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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, January 24th, 2022

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 :

- VINCE AMICO - President
- JANET BRIER - Vice President via FaceTime
- MICHAEL DEMPSEY
- THOMAS HALLINAN
- ELIZABETH ZANGARDI
- WILLIAM O'MALLEY, III
- KATHERINE OVEN
- MICHAEL P. PERRY, Esquire, Solicitor
- VITO RUGGIERO, Borough Manager - absent

MARIA McCOOL, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 ATTY. PERRY: Mrs. McDonald

4 Zangardi.

5 MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

6 ATTY. PERRY: Mr. O'Malley.

7 MR. O'MALLEY: Here.

8 ATTY. PERRY: Mr. Dempsey.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

10 ATTY. PERRY: Mr. Amico.

11 MR. AMICO: Here.

12 ATTY. PERRY: Mrs. Brier.

13 MS. BRIER: Here.

14 ATTY. PERRY: Mrs. Mackrell Oven.

15 MS. OVEN: Here.

16 ATTY. PERRY: Mr. Hallinan.

17 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

18 ATTY. PERRY: Number three, public

19 comment on agenda items.

20 THE COURT: Would anyone from the

21 public like to comment on any agenda items

22 only?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. AMICO: Seeing none.

25 ATTY. PERRY: Number four, motion to

1 accept the proposal of the Pennsylvania Economy  
2 League (PEL) regarding a Strategic Management  
3 Planning Proposal and engage in their services  
4 to aid in oversight on the financial challenges  
5 the Borough has to date and moving forward.

6 A 60 percent/40 percent grant  
7 received. Service will not exceed \$40,000 for  
8 Phase I of the review, which will include an  
9 assessment of the Borough's financial  
10 condition, financial trend analysis, management  
11 audit, and a five-year plan.

12 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion  
13 to accept the proposal from the Pennsylvania  
14 Economy League.

15 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that  
16 motion.

17 MR. AMICO: I have a motion. I'll  
18 look for a second.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll second.

20 MR. AMICO: I have a motion and a  
21 second. Anybody on the question?

22 MS. BRIER: Yeah, Vince, I just  
23 wanted to comment on a couple things. PEL will  
24 bring us an objective third party overview of  
25 our present situation. And, you know, they're

1 very -- because they had so much experience in  
2 managing municipalities, they have, you know,  
3 statistics and realtime plans that they've put  
4 in place that have worked in other places, you  
5 know, kind of examples for us.

6 They also provided third party  
7 overview of the Collective Bargaining  
8 Agreements and their overall strategy for other  
9 issues like parking, playgrounds, parking  
10 meters, paving, all of the municipal  
11 responsibilities of Council.

12 They also said they would help us to  
13 obtain infrastructure funds and other state  
14 grants that we may or may not be aware of at  
15 the moment. So I'm thrilled that they're --  
16 that we received the STMP Grant to pay for, you  
17 know, kind of three quarters of their bill and  
18 we can move forward and hopefully get a plan  
19 for the Borough, their professional overview.  
20 Thanks, Vince.

21 MR. AMICO: Thank you, Janet. All  
22 those in favor say aye.

23 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

24 MR. AMICO: None opposed, the ayes  
25 have it.

1                   ATTY. PERRY: Number five, public  
2                   comment.

3                   MR. AMICO: Would anybody like from  
4                   the public like to comment this evening?

5                   (No response.)

6                   MR. AMICO: Seeing none.

7                   ATTY. PERRY: Number six, public  
8                   officials.

9                   MR. AMICO: I apologize. Sir, would  
10                  you mind coming to the podium so we can have  
11                  this on the record, please?

12                  MR. EVANGELISTA: John is the first  
13                  name, E-V-A-N-G-E-L-I-S-T-A. I'm here tonight  
14                  I live up on 436 Elmhurst Boulevard. We got a  
15                  problem with the water ever since -- I guess  
16                  I'm there five years now. It's gotten to the  
17                  point now -- I got pictures here on my phone.

18                  The ice is out now to the middle of  
19                  the road. The neighbor next to me she was  
20                  actually stuck, couldn't get out. I witnessed  
21                  myself two cars literally coming down the road  
22                  sliding across where the ice is because it goes  
23                  out into the middle of the road now and hit the  
24                  embankment next to me where the Brozettis are.

