one of their clubs
14 that runs throughout the year.

15 And we like to make it known at the
16 start of the calendar year when they start to
17 do some of their new projects. And also they
18 have their annual North East Vegetable meeting
19 series. It's a series that they do for folks
20 that work in agriculture and they can do it for
21 different plants that are growing different
22 programs throughout the year but they start
23 them now so they can talk about them at the
24 start of the growing season.

25 And also Parks and Recreation has

1 the first of their many programs open for
2 registration the Winter Golf Clinic. It takes
3 place during February 25th through March 22nd.
4 There are adult and youth sessions. The adult
5 sessions have two different times in the
6 evenings. And the youth sessions are basically
7 6 to 7:30 p.m.

8 The adult sessions are 6 to 7:30 or
9 8 to 9:00. It runs over several weeks. And
10 it's held at the former South Catholic as my
11 mother would call it then Bishop Klonowski and
12 now today Good Will of Northeast PA over on
13 Prospect Avenue in South Scranton.

14 We put it there last year. Other
15 facilities that we used before were
16 unavailable. It turned out to be a really good
17 location for the clinic. It's designed for
18 beginner golfers. But it's also something
19 we've seen experts take and get good feedback
20 on. So check it out for anyone who wants to
21 break into golf or learn a little bit more.
22 It's a great opportunity.

23 Our Emergency Management Agency
24 asked us to share this particularly for the
25 first responders here in the room. A training

1 they call Rail Car Incident Response for crude,
2 ethanol, and other flammable liquids. It's
3 March 30th at the 911 Center in Jessup. I
4 believe it's free.

5 They have a lot of details here on
6 the program. It's a one-day training. But it
7 trains anyone particularly emergency personnel
8 and emergency management folks. But any
9 municipal official or member of the public is
10 welcome. It's basically how to respond to and
11 manage a hazmat type incident involving a crash
12 with rail cars that are containing hazardous
13 material.

14 So it's a really neat training. We
15 see this now more and more with oil shipments
16 going by rail across the county and across the
17 continent. It's something to keep in mind.
18 As I said, if you haven't heard about it,
19 please keep it in mind to register.

20 And last but not least, this is
21 probably one of our best initiatives I've seen
22 since I've been here. And it's the second one
23 in as many months now that we've seen launched
24 that is a community-based effort by one of our
25 agencies or more. The names are listed in the

1 program.

2 This is known as the Healthy Moms
3 Initiative. It's headed by Lackawanna
4 Susquehanna Office of Drug and Alcohol Program
5 with support from Lackawanna County Office of
6 Youth and Family Services and a number of
7 different agencies in the community.

8 It's designed to assist expectant
9 mothers both before or after they give birth
10 who are suffering from drug abuse and
11 addiction, particularly to prescription opiate
12 abuse and addiction. We see that as a
13 vulnerable population within any vulnerable
14 population.

15 Sometimes women who fit into that
16 category may be less likely to seek treatment
17 even if some other folks who may be suffering
18 from that type of situation. So this program
19 is designed to provide various different means
20 of support to help mothers who are expecting
21 again, both before or after they give birth to
22 make sure their needs, unique needs are
23 addressed and not overlooked in that process.

24 We'll leave you -- there are a lot
25 of details here. And it's going to be growing.

1 It's going to be evolving. It's really
2 exciting because we're helping folks who need
3 help even more than some others in that
4 situation. So stay tuned. We have a great
5 bunch of partners lined up for this.

6 And I'm happy to say we have user
7 friendly interactive website that spells out
8 the whole program and it tells anyone even who
9 is not involved in such a situation how they
10 could help and get involved and make a
11 difference in the program. So stay tuned on
12 that one and we'll talk to you again soon.

13 MAYOR BURKE: Gerard, can you give
14 me the time and place for the hazmat training
15 again, please?

16 MR. HETMAN: Sure. It's going to be
17 March 30th. And it's going to be from 8 a.m.
18 to 5 p.m., at officially the Lackawanna County
19 Center For Public Safety better known as the
20 911 Center.

21 MAYOR BURKE: Thank you.

22 MR. HETMAN: And there is another
23 number of EMA specific details on here, Mayor.
24 So I'll leave a flyer with you guys. Certain
25 certifications and things this counts towards,

1 different specific functions for the emergency
2 management, really neat program.

3 MR. HALLINAN: Thanks, Gerard.

4 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thanks, Gerard.

