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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, July 10, 2023

TIME:

6:00 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 :

- VINCE AMICO - President
- JANET BRIER - Vice President
- MICHAEL DEMPSEY
- THOMAS HALLINAN
- ELIZABETH ZANGARDI
- WILLIAM O'MALLEY, III
- KATHERINE OVEN
- GREG WOLFF, Borough Manager
- KELLY E. HADLEY, Esquire, Solicitor

MICHELLE SMOLSKIS
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 MR. WOLFF: Roll call. Mayor

4 Conway.

5 MAYOR CONWAY: Here.

6 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Zangardi.

7 MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

8 MR. WOLFF: Mr. O'Malley.

9 MR. O'MALLEY: Here.

10 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Dempsey.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

12 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Amico.

13 MR. AMICO: Here.

14 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Brier.

15 MS. BRIER: Here.

16 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Mackrell Oven.

17 MS. OVEN: Here.

18 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Hallinan.

19 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

20 MR. WOLFF: Just some quick

21 amendments to the agenda for number six.

22 There'll be Chris Rinaldi, he's already on

23 there. We'll be adding James Melia to

24 temporary DPW.

25 For number seven, there's Evan

1 Makowski. We'll be adding Madisyn Lessard.
2 Okay. So, just a couple changes on the agenda.

3 Number three, public comment on
4 agenda items.

5 MR. AMICO: Would anyone from the
6 public like to comment on agenda items only?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. AMICO: Seeing none.

9 MR. WOLFF: Number four, a motion to
10 approve the minutes.

11 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion
12 to approve the minutes.

13 MR. O'MALLEY: I'll make that
14 motion.

15 MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

16 MR. AMICO: A motion and a second.
17 Anyone on the question?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. AMICO: All those in favor.

20 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it.

24 MR. WOLFF: Number five, motion to
25 approve and pay open bills.

1 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion
2 to approve and pay the open bills.

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

5 MS. OVEN: I'll second.

6 MR. AMICO: I have a motion and a
7 second. Anyone on the question?

8 MS. BRIER: One question, Mark.
9 Barry Isett and Associates.

10 MR. BURTON: That's the health
11 inspection fees that they're due.

12 MS. BRIER: Oh, that's -- okay.
13 That was the audit. That was the audit. Okay.

14 MR. BURTON: -- three months.

15 MS. BRIER: Okay. Oh, that's three
16 months. Okay. Thank you.

17 MR. AMICO: Anyone else on the
18 question?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. AMICO: All those in favor.

21 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

22 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it.

25 MR. WOLFF: Number six, personnel

1 matter: Motion to approve Christopher Rinaldi
2 and James Melia, temporary DPW workers.

3 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that
4 motion.

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

7 MR. O'MALLEY: Second.

8 MR. AMICO: I have a motion and a
9 second. Anyone on the question?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. AMICO: Seeing none. All those
12 in favor.

13 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

14 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it.

17 MR. WOLFF: Number seven, personnel
18 matter: Motion to approve Evan Makowski and
19 Madisyn Lessard, summer help, pending approval,
20 background check.

21 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion
22 to approve Evan Makowski and Mady Lessard for
23 summer help.

24 MR. O'MALLEY: I'll make that
25 motion.

1 MR. AMICO: I have a motion. Do I
2 have a second?

3 MS. BRIER: Second.

4 MR. AMICO: All those in favor.

5 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

6 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it.

9 MR. WOLFF: Number eight, motion to
10 adopt Civil Service Ordinance Amendments.

11 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion
12 to approve our Civil Service Amendments.

13 MS. BRIER: I'll make it.

14 MR. O'MALLEY: Second.

15 MR. AMICO: A motion and a second.
16 On the question, just so everybody knows what's
17 going on, we've made a few changes to our Civil
18 Service Ordinance for the fire department,
19 basically requiring anymore -- like, in the
20 past, if you wanted to be a firefighter in the
21 Borough, you had to have firefighting
22 experience. Now, in order to take the civil
23 service test, you don't have to. You could
24 just, you know, as long as you're -- is it, how
25 old is it, Greg?

1 MR. WOLFF: Twenty-one, resident.

2 MR. AMICO: Twenty-one and a

3 resident, you could --

4 MR. WOLFF: Good standing, all those
5 things.

6 MR. AMICO: You could sit for the
7 test, and upon being hired in the Borough, you
8 become a resident. Anyone else on the
9 question?

10 MS. BRIER: Just to clarify, that
11 means just the new firemen or firewomen will
12 have to live in Dunmore?

13 MR. AMICO: Not to take the test.

14 MS. BRIER: Not to take the test.

15 Okay.

16 MR. AMICO: Correct.

17 MR. WOLFF: Upon being hired.

18 MR. AMICO: Upon being hired.

19 MR. WOLFF: They have a certain
20 amount of time. It mirrors their contract, as
21 well. It's to encourage Dunmore residents, as
22 well, to open it up to more people.

23 MR. AMICO: Anyone else on the
24 question?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. AMICO: Seeing none. All those
2 in favor.

3 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

4 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it.

7 MR. WOLFF: Number nine, treasurer
8 financial report. Mark.

9 MR. BURTON: Good evening, Council.
10 My little recap for the month of June, we had a
11 net loss for the month of \$406,000, which
12 brings our year to date net income to 2.3
13 million dollars.

14 Revenue-wise, as expected, real
15 estate, there was a -- real estate tax
16 collection, there was a significant drop as
17 anticipated and budgeted.

18 Miscellaneous revenue, we received
19 \$236,000. That's half of our 2022 surplus
20 distribution. We should receive the other one
21 in October, November.

22 MS. BRIER: For the blues? The
23 blues? Is that the health care?

24 MR. BURTON: For the health care,
25 yes.

1 MS. BRIER: Okay.

2 MR. BURTON: The surplus
3 distribution. That's as far as income goes.

4 Expense-wise, the planning and
5 zoning, the NEIC, the Marywood expansion
6 project, we had to pay them for that. \$60,000
7 partial MMO payment. And our quarterly
8 property liability insurance premium was
9 \$64,000.

10 MS. BRIER: Mark, at NEIC, won't we
11 get reimbursed for that?

12 MR. BURTON: We did. Two months.

13 MS. BRIER: Oh, okay.

14 MR. BURTON: Two months prior. They
15 bill after --

16 MS. BRIER: The reimbursement.

17 MR. BURTON: -- after we receive the
18 money.

19 MS. BRIER: Okay.

20 MR. BURTON: When they get the
21 reimbursement. So, we had received that
22 income, I believe, back in probably April.

23 MS. BRIER: Thanks.

24 MR. BURTON: And other than that, it
25 was a pretty quiet month, as the summers

1 usually are.

2 MR. AMICO: Thanks, Mark.

3 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

4 MR. WOLFF: Number ten, Chris
5 Kearney, DCC.

6 MR. KEARNEY: Good evening. In the
7 past several weeks we've continued with our
8 party rentals on the weekend and we've done
9 some court rentals, as well. We also served as
10 an indoor practice facility for the various
11 little league all star teams when the weather's
12 been bad.

13 This afternoon, they just got done,
14 the 12-year-old team has a game tonight and
15 something went wrong with their batting cage,
16 so we quick let them use ours.

17 We're also seeing an increasing
18 amount of middle school teams using these
19 courts for practice. I'm getting fourth and
20 fifth and sixth grade teams from over here,
21 they're practicing. For what, I don't know,
22 but they're practicing.

23 Today marked the start of the summer
24 program at our three parks, Sherwood,
25 St. Anthony's and here. We run Monday through

1 Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. our first day
2 today we registered 141 children between the
3 three parks, so it was a little busy today.

4 Everything went well, and we're
5 probably going to see a slight increase in
6 campers when some families return from
7 vacation. It usually will peak, based on past,
8 this is my eighth year doing it, we'll get the
9 most in the next two weeks or so, and then it
10 starts winding down, like, as we get towards
11 August it starts to, you know, kids get tired
12 of it or they want to go on vacation or
13 whatever. And that's all I have.

14 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

15 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Judge is not present
16 tonight. Chief Marchese.

17 CHIEF MARCHESE: For the month of
18 June, our department responded to 927 calls for
19 service. This number is down by 225 calls from
20 the previous month. Our arrests for the month,
21 13 criminal arrests, 4 non-traffic, 37 traffic
22 arrests and 44 written warnings.

23 Officer Garzella retired early June.
24 We had three overtime shifts sent out for the
25 month. Officer Richardson and Burgette took

1 part in a monthly SWAT training June 13th and
2 27th.

3 All full-time officers and part-time
4 officers took part in our yearly firearms
5 qualifications June 19th, 20th and 21st. This
6 is a yearly requirement and was completed at
7 the Canaan federal prison range.

8 On Sunday, June 18th, officers
9 assisted with the first Bucktown Music Fest of
10 the season. And that's all I have.

11 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Chief.

12 MR. WOLFF: Chief DeNaples is not
13 present. Number eleven, public comment.

14 MR. AMICO: Would anyone from the
15 public like to speak to Council this evening?
16 Ma'am.

17 MS. SUMMA: Do I have to stand up?

18 MR. AMICO: Please. Yeah. And just
19 state your name for the record.

20 MS. SUMMA: Over here?

21 MR. AMICO: Please.

22 MS. SUMMA: Okay. Sharon Summa,
23 S-U-M-M-A. I'm a lifelong resident of Dunmore.
24 I have questions for Council. What is the
25 process when someone makes a complaint about a

1 neighbor as far as garbage strewn about their
2 yard? What is the correct process? Because
3 apparently I didn't have it right last week.
4 Can someone tell me?

