

COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, October 13th, 2025

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 :

JANET BRIER - President.

KATHERINE OVEN - Vice President

MICHAEL DEMPSEY

THOMAS HALLINAN

ELIZABETH ZANGARDI

WILLIAM O'MALLEY, III

PATRICK LOUGHNEY

GREG WOLFF, Borough Manager

MICHAEL P. PERRY, Esquire, Solicitor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3 MR. WOLFF: Roll call, Mayor Conway.

4 MAYOR CONWAY: Here.

5 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Loughney.

6 MR. LOUGHNEY: Here.

7 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Dempsey.

8 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

9 MR. WOLFF: Mr. O'Malley.

10 MR. O'MALLEY: Here.

11 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Brier.

12 MS. BRIER: Here.

13 MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Mackrell Owen is
14 absent. Mrs. McDonald Zangardi.

15 MS. ZANGARDI: Here.

16 MR. WOLFF: Mr. Hallinan.

17 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

18 MR. WOLFF: Public comment on agenda
19 items. And before we get to that, I do want to
20 announce an amendment. It will be number
21 eight. We'll move it a number down.

22 There will be a motion to approve a
23 lease with Scranton Public Library for office
24 numbers one, three and four at the DCC with
25 monthly rent in the amount of \$600 a month

1 effective October 1st, 2025. So I just want to
2 make that announcement before public comment.

3 MS. BRIER: And we need to amend
4 number six.

5 MR. WOLFF: Yes, I'm sorry, yes,
6 amend number six. The correct amount is
7 \$49,500.

8 MS. BRIER: Thanks, Greg. So do we
9 have public comment on agenda items only? On
10 the agenda?

11 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

12 MS. BRIER: Okay, sure. Will you
13 please state your name and address for Maria?

14 MR. THOMAS: Sure, Scott Thomas, 416
15 Ward Street. And I'm also the CEO of the
16 Scranton Public Library.

17 MS. BRIER: Oh, there you go.

18 MR. THOMAS: So I just kind of want
19 to explain what our plans are which we
20 appreciate for this area here. The department
21 that is going to be here is the one that
22 processes the books and the other items for the
23 Lackawanna County Library System.

24 And we have three full-time
25 employees, including a manager and two

1 part-timers. And they basically operate, 7:30
2 to 4, Monday through Friday. That is not peak
3 time here. It's -- we're not going to be in
4 the way or anything like that.

5 Currently that operation is at the
6 Silkman House in North Scranton which is the
7 second oldest building in the City of Scranton
8 that needs three-quarters of a million dollars
9 in restoration which we don't have, okay?

10 And so that is not a good place for
11 this kind of department. So we're very happy
12 to be here. And, you know, being a Dunmore
13 resident, one thing that you may not be aware
14 of is that the state designates municipalities
15 to be served by a library.

16 Scranton Public Library serves
17 Dunmore as well as Scranton. And we keep
18 trying to make that point when we were
19 renovating the Nancy K. Holmes branch. But we
20 have -- whenever I would drive by here on the
21 way home, I'm, like, man, we have got to do
22 something here.

23 The bookmobile stops here. The
24 bookmobile stops at the Treasurer House. It
25 stops over at the Dunmore Elementary Center.

1 We have -- we also have stops at Bucktown now
2 and --

3 MS. BRIER: Oh, good, the new one?

4 MR. THOMAS: The new one, yeah.

5 MS. BRIER: Oh, cool.

6 MR. THOMAS: We're doing all kinds
7 of things like that. And with us -- even
8 though this department here doesn't -- isn't
9 technically public service, we could do things
10 like have more programs here because we have
11 kind of a footprint.

12 And I want to try things like a
13 book drop here, pick up a -- there's a lot we
14 could do beyond what the office space is.
15 We're just -- I know I've seen the space when
16 Kyle Mullins was here. And we're just happy to
17 have it. So we really thank you for
18 considering this and looking forward to it.

19 MR. HALLINAN: Kenny Smith was here.
20 And what's good about this too is maybe you
21 could look at doing something when we run our
22 summer recreation program.

