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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, April 8th, 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

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

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(Pledge of Allegiance.)

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Before the roll call a minor amendment. The agenda 5A will be personnel matters. Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Ehnnot.

MR. EHNOT: Present.

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. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public Comment on agenda items.

MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody like to address Council on agenda items only?

(No response.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Number four, motion

1 to approve the minutes.

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

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

5 MR. EHNOT: I'll make that motion.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Second. I have a
7 motion and a second. On anyone on the
8 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 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number five is
18 a motion to approve and pay the open bills.

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

21 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that
22 motion.

23 MR. HAYES: Second.

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

1 (No response.)

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

4 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
8 so moved.

9 ATTY. CUMMINGS: 5A personnel
10 matters. A motion to approve the retention of
11 Lindsey Zarick, police officer on a part time
12 on-call basis.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: Tom, I believe it's
14 hiring of. She hasn't already worked for us,
15 right?

16 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I'm sorry.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. I'm looking for
18 a motion there.

19 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that
20 motion.

21 MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a
23 second. Anyone on the question? Briefly just
24 on the question, our part-time reserves of
25 police officers are depleting from different

1 officers getting other jobs in other townships.
2 So we need to keep adding them to our rotation.
3 Anyone else on the question?

4 (No response.)

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

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Ayes have it and so
11 moved.

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six is
13 public comment on other items.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Is Gary here? Okay,
15 yes, sir. Please come up to the podium and
16 state your name and address.

17 MR. PYERON: My name is Tom Pyeron.
18 I'm representing the residents of Tigue Street,
19 the 100 block of Tigue Street. And we have a
20 problem, water problems. And I have some
21 photos here I would like everybody to look at
22 and some comments we made on this if you would
23 like to see them.

24 And I also have a video on my cell
25 phone and another resident has a video on their

1 cell phone of the situation. These are the
2 photos and my comments on the back. We have
3 this water problem that came up on 9th of
4 March.

5 And it's coming up through the road.
6 And now it has expanded and is perking up
7 through a larger area. It's probably about a
8 50 foot area on those photos. It's coming down
9 at a pretty good pace. And the videos, you
10 could hear the sound the water and everything.

11 Now, what's causing -- it's causing
12 a lot of potholes. Some of the potholes are
13 above my ankles. And it's caused by the big
14 trucks, cars, all the rest of the traffic. And
15 it's getting to a point now that one section of
16 the road will be impassable.

17 The other thing we're concerned
18 about is the possibility of sinkholes because
19 this water is coming according to the water
20 company, it's untreated water. They don't know
21 where it's coming from. But it's quite an
22 issue. So if you would like to see the video I
23 could show you the video. I'll pass my cell
24 phone down or whatever you would like. We need
25 to have something done on this.

1 MS. SCRIMALLI: Did you say this is
2 on Tigue Street?

3 MR. HALLINAN: Back by Dunmore
4 Roofing.

5 MR. PYERON: Yep. So we want
6 something to be done about this because the
7 water company's been there. I've got a list of
8 the dates this started how a vehicle got stuck
9 in there. The partners, 5:00, 5:30 in the
10 morning they are trying to pull a car out that
11 got stuck in the hole. The police department
12 put cones around it. But it's getting worse.
13 Something has to be done.

14 MR. HALLINAN: This never happened
15 before?

16 MR. PYERON: It happened about 20
17 years ago. And the water company repaired it.
18 And it was some type of water line someplace in
19 the area. They have been back and forth since
20 I think the 18th of March. And the matter is
21 getting worse.

22 MR. EHNOT: Sir, where did you say
23 you think the water is originating from?

24 MR. PYERON: I think it's an
25 untreated waterline coming from the old

1 reservoir out there. And, in fact, there's a
2 PennDOT ditch along side of Tigue Street that
3 was put in when the ramp was put in. And it
4 never had water in there. There's water in it
5 now. Where it's coming from, what's going to
6 happen? My house is right on the edge of that.

