COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, October 12th, 2026

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:

THOMAS HALLINAN - President

MICHAEL DEMPSEY - Vice President

KATHERINE OVEN

JANET BRIER

ELIZABETH ZANGARDI

WILLIAM O'MALLEY, III

PATRICK LOUGHNEY

GREG WOLFF, Borough Manager

MICHAEL P. PERRY, Esquire, Solicitor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. HALLINAN: Everyone remain standing, please. Can I have a moment of silence for Sergeant Stephon Burgett.

(Moment of Silence.)

MR. WOLFF: Roll call, Mayor Conway.
MAYOR CONWAY: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mr. Loughney.
MR. LOUGHNEY: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mr. O'Malley.
MR. O'MALLEY: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mr. Dempsey.
MR. DEMPSEY: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mr. Hallinan.
MR. HALLINAN: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Mackrell Oven.
MS. OVEN: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mrs. McDonald Zangardi.
MS. ZANGARDI: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Mrs. Brier.
MS. BRIER: Here.
MR. WOLFF: Number three, public

comment on agenda items.

MR. HALLINAN: Would anybody from the public like to address Council on the agenda items only? Seeing none, next.

MR. WOLFF: Number four, motion to approve the minutes from the September 14th, 2026 meeting.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll look for a motion.

MR. O'MALLEY: So moved.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Second.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

MR. HALLINAN: On the question? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

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

MR. HALLINAN: Can I have a motion, please?

MR. LOUGHNEY: So moved.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

MR. HALLINAN: On the question? All in favor -- on the question, I'm sorry. On the question? Seeing none, all in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. WOLFF: Number six, motion to appoint Shawn Byron as temporary laborer for DPW.

MR. HALLINAN: Can I have a motion, please?

MS. ZANGARDI: I'll make that motion.

MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

MR. HALLINAN: On the question?

MR. WOLFF: Just real quick, myself and President Hallinan interviewed Mr. Byron, a very nice young man, interested in getting his CDL, which we need at the DPW.

We list him as temporary laborer. It's kind of like their probationary period. If they work out, generally speaking, they'll move onto a permanent position. They gave good references and background check came back clear as well.

MR. HALLINAN: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. HALLINAN: Opposed? Thank you.

MR. WOLFF: Number seven, motion to appoint Tyler Fink as a full-time firefighter.

MR. HALLINAN: Can I have a motion,

please to appoint Tyler Fink?

MS. OVEN: I'll make that motion.

MS. ZANGARDI: I'll second.

MR. HALLINAN: On the question?

MR. WOLFF: So Mr. Fink is number one on the civil service test. It's been going through the process. We interviewed -- myself, the Chief, Mrs. Mackrell-Oven, we checked out his references. They all checked out very good.

So again, number one on the list. So he'll be appointed. And just as a quick note, normally we do the swearing in. But we will not be doing that tonight. We'll be doing it at a separate time. We did that with Chief Monahan. It worked out really we'll, a separate date at the Borough Building for his family.

MR. HALLINAN: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. HALLINAN: Opposed?

MR. WOLFF: Number eight, motion to appoint Nicole Seul as a full-time firefighter.

MR. HALLINAN: Can I have a motion to approve Nicole?

MR. DEMPSEY: So moved.

MS. OVEN: Second.

MR. HALLINAN: On the question?

MR. WOLFF: Similar, she's number two on the list on the civil service list. So she went through the whole process, the background check. We interviewed her as well, interviewed very well. References came back excellent. So, you know, it's recommended --

MS. BRIER: And, Greg, both of these people are trained firefighters.

MR. WOLFF: They also have the training. So hopefully they get going soon. They'll have to go through the orientation and become familiar with the department. But they do not need the full training.

MR. HALLINAN: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. HALLINAN: Those opposed? Thank you.

MR. WOLFF: Number nine, motion to approve Resolution 7 of 2026 authorizing the Lackawanna County Board of Commissioners to submit Community Development Block Grant, CDBG funding in the amount of $202,604 on behalf of

the Borough of Dunmore.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll look for a motion, please.

MR. O'MALLEY: So moved.

MS. ZANGARDI: Second.

MR. HALLINAN: On the question?

MR. WOLFF: This is just our annual funding. It's CDBG, which is the lower income. There is only certain amount of areas we could do these projects. So we may continue on Chestnut Street for sidewalks or behind the Borough Building with the housing development. That is eligible for funding, so sidewalks there we're looking -- we could potentially do.

We don't get the full $202,000. There is actually $36,000 for administration that goes to Lackawanna County.

MR. HALLINAN: Okay. All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. WOLFF: Treasurer Financial Report. It's Columbus Day so the office is off. So Mark is not in. Chris Kearney, I believe is not in. Is Chris here? Chris is not here. That leaves us with Mr. Judge.

MR. JUDGE: Can I say something?

I'm retiring. It was good working with all of you. I had a good Council I worked with, a good Mayor I worked with; Mickey Perry, good guy; Greg Wolff. We all worked good together. We got a lot done, I think. Right? I think we got a lot done.

MR. HALLINAN: How many years, Didge?

MR. JUDGE: If I could do anything --

MR. HALLINAN: How many years, Didge? How many years did you do?

MR. JUDGE: Forty years.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

MR. JUDGE: Yeah, so if you need anything, yell. All right?

ALL MEMBERS: Thank you.

MR. WOLFF: And an error on my part, I did not update the agenda. It is not Rich Barth. It is our new Police Chief, Chief Monahan.

CHIEF MONAHAN: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I'd like to introduce myself before I do the monthly report. My name is Martin Monahan. I'm your Dunmore Police

Chief. I was born and raised in Dunmore, moved to Scranton to get a job at the Scranton Police Department, worked there for 27 years. And now I'm back in Dunmore leading our department.

I want you to know you have a fine police department. You have a lot of great workers, a lot of great cops in the department. We're making some minor operational changes. And the officers are looking forward to those changes.

We're working as a team. They're doing a great job out there. Next month, I'll be going into some things that we've been doing to make it safer for the residents of Dunmore, okay? With that, I have a monthly report.