23 We have children from maybe 6 to 15
24 doing all -- taking -- using our facility here.
25 So maybe you could work something out -- the

1 library.

2 MR. THOMAS: We can. We have all
3 kinds of programs, bring our puppets and
4 everything.

5 MS. BRIER: So, sir, they are going
6 to be processing all the books that go into --
7 because it's Lackawanna County. It's not just
8 Scranton --

9 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, so UPS comes and
10 drops them off in boxes.

11 MS. BRIER: Okay.

12 MR. THOMAS: We would catalog them.
13 We put stickers on them. We put barcodes on
14 them. Our van driver comes once a day and
15 picks them up and takes them to the libraries.

16 MS. BRIER: I was there today down
17 at the Albright. It would be nice if we could
18 drop them here. That would be nice.

19 MR. THOMAS: That's -- I'd like to,
20 yeah. We're very exciting about this so thank
21 you.

22 MS. BRIER: Thank you, appreciate
23 you coming in.

24 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

25 MS. BRIER: Appreciate you coming

1 in. All right.

2 MR. WOLFF: Moving on, number four,
3 motion to approve the minutes of the meeting
4 from September 8, 2025 meeting.

5 MS. BRIER: Can I have a motion to
6 approve the minutes of the meeting from the
7 September 8th, 2025 meeting?

8 MR. O'MALLEY: So moved.

9 MR. LOUGHNEY: Second.

10 MS. BRIER: I have a motion and a
11 second. Anyone on the question? All those in
12 favor?

13 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

14 MS. BRIER: Opposed?

15 MR. WOLFF: Number five, motion to
16 approve and pay the open bills.

17 MS. BRIER: May I have a motion to
18 approve and pay the open bills?

19 MR. LOUGHNEY: So moved.

20 MR. HALLINAN: Second.

21 MS. BRIER: I have a motion and a
22 second. Anyone on the question? All those in
23 favor?

24 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

25 MS. BRIER: Opposed?

1 MR. WOLFF: Number six, motion to
2 approve Resolution No. 11 of 2025 requesting
3 \$49,500 from Monroe County Local Share
4 Assessment to replace Community Center
5 flooring.

6 MS. BRIER: May I have a motion to
7 approve Resolution No. 11 of 2025 requesting
8 \$49,500 from Monroe County Local Share
9 Assessment to replace Community Center
10 flooring.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make that motion.

12 MS. BRIER: I have a motion. I have
13 a second?

14 MR. LOUGHNEY: I'll second.

15 MS. BRIER: I have a motion and a
16 second. Anyone on the question? I would just
17 like to talk about this for a minute. I
18 submitted this grant. It's called the LSA,
19 Local Share Assessment. It would include all
20 the floors in this building except the gym.

21 Our gym floor gets refinished every
22 year. In October -- it's actually getting
23 refinished next week. So as you could see, we
24 desperately need new flooring here and out in
25 the hallways and back there. The floors have

1 never been replaced since 2006 when the
2 building was built.

3 So I don't know if we'll get the
4 money. It's, you know, up to pretty much our
5 State Senator as well as our representatives.
6 So anyone else on the question?

7 MR. LOUGHNEY: Just on the question,
8 we're not committing 49,000. We're just look
9 looking to request it.

10 MS. BRIER: We just submitted,
11 submitted to get it, yeah. If don't get it, we
12 won't get it.

13 MR. LOUGHNEY: It's not costing us
14 49,000 to do the floors.

15 MS. BRIER: No. I mean, it will
16 cost that if we get the money. All those in
17 favor?

18 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MS. BRIER: Opposed?

20 MR. WOLFF: Number seven, motion to
21 approve Resolution No. 12 authorizing
22 Lackawanna County to submit an application for
23 fiscal year 2025 Community Development Block
24 Grant funding of \$200,523 to continue Chestnut
25 Street improvements.

1 MS. BRIER: May I have a motion to
2 approve Resolution No. 12 authorizing
3 Lackawanna County to submit an application for
4 fiscal 2025 Community Development Block Grant
5 funding of \$200,523 to continue Chestnut Street
6 improvements?

