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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, December 13th, 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
- CAROL SCRIMALLI - absent
- THOMAS EHNOT - absent
- VINCE AMICO
- JANET BRIER
- ELIZABETH ZANGARDI
- MICHAEL P. PERRY, Esquire, Solicitor
- TIMOTHY BURKE, Mayor
- VITO RUGGIERO, Borough Manager

MARIA McCOOL, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 ATTY. PERRY: Mayor Burke.

4 MAYOR BURKE: Here.

5 ATTY. PERRY: Mrs. McDonald

6 Zangardi.

7 MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

8 ATTY. PERRY: Mrs. Scrimalli, Mr.

9 Ehnot. Mr. Dempsey.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

11 ATTY. PERRY: Mr. Hallinan.

12 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

13 ATTY. PERRY: Mr. Amico.

14 MR. AMICO: Here.

15 ATTY. PERRY: Mrs. Brier.

16 MS. BRIER: Here.

17 ATTY. PERRY: Public comment on

18 agenda items.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Would anyone like to

20 address Council tonight on the agenda items

21 only?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

24 ATTY. PERRY: Number four, motion to

25 approve the minutes.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll look for a motion  
2 to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

3 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that  
4 motion.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion. Do I  
6 have a second?

7 MR. AMICO: I'll second it.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Anyone on the  
9 question?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. DEMPSEY: All in favor signify  
12 by saying aye.

13 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and  
17 so moved.

18 ATTY. PERRY: Number five, motion to  
19 approve and pay the open bills.

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

22 MS. BRIER: I'll make that motion.

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

25 MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a  
2 second. Anyone on the question with regard to  
3 the open bills?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Hearing none. All  
6 those in favor?

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

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

12 ATTY. PERRY: Number six, motion to  
13 approve the final 2022 budget.

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

16 MS. BRIER: I'll make a motion.

17 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Do I have a  
18 second?

19 MR. AMICO: I'll make the second.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: All right. I have a  
21 motion and a second. All those in favor -- I'm  
22 sorry. Anyone on the question? Just quickly  
23 on the question, we did go over the budget last  
24 meeting. There is no tax increases, balanced  
25 budget.

1                   Mark, anything else with regard to  
2                   the budget since last meeting? Anything  
3                   change? No changes since the last meeting when  
4                   we read it?

5                   MR. BURTON: No.

6                   MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Anyone else on  
7                   the question?

8                   MS. BRIER: I just want to say once  
9                   again to commend Mark for his work on getting  
10                  this done in a timely manner. And really it's  
11                  a very realistic budget. He took three  
12                  years -- an average of three years and then  
13                  prepared that average to last year what we  
14                  spent. And then, you know, made a really,  
15                  really, I mean, a budget is always an estimate.  
16                  But it's very, very accurate estimate.

17                  I just want to thank Mark for all of  
18                  his hard work on it. He did a great job.  
19                  There's a lot of line items. If you've ever  
20                  looked at our budget, there's a gazillion line  
21                  items on there. Mark and I were thinking maybe  
22                  this year we'll try to condense some of those  
23                  so it's not so confusing.

24                  MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Anyone  
25                  else on the question?

1 (No response.)

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

4 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

6 (No response.)

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

9 ATTY. PERRY: Item number seven,  
10 motion to approve 2022 tax ordinance, general  
11 obligation, 20 mills; debt service, 19 mills;  
12 pension services, one half mill; public street  
13 lighting, one mill; fire equipment training,  
14 two mills; firefighter services, one mill;  
15 rescue services, one half mill; total 44 mills.

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

18 MR. AMICO: I'll make a motion.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion. Do I  
20 have a second?

21 MR. HALLINAN: I'll second that.

22 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a  
23 second. Anyone on the question? Again, just  
24 to reiterate total 44 mills. It's been 44  
25 mills since we lowered them from 54 mills a few

1           years ago. Again, no tax increase. And we  
2           also at that point when we lowered the taxes 10  
3           mills from 54 to 44, we also suspended the  
4           garbage fee of \$150 per year per unit. So  
5           again, that's suspended for this year as well.  
6           So anyone else on the question?

7                           (No response.)

8                           MR. DEMPSEY: All those in favor  
9           signify by saying aye.

10                          ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

11                          MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

12                          (No response.)

13                          MR. DEMPSEY: The ayes have it and  
14           so moved.

15                          ATTY. PERRY: Number eight, motion  
16           to authorize borrowing in the amount up to  
17           \$1,500,000 at the best available market rate  
18           for the 2022 Tax Anticipation Note. Approval  
19           will authorize the President of Council, the  
20           Financial Chairwoman, and the Solicitor to take  
21           all actions necessary to bring the matter to  
22           fruition.