Council, Mayor Conway, Attorney Perry, Mr. Wolff, last month, the Dunmore Police Department did 1,289 calls for service, 14 criminal arrests, 13 non-traffic citations, 90 traffic arrests which would be traffic citations for speed control and various vehicle code violations and 28 written warnings.

We have one officer who's returning from heart and lung. So we have one more officer coming back to the complement of

officers. So that's good news. That officer is doing well, and we're happy to hear that. There were some overtime shifts but it was because of the shortage.

And we're going to be -- I was working with our company that does the testing. So we'll be getting a test out very, very soon to get more police officers on the street. Captain Barth, I want to say some things about Captain Barth.

He has been an invaluable member of the Dunmore Police Department. He is an excellent police officer, a great leader. And I could not do anything without him in my first week. He is just an unbelievable cop and an unbelievable person, Sergeant Richardson, same thing. Great job, can't say enough good things.

We had a State Police yearly audit that they do with police departments every year. And we passed that audit with flying colors. So our police station is passed by the State Police. September, we collected $9,255 from the parking meters. And we got new batteries.

Those batteries are in the meters, and those meters are working fine right now. So people can actually pay to park. And that's pretty much it. If anybody has any questions, concerns about where they live, issues with anything going on, I'm going to be here for the rest of the meeting.

Please come and see me and I'll make some notes and I'll get officers to address those issues. All right. Thank you very much for your time, everybody.

ALL MEMBERS: Thanks, Chief.

MR. WOLFF: Chief DeNaples.

CHIEF DENAPLES: Good evening, Council. I'd like to congratulate Chief Monahan on his appointment to the police department. He'll be a great Chief and a great leader. I know Marty for quite a while. He was one of our part-time firefighters. He had a time -- time to work with me quite a few years back, and he's a great, great addition to the Borough.

So I'll start out with my October report. And then I'll go into the call volume for September. So as far as purchases and

expenditures that were foreseen when this report was compiled, we did our annual maintenance and preventative maintenance on our AEDs, our pulse oxes, and our portable suction units. That was $850. One battery needed to be replaced.

The other pretty steep expenditure was eight tires for the rear of the ladder trucks. That was $4,865.36. They were needed for the winter. As far as overtime for the month of October, it was 264 hours. I'm pretty confident that that number will go way down with the new firefighters who were hired tonight once we get them through their orientation and they start working and we're back up to that 15, which was a good number for many years.

Again, I know there were some people off in that. But that was the number that the department didn't have this type of overtime besides more call-ins for fires.

There was -- years ago there was very, very few hours of overtime when we had that number. And, you know, we have to maintain four per shift. But this is going to

do a tremendous, you know, downturn in the overtime.

There was 30 part-time shifts put out for October. Again, these numbers are a little bit fluid with call-offs and stuff like that. But that's where we're at right now. We've been doing fire prevention in all the schools. It's fire prevention month.

So for the whole month we'll be at the, you know, the schools and the daycares and stuff of that nature. We continue to do fire extinguisher training for a lot of different businesses in town.

Okay, UGL we did last month. St. Joseph's as far as outreach. Lieutenant Shigo is back to work. He was out on heart and lung for a while. So now we got him back in the mix and back in the complement. So that's as far as my report if there's no questions.

Now I'll shift gears into the call volume for the month of September from the 1st to the 30th. So the Dunmore Fire Department responded to 83 total calls. The breakdown is 6 fire calls, 12 hazardous situation calls, 1 unidentified type call, 9 medical calls, 20

non-emergent calls, something with the fire prevention, stuff of that nature.

Public service is 32 and rescue type are 3. So that's all I have for tonight. And I appreciate Council taking the steps to hire these people. And it's going to be a great thing for the department and community. So thank you.

MS. OVEN: Chief, do you have the overtime numbers for when we had the 15?

CHIEF DENAPLES: The overtime numbers, that should be all on file at the Borough Building. I know a lot of that information was conveyed from my understanding from Chief Barrett, the DCED consultant, the study that you guys commissioned.

So I know some of that information was given to him because I worked with him quite a bit. I know he was going through a lot of the numbers. I don't know to what degree, but that certainly is on file at Borough Building.

MS. BRIER: And I just wanted to share too about the two candidates that, you know, they're very highly trained. They went

through the civil service process. This didn't happen as a result of some recent things in the paper.

This started months ago because the civil service process takes a while. And we've been trying to keep that -- keep people on the list who have passed. But a lot of times because they're waiting, they drop off. They go somewhere else. You know that.

So it's -- it's like a -- it's a constant trial to keep people on that. You know, first of all, taking the civil service, passing the civil service, and then -- and then staying on if --staying on the list if they don't have other opportunities. So we're very happy to be able to do this.

CHIEF DENAPLES: Sure. Okay. Thank you very much.

ALL MEMBERS: Thank you, Chief.

MR. WOLFF: Number 12, public comment.

MR. HALLINAN: Anybody from the public want to speak, please?

MR. FISK: Good evening, Steve Fisk, Church Street. In examining the budget

information that Mr. Wolff provided for me, I noticed the Community Center is running a deficit of $338,000 since 2024.

And I guess if I went back further, those numbers would be even more staggering. So for the past two and a half years, the center has cost the Borough residents almost $350,000. And I'm just wondering if someone during motions or after I'm done speaking could address this and provide perhaps an explanation of why that number is so staggering. Thank you.

I'm going to read some information that was given to me. A borough in Pennsylvania cannot legally change or -- cannot legally change an existing ordinance without formally amending it. Under PA municipal law in the Equal Dignity Doctrine, a local law must be changed by an action of equal or greater formality.

Because an ordinance creates a permanent binding rule of law, it can only be modified, revised, or repealed by passing a subsequent properly enacted ordinance. That's the law. To legally change an ordinance, a PA

borough must do the following:

Propose to amending an ordinance at a public meeting, advertise the proposed amendment in a local newspaper, general circulation between 70 and 60 days before the vote, vote to pass the ordinance, secure the Mayor's signature, and have the borough secretary record it in the official ordinance book within 30 days.