5 MR. AMICO: Normally, ma'am, you
6 would call the Borough building and we would
7 have --

8 MS. SUMMA: Make a complaint?

9 MR. AMICO: Yes.

10 MS. SUMMA: Is it an anonymous
11 complaint?

12 MR. AMICO: That's up to the person
13 making the phone call.

14 MS. SUMMA: I don't understand.

15 MR. AMICO: Maybe I'm
16 misunderstanding your question. Meaning are
17 you asking if a person were to complain --

18 MS. SUMMA: Yes. Do they then go
19 tell the neighbor the name of the person that
20 was complaining?

21 MR. AMICO: I've never received a
22 phone call. I don't know what transpires on --

23 MS. SUMMA: Okay. Do you want to
24 know what transpired last week?

25 MS. BRIER: Sure.

1 MR. AMICO: It's your turn to talk.
2 It's up to you.

3 MS. SUMMA: Okay. On June 26th I
4 was woken up by an animal, possibly a
5 groundhog, eating garbage from my neighbor's
6 yard. I have pictures to prove it if you'd
7 like to see.

8 On June 28th I was woken up in the
9 middle of the night by a skunk which proceeded
10 to spray into my bedroom window.

11 On June 30, 2023, I went to the
12 Borough building to speak with the code
13 enforcement officer who is -- who is the code
14 enforcement officer? I'm still trying to
15 figure that out. Can someone tell me?

16 MR. WOLFF: Chief DeNaples.

17 MR. AMICO: Chief DeNaples.

18 MS. SUMMA: So, when you e-mailed me
19 today, those two individual names, they are not
20 to code enforcement officer?

21 MR. WOLFF: No. I said Chief
22 DeNaples and Mike Brazil assist.

23 MS. SUMMA: Okay. Can I get Chief
24 DeNaples' qualifications for being code
25 enforcement officer?

1 MS. ZANGARDI: Ma'am, why don't you
2 tell us the whole story and then we could
3 better judge.

4 MS. SUMMA: Okay.

5 MS. ZANGARDI: Please.

6 MS SUMMA: Okay. I still would like
7 his qualifications. On June 30th I went to the
8 Borough building to speak with the code
9 enforcement officer regarding the trash in said
10 neighbor's yard. I met with Greg Wolff,
11 Borough manager.

12 I explained the situation with my
13 neighbor regarding the garbage. Greg advised
14 me of the process, that being someone would go
15 inspect the property and my neighbor would be
16 issued a letter. They would then have ten days
17 to respond.

18 Now, fast forward, June 5th,
19 nothing's happened. I went back to the Borough
20 building, as I noticed nothing was cleaned up.
21 I met with Greg who checked to see if a letter
22 had gone out yet. It hadn't. No surprise.
23 Mind you, this is a five-minute process to
24 inspect someone's yard.

25 Greg assured me that it would be

1 addressed. Later that same date at
2 approximately 1:30 in the afternoon, I received
3 two doorbell rings. I was approached in my
4 doorway to hear someone bark at me, Are you the
5 neighbor who complained about the garbage? Why
6 is this person here and why is he addressing
7 me? I'm the complainant.

8 I said, Yes. He demanded me to show
9 him. I pointed where the garbage was. He went
10 around, surprise, surprise, the garbage wasn't
11 there. Why? Because he had called my neighbor
12 to warn them.

13 He comes back up, I go back with him
14 to show him where the garbage is, it's not
15 there. Like I said, he warned them.

16 Why is he at my residence? I'm the
17 one complaining. Never introduced himself, was
18 completely unprofessional.

19 I felt harassed and I believe he was
20 trying to intimidate me. I'm a 30-year federal
21 law enforcement veteran, I don't intimidate
22 easily.

23 I want to know why he was at my
24 door. I want to know what his qualifications
25 are and I want to know what's going to be done

1 to rectify that situation, because that was
2 completely unacceptable.

3 And I want to know why the Mayor has
4 refused to call me back. I've called you five
5 times, Mayor. I voted for you.

6 MAYOR CONWAY: Where did you call
7 me? I don't have one missed call from you.

8 MS. SUMMA: Are you kidding me?

9 MAYOR CONWAY: I don't have a call
10 to the Borough building, I don't --

11 MS. SUMMA: I called you on your
12 cell phone number and I messaged you via
13 Facebook messenger.

14 MAYOR CONWAY: As I explained to you
15 in the parking lot, you messaged me I think on
16 Wednesday of last week.

17 MS. SUMMA: That's correct.

18 MAYOR CONWAY: There was a death in
19 the family on Thursday, so I was in New Jersey
20 at a funeral.

21 MS. SUMMA: And it takes five
22 minutes to call someone back.

23 MAYOR CONWAY: You're right. I
24 mean, I could have called you. I was going to
25 call you today. I just got back from New

1 Jersey this morning.

2 MS. SUMMA: I'm so sick of the
3 excuses. So, what's going to happen?

4 MAYOR CONWAY: With what?

5 MS. ZANGARDI: What's the address?

6 MAYOR CONWAY: Was the trash picked
7 up? That was the --

8 MS. SUMMA: No. That was the issue.
9 The issue now is why I'm being harassed in my
10 own home by a Dunmore public official.

11 MR. AMICO: Ma'am, what --

12 MS. SUMMA: That's what the issue
13 is. If you called me back, I would have told
14 you that.

15 MR. AMICO: Ma'am, let's tone it
16 down a little bit. Chief DeNaples isn't here.
17 Chief DeNaples is on vacation right now. We
18 have --

19 MS. SUMMA: Well, I'm understanding
20 that he was back today.

21 MR. AMICO: He's not here, so he's
22 still on vacation. He doesn't miss a public
23 meeting, so he's not here, so as far as we're
24 concerned, he's still on vacation.

25 MS. SUMMA: Well, Greg told me that

1 he doesn't normally come to these meetings, so
2 I don't know who to believe.

3 MR. AMICO: No, no.

4 MS. SUMMA: That is what you told
5 me.

6 MR. WOLFF: No. I --

7 MR. AMICO: You could, if you would
8 like, you could check the records, the minutes
9 online.

10 MS. BRIER: He's here.

11 MR. AMICO: Chief DeNaples does not
12 miss our public meetings.

13 MS. BRIER: No.

14 MS. SUMMA: Okay.

15 MR. AMICO: So, he's still on
16 vacation. We have not had, Greg nor I have had
17 the opportunity to address your concerns with
18 Chief DeNaples.

19 So, you know, the way the process
20 would normally work is you made your complaint,
21 which is understandable, if what you're saying
22 is correct, again, I'm not saying it is or
23 isn't, because we weren't there, I wasn't
24 there, but we're going to sit down and talk to
25 Chief DeNaples and find out what the story is

1 and go from there. Then we'll get back in
2 touch with you.

3 But right now we're not going to go
4 back and forth with your story without hearing
5 Chief DeNaples' side also.

6 MS. SUMMA: I would love to hear
7 that myself.

8 MR. AMICO: You absolutely will. I
9 guarantee you'll get a call back from me and
10 we'll get you your information.

11 MS. SUMMA: Okay. I still would
12 like a copy of his qualifications.

13 MR. AMICO: Again, I --

14 MS. SUMMA: I also would like a copy
15 of the incident report that was written up in
16 regards to this.

17 MR. AMICO: I'm not going to lie to
18 you, I don't know if we're allowed to do that.
19 I'll get you an answer. Again, I'm not saying
20 no, I --

21 MS. SUMMA: Why wouldn't you be
22 allowed?

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Personnel files --

24 MR. AMICO: It's a personnel file.

25 MR. DEMPSEY: -- may not be public,

1 the incident --

2 MS. SUMMA: No, but this incident --

3 MR. AMICO: No. The incident
4 report, yes, as far as I know, but --

5 MS. SUMMA: I'm talking about -- I
6 understand that. I completely understand that.

7 MR. AMICO: I'm talking about both
8 things. Incident report I'm sure is public
9 record. You can get that. Personnel, like
10 Mr. Dempsey said, I don't know if we're allowed
11 to.

12 I'm not saying no, I just don't want
13 to say something on the record that's
14 incorrect, so let me --

15 MS. SUMMA: So, can you explain to
16 me and the citizens of Dunmore what the process
17 is? Because apparently I did it wrong.

18 MR. AMICO: You didn't.

19 MS. SUMMA: To being harassed in my
20 own home.

21 MR. AMICO: Again, I'm not saying
22 you did it -- no one here is saying you did it
23 wrong. I'm not --

24 MS. SUMMA: Can you explain to me
25 then what it is? What is the process for

1 someone to complain about a neighbor?

2 MR. AMICO: I said it. I said that
3 when you first asked ten minutes ago. Someone
4 would call --

5 MS. SUMMA: I'm sorry. I'm sorry.
6 I know this is tough for you.

7 MR. AMICO: No. That's fine. I
8 have an issue with my neighbor, my neighbor has
9 garbage in his yard, we'll say, I would call
10 the Borough building.

11 The Borough building, whoever
12 answered, whether it's one of the secretaries
13 or Mr. Wolff, whomever answered the phone, they
14 would let the code enforcement officer know
15 that there's an issue. He would look into the
16 issue and make a decision, whether there is an
17 issue, there isn't an issue, and then go from
18 there.

19 If there's an issue, then it would,
20 you know, move up. You know, if the property
21 needed to be inspected, it would be inspected.
22 If it's something as simple as, you know, your
23 grass needs to be cut, they would tell the
24 person to get the grass cut. Whatever it is,
25 they would work the process.