7 MR. O'MALLEY: So moved.

8 MR. HALLINAN: Second.

9 MS. BRIER: I have a motion and a
10 second. Greg, can you explain?

11 MR. WOLFF: Sure. This is just our
12 CDBG funding, continue on the Chestnut Street
13 project. Only certain areas qualify. It's
14 based off income. Chestnut Street is one of
15 them. It's been requalified.

16 So this will be continuing that on.
17 Kind of don't have enough money to continue the
18 stormwater. But this would take care of
19 sidewalks and street -- paving.

20 MS. BRIER: Up to Elm.

21 MR. WOLFF: Roughly west -- Elm
22 Street and Chestnut Street where the Chestnut
23 Street Tavern is, roughly that area.

24 MS. BRIER: All those in favor?

25 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

1 MS. BRIER: Opposed?

2 MR. WOLFF: Number eight, motion to
3 approve a lease with Scranton Public Library
4 for office numbers one, three, and four at the
5 Dunmore Community Center with a monthly rent in
6 the amount of \$600 a month effective October
7 1st, 2025.

8 MS. BRIER: Okay. May I have a
9 motion to accept the lease from the Scranton
10 Public Library System for renting three rooms
11 here at the Dunmore Community Center at a rate
12 of \$600 a month?

13 MR. O'MALLEY: So moved.

14 MS. ZANGARDI: I'll second.

15 MS. BRIER: I have a motion and a
16 second. Anyone on the question?

17 MR. DEMPSEY: No, I was going to
18 speak on the question. But I think, Scott, you
19 covered it all, so we're good.

20 MS. BRIER: So we appreciate you
21 coming in, Mr. Thomas. All those in favor?

22 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

23 MS. BRIER: Opposed?

24 MR. THOMAS: Thank you.

25 MR. WOLFF: Number nine, Treasurer

1 financial report. Mark is off. The office was
2 closed today. Chris Kearny Community Center
3 Director, he is off as well. Mr. Judge is not
4 present. Chief Marchese is not present. Chief
5 DeNaples.

6 CHIEF DENAPLES: Good evening,
7 Council. Start out with the expenditures for
8 October of 2025. We have two expenditures that
9 stick out. We have one firefighter going down
10 to Bucks County Community College for
11 structural collapse training next week.

12 The cost for the hotel is 572.76.
13 That's for the hotel stay for the four nights.
14 There will also be some costs in there for
15 meals and fuel to get back and forth.

16 The other expenditure that we had
17 slated for the month of October is our annual
18 inspection and preventative maintenance on our
19 AEDs, portable suction units and pulse
20 oximeters that are on the fire trucks. So that
21 is \$700.

22 That is probably going to go up
23 slightly because one suction unit needs a new
24 battery. So that's probably going to go up
25 another \$150, somewhere in that neighborhood.

1 MS. BRIER: Who does that for us,
2 Chief?

3 CHIEF DENAPLES: The name of the
4 company that does it is Stair Biomed. They are
5 out of Dallas. They have been doing it for
6 several years. They also do the AEDs here when
7 they need maintenance at the Community Center
8 as well as the police department's AEDs.

9 MS. BRIER: You know we have a new
10 one, a new AED at Schautz.

11 CHIEF DENAPLES: Okay.

12 MS. BRIER: It's brand new.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, we have --

14 MS. BRIER: Maybe we could include
15 that going forward.

16 CHIEF DENAPLES: Yeah, they do any
17 brand. If you need maintenance on them, we
18 have been using them for probably 15 years.

19 MR. DEMPSEY: Great.

20 MS. BRIER: The one we received is
21 brand new. So we probably wouldn't need it
22 until next year.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, the one at the
24 indoor building is probably less than a year
25 old. And the one they just dropped off is

1 brand new. So it wouldn't be for a little bit.