What doesn't work, a borough cannot use a simple resolution or a casual motion to amend or override a permanent ordinance. A handshake agreement, a policy shift by the police or code enforcement or a vote that isn't formally advertised and recorded as an ordinance holds no legal weight against the written text of the law.

If a borough attempts to enforce an unamended agreement, a verbal policy shift by the police or code enforcement or a vote isn't formally advertised and recorded as an ordinance, holds no legal weight against the written text of the law.

If a borough attempts to enforce an unamended or informally altered rule, residents

or property owners can challenge the action in court as legally invalid. I spoke to two different attorneys. I promised I would, one formally and one informally.

And both independently, without a doubt opined strongly that what you did is illegal and feels that it would be an easy decision for a judge to make. The text I read clearly outlines that the borough did -- what the borough did was wrong on three different occasions in their ordinance, and I outlined them at the previous meeting.

But here's the issue. In order to fight this illegal act of Council, an attorney would have to be hired to prepare the case. Time would have to be spent doing research on case law and statutory law, be available for the day of the hearing and, of course, pay the filing fee.

Depending on the amount of research that has to be done, a fee of 10 to $15,000 is possible. So who has that kind of money here? I'm told the reason why governments do this is because they know citizens don't have the kind of money to legally challenge these kinds of

things.

To me, in general, this sounds like an act of bullying, taking advantage of one strength over a weaker opponent. Unless someone comes forward to pay these legal fees or we organize a grassroots effort to raise money, we have no recourse.

You know this is why you did this and why you did it in this manner. So I ask you, Council, why are you doing this to us? Why don't you legally amend the ordinance, enact it for 2027, if that's your intention. And, if necessary, anyone who paid the fee for 2026, have them -- their account established at Berkheimer with a credit towards a 2027 fee.

I just want to know why you won't do this the right way. I'm just pause -- going to pause for a moment to see if there's any reaction because this is the right way.

MR. HALLINAN: I'd refer to our Solicitor here on this one.

ATTY. PERRY: Well, you're wrong, sir. All that was done was administrative regulations were adopted by the Council because we were changing over to Berkheimer. That's

the only thing that was done.

MR. FISK: Why wasn't that amended?

ATTY. PERRY: The ordinance did not need to be amended to do that. The ordinance allows Council to adopt administrative regulations to change not the amount, because the amount was not changed. That's the same as it was in the ordinance.

It's just an administrative issue to have Berkheimer send out the bills. That's all it was.

MR. FISK: Well, it wasn't just that, Mr. Perry.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Steve, let me say --

MR. FISK: I could just finish my thought.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Let me finish first here. There's no one up here that thought of bullying anyone in this room.

MR. FISK: I would say -- I said in general. I didn't say specifically.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Okay, but it came out of your mouth, bullying.

MR. FISK: Generally speaking.

MR. LOUGHNEY: I, for one, that's

not the way it happened. We didn't know. We were under the impression this was the way to do it. That's why we did it. There was no underlying reason why we did it the way we did. We did it as we were instructed. And that's how it was.

But there was no bullying. Or there was no trickery or anything done to have people say they aren't going to fight it.

MR. FISK: Let me ask a question or let me respond -- or ask a question of Mr. Perry. The ordinance also said that borough residents must be notified by March 1st. That wasn't done. That's in there for a reason. It's in there for a reason because Council at some point put that in the ordinance because it was of utter importance to give people an opportunity to save for it.

And you just ignored it. You didn't notify -- none of us still were notified by any type of mail, unless e-mail or Facebook. That's not administrative. That's a right that citizens have to know that that ordinance was going to be resurrected and that people were going to have to pay it. That's clear.

Also, that the -- the ordinance clearly says payments must be made to the Borough of Dunmore Treasurer. So, you know, you have a lot of senior citizens here that may not be as familiar with Berkheimer or doing things online. Those are important ingredients.

And they should have been amended and people should have been given notification. So it's not just about Berkheimer.

ATTY. PERRY: They're administrative issues. The ordinance did not need to be amended.

MR. FISK: How could you say it's -- it's an administrative issue not letting residents know that there's a fee coming? How could that not be anything other than secrecy, covert action? I don't know.

MS. ZANGARDI: May I say something?

MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, can I stop you here for a second? First, we're going back and forth about stuff that really should be talked about somewhere else rather than the meeting right now because you're -- you're argumentative. You're argumentative. We could

sit down in a -- make a meeting up or something.

I am -- because you're not arguing about the fee. You're arguing about the process.

MR. FISK: That's correct. That's correct.

MR. HALLINAN: Well, I don't have the correct answer. I don't kind of -- I could see what you're saying and I don't disagree with you. But I'm also -- don't like the language of you saying we did covert things, bullying. No such thing was done.

MR. FISK: No, I --

MR. HALLINAN: You did say that.

MS. ZANGARDI: You did say that.

MR. HALLINAN: And it's wrong. We never did anything intentionally to hurt anybody in this town.

MS. BRIER: We're here to help people.

MS. ZANGARDI: I take offense, Mr. Fisk. And I'm going to tell you why. I stepped up to help this community. Everyone one of us stepped up to help this community.

You don't like one thing we did. We apologized for it. We said we made a mistake and here you are a month later, two months later harping on it.

MR. FISK: Please don't raise your voice to me.

MS. ZANGARDI: You don't like what I do -- please run. Anybody doesn't like the way I do things, please run, take it out of my hands.

MR. HALLINAN: Can we calm it down, please.

MR. FISK: I promised I was going to get a legal opinion. And I just received a legal opinion. That's why I'm back here, Mrs. Zangardi.

MS. BRIER: That's not an opinion. A legal opinion -- we don't have anything in front of us.

MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Fisk, I don't -- you have some very valid points. There are things I agree with you. We did apologize. We were sorry the way it came out. It should have been presented in January like you said. I don't know how we go back legally. I don't.

