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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, September 11, 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
- MICHAEL P. PERRY, Esquire, Solicitor

MICHELLE SMOLSKIS
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 MR. AMICO: And, folks, could we
4 just remain standing for five seconds in
5 remembrance of the September 11th attacks.

6 (Moment of silence.)

7 MR. AMICO: Thank you.

8 MR. WOLFF: Roll call. Mayor
9 Conway.

10 MAYOR CONWAY: Here.

11 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Zangardi.

12 MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

13 MR. WOLFF: Mr. O'Malley.

14 MR. O'MALLEY: Here.

15 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Dempsey is absent.

16 Mr. Amico.

17 MR. AMICO: Here.

18 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Brier.

19 MS. BRIER: Here.

20 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Mackrell Oven.

21 MS. OVEN: Here.

22 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Hallinan.

23 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

24 MR. WOLFF: Number three, public
25 comment on agenda items.

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

3 (No response.)

4 MR. AMICO: I'm seeing none.

5 MR. WOLFF: Number four, motion to
6 approve the minutes.

7 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion
8 to approve the minutes, please.

9 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that
10 motion.

11 MR. O'MALLEY: I'll second.

12 MR. AMICO: I have a motion and a
13 second. Anyone on the question?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. AMICO: Seeing none. All those
16 in favor?

17 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

18 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it.

21 MR. WOLFF: Number five, motion to
22 approve and pay open bills.

23 MR. AMICO: I will look for a motion
24 to approve and pay the open bills, please.

25 MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that

1 motion.

2 MS. OVEN: I'll second.

3 MR. AMICO: I have a motion and a
4 second. Anyone on the question?

5 MS. BRIER: I have a couple
6 questions for Mark. I was just wondering what
7 Appel Technology are?

8 MR. BURTON: That's the police
9 software for their laptops.

10 MS. BRIER: Okay. And I just had
11 one other one. Oh, NEIC, we talked about that.
12 Okay. That's all I had. Thanks. Thanks,
13 Mark.

14 MR. BURTON: You're welcome.

15 MR. AMICO: Anyone else on the
16 question?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. AMICO: Seeing none. All in
19 favor?

20 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. AMICO: And the ayes have it.

24 MR. WOLFF: Number six, personnel
25 matter: Motion to approve William McDonough to

1 a temporary DPW position.

2 MR. AMICO: I will look for a motion
3 to approve William McDonough to a temporary DPW
4 position.

5 MR. O'MALLEY: I'll make that
6 motion.

7 MR. HALLINAN: I'll second it.

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

10 (No response.)

11 MR. AMICO: This is, again, this'll
12 be a part-time position and it's just, you
13 know, to help us out with working on the truck
14 and working out on the roads. So, again, it's
15 just a part time -- or it's just a temporary
16 position for the time being. All those in
17 favor?

18 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. AMICO: And the ayes have it.

22 MR. WOLFF: Number seven, motion to
23 approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
24 between the Borough of Dunmore and the City of
25 Scranton regarding MS4 Stormwater Regional

1 Authority.

2 MR. AMICO: I'll look for a motion
3 to approve the MOU between the Borough of
4 Dunmore and the City of Scranton regarding the
5 MS4 Stormwater Regional Authority.

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

7 MR. AMICO: I have a motion. Do I
8 have a second?

9 MS. OVEN: I'll second.

10 MR. AMICO: Motion and a second.
11 Greg, can you just go over that really briefly?

12 MR. WOLFF: Sure. This is the storm
13 water, the regionalization that they're looking
14 to do. Scranton is heading it up but there are
15 a total of, I believe, nine communities
16 involved, including us and Scranton. But,
17 again, Scranton is leading the charge on this.

18 This is, the MS4 is the storm water
19 regulations that are here with the Commonwealth
20 that are mostly unfunded right now, so this is
21 to get an authority to get control and get in
22 compliance with the storm water regulations.

23 So, this is just to -- we're not
24 signing on, this is just to a general working
25 understanding between the two parties is what

1 part of the MOU reads.

2 MR. AMICO: Thank you, Greg. Anyone
3 else on the question?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. AMICO: Seeing none. All those
6 in favor?

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. AMICO: And the ayes have it.

11 MR. WOLFF: All right. Best one of
12 the night, number eight, motion to approve
13 Proclamation for David Rivera Day, June 20,
14 2024.

15 MR. AMICO: I will look for a motion
16 to approve the Proclamation for David Rivera
17 Day being June 20, 2024.

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

20 MR. O'MALLEY: I will second.

21 MR. AMICO: I have a motion and a
22 second.

23 MAYOR CONWAY: Dave, do you want to
24 come up?

25 DAVID RIVERA: No.

1 MAYOR CONWAY: Come on up. We don't
2 bite. Mom will come with you. There you go.

3 For everybody who doesn't know, this
4 is David Rivera. David, last August, I
5 believe, was diagnosed with a form of brain
6 cancer. It's September, which just so happens
7 it's also childhood cancer awareness month.
8 He's gone through countless doctor
9 appointments, radiation, spinal tap, blood
10 transfusions, chemotherapy, and he's had two
11 brain surgeries.

12 He just started kindergarten, and I
13 saw one of the posts from his mom, Kristen,
14 when he went to school he said what do I want
15 to be when I grow up, he said, I want to be a
16 superhero and a brain surgeon, and I think we
17 can all agree that one of those can be crossed
18 out. He's definitely a super hero.

19 And I just believe it with what
20 Dave's mom Kristen said, It's time for David to
21 enjoy his life as a kid. He starts
22 kindergarten this month and he's going to build
23 new friendships. It was something that was
24 completely stripped away from him unexpectedly
25 and he deserves it all back.

1 So, with that said, I just want to
2 read the proclamation that we have for David.
3 Whereas, the Mayor and the Council of the
4 Borough of Dunmore, Lackawanna County,
5 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, wish to recognize
6 and extend public tribute to David Rivera; and,
7 whereas, the Borough of Dunmore has never
8 honored Iron Man, Superman, Batman or the
9 Incredible Hulk, because in the Borough of
10 Dunmore we honor real super heros like David;
11 and, whereas, David, as a true warrior and hero
12 and during two brain surgeries, countless
13 treatments and many doctors appointments, as
14 June 20, 2023 won his battle and is now a
15 cancer survivor; and, whereas, we, as the
16 officials of Dunmore Borough, are proud to
17 inform David, the Rivera family and the
18 residents of Dunmore of the highest esteem that
19 we hold for David; and, whereas, the courage to
20 be David Strong has inspired not just me and
21 our Council but our entire community.

22 And now, therefore, be it resolved
23 by the Mayor, Max Conway, and the Dunmore
24 Borough Council, Vince Amico, President, that
25 in honor of David, but it further resolved,

1 that Thursday, June 20, 2024 be designated as
2 David Rivera Day.

3 We encourage all citizens of the
4 Borough of Dunmore to give special honor and
5 recognize this brave young man.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. HALLINAN: Max, the police
8 officers told me don't keep him up too late,
9 he's on at midnight.

10 MAYOR CONWAY: Oh, and I heard,
11 yeah, he's working midnight shift.

12 MR. HALLINAN: There's some toys
13 that are available at the police station. The
14 police are going to bring him up and let him
15 pick out anything he wants up there, okay?