1 MS. SUMMA: So, that never
2 happened.

3 MR. AMICO: Again, we're just
4 listening to your side of the story. That's
5 why we need to --

6 MS. SUMMA: Because I'm trying to
7 understand why he came to my house.

8 MR. AMICO: And, again, we haven't
9 had the opportunity to talk to Chief DeNaples
10 to ask him that, so I honestly don't know, and
11 I don't want to say the wrong thing. I don't
12 know why that --

13 MS. SUMMA: I thought it was an
14 anonymous process.

15 MR. AMICO: You're the person who
16 called. I don't know why he went to your
17 house, I don't have an answer to that, but --

18 MS. SUMMA: Well, according to Greg,
19 Greg didn't tell him my name, so the only other
20 process of deduction would be that the neighbor
21 told him my name, and that's why. He's buddies
22 with the neighbor --

23 MR. AMICO: Again --

24 MS. SUMMA: -- and he came to my
25 house.

1 MR. AMICO: -- this may be true, may
2 not be true, we --

3 MS. SUMMA: It's one hundred percent
4 true.

5 MR. AMICO: Okay. Well, again, we
6 need to sit down with Chief DeNaples and get
7 his story.

8 MS. SUMMA: Okay. And I'll be
9 patiently waiting your response, and yours,
10 too, Mayor.

11 MR. AMICO: Mr. Dunkin.

12 MR. DUNKIN: Gary Dunkin, 117 Barton
13 Street, Dunmore. Just a couple things tonight,
14 Council. The first thing that I do want to
15 mention is, as we all know, the Scranton Times
16 only has an electronic edition on Mondays. I
17 spoke to the Times today, I spoke to about 16
18 other counties, in addition, today in my role
19 as the chairman for the Council on Aging with
20 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

21 I just want to let everybody here
22 know, and I want it for the record, my request
23 would be, what I'm going to tell you about, if
24 we can get this on the Borough website, and
25 I'll send you everything --

1 MR. WOLFF: Yeah, send me what you
2 need.

3 MR. DUNKIN: But I would just like
4 to read it for the public record and for the
5 folks in attendance tonight.

6 Pennsylvania, and it starts today,
7 Pennsylvania is reopening its -- everybody's
8 heard, I'm sure, of LIHEAP, which is the
9 heating assistance. There's also a low income
10 household water assistance program, and that's
11 to help residents maintain access to both their
12 drinking and to their waste water services.
13 The application process starts today.

14 There's grants involved in this,
15 they're called crisis grants, and there's
16 qualifiers for the crisis grants, but they're
17 \$2,500 for the water, and there's another
18 \$2,500 grant for waste water management. And
19 that's, you know, another component of the
20 water situation.

21 Crisis situations, for example,
22 would include things like, and we've heard of
23 them from senior citizens and from folks that
24 are in lower income levels, the bills of
25 termination.

1 In Pennsylvania, utilities can't be
2 cut off until April. That's why we don't have
3 as many frostbite situations as we had in the
4 past with senior housing, but as of April, the
5 utilities are allowed to start sending out
6 termination notices. This program may help
7 offset that, if you know somebody in that
8 situation.

9 I'm just going to for the record
10 provide the website that people can access.
11 It's www.dhs.pa.gov/waterhelp. So, you can get
12 on this site.

13 I spoke to the Scranton Times today,
14 they were addressing some issues with the
15 utility rates, and I asked if they could
16 incorporate components of this information in
17 the article that they're going to be publishing
18 tomorrow about utility rates. So, I just want
19 to bring that up.

20 I requested -- and, Greg, I'm going
21 to get you the information like we've done in
22 the past. I've requested in the past if we can
23 get the Dunmorepa.gov website updated.

24 I know we have a group that monitors
25 that site, but we do need updates. It is

1 confusing. It's not easy to access. We've
2 talked about it in the past. With all due
3 respect, I think it's time we get that
4 completed.

5 So, when I get this to you if, Greg
6 or Council, if you can contact the people who
7 get that site, it's got to be better organized.

8 There's two areas, if you go to the
9 one area, one drop down box, it looks like we
10 have a meeting on Wednesday. Those meetings
11 should be either corrected or eliminated from
12 the site.

13 And then I had to go under minutes
14 to find tonight's agenda to ensure that there
15 was a meeting tonight. So, there is some
16 confusion with that.

17 So, if we can get that corrected,
18 people do go on sites and they do check, so for
19 the public record.

20 And then my last -- and, again,
21 another article in the Monday electronic
22 edition, if I could ask Vince or anybody from
23 Council, because folks don't always access the
24 site, there was a SAPA article on, if any of
25 you folks would like to just give us a

1 30-second rundown on where Dunmore stands with
2 the Scranton-Abington, the water situation, the
3 SAPA, okay? And thank you for your time.

4 ALL MEMBERS: Thanks, Gary.

5 MS. BRIER: Gary, I just had a quick
6 question about that program. Is it over 65?

7 MR. DUNKIN: It's for low income
8 housing.

9 MS. BRIER: Okay.

10 MR. DUNKIN: When you access the
11 site that I mentioned, you will see the income
12 levels, and it's broken down for --

13 MS. BRIER: I see.

14 MR. DUNKIN: -- single person,
15 household --

16 MS. BRIER: So, it's not age
17 related?

18 MR. DUNKIN: No.

19 MS. BRIER: Okay.

20 MR. DUNKIN: Two person household.
21 Unfortunately, with our -- if you take a look
22 at, if you go to the U.S. census fast check,
23 you'll see the population over 65 for the
24 Borough of Dunmore, and our poverty levels,
25 believe it or not, are at or above the national

1 poverty level.

2 And this isn't just for homeowners.
3 It's for renters, as well. So, it's just like
4 what I spoke at Governor Shapiro's thing with
5 the aging plan for the next ten years. So, you
6 know, it's for rental assistance as well as
7 homeowners assistance. So, it's just public
8 information. I want to get it out there.

9 You folks are always very good about
10 getting information on our site just for the
11 knowledge of the general public, I'd sincerely
12 appreciate it if we can do that again.

13 MS. BRIER: Thanks.

14 MR. DUNKIN: That's all. Thank you
15 so much.

16 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Gary.

17 MR. AMICO: Anybody else? Ma'am.

18 MS. O'MALLEY: Hello. Good evening,
19 Mayor Conway, City Council members and staff.
20 My name is Joy O'Malley. I'm a proud mother of
21 three children and a public school teacher for
22 20 years. I am also the current owner of the
23 property at 634 Bednar Street.

24 I purchased the property in July of
25 2019 and lived there until December 2022.

1 During December 2022, I entered into a sales
2 contract with the current occupants who are
3 residing there. Over the last few months, my
4 occupants have been targets of racism,
5 discrimination and harassment.

6 The Dunmore Police Department has
7 answered numerous complaint calls against my
8 occupants. About 90 percent of the complaints
9 were unfounded. Most of the complaints were
10 about music being played excessively loud
11 during hours that did not exceed the City
12 ordinance.

13 There is no air-conditioning in the
14 house; and, therefore, windows and doors were
15 left open for ventilation. Obviously, music
16 inside can travel outside; however, as I
17 stated, many of these complaints were of loud
18 music and were unfounded.

19 I'm sure members of this Council
20 have listened to music in their home while
21 cleaning around the house. Obviously, if no
22 air conditioning is available, a normal person
23 would open the windows.

24 One complaint against my occupants
25 was that there was a fire going on in the back

1 yard. The police officers responded to the
2 call and my occupants were roasting hot dogs
3 with their kindergarten age son. There was no
4 real fire or no need to call the Dunmore Police
5 Department to come out.

6 Almost all of the complaints against
7 my occupants have come from Mr. and Mrs. Cruser
8 who live at 630 Bednar Street, which is the
9 house next door to my property.

10 Mr. and Mrs. Cruser have not been an
11 example of what your nine square miles
12 represent. The citizens of Dunmore have always
13 come across to people as kind, friendly and
14 family oriented. This has not been the case
15 for my occupants. Multiple altercations have
16 occurred between my occupants and Mr. and
17 Mrs. Cruser.

18 One of the first altercations
19 between my occupants and Mr. Cruser included
20 bullying. Mr. Cruser informed my occupants
21 that their small child who just finished
22 kindergarten in the Dunmore School District was
23 dumb and would never make it through the
24 Dunmore School District.

25 Mr. Cruser also told my occupants to

1 call the cops and whoever else they wanted
2 because it didn't matter, he knows all the cops
3 in Dunmore personally and has political
4 connections.

5 Mr. Cruser's bother-in-law is Bill
6 Gaughan. I can assure you Mr. Gaughan, who has
7 five small children of his own, would not
8 appreciate being represented in that manner. I
9 can also assure you he would not support a
10 family member telling a small child that they
11 wouldn't finish school because they were dumb.

12 Mr. Cruser has been in many
13 altercations with my occupants and has acted as
14 though he has the right to bully others.
15 However, when Mr. Cruser decided that he will
16 be loud and have a party and may be concerned
17 about my occupants calling the police on him,
18 he changed his tune.

19 Right before the Memorial Day
20 weekend, he offered to cut my occupant's grass
21 with an unspoken agreement that my occupants
22 would not call the police on him for his party.

23 Mr. and Mrs. Cruser are neighbors of
24 convenience. They're nice to my occupants when
25 it's convenient to them. When Mrs. Cruser

1 wanted me to sign a petition for her
2 brother-in-law, of course she was pleasant to
3 me. However, when my occupants placed small
4 orange safety cones in front of 634 Bednar,
5 Mrs. Cruser was not happy at all. She sent me
6 messages, which I have, via Facebook messenger
7 saying she could not wait to go home and run
8 them over.