But you do have valid points. Nobody here did anything covert. That really hurts. Bullying, nobody said we're going to stick it up the citizens' butt. I don't know what to tell you. Everybody apologized and said we're sorry and we are.

It was handled wrong. It was named wrong. But we had no choice because that's the way the ordinance was said. But I will tell you this. If we could talk about it and go to next year, I don't have a problem. The problem with -- the Borough has is -- and you keep bringing it up and people put it on social media, we need money.

We need revenue. You just brought up $300,000 for this building. This is a community building that is supported by the citizens of Dunmore. Do we start raising rates for everybody that comes in, the kids that want to play biddy?

MR. FISK: I only asked that it be looked at.

MR. HALLINAN: I'm just saying nobody here -- we're all trying to work together. We're in the process of us getting

our brains kicked in on social media about -- and I'm going off here now about not hiring firemen, this process was started back in July.

But we're not going to go on social media and start fighting with keyboard warriors that you don't have a chance --

MS. BRIER: Who are clueless.

MR. HALLINAN: So again, I'm just saying I would love to sit down with you sometime, with the Solicitor, the Borough Manager and do this civilly. We're not hiding anything. You could come to the next meeting and say this is what we talked about.

MR. FISK: I am presenting a solution. Legally amend the ordinance.

MR. HALLINAN: And that is your opinion. And we have to talk to our Solicitor.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Steve, if I may interrupt one more time. You bring very valid points. You really do. You're well versed and you do your research. I give you credit for that. You really do.

We will talk to our attorney as you talked to your two. And if the lawsuit comes from the residents on your end, then that's one

thing. But if we could get it resolved with our Solicitor for January or whatever if there's a move we have to redo, then we as a Council will redo it.

MR. FISK: The thing that I find most abhorrent is nobody is sitting here acknowledging by not notifying the citizens in writing through US mail. And that's the wording in the ordinance by March 1st that there was going to be an ordinance --

MS. BRIER: There wasn't an ordinance.

MR. FISK: -- to resurrect. You know the point I'm making.

MS. BRIER: I'm telling you my point. You were notified. People were notified --

MR. FISK: We weren't notified by March 1st.

(Cross talking.)

MS. FISK: Do you want me to get the ordinance? It says every March 1st citizens will be notified. It didn't happen.

MS. BRIER: No, it didn't and I apologized for that.

MR. HALLINAN: Guys, can we have some order, please?

MR. LOUGHNEY: We messed up. We did apologize.

MR. FISK: I'm not looking for an apology.

MR. LOUGHNEY: I'm saying we can't go back and undo it. We will look at.

MR. HALLINAN: Steve, you're well over five minutes. Because you had a lot of important things, we understand that. We give five minutes to each speaker and there's going to be more speakers I'm sure.

MR. FISK: I'm sorry.

MR. HALLINAN: I would really love to sit down with you and talk with your attorney. As Nibs just said and I say, maybe there is somebody we look at for next year. Maybe there's something we do. I don't know how to go back. Maybe my Solicitor's going to say you can't do it. I don't know because you got your opinion. We got our opinion. And I don't think it could be answered tonight.

MR. FISK: I just ask that in your work that you consider maybe de minimus things

like we didn't notify people by March 1st. That's a big thing to a lot of people.

MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I would say that. We didn't do it. I'm sorry. I apologize.

MR. FISK: You don't need to apologize. I wasn't looking for an apology. I said you weren't at the meeting.

MR. HALLINAN: I wasn't the President at the time either, but I will apologize since I am the President now.

MS. BRIER: You weren't at the last meeting.

MR. FISK: What I was going to say is, I said that I would be back once I got a legal opinion and I did. And I just wanted to make taxpayers realize that I think the fight would be an easy one, but we would need $15,000 to defend. Can anyone comment about the Community Center while I'm here? Does anybody have any thoughts as to why --

MS. BRIER: You know, this place is busy every single day. There's yoga, pickleball, biddy. We have -- we vote here. We have twice a year -- yeah, but it's a big

undertaking.

MR. FISK: We're talking about $338,000.

MS. BRIER: Thousands of people come here. See, you ask a question, but then you won't let us answer. You won't let us answer.

MR. FISK: Well, I'm asking --

MS. BRIER: I tried to answer.

MR. FISK: You've all answered.

MS. BRIER: I'm trying to answer this specific question about the community center and you won't let me. You interrupt me.

MR. FISK: Continue. I apologize.

MS. BRIER: So we have biddy here. We have yoga here. We have pickleball. We have the community -- we have the card players Mahjong on Friday. We have biddy all the time. We have basketball clinics. We have the Indian community comes here twice a year and does their thing.

They come with 500 to 1000 people twice a year. We have the -- we have the Night Out. This is a senior citizens' place, the bereavement group. I mean, if you look at our schedule, you will see that this community

center is a tremendous asset to our community.

MR. FISK: I love this place.

MS. BRIER: See again, please can I finish? Please.

MR. FISK: Well, Mr. Hallinan was asking me --

MR. HALLINAN: Yes, I'd like to just say I know you're saying that's an exorbitant number, 300,000. There's heating, electricity, gas, whatever. At what number would you be satisfied that we're supporting the children and everybody in this community?

I mean, I think it's -- it's an asset. Maybe it's a very expensive asset to the community and to all the people that use it. So, do we charge more? Do we shut it down? Do we sell the building?

MR. FISK: I -- my son, I enjoyed many years here. I love this place. We came to birthday parties here. I vote here. That's not -- all I said was there's a $338,000 structural deficit. Could someone look into it and provide a reason? I'm not debating --

MS. BRIER: It's not a structural deficit.

MR. FISK: Well, it is if every year --

MS. BRIER: It's not an expense.

MR. FISK: Well, your budget is --

MS. BRIER: It's not structural.

MR. FISK: Well, it's every year.

MS. BRIER: Yeah, but it's not structural.

MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Fisk, how about this?

MS. BRIER: It's an expense.

MR. HALLINAN: Guys, could we just -- could we look into it and have another answer? Because I guess you're right, 300,000. Let's see what we could do there. Maybe we could make it, you know, less of an expense. Maybe we do charge more for rentals or something like that.