16 MS. RIVERA: Thank you.

17 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. God bless
18 you.

19 MR. AMICO: Okay. All those in
20 favor of honoring David Rivera Day?

21 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

22 MR. AMICO: Opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. AMICO: Everybody said aye.

25 (Applause.)

1 MR. WOLFF: All right. Number nine,
2 treasurer financial report. Mark.

3 MR. AMICO: Try to top that, Mark.

4 MR. BURTON: Yeah, it's tough to
5 follow. Great story. Congratulations, bud.

6 Good evening, Council. My
7 announcements for the month of August, there
8 was a net loss for the month of 1.4 million,
9 which brings our year to date net income to
10 \$970,000. The main reason for the large loss,
11 which was anticipated and budgeted, was our
12 annual bond payment of principal and interest
13 of 1.4 million dollars.

14 As far as revenue and expenses are
15 concerned, our real estate collections remain
16 slow in the summer months. Business licenses
17 and permits, we've received 58,000 from our
18 Comcast franchise fee for the second quarter of
19 2023, and proceeds from the sale of general
20 fixed assets of 81,000 for the property on
21 Jefferson Avenue.

22 On the expense side, we had the debt
23 principal, 1.3 million dollars, to our series A
24 and B bonds and debt interest of 115,000 to the
25 subsequent buy in B bonds. And also our

1 pension and retirement, there was a \$60,000
2 partial MMO payment.

3 MS. BRIER: Mark, the 1.3 and the
4 115,000, are they the only two payments? Did
5 we have one earlier in the year?

6 MR. BURTON: We had one earlier in
7 March of interest only.

8 MS. BRIER: Does that fluctuate or
9 is it the same all the time?

10 MR. BURTON: It's the same every
11 year.

12 MS. BRIER: Is it, like, 300,000? I
13 forget what it was.

14 MR. BURTON: I believe that --

15 MS. BRIER: I hate to ask you.

16 MR. BURTON: In March it was around
17 115,000.

18 MS. BRIER: Oh, okay. I was
19 thinking it was twice that.

20 MR. BURTON: No.

21 MS. BRIER: I'm just trying to think
22 of what it is the whole year, our debt service,
23 you know, how much our debt services for the
24 whole year, would you say, like, probably 1.5
25 or 1.6?

1 MR. BURTON: 1.5.

2 MS. BRIER: Okay. Thanks.

3 MR. BURTON: And that'll be reduced
4 as the principal --

5 MS. BRIER: And that goes down --

6 MR. BURTON: -- over time.

7 MS. BRIER: Yeah, as the years go.

8 Thank you.

9 ALL MEMBERS: Thanks, Mark.

10 MR. WOLFF: Number ten, Chris
11 Kearney.

12 MR. KEARNEY: The last several weeks
13 we've continued hosting weekend parties here in
14 this room and have seen increase in
15 after-school play as well as elementary school
16 teams conducting preseason basketball
17 practices. I've been in touch with Bidy
18 Basketball and they're planning their tryouts
19 in the middle of October.

20 I think you guys all received
21 something from the seniors today. October 1st
22 they're having a purse bingo. It'll be in the
23 gym. So, that's a big fundraiser for them.

24 Next week we are scheduled for our
25 annual refinish of our gym floor. Miller

1 Sports of West Chester, PA has been doing our
2 floors for the past nine years. They're a
3 nationally recognized company and specialize in
4 athletic facilities. Some of their clients
5 include Penn State University, Villanova,
6 Princeton and the University of Scranton. I
7 think you've all seen the floor here and you'd
8 agree that they've done a tremendous job.

9 The process takes two days to
10 complete the refinish and 72 hours of drying
11 time. So, the gym's going to be closed for
12 about five days.

13 The seniors will continue with their
14 scheduled activities in this room, and the Head
15 Start teachers are going to be on site, but
16 their students will not because they can't take
17 the fumes. They're connected to the gym,
18 there's like a door, and the one year they
19 tried to have them here and the kids were -- it
20 wasn't pretty. The kids were sick.

21 So, I have to schedule this in,
22 like, April because these people are so busy,
23 and so I let Head Start know and then they, you
24 know, they make the arrangements.

25 I will use our Facebook page to

1 announce the reopening when we are ready for
2 play. I don't want to put out an opening,
3 like, the opening now, until I talk to the guys
4 that are on site that are doing the work, and
5 they'll tell me exactly when. Okay? And
6 that's all I have.

7 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Chris.

8 MR. WOLFF: Michael Judge.

9 MR. JUDGE: I just want to let
10 everybody know we have two garbage trucks down.
11 One we should get back tomorrow, the other
12 one's going to be gone for a while. So, we'll
13 probably be a little bit behind but we'll be
14 caught up by Friday. Everything will be back
15 on schedule. And that's about all I have.

16 MR. AMICO: Didge, can we tomorrow
17 get the grass at the Borough building and at
18 the tank squared up?

19 MR. JUDGE: Yeah. I thought they
20 kept one of the kids, that's why we -- I left
21 all of it alone. It was filled up at Schautz.

22 MR. AMICO: Okay. We just need
23 it --

24 MR. JUDGE: Yeah. I'll get somebody
25 there tomorrow.

1 MR. AMICO: We need it squared away
2 tomorrow.

3 MR. JUDGE: I thought they were
4 gonna take care of it.

5 MS. BRIER: Are all the grass
6 cutters back?

7 MR. JUDGE: What's that?

8 MS. BRIER: Are the grass cutters
9 back?

10 MR. JUDGE: No. They kept one, I
11 think.

12 MS. BRIER: No, no, I mean the --

13 MS. OVEN: The kids.

14 MS. BRIER: -- the actual grass
15 cutting --

16 MR. AMICO: Lawn mowers.

17 MS. BRIER: Lawn mowers.

18 MR. JUDGE: I got two grass cutters,
19 two weed whackers and two of the blowers back.
20 He's still got a couple things, the chain
21 saws --

22 MS. BRIER: So, you have them?

23 MR. JUDGE: Yeah.

24 MS. BRIER: Because it was really
25 bad up there.

1 MR. JUDGE: Yeah. We'll take care
2 of that.

3 MS. BRIER: Thanks.

4 MR. JUDGE: All right. That's it?

5 MR. AMICO: Yep.

6 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

7 MR. JUDGE: Okay. Thank you.

8 MR. WOLFF: Sal Marchese is out.

9 Cap, are you --

10 OFFICER BARTH: Yes. So, I'm going
11 to -- unfortunately, I'm not really prepared.
12 I know I did prepare a monthly stat report
13 earlier in the day, e-mailed it to everyone,
14 but unfortunately --

15 MAYOR CONWAY: He e-mailed it to me.

16 MS. BRIER: I didn't get it.

17 OFFICER BARTH: Okay.

18 MAYOR CONWAY: I owe it to you guys.

19 MS. BRIER: Okay.

20 OFFICER BARTH: I'll give you the
21 brief description of what we had.

22 MS. BRIER: Is that the two reports?

23 MAYOR CONWAY: Yes.

24 OFFICER BARTH: Yes. So, this will
25 be for the month of August, our stats. For the

1 month of August, we responded to 818 calls for
2 service. It's down by 100 calls from the month
3 of July, one being during the month of July we
4 had state and federal money for traffic
5 enforcement, so there was guys that were
6 allocated just to eight hours a day of doing
7 strictly traffic. So, the numbers, obviously,
8 are going to be a little bit lower in August.

