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1	COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE	
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3	HELD:	
4	Monday, October 12, 2015	
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6	TIME:	
7	7:00 P.M.	
8		
9	LOCATION:	
10	DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER 1414 Monroe Avenue	
11	Dunmore, Pennsylvania	
12	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	
13	MICHAEL MCHALE, President	
14 15	PAUL NARDOZZI, Vice President	
16	SAL VERRASTRO	
17	TIMOTHY BURKE	
18	CAROL SCRIMALLI	
19	THOMAS HALLINAN	
20	MICHAEL DEMPSEY	
21	THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor	
22	PATRICK LOUGHNEY, Mayor	
23	ANDREW GENOVESE, Controller	
24		
25	MARIA McCOOL, RPR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER	

	2
1	(Pledge of Allegiance.)
2	
3	ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.
4	Mr. Nardozzi, Mr. Hallinan. Mr. Burke.
5	MR. BURKE: Present.
6	ATTY. CUMMINGS. Mr. Verrastro.
7	MR. VERRASTRO: Present.
8	ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.
9	MR. DEMPSEY: Present.
10	ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.
11	MR. MCHALE: Here.
12	ATTY. CUMMINGS: There's a quorum.
13	Public comment on agenda items.
14	MR. MCHALE: Does anybody have any
15	comments on the agenda items tonight?
16	(No response.)
17	MR. MCHALE: Seeing none.
18	ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve
19	the minutes of the last meeting.
20	MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make the motion.
21	MR. BURKE: Second.
22	MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
23	second. On the question.
24	(No response.)
25	MR. MCHALE: All those in favor

signify by saying aye.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so moved.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve and pay the open bills.

MR. BURKE: I'll make a motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second it.

MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a second. On the question. Quickly on the question, in addition to the bills that were left out for everybody, we do have one addition for Andrews Air Duct Cleaning.

Just to give you a little bit of a background, it's for \$8,400 that when we were cleaning the gym floor, redoing the gym floor, a lot of the sand went into the vents on top of when we had some work done a year and a half ago when we had the problem with some of the steel structures. We were in bad shape on our ducts so we had to have a full cleaning done.

They were here several days over the weekend. So the \$8,400 is going to be in

addition to the other bills that were left out 1 2 for the agenda. Anybody else on the question? 3 (No response.) MR. MCHALE: All those in favor 4 5 signify by saying aye. ALL MEMBERS: Aye. 6 7 MR. MCHALE: Opposed. 8 (No response.) 9 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so 10 moved. ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next is item number 11 12 six public comment on nonagenda items. 13 MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to address 14 Council tonight? MR. HETMAN: 15 Good evening as always 16 folks. Gerard Hetman from Lackawanna County's 17 Community Relations Department. Just two 18 really quick items this evening. First as we 19 enter the middle part of October, the county is 20 entering its annual budget season. 21 So how it works is, this coming 22 Thursday, October 15th the Commissioners will 23 release the tentative 2016 General Fund Budget 24 to the public for review. We don't have an 25 exact time on press conference yet. But that

will be announced shortly, probably tomorrow.

We'll get it out on social media as soon as we can.

And then coming up in the following weeks, the Commissioners will have their annual series of four budget hearings. They're open to the public. The first is Tuesday, October 20th, 11 a.m. in the Commissioner's conference room in the Lackawanna County Administration Building in Scranton; and then Wednesday, October 21st at 6:30 p.m. at the Mayfield Borough Building; and October 22nd, 4:30 p.m. at the Moosic Borough Building and Thursday, October 22nd, 6:30 p.m. at the Springfield Township Building.

The hearings again, are open to the public. And as soon as we get information that we have with a copy of the budget -- normally our department writes a budget narrative, kind of like the budget in brief written form. And also depending on what it looks like, we do some charts and graphs, some visuals. We'll get those to your office as soon as we have it.

And then my next appearance at Council, I'll give my annual brief but

informative hopefully synopsis on what the budget looks like that's proposed for 2016. So that's the first thing.