9 The cones were placed there because
10 Mr. Cruser continually parks his truck and
11 trailer in front of the house. The garbage
12 men, on numerous occasions, could not get to
13 the garbage because of Mr. Cruser's parking
14 there.

15 The cones also prompted
16 Mrs. Cruser's messages to me saying that if my
17 occupants wanted a house in the hood they
18 should have chosen a home in Scranton.

19 Mrs. Cruser also sent me a message
20 saying she hopes I sell the house and stay the
21 frig away. She attacked my character by saying
22 I'm nothing like my father because he has a
23 home and he cares about people.

24 I truly feel the harassment,
25 bullying and racism stems from the fact that my

1 occupants are from New York and have a
2 different ethnicity than many of the citizens
3 of your nine square miles.

4 My occupants are from the New York
5 area, they are trying to make a better life for
6 themselves and their small child. What better
7 place to do that than here in Dunmore?

8 The property is next to the
9 beautiful Sherwood Park. Their small son has
10 the opportunity to play on the playground, use
11 the splash pad and feel safe. However, he does
12 not feel safe. In fact, he feels the complete
13 opposite.

14 Every time a police officer comes to
15 their house, their son has a panic attack. My
16 occupants actually had to take him to their
17 family doctor to see what could be done to help
18 calm him down.

19 I recently sat down with Chief
20 Marchese and my occupants. Chief Marchese was
21 very unsettled that this small child associates
22 police with being the bad men. I'm sure the
23 police officers themselves would not want to be
24 thought of in that matter.

25 I'm also sure the citizens of

1 Dunmore would not want a small child to feel
2 that their family is not welcome in such a
3 wonderful community.

4 As I stated while introducing
5 myself, I'm a public school teacher. I teach
6 foreign children how to read, write and speak
7 the English language. I have taught kids from
8 all over the world. I have a soft spot in my
9 heart for those who learn the English language
10 and try to acclimate to our English world.

11 The occupants of my house are of a
12 Hispanic background, and as I said before, from
13 the New York area. They're trying to make a
14 better future for their small family. Let's
15 show them how beautiful the Dunmore community
16 really is.

17 It's not full of racism, harassment,
18 bullying and discrimination. A few people who
19 are causing issues for them is not what this
20 area is about. Dunmore has families from many
21 diverse backgrounds, and my occupants should
22 feel at home here.

23 Remember the yard signs from a few
24 years back, God, family, Dunmore Bucks? I beg
25 of your Council to say some prayers for this

1 family. Let's all remember the meaning of the
2 word family here in Dunmore, or perhaps the
3 Council has some ideas about how to rectify
4 this situation. Maybe both sides can sit down
5 with Chief Marchese and work out a common
6 solution. Thank you.

7 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

8 MR. AMICO: Sir.

9 DR. PUHALLA: Dr. Cyril Puhalla.
10 120 Allen Street, Dunmore. I'm back again to
11 talk about the dog problem. I was told,
12 Frannie here, to talk to Greg Wolff, and said
13 his hands are tied. Your hands are tied?

14 MR. WOLFF: No, that's not what I
15 said.

16 DR. PUHALLA: Is that not what you
17 said? Well, I don't know. Well, the point is
18 my concern is that we're up to now 14 dogs, 14
19 German Shepherds. My count was wrong last time
20 that there were five babies. There's eight
21 babies, there's eight dogs, and they don't look
22 to be in good shape.

23 The game warden came to the house,
24 was not allowed in, even though the people were
25 home, the people were home. She had to shove

1 her notice through a hole in the door that the
2 dogs made.

3 She has some interesting comments.
4 You know, she had on her list, she had five or
5 six dogs listed, when, in fact, by that time
6 there were nine or ten in the house. Now,
7 these are German Shepherds and these are big
8 dogs.

9 And the other thing that concerns me
10 about these dogs is they're, 23 out of 24
11 hours, they're confined to the house. So,
12 they're basically caged animals. They're caged
13 animals.

14 So, when they are allowed out, they
15 have a lot of energy and they, you know, any
16 human or any person or any animal coming in
17 front of the yard, you know, the dogs charge
18 at them. The Mayor himself was a witness to
19 this.

20 And that's when there were only four
21 big ones. Now we're up to 14. There were 15,
22 but in the middle of the night about a month
23 ago, they carried out a dead dog. I don't
24 know how that happened. I was going to follow
25 them, but I didn't think that was a wise thing

1 to do.

2 So, there's that problem of these
3 dogs escaping, and if they escape, and they
4 have escaped in the past, they're going to do
5 some damage to somebody, because these are not
6 domesticated pets. This is a pack. This is a
7 pack of animals. This is a pack of animals
8 that could do damage.

9 And it's no help the way these dogs
10 are being treated. The game warden told me,
11 Well, we really can't do much unless you have
12 videos or witnesses or something, you know, but
13 they're using methods like the puppies, they're
14 cleaning them with a power cleaner, one of
15 those power washers you use on your thing, and
16 then the water they use for the power washer,
17 then they let the little puppies drink from the
18 same water they just got cleaned from.

19 This morning I was observing them
20 and they're out there scratching up a storm and
21 salivating. You know, they must all be
22 infected with fleas. I just can't imagine that
23 they're not.

24 I asked the Mayor, I said, Can't
25 something be done about inspecting this house?

1 How could four adults live in this house with
2 14 dogs? What kind of shape could this house
3 be in?

4 It concerns me because I think
5 there's only one person who works in the house,
6 and I believe she's an employee of the health
7 facilities, is she carrying fleas to where she
8 works? I don't know, but I certainly wouldn't
9 want to be her client.

10 The neighbor's only concern seems to
11 be that they're worried about the dogs barking,
12 but that's the least of the problems. I mean,
13 there's the -- first there's the fly problem.

14 There's so many flies, the neighbor
15 on -- this is 118 Allen I'm talking about, the
16 neighbor on 116 Allen, she's been trying to
17 call the health department because she doesn't
18 feel safe letting her grandchild go out in the
19 yard for fear of these dogs and the flies and
20 the smell.

21 Where I live, 120, if I open my
22 garage door, all the flies swoop in and I have
23 to, like, kill them all so they don't get in
24 the house. I have these electronic detectors
25 that zap them when they come in the house,

1 because there's no way just possibly, you can't
2 use the front porch, the back porch.

3 I invite any of you over and just
4 come to my back yard, you know, have the
5 neighbors allow these dogs to come out and see
6 how safe and secure and healthy you feel with
7 these animals.

8 There's no more grass because the
9 amount of ammonia and feces and urine that must
10 have been put and seeped into the ground,
11 nothing could grow there now. Maybe some
12 weeds.

13 And Frannie checked the ordinance,
14 and she says, you know, there's an ordinance
15 there that says four dogs are allowed. So,
16 this has been, like, two years and there's --
17 you know, over the last two and a half years,
18 there must have been 25 dogs going through this
19 house.

20 MS. BRIER: Do they sell them,
21 Doctor?

22 DR. PUHALLA: I have no idea what
23 they're doing, but it's a very interesting
24 thing because her -- they may have a second
25 female in the house, because about two years

1 ago the female had two dogs, then she had five
2 dogs, and now she has eight dogs, which amazed
3 me.

4 She doesn't look so good today, the
5 female. I'm no dog expert, I don't know
6 anything about this, about the health of -- but
7 I am concerned about the -- and it's just a
8 public safety problem. I mean, the neighbors
9 make a big U around the property because you
10 can't walk in front of the house because the
11 dogs will just charge.

12 One of the employees of the city
13 last year, one of the dogs jumped over the
14 fence. The fence is only that high
15 (Indicating).

16 You know, one of the things I was
17 asking is isn't there some ordinance where
18 there should be a secure fence at least for the
19 dogs so the dogs can't escape? Because the --
20 the other thing that's happening which I've
21 noticed is they're letting the dogs
22 unsupervised in the yard for longer periods of
23 time. So, it's much more likely they're just
24 going to break through or jump over the fence.
25 And they're getting more wild with time.

1 They're getting more wild with time.

2 So, there's the noise -- well, the
3 noise pollution is the least of the problems.
4 These are very unhappy animals. Very
5 aggressive animals, too.

6 So, it's interesting, the game
7 warden, she said, you know, if a German
8 Shepherd escapes from Dunmore, I know where
9 it's coming from. I know where it's coming
10 from, because --

11 MS. BRIER: Did she say she could do
12 anything?

13 DR. PUHALLA: She said the next day
14 she was going to go to the police department
15 and show some pictures. She took some pictures
16 about the inadequacy of the fence and the feces
17 in the yard and the dilapidated condition of
18 the home and that sort of thing, but I don't
19 know what happened with it.

20 She also said that last year it was
21 ordered or something that the female was going
22 to be fixed or neutered. Well, obviously that
23 didn't happen. Unless there's a second female
24 in there. Who knows.

25 I mean, these are people who don't

1 allow people in their house. I don't know
2 what's going on in that house. It's a very
3 unhealthy situation.

4 I was talking with the Mayor, who's
5 also a real estate agent, I said, If some day I
6 have to move and I want to sell my house, who's
7 gonna buy this home? Who's going to buy the
8 home with the smell and the flies and wild
9 animals in the back yard jumping to the front
10 yard, jumping over the fence? It's just --

11 MS. BRIER: So, what are --

12 MR. WOLFF: So, just to give you an
13 update, myself and the Chief can give a little
14 bit of information, we did -- they have the,
15 what's the correct word, not the dog warden,
16 the county --

17 CHIEF MARCHESE: The state.

18 MR. WOLFF: The state with the
19 animal control and --

20 MS. BRIER: That's the woman who
21 went out?

22 MR. WOLFF: Yeah. They were out. I
23 know I have personally driven by a few times
24 looking for anything that we could possibly
25 find. We've had our third party code

1 enforcement go by.