To get to 300,000 is going to be an awful lot. But there is a debt incurred when we're supporting -- it's community supported. Anybody could come in here and use it. So I don't know what price you would be happy with where we say it costs us 100,000. Everybody's happy saying, Okay, that's great. It's for the

community. It's better than not having a community center.

MR. FISK: No doubt about it.

MR. HALLINAN: So what number would you we be happy and we'll look at somehow to cut costs. Thank you, Mr. Fisk, and I Appreciate your time. Thank you. Anybody else from the public?

MR. FISK: Thank you.

MR. HOULIHAN: Mike Houlihan, 107 Mortimer Street. So on Mr. Fisk's comments, I back a lot of it. I'm a firm believer government shouldn't be in business if they're not breaking even or making some money. Having community and kids here for biddy basketball -- we saw it up at the Y growing up when we were kids, saw it up Schautz. There's sponsorships everywhere, cards hanging to try to raise money to help fill these fees.

And if we're not doing that here or up Schautz and the lights are staying on for hours because they're on a timer -- I'm not talking about myself, but the elderly, they can't afford this. I understand it's a monument number, 300,000.

It might be 100 a year. But how do we look at someone that's 95 years old, still owns a house in Dunmore and we're saying, yeah, but we're helping the community. They don't have it here. They don't. We should be trying to raise money, whether it's advertising or cuts or raising fees.

We shouldn't be giving it away for free. I just want to say, Mr. Fisk, it's a good thought. We need to look at it a different direction. We can't just give the community away. And I'm not saying we're giving it totally away, but if we're losing a penny, we should be breaking even or making some money to help pay the other projects in Dunmore.

So if we're losing some money in the lighting, say, up at Schautz, we're making 20,000 here, you should subsidize. It should all go in the pool and help pay for what Dunmore pays. Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you, Mr. Houlihan. Anybody else? Go ahead, Mrs. Hogan. Go ahead. Yeah, go ahead.

MS. HOGAN: Totally off topic. We

heard about that stuff two months ago. Mary Ann Hogan, Hill Street, Dunmore. And I know everybody's kind of tight this year and everything. But I'm a supporter of Veterans. And I don't know if you've heard, but Wreaths Across America is coming to a Dunmore Cemetery for the first time this year.

I am not running it. I am supporting it. So, like, don't ask me all the details. I found it online, whatever. I forget the name. I can't remember her name. Anyway, if you sponsor a wreath, it's like $17. Wreaths Across America date is December 19. You can show up to volunteer.

You can sign up to volunteer at the Dunmore Cemetery. They're trying to raise like 1,800 to 1,900 wreaths. So if we have 14,000 households approximately in Dunmore, if 10 percent of that would sponsor one wreath, they would get them all done. So I would just ask if anybody can support it, please do.

MR. HALLINAN: Greg, can you put that on our website, please?

MR. WOLFF: Sure.

MAYOR CONWAY: Mrs. Hogan, is it

Maureen Weigl? Is that the woman?

MR. HOGAN: Yeah, that's it.

MAYOR CONWAY: I have a contact number too.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Mr. Sardo.

MR. SARDO: Vince Sardo, 237 South Apple. I'll be brief. First, I would just want to say congratulations to Chief Monahan. He, you know, I can speak to his character. We worked together at the fire department. I know him for years when he was a beat cop down in Scranton, and, you know, to become an assistant chief and, you know, run, what, seven or eight counties as an arson investigation, just a tremendous asset to Dunmore.

So thank you so much for accepting the position, Marty, and I wish you the best. I know the community is behind you. As far as the fire department, I want to do -- I mean, I'm outspoken when I'm not happy with the way things are running. So, you know, I'll give credit where credit is due.

Thank you so much for hiring two full-time firefighters. I mean, it's going to

be a huge relief, I believe, to the department. There are a couple issues I think that still need to be addressed though to be, you know, upfront. We did recently mandate a 59-year-old, 30-year veteran to work.

The recommended standard for their shift we -- I mentioned this before is about 250 hours max per year in overtime. He has well over 400 hours. We have a firefighter tonight that's been mandated that's over 600 hours of overtime already worked that's mandated to work again.

I know during the week, Chief DeNaples has been pulled off the floor on occasion to work a truck as a suppression firefighter. Being an administrative Chief, they wanted him out of the union years ago. He became an administrative chief back in 2012.

And since then, he's been an administrative chief until recently. And that -- the concern about that, it's great that we have four firefighters then back on the floor. But the problem with that is a safety issue. There is nobody on the outside monitor -- monitoring the conditions of the

home.

If it looks like it's going to be a structural collapse or fully engulfed, there's a system where we blow the air horn three times. The Chief would then give that order or the incident commander to notify the firefighters inside.

But if he's one of the firefighters inside, nobody knows what's going on on the outside. In addition to that, there's nobody giving orders to incoming units. So Scranton's being dispatched to a structure fire to do assistance for us.

There's no one giving commands to vent the roof if it needs to be vented, hit a hydrant, throw up a ladder, surround the building. So there are some concerns that I think that needs to still be addressed, Council, whether that comes with more staffing in the future. I know in the DCED study that you guys actually recommended, we had 14 firefighters at the time.

And they had recommended to go to hire two more in the report. So that would be actually 16. That was the DCED's report. One

thing I wasn't really aware of that when I read the report it said that we're also providing fire coverage for the town of Throop from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Are we getting paid for that?

I mean, we're down to three guys on a shift and then we're covering another municipality that, by the way, has a $7 million surplus in the bank where we're financially obviously strapped at this point. I don't know if there's a way that, you know, we can bill them in the future or something.

But something needs to be done. I mean, Dunmore can't be providing fire protection for another community.

MR. HALLINAN: First of all, I didn't know we were providing -- I know there's also agreements with a lot of towns, correct? We have mutual agreements with Scranton, Dickson.

MR. SARDO: We're the primary response for seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

MR. HALLINAN: Is this true?