And the second thing this may be particularly helpful with the Borough you're from my understanding newly developing a website. On the county website we just got a new feature last week called One Stop Document Shop. Its official title. The public title is the Document Download Shop.

Really simply it's a listing of all the county offices, agencies, and departments.

And under each name of office or agency you can just click and access any forms or documents that the row officers or directors believe should be available to the public or the public would need.

Some departments and offices have more than others. There is only one or two for the prison I think. But for the court system there is maybe 30, 35 documents. So we think it's a big help. Two things, it fills a feature that was featured on the last county website before it was redesigned in 2012. And people actually asked us, where did that

document shop section go.

So it's back on there. It's a little pink button on the right side of the home page. And just click it and access many different documents. We've also seen it on the websites for other agencies, branches of government, state, local, federal pages. So we just think it fills a good need for the community. That's all we have. Thank you.

MR. MCHALE: Thank you, Mr. Hetman.

MR. BURKE: Thanks, Gerard.

MR. MCHALE: Anybody else?

Mr. Duncan.

MR. DUNCAN: I just want to make sure everybody got the minutes from the September neighborhood watch in their e-mail and they were able to open the attachments. I know Mr. Hallinan I just copy the body of the minutes. He can't open the attachments in his account.

And then, Vito, were you able to open yours as well? I just want to make sure. And then next week the 19th will be the next neighborhood watch meeting. So hopefully we can get some responses. We're going to have

the Dunmore Fire Department as guest speakers.

October is Fire Safety Month as I mentioned previously. And Chief DeNaples said he would have two of his guys come down and just talk to the group about, you know, fire safety issues within their residences and everything.

And last year they put on a -- they really did a nice presentation. And then I talked to the Chief. And you said you'll talk to Didge about the stop sign issue at Warren and Ward. We have a situation where I got a message from a neighbor that the stop sign was completely overgrown.

She was walking her grandson to school. A guy didn't see -- know the stop sign was there. Stopped midway through then intersection. He felt so guilty the guy stopped and went back apologetically. I went down the street and I was telling the Chief you can't really see the stop sign. The view is just completely enveloped. The sidewalk and everything is just overgrown with vegetation so hopefully we can get that corrected.

And lastly the next Dunmore

Neighborhood Watch meeting will be Monday,

1 October 19th at 7:00. And again, we'll have the guest speakers from the fire department. 2 3 Thank you. 4 MR. MCHALE: Thank you. 5 MS. HALLINAN: Kelly Burke Hallinan, 1723 Madison Avenue, Dunmore since 1961. 6 7 started to come to Council in May of this year 8 regarding illegally altered single family homes 9 that have been turned into three unit apartment 10 buildings in my neighborhood. 11 We did get signatures of over 30 12 other neighbors. And I presented a petition at 13 the beginning of June that I still haven't 14 received anything back from Council on. MR. MCHALE: I have seen it. What 15 16 would you like back, Mrs. Hallinan? 17 MS. HALLINAN: Well, aren't you 18 supposed to act on a petition from the 19 taxpayers? MR. MCHALE: Vito, can you and I sit 20 21 tomorrow? 22 MS. HALLINAN: Okay. Also I'm a 23 little embarrassed tonight. I'm not usually 24 embarrassed to speak. Before I inform you of 25 the subject matter and what I discovered, I

would like to let Council know and anyone in 1 the audience to know that I have the 2 information, documentation, and proof on me if 3 4 anyone cares to see it. 5 I've been asking for a determination 6 which I need to go in front of the Zoning Board from Council to get from the Zoning and Code 7 8 Enforcement Officer. I received a second 9 opinion, not a determination which I can't take 10 an opinion in front of the Zoning Board. 11 Normally I pay the fee for the permit to do 12 that without a determination. 13 MR. MCHALE: Can I stop you, Mrs. 14 Hallinan? Tommy, we set to do this last month. To my knowledge another letter was sent saying 15 16 that --17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: That the opinion 18 constitutes determination. 19 MS. HALLINAN: Okay. And you 20 received a copy of it? 21 MR. MCHALE: I have not been around 22 for the last week and a half, ma'am. 23 MS. HALLINAN: You were cc'd on it. 24 That's the only reason --25 MR. MCHALE: I'm just telling you I

haven't seen it yet. But that's why I asked Mr. Cummings.