2 You know, there is no grass, that's
3 correct, there isn't anything, and I'm not
4 saying that you're not being accurate in your
5 description, but when we had gone by, there has
6 not been anything, any kind of mess that we
7 have seen.

8 Again, I'm not saying that you're
9 not being accurate in your description. Trust
10 me, I believe you, but we need to actually see
11 it for the violations to go out.

12 So, we are -- it's ongoing. Chief
13 and I just spoke about it a few days ago, it's
14 on our radar and we, believe me, we are doing
15 everything we possibly can, because we
16 understand your concern, we truly do.

17 DR. PUHALLA: Well, it's not just
18 mine, it's concerns for the rest of the
19 neighborhood and the rest of Dunmore.

20 MS. BRIER: Well, what about the
21 number, the 12 number?

22 DR. PUHALLA: I mean, if these dogs
23 escape, you know, we're worried about automatic
24 weapons, here we're worried about
25 non-domesticated animals that are starving for

1 some kind of --

2 MR. WOLFF: From our end, we're
3 doing everything that we can, and the state
4 animal control, they have, in many ways, more
5 authority than we do and in some ways, so
6 everyone's working the best that we can.

7 MS. BRIER: So, if there are, like,
8 more animals there than should be there --

9 MR. WOLFF: Then we could send
10 violations, and we're actually still waiting
11 for some reports from the --

12 MS. BRIER: The state.

13 CHIEF MARCHESE: I was gone away for
14 the week, so I just got back.

15 MS. BRIER: Okay.

16 CHIEF MARCHESE: I'll talk to
17 Officer Jordan tomorrow and get a copy of the
18 report that she did and go forward from there.

19 MS. BRIER: The woman from the
20 state?

21 MR. WOLFF: Yeah. But it's ongoing
22 and we're aware of it.

23 MS. BRIER: Do you guys have that,
24 that report?

25 MS. GUZY: I'd like that report.

1 DR. PUHALLA: Well, yeah, I mean --
2 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

3 MR. AMICO: We can't have back and
4 forth right now.

5 DR. PUHALLA: I mean, and the one
6 inspection the state did last year, you know,
7 consisted of some female with a policeman
8 present, I think the Chief may have been there,
9 there was another policeman present, and they
10 just brought out one puppy at a time and
11 wouldn't allow them to evaluate the other dogs,
12 evaluate the other dogs in terms of their
13 health. I don't know if these dogs are
14 licensed, are they vaccinated. I mean, they
15 could be carrying rabies.

16 MR. WOLFF: These are all avenues
17 that we're pursuing, but, and the Chief can
18 follow up with this, we can't go in there if
19 they don't let us in there. There has to be
20 certain criteria, and to my knowledge nothing
21 has been met for us to go in that door.

22 Animal control, they're well versed
23 on where they can go and what they can do, and
24 they care about animals more than any of us
25 ever will, and so, again, I think I said this

1 to you on the phone, I wish there was more we
2 could do. We're doing everything we possibly
3 can, you know, so --

4 MR. HALLINAN: Our ordinance says
5 four dogs, correct?

6 MR. WOLFF: The zoning ordinance.

7 MR. HALLINAN: Right. So, could we
8 just move forward on that, please?

9 MR. WOLFF: Yeah.

10 MR. HALLINAN: Okay. Thank you.

11 DR. PUHALLA: Yeah, but what does
12 that mean?

13 MR. HALLINAN: I'm not a lawyer, we
14 have one here, everything takes a process. We
15 just can't come in right now and say we're
16 going to go and shut them down and move all the
17 dogs out. It doesn't happen like that.

18 DR. PUHALLA: See, that's the other
19 issue here.

20 MR. HALLINAN: I know.

21 DR. PUHALLA: Is this a puppy mill?
22 Is this some kind of --

23 MR. HALLINAN: I know --

24 DR. PUHALLA: I mean, it's a
25 dangerous and unhealthy situation.

1 MR. HALLINAN: Absolutely. I
2 couldn't imagine living there.

3 MAYOR CONWAY: Doctor, if you're
4 free later this week, I'll come up to your
5 home, Greg, if you're free too --

6 MR. WOLFF: Yep.

7 MAYOR CONWAY: -- maybe we could
8 bring a representative from NEIC and just see
9 what we can do from your end. Because what
10 you're seeing from your back yard is, you know,
11 not what Greg is seeing when he's driving by.

12 DR. PUHALLA: Well, you have to --
13 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

14 DR. PUHALLA: You have to stop the
15 car, you got to get out of the car.

16 MR. WOLFF: I have.

17 MR. AMICO: No, sir, what they're
18 saying is we cannot go on your neighbor's
19 property. We're not allowed to do that.

20 What Mayor Conway said is if he
21 comes to your house, he can, he and Greg and
22 the inspector, can go in your back yard and see
23 what you're seeing from your yard, but we as an
24 entity can't go onto your neighbor's, we don't
25 have the right to go on your neighbor's

1 property.

2 DR. PUHALLA: Right. Yeah, I
3 understand all that.

4 MR. AMICO: So, you know, even
5 though you're saying -- we all are
6 understanding that you have an issue, and I'm
7 not saying it's not an issue, but there's only
8 certain things that we're allowed to do, so --

9 MS. GUZY: Come to my home.

10 MR. AMICO: Right. If you allow
11 that, that's a different story, but, again, we
12 can't -- you know, you're saying that your
13 neighbor was bringing out one dog at a time,
14 well if they're not going to invite us into
15 their house, then that's all we're allowed to
16 see.

17 So, we're doing everything we can
18 within the parameters of the law, but, you
19 know, the law's not always as fast and as user
20 friendly as you would like it to be.

21 DR. PUHALLA: And there's no way we
22 could get this house inspected for its ability
23 to house human people?

24 MAYOR CONWAY: Let's meet --

25 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

1 MR. AMICO: Let's start with going
2 to your house later on in the week and we'll --

3 MAYOR CONWAY: Doctor, give me your
4 number before we leave.

5 MR. WOLFF: And we'll get with you.

6 MAYOR CONWAY: And, Frannie, I have
7 your card, I'll call you too.

8 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Doctor.

9 MS. GUZY: Fran Guzy at 122 Allen
10 Street. Again, this has been going on for two
11 years. It's in the ordinances that four dogs
12 is the legal limit.

13 We've talked to Jen Cali who is the
14 state dog warden last year. Why didn't
15 anything happen last year? It's just like
16 you're appealing us again.

17 MR. AMICO: This is --

18 MS. GUZY: Just passing the buck.

19 MS. BRIER: We weren't aware of
20 this.

21 MR. AMICO: I'm going to disagree
22 with you, ma'am. This is --

23 MS. GUZY: You weren't aware of
24 this?

25 MR. AMICO: Last meeting was the

1 first time that --

2 MS. BRIER: You guys came here.

3 MR. AMICO: -- we were made aware.

4 MS. GUZY: We talked to the Mayor,
5 we made complaints, I had everything documented
6 at the Borough building, and it's just going on
7 and on and on. So, somebody's going to get
8 hurt before anything is going to be done, and
9 with this many dogs --

10 MR. AMICO: But, again, we just said
11 two minutes ago we're aware of it now.

12 MS. GUZY: Okay.

13 MR. AMICO: Chief is aware of it,
14 Mayor Conway is aware --

15 MS. GUZY: So, we're just going to
16 have to wait again? Because I'm not coming to
17 another council meeting. You're all elected
18 officials --

19 MR. AMICO: Ma'am, we just said, I
20 don't mean to interrupt you, but, again, we
21 just said two minutes ago that this week Mayor
22 Conway, Greg Wolff, the Chief are going to come
23 to your neighbor's house, they'll go to your
24 house, too, I'm sure, and go from there. We're
25 doing everything we can. I was just made aware

1 of this last month.

2 Now, I'm not saying you didn't call
3 last year or two years ago, but, you know, we
4 can only work with what we have in front of us.
5 You know, we're aware of your situation --

6 MS. GUZY: But there is a limit of
7 four dogs, so what's --

8 MR. AMICO: But, again, that may be,
9 but I don't have an answer as to you say we're
10 allowed four, which is true, they may have 10,
11 12, 15, I don't know if we have the ability to
12 go in and take the other dogs. I don't know.
13 There's a process. We need to find out what
14 we're allowed to do.

15 We can't kick in the door and take
16 your neighbor's dogs away, we need to find out
17 what we are allowed to do, because as you have
18 rights and your neighbor has rights --

19 MS. GUZY: Yeah.

20 MR. AMICO: -- so does the --

21 MS. GUZY: But I think our rights
22 are being violated more so than anything.

23 MR. AMICO: But that's not our
24 ability. We don't have that ability to make
25 that decision. That's not us.

1 MS. GUZY: So you're just listening
2 to us for right now?

3 MS. BRIER: So, the state person --

4 MR. AMICO: That's all we can do
5 right now.

6 MS. BRIER: -- does she have
7 enforcement powers?

8 MS. GUZY: I thought maybe you would
9 get that copy of that report since we called
10 her numerous occasions. She was here, she
11 supposedly took pictures.

12 MS. OVEN: Chief said he would give
13 us the report, right?

14 MS. BRIER: Chief said he would give
15 us the report, yeah.

16 CHIEF MARCHESE: Yeah. I'll call
17 her tomorrow.

18 MS. OVEN: And get the report. We
19 don't have it right now.

20 MS. BRIER: We don't have it.

21 MS. GUZY: I'd like a copy of that
22 report.

23 MS. BRIER: Sure.

24 MR. HALLINAN: Absolutely.

25 MR. AMICO: If all goes well, we'll

1 have an answer so you don't have to come next
2 month.