9 That money I know went out in July,
10 so that was pretty much it. So, there's nobody
11 strictly out there right now eight hours a day
12 just doing traffic, besides normal guys on the
13 road.

14 For the month of August, our
15 department had ten criminal arrests, we had
16 seven non-traffic citations. A non-traffic
17 citation being retail theft, a public
18 drunkenness, a disorderly conduct, something to
19 that effect. We had 54 traffic tickets were
20 issued during the month and 25 written traffic
21 warnings were issued.

22 We currently have two officers out,
23 one already approved for heart and lung, the
24 other officer is currently awaiting heart and
25 lung approval and is essentially using his own

1 sick time until that approval gets through.

2 Chief Marchese has been out,
3 obviously, since the beginning of July and he's
4 hopeful for a mid September return, but, again,
5 I don't know exactly where that's at.

6 During the month of August, five
7 shifts were filled up for overtime. When a
8 shift does go out for overtime, it's strictly
9 because we couldn't get a part-time officer to
10 work the shift; and, therefore, with demand
11 requirements, we do have to send out for
12 overtime.

13 During the month of August our
14 part-time officers worked 512.5 hours, which
15 equates to 64 eight-hour shifts. You're going
16 to see a number like 67 sick days used for the
17 month, but in those sick days you have the two
18 officers that are out along with Chief
19 Marchese. So, they use their own sick time up
20 until the heart and lung benefits. And Chief
21 Marchese is not on a work-related injury, so
22 he's using his own sick time. Okay?

23 Our normal training, our monthly
24 SWAT training, Officer Burgette and Officer
25 Richardson for their twice a month SWAT

1 training. Officer Grunza took part in a mental
2 health training on August 10th.

3 As far as other business, we
4 assisted on multiple music festivals with the
5 setup, take down and crowd control for the
6 events. We also began, in the month of August,
7 working extra duty football games for both
8 Dunmore High School and Scranton Prep.
9 Scranton Prep is using our facilities this
10 year, so we're essentially being subbed out to
11 them on Saturdays for their games.

12 The extra duty football events, what
13 happens is they're billed directly to the
14 school district, the school district then pays
15 the Borough back and it's put into our
16 bi-weekly paychecks, essentially not costing
17 the Borough anything.

18 That's pretty much all I have. And
19 I did provide a full breakdown of all the
20 arrests on a separate sheet for you guys.
21 Does anybody have any questions on the report?

22 MR. HALLINAN: How many part timers
23 are in the queue right now?

24 OFFICER BARTH: We actually have,
25 and I just want to --

1 MR. HALLINAN: I mean new ones.

2 OFFICER BARTH: Oh. There's
3 actually two officers that are right now going
4 through the MPOETC certification process.
5 There was two hired at the last meeting. I had
6 begun their paperwork, it is a lengthy process.

7 The one officer was never an officer
8 before, so he has to go for a whole new
9 physical, drug screening, eye exam, a
10 psychological, a firearms training. So, it
11 does take a little while.

12 The other officer, fortunately
13 enough, was already certified with another
14 police department, so he should be probably two
15 weeks before he'll be able to take shifts.

16 Officer Haines, who was hired back
17 in, I believe, the June meeting has since
18 started end of July, early August, he has
19 started the training process and is probably a
20 week or two away from being able to be on his
21 own. So, he is coming along, it's just he
22 doesn't have a lot of availability right now.
23 He has another full-time job, so we're trying
24 to work around that.

25 That's the problem with the part

1 timers. Like, currently we only have ten
2 active part timers on our roster. Out of those
3 ten, we have three that work. One that could
4 only work day shift on Saturdays and Sundays
5 and one that has another full-time job that
6 could only work Thursdays and Fridays.

7 So, we're really limited to one
8 part-time officer that has availability. So,
9 hopefully when these two new get into the mix,
10 we'll have a little bit more of a pool to pull
11 from. But as of right now, it's not.

12 MR. HALLINAN: Those other seven,
13 you know, I think we did this once before --

14 OFFICER BARTH: Yeah.

15 MR. HALLINAN: -- that don't show
16 up, could we take their badges and --

17 OFFICER BARTH: We certainly can.
18 The thing was it's --

19 MR. HALLINAN: And that would be a
20 decision by you and Max, I guess?

21 OFFICER BARTH: A couple of them
22 work for the Sheriff's Department, so the
23 summertime is their busy time, too, down there.
24 So, I mean, I can't fault a guy if he's making
25 time and a half down there working, you know,

1 concerts or anything else, giving up a shift
2 here.

3 So, I know in the wintertime it
4 definitely slows down down there with their
5 overtime, so we do get more as it gets closer
6 to Christmas, you know, they start coming up
7 more our place a little bit more.

8 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah. But we have a
9 problem with guys who would come, get the
10 badge, and we never saw them again.

11 OFFICER BARTH: Exactly. They're
12 looking for just their certification.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Right.

14 OFFICER BARTH: And it's a lengthy
15 process and costs the Borough a lot of money to
16 train somebody.

17 MR. HALLINAN: Right.

18 OFFICER BARTH: Because you're four
19 to six weeks of 40 hours a week in training and
20 then you just walk away because we gave them
21 their certification, you know? So, after you
22 come out of the police academy, you only have
23 two years from the date of graduation, and if
24 you don't get a job within that two years,
25 you're done. Like, you can't -- you're no

1 longer certified.

2 So, guys will wait until that last,
3 you know, they'll shop around and then they'll
4 come up and apply with us knowing that as long
5 as everything checks out we'll hire them, but
6 then they don't pan out, they don't want to
7 work anymore, but now they have their
8 certification.

9 That's unfortunately -- and, again,
10 it's nothing that you guys are doing. We've
11 raised the rate, the pay rate, twice, we've
12 offered all kind of incentives to come here,
13 it's just a, it seems to be a national trend
14 right now for police officers. Every
15 department in the State of Pennsylvania is
16 having a hard time finding officers.

17 MS. BRIER: It was in the paper the
18 other day.

19 OFFICER BARTH: Yeah.

20 MS. BRIER: It's nationwide.

21 OFFICER BARTH: It's nothing -- like
22 I said, we're very competitive wage wise, you
23 know, we're offering a uniform allowance, we
24 pay for their psychological, we pay for their
25 physicals, it's nothing that we're doing. It's

1 just something that unfortunately it's just
2 across the board that nobody wants to do the
3 job anymore, so --

4 MS. BRIER: Well, thank you.

5 OFFICER BARTH: All right. Any
6 questions or anything?

7 MR. AMICO: No.

8 OFFICER BARTH: All right. Thank
9 you guys.

10 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

11 MR. WOLFF: Chief DeNaples.

12 CHIEF DENAPLES: Good evening,
13 Council. I'd like to congratulate David and I
14 wish you a great year in school this year going
15 into kindergarten.