2 CHIEF DENAPLES: No, problem.

3 MS. BRIER: If you could just keep
4 it in mind.

5 CHIEF DENAPLES: We have an account
6 with them so it would be easy to get that on
7 the schedule.

8 MS. BRIER: Thank you.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Great.

10 CHIEF DENAPLES: As far as overtime
11 for the month, it was 300 hours, so when this
12 report was submitted on the 25th. Forty-two
13 part-time shifts were put out. Jacob Valvano
14 is doing great down at the fire academy. We
15 went down to visit him about two weeks ago.

16 He's doing absolutely great. He's
17 actually on top of the class down there. So I
18 have regular contact with him as well as weekly
19 contact with the director down there. He gives
20 me a progress report that we print and put in
21 his file.

22 MS. BRIER: When will he be
23 finished?

24 CHIEF DENAPLES: So he will be
25 finished with the academy down at HACC, the

1 14th of December. Then when he comes back
2 he'll start working and we'll get him in an EMT
3 class as soon as we could locally.

4 MS. BRIER: Okay. Thanks.

5 CHIEF DENAPLES: So that is pretty
6 much the report besides for the call volume for
7 September. So from September 1st to September
8 30th, 2025, the fire department responded to 84
9 total calls, 5 fire type calls, 1 overheated
10 slash over exposure type calls and that could
11 be a lot of different things that could fall in
12 that category and the coding.

13 Rescue and emergency medical
14 services was 17. Hazardous conditions was 10,
15 service calls was 10, good intent 7, false type
16 calls 29, and special type incidents was 5.
17 We also did get a new shipment of smoke
18 detectors in.

19 So if anybody knows anybody that
20 needs them, they could call fire headquarters.
21 That is on the website as well.

22 MS. BRIER: It is on our website.
23 That's a great service. It's free. And
24 people, you know, we had a fatality last year
25 that could have been prevented because the fire

1 wasn't bad. It was all smoke.

2 CHIEF DENAPLES: Just smoke.

3 MS. BRIER: Yeah, that's a shame.

4 CHIEF DENAPLES: So if anyone knows
5 anyone, they could call fire headquarters. We
6 usually go out the same day if the people want
7 us to install them.

8 MS. BRIER: Thanks, Chief.

9 ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

10 MR. WOLFF: Number 11, public
11 comment.

12 MS. BRIER: Anyone from the public
13 like to comment this evening? Just state your
14 name and address. And we kind of limit it to,
15 like, five minutes.

16 MR. SMITH: Does anybody else want
17 to go?

18 MR. LOUGHNEY: There's nobody else
19 here, Kenny.

20 MR. SMITH: Council, good evening.

21 MS. BRIER: If you want to state
22 your name and address, Kenny?

23 MR. SMITH: I was going to get to
24 that.

25 MS. BRIER: Oh, sorry.

1 MR. SMITH: Thank you. For those of
2 you that don't know me, I'm Ken Smith. I live
3 at 1631 Electric Street. I've lived in Dunmore
4 for 64 years, grew up in the 1500 block of
5 North Webster and now for the past over 30
6 years lived at 1631 Electric Street.

7 And it was maybe a week before
8 school was going to start, the sidewalks on the
9 Quincy Avenue side of the entrance to the
10 Dunmore School District was overgrown with
11 weeds. And I normally call the school district
12 to take care of that.

13 But the Superintendent and Solicitor
14 for the school district made it aware to me
15 that they don't own those sidewalks that it's
16 the Borough that owns the sidewalks. So I went
17 to my good neighbor Councilman Loughney.

18 And I said, Councilman, if possible,
19 can we have these weeds taken care of before
20 school starts? Football games are going to
21 start. Kids are going to go to school. It
22 looks a little shabby. How about if we bring
23 it up a notch or two?

24 So several days later some members
25 of the Department of Public Works came down and

1 diligently went about taking care of those
2 weeds. And they did a fine job. And then it
3 was brought to my attention that there were
4 some Council members that were a little
5 offended that the Borough employees were
6 cutting the grass and weeding my yard or my
7 property, I should say -- my property.

