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DUNMORE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
DUNMORE, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

AUGUST 12, 2019

7:00 P.M.

DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER  
MONROE AVENUE  
DUNMORE, PENNSYLVANIA

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

THOMAS HALLINAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

VINCE AMICO

THOMAS EHNOT

MICHAEL MCHALE

THOMAS CUMMINGS, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

VITO RUGGIERO, BOROUGH MANAGER

TIMOTHY BURKE, MAYOR

Mark Wozniak  
Official Court Reporter

1                   ATTY. CUMMINGS: We did roll call,  
2                   the Pledge of Allegiance, public comment.  
3                   No one stepped up for public comment on  
4                   agenda items. There was a motion to approve  
5                   the open minutes.

6                   Now we're on item No. 5, which is  
7                   motion to approve and pay the open bills.

8                   MR. HALLINAN: I look for a motion  
9                   to approve and pay the open bills.

10                  MR. EHNOT: I'll make a motion to  
11                  pay the open bills.

12                  MR. HALLINAN: Second?

13                  MR. AMICO: I'll second.

14                  MR. HALLINAN: On the question? All  
15                  in favor? Eye.

16                  MR. EHNOT: Aye.

17                  MR. AMICO: Aye.

18                  MR. MCHALE: Aye.

19                  MR. HALLINAN: Opposed?

20                  ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item 5A, personnel  
21                  matters. A motion employing Angelo Petitto  
22                  as a crossing guard to fill the vacancy.

23                  MR. HALLINAN: I'll look for a  
24                  motion to approve Mr. Petitto as a crossing  
25                  guard.

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

2 MR. HALLINAN: Second?

3 MR. EHNOT: I'll second it.

4 MR. HALLINAN: On the question, Mr.  
5 Petitto will be filling in for numerous  
6 vacancies that we have for crossing guards.  
7 All in favor? Aye.

8 MR. EHNOT: Aye.

9 MR. AMICO: Aye.

10 MR. MCHALE: Aye.

11 MR. HALLINAN: None opposed. All  
12 approve.

13 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No. 6, public  
14 comment on non-agenda items starting with  
15 Gerard Hetman of Lackawanna County.

16 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, ladies  
17 and gentlemen. Gerard Hetman from  
18 Lackawanna County Community Relations  
19 department.

20 Couple of items coming up for the  
21 end of summer, start of the fall season.  
22 First, McDade Park will host a car seat  
23 safety check on Friday August 16th, 9:30  
24 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It's at pavilion one  
25 when you first pull in, on the right side.

1 If it's not there just go to the second  
2 pavilion. It's sponsored by the Traffic  
3 Injury Prevention Project. That's a  
4 consortium of local public safety agencies  
5 supported by the local police departments.  
6 Anyone who uses car seats in their vehicle,  
7 parents or grandparents, can come, have it  
8 properly installed and get a demonstration  
9 on the right way to install and maintain car  
10 seats.

11 Also, our two fall events in the  
12 month of September coming up, our annual  
13 senior health fair is Friday, September  
14 20th, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at PNC Field. We'll  
15 have approximately 60 different exhibitors,  
16 a variety of senior health and wellness  
17 giveaways, health checks, information. Lots  
18 of good services available. We'll also have  
19 refreshments. The event is free, free  
20 parking, free admission, and it is indoors  
21 on the suite level of the second floor of  
22 the facility, so rain or shine, inclement  
23 whether we can open to the public.

24 Our other item in the fall month of  
25 September is our annual Heros Day public

1 safety fair. That takes place the Saturday  
2 before the health fair. Saturday, September  
3 14th. It starts at 11 a.m. and wraps up at  
4 2 p.m. at the Lackawanna County Center for  
5 Public Safety, better known as the 911  
6 center. We've got free guided tours of the  
7 911 facility. You can see behind the scenes  
8 exactly how the setup works, and then in the  
9 parking area we'll have displays available.  
10 Fire, police, EMS, military and other public  
11 safety vehicles and equipment will be  
12 available. We'll also have certain county  
13 community departments and agencies with Penn  
14 State extension, Lackawanna River Corridor  
15 Association, a variety of other programs and  
16 activities to check out. That's Saturday,  
17 September 14th, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

18 There's a few other ones. Friday,  
19 August 16st, also at McDade Park, the ADA  
20 Day takes place. It's run by the Center for  
21 Independent Living. It's from 11 a.m. to 2  
22 p.m. at Pavilion two.