23                          MR. DEMPSEY: I will look for a  
24           motion.

25                          MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that

1 motion.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Do I have a second?

3 MR. AMICO: I'll second it.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: I have a motion and a  
5 second. Anyone on the question?

6 MS. BRIER: Mike, I just want to let  
7 everyone know that this is a Tax Anticipation  
8 loan. It's purely there in case, you know,  
9 we're a little bit low at the beginning of the  
10 year. January sometimes is typically a rough  
11 month for us.

12 Fortunately again, I mean, we had  
13 the great stewardship of our revenue last year  
14 and we had the TAN but we never used it. And  
15 that's our intention to never ever use it.  
16 It's kind of like a safety net just so everyone  
17 knows. You know, it's one of those things that  
18 it has to be paid back in the year that it was  
19 borrowed.

20 So we really hesitate to borrow  
21 using the TAN because, you know, it's just kind  
22 of like a spiral. We have to pay it back the  
23 same year. So it's just, you know, Mark -- and  
24 it's just good fiscal policy to have some kind  
25 of safety net in case our anticipated taxes are



1 lower than our expenses, especially in the  
2 beginning of the year.

3 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you. Anyone  
4 else on the question?

5 (No response.)

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

8 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

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

13 ATTY. PERRY: Number nine, public  
14 comment.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: Public comment on  
16 nonagenda items. And we'll start with  
17 Mr. Duncan. Do you have anything for us?

18 MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Barton  
19 Street. I want to thank Mrs. Brier for -- I  
20 know it was brief but reviewing the budget and  
21 everything and especially from the last meeting  
22 for me and explaining the TAN, the Tax  
23 Anticipation Note. So I think that's a -- I  
24 just very much appreciate it.

25 Two of the Council members aren't

1 here tonight. For the record, I want to thank  
2 them for their service. We haven't seen them  
3 in a while. I want it on record that I did  
4 appreciate their public service.

5 I want to thank, Mayor Burke, who's  
6 been here both as a Councilman, as our Mayor,  
7 never missed a Neighborhood Watch meeting. I  
8 don't know anybody that's been more involved in  
9 this town than you've been for as long as I've  
10 known you. So this is your last meeting I  
11 guess from start to finish.

12 Next meeting if we have one in  
13 January you'll start the meeting and somebody  
14 else will close it out. So thanks for your  
15 public service as well.

16 MAYOR BURKE: Thank you, Gary.

17 MR. DUNCAN: You are so much valued.  
18 So I just want you to know that. Merry  
19 Christmas to everyone.

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, Gary.  
21 Mrs. Smith, do you want to address us tonight?

22 MS. SMITH: Sure.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Just put your address  
24 on the record and your name and address for the  
25 record, please.

1 MS. SMITH: Sure.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you.

3 MS. SMITH: Hi, my name is Dorothy  
4 Smith. I live at 1631 Electric Street in  
5 Dunmore. I've lived in Dunmore for 59 years  
6 now that you all know my age. The first 25  
7 years of my life I lived in Bunker Hill. And  
8 my mother who is 83 years old is currently  
9 living in Bunker Hill.

10 I'm here with neighbors of my mom's  
11 who all live in Bunker Hill. And we have so  
12 many concerns about our Borough-owned Bunker  
13 Hill bridge. I'm trying to compile some  
14 information. And I didn't get all of it yet.  
15 I'm trying to get the condition, the  
16 inspections, how often it's inspected and who  
17 sees those inspections.

18 I'm also looking at the weight limit  
19 on that bridge. When I get them, I'll come  
20 back. But I did find out that our bridge --  
21 the Bunker Hill bridge was built around the  
22 same time as the Harrison Avenue bridge, which  
23 is just short of 100 years old. And I could  
24 say, I'm 59 and I don't remember much work ever  
25 being done to the Bunker Hill bridge.

1                   We have many concerns. I'm going to  
2 touch on a couple of them with you right now.  
3 The first one is the emergency vehicles. Like  
4 I said, my mother is 83 years old. There are a  
5 lot of residents that live there. And they are  
6 elderly.

7                   I'm very concerned about a fire  
8 engine coming over that bridge. I'm worried  
9 about an ambulance coming over the bridge. I  
10 noticed when I go over people think it's only a  
11 one lane so they have a tendency to come take  
12 up the whole middle of the bridge and you have  
13 no chance of getting over.

14                  I have a friend of mine who had to  
15 back all the way off the bridge. And one of  
16 the concerns I have is snow arriving. When the  
17 snow arrives and that snow gets piled up on  
18 both sides, I don't know how two cars are going  
19 to get over that bridge. So that is one of our  
20 concerns.