8 And I couldn't understand that and I
9 took great offense to it. So that's the reason
10 I'm why here tonight. It's the reason why
11 Jerry Dempsey's here tonight, my neighbor, to
12 clarify the fact that the Borough does own the
13 sidewalks on the west side of my home at the
14 entrance -- Quincy Avenue entrance to the
15 school district.

16 Those sidewalks on both sides are
17 owned by the Borough. So I decided that --
18 and I knew they weren't mine. I always thought
19 they were the school. So I thought I would do
20 my due diligence. So I took the time and the
21 effort and I went to the county to the
22 assessor's office.

23 And I asked them if they could give
24 me a -- concrete evidence that those sidewalks
25 are the Borough's and not mine. So they told

1 me that they would do an overhead schematic of
2 my property to which they did.

3 And I will share with you now but I
4 want these back. It becomes obvious in those
5 photos that the sidewalks are not mine. And
6 they are owned by the Borough. So I was -- as
7 I said, I was greatly offended.

8 And I would -- I would suggest that
9 in the future if you think that I'm taking from
10 the Borough that you would knock on my door or
11 you ring the doorbell.

12 I invite you to knock on my door.
13 I'm always available. But I give to my
14 community. I don't take from my community.
15 And, therefore, I did my due diligence. I
16 would ask the Council that were offended by the
17 employees of the Borough doing -- allegedly
18 doing work on my property, I would ask the
19 Council, those offended or those in question to
20 do their due diligence before -- before they go
21 and speak in a negative manner to a tax paying
22 citizen.

23 I think it is ignorant, arrogant,
24 and petty, ignorant, arrogant, and petty. You
25 know, we take great pride in our properties.

1 My neighbor Jerry Dempsey is here tonight.
2 When he's cutting his grass, he goes behind my
3 driveway or behind my garage and his garage.
4 And that's not our property.

5 It's the school district's property.
6 But we want to make it -- we want to make it
7 look nice. Chris Gallagher, the same thing,
8 Mrs. Walsh and her family, they do the same
9 thing. Everybody is working hard to improve on
10 their properties.

11 And I think that is important. I'll
12 give you another one. I put 80 pounds of
13 blacktop in a pothole -- two potholes in front
14 of my house. Now, I could have called the
15 Borough. I could have called the Borough.

16 But it was a Saturday. I went and I
17 got the blacktop. I got the sealer and I did
18 it myself. And it worked pretty well, by the
19 way. But that's because we take pride in our
20 properties. So, please, I want to make it
21 clear. It's clear, do you see this schematic?

22 I also have at my house and if you
23 would like that, 1631 Electric Street, come
24 ring my doorbell. And I'll give you the deed
25 that goes back to 1923 and all the transactions

1 that go along with that.

2 And that explains how -- there were
3 properties taken. Ronnie Cordaro's property is
4 like 1625. 1627-1629 Electric Street is
5 missing. That is because it's now the entrance
6 to the school district. I'm 1631. Jerry
7 Dempsey is 1701.

8 We go from 1631 to 1701, right, so
9 there were a lot of adjustments and a lot of
10 properties bought. So we're clear. We're
11 clear that those sidewalks belong to the
12 Borough.

13 If in the future, any member of
14 Council thinks that I'm taking from this
15 Borough, please, please, please, please, come
16 to me. Come to me and knock on my door.

17 I invite you. And we'll have a
18 discussion as to how I'm taking from our
19 community.

20 MS. BRIER: Thanks, Kenny. I think
21 the five minutes are up. But thanks so much
22 for coming. We appreciate your comments. No
23 one ever thought you were taking from anything.
24 So thank you very much.

25 MR. SMITH: Thank you.

1 MR. HALLINAN: Thanks, Kenny.

2 MS. BRIER: Anyone else care to
3 speak tonight? All right.

4 MR. WOLFF: Next is public
5 officials. I have nothing.

6 ATTY. PERRY: Nothing.

7 MAYOR CONWAY: I'm good. Thanks.

8 MR. LOUGHNEY: Nothing.

9 MR. DEMPSEY: Chief, just a couple
10 quick thank yous. You had Amanda Pierre come
11 up to Schautz and do AED training, first aid
12 training, CPR training with all the kids that
13 work at the DCC and Schautz. So thank you,
14 thank you to Amanda Pierre. I stayed for the
15 class.