MS. HALLINAN: Okay. Well --

ATTY. CUMMINGS: I will issue an opinion of record at the meeting that the documents received regardless of what they say constitute the final and full determination of Dunmore's Code Officer and Zoning Officer.

MS. HALLINAN: Okay. Well, within the determination I was given an application for rental license that appears to have dates and things changed on it. I also was given a copy of a fire insurance policy from 2005 which was paid and changed. It's an amendment.

I tried to tell you guys I lived there since 1961. I know who was there, who wasn't there. So I don't know why anyone that knows me would think -- plus all the information I gave which as I said I won't do that anymore because it just seems to disappear. No one remembers getting it. No one remembers what was on it. No one looks into anything that I ask at the bottom of the information.

This was an amendment to the policy.

The policy was originally purchased in November. A payment was made to make it a three unit in 2005, seven months later. No insurance policy gets paid in seven months. You either do it yearly, half year, quarterly. It was a seven-month payment.

It is an amendment. It even has the word previous on it showing that it was an amendment. These are all facts I got to show that the house next door to me which I asked for the six homes and for some reason it keeps going back to the house next door to me.

I told you the first time I came I have a message on my answering machine from the Code Enforcement Officer that says there's no amendment to your block and I allowed a kitchen to be put in the third floor of this home sometime around or after 2005.

So this is what I'm trying to show you. I have proof that there was no third floor apartment there. I have pictures showing there's no porch there. There's no meter there. The meter that is there wasn't even introduced to the area until after 2004. It's a readerless meter, different than all the

other meters that are on a house. I have everything right here if anyone wants to see it.

Anything I speak about, you know, I told you I worked with the department in Harrisburg. I met with insurance people. I don't come up and say things that I don't know are fact besides the fact that I lived in that house even when I was married I had disabled parents. I was there every day of my life.

So I know who was there, who owned the house. Another thing is, they're telling me that it can't be proven because the person -- the prior owner is dead and his brother lives too far away. Well, his wife lives in Throop. And she was also owner of the house in 2005.

She was actually an owner until 2008 until they got divorced -- 2006 until they got divorced from the settlement. So all the information I got means absolutely nothing.

And why I'm embarrassed is, my tax money is going to pay people that are giving this kind of information out.

There's dates. There an actual date

on a permit on a rental license for 2004. 1 person didn't even own the house until 2012. 2 3 How could something be backdated like that? I have an inspector underwriters which is a state 4 5 inspection; is that correct? Is that a state inspector? 6 MR. LORINCE: Yes. 7 8 MR. VERRASTRO: No. 9 Okay, well, I have a MS. HALLINAN: 10 signed inspection report from Mr. Forconi{sic}. Is he a state inspector? 11 12 MR. VERRASTRO: No. They're 13 subcontracted to us. They're not state 14 inspector --MS. HALLINAN: But they're certified 15 16 from the state. 17 MR. VERRASTRO: They're certified. 18 MS. HALLINAN: They are certified 19 from the state. Okay. I have on there numbers 20 that were changed. It says a three story --21 two story, three-unit apartment. And the two 22 is changed to a three. I have everything on me 23 right here. So I don't have to go to zoning. 24 I know exactly who I could give all 25 of this stuff to. And I don't have to pay

thousands of dollars and get dragged through a court system for years to prove anything. I have all the proof. As I said, I've been there since 1961. So there are six homes on the block that were illegally converted against zoning ordinance after 2000 when the ordinance became effective.