23 Our Veterans Affairs office asked us  
24 to share information on the Women Veterans  
25 Town Hall Expo. That comes up August 24th,

1 9 a.m. to noon at the Wilkes-Barre VA  
2 Medical Center. It's sponsored in part by  
3 the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,  
4 Pennsylvania Department of Military Veterans  
5 Affairs. It's a multi-pronged event. We  
6 see more and more women serve in our  
7 military. Their service is coming to the  
8 forefront now, so we're happy to see that  
9 programming in place on a regional basis.

10 Then we have a number of EMA and  
11 other related items here. The deadline for  
12 non-profit organizations to apply for  
13 economic injury is later this month relating  
14 to the flooding from last August.

15 Also, PEMA is putting on the  
16 individual assistance workshop. It's over  
17 two days at the end of October at the 911  
18 Center in Jessup. It's 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
19 October 29th and 30th.

20 Also, the one that we're really  
21 proud of here is the Lackawanna Ready  
22 Business Workshop. It's hosted by the  
23 Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency,  
24 Federal Emergency Management Agency,  
25 Lackawanna County Emergency Management

1 Agency, and the Greater Scranton Chamber of  
2 Commerce. The workshop focuses on business  
3 continuity for business for any size.  
4 Mostly small business, but any business  
5 operation. You can learn useful strategies  
6 for planning ahead in order to continue  
7 operations.

8 Last, but not least, is our  
9 commissioners' blood drive in the fall.  
10 That takes place Friday, September 13th, 10  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby of the  
12 Lackawanna County Government Center. That's  
13 all we have.

14 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Gary Duncan,  
15 Neighborhood Watch?

16 MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Martin  
17 Street, Dunmore. I re-sent the minutes from  
18 last month's meeting again today. I didn't  
19 get a response from everybody, so I don't  
20 know if they got them.

21 MR. HALLINAN: I got them.

22 MR. DUNCAN: Obviously our monthly  
23 meeting is next Monday, the 19th. Believe  
24 it or not, next Monday is going to be the  
25 sixth anniversary for us. We're going into

1           our sixth year. It was different council,  
2           but Mr. McHale was here when we started  
3           this, Vito, Tim Burke -- Mayor Burke was on  
4           council, and those folks have been with us  
5           since day one. I have to thank a few guys  
6           just because of it's the sixth anniversary.

7                     But the Dunmore Police Department,  
8           we had Bill Springer at the time, Captain  
9           Springer, and then Tom Richardson. Tom  
10          Richardson is still our police liaison.  
11          After six years we still get Tom at the  
12          meetings, and Mike Igoe comes with him now.  
13          It means a lot to me to have the Dunmore  
14          Police liaison.

15                    Chris DeNaples isn't here tonight  
16          from our fire department, but I have to say  
17          thanks to the fire department because every  
18          October they come and they do fire safety  
19          month for us. They've been instrumental in  
20          getting out the smoke detectors across the  
21          length and breadth of the borough. We saw  
22          what happened over the weekend with five  
23          children that died out in Erie. For our  
24          guys to do that locally, what a wonderful  
25          service. The kids that died, they had a



1 smoke detector in the attic and it just  
2 wasn't enough.

3 And I have to thank our policemen.  
4 Tomorrow night is our National Night Out in  
5 Dunmore, and to think that we have liaisons  
6 and representatives, it really does take a  
7 village. But boy, what a village I live in.  
8 So I hope everybody can make it next Monday  
9 at 7:00.

10 This past Saturday we had the  
11 Dunmore Cross-Country Alumni Race. I just  
12 bring it to everybody's attention. This is  
13 Vince Fedor's 50th year coaching Dunmore  
14 cross-country. I was fortunate enough to be  
15 with him for six years and help the program.  
16 At one time I had two daughters and anywhere  
17 from three to four nieces and nephews  
18 running. So I hope we can think of doing  
19 something for Vince. Fifty years at  
20 Dunmore. I mean, my daughter's 25. He's  
21 coaching as long as my oldest daughter's  
22 alive. That's mind boggling to me. Again,  
23 I live in a heck of a village, thank God.