16 So, I'll start out with the Fire
17 Department report. As far as expenditures for
18 this month projected, the only steep one
19 probably is going to be some repairs to the
20 ladder truck. We're having an issue with the
21 pump primer on it, some headlight issues, so
22 we're still waiting for some prices to come
23 back on some of them parts and some of the
24 labor, etc. So, that'll be to be announced.

25 As far as overtime for the month

1 scheduled, due to a lack of part timers, it was
2 347.0 hours. So, that's what was scheduled.
3 Not saying there's not gonna increase due to
4 call offs, incidents, etc.

5 As far as part-time shifts put out
6 for the month of September, it's 55. Okay.
7 Events that we're going to be participating in
8 as a fire department for September, we're going
9 to be doing the lithium ion battery training
10 here tomorrow in this room, actually, for eight
11 hours. We're going to train our fire fighters
12 on how to respond to lithium ion battery
13 incidents, which is an evolving danger.

14 There's, you know, New York City is
15 running them constantly in these dormitories
16 and high rises, people bringing scooters in and
17 these batteries are causing issues. So, we
18 actually have somebody coming in from FDNY
19 doing the training for us tomorrow.

20 And the Relief Association paid for
21 the training, Volunteer Relief Association, so
22 we were fortunate with that.

23 The other thing we're going to be
24 participating in this month is the touch a
25 truck event that the junior league is hosting

1 at the Nay Aug Park. We're going to be sending
2 one of our trucks over there with one of the
3 firefighters. He volunteered his time to bring
4 it over. That's on September 23rd. That's
5 probably about a six-hour event they'll be down
6 there roughly. They have to be there for
7 10:00. It starts at 11.

8 As far as for the call volume for
9 the month of September from 9/1 to today at the
10 close of business, it was 22 calls. That would
11 have broke down to seven rescue emergency
12 medical services calls, one hazardous materials
13 call, three service calls, three good intent
14 calls, seven fire alarms that were false
15 alarms, and one special type incident.

16 MS. BRIER: What's a good intent,
17 Chief?

18 CHIEF DENAPLES: So, good intent is
19 if let's say we get called out to the
20 interstate for a motor vehicle fire, there's
21 some type of fire, and we get out there and
22 it's, you know, it's not founded, or it's an
23 overheated car, or if somebody calls something
24 in, they see somebody laying on the side of the
25 road and, you know, they call it in, there's

1 questions.

2 MR. HALLINAN: I have a question.

3 CHIEF DENAPLES: Sure.

4 MR. HALLINAN: Only because I hear
5 it out on the street. The Lost Trails --

6 CHIEF DENAPLES: Yes.

7 MR. HALLINAN: -- it seems like it's
8 costing our department a fortune. Like,
9 there's multiple calls every month up at that.
10 Is there something we could do to kind of
11 alleviate? You know, I mean, it puts a lot of
12 pressure on our fire and police departments to
13 go up in there and rescue. Not that they
14 shouldn't be rescued --

15 CHIEF DENAPLES: Sure.

16 MR. HALLINAN: -- but if it keeps
17 happening all the time, something's got to be
18 able to be straightened out. I don't have the
19 answer. Maybe you guys could put your heads
20 together and come up with something, but it
21 just seems ridiculous we're always up there
22 wasting our resources -- I shouldn't say
23 wasting -- using our resources.

24 CHIEF DENAPLES: So, you're
25 absolutely correct. Now, here's the ironic

1 thing that goes on, so if you go into our
2 software, okay, where we do our reports in, a
3 lot of them calls come in as Lost Trails, okay;
4 however, up until last week, we only had
5 actually five incidents that we responded to at
6 the Lost Trails ATV park, okay?

7 So, what a lot of these incidents
8 have been is people hiking, okay, other people
9 going off the trails, entering near the
10 reservoir and really didn't have anything to do
11 with Lost Trails, per se, but it was called in
12 as that area.

13 Some of the people filter into the
14 Lost Trails park once they get up in the woods,
15 but they're never actually checked in there.
16 Because I did reach out to Tony, one of the
17 managers up there, and he's actually one of the
18 owners, on Lost Trails, and I said, Hey, you
19 know, I said, Here's the situation, I said,
20 When we come up there, we can't find these
21 people, I said, and it takes a long, long time.

22 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah.

23 CHIEF DENAPLES: I said, You know
24 what, I know you have trails marked red, gray,
25 blue, they don't know where they're at, and we

1 try to ping the cell phones through comm
2 center, etc. I said, You know, maybe we need
3 to talk about some type of tracking device
4 that, you know, you have a system there and
5 everybody that checks in at Lost Trails gets
6 some type of tracking device, battery operated,
7 and then they know exactly where they are on
8 the screen, they tell them stay there, we send
9 our people right to it.

10 So then as I was doing that, we
11 looked up them calls, like I said, because we
12 have the luxury of tracking that in our
13 software, and only about five, believe it or
14 not, this year were actually at that park.

15 Now, over the years when we visited
16 something with them to try to get them to throw
17 some money in for a response up there, we tried
18 to say something like the rescue billing, when
19 these people come in to ride, do they have to
20 have insurance on their, you know, UTV or ATV
21 or dirt bike, and the answer to that was no.

22 Because what I was going to have
23 them do, or propose to have them do, is when
24 they check in, sign the waivers, okay, they
25 give insurance information for that unit that

1 they're riding up there, and then if we have an
2 accident with that, we submit that, like we do
3 for a car accident, to our billing company and
4 we get reimbursed to cover the cost of the
5 overtime to backfill, equipment, etc., and they
6 don't collect insurance.

7 So, the only thing that we could
8 revisit again, what I did a long, long time
9 ago, is say to these people up there, you know,
10 Hey, listen, if it's on your park, you have to
11 have some kind of emergency staff here. You
12 know, they have a unit set up, they go in, they
13 bring them out, their own EMTs or something,
14 they load them up in the ambulance.

15 That's the only other thing, Hal,
16 that I could even remotely think of, but that's
17 not going to help the non-Lost Trails calls
18 that are coming in as Lost Trails.

19 MR. HALLINAN: Got it.

20 CHIEF DENAPLES: Now, it'll be
21 almost impossible to say, Well, have the police
22 patrol it, because look what happens down in
23 the gorge, you know what I mean? It's just
24 not, it's not even -- somebody brought that up
25 last week, and I said, Think about what you're

1 saying. There's a million different spots that
2 they could come in up here. It just doesn't
3 make sense.

4 MR. HALLINAN: This could be off the
5 wall, but could we put some kind of fee on
6 there for a search fee that, you know, would go
7 into a separate area that we would take that
8 out of there? Like, put on maybe a two dollar
9 search fee for every rider every time. I don't
10 know if that's possible or --

11 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

12 CHIEF DENAPLES: That's probably --

13 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

14 CHIEF DENAPLES: -- right, Mick?

15 ATTY. PERRY: Yeah. We would.

16 CHIEF DENAPLES: Maybe that's
17 something to explore with Attorney Perry and
18 Greg to see if we can get an ordinance, a
19 sample ordinance for Council to look at and
20 maybe bring it up.

21 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah.

22 CHIEF DENAPLES: I think that might
23 be an --

24 MR. HALLINAN: The one that got me
25 was social media, and I should know better not

1 to listen to social media, but more or less
2 that a family from New Jersey with a baby got
3 lost up there.