7 And I get water now under my floor.
8 If we have rain for two or three days, I have
9 to be pumping it out continuously. I am
10 concerned that it may fall down and start to
11 flood me out.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: If we can have your
13 phone number, sir, we can get you in touch with
14 Joe Lorince.

15 MR. PYERON: We've been in touch
16 with him.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Right, but we
18 have to get the borough engineer up there and
19 with the water company to take a look and see
20 where the cause is coming from to see where we
21 can -- to see if we can get a game plan and
22 see, first of all, whose responsibility it is.

23 MR. PYERON: That's the biggest
24 thing because it seems like nobody is taking
25 responsibility for it. And it's been going on

1 since March 9th.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Are you going to stick
3 around in the meeting? You can give me your
4 number afterwards and we'll put you in touch
5 with the right people.

6 MR. EHNOT: Sure. Yes. Yes. And
7 the other thing is all the potholes on the
8 street. Somebody came up and patched two
9 potholes and left the rest of them go. These
10 issues have to be addressed because it's
11 getting to be a bad situation.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. We'll take care
13 of it.

14 MR. PYERON: Great. Thank you.

15 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

16 MR. DEMPSEY: Would anyone else like
17 to address Council tonight?

18 MR. DUNCAN: I was at another
19 meeting, I apologize. 117 Barton Street, just
20 a quick announcement, neighborhood watch next
21 Monday, 7:00. So I hope to see you all there.
22 If anybody needs any of the minutes or
23 anything, get to me and I'll get them out to
24 you. Thanks a lot. Sorry about that.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Oven.

1 MS. OVEN: Kathryn Oven, I live in
2 Dunmore. My concern is the recycling in the
3 borough. So I have some photos for you that
4 you were -- that you can look at. This is
5 basically throughout the borough. It's
6 cardboard out with garbage. It's not out on
7 Thursday or Friday. It's out Wednesday for
8 Thursday. And it's piled in with the garbage
9 cans.

10 So if you look at the form we have
11 for the recycling, it doesn't actually say
12 cardboard anywhere. On the green spots which
13 is paper, I guess that's where cardboard is
14 supposed to be picked up as well. So my
15 concern is that we're really doing very little
16 recycling in Dunmore.

17 And now with the changes from the
18 Recycling Center there seems to be a lot of
19 confusion. I picked up these papers during the
20 week. And it basically says what you can and
21 can't put in. I put it on Facebook asking
22 people to share and then Lackawanna County
23 Recycling put out a different one. So there is
24 some confusion that says you can't do cereal
25 boxes. That one says you can.

1 Some say you can't do pizza boxes.
2 Some say you can. Someone told me that Dunmore
3 is no longer recycling. If feel like there's a
4 better way -- we need to find a better way to
5 get this information to the people. Cardboard
6 is a no-brainer. I have to drive my own to the
7 Recycling Center at this point because I don't
8 know when it's going to get picked up.

9 And if it's getting picked up, I've
10 seen the recycling, the cardboard that's out
11 and going into the garbage trucks. It's
12 happened to people I know. And I don't know
13 what the answer is. I'm happy to try to help
14 the borough in any way. But I think we need to
15 get this message out that recycling is
16 important and we have to do something better.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: We put it out on our
18 website. I think it was the flyer from the
19 county. We also sent it to Scranton Printing.
20 That was on April 1st, I believe. And they are
21 sending a mailer to all homes because not
22 everybody has social media.

23 MS. OVEN: So the mailer that's
24 going out, is it this mailer that's incorrect
25 or is it this that's telling what to recycle?

1 MR. DEMPSEY: That one. It's a form
2 of the county's.

3 MS. OVEN: Okay. That's good news.
4 I think there is a problem with this one going
5 out.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: No. That goes out in
7 the beginning of the year. We already sent
8 that out. But we can change it for next year.

9 MS. OVEN: Yeah, I think people need
10 to understand. I don't know if we can do some
11 type of incentive programs for people that
12 recycle, but considering the crackdown that
13 they are doing now, they are recycling a lot
14 less.