21                  I don't know if you're aware, but  
22 the school bus has to go through Scranton to  
23 get to Bunker Hill. And it can't get through  
24 the bridge on the bottom of Ash Street because  
25 it can't get under it. So it has to go all

1           around the silk mill, the Scranton Silk Mill to  
2           drop the kids off on Sand Street.

3                         And it has to do that both ways. So  
4           I think that's a concern I'm sure of parents.  
5           I have a parent here tonight who is concerned  
6           about it. There are people that enjoy walking  
7           over the bridge, over to Dunmore Corners and  
8           walk back. They can't do that. I don't know  
9           who put those barriers up.

10                        But there is a reason why they're  
11          up. The bridge is in bad shape, okay. And  
12          we're concerned as to what the Borough plans on  
13          doing about it. Several years ago I had family  
14          members along with professional inspectors that  
15          were under that bridge. I think it was 2015.  
16          And they said it was in horrible shape.

17                        And at this point I don't think we  
18          can be ignored anymore because we're worried  
19          about the safety of people that live there.  
20          People -- they come to Bunker Hill. There's a  
21          restaurant there, Carmella's restaurant.  
22          Customers cross over that bridge to get there.  
23          And I know there's infrastructure money coming.

24                        I know sidewalks were done all over.  
25          I don't know much about that. I don't know

1           where that money came from. But I think it's  
2           time that we need to get some attention up  
3           there. And for a long time, the residents of  
4           Bunker Hill feel like they're ignored.

5                       And I know sometimes the truck goes  
6           up Sand Street to plow, it forgets about Erie  
7           Street. It forgets about Park Street. It  
8           just -- I just feel like we're ignored. And  
9           like I said, I don't live there. But I visit  
10          my sick mother at least five times a week.

11                      I bring groceries. I bring her meds  
12          and it's bad. I don't know if any of you have  
13          travelled it. But I'm curious. We're all  
14          curious what the Borough has planned for the  
15          bridge.

16                      MR. HALLINAN: Excuse me -- a few  
17          years ago we did look for some money to get the  
18          bridge replaced. We did a grant study where  
19          they did an income study up and down. And it  
20          failed. We didn't meet the criteria for that.  
21          But I think we have to push. The bridge is in  
22          horrible condition. You could check the bridge  
23          inspections are public record.

24                      PennDOT I think has done -- we've  
25          asked PennDOT to come in and inspect the

1 bridge. So we have it on record. It's getting  
2 worse every inspection.

3 MS. SMITH: Do we get any funding  
4 from the state for this?

5 MR. HALLINAN: No.

6 MS. BRIER: What about the  
7 infrastructure stuff?

8 MS. SMITH: Well, the infrastructure  
9 money is coming I know that. Correct.

10 MR. HALLINAN: We can press the --  
11 our Congressmen, our US Senators.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: We do get liquid fuels  
13 money too.

14 MR. HALLINAN: We get liquid fuels  
15 money. But that's for every road. It's not a  
16 special thing for the bridge or anything.

17 MS. SMITH: There hasn't even been  
18 paint. It hasn't even been painted. There's  
19 nothing that's been done to it.

20 MR. HALLINAN: And we've had a  
21 couple of, you know, faults on the bridge. If  
22 you've seen there was, you know, it's literally  
23 two or three bridges that bridge. It's not one  
24 consecutive bridge. There's a railroad bridge.  
25 Then there's the bridge that crosses over the

1 creek. And it -- the whole thing is  
2 deplorable.

3 If you ever walked underneath it, I  
4 don't know if you would think about driving  
5 over it. And when we do get the inspections  
6 and I think PennDOT has handed them to us, it's  
7 not good. So I think we have to --

8 MS. SMITH: For all of these years  
9 it's rotted.

10 MR. HALLINAN: Well, yeah, because  
11 money's not there. And it's going cost a large  
12 amount of money. I think we looked -- I want  
13 to say when I first got on Council in 2013-14,  
14 we were looking at maybe eight, nine million  
15 dollars. And so you could imagine how prices  
16 have gone up by then.

17 MS. SMITH: So what do we do? Do we  
18 close the bridge?

19 MR. HALLINAN: No. I think we still  
20 have to go after our legislators and tell them  
21 we need a bridge and find some funding for us.