24 So thanks to everybody. Thanks for  
25 helping us make six years. For all

1 the people involved. Like I said, Vito,  
2 Mike McHale, Tim Burke and the folks here.  
3 Vince Amico, God bless you. Even if he's  
4 not at a meeting he sends me a text to tell  
5 me he can't make it and he wants to know  
6 what's going on. So I do appreciate it. I  
7 think the whole town does. Thanks, guys.

8 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Other members of  
9 the general public on non-agenda items?

10 MR. JOHNSON: David Johnson, 601  
11 Shirley Lane. I came before you in probably  
12 early January of last year about the  
13 condition of the road on Shirley Lane, the  
14 600 block. You did patch it in the spring.  
15 I think there's a section of it there that's  
16 way past patching. It's seems to me that  
17 probably about four inches should be taken  
18 out and it should be paved. Everybody that  
19 comes up Shirley Lane ends up going on the  
20 other side. They just don't run over that  
21 spot anymore.

22 Then right across from that, on my  
23 side of the road, where the stop sign is,  
24 there's two petty good size sink holes. One  
25 in front of the stop sign and one behind the

1 stop sign.

2 The other thing I'd like to bring to  
3 your attention -- and I talked to Gary about  
4 it in the past. This is before I bought my  
5 home last year. But the utility company,  
6 where Swinik and Shirley Lane hits, they  
7 must have put in a new line or a shutoff  
8 line. The sidewalk at one point is sunk.  
9 It's as high as two inches on one side up  
10 and two inches down on the other side.

11 I have talked to UGI. They told me  
12 they're going to send somebody up. I found  
13 a gentleman surveying the line a week ago  
14 and he took pictures of it, and I called UGI  
15 the day before the meeting and they said  
16 somebody else would get back to me, too.  
17 But will they? I don't know.

18 MR. HALLINAN: Vito, will you check  
19 on that, please.

20 MR. JOHNSON: Just an observation.  
21 On Shirley Lane and Reeve Street -- my wife  
22 and I sit on the porch quite often. I was  
23 shocked the other day to actually see two or  
24 three cars stop at those stop signs. They  
25 just don't do it.



1 former Price Chopper -- if it does happen.  
2 I've heard, I so I'm just putting this --  
3 somebody said they were planning on maybe  
4 closing it in the back of Price Chopper. It  
5 creates a serious problem for me, since the  
6 only parking available on or near my  
7 property is a concrete slab that I had  
8 installed next to the house. It  
9 accommodates one car that must be parked  
10 parallel to the house and parallel to  
11 McKenna Court. There is no room  
12 perpendicular or crosswise parking without  
13 jutting into the streets.

14 It is not possible to back up or  
15 turn around. So with one entrance for West  
16 Grove Street it's necessary to travel in the  
17 same direction up the court to exit. If the  
18 upper entrance is blocked, the only way is  
19 to back down West Grove Street in reverse  
20 gear. There's limited visibility entering  
21 Grove Street due to cars parked on either  
22 side of the court. Under the best of  
23 circumstances, even when driving forward it  
24 can be difficult to pull out. In bad  
25 weather it's even more dangerous. Doing it

1 in reverse will be almost impossible and  
2 very dangerous.

3 The borough is responsible for snow  
4 removal as well as trash removal and  
5 recycling. I'm also concerned about the  
6 ability of a plow or garbage truck to clear  
7 or service McKenna Court. Lack of snow  
8 removal would create an even more hazardous  
9 condition not only for my property but also  
10 for other property owners who park their  
11 cars in garages on McKenna Court.

12 I currently lease the property, and  
13 the closure of one end of McKenna Court not  
14 only jeopardizes my current tenant, but it  
15 also diminishes the value of my property for  
16 future sale or lease.

17 I respectfully request that the  
18 council deny closure, if it was going to  
19 happen, of the court to provide a safe and  
20 reasonable alternative for ingress and  
21 egress for my property on McKenna Court.  
22 Thank you very much. Lisa Gilbride.