15 I mean, we're living in a borough
16 with the third largest landfill in the state.
17 I think it's really on us to, you know, set
18 some precedent and recycle. It's important.
19 Like I said, I'm happy to help.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Any ideas you have
21 we're all ears. We're happy to do anything.

22 MS. OVEN: I think really just
23 getting information to residents, whether it's
24 flyers, whether it's signs, whether it's phone
25 calls, whether it's, you know, meetings here at

1 the DCC. But people obviously aren't doing
2 this intentionally. I know it's more work to
3 recycle. I get it. I drive myself to the
4 Recycling Center myself.

5 But really, you are looking at
6 something like cardboard, that's a lot of waste
7 that could be recycled. And the plastic is
8 iffy. I know there's issues about what's
9 recycled and what's not. But the cardboard is
10 really -- it's pretty frustrating to see it.
11 And it's all over the borough. All you have to
12 do is walk around.

13 So I don't know, like I said, I
14 don't know if you want to set up a committee
15 that tries to brainstorm how we can be better
16 but it's just a concern that I have.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: That works for me.

18 MR. HAYES: It's a great idea.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Can we have somebody
20 get in touch with you and then we can figure
21 out --

22 MS. OVEN: Sure. Yeah, I'm happy to
23 help.

24 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

25 MS. OVEN: You're welcome.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody else like to
2 address Council tonight?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

5 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll start with Chief
7 DeNaples.

8 CHIEF DENAPLES: I have nothing
9 tonight.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Chris?

11 MR. KEARNEY: Nothing.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Chief Marchese?

13 CHIEF MARCHESE: No.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke.

15 MAYOR BURKE: Yes, I had meetings
16 with Sal and the police department last week, a
17 couple of days during the week with different
18 shifts. And we were talking about the ATV
19 problem. And we're brainstorming to put things
20 together. Chief came up with some good ideas.

21 I really think too that we should
22 have myself and the Chief go down and speak to
23 the school, make a meeting with the school
24 board and educate them on ATVs because, I mean,
25 a lot of people heard about the accident and

1 thank God the kids are okay. They are pretty
2 banged up but they are going to be okay. But
3 the Chief's -- you know and the police said,
4 you know, gave me some really good ideas. And
5 I think we should talk to the school board
6 and -- I mean the school children. Set it up
7 myself with Sal and try to educate them on what
8 can happen. And, you know, they are against
9 the law.

10 And the chief and I were talking too
11 about maybe talking to Tommy and talking to the
12 state maybe getting the meeting set up with
13 Senator Blake and maybe changing the laws where
14 we have to register your ATVs. I don't know if
15 it's the state law or not if Tommy could --

16 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yeah, you have to
17 license them every year.

18 MAYOR BURKE: Okay, so if -- do they
19 have to come to the borough and license them?

20 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No. And it's not
21 with PennDOT. It's with -- not DEP, the
22 environmental resources. It's a regular annual
23 registration.

24 MAYOR BURKE: Maybe if we can talk
25 to Blake and see if they change the law that

1 they have to register with the boroughs too.
2 That way when they register we'll have a serial
3 number and we'll have a picture of their ATV.

4 Because right now, you know, we
5 don't chase the vehicles because we're worried
6 about accidents. And that's a safety issue
7 itself chasing these kids on them. Some are
8 adults actually too. But it is against the law
9 to have your ATV on the street. I also think I
10 would like to ask Council if they would
11 reconsider too the Moosic law about they have
12 an ordinance -- and Sal brought this up to me
13 last year and I brought it up to Council.

14 If you bring your ATV into a gas
15 station without -- on the back of a truck or
16 trailer, the gas station in Moosic, they're
17 fined, okay? I know it's not going to stop all
18 ATVs. But the police told me about this
19 before. Sal that -- you know, it's -- we
20 called up the borough myself and Vito last
21 year -- actually the same month last year -- a
22 year this month.

23 And they said it put a dent in it.
24 She said you're never going to stop it all. I
25 also suggest too that we put up signs in

1 certain areas -- strategic areas. Sal has the
2 guys going out at special times and trying to
3 catch the guys. I said we can't chase them.
4 But I think these are things that could help
5 deter it.