3 MS. GUZY: Oh, I'm not going to come
4 next month. I'm done. Because you're elected
5 officials and I don't think I'm going to be
6 voting.

7 MR. AMICO: Hopefully it'll be
8 squared away by then.

9 MS. GUZY: Hopefully. But
10 definitely, Max, you could come back up on my
11 porch and see what's there.

12 MAYOR CONWAY: And get a haircut,
13 too.

14 MS. GUZY: Okay. That sounds good.

15 MR. AMICO: Thank you.

16 MS. GUZY: If you're not malled by
17 the dogs. Thank you.

18 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

19 DR. PUHALLA: Well, they're wise
20 people. What they're doing now is --

21 MR. AMICO: Sir, you have to -- we
22 have a stenographer.

23 DR. PUHALLA: What they're doing
24 now, because they know I could see them from my
25 window, is they're taking the dogs on the side

1 of the house, which is very small, maybe four
2 feet by twenty feet, so 80 whatever that is,
3 square feet there, and put these 14, 15 dogs in
4 that small area and then try to keep them
5 contained there, but it keeps them hidden from
6 my view so I don't have to see the neglect and
7 the abuse that's going on there. It's an
8 unhealthy, dangerous situation.

9 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

10 MR. AMICO: Thank you, sir. Anyone
11 else from the public like to speak this
12 evening? Sir.

13 MR. FARLEY: Hi Council. Joe
14 Farley, 1301 Prescott Avenue. And, Mayor,
15 congratulations on the baby. I haven't seen
16 you since you returned, but remember, the
17 future is female. So, you have a lot of time
18 on your hands.

19 But I just want to make Council
20 aware of an ongoing issue at 201 East Grove
21 Street in Dunmore. An abandoned house that has
22 been there for many, many years and a neighbor
23 that is taking care of this property at 203
24 East Grove Street right across the street from
25 me, I'm at 1301 Prescott. This house has been

1 abandoned for multiple years. I have been here
2 for three years and my other coworker that
3 actually had the property before me has had the
4 same issue with the abandoned house.

5 The person that maintains this
6 property, I believe his name is Avery, he cuts
7 his grass until about 9:30, 10:00, 11:00 at
8 night, throws rocks into the road, grass
9 clippings into the road, jams up the sewer
10 drains with his whatever you call it, blow
11 thing that blows all the grass, blows
12 everything out into the street, including his
13 dirt and grass clippings, and God forbid, if
14 something happens with a motorcycle or
15 something.

16 Now, I don't know how this person
17 gets away with it, because the city -- I'm
18 sorry, the Borough already took care of all of
19 the garbage and dump cars and trucks, and there
20 have been just a lot of garbage that has been
21 there that the Borough took care of, but I'm
22 not sure how this neighbor gets away with it
23 being that it's an abandoned property, and I am
24 living right across the street from it.

25 My neighbors are very worried and

1 upset. They say that they tried to put
2 grievances into the website and they're told
3 that they just put in contact us on the Borough
4 website and nothing has been done.

5 This person, I believe, is a menace,
6 and the sad thing is that he is breeding
7 multiple, multiple cats. They've been breeding
8 for three years since I have lived in my place,
9 they are breeding next to my neighbor's yard
10 and they just keep on multiplying.

11 I talked to my good friend Katie
12 Galone who is the animal control officer of
13 Scranton. I know she has nothing to do with
14 Dunmore, but these cats, she believes, has
15 feline leukemia, their skin is pretty much torn
16 off. Last summer I tried to rescue a cat where
17 half of its face was mutilated and torn off.

18 It is very sad, disgusting, that
19 this is done, and especially with an abandoned
20 property that has been here for years and seems
21 to be going nowhere.

22 I wish that the Chief can come out,
23 and I've been on top of multiple people on this
24 committee, including the Mayor has been there,
25 including Trip I've messaged multiple times,

1 and Katherine I've messaged multiple times, and
2 it's truly disgusting and I wish one of you
3 guys could just come out and sit on your porch
4 and have the smell of urine and cat spray come
5 out and come through your windows when I can't
6 even shut my windows anymore when it's 90
7 degrees.

8 Again, 201 East Grove Street
9 abandoned property. There has also been -- in
10 the wintertime there was actually a light on
11 the second floor. I don't know how an
12 abandoned house has a light. It's probably
13 through this person's -- it's most likely an
14 illegal thing that he just stuck through the
15 window to put up a light to keep his cats when
16 it's cold out, but I don't know, I just can't
17 deal anymore.

18 My neighbors are sick to their
19 stomach. They do not want to -- they don't
20 want to help out anymore. They -- I don't
21 know, I just don't know what to say anymore.

22 I know a lot of city officials that
23 I've talked to that I message every day, but
24 this is an abandoned property, it's
25 embarrassing when my godchildren come down and

1 see that beautiful field and have to deal with
2 an abandoned property.

3 I don't feel safe and I really think
4 one of our -- the Chief should go and
5 definitely one of our police chiefs should see
6 what's going on, because it's very sad. And
7 that's all I have to say. Thanks guys.

8 MS. OVEN: Joe, just a question, you
9 think they're breeding in the house?

10 MR. FARLEY: Of course. They're
11 breeding next --

12 MS. OVEN: Inside the house?

13 MR. FARLEY: Yes. They're breeding
14 next to my neighbor's property, also, right
15 next door.

16 MS. OVEN: He's not actually
17 breeding, they're just the feral cats that
18 are --

19 MR. FARLEY: Correct.

20 MS. OVEN: Okay. So, I've talked to
21 you multiple times about it, Beth and I have
22 been trying to meet with local people to help
23 us come up with a feral cat program. I've been
24 in contact with Griffin Pond, the Nay Aug, the
25 cat rescue there, I've talked to people from

1 Scranton, it's really hard to find people that
2 are willing to trap and help with setting up a
3 feral cat program.

4 I talked to Dr. Noto, my vet, I
5 talked to another vet up in Dickson City, they
6 don't do any -- there's no assistance as far as
7 that goes. So, we want it put in place a trap,
8 neuter, release program through Dunmore, it's
9 just been extremely difficult, and I reach out
10 to -- Beth and I have been reaching out to
11 anybody that we know that's willing to help,
12 but I didn't realize that they were actually
13 living in that house. I thought they were
14 coming from another location and then when he
15 was feeding them --

16 MR. FARLEY: I believe that they
17 were staying in there during the zero-degree
18 weather. It has to be some kind of illegal
19 light that's like a --

20 MS. ZANGARDI: Is this the property
21 on the corner of Grove and Prescott?

22 MS. OVEN: Yeah.

23 MS. ZANGARDI: Not the second one
24 in?

25 MR. FARLEY: The 201 East Grove

1 Street is the abandoned house that's been here
2 for years. I don't even know how this --

3 MS. BRIER: Does he own the house,
4 Joe?

5 MR. FARLEY: I have no clue. All I
6 know is that his name is -- what's the last
7 name? I'm sorry.

8 MS. BRIER: Avery.

9 MR. FARLEY: Not Avery. I'm sorry,
10 I'm getting nervous. What's the last name
11 again? I just spoke to --

12 MR. HALLINAN: We could check that
13 out. Greg, why don't you get --

14 MR. O'MALLEY: Avery.

15 MR. AMICO: No, no. Avery is the
16 neighbor in the court. Joe Farley you said
17 earlier. That's the name you gave us.

18 MS. BRIER: No. This is his --

19 MR. AMICO: Oh, that's your name.
20 Okay. Then you didn't give us a name then.

21 MR. FARLEY: No. I'm trying to
22 think of the person's --

23 MR. AMICO: And that doesn't matter.
24 We'll take care of it.

25 MR. HALLINAN: We can get the name

1 from the tax rolls, if the guy's paying taxes.
2 If the house is abandoned, I don't see why we
3 wouldn't be able to go in and inspect it.
4 There's no one in there but feral cats.

5 MS. BRIER: And condemn it.

6 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, and condemn it
7 and do what we have to do to go through that
8 process, okay? Would you check that first and
9 see where this house is standing, what's going
10 on, who's the owner and what we have to do
11 there?

12 MR. WOLFF: Correct.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Okay?

14 MR. FARLEY: Thank you. It means a
15 lot, believe me.

16 MR. AMICO: No problem.

17 ALL MEMBERS: Thanks, Joe.

18 MR. FARLEY: Thank you.

19 MR. AMICO: Anyone else from the
20 public this evening? Go ahead. If you want to
21 speak, sir, you have to --

22 MR. GERVASI: We were talking
23 about --

24 MR. AMICO: Right, but you have
25 to -- this is on the record, sir. You have to

1 stand up.

2 MR. HALLINAN: You have to stand up.
3 You're on the record.

4 MR. AMICO: Please.

5 MR. GERVASI: I'm Frank Gervasi and
6 I'm here with the other officials from the VFW
7 in Dunmore, and we just got our grant approved
8 for \$120,000 to fix the roof, so we're going
9 through the process now with Greg and so we're
10 trying to get it speeded up a little bit
11 because the roof is leaking, and it ruined our
12 kitchen already and now we're worried about
13 mold.

14 It's a really nice building, and we
15 can't have any food and stuff like that because
16 our kitchen is ruined. I know it takes time,
17 but can we maybe try to get it faster somehow?