25                  A lot of people walk down that road.

1           Somebody's going to get hurt. I'm bottoming  
2           out. I need some help here.

3                   MR. AMICO: I know we've reached out  
4           to Mr. Judge in the past --

5                   MR. EVANGELISTA: I was talking to  
6           him today. He came up there.

7                   MR. AMICO: Do you mind sending  
8           somebody up tomorrow to check it out?

9                   MR. JUDGE: I go up every day. The  
10          water is still coming down. This freeze, once  
11          it builds up on the road, it's bad.

12                   MR. HALLINAN: Is the road that  
13          keeps coming down -- keeps coming off the  
14          mountain?

15                   MR. JUDGE: It's coming off the  
16          mountain.

17                   MR. EVANGELISTA: This is where --  
18          this is going -- my driveway here. This is  
19          probably literally up this high now  
20          (indicating) and going out into the middle of  
21          the street.

22                   MS. OVEN: Where's it coming from?

23                   MR. HALLINAN: From the mountain.

24                   MR. AMICO: Didge, what have you  
25          guys done in the past --

1 MR. JUDGE: You know what we did, we  
2 got a grader up there.

3 MR. HALLINAN: We got to get a  
4 grader.

5 MR. JUDGE: It's going to come back.  
6 That's about the only thing you could do. It's  
7 a foot thick. I hit that every morning with  
8 salt. But you know what, the salt -- it just  
9 refreezes in this weather. That's why it's so  
10 bad because of the cold. But there's a problem  
11 up there.

12 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, wasn't that  
13 problem looked into before though?

14 MR. JUDGE: Thirty years, it's  
15 getting worse every year. It gets worse and  
16 worse.

17 MR. EVANGELISTA: I have like this  
18 much water sitting from the whole length right  
19 across. It's been getting worse every year.

20 MR. AMICO: I guess the only other  
21 thing we could reach out to Mr. Lopatka to  
22 look for a solution.

23 MR. JUDGE: A drain. Even if you  
24 put a pipe under the road and put it right down  
25 to the creek.

1 MR. AMICO: Right. At least  
2 temporarily if there is something you could  
3 try.

4 MR. JUDGE: I'll try to get a grader  
5 tomorrow.

6 MR. AMICO: Okay. Yeah, I'll reach  
7 out to our Borough engineer and look for a  
8 long-term solution. But in the interim, Mr.  
9 Judge, will send somebody up to --

10 MR. JUDGE: Do you have my number?

11 MR. EVANGELISTA: I got your number.

12 MR. JUDGE: I got your number. I'll  
13 keep in touch with you.

14 MR. EVANGELISTA: I appreciate that.  
15 Like I said, I mean, it's not just that. A lot  
16 of people walk that road and I just seen  
17 someone the other day slamming on their brakes  
18 and almost slid --

19 MR. AMICO: Okay.

20 MR. EVANGELISTA: Okay.

21 MR. AMICO: Yes, sir. Thank you for  
22 your time.

23 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Amico, is there  
24 any way that we could look at getting a grader  
25 whether we borrow one off the county or



1           someplace to, you know, just cut that ice back,  
2           get it off the road? Obviously, salt, you're  
3           not going to accomplish it.

4                   MR. JUDGE: No. Salt, it just  
5           refreezes.

6                   MR. HALLINAN: Right.

7                   MR. JUDGE: It's got to be a foot  
8           thick.

9                   MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, you got to get  
10          a grater in there and cut it out. Okay.

11                   MR. AMICO: Thank you.

12                   MR. HALLINAN: Can you make some  
13          phone calls tomorrow?

14                   MR. JUDGE: Um hum.

15                   MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

16                   MR. AMICO: Anybody else like to  
17          address Council this evening?

18                   (No response.)

19                   MR. AMICO: Seeing none.

20                   ATTY. PERRY: Number six, public  
21          officials.

22                   MR. AMICO: Beth, would you like to  
23          start us off tonight? Actually, hold on a  
24          second. I'm sorry, Beth. Mr. Mayor, Mickey.

25                   ATTY. PERRY: I have nothing.

1                   MAYOR CONWAY: Is this just open?  
2                   Oh, just for DPW and Didge, Hal, Trip, Vito,  
3                   just a great job with the truck down still  
4                   getting most of the garbage picked up this  
5                   week.

