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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, September 27th, 2021

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 - absent
- CAROL SCRIMALLI
- THOMAS EHNOT
- VINCE AMICO
- JANET BRIER
- ELIZABETH ZANGARDI
- MICHAEL P. PERRY, Esquire, Solicitor
- TIMOTHY BURKE, Mayor
- VITO RUGGIERO, Borough Manager

MARIA McCOOL, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. DEMPSEY: I just want to add a moment of silence for a Dunmore High School teacher, John Barrett who had passed away today. So just a moment of silence for Mr. Barrett, one of the greatest teachers I ever had.

(Moment of silence.)

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. McDonald Zangardi.

MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Scrimalli.

MS. SCRIMALLI: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Ehnot.

MR. EHNOT: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Hallinan.  
Mr. Dempsey.

MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Amico.

MR. AMICO: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Brier.

MS. BRIER: Here.

MR. RUGGIERO: Mayor Burke.

1                   MAYOR BURKE: Here.

2                   MR. RUGGIERO: Number three, public  
3 comment on agenda items.

4                   MR. DEMPSEY: Would anybody from the  
5 public care to comment on any of the agenda  
6 items only? Mr. Duncan.

7                   MR. DUNCAN: Again, my comment on  
8 the public agenda items -- I'm sorry, 117  
9 Barton Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania. My  
10 comment is, as I said previously, clearly on  
11 number six it's the motion to adopt Resolution  
12 2021-1 amendment to the Scranton Planning  
13 Association Intergovernmental Cooperative  
14 Implementation Agreement. We have folks in the  
15 room here now that were not here when the  
16 public comment section.

17                   So I'm just going to be brief. And  
18 I'll just reiterate what I said then in that  
19 Scranton has not voted on the SAPA as of yet.  
20 The SAPA agreement states that with all of the  
21 municipalities they must be contiguous.  
22 Scranton has not voted on it. Therefore, we  
23 are not in a contiguous state at this point.

24                   I ask that we defer on voting  
25 tonight that we get a continuance on this that

1 we allow Scranton more time to look at the  
2 situation and that we come back and address the  
3 issue then, not tonight. We are not on the  
4 clock. We have time for a continuance. There  
5 is no urgency at this point.

6 I understand this is the third  
7 public hearing. So I'm here tonight to just  
8 ask that we defer that we look for a  
9 continuance that we allow Scranton to do their  
10 due diligence and then come back and address  
11 the issue again. I thank you.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, Mr. Duncan.  
13 Anyone else like to comment on anything on the  
14 agenda only?

15 (See none.)

16 MR. RUGGIERO: Number four is a  
17 motion to approve the minutes.

18 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion  
19 to approve the minutes.

20 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that  
21 motion.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion. Do I  
23 have a second?

24 MR. AMICO: I'll second it.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a

1 second. Anyone on the question?

2 (No response.)

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

5 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

7 (No response.)

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

10 MR. RUGGIERO: Number five is a  
11 motion to approve and pay the open bills.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion  
13 to approve and pay the open bills.

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

15 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion. Do I  
16 have a second?

17 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll second it.

18 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a  
19 second. Anyone on the question regarding the  
20 bills? Mrs. Brier?

21 MS. BRIER: No. If anyone has any  
22 questions?

23 MR. DEMPSEY: No, you usually  
24 question.

25 MS. BRIER: No, no, no. Mark's not

1 here. Mark, you know, wasn't able to be here  
2 tonight our Treasurer just so everyone knows  
3 that. He and I chat all the time about this.

4 I don't have anything, Mike. We're  
5 already reviewing the budget now, the end of  
6 September. We take the first nine months --

7 MR. EHNOT: Topp Copy.

8 MR. RUGGIERO: Topp Copy is our  
9 copiers, the copier lease for all our  
10 facilities.

11 MR. EHNOT: The lease was up.

12 MS. BRIER: Was the lease was up?

13 No.

14 MR. RUGGIERO: No.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: The Topp Copy lease.

16 MR. RUGGIERO: It's not up.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Anyone else  
18 have any questions on bills?

19 (No response.)

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

22 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. DEMPSEY: All those in favor

1 signify by saying aye.

2 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

3 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 ALL MEMBERS: The ayes have it and  
6 so moved.

7 MR. RUGGIERO: Number six, a motion  
8 to adopt Resolution 2021-1, an amendment to the  
9 Scranton Abington Planning Association also  
10 known as SAPA Intergovernmental Cooperative  
11 Implementation Agreement.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: I will look for some  
13 sort of motion on that, number six.