5 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Duncan,
6 neighborhood watch report.

7 MR. DUNCAN: 117 Barton Street, Gary
8 Duncan. I just -- same question I ask all the
9 time, did everybody get the minutes from the
10 December meeting? And I have an extra copy
11 tonight. Vito, I'll give it to you if you want
12 to pass it along. Joe's not here. I don't
13 know if he got it or not.

14 We are going to have our monthly
15 meeting next Monday night at 7 p.m. Everybody
16 is certainly welcome to attend. I want to
17 thank Chief DeNaples from the Dunmore Fire
18 Department. He provided me with a couple extra
19 boxes of the new ten year fire alarms. So at
20 the last meeting we had so many people and so
21 many requests we gave them out.

22 And the firemen promptly went out
23 and put the smoke detectors in the houses of
24 the folks that joined us. So thank you very
25 much for giving me the additional two boxes.

1 So we have some more that we can give out next
2 Monday night. If you don't have a smoke
3 detector or if you need a new one, I'm sure
4 Chris can speak to it better than I.

5 They're a ten year smoke detector.
6 Better than the ones we used to have to change
7 every six months that chirped and woke you up
8 at 2 a.m. So it's a lot better. And I can't
9 say enough about the members of the fire
10 department who go out there and get into our
11 handicapped citizen's houses and identify their
12 bedrooms. So personally I thank you for that.
13 Happy New Year to everybody.

14 MR. HALLINAN: Happy New Year, Gary.
15 Thank you.

16 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Other public
17 comment.

18 MR. HALLINAN: Anybody else want to
19 speak? The gentleman back here first, state
20 your name and address, please.

21 MR. FUTSKO: Brian Futsko, 234 West
22 Drinker Street. I just have a quick question
23 about the Schautz field and any updates on it?
24 And if you have a minute after the meeting I
25 have something I would like to discuss with you

1 guys afterwards.

2 MR. HALLINAN: Okay. The update
3 it's probably on hold now for the winter. So
4 the field probably won't be put down until
5 April at least. Okay?

6 MR. FUTSKO: Okay.

7 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Sir.

8 MR. CHERMAK: My name is Chris
9 Chermak. I'm from Dalton. I'm just here
10 tonight just to introduce myself to Council and
11 to the public that's here tonight. I'm
12 planning on being a candidate for Lackawanna
13 County Commission coming up in May.

14 So if anybody has any questions for
15 me after the meeting, I will be happy to stay
16 and answer any questions. That's all I have.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

19 MR. AMICO: Thank you.

20 MR. HALLINAN: Yes, ma'am.

21 MS. MORELL: I'm Gail Morell, 1721
22 North Webster Avenue, Dunmore. I am here to
23 question the protocol on sending Rescue One on
24 ambulance calls. On November 30th at
25 approximately 5:45 my husband took a major

1 heart attack and had trouble breathing.

2 I called Comm Center immediately.
3 My children were already on their way from
4 Stroudsburg and Union Dale. My son who lives
5 with us was trying to keep my husband calm and
6 moving furniture knowing that the ambulance
7 should be there very shortly.

8 Ten minutes later they still -- no
9 ambulance. There was no ambulance stationed in
10 Dunmore. They -- finally police officer Tony
11 Cali arrived. And I was still on the phone
12 with Comm Center. And Comm Center said the
13 ambulance is coming up Green Ridge Street.

14 Well, I only live a block away from
15 Green Ridge Street. I only live four blocks
16 away from the police department and the fire
17 department. And we could not hear any sirens
18 for a good three to four minutes after that.

19 By the time they got there, they
20 just kept shoving nitros into my husband giving
21 him oxygen. And by the time we got to the
22 hospital he was on the operating table within
23 20 minutes. This is serious. I understand
24 that Rescue One can't go out on every single
25 ambulance call. I understand that.

1 But if there had been an ambulance
2 in the area, we wouldn't have needed them. But
3 they have oxygen. They are trained in taking
4 care of people that are having major heart
5 attacks. And I think the protocol on sending
6 Rescue One on certain calls should be looked
7 into and changed. And thank you very much for
8 listening to me.

9 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

10 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

11 MR. HALLINAN: Anybody else want to
12 address Council this evening?

13 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

14 MR. HALLINAN: Mayor Burke?

15 MAYOR BURKE: I want to congratulate
16 the girls basketball team on winning the Lynett
17 and Victoria Toomey scoring her 1,000 points.
18 I hope everybody had a good holiday. It's our
19 first meeting back.