22 MS. SMITH: And that's something  
23 that you'll pursue?

24 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I think we have  
25 to. We have to contact PennDOT, you know,



1 State Senators, US Senators, Congressmen.

2 MS. SMITH: That's going to take  
3 time. It's going to take a lot of time.

4 MR. HALLINAN: Once you get the ball  
5 rolling --

6 MS. SMITH: In the meantime is  
7 anyone familiar with what's called the loop  
8 light system?

9 MR. HALLINAN: I know what you mean,  
10 yeah.

11 MS. SMITH: You know what that  
12 means. You know what that is. You approach  
13 the bridge. They put some sort of cable on the  
14 bridge. So the weight of your car on the Mill  
15 Street side would notify the other side that  
16 there's a car there. Okay, so one car can only  
17 go over at a time. In the interim, is that  
18 something that we should consider?

19 MS. BRIER: What's that called  
20 again?

21 MS. SMITH: The loop light system.

22 MR. HALLINAN: We can look into  
23 that.

24 MS. BRIER: Yeah, I think we should.

25 MR. HALLINAN: It's a lot safer than

1           what's out there now because people come around  
2           especially from the Bunker Hill side. You  
3           sneak the front end of your car over and then  
4           it's like Russian roulette. Everybody is going  
5           and who is going to scrape who --

6                   MS. SMITH: Right. And picture snow  
7           on both sides and then you have two cars head  
8           to head and what happens then? You know, and  
9           like I said, I mean, it's not safe. It's just  
10          not safe.

11                   MS. BRIER: That's why the school  
12          buses aren't going over.

13                   MS. SMITH: I don't know how  
14          emergency vehicles are going to go over it.

15                   MS. BRIER: Well, the Chief has a  
16          plan, right, Chief?

17                   CHIEF DENAPLES: Yeah, we have a --  
18          since the last inspection since the five ton  
19          weight limit was put on, we have a protocol in  
20          place. We go over Wheeler Avenue, okay, go  
21          down Ash Street to Richter Avenue, that's near  
22          the little league, go over the bridge, come  
23          back over and then go back on Ash. It takes a  
24          little while.

25                   MS. SMITH: I was just going to say.

1 And you have to go through Scranton to get to  
2 Dunmore where all of these people pay taxes.

3 CHIEF DENAPLES: There's a lot of  
4 thought and there's a policy on it to get fire  
5 trucks over there. It's just an extended  
6 period versus going over the bridge.

7 MR. HALLINAN: And, Chief, we  
8 actually looked one time of maybe renting space  
9 for a vehicle up there because it's -- nobody  
10 wants to put anybody -- and we thought of this  
11 stuff. I mean, maybe we never followed through  
12 on a lot of stuff.

13 Nobody wants to put anybody's life  
14 in danger. And this could be a disaster sooner  
15 or later. And I think --

16 MS. SMITH: So were those red  
17 barriers put there by the Borough?

18 MR. HALLINAN: Yes.

19 MR. AMICO: The rationale for the  
20 barriers, ma'am, were for the weight limit. So  
21 again, like, I understand your concern with  
22 school buses. The reason why school buses have  
23 to go through Scranton and go around the bridge  
24 is because they don't meet the weight limit  
25 criteria to cross the bridge.

1                   So a school bus is too heavy.  
2                   That's the same reason why Chief DeNaples is  
3                   explaining as far as his vehicles, the Fire  
4                   Department vehicles. We had the choice -- I'm  
5                   going to say two years ago. I may be wrong --  
6                   to put either put the barriers on the bridge  
7                   the way they are now and allow Bunker Hill to  
8                   not be an island for lack of a better term or  
9                   make the bridge the way it is now.

10                   Again, please don't take this the  
11                   wrong way. It's an inconvenience now, but it  
12                   would have been a worse inconvenience to just  
13                   shut the bridge down. So we had to make  
14                   concessions. We could either limit the  
15                   weight or -- well, really three things, leave  
16                   it the way it was which was unsafe and nobody  
17                   here would put people's lives in danger and say  
18                   we'll leave the bridge open the way it was say  
19                   three years ago and, you know, we'll just  
20                   continue to roll the dice and let buses and  
21                   trucks and whatever go over.

22                   So we limited the weight. By  
23                   limiting the weight, it became an inconvenience  
24                   with school buses and trucks. They just --  
25                   heavier vehicles. So we had to limit it the

1 way we did where we put the barriers up to  
2 limit -- and signs obviously to limit the  
3 amount of weight --

4 MS. SMITH: So what is the weight  
5 that's allowed?

6 MR. AMICO: Honest to God I don't  
7 know.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Five tons, I think.

9 MR. AMICO: So that allows for  
10 personal vehicles, you know, small trucks --

11 MS. SMITH: I actually hold my  
12 breath when I go over it because I'm afraid. I  
13 don't know if a car's weight --

14 MR. AMICO: Personally I just say  
15 this as a parent. If I lived in Bunker Hill, I  
16 wouldn't want a school bus -- I wouldn't want  
17 to ride a school bus over it. So I would  
18 rather -- again, I know it's a pain. And as a  
19 parent, I know I would be -- I would rather be  
20 inconvenienced to have my child go an extra  
21 five minutes around Scranton than roll the dice  
22 and put them on the bridge.