The 2005 documentation that

Mr. Lorince gave you in June to prove that

was -- that is simply for code. That's simply

for structure and the code of the structures

which has nothing to do with my argument. Now

this three unit house that is next door to me

that I got this opinion determination on was

only one of the six. But this house is 7 feet

away from my house. And everyone knows what

I've dealt with.

Now, there still are rats. All the minutes from the meetings have been posted online except the ones where I said rats.

MR. MCHALE: The ones on our website?

MS. HALLINAN: Yeah.

MR. MCHALE: That's an oversight.

We send every one. Mike and I had a meeting

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about that. Every one that I had in my e-mail I sent. So we're still trying to follow up on everything. I apologize if there is one missing. That's not on purpose. There's not a conspiracy there. We understand exactly what you are going through. You've explained it fantastically.

You explained it fantastically. And we've told you how much -- you know, what we can do next. We understand your plight. I told you I have a similar situation that I'm dealing with. Mr. Cummings, is her next step zoning?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: The request was for the documents, okay? They might be right, wrong, or indifferent. What I directed was make a photocopy of your documents and deliver them with the letter that specifically states determination so it would be without question appealable, reenforced of record tonight so it is appealable. But I -- the request was to produce the file. That's what we produced. If it's --

MR. MCHALE: No, absolutely. I'm just looking -- trying to get to where you want

to go. You want a determination on all six homes? You said you know your next step. So I assume that's zoning. I'm not -- you know, you tell us. We're trying to -- we get told one thing on their side and we hear from you.

Obviously we're not the final body at least that's what I'm told.

MS. HALLINAN: I know, excuse me.

But with all due respect, when I tell you that the homes have been illegally altered and I have multi-list realtors. I mean seriously, Google has -- Google Earth -- all I did was go to Google Earth when this began in what, July of 2013. I Google Earthed the houses. There were no three unit apartments.

There were no extra meters. You know, you just click the time clock on the left and it takes it back as far as 2008. And I'm being told in the determination that they have proof that this house for decades had a third apartment. I told you the names. Q.J. Carey's two aunts lived there.

I used to cut the grass. I used to play with him when he was little. His two elderly aunts lived there. Come on. This is

ridiculous. It's ridiculous what you're allowing to happen in the borough.

The neighborhoods are going. I told you before the kids are going. Over 43 percent of the houses are rental units. Dunmore is not making any money off that. If I was sitting there, I would want to see the pictures and proof of everything that I said tonight, which I have right here.

But, you know, you feel like a fool. You want to leave the community. You don't want to support your local government. You don't want to vote. When everything I've worked for -- we've worked very hard for this home. We put thousands and thousands of dollars in, plus the pride. There's no pride.

You can't have any pride when you have, you know, six and seven college students hanging out on the porch. A drug addict running down threatening you in the middle of the night. You know, come on. Garbage and maggots and birds all over the place, rats in your grill. I waited to get a Weber Grill for 30 years. Got a Weber grill, find a rat in it in the Hollywood section.

There's something going on and I don't understand why it's not being taken care of. But I have all the proof here. If I was sitting there, I'd want to see it. Thank you. Mr. Lorince's e-mail address is wrong on the new website. It still says dot com. I understand it's supposed to say dot org. So you can't get through to zoning via e-mail.

MS. URBAN: Hello. My name is Genna Urban. I'm here tonight on behalf of the Dunmore Pride Committee. So there's a group of us that have been meeting. And we would like to propose to the Borough that we have a holiday get-together in Dunmore titled Home For The Holidays in Bucktown.

We would like the Borough's permission to use the Dunmore Corners for having a tree lighting ceremony as well as having crafts for the kids, bringing Santa into the community, doing some pictures and caroling as well. The proposal date is November 29th, which would be the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

MR. VERRASTRO: Are you asking for the road to be shut down for this?

MS. URBAN: No. We're just asking

for permission to conduct an event there. We are not sure if we need a permit for vendors. We're not sure if we would need insurance for it. So we have permission to use both of the lots and put a tree up in the lot and put a tent in the lot that Dewey's used to be on --

MR. VERRASTRO: Can it be done down here? Could it be done down here?