CHIEF DENAPLES: Yeah. That's been for a while.

MR. HALLINAN: And do we charge them?

CHIEF DENAPLES: I know Mr. Wolff actually talked to administration in Throop to try to work something out with them. We just talked about this the other day. That was a recommendation that was brought up. I spoke with Mr. Wolff about it a long time ago.

And I was even willing to talk to them. But he did talk to them and he couldn't get anywhere with them to try to recoup some funds or do some type of merger or something to that effect. But we just talked about it the other day again. And he said that he -- he met a brick wall, correct, Greg?

MR. HALLINAN: So why are we covering them?

CHIEF DENAPLES: Because it's a mutual aid. They provided service to us for years.

MR. HALLINAN: Right. Okay.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Chief, just let me say this. I'm sitting here and this has been going on for how long?

CHIEF DENAPLES: Probably about a

year roughly.

MR. LOUGHNEY: And I have to hear it from a resident at the podium that we as the Borough of Dunmore are providing fire safety for Throop from 6 a.m. and we're not getting anything?

CHIEF DENAPLES: That was all conveyed --

MR. LOUGHNEY: Why don't they come down here and fill our firehouses?

CHIEF DENAPLES: I guess they don't have enough people. That's why we're on there.

MR. LOUGHNEY: What's really disheartening to me is, I'm hearing it right now for the first time that we're up there 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CHIEF DENAPLES: We're not up there. If we get dispatched on a call.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Okay. Well, something's got to give. Either it's got to stop or -- we have to worry about our town first, number one. We got to worry about our town first. And if they can't -- we're worried -- we're putting people on and going to pay two more firemen to go up there and work --

we're the fools.

I don't blame people for taking advantage of us. And if we let it, so be. But I am not for it. And I don't care about mutual aid or not. That is more than mutual aid. That is supplying our fire department for coverage.

That would be like our police department -- Chief, don't let our police go up and patrol our streets.

CHIEF MONAHAN: They'll only request assistance if they need something. We're the backup for Throop if they need it.

MR. LOUGHNEY: The sad thing is and the point I'm getting at is the first time hearing of this is tonight.

MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I am also, Chief. Chief, let me ask you one question.

CHIEF DENAPLES: Can I respond to Mr. Loughney?

MR. HALLINAN: Go ahead.

CHIEF DENAPLES: So I certainly agree. And this is a shame this is the first time you're hearing it tonight. But I know my chain of command were notified of this. And

there is breakdowns in communication. And I don't think this is the place to address that.

But it's well known by a lot members up there that there is a breakdown.

MR. HALLINAN: So if there's a fire in Dunmore -- if there's a fire in Dunmore tonight, does Throop respond here?

CHIEF DENAPLES: If needed, they are in our run cards.

MR. HALLINAN: So Throop will come here.

CHIEF DENAPLES: Yes. And they have for years. They used to be an automatic dispatch.

MR. HALLINAN: Because I was just under the impression that you said Throop has nobody coming here --

MR. SARDO: Well, Mr. Hallinan, if I could elaborate a little bit more. Throop fire, the rescue, is on the verge of closing their doors. Volunteer service when I started my central training in the early 2000s was 400,000 firefighters in the state of Pennsylvania.

We're less than 30,000 today. The

volunteers are gone. There's no more volunteers even in the communities where they have generational firefighters for years. And it's sad, it really is.

But the kids are taking career jobs in other places. So regionalization or something where we get, you know, money from other communities, something has to be addressed because they're not even getting out in their own communities.

In fact, like I said, the rescue was a very well trained -- we actually hired a couple of their full-time guys years ago. They went onto other career departments around the country. And they were very well trained, excellent guys. They have nobody anymore.

They have three or four certified people at the ladder now. The rescue, I don't think has any firefighters up in Throop. So we are the primary fire department for Throop, for the most part.

But getting back to Mrs. Brier, you had mentioned that, you know, that we're kind of clueless sometimes, like some people being warriors on Facebook. And I don't agree with

that either. And I agree with you there though. But the stuff -- and I do share some stuff, but it's all stuff that's from the union.

And it's all based on them crying out for help -- the union since -- actually there was -- I've mentioned it before, a 28/22 news report back in March of 2025 where the Union President Todd Flaherty said this has been going on for a while when the whole thing on the news -- the whole bit on the news was about burnout.

And he said it's been going on for a few years, which takes us back to 2022 when the excessive overtime started.

MS. BRIER: And excessive call-offs.

MR. SARDO: And I understand that there's a process with civil service, you know, I'm very well aware of that. But, you know, we've been looking for additional help -- the fire department's been looking for additional help for many years. So, but thanks for at least --

MS. ZANGARDI: Mr. Sardo, how long were you a firefighter?

MR. SARDO: Nineteen years.

MS. ZANGARDI: Nineteen years. So you retired.

MR. SARDO: I'm done, yeah.

MS. ZANGARDI: Burnout?

MR. HALLINAN: Let's see what happens with these two new hires, how things pan out.

MR. SARDO: I think it's a great step in the right direction. So thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: That's what we're all hoping.

CHIEF DENAPLES: Mr. Hallinan, can I address one more thing being that -- because that is a concerning topic that Nibs brought up. So if I could come up there and address one thing on that because it seems like that there's -- there's a problem.

Okay, so again, I don't want to get too deep into this, but while I have Council here, okay, everybody's here. There is a problem with me being able to communicate with Council, okay, that there was a meeting requested in order to correct that quite a while ago, and it never took place.

So I just want to put it on the record without getting into personnel issues that I follow my chain of command to communicate with them, and that's all I could do. So I am following orders, and that's it.

So I would ask you to investigate that further if there's question on it.

MR. HALLINAN: And I think maybe next week we sit down and talk.

CHIEF DENAPLES: I know we were trying to schedule that for quite a while, and it never happened. So thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: I hear you. Thanks, Chief.

MR. LUCIANO: Joe Luciano, 133 West Swinick Drive, Dunmore, Pennsylvania. Good evening, everyone. I'm going to -- let me jump ahead on one thing. Congratulations, my dear friend. Council did a fantastic job hiring this young man.