4 CHIEF DENAPLES: That's true.

5 MR. HALLINAN: And the people
6 that -- they said Lost Trails were closed for
7 the evening.

8 CHIEF DENAPLES: Yeah.

9 MR. HALLINAN: So I thought, Wow,
10 isn't that kind of cold.

11 CHIEF DENAPLES: But they weren't
12 even on --

13 MR. HALLINAN: So, it wasn't them,
14 it was coming in from another --

15 CHIEF DENAPLES: But that was a
16 dispatch --

17 MS. BRIER: Did you rescue them?

18 CHIEF DENAPLES: What's your --

19 MS. BRIER: Did you rescue them?

20 CHIEF DENAPLES: We did.

21 MR. HALLINAN: Yes.

22 CHIEF DENAPLES: We did. It was
23 quite extensive, but we did.

24 MR. HALLINAN: So that's something I
25 think we really should look into.

1 CHIEF DENAPLES: Yeah, we could
2 definitely visit that and try to get some
3 wording together for an ordinance and --

4 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

5 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Chief.

6 MR. WOLFF: Number 11, public
7 comment.

8 MR. AMICO: Would anyone from the
9 public like to speak to Council this evening?

10 MR. WHALEN: I've never addressed
11 Council before so --

12 MR. AMICO: Just come up and state
13 your name and address for the record, please.

14 MR. WHALEN: My name is George
15 Whalen. I live at 1401 Jefferson Avenue. I
16 came to address a property on New York, 600
17 block, between 610 and 625. It's been a
18 nuisance property.

19 Me and my mother have been living
20 there next door at 14 Jefferson -- sorry, I'm a
21 little nervous -- for over a decade, and
22 consistently this property has been
23 problematic. It's been a meth house at one
24 point in the row apartments, there's constantly
25 cops there all the time, but also one thing we

1 wanted to address was the garbage situation.

2 The apartments were just taken over
3 by a new company, it's, like, a shell company.
4 We can't even find the phone number for the
5 number, and it turned out to be a camp. Like,
6 it was just a shell company of a shell company
7 trying to find the landlords.

8 We have piles of garbage right down
9 the alleyway behind our house constantly, and
10 it's not an actual public alley, it's a
11 driveway for the apartments, but the garbage
12 trucks go down there and pick it up when they
13 choose. Some days they leave piles there, and
14 there's a lot of garbage, and some days they
15 don't. And this is a private property, so it
16 should have a dumpster for all the tenants.

17 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: There's six
18 houses.

19 MR. WHALEN: Yeah.

20 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: That's five --

21 MR. HALLINAN: One at a time.

22 MR. WHALEN: There's six apartments.

23 They just filled back up, besides the problem
24 that tenants that they always constantly put in
25 there, but that's actually been cleaned up.

1 (Mr. Whalen hands
2 photographs to Council.)

3 MS. BRIER: We talked about this a
4 little bit before you came in, and they had
5 some pictures that were really --

6 MR. WHALEN: Yeah.

7 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

8 MS. BRIER: -- for our
9 understanding.

10 MR. WHALEN: That's actually been an
11 effort, a cleanup, between us and one of the
12 tenants at the very end of the property.

13 MS. OVEN: Do you get a lot of
14 animals? Do you get a lot of, like, animals --

15 MR. WHALEN: Oh, there's cats
16 everywhere, kittens, cats, skunks, raccoons,
17 possums, ticks.

18 MS. BRIER: Why don't they just put
19 out garbage cans, like, for each unit?

20 MR. WHALEN: They do. They steal
21 ours. They steal ours.

22 MS. BRIER: Okay.

23 MR. WHALEN: But the thing is they
24 put it behind my fence and they lean it against
25 my fence. My fence has been knocked over,

1 like, it's been bent over a couple times
2 because of tenants, and there's nothing done
3 about it because it's private property.
4 Garbage trucks shouldn't be going back there.

5 MS. BRIER: Yeah. They should be
6 going up the street.

7 MR. WHALEN: They should go up the
8 street, or they should be renting a dumpster
9 for that whole, for six apartments worth of
10 garbage.

11 MS. OVEN: Mr. Whalen, is that your
12 house right there (Indicating)?

13 MR. WHALEN: That's 1403, yes.
14 That's the half my mother resides in. And she
15 has to smell that all the time.

16 MS. OVEN: Right.

17 MR. WOLFF: Sir, this did come
18 through, we got a complaint, I don't know when
19 it came in, I don't know who brought it into
20 the office, but we did send them a letter and
21 the owners of the building did respond to one
22 of our code officials, and he was talking with
23 them and basically it was said, You need to put
24 them in the containers out on the street or you
25 need to get a dumpster.

1 I will follow up on what that
2 conversation, how that ended up. The last day
3 he worked was Thursday, he's part time, but I
4 will follow up with that. I'll get you a
5 number before we leave.

6 MR. WHALEN: I appreciate that.

7 MR. WOLFF: So, we are on top of
8 that and we're following up with it.

9 MR. WHALEN: Thank you.

10 MR. WOLFF: Yes, sir. Because it is
11 a mess.

12 MR. WHALEN: Pardon?

13 MR. WOLFF: It is a mess.

14 MR. WHALEN: Yes. And there's,
15 like, 24 people --

16 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

17 MR. WHALEN: There's, like, between
18 the two of them, the first two apartments,
19 there's, like, 24 people.

20 MR. WOLFF: Yeah.

21 MR. WHALEN: And I know for a fact,
22 the third floor isn't zoned for living because
23 there's no fire escape or way for a fire
24 escape, but they have -- it is completely full.

25 MS. BRIER: We can send Mike for

1 that, too, right?

2 MR. WOLFF: That would be more of --
3 yeah, we could follow up with that. I mean, we
4 can't just go in someone's house, but, yeah.

5 MR. O'MALLEY: Yeah, that's
6 terrible. That's not good.

7 MR. WHALEN: Thank you.

8 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

9 MR. AMICO: Next.

10 DR. PUHALLA: Dr. Cyril Puhalla, 120
11 Allen Street. Does the Government have any
12 update on the dog situation here?

13 MR. AMICO: I dropped off the two
14 violations to Frannie last week. That's all we
15 have right now. Again, we have to wait for --
16 I hate to keep -- we say this every month, but
17 I hate to say it this way, but we're waiting
18 for the process to follow through, so those --
19 I think the dates on them were, on those were
20 August --

21 MS. GUZY: It was August --

22 MR. AMICO: 19th, I believe.

23 MS. GUZY: Twenty days. Probably
24 expire today or tomorrow.

25 MR. AMICO: Thirty days.

1 MS. GUZY: It's 30 days?

2 MR. AMICO: Yeah.

3 MS. GUZY: I thought it said 20
4 days.

5 MR. AMICO: Well, regardless of
6 that, whether it's 20 days or 30 days, whenever
7 they expire --

8 MS. GUZY: It says 20 days after the
9 date.

10 MR. AMICO: -- then it'll go to
11 Magistrate Ware's.

12 DR. PUHALLA: Well, according to
13 that, it would have expired yesterday.

14 MR. AMICO: So, then we'll have to
15 have NEIC bring --

16 DR. PUHALLA: Yeah, because --

17 MR. AMICO: -- push the --

18 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

19 DR. PUHALLA: You know, just to give
20 you an update, the -- it's hard to tell how
21 many dogs are still there. I mean, remember
22 there was a maximum of 14? That's 14 German
23 Shepherds.

