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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

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: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Ehnnot.

MR. EHNNOT: 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.

1 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number four is
2 a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-2 entering
3 into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement
4 and memorandum of understanding between the
5 County of Lackawanna, the Dunmore School
6 District and the Lackawanna County Land Bank
7 subject to the Borough retaining a right of
8 first refusal on all properties to be sold.

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

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

12 MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

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

22 So with that being explained, I will
23 look for a motion -- I'm sorry, I'll take a
24 vote. All those in favor signify by saying
25 aye.

1 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
5 so moved.

6 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number five is
7 a motion to enter into a Standard Service
8 Membership and Indemnity Agreement with
9 Pennsylvania One Call System.

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

12 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that
13 motion.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

15 MR. AMICO: I'll second that.

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

18 (No response.)

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

21 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
25 so moved.

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

5 MR. DEMPSEY: I will look for a
6 motion.

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

8 MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

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

11 (No response.)

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

18 So we do need to add more police
19 officers, especially during the summer months.
20 So with that being said I will look -- I'll
21 take a vote. All those in favor signify by
22 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 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Subpart B is the
4 part-time DPW worker Michael Vieira.

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

7 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that
8 motion.

9 MR. EHNOT: Second.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: A motion and a second,
11 anyone on the question? Again, just quickly on
12 the question. Mr. Vieira will be added to our
13 part-time list in order to help us out during
14 the summer and as far as we need with regard to
15 any absences, vacations, and whatnot. Anyone
16 else on the question?

17 (No response.)

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

20 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
24 so moved.

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item six subpart C,

1 a motion to appoint full-time firefighter
2 Walter Howells.

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

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

6 MR. HAYES: I'll second that.

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

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

15 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Anyone else on
16 the question?

17 (No response.)

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

20 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and
24 so moved.

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number seven

1 is public comment on matters in general
2 commencing with Gary Duncan.

3 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Duncan.

4 MR. DUNCAN: 117 Barton Street.

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

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

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

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Gary.

24 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you, Gary.

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Other members for

1 public comment.

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

5 MR. ALTENHAIN: Ron Altenhain,
6 A-L-T-E-N-H-A-I-N. I would like to address
7 Council on the issue of heavy trucks passing
8 through on the Swinick Development.

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

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

22 It's not the trucks that are coming
23 into the development to make deliveries or
24 pickups. They are using Swinick Drive down to
25 Reeves Street crossing over into the Industrial

1 Park as a shortcut. A lot of them are local
2 guys. A lot of them are truck coming off of
3 81. GPSs are bringing them through here.

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

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

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

22 There are signs at the corner of
23 Jessup and Reeves stating no trucks, local
24 deliveries only. At one time there was a sign
25 where Prospect become Swinick Drive. But that

1 sign has been gone for some time. And that's
2 where the trucks are coming in.

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

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

17 What I was wanting to ask Council to
18 do is replace that -- reinstall that sign that
19 was at where the point where Prospect becomes
20 Swinick when you enter the development.
21 Replace that sign with the sign no trucks
22 allowed, local deliveries only. And also on
23 the lower end of the development behind Jerry's
24 For All Seasons where you come in that way,
25 there's no signage down there.

1 Somebody is going to end up getting
2 hurt. Now schools are going to be getting out.
3 There's going to be kids playing. I mean,
4 they're going to come down that little hill on
5 Swinick, not be able to stop, overloaded to the
6 top of their trailer, roll over. We're asking
7 for problems.

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

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

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

23 MR. ALTENHAIN: It's all over
24 Facebook.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: That's probably how he

1 knew then.

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

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

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

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

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Hallinan?

24 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I got one
25 thing. Don't you think the sign would be

1 better off down at Prospect and Drinker rather
2 than -- why let them get in in the first place?

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

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

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

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

20 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah.

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

24 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I got you.

25 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you very much.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Sir, does it happen
2 at any certain time of the day? It's just
3 random?

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

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

11 MR. ALTENHAIN: Thank you.

12 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

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

15 (No response.)

16 MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

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

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

22 MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Mr. Amico?

23 MR. AMICO: I have nothing tonight.
24 Thank you.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Mr. Hallinan?

1 MR. HALLINAN: Nothing.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Mchale?

3 MR. MCHALE: I have nothing tonight.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay.

5 MR. MCHALE: We're on a roll.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Mr. Ehnnot.

7 MR. EHNOT: I'm good tonight too.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Scrimalli?

9 MS. SCRIMALLI: Nothing for me.

10 Thank you.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Chief
12 Marchese.

13 CHIEF MARCHESE: I'm good.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Chief DeNaples.

15 CHIEF DENAPLES: I'm good. Thank
16 you.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Chris Kearney?

18 MR. KEARNEY: No.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke?

20 MAYOR BURKE: Yes, just if anybody
21 has any complaints about the dig up jobs from
22 American Water where they are redoing the roads
23 now, report it to the Borough Building so we
24 can take care of it before they are all done
25 and out of there.

1 Joe has a list of a lot of names
2 where there was damaged. And also up on Smith
3 Street, they're not -- I was wondering, like,
4 wherever they don't put in curbs can we have
5 the DPW put in curbs? I'm being told, is they
6 are not putting curbs in all the way. And
7 people are worried about water coming down over
8 their sidewalks.

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

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

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

16 MR. RUGGIERO: Nothing.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Attorney Cummings?

18 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Just very quickly our
20 next meeting that would be scheduled for May
21 27th, I believe is Memorial Day. So that --
22 our second meeting for this month will be
23 cancelled. And then as we normally do our
24 summer meetings which would be June -- the
25 second meetings, we'll still have the first

1 meetings on every second Monday of the month.

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

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

12 MR. EHNOT: I make a motion to
13 adjourn.

14 MR. HAYES: Second.

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: 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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10 _____
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12 Official Court Reporter
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