14 MS. BRIER: I'd like to make a  
15 motion to table.

16 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. I have a  
17 motion to table from Councilwoman Brier. Do I  
18 have a second?

19 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll second that.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Anyone on the question  
21 regarding tabling?

22 MS. BRIER: I would just like to  
23 explain why.

24 MR. DEMPSEY: Certainly.

25 MS. BRIER: You know, for the folks

1           who weren't here for the hearing on SAPA, you  
2           know, this has been going on for a long time as  
3           these folks from Lackawanna County have done a  
4           ton of work on this and as we appreciate that.

5                        But the changes that were made to  
6           this latest version, no one can explain the lot  
7           dimension standards. And they were changed on  
8           every city zoning transect. There are 23  
9           transects plus the 0-1, which is the landfill  
10          overlay, wasn't changed on that but it was  
11          changed on all the other ones.

12                       There's 12, sorry. They're numbered  
13          2 to 23. But there is only 12 of them, plus  
14          the landfill overlay. I feel just personally  
15          the reason I'd like to table this as Mr. Duncan  
16          said Scranton has -- if Scranton denies it, you  
17          know, we're not contiguous anymore. We're out  
18          anyway.

19                       But beyond that, I personally feel  
20          as though I'm not quite sure what's in this  
21          document. And when I say this document, this  
22          is just a tiny piece of it. The regular  
23          document is like War and Peace. I don't have  
24          the expertise to evaluate it.

25                       I don't believe anyone on Council



1 does. I would like to have an independent  
2 expert look at it before we vote on it. It  
3 might be the best thing that ever happened to  
4 Dunmore. But I don't know that. And I don't  
5 know enough about this to approve it.

6 I just think it's a complicated  
7 thing. It's an area that requires an expert in  
8 the field of zoning, particularly since we're  
9 the, you know, we're the lynchpin to this whole  
10 thing because of the landfill. You know, the  
11 landfill or the garbage industry lawyers came  
12 in here in June and threatened us with lawsuits  
13 if we didn't change the language.

14 That is their modus operandi to come  
15 in here and threaten us all the time. So, you  
16 know, we did change it. Lackawanna County  
17 changed that apparently to suit the garbage  
18 industry. That has me worried as well. So the  
19 reason I'd like to table this motion is for all  
20 of the above.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, Mrs. Brier.  
22 Anybody else?

23 MR. EHNOT: I do have a question,  
24 Mike.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Sure.

1 MR. EHNOT: Whatever happens tonight  
2 if it gets tabled and it goes into next year  
3 and we have new Council members coming in, does  
4 this have to start from step one again?

5 ATTY. PERRY: No, it's never been  
6 voted on.

7 MR. RUGGIERO: It would just have to  
8 be readvertised.

9 ATTY. PERRY: If it's never voted on  
10 it comes in fresh. It's just readvertised for  
11 a new hearing and a new --

12 MR. DEMPSEY: I think what he's  
13 saying --

14 MR. EHNOT: -- to bring them up to  
15 speed.

16 ATTY. PERRY: They will have to,  
17 sure. They'll have to start reading it from  
18 scratch, I would say.

19 MS. BRIER: And that's my point. I  
20 don't think anybody really knows what's in here  
21 now, never mind in January. I would like an  
22 expert.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody else on the  
24 question?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Hearing  
2 none. Vito, do you want to do a roll call?  
3 And this is on motion to table.

4 MR. RUGGIERO: Motion to table.

5 MS. BRIER: Until Scranton --

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Motion to table until  
7 Scranton votes on it, right?

8 MS. BRIER: Yes.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: And we'll do a roll  
10 call, Vito.

11 MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. McDonald  
12 Zangardi.

13 MS. ZANGARDI: Yes, I agree to the  
14 motion.

15 MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Scrimalli.

16 MS. SCRIMALLI: Yes.

17 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Ehnnot.

18 MR. EHNNOT: Yes.

19 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Dempsey.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Yes.

21 MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Amico.

22 MR. AMICO: Yes.

23 MR. RUGGIERO: Mrs. Brier.

24 MS. BRIER: Yes.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Motion is



1 anything. It's Community Development Block  
2 Grant that the 2021 is piggybacked on what was  
3 already approved.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Anyone  
5 else on the question? All those in favor  
6 signify by saying aye.

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and  
11 so moved.

12 MR. RUGGIERO: Number eight is a  
13 motion to approve the intergovernmental sale of  
14 a 1986 Humvee.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a  
16 motion.