I've known him for a hundred years. He's outstanding. He's a stand up guy and he doesn't have a gut. So there you go. We're ahead of a lot of things here. And, Chief, you do a great job. I think we have the best chief

in fire and police in Pennsylvania. I really do.

I have some questions here. But I will lead with this one. It wasn't going to be. But the first is, I want to ask Council, I know that Vince Amico was a liaison for Council with the fire department years ago. Since we see -- there's some discrepancy, you know, Chief doesn't know about -- somewhere along the line we are getting some miscommunication. Who is the liaison for the Borough Council?

MS. OVEN: I am.

MR. LUCIANO: Okay. Kathryn, correct? Kathryn, do you meet with the fire department monthly?

MS. OVEN: We don't meet with them monthly. We meet with them --

MR. LUCIANO: No, you personally meet with them with their representatives.

MS. OVEN: No.

MR. LUCIANO: Can I ask why -- I mean --

MS. OVEN: I'm available as needed. We don't have scheduled meetings.

MR. LUCIANO: Well, I was a risk

manager for many, many years prior to my retirement. And I met with my department chiefs and my staff monthly -- monthly to find out the problems, getting vacations straight, see if shortages -- there is no way -- not know -- you need to -- I wasn't -- I wasn't a Councilman or Council woman from Dunmore, the size of people we have and this force.

I would suggest -- suggestion that you would meet with the Borough -- with the Borough Chief and the force monthly to find out what's going on, make sure that we, you know, we have every nook and cranny covered, especially the situation we're in with the borough fire department who does a yeoman's job.

They're fantastic, along with the PG and W. We're going to miss Didge. You know, they should put a statue of you down next to Henzes. Nobody would believe that you lasted that long -- but just a suggestion, just a suggestion.

And also I want to just touch base on several different issues. I haven't been here in several weeks. I had a commitment with

work, but I remember -- well, I'll start with this.

Several meetings ago we talked about -- I know it's something that we didn't discuss in a while. Section 8 housing and the problems it's causing in Dunmore, okay. We didn't follow up on that. We were supposed to have -- and I didn't follow up on it because the several meetings we had, we did not have a stenographer. So it's my word against the world. Now it's a record. Okay.

MS. BRIER: No, she's here every month.

MR. LUCIANO: I didn't see her.

MS. BRIER: Every month, Joe.

MR. LUCIANO: Really?

MS. BRIER: For years.

MR. LUCIANO: My apologies.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Not the second meeting.

MR. LUCIANO: I'm too busy looking at Mr. Wolff, you know, make sure he's dressed properly. But the bottom line is -- I apologize. But, you know, on that note, I remember, you know, Councilman O'Malley was

going to -- didn't you say you were going to spearhead a problem -- a program on Section 8 housing when I recommended that we put a moratorium on Section 8 housing that Councilman Cummings and Councilman Hennigan put almost 14 years ago that was very, very productive and actually eliminated the problems we had here in Dunmore with Section 8 housing.

Now it's running rampant, rampant. I mean, do you think our properties are really worth that kind of money when you have a $125,000 duplex and they're paying $350, you know, these out-of-town people and moving every Tom, Dick, and Harry in the place? Do we have a -- do we have a representative from Section 8 like we once did?

MR. HALLINAN: I don't think we ever had a Section 8 representative. And I think you're going down a slippery slope with federal-funded stuff here that we can't -- we could go and talk to the Housing Authority and ask for, like, what's going on.

But I don't know we could put a moratorium on it. I could ask. I don't think we can. With federal money --

MR. LUCIANO: We did do it before. It was -- it was quite effective. I suggest, you know, unfortunately, Tucker Hennigan is passed. But Michael Cummings, I had -- I had a nice talk with him. And he said he's more than happy to meet with anyone to discuss how they did it.

Okay, it's something we need because it's killing our town. It's definitely killing our education system here in Dunmore, you know. I don't have to tell you, Trip. You're a teacher. You should go to school with boxing gloves on. Okay, it's a tough situation at Dunmore. If you ever take a ride by Dunmore High School at 3:00 and look at some of the people that come out of there, you would think -- you would think you're in Harlem.

And it's nothing against the blacks, whites, Hispanics, nothing like that. It's just that we have a -- we have a mixed group. And I don't know if we are ready for that.

MR. HALLINAN: Well, I'm just going to add this to you. I grew up in a project. So I grew up under that stuff. So I think everybody in my family are very productive in

society because they got a helping hand. So I hear your point. But I'm not going to make fun of anybody that's coming out of Section 8, projects, anything of that --

MR. LUCIANO: I'm not making fun of anybody, sir.

MR. HALLINAN: I got food stamps when I was a youngster. Let me tell you, I know what's it like. So I'm always very willing to give somebody a helping hand.

MR. LUCIANO: You did very well for yourself.

(Cross talking.)

MR. HALLINAN: Sometimes it's not just the Section 8. It's the person that's there, the renter.

MR. LUCIANO: Is it my turn or your turn? Who's talking, me or you? The bottom line is --

MS. BRIER: What's the time, Greg? We're over five.

MR. HALLINAN: You speak, Mr. Luciano.

MR. LUCIANO: Don't give me that crap.

MR. HALLINAN: Go ahead.

MR. LUCIANO: The bottom line is, the bottom line is, I had Section 8 housing. And I screen every one of them. We're not being screened. There's an apartment house in Dunmore, right, there's an apartment house that I know has 15 people in it. No one checks it. There's 15 people in that building.

MR. HALLINAN: Give us the address, not on record --

MR. LUCIANO: I'm not giving you nothing, no. Do your own job. Do your own job. We have a police officer here now. He could do the job to look into it. That's what we need. You have a Brazil. Brazil is supposed to be a -- what is Brazil?

MR. HALLINAN: Zoning officer.

MR. LUCIANO: Zoning. Does that fall under zoning?

MR. HALLINAN: Yes, it would.