MS. URBAN: What we were trying to do is bring back the community to the Dunmore Corners. You know, as a child I grew up with the Dunmore Festival going with my parents.

And I really never had an opportunity to bring my kids there. So we're trying to get the community involved and also promoting small business Saturday the Saturday before the event.

MR. VERRASTRO: I'm not trying to give you a hard time. We don't own the parking lot so we can't --

MS. URBAN: Right. We have permission to use the lot. We have permission to use the lots. You know, we're going to work with the banks and hopefully have their permission to use the parking on Sunday. So

we're just looking for permission to run the 1 event at the corners. 2 3 MR. DEMPSEY: I think it's a great idea. 4 5 MR. MCHALE: I think it's a great idea too. 6 7 MS. URBAN: I know Didge said maybe 8 he would help us with some stuff and also use, 9 you know, we'll definitely need some police 10 officers there and so forth. And we just think 11 it would be a great asset to our community and 12 really bringing back that Dunmore pride. 13 MR. MCHALE: That's a great idea. 14 Tommy, do they need anything that you know of? ATTY. CUMMINGS: The only thing so 15 16 there's not a misunderstanding or unforeseen 17 liability, my impression is everybody in the 18 Borough, let alone everyone on Council is 100 percent in favor of it, you know, especially 19 20 the local vendors and the shopping and 21 everything. 22 My suggestion would be that Council 23 endorse it as a good idea this evening and then 24 we get -- just draft written proposal so if you 25 need something you know it ahead of time.

if you need -- not just need in the sense of permitting, but if we have to do an insurance rider or, you know, some coordination with PennDOT. There's a lot of different things that could come up. So I would say before you accept the liability for it, get it in writing so we can hammer everything out. But endorse it conceptually this evening. Is that okay?

MR. VERRASTRO: Like, there's not going to be vendors selling stuff in front of other stores and stuff like that, right?

MS. URBAN: No. We're just going to promote the small business Saturday. We have support of the businesses on the corners. They are going to open on Sunday. And it's just that there will be heavy foot traffic outside and most of the events will take place outside as well.

We're running this as a nonprofit.

We already filed for EIN and so forth. We're moving forward in that direction. And we're just looking for donations from the local business to get this up and running.

MR. MCHALE: That's a great idea.

Tommy, do we do this in the form of a motion?

MR. VERRASTRO: I think we should give them a contact person for now to give all the information to us so just we can vote on it after we have everything, correct?

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yeah, if you want to have a motion so you could voice your opinion on it, that's fine. You just need to endorse it conceptually and then instruct a member of Council, me, Mr. Ruggiero, however many you want to coordinate it so there is no loose ends.

MR. VERRASTRO: I think we did something similar like this with the block parties all summer where they contacted Sal. So this is basically a block party because it's open to the public, correct?

MS. URBAN: Correct.

MR. VERRASTRO: So if you could get in touch with our police chief and give him all the information as the point person and maybe, Sal, you could get it to Tommy and make sure if there is any insurance or liability or things that need to be done with it that we get our suggestions from Tommy and get it taken care of. This way it's quicker for you.

1	MS. URBAN: Okay. Great. So we
2	have the Borough's permission to move forward
3	with this?
4	MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.
5	MR. VERRASTRO: It's a great idea.
6	We want to make sure everybody understands
7	what's going on with it.
8	MR. MCHALE: Absolutely. And we'll
9	help any way we can.
10	MS. URBAN: Great. Thank you.
11	MR. MCHALE: Thank you.
12	MR. VERRASTRO: You could have Didge
13	all you want.
14	MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to
15	speak tonight?
16	(No response.)
17	MR. MCHALE: Seeing none.
18	ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.
19	MR. MCHALE: Mr. Marchese.
20	CHIEF MARCHESE: Nothing.
21	MR. MCHALE: Mr. Kearney?
22	MR. KEARNEY: Nothing.
23	MR. MCHALE: Mr. Judge.
24	MR. JUDGE: No.
25	MR. MCHALE: Mr. Ruggiero.