17 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that  
18 motion.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

20 MR. AMICO: I'll second it.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a  
22 second. Anyone on the question? All those in  
23 favor signify by saying aye.

24 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and  
3 so moved.

4 MR. RUGGIERO: Number nine is the  
5 American Red Cross Block proclamation.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke?

7 MAYOR BURKE: Do you want me to read  
8 it? Go ahead, you can read it, Vito.

9 MR. RUGGIERO: **WHEREAS** the Mayor and  
10 Council of the Borough of Dunmore, Lackawanna  
11 County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, wish to  
12 recognize and extend public tribute to the  
13 American Red Cross on the celebration of  
14 helping people for the past 140 years; and

15 **WHEREAS**, since May of 1881,  
16 humanitarian, Clara Barton, founded the  
17 American branch of the society which began in  
18 Geneva, Switzerland 12 years earlier. This  
19 branch followed the same model of its European  
20 partner which was missioned around the sole  
21 purpose of emergency assistance, disaster  
22 relief, and disaster preparedness education;  
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, each year the American Red  
25 Cross responds to more than 60,000 disasters

1 including fires, hurricanes, floods,  
2 earthquakes, tornados, hazardous spills,  
3 transportation accidents, explosions and other  
4 natural and manmade disasters; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross  
6 supplies roughly 35 percent of the donated  
7 blood in the United States, which it sells to  
8 hospitals and regional suppliers, tissue and  
9 plasma services, nucleic acid testing,  
10 leukoreduction, cellular therapies training and  
11 research is still the framework that has been  
12 the primary focus since inception; and

13 **WHEREAS**, when the global pandemic  
14 was declared, the American Red Cross did not  
15 change their mission in the face of COVID-19.  
16 They are still providing the same support and  
17 resources to keep people safe and healthy.  
18 While the pandemic has weighed heavily on the  
19 nation and throughout the world, the American  
20 Red Cross continues to offer support and care  
21 during the difficult time, bringing comfort,  
22 hope and light when individuals and families  
23 need it the most; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross is  
25 currently experiencing a severe blood shortage

1 and the nation's blood inventory is depleting  
2 rapidly. All blood types are needed  
3 immediately including platelets. One donation  
4 can save up to three lives; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Borough of Dunmore  
6 wants to do our part and is conducting a blood  
7 drive on Friday, October 1st, 2021, at the  
8 Dunmore Community Center between the hours of  
9 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., to "Roll up our sleeves" as  
10 a community; and

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY**  
12 **THE HONORABLE TIMOTHY M. BURKE and DUNMORE**  
13 **BOROUGH COUNCIL**, that **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1ST,**  
14 **2021**, be designated as **ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES FOR**  
15 **THE AMERICAN RED CROSS DAY;**

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that  
17 together with the citizens of the Borough of  
18 Dunmore, we extend our sincere congratulations  
19 to the American Red Cross and offer our  
20 gratitude, praise, and continued success within  
21 our community. **ADOPTED THIS 27TH DAY OF**  
22 **SEPTEMBER, 2021.**

23 **MR. DEMPSEY:** Thank you, Mr.  
24 Ruggiero. Is there a representative here?

25 **MR. RUGGIERO:** There was supposed to



1 be. It doesn't appear that there is anybody.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody here from the  
3 Red Cross?

4 MR. RUGGIERO: Seeing none.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Treasurer  
6 financial report, our Treasurer isn't here  
7 tonight. So, Mrs. Brier, do you want to do it?

8 MS. BRIER: I can give a little one.  
9 You know, if you look at page one of two on the  
10 Borough of Dunmore profit and loss versus  
11 actual, I think that is the clearest indication  
12 of what's going on year to date for the first  
13 eight months.

14 The first column total is 10 million  
15 dollars. That's our income. And our expenses  
16 were budgeted for 9.8. So we have a little bit  
17 of a surplus there budget to actual \$263,910  
18 which is a good thing.

19 But on the expense side, you know,  
20 we have budgeted 10 -- 8 million dollars in  
21 expenses and we spent 10 million. So there is  
22 that overage of 2.5 million. That being said,  
23 we had to pay down some debt principal that was  
24 not budgeted to the tune of 2.4 million.

25 So we're pretty much on budget when

1           you add that 2.4 million. We had to pay the  
2           People's pension loan from years ago because we  
3           had some tax issues around it. So we paid that  
4           off earlier in the year.