6                   MR. AMICO: Didge?

7                   MR. JUDGE: I have nothing.

8                   MR. AMICO: All right. Now, Beth,  
9                   I'm sorry.

10                  MS. ZANGARDI: Just wanted to let  
11                  everyone know that the Hyland property will be  
12                  going to auction on January 26th. And I think  
13                  the Borough is pretty excited too. That's one  
14                  property being cleaned up in the Borough.

15                  And we hope to continue moving  
16                  forward with other abandoned and blighted  
17                  properties to be put back on the tax roll and  
18                  cleaned up. Pretty excited about it. That's  
19                  all I have for tonight. And thank you,  
20                  Didge -- actually to all the DPW workers.  
21                  Really, God love you. Thank you.

22                  MR. AMICO: Thanks, Beth. Trip --  
23                  Mr. O'Malley?

24                  MR. O'MALLEY: I just want to say  
25                  thank you to Mr. Judge and our DPW workers.

1 We're still down one truck. But we're all  
2 caught up as far as garbage pickup and the  
3 recycling will be picked up throughout the  
4 week.

5 MR. JUDGE: Yeah, by Thursday all  
6 the recycling, everything will be caught up.

7 MR. O'MALLEY: Thank you. And thank  
8 you, Mr. Hallinan, you know, you've been  
9 keeping close contact with all of this and the  
10 snow and the trucks and everything. So that's  
11 all I have. Thank you.

12 MR. AMICO: Thank you. Mr. Dempsey.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: I'm good tonight.  
14 Thank you.

15 MR. AMICO: Mr. Hallinan.

16 MR. HALLINAN: I'm just going to  
17 echo what everybody else said, thanks to the  
18 DPW. And, you know, I mean, we had a couple  
19 trucks down. We really have to look for a new  
20 recycling truck. I think that should be  
21 something we put on the front burner and not  
22 forget about it.

23 Also, I want to just remember one  
24 thing too. These guys are working out -- they  
25 came out on Saturday which in my backyard I

1 think it was minus 6 below. And they were out  
2 picking garbage. So, you know, I told them to  
3 take as many breaks as they have to to stay  
4 warm. But it's a tough job. And we really  
5 appreciate what these gentleman did. So thank  
6 you very much, Didge, and make sure it's  
7 extended to all the crews, okay? Thank you.  
8 That's all I have, Mr. Amico.

9 MR. AMICO: Thank you. Mrs. Oven?

10 MS. OVEN: Just basically thanking  
11 the DPW and all of their hard work, appreciate  
12 it. It can't be easy being out there in the  
13 cold and the ice. But please extend my thanks  
14 to them too.

15 MR. JUDGE: Thank you. I'll let  
16 them know.

17 MR. AMICO: Mrs. Brier.

18 MS. BRIER: Yeah, Vince, I just want  
19 to say, you know, I'm really happy that we have  
20 approved the PEL appointment and that we had  
21 moved forward with a plan for the Borough.

22 Again, this is something that they  
23 had recommend. We don't have to take their  
24 recommendations. But I appreciate everyone's  
25 vote of confidence for them. And I also

1 appreciate being able to connect to everyone on  
2 FaceTime while I'm away. So I wanted to thank  
3 Vito for that as well. And that's all.

4 MR. AMICO: Thank you, Janet. Two  
5 things that I had is, one is, I'm going to pair  
6 what everybody said about Mr. Judge and his  
7 crew. And I really hope to not talk to you  
8 this much this week as we did last week.

9 I think I talked to you and Trip and  
10 Mr. Hallinan a lot. I hope we have a calmer  
11 week this week, but fantastic job. You guys  
12 did an awesome job.

13 And just a reminder, our next  
14 meeting is February 14th, Valentine's Day. So  
15 you could celebrate Valentine's Day with the  
16 Borough. And our meetings will be going  
17 forward at 6:00. So the 7:00 meetings are now  
18 being changed to 6.

19 And that's all I have, looking  
20 forward to seeing everybody next month. And  
21 that's all I have for this evening. So with  
22 that, I'll look for a motion to adjourn.

23 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that  
24 motion.

25 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a second.

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MR. O'MALLEY: Second.

MR. AMICO: All those in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. AMICO: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. AMICO: The ayes have it.

Thanks folks. See you next month.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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