23 But that doesn't make life any  
24 easier your for a parent who is waiting for his  
25 or her child. So I'm not diminishing it but I

1           feel better here making this part of the  
2           decision --

3                   MS. BRIER: It needs to be fixed  
4           like you said. We need money. It's probably  
5           going to be 15 or 20 million dollars to do that  
6           bridge. We don't have 15 or 20 million  
7           dollars. That's the bottom line. But I think  
8           we can apply. You know, but we're talking  
9           about getting some management help in here with  
10          PEL who knows how -- they know this through  
11          grant writing, etc.

12                   They're more tuned in to what's  
13          available out in the world, especially with the  
14          federal money that just passed. So our hope is  
15          in like the new year, we'll start to apply for  
16          money for specific projects. And that's going  
17          to be right at the top of the list because of  
18          the situation up there. Everyone here knows  
19          how horrible it is.

20                   MS. SMITH: When do you think would  
21          be a good time for us to come back and get an  
22          update from you?

23                   MS. BRIER: I think you should come  
24          back even in February. We want to do this.  
25          It's not like no one wants to do this or it's

1 not on the top of the list. It really, really  
2 is. You know, it's a terrible situation. We  
3 all agree. It's just that there is no money  
4 right now.

5 We anticipate getting money. And  
6 again, that's right at the top of the list.  
7 The roads in Dunmore are deplorable, you know,  
8 in terms of, like, the paving that needs to be  
9 done. There's so much that needs to be done  
10 infrastructurewise in Dunmore. But that's the  
11 most hazardous situation we have.

12 MS. SMITH: Very much so, yes.

13 MS. BRIER: So that's why it's at  
14 the top -- the very top of the list. It really  
15 is. And we will keep you posted in terms of --

16 MS. SMITH: Well, we'll be back to  
17 find out.

18 MR. DEMPSEY: You're welcome to come  
19 back every single month.

20 MS. SMITH: And if you need us to do  
21 anything, I'm willing to do whatever I have to  
22 do because like I said, I was born and raised  
23 there. My mother lives there now. My mother  
24 lives alone and I'm very, very concerned.

25 MS. BRIER: And if you could give us

1           like even a copy of that list as a citizen, I  
2           think that would be helpful too. Thanks so  
3           much for coming.

4                     MS. SMITH: Thank you.

5                     MR. DEMPSEY: Anybody else like to  
6           address Council tonight on any matter?

7                     (No response.)

8                     MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

9                     ATTY. PERRY: Number 10, public  
10          officials.

11                    MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Chief DeNaples,  
12          do you have anything for us?

13                    CHIEF DENAPLES: I have nothing  
14          tonight. Thank you.

15                    MR. DEMPSEY: Mark, I think there  
16          was no Treasurer's report. Do you want to give  
17          us a quick rundown or are you --

18                    MR. BURTON: I'll just give you a  
19          brief little recap for the month of November.

20                    MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, I don't mean to  
21          catch you unprepared -- not unprepared but do  
22          you have your stuff there?

23                    MR. BURTON: Yep. We're good. As  
24          it turns out, the month of November brought a  
25          net income of \$200,000. This was due largely



1 in part to our second distribution of our  
2 health insurance surplus which was \$485,000 and  
3 also the fact that by -- by the fact that we  
4 finalized our refinance that there was no debt  
5 service payments in the month of November.

6 So that contributed another \$85,000  
7 to the bottom line. Real estate tax  
8 collections remain light as anticipated towards  
9 the end of the year. We did receive \$60,000  
10 from Comcast franchise fees for the third  
11 quarter of 2021.

12 Another 458,000 in miscellaneous  
13 revenue again for the second installment of our  
14 insurance surplus for 2020. There was no draw  
15 on the TAN again this month. As far as  
16 expenses, the final bill for the Murphy-Doherty  
17 audit was \$19,000. And buildings and plan,  
18 there was another \$24,000 for the second  
19 installment of the roof which was washed out by  
20 the fact of our insurance receipt for that.

21 MS. BRIER: That's here?

22 MR. BURTON: That was on the Borough  
23 Building.

24 MS. BRIER: But we were reimbursed?

25 MR. BURTON: From the insurance

1           company, yes. The first installment we  
2           received. Then the insurance company sent the  
3           second installment once the project was  
4           complete. And that was our second installment  
5           for the roof.