18 MS. BRIER: You got the grant,
19 right? You have the grant?

20 MR. GERVASI: Yeah.

21 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah. You were
22 approved for the grant.

23 MR. GERVASI: Yeah. It's been
24 approved.

25 MS. BRIER: Okay.

1 MR. GERVASI: Marty Flynn, it's a
2 grant from the State, I think, yeah.

3 MS. BRIER: Yeah.

4 MR. HALLINAN: Right. Vince, do you
5 want to say --

6 MR. AMICO: Yeah. Yes, sir, as we
7 said, we're doing our best to try to find out
8 exactly if it's we the Borough that administers
9 the grant or if it's you, the VFW. And as I
10 told you out in the hall, until we get that
11 answer, which we'll hopefully get, you know,
12 this week, ideally we'll get an actual
13 answer --

14 MR. GERVASI: I thought it was the
15 Borough that had to do that.

16 MR. AMICO: Again, we -- normally,
17 when a grant like this takes place for an
18 outside agency, a non-borough related agency,
19 we just act as a -- we help out with the grant
20 writing, we give our approval, and then the
21 grantee, who is you in this case, takes care of
22 everything, advertises, finds the contractors.
23 That's normally the way it works. So, we just
24 want to make sure that that's the way this
25 takes place to not jeopardize, to avoid --

1 MR. GERVASI: Well, who would know
2 that answer? Like, who?

3 MR. AMICO: That's what Mr. Wolff is
4 trying to find.

5 MR. WOLFF: Yeah.

6 MR. GERVASI: Can we call them now?
7 I have a cell phone.

8 MR. AMICO: We're doing our best.
9 Ideally, we'll get you an answer this week.

10 MR. GERVASI: Well, that's all we
11 can hope for, I guess.

12 MR. WOLFF: Like I said, I've gotten
13 three or four different answers, so we just
14 want to make sure that we're getting it right
15 so we don't run into any problems.

16 MR. GERVASI: Okay. Tommy, do you
17 have any information that -- I think you
18 already talked to them about that, information
19 that maybe they would need --

20 MR. AMICO: We can't have back and
21 forth conversation.

22 MR. GERVASI: Yeah.

23 MR. AMICO: We have a stenographer
24 trying to take a record.

25 MR. GERVASI: Yeah, I don't want to

1 waste anymore --

2 MR. AMICO: No, you're not wasting
3 time, but one person at a time.

4 MS. BRIER: So, Mr. Gervasi, did --

5 MR. HALLINAN: We would put the roof
6 on tomorrow for you if we could.

7 MR. GERVASI: This is our quarter
8 master, Tommy Coar.

9 MS. BRIER: Okay. So, Mr. Gervasi,
10 did you --

11 MR. GERVASI: Do you want to tell
12 them anything that I don't know?

13 MR. COAR: I don't know what you
14 know.

15 MS. BRIER: Mr. Gervasi, you went
16 through an estimate process?

17 MR. GERVASI: Yeah. We have three
18 estimates already.

19 MS. BRIER: And so you have three
20 different vendors?

21 MR. GERVASI: Yes. Yes, we do.

22 MS. BRIER: Okay.

23 MR. GERVASI: We have our three --
24 and they're all, you know, certified --

25 MS. BRIER: From the -- yeah.

1 MR. GERVASI: -- contractors.

2 MS. BRIER: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

3 MR. GERVASI: And what else did I
4 want to say? I don't know. I know it takes
5 time but how much time?

6 MR. HALLINAN: As Vince said, let us
7 get the answer.

8 MR. GERVASI: Okay.

9 MR. HALLINAN: Because, again, we've
10 done this for Sherwood, we've done it for other
11 organizations in the past.

12 MR. GERVASI: Right.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Once they got
14 approved, as we were the conduit, as we said --

15 MR. GERVASI: Right.

16 MR. HALLINAN: -- they ran with it.
17 Now you guys are saying you want us to help.
18 We don't have a problem helping, we just want
19 to make sure we do it legally.

20 MR. GERVASI: Right.

21 MR. HALLINAN: So the next thing you
22 don't turn around and say the State says,
23 Uh-Uh. Now we're in the hole for one hundred
24 and some thousand dollars for your roof.

25 MR. GERVASI: Yeah.

1 MR. HALLINAN: If I'm saying that
2 right. Am I right?

3 MR. GERVASI: We all work for the
4 government --

5 MR. HALLINAN: So that's all we want
6 to know is, you know, we'll do it right, nobody
7 wants to stop your project, we want to see it
8 move on and stop the rain from coming into your
9 building.

10 MS. BRIER: Yeah.

11 MR. HALLINAN: You know, we're all
12 in the same boat here, okay?

13 MS. BRIER: I'm glad you got the
14 money.

15 MR. GERVASI: We got the money,
16 so -- the kitchen in this building, the one in
17 here, was a grant. Melanie Naro, Attorney
18 Melanie, she handled --

19 MS. BRIER: Oh, yeah. Okay.

20 MR. GERVASI: If we need to call
21 her.

22 MR. HALLINAN: And, again, it's a
23 different entity because we didn't -- she was
24 on Borough Council --

25 MR. GERVASI: Yes.

1 MR. HALLINAN: -- and I don't know
2 how we handle it and move things on. This is
3 another one --

4 MR. GERVASI: And I don't pretend to
5 know all of the details.

6 MR. HALLINAN: We don't either.

7 MR. GERVASI: Even getting the grant
8 was a struggle, but --

9 MR. HALLINAN: Listen, I'm sure Greg
10 will get you an answer this week.

11 MR. GERVASI: Okay.

12 MR. HALLINAN: Then we'll try and
13 move this along.

14 MR. GERVASI: Okay. Thanks.

15 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

16 MR. GERVASI: We'll be in touch.

17 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

18 MR. GERVASI: Okay.

19 MR. AMICO: Anyone else from the
20 public like to speak this evening?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. AMICO: I'm seeing none.

23 MR. WOLFF: Number 12, public
24 officials.

25 MR. AMICO: Chief Marchese?

1 CHIEF MARCHESE: I'm good.

2 MR. AMICO: Chris?

3 MR. KEARNEY: (No response.)

4 MR. AMICO: Mayor Conway?

5 MAYOR CONWAY: I'm good.

6 MR. AMICO: Mr. Hallinan, do you
7 want to start this evening?

8 MR. HALLINAN: Sure. Sharon, first
9 of all, could we have Mr. Dunda go on your
10 property and try and capture the skunks or
11 whatever rodents you have going on there?
12 Would that be a problem with you?

13 MS. SUMMA: Well, the garbage has
14 been cleaned up since then.

15 MR. HALLINAN: No, but I mean if you
16 still have rodents there, we could send our
17 animal control officer out to --

18 MS. SUMMA: The rodents only came
19 out because the garbage was on the ground.

20 MR. HALLINAN: Okay. So, you're not
21 worried about that?

22 MS. SUMMA: Do you want to see the
23 pictures?

24 MR. HALLINAN: Oh, no, no. I'm just
25 trying to help out if there was skunks and

1 whatever, possums in your yard, and we'd set up
2 traps and capture them and move them.

3 MS. SUMMA: Yeah. Now my issue at
4 hand is now being harassed by a public
5 official, so it's a moot point, the garbage is
6 a moot point at this point.

7 MR. HALLINAN: Okay. I was just
8 trying to help you out there with that. As far
9 as Bednar Street, I hear both sides of it now,
10 you know, we only hear one side, your side,
11 and, you know, I hope everything gets
12 straightened out and I hope the Chief can bring
13 you together and straighten things out, because
14 it's a shame that neighbors up there, and it's
15 such a beautiful neighborhood and I hope that
16 things come together up there. Okay?

17 On a lighter note, the summer
18 recreation program started. We have, I just
19 want to put it on the record, you know, we do
20 pizza Friday where citizens of Dunmore donate
21 money just to give the kids a free pizza Friday
22 for them, which is fantastic, and the people
23 that donated so far were Bridget and Bobby
24 Burke, Danny Donahue, Michael Cummings, Jr. and
25 our own Michael Dempsey has donated for one

1 Friday. So, that's fantastic.

2 Also, we have the donations for the
3 St. Joe's washing machine that's over here, and
4 if anybody could give any kind of money, what
5 we're trying to do here is they want to bring
6 it up to Music Fest on July 22nd, which would
7 be right before Mr. Snedeker starts his ride,
8 so they want to bring it up to Music Fest, put
9 the washing machine up there and collect
10 donations that day.

11 So, I was saying maybe with the
12 Mayor's help we could, you know, have a little
13 police escort through town with the machine on
14 the back of a trailer or something and really
15 help out St. Joe's, because there's no better
16 cause in this Borough than those children that
17 they receive from St. Joe's, and whatever
18 little bit we can do to help out. Like I said,
19 if it's only 20 bucks, that's 20 more dollars
20 than they had before they started and it's a
21 wonderful thing they do.

22 That's all I have. Thank you very
23 much.

24 MR. AMICO: Ms. Oven.

25 MS. OVEN: I wanted to thank

1 everyone for coming. I would encourage you to
2 keep contacting us and not stopping because we
3 are really trying to fight for getting this
4 rectified. I know we probably sound like
5 broken records saying --

6 MS. GUZY: And I always, when I
7 call, I always want it documented. Every time
8 I call, documented.

9 MS. OVEN: Right.

10 MR. AMICO: Ma'am.

11 MS. OVEN: And we are trying. This
12 isn't the only time that we work for the
13 public. We meet several times during the week
14 and we have a lot -- there's a lot of things
15 that we're trying to rectify.