5                         And that's the difference between a  
6           balanced budget and a not balanced budget.  
7           We're in decent shape because that money came  
8           out of the Sewer Authority money. It did not  
9           come out of operations.

10                        So that is why it's an extraordinary  
11           expense item on page two of two of the profit  
12           and loss versus actual. Does anybody have any  
13           questions about the budget?

14                        MR. AMICO: Can I ask one?

15                        MS. BRIER: Sure.

16                        MR. AMICO: So you mean in theory if  
17           we're a little bit off because of the paying  
18           down -- paying off debt essentially.

19                        MS. BRIER: Yeah, it's like an  
20           extraordinary item that we hadn't budgeted last  
21           year.

22                        MR. AMICO: So we're basically not  
23           real good, not real bad.

24                        MS. BRIER: Right.

25                        MR. AMICO: Okay. Thank you.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mrs. Brier.

2 MR. RUGGIERO: Number 11, public  
3 comment.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: Just please state your  
5 name and address for the record, please.

6 MS. LIBASSI: Hi, Jessica Libassi,  
7 1504 Monroe Avenue. I know and respect that  
8 the Council can't comment on the threats to the  
9 Dunmore School District. But I just wanted to  
10 comment that it's concerning the amount of time  
11 from the initial knowledge of the threat to the  
12 school having knowledge of the threat.

13 And if that's just looked at a  
14 little bit closer that we can work on whatever  
15 the procedures are that are in place to work on  
16 communication moving forward so that we're not  
17 looking at an event like this again. Thank  
18 you.

19 MS. BRIER: And, Jessica, you're  
20 part of the school board --

21 MS. LIBASSI: -- yes.

22 MS. BRIER: Can you talk about that?

23 MS. LIBASSI: Our superintendant put  
24 out a public statement today. That details  
25 pretty much what we all know at this point.

1 MS. BRIER: Thanks for coming.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Anyone  
3 else from the -- for public comment on  
4 nonagenda items? Can you please just state  
5 your name and address for the record?

6 MR. ROWLAND: Yes, my name is Tim  
7 Rowland, R-O-W-L-A-N-D and I live in Clarks  
8 Summit, Pennsylvania. I'm here tonight  
9 representing the Commonwealth Health, EMS. So  
10 earlier this week we received a -- somebody  
11 contacted our office about a billing issue  
12 regarding the ambulance service this week.

13 And then we were actually contacted  
14 by a resident of Dunmore who was -- actually  
15 was the one -- the billing incident. It  
16 involved an ALS patient, somebody that fell and  
17 had a fracture and needed some pain relief.

18 And the Dunmore ambulance is your  
19 provider. They were sent. Apparently they  
20 didn't have a paramedic. We came, took the  
21 patient to the hospital. The patient got two  
22 bills. This is a standard occurrence that  
23 happens when there is not a Medicare joint  
24 billing agreement.

25 We have taken care of the bill with

1 the resident. That is no longer an issue. But  
2 then I realized we had, you know, last time I  
3 was at -- I am one of the original paramedics  
4 from CMC back in the 70s. I managed a  
5 nonprofit company, Community Life Support that  
6 was acquired by Commonwealth Health, Mercy  
7 Hospital and Moses Taylor back in 2014.

8 And the last time I was at the  
9 Dunmore Council meeting was actually in early  
10 '14. After the -- the ambulance service that  
11 had been provided -- and I worked in Dunmore  
12 with fire department and ambulance and with  
13 Dominick Rinaldi when he had the ambulance.

14 But in '14 when Commonwealth Health,  
15 Mercy and Moses purchased Lackawanna Ambulance  
16 which was currently the provider for Dunmore,  
17 after that occurred another ambulance started  
18 and then Dunmore designated the other  
19 ambulance -- Pennsylvania Ambulance as their  
20 provider in 2013 or '14. I can't remember  
21 exactly when it was.

22 Last time I was at a meeting was  
23 here in front of Council asking them not to  
24 designate anybody to let the county pick by  
25 global positioning the closest ambulance to

1 Dunmore and utilize them for the service.

2 Dunmore didn't do that, you know,  
3 it's Council's prerogative to do that. But  
4 since it's been so long since we've been here,  
5 I thought it would be a good idea for us to,  
6 you know, reapproach the Borough to see if,  
7 number one, if there were any questions  
8 regarding ambulance service; or number two, if  
9 there would be an interest in the Borough  
10 perhaps going back to the designated -- the  
11 closest available being sent or would they be  
12 interested in entertaining a proposal from  
13 Commonwealth for ambulance service within the  
14 Borough.