6                        Again, no debt service payment  
7           because of the refinance. And another \$40,000  
8           to the MMO for the pension and loan payments.  
9           And just some basic miscellaneous expenses,  
10          \$25,000 to the Dunmore School District. And  
11          there was also \$17,000 that gets reimbursed,  
12          United Gilsonite for their tax assessment  
13          refunds for 2019 and 2020.

14                      And taking out the one time items of  
15          the pension loan payment and the ARPA funding,  
16          our net income through November would be about  
17          \$95,000. So we're still ahead of schedule for  
18          the year with one more month.

19                      MR. DEMPSEY: Thanks, Mark.

20                      MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

21                      MR. DEMPSEY: Didge, do you have  
22          anything?

23                      MR. JUDGE: No.

24                      MR. DEMPSEY: Attorney Perry?

25                      ATTY. PERRY: Nothing.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke, I'll save  
2 you for last. Mrs. Brier, do you have  
3 anything?

4 MS. BRIER: Just my heartfelt thanks  
5 to Tim for everything he's done for this town.  
6 He put his heart and soul into making the right  
7 decisions for Dunmore and for the people that  
8 lived here. He did it at sometimes great  
9 personal sacrifice. He's a remarkable man and  
10 so grateful for his service.

11 MAYOR BURKE: Thank you.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mrs.  
13 Brier. Mr. Amico?

14 MR. AMICO: Yeah, I'd like to --  
15 I'm sure we're all going to be saying  
16 essentially the same thing about Mayor Burke.  
17 And one, I want to thank you for I guess  
18 talking me into -- getting me involved in this.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: You want to thank him?

20 MS. BRIER: You don't want to thank  
21 him.

22 MR. AMICO: Sometimes I don't know  
23 if I want to thank you or throw my phone at  
24 you. But honest to God, thank you for all  
25 you've done for me personally and for the

1           Borough. It means a ton. And again, thanks to  
2           Mr. Ehnot and Carol Scrimalli for their years  
3           of service.

4                     And finally one thing I want to say,  
5           the police again this year are collecting toys  
6           for children of the Borough. So if you want to  
7           drop off toys to the Borough Buildings, the  
8           Borough Building is open from 8:30 to 4 if you  
9           have a toy to drop off. I'd say this Friday  
10          would probably be the last day. That's it.  
11          Appreciate it. Again, Mayor Burke, thanks  
12          again for everything. And I hope everybody has  
13          a Merry Christmas.

14                    MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mr. Amico.  
15          Mr. Hallinan?

16                    MR. HALLINAN: I'd like to thank Joe  
17          and Robert Kries, Pat Reese, Didge, the DPW,  
18          Dunmore Police Officers that stood with us all  
19          day in that weather for stringing the lights on  
20          the Christmas tree at the island with the  
21          clock. I don't know. Sometimes people think  
22          this stuff just appears out of the sky.

23                    But these guys came out on a  
24          Saturday and gave up their free time and their  
25          equipment. I think we did was, buy them lunch

1 on the Borough. And also, Mick, would you  
2 please make sure that Monahan Avenue which was  
3 paved probably about three years ago, they did  
4 a pave cut.

5 They must have put a line in from  
6 the O'Neil Highway all the way out to Reeves  
7 Street with some different -- I just want to  
8 make sure that that's on the record that we  
9 want that paved curb to curb when they come  
10 back through.

11 I'm sure they just temporarily  
12 patched it for the winter. But I want to make  
13 sure they come back in the spring, okay? So I  
14 don't know who the company is and let's just  
15 put them on record, okay?

16 ATTY. PERRY: Will do.

17 MR. HALLINAN: And I want to thank  
18 you, Mr. Burke. We bumped heads a lot times.  
19 But we can sit there and have a beer and laugh  
20 about it later. You're a good man. You have a  
21 big heart. You've always put Dunmore first.  
22 You always taught me that a few times. You  
23 said that, you know, you didn't care what it  
24 took. You wanted always to do the right thing.

25 And I kind of tell that to people

1           when I talk to them about politics. You want  
2           to put your head on the pillow at night and  
3           know that you did the right thing, not  
4           serving -- you want to serve all the town.  
5           And, Timmy, you were exemplary of that. And  
6           thank you for all your years of service.

7                         MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mr.  
8           Hallinan. Mrs. Zangardi?