16 So, I thank you guys for coming and
17 pointing these out to us. I'm sorry for what's
18 going on, and we're trying to hopefully put
19 some improvements, but everything is much
20 slower than we wish.

21 MR. AMICO: Janet.

22 MS. BRIER: Yeah, this animal
23 situation, both up on Grove Street and Allen
24 Street, I mean, I was going to make some calls
25 this week just to see, you know, what the

1 enforcement folks -- I mean, we're somewhat
2 limited, but there's got to be folks, humane
3 society people, you know, if there's -- and
4 perhaps we could start the condemnation process
5 up on Grove.

6 We've done it before, Joe. We've
7 done a couple of them. And Mickey's not here
8 tonight, but he's really good at it. So, maybe
9 we could do that and that may alleviate some of
10 the issue. But this feral cat thing, I mean,
11 it's really, really hard, because nobody will
12 do it, nobody will neuter them.

13 Now, I know a woman up in Clarks
14 Summit who was telling me that she -- she
15 lives, like, way up, and it's kind of a rural
16 area, I was at her house one day and there was
17 a whole bunch of cats recently, and they had,
18 like, their ears clipped, and that meant that
19 they had been --

20 MS. OVEN: They're fixed.

21 MS. BRIER: Yeah. So, I'll call
22 her, too, and try and see, you know, what
23 they're doing. Somebody's doing it for them,
24 you know, up in Clarks Summit, so just try and
25 mitigate some of this.

1 I don't know much about animal
2 control stuff, but it's a horrific situation in
3 both places, and there's got to be something
4 that we can do to relieve this. That's all I
5 have.

6 Once again, thanks everyone. And we
7 have the Music Fest coming up, some really nice
8 things coming to Dunmore. As Chris mentioned,
9 they're doing the summer program for the kids,
10 and we have really good participation, so some
11 positives.

12 Again, when I hear a citizen say
13 that they're being harassed, it's really,
14 really disturbing, and we need to --

15 MS. O'MALLEY: It was to me, too.

16 MS. BRIER: I'm sure it was. I'm
17 sure it was. So, we will need to address that,
18 as well, because the word harass, you know,
19 carries a lot of weight, and that should never,
20 ever happen. It's a never event, a never
21 event.

22 MS. O'MALLEY: Thank you.

23 MS. BRIER: So, we'll try and see
24 what's going on there, too. Thank you.

25 MR. AMICO: Ms. Zangardi, please.

1 MS. ZANGARDI: Yeah, the feral cat
2 problem has been a problem for a while. We are
3 trying and have been trying, and everything we
4 try just seems to fall through. And then
5 regarding -- that's pretty much it.

6 I'm sorry, I really am sorry. I had
7 no idea what -- I mean, this is the second time
8 Dr. Puhalla and Frannie are here for the dogs,
9 so we're working on it, it's just not that
10 easy. It is not that easy. It's a lot harder
11 than you would expect. So, again, I'm sorry,
12 and I appreciate everybody coming.

13 There's also the SAPA. Gary, you
14 did have a question, I think Vince is going to
15 address that question regarding the SAPA, but
16 we're on it, and Vince will take care of it,
17 okay? That's it. Thank you everybody.

18 MR. AMICO: Mr. O'Malley.

19 MR. O'MALLEY: I'm just going to
20 echo what my colleagues here have said,
21 hopefully we get these situations rectified
22 with the dogs on Allen Street, the cats on
23 Grove Street, and, you know, hopefully with the
24 Chief, we can work on the Bednar Street
25 situation. Now, like Councilman Hallinan said,

1 we have two sides to the story now, so we do
2 appreciate you coming in.

3 Music Fest, the last two have been
4 postponed due to rain. Hopefully next week
5 we'll have some good weather.

6 MR. HALLINAN: Two weeks.

7 MR. O'MALLEY: When is it, the 22nd?

8 MS. BRIER: The 22nd.

9 MR. O'MALLEY: Okay. Hopefully
10 we'll get some good weather for that. It's a
11 great community event. We have the summer
12 parks program, it started today. My three sons
13 were here and they loved it and they'll be here
14 every day. And that's all I have. Thank you.

15 MR. AMICO: Mr. Dempsey.

16 MR. DEMPSEY: I'm good. Thank you.

17 MR. AMICO: All right. I have a lot
18 apparently. I'm going to start with something
19 really easy, I just wanted to thank Officer
20 Garzella for his service at the Borough. He
21 just retired from our police department, so I'd
22 like to thank Mr. Garzella for his service.

23 Ms. Summa, after the meeting I'll
24 give you my phone number and we'll get you an
25 answer.

1 MS. SUMMA: Thank you.

2 MR. AMICO: Again, we heard your
3 side of the story, which is, you know, your
4 version of the truth, and I'm sure Chief
5 DeNaples has his version, and we'll figure it
6 out, but at least the information that you
7 asked for, we'll definitely get you. Whatever
8 we're allowed to give you, I'll get that
9 squared away.

10 MS. SUMMA: I just would expect it
11 to be an anonymous process when you're
12 complaining --

13 MR. AMICO: Again, I'm not saying --
14 it's supposed to be, but --

15 MS. BRIER: Well, the anonymity was
16 breached by your neighbor, not by us, not by
17 Greg.

18 MS. SUMMA: Right, but that --

19 MR. AMICO: My turn, ma'am.

20 MS. SUMMA: -- precipitated the
21 Chief to come to my house.

22 MR. AMICO: Ma'am, my turn. Again,
23 I'll get you an answer and I'll get you squared
24 away. We can't have back and forth because,
25 again, the stenographer is taking a record.

1 Again, after the meeting I'll give you my phone
2 number and we'll get you an answer.

3 Number three, Ms. O'Malley, I'm sort
4 of blind, I'm sorry, I'm going to say this,
5 racism and intolerance is not something that we
6 accept here, okay? For the last two months
7 we've heard your neighbor's complaints, and the
8 advice I gave your neighbors is if you're
9 having an issue, call the police.

10 We're not judge and jury. That's
11 police's issue. If there's a noise complaint,
12 call the police.

13 It got to the point where your
14 neighbors were complaining enough, I said,
15 Well, if there's an issue, go to the magistrate
16 and let the process work. It's not our job to,
17 you know, take your word or your neighbor's
18 word. That's why there's a process.

19 But what you're saying is
20 unacceptable, meaning if your neighbors were
21 bullied or, you know, being harassed, that's
22 unacceptable. I would love, I think, to be
23 very honest with you, I would love this problem
24 to go away, because it's not fair for your
25 neighbors or for you to live in an intolerant

1 environment.

2 So, ideally we'll have the Chief sit
3 down with both neighbors and, you know, I'd be
4 more than willing to sit with them and come to
5 a peaceful solution, because, you know, your
6 guy's going to be living there, ideally, for a
7 long time, and the neighbors that are there are
8 entrenched, they're not going anywhere either,
9 and I know just from experience there's nothing
10 worse than having a poor relationship with your
11 neighbors. It makes for an ugly living
12 situation.

13 So, ideally we'll come to a
14 peaceful, non-magisterial, something where it
15 just, you know, can't we all just be friends
16 solution. That'll be the way it's supposed to
17 be. So, that's you.

18 Gary, Mr. Dunkin, yes, there was an
19 article in today's paper about SAPA. We tabled
20 our decision. I believe, I may be wrong, but I
21 believe it was July of 2021, I believe it was
22 two years ago, waiting upon seeing what the
23 city did. So, Scranton passed it.

24 The only change that we asked for
25 that has to basically start the process over as

1 far as the Borough's concerned is boarding
2 homes. One of the things that we could
3 eliminate from our land use in the Borough is
4 boarding homes, which we did. Okay? And then
5 now that from us deciding -- or requesting
6 that, that goes to the county, the county works
7 on it, it gets it in the working document, and
8 then basically the process starts from scratch.

9 We as a Council, it goes to our
10 planning and zoning, and then we as Council
11 decide. There's seven of us. If four people
12 vote for SAPA, then it's a go. If four people
13 don't vote for SAPA, it's a no go, and we're
14 still working on the details of that.

15 MR. DUNKIN: Thank you.

16 MR. AMICO: So, that's SAPA. The
17 dog issue on Allen Street, again, Mayor Conway
18 and Mr. Wolff will go to your yard and your
19 yard and we'll, again, do whatever we're
20 allowed to do. If we can inspect the home and
21 see if it's not habitable, we'll get that
22 squared away. We'll do whatever we can do
23 within the parameters of the law.

24 And, finally, I believe, I don't
25 think I left anybody out, the gentlemen from

1 the VFW, again, if we could just wave a wand
2 and get you your money and then get the process
3 squared away, we would do that. We just want
4 to make sure that if it's us that has to run
5 the process, that's fine. If it's you that
6 runs the process, that's fine. We don't want
7 to stand in the way, but we want -- at least
8 me, I would like something in writing that says
9 this is what happens.

10 Ideally we'll get that answer this
11 week, because, again, I understand. I've been
12 a member and plan on becoming a member again of
13 your organization. I'm a vet also. I'd like
14 to see that building squared away.

15 But, again, we don't want to
16 jeopardize the way that grant gets
17 administered. So, as soon as we get an answer,
18 which, again, will be ideally this week, you
19 guys could move forward, whether it's us that
20 moves the process forward or you that moves the
21 process forward, none of us, I can guarantee,
22 none of the seven of us are going to stand in
23 the way of that happening.

24 And I think that's it. Did I miss
25 anybody? I don't believe I did.

1 That being said, I'll look for a
2 motion to adjourn.

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

5 MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

6 MR. AMICO: All those in favor.

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10

11 (Meeting adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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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.

Michelle Smolskis
Official Court Reporter

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