15 So that is really why I'm here  
16 tonight. I certainly don't expect any action  
17 or anything tonight. But we're here. I'll  
18 give you guys my card. I am the governmental  
19 community liaison for Commonwealth. I went  
20 there in '14 when they purchased the ambulance.

21 So that's really why I'm here  
22 tonight just to reconnect with Council to see  
23 if there is any interest or if anybody has any  
24 questions.

25 MR. EHNOT: Tim, I don't remember

1           when or who the company was, but years ago it  
2           was -- I don't want to say agreement, a  
3           handshake agreement. People were complaining  
4           about response times. And one of the  
5           companies -- I actually don't remember which  
6           company it was asked if they could station an  
7           ambulance in Dunmore.

8                         And it would be the first  
9           responders. And I believe that was still the  
10          case. I'm not sure if it's still the case.

11                        MR. ROWLAND: I'm not sure what your  
12          agreement is. I never saw a contract. I never  
13          saw --

14                        MR. EHNOT: I don't think there was  
15          ever a contract.

16                        MR. ROWLAND: I'm not sure if it's a  
17          BLS ambulance or an Advanced Life Support  
18          ambulance with paramedics that covers Dunmore.  
19          I'm not sure. We go on a number of calls in  
20          Dunmore if they're out on a call. We have, you  
21          know, we have ambulances based in Greenridge,  
22          Central City.

23                        And we cover other municipalities on  
24          the other side of the county. And we're in  
25          Wayne County also. But, you know, I mean, if

1           you would be looking for proposals down the  
2           road we would certainly base an ambulance in  
3           Dunmore and do that.

4                        I'm not sure what your arrangement  
5           is with the ambulance that is here. I'm not  
6           sure even response times, what the response  
7           times actually are. You could check that very  
8           easily by contacting 911 and they would give  
9           you your response times. Maybe they are not  
10          what they were. Or maybe they're better. I  
11          don't know. I'm just here, questions or --

12                       MS. BRIER: Tim, what is the  
13          difference between -- we don't know. I don't  
14          know what ALS and BLS stand for. Can you  
15          explain that --

16                       MR. ROWLAND: A basic life support  
17          ambulance is staffed with EMTs, like one EMT,  
18          maybe a driver, two EMTs. A paramedic  
19          ambulance or an advance life support ambulance  
20          is staffed with a paramedic or a prehospital  
21          nurse or prehospital physician's assistant or  
22          somebody but gives the same level of care that  
23          you would get in the emergency room.

24                       So in the case of the poor woman who  
25          fractured her leg, you know, we gave her



1           actually medication to, you know, help the pain  
2           issue and BLS doesn't do that. Now they do  
3           more things than they used to. I think when I  
4           took EMT it was 81 hours.

5                         It's probably 4 or 500 hours now.  
6           It's changed a lot. They do NARCAN for  
7           overdoses. They do Epipens for anaphylaxis  
8           reactions. They all have AEDs that shock  
9           people. I mean, you know, it's a -- but I'm  
10          not sure what your agreement is, you know, for  
11          ALS or BLS.

12                        MS. BRIER: I want to thank you for  
13          giving that bill for this woman. When people  
14          are in an emergency situation they're not --  
15          the average person isn't aware that, you know,  
16          this ambulance has a paramedic that ambulance  
17          doesn't have a paramedic.

18                        I mean, could we in your opinion  
19          make that part of like a -- if we did have an  
20          agreement or contract or just like some kind of  
21          agreement can we make that part of the  
22          agreement that you had a paramedic? Like this  
23          woman --

24                        MR. ROWLAND: The Borough certainly  
25          can -- you know, the Borough is responsible for

1           the safety of the community and you could  
2           actually make that -- so Scranton, Scranton has  
3           no designated --

4                       MS. BRIER:   Okay.

5                       MR. ROWLAND:  Both Commonwealth and  
6           Pennsylvania Ambulance share the City of  
7           Scranton.  And the dispatch is based on who's  
8           the closest to the emergency.  So if you call  
9           from 100 North Main Avenue in Scranton, when  
10          the call taker takes that information, it goes  
11          into a computer aided dispatch.

12                      And it actually comes up with a map.  
13          And it shows who is the closest ambulance and  
14          then they are sent on the call.  And it's been  
15          the benchmark for years.  And then, you know,  
16          politically one by one communities drifted off  
17          and they have their own provider.