24 Now, what I've observed since then
25 is they either have a second female dog in the

1 house that's pregnant and nursing or there's
2 two female dogs. So, either there's more
3 puppies in that house that they're keeping
4 hidden that we're not aware of. One could tell
5 there's different ages of dogs in that house
6 because when the owners come and go, you hear
7 the dogs howling and you could tell there's
8 older dogs howling, middle age dogs howling and
9 little dogs howling.

10 And on a couple occasions I did see
11 a newborn puppy and I did see a little older
12 dog, so I don't know where they came from.

13 The owners have been pretty good at
14 trying to keep it hidden to allow, like, four
15 dogs at a time to come out. Occasionally,
16 because they'll lock them up for 18, 20, you
17 know, 20 hours, so when they open the door,
18 they all come rushing out, that's when one gets
19 an opportunity to see, perhaps -- I mean, I've
20 counted at least six adult dogs, and, like, two
21 smaller dogs, but if there's dogs hidden in
22 that house, we've got a puppy mill there.

23 And I don't know what the rules are
24 on a puppy mill, because over the last year and
25 a half to two years, they've had at least 20

1 puppies. And, you know, some of those dogs had
2 to be females, and I think some of those
3 females are having babies again.

4 The dogs are getting more violent.
5 My son and daughter-in-law were up visiting and
6 they heard all this ruckus and screaming and
7 yelling and dogs barking, and the owner got
8 bit. I've observed it myself, the owner being
9 bit and being bit on the leg, bit on the arm.

10 And, again, just to remind you,
11 these are not domesticated animals. These are
12 wolf like, these are wolf-like animals.

13 They're badly infected with fleas,
14 so I don't know how people could live in this
15 house. I don't know how one gets a house
16 inspected for such things, but my
17 daughter-in-law pointed out, you know, her
18 observation of these animals were, she said,
19 You know, they likely have ringworm and heart
20 worm and fleas and everything else.

21 I think they gave an excuse they
22 couldn't afford to get the dogs vaccinated or
23 licensed or something like that. That same
24 weekend when my son and my daughter-in-law came
25 up, they went up to walk around Lake Scranton,

1 and just by chance there was a clinic up there
2 doing just that, just, you know, vaccinating
3 dogs and sterilizing them and fixing them and
4 that sort of thing.

5 So, the fence, they put a fence up.
6 The fence is only partly completed, so the side
7 that's on 116 Allen Street, which is about 12
8 feet across, isn't completed, so the dogs could
9 still run to the front and jump over the front
10 fence.

11 The front gate is such that the
12 dogs, with their nose, could easily open it up
13 if they weren't supervised.

14 We sent the Mayor a picture from the
15 video from Nanticoke, a similar situation where
16 I don't know if you people heard about it, it
17 was a similar situation where five or six of
18 these dogs escaped and six people got bit and
19 people had to go and get rabies shots and they
20 had to put a couple dogs down. And that's the
21 sort of thing that's going to happen at 118
22 Allen if something isn't done with these wild,
23 wild animals.

24 The owner seems to be doing a better
25 job of scooping up the feces, but he's

1 unfortunately putting it in open plastic bags,
2 so the dogs could kind of get into the bags and
3 rain goes in the bags and the smell comes out
4 and the flies come out and that sort of thing.
5 So, it's a very interesting, zoo-like situation
6 back there.

7 MAYOR CONWAY: Doctor, I think we
8 cited him for the yard maintenance. That was
9 one of them, right?

10 MR. WOLFF: The sanitation.

11 MAYOR CONWAY: The sanitation of it,
12 and also for being over the four dog minimum.
13 So, where it's at now is NEIC follows up and
14 sends it to the magistrate. And that's really
15 all we could do at this point.

16 We've done everything we can, but
17 now it's going to go to the magistrate, he's
18 going to make a ruling on where it goes next.

19 DR. PUHALLA: So, they don't need
20 any license to sell the dogs?

21 MAYOR CONWAY: Again, as far as we
22 know, the dogs weren't being sold. That was
23 what --

24 MS. GUZY: How do you find -- well,
25 I'll go up when he's done.

1 MS. BRIER: Yeah.

2 MAYOR CONWAY: And all six of the
3 dogs, the adult dogs, and we've discussed, they
4 are all registered with the County, the six
5 adults are. The puppies were not. But that's
6 where it's at now, it's with the -- or it's
7 going to the magistrate.

8 MR. AMICO: It's going to the
9 magistrate.

10 DR. PUHALLA: Yeah. And, you know,
11 some of these new dogs aren't adult dogs,
12 they're medium-size dogs.

13 MR. AMICO: I guess the point of
14 what Mayor Conway is saying is we could only do
15 so much. Again, we've talked about this last
16 month and we spoke today, we completely
17 understand your frustration.

18 And, again, it's easy for us to say
19 be patient when we're sitting here and you're
20 sitting on Allen Street dealing with a pack of
21 dogs and open bags of dog feces. Again, it's
22 super easy for us to say be patient, but we
23 could only do so much using the process that's
24 available to us.

25 So, we've cited these people, we

1 You can't go into somebody's house unless you
2 have a reason.

3 MS. ZANGARDI: However, it's going
4 to be followed up at the magistrate, and once
5 it gets to that point, it gets to a better
6 level. They go to court. And then you guys,
7 I'm guessing, can they go to court, to the
8 magistrate --

9 ATTY. PERRY: Sure.

10 MS. ZANGARDI: -- once he gets
11 arrested?

12 ATTY. PERRY: Sure.

13 MS. ZANGARDI: You'll have your day
14 in court. You know, it's unfortunate that it
15 almost sounds like it's feeding that, but we,
16 we, have to follow the law, and we have to
17 take, really, the advice of our lawyer, so --

18 ATTY. PERRY: You can file a civil
19 action for the nuisance for what's going on up
20 there.

21 DR. PUHALLA: Yeah, but to what
22 extent? These people have no money. They're
23 not gonna pay. They operate on an instinctive
24 level like they're animals.

25 MS. BRIER: When we spoke to them --

1 Greg, you spoke to them?

2 MR. WOLFF: Correct.

3 MS. BRIER: Did one of the officers
4 go up at that time, one of the police officers?

5 MR. WOLFF: No. They came down.

6 They --

7 MAYOR CONWAY: They came to the
8 police station.

9 MS. BRIER: Oh, they came to the
10 police station?

11 MAYOR CONWAY: Uh-huh.

12 MR. WOLFF: Correct.

13 MAYOR CONWAY: Him and the son.

14 MS. BRIER: And they made promises?

15 MR. WOLFF: Yes.

16 MS. BRIER: And they haven't been
17 kept?

18 MR. WOLFF: Correct. So, then
19 that's when we sent out the zoning violations
20 for the amount of dogs and the hygiene issues,
21 and like Beth and Mayor said, it's pretty much
22 out of our hands right now.