20 And also I was wondering if Tom
21 maybe could look into -- I see the problem they
22 are having down in Wyoming Valley, all the
23 complaints about the stormwater bill. They are
24 starting to get that now in Wyoming Valley.

25 If we can find out when we're going

1 to be hit with that, if we're going to get hit
2 with that. I know that -- there's -- I have
3 been listening to it on the radio, the
4 complaints, like, they're saying up in New York
5 that they don't have to follow EPA rules or
6 there is no rule on them with the stormwater.
7 I'm not sure of that. But if we can look into
8 that and find out.

9 I know the people in the Wyoming
10 Valley are not happy with their stormwater
11 bill, their new bill. And from my
12 understanding, everybody in Pennsylvania will
13 be hit with that sooner or later and just to
14 prepare people, you know, that it's coming and
15 if there is anything we can do.

16 I know they are starting a petition
17 to see if the law could change the same as it
18 is in New York. From what I understand, I'm
19 not sure what the law though is, the EPA is not
20 pushing New York to -- for the same bill. But
21 I'll look into it more. And I was hoping, Tom,
22 could help us out on that with the legal end of
23 it, our duties.

24 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, we'll look into
25 that, okay. Tom Cummings will.

1 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Sure.

2 MR. HALLINAN: Do you have anything
3 else, Mayor?

4 MAYOR BURKE: It's good to see Brian
5 here following with the soccer and everything
6 and keeping up with the updates. Good job with
7 the kids and everything, Brian. Thanks.
8 That's all I have for tonight. Thank you.

9 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Chief
10 Marchese?

11 CHIEF MARCHESE: Nothing.

12 MR. HALLINAN: Chris?

13 MR. KEARNEY: Nothing.

14 MR. HALLINAN: Vito?

15 MR. RUGGIERO: Nothing.

16 MR. HALLINAN: Attorney Cummings?

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Just one item,
18 certain councilman called and asked about the
19 Shade Tree Commission. And it's my
20 understanding it's listed by the Commonwealth
21 as a five member panel. So my suggestion would
22 be for your next meeting if you so desire a
23 resolution forming a Shade Tree Committee which
24 would be as many members as you choose to
25 appoint and then that could be the Shade Tree

1 Commission.

2 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, we can do that
3 at our next meeting, correct?

4 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yes, sir. Yep.

5 MR. HALLINAN: Okay, thank you, Tom.

6 MAYOR BURKE: Tom, if I could --

7 MR. HALLINAN: Go ahead.

8 MAYOR BURKE: I was wondering too if
9 we can look into the one e-mail Vito sent out
10 just last month about a video to promote
11 Dunmore if we can maybe get that on next
12 Dunmore Council's next agenda. Thank you.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Agenda, okay? Okay,
14 Vito?

15 MR. RUGGIERO: Sure.

16 MR. HALLINAN: Chief DeNaples?

17 CHIEF DENAPLES: Nothing tonight.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. HALLINAN: Nothing. Okay.
20 Carol, do you want to lead us off?

21 MRS. SCRIMALLI: I have nothing
22 tonight. And thank you all for coming. Happy
23 New Year to you.

24 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Ehnnot?

25 MR. EHNNOT: I'm good. Thanks.

1 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Hayes.

2 MR. HAYES: Sure. Thank you,
3 Mr. Chairman. I just want to say, you know,
4 thank everyone for coming out tonight. I'm
5 very proud of what we've accomplished as a
6 Borough this past year. Looking back from the
7 beginning, the work at Schautz Stadium what
8 kind of great complex that's going to be. That
9 will be a destination for youth activities all
10 up and down the east coast.

11 We're very proud of that. You know,
12 we've expanded and continued the Summer Rec
13 Program and yet another year without a tax
14 increase. So I just think those things should
15 be highlighted, you know, of accomplishments
16 in the past year. Thank you for your time, Mr.
17 Chairman.

18 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Amico.

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

20 MR. HALLINAN: I would just like to
21 thank everybody for coming. I have nothing
22 else. I look for a motion to adjourn.

23 MR. EHNOT: I make a motion to
24 adjourn.

25 MR. HAYES: Second.

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MR. HALLINAN: Thank you all for
coming.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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12 Official Court Reporter
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