9                         MS. ZANGARDI: Yep, the same for  
10          Timmy. You know, I grew up with Timmy. So I'm  
11          going miss him. And he's the one that dragged  
12          me into this. And like Vince said, I don't  
13          know if I want to hug you or hit you. I  
14          appreciate everything. I appreciate our  
15          friendship. I'm very grateful.

16                        Dorothy, regarding the loop light,  
17          I'd like to touch base with you about that  
18          afterwards to get a little information as to  
19          where we go from looking into it. And then  
20          happy holidays and Merry Christmas. Stay safe  
21          everybody. And that's it for me.

22                        MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mrs.  
23          Zangardi.

24                        MR. HALLINAN: Mick, one thing too.  
25          Would you send a letter to the head of PennDOT?

1 I think his name is Richard Roman. He's  
2 executive now they call him and just ask him  
3 about what routes we could go for funding for  
4 that bridge to kind of try to move it along.

5 ATTY. PERRY: You may not recall  
6 this, but we have been maintaining that the  
7 bridge is owned by the county.

8 MS. SMITH: I found out it's owned  
9 by the Borough.

10 ATTY. PERRY: You would be educating  
11 me because I haven't been able to determine  
12 that. The records we looked at indicated it  
13 was owned by the county.

14 MS. SMITH: I spoke to the Chairman  
15 of PennDOT and he told me it's a Borough-owned  
16 bridge.

17 ATTY. PERRY: Well --

18 MR. HALLINAN: Again, I would like  
19 to see something in writing.

20 ATTY. PERRY: That may be PennDOT's  
21 opinion. The records that I reviewed --

22 MS. SMITH: I could get the info  
23 from him.

24 ATTY. PERRY: Well, if he has more  
25 than I have -- I can't imagine he does. But --

1 MS. SMITH: So you are saying the  
2 county owns it?

3 ATTY. PERRY: The county owns the  
4 bridge. They won't agree that they own it.  
5 But the county owns the bridge. We've asked  
6 them --

7 MS. SMITH: That's what we've been  
8 hearing for the last 15 years. That's why  
9 nobody fixes it.

10 ATTY. PERRY: It's true. They own  
11 the bridge. They won't agree to fix it.

12 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: Well, if the  
13 county owns the bridge, then why did Mr.  
14 Hallinan just say that years ago they put in to  
15 get money to try to fix it? Why would the  
16 Borough do that?

17 ATTY. PERRY: There's never been a  
18 determination as to who owns it, specifically  
19 the paperwork that I've looked at says that the  
20 county owns it. But again, the county denies  
21 that they own it. So if the Borough could get,  
22 money to get it fixed, the Borough should get  
23 money to get it fixed.

24 MS. SMITH: And --

25 MR. DEMPSEY: Excuse me, guys --



1 Mrs. Smith, we're on the record.

2 MS. SMITH: Oh, I'm sorry.

3 MR. DEMPSEY: No, that's okay. I  
4 don't mean to cut you off because she's taking  
5 a record -- and you're more than welcome to  
6 come back up and ask any questions to Attorney  
7 Perry that you want, but just because we're on  
8 the record -- Maria has a tough time taking  
9 everybody.

10 MS. SMITH: Oh, sure. I just want  
11 to ask him one question.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: Sure. I apologize.  
13 But I have to keep the record clean. Thank  
14 you.

15 MR. SMITH: That's fine. So,  
16 Mickey, what type of paperwork did you receive  
17 just so I know what I'm talking about.

18 ATTY. PERRY: There was a court  
19 opinion probably 50 or 60 years ago indicating  
20 that it's the county's responsibility, the  
21 county's bridge.

22 MS. BRIER: Can we get her that  
23 paperwork?

24 MS. SMITH: No, I'm going to get the  
25 paperwork from the person that told me.

1                   ATTY. PERRY: Yeah, the problem is,  
2                   it's not a reported opinion. It's just been  
3                   referenced in other documents. So you can't  
4                   get a copy of the opinion. But there is an  
5                   opinion referenced in other documents  
6                   indicating that the county owns the bridge.  
7                   The Borough is responsible for the maintenance  
8                   of the bridge.

9                   MS. SMITH: So the Borough is  
10                  responsible for maintenance.

11                  ATTY. PERRY: The maintenance but  
12                  not to -- if the county owns the bridge, then  
13                  it's their responsibility to replace the  
14                  bridge. The bridge needs to be replaced. It  
15                  can't be fixed. It needs to be replaced. So  
16                  we've actually had dialogue with the county  
17                  about replacing the bridge. They refuse to do  
18                  it. That's where we are at this point.