18                      You know, in my opinion it's closest  
19          available is hard to argue.  And that may be  
20          something that Dunmore down the road, you know,  
21          with two companies you would, number one, you  
22          would have them competing for -- they would  
23          certainly have an ambulance in Dunmore if they  
24          wanted to get those calls.  You know, the  
25          Borough may be better served that way.  That's

1 something --

2 MS. BRIER: Right. But so two  
3 ambulances showed up for this woman.

4 MR. ROWLAND: The second ambulance  
5 came because the first didn't have a paramedic  
6 and they requested. Two are not sent all the  
7 time. This is the first, you know, this is the  
8 first incident I'm aware of in a long, long  
9 time where we had a billing issue.

10 MS. BRIER: So that doesn't -- they  
11 went to the woman's house and determined she  
12 needed a paramedic?

13 MR. ROWLAND: So, in fact, I'm not  
14 sure even on the response. So if the paramedic  
15 truck showed up and they transported the  
16 patient, there would be no bill. The  
17 ambulances all accept insurances -- certain  
18 insurances. And Medicare is the only one that  
19 requires a joint agreement.

20 So we, you know, Commonwealth  
21 probably has 40 of them with Community  
22 Ambulance all around the area we work with.

23 MS. BRIER: So if you call an  
24 ambulance, you wouldn't even know then  
25 necessarily if you weren't Medicare covered if

1           they took you --

2                   MR. ROWLAND:  When you get there,  
3           you know, if the patient looks like they are  
4           over 65 --

5                   MS. BRIER:  Yeah, I was just  
6           wondering.  Say I'm 30 and I need an ambulance  
7           then it's possible I might not be covered even  
8           though I have insurance?

9                   MR. ROWLAND:  Medicare only, the  
10          other insurances -- you know, some ambulances  
11          don't accept it.

12                   MS. BRIER:  That's what I'm asking.

13                   MR. ROWLAND:  Commonwealth accepts  
14          everything.

15                   MS. BRIER:  Okay.  All right.  
16          Thanks so much, Tim.

17                   MS. ZANGARDI:  So I have a question.  
18          Two ambulances go, how do the ambulances  
19          determine -- do you bill the insurance company  
20          both of you and whatever the insurance company  
21          pays --

22                   MR. ROWLAND:  We do.  If it was a  
23          non Medicare patient.  For example, if it was a  
24          Geisinger or Highmark, we would send the ALS  
25          truck that came and gave the medication would

1 send a bill to whoever and they would pay us.  
2 And they would pay the other ambulance for  
3 transporting.

4 So two -- minus any copays or  
5 whatever people have in their deductibles. So  
6 two bill patient generally doesn't occur  
7 out-of-pocket expense.

8 MS. ZANGARDI: Two ambulances go for  
9 one call because she was -- she needed the  
10 advanced life support. Hypothetically it would  
11 be the ALS company bills the insurance company,  
12 correct?

13 MR. ROWLAND: Right.

14 MS. ZANGARDI: And the basic life  
15 support company bills the patient.

16 MR. ROWLAND: No, actually in this  
17 case the basic life support company was  
18 Pennsylvania Ambulance. They billed Medicare  
19 directly for the patient and Medicare paid  
20 them.

21 MS. ZANGARDI: Right.

22 MR. ROWLAND: They typically -- we  
23 would have an agreement where they would pay  
24 us. But because of competition or whatever, we  
25 don't have that agreement. Maybe we should

1 look into that or maybe as part of whatever you  
2 decided to do, you could incorporate that into  
3 your RFP or your -- whatever you're looking for  
4 and say, hey, you've got to, you know, you've  
5 got to have this in place so our residents  
6 don't get jammed up.

7 MS. ZANGARDI: Right. So -- and I'm  
8 just asking the question. Could we  
9 hypothetically with you that says we want  
10 advanced life support sent if there's a  
11 fracture or whatever, basic life support if  
12 there's not.

13 MR. ROWLAND: It's an ALS ambulance.  
14 And I think, you know, probably a lot of the  
15 time Pennsylvania Ambulance sends an ALS  
16 ambulance. We don't come here -- we come here,  
17 I wouldn't say frequently.

18 But we do come. And if they -- if  
19 it's one service and say the ALS service is  
20 transporting somebody that has like hurt  
21 their -- had a laceration with bleeding  
22 controlled, didn't require ALS, they don't bill  
23 the patient the ALS rate, they bill the BLS  
24 rate. So actually in our area there is not a  
25 lot of billing issues that go on. This is one

1           that just happened.