6 Because right now, I mean, a lot of
7 gas stations you drive by you'll see ATVs
8 parked there getting gas. So if they are
9 sitting there, they are there illegal. The
10 Chief, myself, and Council, we're all worried
11 about -- anybody getting hurt.

12 It could be you walking your child
13 down the road and you don't know because I'm
14 getting reports they're all over. And with the
15 warm weather, the Chief, they'll be even more.
16 But I'm just asking Council if we could go over
17 that again, the borough ordinance again of
18 Moosic and see if we can adopt just to try to
19 put a dent in the ATVs.

20 And I would like to thank Sal for
21 all of his help on this and working with the
22 police department to come up with ideas.
23 Thanks, Sal. And I look forward to setting up
24 a meeting with, like I said, with the principal
25 and seeing if myself and Sal could talk.

1 And if we can ask, like I said, if
2 we look into talking with Senator Blake and
3 seeing if they could register in Dunmore. That
4 way we would have the picture of the vehicle.
5 We know what family has the vehicle. So we
6 know what house it is. So I really think
7 something has to be done before we have another
8 terrible accident. And that's all I have for
9 tonight.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mayor
11 Burke. Attorney Cummings?

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: Carol, do you want to
14 lead us off?

15 MS. SCRIMALLI: Yes, I agree with
16 you. We do need to do something about the
17 ATVs. I'm glad you brought that to our
18 attention. I'm hoping we come to some kind of
19 a good action that we can do. And I do want to
20 thank, is it Mrs. Oven? Thank you for bringing
21 to the attention of Council the recycling
22 issue.

23 I also think that we need to do
24 more. I know the county is also -- we're at
25 their kind of -- we have to do what they tell

1 us to do with the recycling. So I think
2 someone should try to talk to the county and
3 see what more we can do there also, not just on
4 the local level here.

5 And also with the problem up on
6 Tigue Street, I mean, it's -- I'm glad you guys
7 came. I see it myself every day, the problems.
8 The potholes are terrible. So I do hope we can
9 get a fix on those and just keep us informed.
10 You could always just either call myself or
11 call the borough about the potholes especially.
12 But the water problem, you did contact the
13 water company on that?

14 MR. PYERON: They've been up there
15 quite a few times already.

16 MS. SCRIMALLI: Is the problem very
17 similar to what happened 20 years ago?

18 MR. PYERON: It's worse now.

19 MS. SCRIMALLI: It's worse. Do you
20 happen to know if it comes with rain?

21 MR. PYERON: No. It just comes out.

22 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thanks again. And
23 you'll leave your number with us. Thank you
24 very much. That's all I have. Thank you all
25 for coming. That's it. Thank you.

1 MR. EHNOT: I have nothing tonight.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, sir. Mr.

4 McHale?

5 MR. MCHALE: I have nothing tonight.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Hallinan.

7 MR. HALLINAN: I have nothing

8 tonight. Thank you.

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

10 MR. DEMPSEY: And Mr. Hayes.

11 MR. HAYES: Yeah, thank you, Mr.

12 Chairman. Just real quick, Mrs. Oven, as you

13 know, I have been a big advocate for recycling.

14 I have been posting different things for the

15 past several years. The change in county that

16 is obviously something that we take very -- we

17 take very to heart here.

18 So I'll be glad to -- we rely on to

19 partner with people in the community to help to

20 get the problem resolved as well. A lot of

21 those boxes in that picture are from my

22 pizzeria. So I want to make sure that, you

23 know, we are being part of the solution, not

24 part of the problem.

25 So let's work together. And let's

1 get this fixed. And I thank you for coming
2 today to -- everyone coming today to voice your
3 concerns. We're here to help. That's all I
4 have, Mr. Chairman.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, sir. And I
6 don't have anything either. So with that I
7 will look for a motion to adjourn.

8 MR. HAYES: I'll make that motion.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

10 MR. MCHALE: Second.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: Anyone on the
12 question?

13 (No response.)

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

16 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

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

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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2
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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