19                  MS. SMITH: I'm going to take it a  
20                  little further.

21                  MS. ZANGARDI: When Attorney Perry  
22                  reference maintenance, he was saying cleaning,  
23                  plowing, patching, not replacing. Maintenance  
24                  is the plowing --

25                  MS. SMITH: No, I understand what

1           you're saying. I want to find the information  
2           that I have I want to bring forward.

3                     ATTY. PERRY: I'd be glad to see  
4           that if you could get it to me.

5                     MS. SMITH: Thanks.

6                     MR. DEMPSEY: Excuse me, Miss, did  
7           you want to address Council at all?

8                     UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: No.

9                     MR. DEMPSEY: Okay, just making  
10          sure.

11                    MR. AMICO: Just to answer your  
12          question about the reason why we seek money is  
13          because you're the residents of our town. If  
14          there is a way we can find money to fix the  
15          bridge or replace the bridge or make a new  
16          bridge, we're not going to wait for the county  
17          or the state or the federal government to come  
18          to Dunmore and fix our problem.

19                    You're our people. So if there is a  
20          way for us to get grant money to make this  
21          happen, that's what Mr. Hallinan was referring  
22          to.

23                    UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: That's why I  
24          was confused.

25                    MR. AMICO: Yeah, we're -- trust me.

1 We're not expecting somebody from the county to  
2 come in and say, by the way, your bridge looks  
3 bad. So we're going to fix it. That's --  
4 you're our residents. That is important.

5 MR. DEMPSEY: On this issue, does  
6 anybody else want to come up before and address  
7 Council? You're more than welcome to.

8 (No response.)

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Seeing none.

10 ATTY. PERRY: Number 11,  
11 adjournment.

12 MR. DEMPSEY: I didn't go yet.

13 ATTY. PERRY: Oh, I'm sorry,  
14 Michael.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: I didn't know if you  
16 had anything else.

17 ATTY. PERRY: I didn't mean to take  
18 over.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Mayor Burke, thank you  
20 so much for your service. You've been here  
21 since -- God, I spent all eight years with you.  
22 I learned a lot from you. And any time I  
23 called you for -- to figure out where the  
24 bodies were buried, you always were helpful.

25 It's a tough job up here, especially

1           trying to get your feet wet. I know I was a  
2           32-year-old kid. You helped me out -- man, but  
3           a kid in this job. So I appreciate it.

4                        I also want to thank for the tree,  
5           Mr. DeNaples donated the actual tree. And he  
6           gave us that -- we couldn't get the tree up.  
7           If you drove by, it was laying on the ground.  
8           He let us use -- well, he didn't let us use it.  
9           He was able to -- what is it, Didge, schematic  
10          or whatever it was, a machine to lift the tree.

11                      It was gigantic. So I appreciate  
12          that. It didn't cost us anything. And it  
13          looks great. So, Didge, thank you to all your  
14          guys and everybody else for putting that up.  
15          And also, I want to thank Tommy and Carol. I  
16          wish they were here. I appreciate their  
17          service. This isn't Tommy's first run. And  
18          Carol has been here a long time. So I  
19          appreciate their public service. So with that,  
20          Mayor, I'll kick it off to you if you have  
21          anything for us tonight.

22                      MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Council,  
23          for all the nice words. Gary, thank you too,  
24          buddy. It's been a privilege and an honor for  
25          the last 20 years to serve the Borough. I'm

1 going miss these guys, DPW, police, fire,  
2 clerical. I worked with a lot of good people,  
3 Council, the many different Councils I've  
4 worked with that all try to help and work with  
5 all of these departments.

6 Mick's been a big help. But I'm  
7 going to miss -- I'm going -- there's parts I'm  
8 going to miss. But I want to thank everybody  
9 for all of their help and encouragement,  
10 especially my wife who stuck with me through  
11 thick and thin in all of this and phone calls  
12 in the middle of the night and whatever.  
13 She's the best and my family. But it's been a  
14 privilege and an honor to serve the Borough of  
15 Dunmore.

16 And I'll still go to meetings. And,  
17 Gary, I'll still -- once your meetings start up  
18 I'll be at them. And I want to wish Tripp and  
19 Kathryn good luck. I know you guys will do  
20 fantastic. And I know we're in good hands with  
21 you guys coming in and Max.

22 And Dunmore is going to be in good  
23 shape. And thank you again for having me here  
24 for this long. And thank you, Maria, too.  
25 Thanks again and thanks Council for all the

1 fine words.

2 MR. DEMPSEY: Okay. Nobody else?

3 So I will look for a motion to adjourn.

4 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that  
5 motion.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Second?

7 MR. AMICO: Second.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: All those in favor?

9 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. DEMPSEY: So moved. We are  
13 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
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