16 I probably should have got myself
17 certified since I sat through the whole thing.
18 But she did a fantastic job, made it fun for
19 the kids. They had a good time. So I
20 appreciate that.

21 And then secondly, your department
22 has been at all the Junior Bucks games. They
23 have been put to work a few times. So it's an
24 invaluable asset that they are there when kids
25 get bad injuries in football. We had somebody

1 pass out in the stands. So they did a terrific
2 job and please pass along our thank yous to
3 them.

4 CHIEF DENAPLES: I sure will. Did
5 you get the cards I left you?

6 MR. DEMPSEY: They're sitting right
7 here to give out to --

8 CHIEF DENAPLES: I just wanted to
9 make sure you got them.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: I appreciate it.
11 Thank you. That's it.

12 MR. O'MALLEY: Mr. Smith, thanks for
13 coming. I don't -- I don't recall anybody
14 casting any kind of aspersions on you. I think
15 the bulk of our conversation was where are we
16 talking about. That was the main conversation
17 as far as I know.

18 MS. BRIER: We were unclear.

19 MR. O'MALLEY: I didn't know where
20 we're even talking about, the sidewalk, the
21 side of the sidewalk or what. But I do have a
22 question though. Who does the sidewalks when
23 it snows?

24 MR. SMITH: The school district.
25 And I think they do that because of the kids.

1 MS. BRIER: I think that's why we
2 were unclear, you know?

3 MR. O'MALLEY: Right. Thanks for
4 coming. Also, I was at the Steamtown Marathon
5 yesterday with Coach Fedor and our cross county
6 teams. We operated a water and Gatorade
7 station. And so it was such a well-run event.

8 And I want to thank the people who
9 organized it and congratulate all of those who
10 took part in running the marathon. That's all
11 I have.

12 MS. BRIER: Great. Tommy.

13 MR. HALLINAN: I'd like to --
14 Chief, thanks for coming. You always come.
15 Happy Columbus Day to those who are
16 celebrating. And if you went up to Timmy's
17 house, I wasn't going to believe you. That's
18 all I got. Thank you very much.

19 MS. ZANGARDI: I want to -- I just
20 read in the Dunmorean there's a grief support
21 system here in the DCC Wednesday nights. And I
22 just think it's an awesome, awesome program.
23 And we all need it. I wish it was here when I
24 needed it.

25 The other thing, Kenny, thank for

1 coming, very well spoken. Mr. Thomas, thank
2 you for coming, great program for Dunmore.
3 Jerry, thanks for coming.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: I enjoyed it.

5 MS. ZANGARDI: Thank you, everybody.
6 Kenny, thank you. And, Mr. Thomas, thank you.
7 And the grief support is awesome, awesome
8 program for people who need it. Thank you.
9 That's it for me. Thank you.

10 MS. BRIER: I was too just reading
11 in the Dunmorean that Mike was able to secure
12 an AED for Schautz from Wegman's. So I would
13 like to publically thank Wegman's for -- and
14 they contributed a little bit more than the --

15 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, it was, like, a
16 whole bag of AED machine, youth CPR kit, I
17 mean, first aid, like a -- it had -- I don't
18 know how much they cost, but thousands of
19 dollars. And they donated it at no cost to
20 us --

21 MS. BRIER: Maybe we could send them
22 a note.

23 MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, absolutely.
24 That would be a great idea.

25 MS. BRIER: Yeah, okay, we could do

1 that. And that's all I have.

2 MR. WOLFF: With that, we just need
3 a motion to adjourn.

4 MS. BRIER: Can I get a motion to
5 adjourn?

6 MR. LOUGHNEY: So moved.

7 MR. O'MALLEY: Second.

8 MS. ZANGARDI: Second.

9 MS. BRIER: Okay, motion and second.
10 All those in favor?

11 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

12 MS. BRIER: Opposed?

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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