2                   MS. ZANGARDI: Okay. Thank you.

3                   MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

4                   MR. ROWLAND: Thank you.

5                   MS. BRIER: Thank you.

6                   MS. NARO: Hi, I'm Liz Naro, 1429  
7           Electric Street, Dunmore. I'm here  
8           representing the Mosaic Project. We're  
9           responsible for doing murals in town. And  
10          there's a grant available that we are  
11          interested in painting the crosswalks different  
12          colors. We're not looking to do anything too  
13          flashy so it's distracting in any way to  
14          drivers, just really solid colors maybe a  
15          little rainbow colors.

16                   I have examples if you guys want to  
17          look at them. But, of course, the grant is due  
18          October 8th. And we need approval. We  
19          probably -- the most that we would probably  
20          need is maybe -- we would probably paint them  
21          at night at just say 10:00 at night with  
22          lights.

23                   We probably just need something to  
24          close that area. We're not looking for the  
25          state streets. We're looking for the more

1           Borough-owned streets where -- so just say  
2           Blakely Street from the post office all the way  
3           to just say where Burger King is.

4                     There's all crosswalks there. And I  
5           just feel like starting on Blakely and Drinker  
6           Street all the way up I think approaching the  
7           city would be really a nice addition to  
8           beautifying our town. So I would probably just  
9           need an approval to apply for the grant. And  
10          it would really -- the only thing I would need  
11          maybe is support to close down the street.

12                    And if I paint at 10:00 at night, by  
13          the morning it is going to be dry. So I don't  
14          know how I go about --

15                    MR. DEMPSEY: We've done it before  
16          where we get the approval for the grants. The  
17          only question I would have is, would Council  
18          have final say as to the painting scheme just  
19          for like safety purposes so we can run through  
20          it with the Chief of Police and things like  
21          that?

22                    MS. NARO: Yeah, I --

23                    MR. RUGGIERO: Mr. Chairman, if I  
24          may, I just asked our officers that are here  
25          today and I don't know if you researched this



1 or not, they're under the impression off the  
2 top of their heads that a crosswalk has to be a  
3 certain color. And it can't be a different  
4 color and especially on a state road and  
5 Blakely Street.

6 MS. NARO: Well, I do not want to do  
7 the state roads. I do -- I don't want to do  
8 the state roads.

9 MR. RUGGIERO: Okay. But I think  
10 what they said is those regulatory crosswalks  
11 all have to be a certain color. I'm not sure  
12 if we can research that and get back to you  
13 before we start the full process.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: That's why I said to  
15 have approval on the color scheme.

16 MS. ZANGARDI: They have them in  
17 Stroudsburg, right, Liz?

18 MS. NARO: Yes, they have them in  
19 different cities. I know I saw some negative  
20 response. But when they did, nobody did any  
21 research. Like for example, like they said,  
22 oh, Liz, you shouldn't do this because there  
23 were accidents on this road.

24 But like they didn't do any research  
25 and actually there was less accidents or

1 something. I just skimmed through it. But I  
2 don't see anything wrong, especially with the  
3 side roads. But I would be okay with color  
4 scheme, anything too flashy.

5 I just wanted to start on those  
6 roads and even -- I'm not sure about the  
7 Dunmore High School is owned by the Borough if  
8 they have a say in that because I wouldn't mind  
9 doing that crimson/blue or something like that.

10 But I probably would need some -- if  
11 it's okay, if not, I would move forward. But I  
12 would have to probably know somewhat soon.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: I think we'd have to  
14 research that. I have no problem approving,  
15 you know, getting you that grant. I don't know  
16 if it -- is it just for crosswalks, the grant?

17 MS. NARO: No, it's for anything but  
18 murals.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay, so we can get --  
20 we can approve the grant. And then we can just  
21 figure out if you could do the crosswalks. And  
22 if you could do the crosswalks as long as the  
23 colors are good. We have --

24 MR. AMICO: I'm fine with that.

25 MS. NARO: Like you see at Dunmore

1           how even the kids, they painted their little  
2           parking spots. But, yeah, you could pass on  
3           those I guess.

4                       MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. We'll figure it  
5           out. Vito, you'll work with the Chief on that?

6                       MR. RUGGIERO: I'll speak to Captain  
7           Barth, Captain Springer and Chief Marchese.

8                       MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Great. Would  
9           anyone else like to address Council tonight?

10                      (No response.)