23 We sent the violations, they have
24 the timeline. It's not, you know, their -- a
25 lot of times there's a little bit of a leeway

1 there, but then the next step would be that
2 they get sent to the magistrate's office, and
3 then it goes from there.

4 If they defy those orders, again,
5 that's pretty much -- we'll push that, we'll
6 make sure that stuff is stayed on top of it,
7 but it's pretty much out of our hands.

8 MS. OVEN: Can it be expedited with
9 the magistrate? Can we ask for it to be
10 expedited?

11 MR. WOLFF: I mean, I don't know the
12 answer to that question. I know that
13 Magistrate Ware is one of the busiest
14 magistrates in the area, but he works well with
15 us. He does what he can.

16 ATTY. PERRY: He gets stuff
17 scheduled pretty expeditiously.

18 MR. WOLFF: He does. Thank you,
19 Doctor.

20 DR. PUHALLA: All right.

21 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Doctor.

22 MR. AMICO: Anybody else like to
23 address Council this evening?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. AMICO: Seeing none.

1 MR. WOLFF: Number 11, public
2 officials.

3 MR. AMICO: Greg?

4 MR. WOLFF: Yeah. Normally I don't
5 say anything, I just want to follow up with
6 what Chief DeNaples said, and I know there's a
7 lot of gloom and doom from these code issues,
8 but the Chief, Mike Brazil, Jean Hill in our
9 office, like he said, 65 code violation
10 letters, 37 complied. These are pretty good
11 numbers. These are people -- most of the
12 people are doing what they're supposed to.

13 Unfortunately, you know, the people
14 who are living with the people that aren't,
15 it's difficult, but there's a lot of good work
16 being done by the Chief, Mike Brazil and Jean
17 Hill, and everyone pretty much. Everyone's
18 been chipping in.

19 So, I did want to tell that story,
20 that people are doing a lot of good work. And
21 that's all I have. Thank you.

22 MR. AMICO: Thank you. Mick?

23 ATTY. PERRY: I have nothing.

24 MR. AMICO: Mayor Conway?

25 MAYOR CONWAY: I have nothing.

1 MR. AMICO: Beth, do you want to
2 start tonight, please?

3 MS. ZANGARDI: Sure. I just wanted
4 to again remember 9/11. I hope we never forget
5 that. There was a post on you know you are
6 from Dunmore about the flooding issues at
7 Somers Street and Greg Wolff and I talked about
8 it today, that is an ongoing issue that we are
9 aware of and it will be addressed, hopefully
10 sooner than later.

11 I did talk to the woman who made the
12 complaint, Virginia Sosick (phonetic), and I
13 did discuss it with Greg and Virginia and we're
14 on the path to move forward with that.

15 I wanted to just say thank you to
16 David Rivera. Good luck and happy David Rivera
17 Day for Dunmore. What a great, great tribute,
18 and that was Mayor Conway's request. Nice job.

19 Also, I have your pictures here. We
20 know there's an ongoing issue with garbage.
21 People just don't put their garbage away.

22 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Well, out there
23 what they say is, But the garbage men will only
24 go this far. So that's why they're keeping the
25 garbage cans.

1 MR. AMICO: Ma'am.

2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: They do not take
3 the garbage cans back to their apartments or
4 houses.

5 MS. ZANGARDI: I have an issue like
6 that where I live --

7 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.

8 MR. AMICO: We can't be having back
9 and forth.

10 MS. ZANGARDI: Yeah, that's true.

11 MR. AMICO: Sorry.

12 MS. ZANGARDI: So, we get it.

13 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

14 MS. ZANGARDI: Ma'am, you can't.
15 You can go up to the podium and talk, but I get
16 it. I live near it. I have a problem there,
17 and I will talk to you after the what do you
18 call it, but believe me. Ask Greg. I am all
19 over it.

20 Allen Street, you know, we get
21 there's a problem, we understand it. That,
22 again, we're as frustrated as everybody else is
23 because we're repeating it over and over and
24 over and over again, and if you're not getting
25 the compliance, it's aggravating. It's

1 frustrating. It's aggravating, and, you know,
2 it does make you mad and it does really,
3 frankly, tick you off, but --

4 MS. GUZY: As well as my business
5 there.

6 MS. ZANGARDI: -- we have to follow
7 the law. Do we like it, you know, do we want
8 to all the time, not really, but, I mean, it's
9 aggravating.

10 And I really want to thank Chief
11 DeNaples, 65 letters going out, 37 complied.
12 Thank you really very much. It's a great job.
13 It's great for the community, and let's clean
14 up Dunmore, you know, but let's stay on it,
15 too. And I'll talk to you guys after because I
16 get it. I'm living it. Thank you. That's all
17 I have.

18 MR. AMICO: Thanks, Beth.
19 Mr. O'Malley?

20 MR. O'MALLEY: Congratulations David
21 Rivera. I'm thrilled, absolutely thrilled.
22 Who's your kindergarten teacher?

23 MS. RIVERA: Moraski (phonetic).

24 MR. O'MALLEY: She's a former
25 student of mine. She's terrific. You're going

1 to love the Dunmore Elementary Center.

2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Are you the tenth
3 grade Mr. O'Malley?

4 MR. O'MALLEY: I am the tenth grade
5 and the eleventh grade and the twelfth grade
6 Mr. O'Malley. I am not, however, the seventh
7 grade Mr. O'Malley.

8 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Do you know Aviana
9 Rivera?

10 MR. O'MALLEY: Yes.

11 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, she's my
12 sister.

13 MR. O'MALLEY: She's terrific.
14 Small world, and a great community. So, we're
15 really happy. I can't wait for David Rivera
16 Day in June, but have a great school year for
17 you and your siblings. And that's all I have
18 for today. Thank you.

19 MR. AMICO: Thanks, Mr. O'Malley.
20 Mr. Hallinan?

21 MR. HALLINAN: David,
22 congratulations. Good for you. It's a tough
23 road you went through, buddy, and you fought
24 it, so congratulations on your battle, and your
25 family that went along with you. It's a tough

1 journey.

2 I talked about this before and I was
3 just bringing it up, I should have brought it
4 up When Captain was up, but, Mayor, maybe we
5 could look into, which I think is really a
6 necessity for the police department, is body
7 cameras.

8 I think it's something that we
9 really have to look at for our officers. Not
10 only does it protect the citizen but more
11 importantly it protects our officers from the
12 job that they do every day, and they sometimes
13 get, you know, accused of stuff that they don't
14 even do, and I think it's a piece of equipment
15 that will defend our police department and I
16 think it's really something we got to look
17 into, whether a grant or somebody that, you
18 know, somehow we got to look into this, okay?