MR. RUGGIERO: No.

MR. MCHALE: Mr. Cummings.

ATTY. CUMMINGS: Nothing, sir.

MR. MCHALE: Do you want to lead us off, Michael?

MR. DEMPSEY: Sure. I think that is an awesome idea. If you need any help go between me, Sal, Didge, or if you need my help with anything. I know everybody is too. Hal is particularly excited about it. For some reason he called me saying he's going to serve hot chocolate. That's true. He really did say that. So great idea. Whatever you need.

And, Kelly, if I could talk to you after the meeting to look at that stuff I'm happy to do that as well. That's all I have.

MR. MCHALE: You know what, I'll go second. Kelly, I have to get out of here right afterwards. Can I meet you some night? I'll come to your house. We'll go through them. I just don't want to be rude. I have to get out of here. My mother is a little ill. So I apologize. Mr. Verrastro.

MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, I would like

to start with I don't know if anybody noticed but our firehouse is finally on its way. They started construction on it, which is a good thing. It's under a grant. It's within our timelines for it. Kelly, I would like to look at the stuff again. I mean, I didn't ignore any of the stuff you gave me. I have read it.

I'm kind of keeping my opinion to myself on it for now in public view, not to give you any disrespect or anything. I need certain things to run its course. I know you don't want to hear that or think you should have to hear that. Sometimes things need to take its course through government for everybody's protection.

So I don't like to say too many things about that that could either harm myself, you, or the Borough just because I gave an opinion that might hurt somebody in some way, shape or form. But I apologize for that. And I'll explain it to you more in depth when I'm one-on-one with you.

I'd like to thank everybody for coming. I had a couple more things but it kind of slipped my mind for right now. So have a

1 good night. 2 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke. 3 MR. BURKE: I would like go over the paperwork with you. If I give you my number I 4 5 can't do it tonight because I have to be somewhere right after the meeting. 6 7 MS. HALLINAN: I can scan them like 8 I did with the other documents. 9 MR. MCHALE: I'll come to your 10 house. You're two blocks away from me. I can scan and then MS. HALLINAN: 11 send them to Vito for whoever wanted them. 12 13 MR. BURKE: That would be great. 14 Thank you. Joe, did you get a chance to check the situation Jake brought up? 15 16 MR. LORINCE: Yeah, I gave him 17 the -- I looked back into the abandonment and 18 that alley was abandoned, what was it 1998? 19 MR. MCHALE: Joe, that road is added 20 to the liquid fuels I'm told now --21 MR. GARBOLINO: -- pathetic. 22 Pathetic. 100 and some years ago, the Borough 23 of Dunmore ordained that piece of property, 100 24 and some years ago. And if you people are not 25 getting liquid fuels then you better go get

liquid fuel because you're entitled to them. 1 2 MR. MCHALE: I spoke to you the 3 other day, Mr. Garbolino. And I did leave a Joe wasn't in his office at the time. Ι 4 note. 5 am taking care of that after you and I spoke this past week. 6 7 MR. GARBOLINO: All right. Thank 8 you. 9 MR. MCHALE: You got it. 10 MR. BURKE: Anything I could do too, Genna, to help out. Great idea. Good luck 11 12 That's all I have tonight. with it. 13 MR. MCHALE: I'm jumping around but, 14 guys, anything you need. When someone left stuff in our mailbox I thought it was a great 15 16 And Hal had a similar thought on a idea. 17 different season, but anything you need. We'll 18 help personally and all of us together. Please 19 let us know. Anybody else have anything? 20 (No response.) MR. MCHALE: Look for a motion to 21 22 adjourn. 23 MR. DEMPSEY: Motion. 24 MR. VERRASTRO: I'll second it. 25 MR. MCHALE: All in favor signify by

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

Maria McCool, RPR

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