23 MR. HALLINAN: I'm not aware of the  
24 closing of McKenna Court. The only thing I  
25 would say is, if I'm not mistaken, and we

1 will check into it, is that could be the  
2 Price Chopper property and not ours, up on  
3 the top. We're not closing any streets.

4 MR. MCHALE: Can they close that,  
5 Price Chopper or whoever owns that?

6 ATTY. CUMMINGS: This is the first  
7 I've heard of this, but I will check on it.

8 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Anybody  
9 else want to address council this evening?  
10 Seeing none.

11 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials?

12 MR. HALLINAN: Mayor Burke?

13 MAYOR BURKE: Yes. Congratulations,  
14 Gary, for doing an excellent job the last  
15 six years. Happy anniversary. I hope many  
16 more years.

17 Also, Gary mentioned National Night  
18 Out tomorrow night. Starts at 5:30. There  
19 is a parade and the parade will start at  
20 6:00 at the high school and end up at the  
21 high school. We'll also have a movie for  
22 the children.

23 But also about the ATVs, Tommy's  
24 still working on the ATV situation. I'd  
25 like Tommy to send us an e-mail on what we

1           could do and can't do. Myself, Vito an  
2           e-mail on that. I would also ask permission  
3           to do what Wallenpaupack has. Their police  
4           put up signs, no ATVs. I'm asking that now,  
5           if you can make a motion -- call for a  
6           motion for signs on no ATVs like  
7           Wallenpaupack has. I've been working with  
8           officials on this. I'll keep on working  
9           with higher officials on this until we come  
10          up with an answer.

11                   I'd appreciate, Tom, if you can get  
12          an e-mail, myself and council, everything we  
13          could do or can't do to move this ordinance  
14          and e-mail myself and council and Vito and  
15          our police chief and fire chief. That's all  
16          I have.

17                   MR. HALLINAN: Vito?

18                   MR. RUGGIERO: No.

19                   MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Cummings?

20                   ATTY. CUMMINGS: No.

21                   MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Ehnnot?

22                   MR. EHNOT: Please attend National  
23          Night Out tomorrow night. They put a lot of  
24          time and effort into it. It's a great  
25          thing. See you tomorrow night.



1 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. McHale?

2 MR. MCHALE: No, I'm fine.

3 MR. HALLINAN: Just one thing, Tim.  
4 I'd like you to ask the chief if he could  
5 look into cars are up on the sidewalks on  
6 numerous streets, but especially on Green  
7 Ridge Street now people are parking up on  
8 the curbs and on their lawns. I just want  
9 to know if you can find out if it's legal or  
10 illegal and see if something can be done  
11 about that.

12 MAYOR BURKE: I'll print them up and  
13 bring them up to Rich Barth tomorrow  
14 morning. We're also going to try to get  
15 crosswalk lines painted across, when DPW is  
16 free, to get a crosswalk from Henry's Bar  
17 across Green Ridge Street, here. The only  
18 way we can get it done from PennDOT is if  
19 they are doing new roads. Then they'll put  
20 it in. Otherwise, we have permission to put  
21 it across. They won't do it unless they're  
22 putting in a new pave job.

23 Eventually I'd like to get some  
24 crosswalks on other parts of Green Ridge  
25 Street to try to cross that, especially with

1 school starting now.

2 Do I have council's approval to get  
3 signs for ATVs?

4 MR. HALLINAN: I don't see a  
5 problem, but, I mean, the crosswalks, we  
6 were working on those crosswalks. Correct?

7 MR. RUGGIERO: Right.

8 MR. HALLINAN: On Clay and Green  
9 Ridge. I don't see a problem with the  
10 signs.

11 MAYOR BURKE: I'll tell Rich to  
12 order some. They know the areas where  
13 they're going.

14 MR. HALLINAN: That's all I have  
15 this evening. I look for a motion to  
16 adjourn.

17 MR. EHNOT: I'll make a motion to  
18 adjourn.

19 MR. AMICO: Second.

20 (Unanimous. Meeting adjourned.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that I attended the foregoing proceeding, took stenographic notes of the same, that the foregoing, consisting of 18 pages, is a true and correct copy, done to the best of my ability, of same and the whole thereof.

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Mark Wozniak  
Official Court Reporter