19 MR. O'MALLEY: Mr. Hallinan, I
20 thought they had cameras. No?

21 MR. HALLINAN: No.

22 OFFICER BARTH: No, we don't. Not
23 in patrol.

24 MR. O'MALLEY: Okay.

25 MR. HALLINAN: I know Captain

1 Springer has one.

2 MR. O'MALLEY: Captain Springer has
3 one.

4 OFFICER BARTH: He has one that he
5 uses at the school.

6 MR. O'MALLEY: At the school.

7 OFFICER BARTH: It's not a
8 department issued camera, though.

9 MR. O'MALLEY: Got it. Thank you.

10 MR. HALLINAN: And even something
11 like that, if I'm not mistaken, we don't even
12 have a SOP, standard operating procedure, for
13 cameras. It's something we would have to do,
14 which you said Mr. Springer does his on his
15 own, I don't know if it's --

16 OFFICER BARTH: Through the school
17 district.

18 MR. HALLINAN: Correct. Okay. And
19 I'd like to thank everybody that was involved
20 with Music Fest. I mean, we have one more
21 make-up show, but it was a fantastic year. I
22 want to thank the Mayor and Council for backing
23 us, the girls in the office. It was a group
24 effort, it wasn't just one person, and I just
25 want to thank everybody for what a fantastic

1 year we had. Thank you. That's all I have.

2 MR. AMICO: Thank you. Ms. Oven?

3 MS. OVEN: First of all I'd like to
4 congratulate David and his entire family on
5 being in remission, and I hope you have a --
6 most kids I don't say good luck at school and
7 you'll enjoy it, but I think you're going to do
8 great and I'm looking forward to the next year
9 celebrating your day.

10 I'd like to thank everyone for
11 coming, Mr. Whalen, Dr. Puhalla. I know you
12 guys are going through a lot. We appreciate
13 you coming. We are trying. The process is
14 very slow and I know it's very frustrating, so
15 we're going to stay on it and try and expedite
16 it in any way we can. I just want you to know
17 that we do hear you and are sorry for what
18 you're going through.

19 Chief DeNaples, thank you for all
20 your good work with the code enforcement. I'm
21 excited about all the blight we're cleaning up
22 and getting the Borough looking good. And
23 thank you for the rides for David, Chief, and
24 Captain Barth.

25 OFFICER BARTH: Our pleasure.

1 MS. OVEN: That's all I have. Thank
2 you.

3 MR. AMICO: Thank you. Ms. Briar?

4 MS. BRIER: Yeah. I feel like we
5 were making progress with the Allen Street
6 thing because they came, we met, they made
7 promises, and the promises haven't been kept.
8 So, we have to go through this law and the
9 legal process, and as everyone knows, the legal
10 process is lengthy. And in the meantime, you
11 folks have to live with this situation, and
12 you're trying to run a business.

13 MS. GUZY: Yeah.

14 MS. BRIER: It's brutal. It really
15 is.

16 MS. GUZY: I'll just keep calling
17 the cops then if there's any issues.

18 MS. BRIER: Yeah.

19 MS. GUZY: I'll just be a nuisance.

20 MR. AMICO: It's not a nuisance.

21 MS. BRIER: No, it's not a nuisance.

22 MR. O'MALLEY: You're not a
23 nuisance.

24 MS. BRIER: No, not at all.

25 MR. O'MALLEY: You're dealing with a

1 nuisance.

2 MS. BRIER: Yeah.

3 MS. GUZY: Yeah. A big one.

4 MS. BRIER: A big one.

5 MS. GUZY: My clients are even

6 concerned.

7 MS. BRIER: Yeah.

8 MS. GUZY: If they park in front of
9 my house. And my family, my friends, are
10 concerned.

11 MS. BRIER: Right. It is, it's
12 totally concerning. It's terrible. I also
13 want to congratulate the Rivera family. You
14 have a beautiful family. I'm so happy for you
15 and him, this awesome outcome. I love the
16 little one. And your son, your older son, is
17 very polite. He's a very lovely guy.

18 MS. RIVERA: Thank you. I
19 appreciate it.

20 MS. BRIER: Seventh grade, you're a
21 great guy. It's good to have that older
22 brother around, you know, helping you out in
23 situations like this.

24 And also the Chief, we didn't have
25 this type of enforcement before you took over.

1 It's night and day, it truly is, with Mike
2 Brazil and Jeanie Hill in the office, and it's
3 so vital for the town, and, I mean, I just
4 can't tell you how much we appreciate your
5 efforts. And that's all I have.

6 MR. AMICO: Thank you. I have a few
7 things. One, I guess directed at the folks on
8 Jefferson Street and on Allen Street, I was
9 told in the past, and I don't believe this, but
10 I was told in the past, you know, Dunmore, we
11 only have a few minor issues here, it's not a
12 big thing, but it's a massive thing if it's
13 next to your house or if it's in your
14 neighborhood.

15 So, again, it's super easy for us to
16 say here, Be patient, we're doing our best, but
17 it's not easy to be sitting where you are and
18 to come and speak to Council, you know, every
19 month or your first time. It's challenging to
20 get up and speak in front of your peers and say
21 what your issues are.

22 But, again, we are doing our best,
23 and if things aren't resolved next month, come
24 back and keep on us. We've been in your
25 neighborhood numerous times, you have my

1 number, I'm more than willing to give you
2 any -- you have my number, if you have any
3 questions, please call. If you have any
4 issues, call.

5 And, again, I heard you when people
6 were talking, you said, you know, about being a
7 nuisance, you're not a nuisance. When you guys
8 come and speak at a public meeting, that's not
9 being a nuisance. That's what you pay taxes
10 for.

11 MS. GUZY: But it's going nowhere,
12 though.

13 MR. AMICO: But I'm going to
14 disagree with you, it's not going nowhere.
15 It's a slow process, but it's going forward.
16 In the past, and I will say, I'm sure in the
17 past people would complain and it would fall on
18 deaf ears. We've proven with the stats that
19 Chief DeNaples gave today and that Greg gave
20 that it's not falling on deaf ears.

21 We're doing our best, but, again,
22 your issue is not solved so it doesn't matter.
23 Your issue is the one that needs to be solved.

24 There was an issue that we had for
25 the last three months for those folks, I don't

1 want to talk about them, folks that have been
2 coming to our meetings that you don't see,
3 people from another neighborhood not far from
4 where you live here, because that's been a
5 resolved issue. So, we're moving forward.

6 So, again, it's easy for me to say
7 be patient, but we are trying, and please,
8 please, please, don't ever feel like you're
9 being a nuisance. That's that.

10 I'd like to, again, Mr. Hallinan's
11 been very modest about the success of Music
12 Fest. Music Fest is fantastic. These are the
13 things where I'm proud to be in Dunmore. You
14 know, we have Music Fest, we have the Christmas
15 gathering, these are things why people want to
16 live in our community.

17 So, Hal, you did above and beyond,
18 this was your baby, and we're very proud just
19 to be a small part of it.

20 And, finally, the most important
21 thing tonight is David Rivera Day. You know,
22 Mayor Conway was talking about super heros, and
23 I'm a big fan of Spiderman. Spiderman, David,
24 has nothing on you. You're the man. Forget
25 Spiderman; you're the man. So, I'm proud to be

1 sitting on a Council that's honoring you today.

2 And, again, good luck in kindergarten.

3 You're tired of hearing me talk, so

4 I'm done. Thank you very much all for coming.

5 And with that I look for a motion to adjourn.

6 MR. O'MALLEY: I'll make that

7 motion.

8 MR. AMICO: Second?

9 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll second.

10 MR. AMICO: All those in favor?

11 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

12 MR. AMICO: Ayes have it. Thank

13 you.

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15 (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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