11                      MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

12                      MR. RUGGIERO: Number 12, public  
13           officials.

14                      MR. DEMPSEY: Mrs. Brier, do you  
15           want to lead us off?

16                      MS. BRIER: I don't have anything  
17           else except, you know, I'd like to also  
18           express, you know, a tribute to John Barrett  
19           who was our teacher for many years, taught all  
20           of my kids. I grew up with him, a very nice  
21           man. He deserves all the credit in the world.  
22           And I think that's it.

23                      MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Mr. Amico.

24                      MR. AMICO: I'm good tonight. Thank  
25           you?

1 MR. DEMPSEY: All right. I also  
2 want to express my condolences to Mr. Barrett's  
3 family, definitely one of my all time --  
4 probably my all time favorite teacher, taught  
5 me public speaking which I do a lot of now,  
6 definitely putting a lot of his lessons to use  
7 so my condolences to his family. Mr. Ehnnot?

8 MR. EHNOT: All I have is I know  
9 there's a lot complaints out there about the  
10 streets and rightfully so. Every street that  
11 was worked on between the water company and the  
12 Sewer Authority, they will all be paved curb to  
13 curb. We just have to be patient. I don't  
14 know, Vito, is there a start date on paving  
15 those streets?

16 MR. RUGGIERO: There isn't. I know  
17 Joe Lorince was looking into it. I could try  
18 to get that answer for you. But they are going  
19 to be paved.

20 MR. EHNOT: They will be paved. And  
21 we have money left in liquid fuels account.  
22 Maybe after we pave those streets we can take a  
23 look at a few more and see which ones are in  
24 need and maybe get to them also. So that's  
25 all.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mr. Ehnnot.  
2 Mrs. Scrimalli?

3 MS. SCRIMALLI: Just to say my  
4 condolences to the Barrett family and that's  
5 all. Thank you.

6 MS. ZANGARDI: I have a few things.

7 MR. DEMPSEY: Sure.

8 MS. ZANGARDI: To piggyback --

9 MR. DEMPSEY: I have something after  
10 you too.

11 MS. ZANGARDI: To piggyback to what  
12 Tom Ehnnot -- Mr. Ehnnot said was also Chestnut  
13 Street will be done fairly soon, paved. Feral  
14 cats, there's an ordinance in this Borough, do  
15 not feed the feral cats because they reproduce  
16 and we have a problem now.

17 If I get a complaint from a  
18 homeowner, that's number one complaint they  
19 vent. So stop feeding the cats and the  
20 squirrels. They're causing a little bit of a  
21 problem in the Borough.

22 And also to the Barrett family, God  
23 bless them. And Mr. Barrett's -- it's too bad.  
24 He's a young man. My condolences to that  
25 family and thank you everybody.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, just one more  
2 thing, I just want to touch on the school  
3 threat that we had. I'm not going to make any  
4 comment regarding it other than the fact that  
5 we added police -- this Council -- at least  
6 some people on this Council, not everybody was  
7 on it.

8 And I don't remember if Mayor Burke  
9 was here or if it was Mayor Loughney at that  
10 time put down -- put two school resource  
11 officers at that school district for the  
12 protection of our students. And this is the  
13 reason why.

14 So it's just so critically important  
15 that they're there. Captain Springer is here  
16 who is one of them, does an excellent job.  
17 They provide so much more guidance. They  
18 provide so much more than just protection to  
19 our students.

20 They talk to them. They know them.  
21 They know their families. The kids aren't  
22 scared of them. So their presence there is  
23 much more valuable than just protection. And I  
24 just want to thank Captain Springer and that's  
25 the reason we did it for horrible, horrible

1 situations like this. So I just wanted to put  
2 that on the record. With that I'd like to look  
3 for a motion to adjourn. I'm sorry, Mayor  
4 Burke, I apologize. I skipped you.

5 MAYOR BURKE: Yes, just my  
6 condolences to John Barrett's family, a great  
7 man, great teacher. Thank you.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, Mayor Burke.  
9 Mickey?

10 ATTY. PERRY: I have nothing. Thank  
11 you.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Vito.

13 MR. RUGGIERO: I have nothing.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Chief Marchese?

15 CHIEF MARCHESE: No.

16 MR. DEMPSEY: Any you of guys?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. DEMPSEY: All right. Now --  
19 Chief DeNaples?

20 CHIEF DENAPLES: I'm good.

21 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Did I forget  
22 anybody? I'll look for a motion to adjourn.

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

24 MR. EHNOT: Second.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Motion and a second.

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All those in favor.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

(No response.)

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



C E R T I F I C A T E

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