MR. LUCIANO: Okay, then give Mr. Brazil, let him earn his money and have him go out and look into these apartments and find out -- it's a very simple thing to do. Look in the paper. See who's paying 300,000 for a

house in an alley that's decrepit and with other -- New Jersey and New York residents buying these places.

It's a no-brainer. Look, I work my ass off as a -- I mean, my father and mother busted their ass to educate my brother and I and my sister. And we all did very, very well for ourself. So, you know, this doesn't flow with the -- well, I'm on food stamps and everything else.

There's probably 90 percent of the people out there were the same thing with their parents. So, you know, you're crying to the wrong guy.

MR. HALLINAN: I'm not crying.

MR. LUCIANO: But the bottom line is -- let me finish up because I only two took two Ativans before I came here. Mayor Conway -- Max, several months ago I asked you a question on housing. And you sell -- you do that for a living.

I asked you a question, why are people -- probably don't remember this because you get asked a lot of questions. I asked you a question, why do people pay three times the

amount of money for a rundown duplex.

And you answered and simply said most of them pay cash because they want the property. Am I correct? Do you remember that conversation?

MAYOR CONWAY: People buy properties for all different reasons.

MR. LUCIANO: I know that. I'm not trying to take anything -- I mean, Ally supports you now.

MAYOR CONWAY: All right. Continue.

MR. LUCIANO: I'm not going to take any more money away from you. But the bottom line is, that's what it is. But I'm just asking you a question. Do you remember that? Doesn't that raise any kind of suspicion?

MAYOR CONWAY: Just because it raises suspicion, doesn't mean it's inherently illegal. I do this for a living. You're correct. So if somebody in Dunmore goes to sell their home and say they list it on the market for $200,000 and somebody comes in with cash and says I'm going to pay you, 300,000, what power does the Borough of Dunmore have on that homeowner?

It's America. You could sell your home to whoever you want to sell it to. And what you're getting into, I feel like we're teetering on a dangerous road with the Section 8 conversation. I feel like that's illegal. Councilwoman Zangardi, you work for that department?

MS. ZANGARDI: Housing Authority.

MAYOR CONWAY: I don't know if we can just say we're going to ban Section 8 housing. It's not the Borough's responsibility.

MR. LUCIANO: It certainly is the Borough's responsibility because when I had my buildings -- it was -- I had to meet --

MAYOR CONWAY: It's you as the property owner.

MR. LUCIANO: Correct. But I'm the property owner and along with the Borough stepped in. I had to meet with the Borough. It was Lorince. I had to meet with Lorince.

MAYOR CONWAY: To accept a Section 8 tenant, you had to meet with the Borough?

MR. LUCIANO: You bet your ass I did. And you know what, every one that I did,

I screened personally.

MAYOR CONWAY: That's what you should do. I agree.

MR. LUCIANO: You're damn right. And I did it all. I did my homework. But what I'm trying to say is, these buildings are being sold and it -- the people that own -- I cared about my residents. I cared about my neighbors. I wasn't just going to put any just John Doe in there. I cared about the people. But the bottom line is, these people from New York and New Jersey, they don't give a damn about Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

MAYOR CONWAY: But who is it for us to say who you could sell your house to?

MR. LUCIANO: I'm not saying that.

MS. ZANGARDI: Can I respond to that please for one minute? Mr. Luciano, an ordinance where any homeowner who lives out of state -- and correct me if I am wrong -- has to have a manager -- a property manager to maintain these things.

MR. O'MALLEY: Within 25 miles.

MS. ZANGARDI: Within 25 miles. So that is new for this community. And we did

that last year --

MR. WOLFF: Two years ago.

MS. ZANGARDI: Two years ago. So we agree. We see it. I live in the heart of it and we're trying. And we're working on it. It's just, you know, you need cooperation from neighbors, zoning officer, the police department, fire department. It's all -- we're all trying to work for the better good.

MR. LUCIANO: Miss Zangardi, you're right on the money. And that's my point. You need cooperation.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Joe, if I may interrupt you because I'm getting tired of hearing you too.

MR. LUCIANO: I'm sorry?

MR. LOUGHNEY: I'm getting tired of looking at you. Joe, let me suggest this. Let me suggest this. You hit it on the head with Mike Brazil. We should -- we could get Mike Brazil to check with the housing or to check that ordinance that you saw that was 14 years ago, Mike can research that or Greg could or Mickey could; and let's revive that and get it back to where -- and let's Michael go and check

these houses.

We could sit here all day. And again, that is a -- that is kind of a touchy situation with Section 8. We all have people that have used it and that's fine.

MR. LUCIANO: Sure.

MR. LOUGHNEY: But I think instead of going on and on, let's get that ordinance. Let's gets Mike Brazil. And if it's worth restructuring or if it's worth reenforcing, let's do it.

MR. LUCIANO: Listen. I'm all for that. You think I like being here? I don't want to be here. These guys -- they love when I'm here.

MR. LOUGHNEY: We do. Listen to me. We like when people are here because we sit here sometimes with nobody. This is what we ran for. This is what we ran for.

MR. LUCIANO: I hear you. One last question and I don't want to hear anything more about this. I got my point across. Thank you. Kathryn, thank you very much for taking it under advisement.

MS. OVEN: Sure. Thank you.

MR. LUCIANO: Quick question, last time we were here you gave an excellent presentation about what we did, what you did and everything else. My only -- what really kept me up at night, we had 17.5 million dollars on the sale from the water -- the Sewer Authority, correct, 17.5.

Well, that's what it was 17.5. Your statement at the last -- your last statement was we had 1.2 million dollars remaining from that?

MR. WOLFF: Roughly.

MR. LUCIANO: Roughly. Okay. So that was seven years ago. So can I ask where the money went? Or is that --

MS. BRIER: It was more than seven years ago.

MR. LUCIANO: Yeah, but don't we collect taxes in this town? How did we use -- how do we use that amount of money in seven years, 17.5 and now we have 1.2. And we're asking our people for $150. Like, last time I said that doesn't even cover -- $150 doesn't cover a beer tab.

But the bottom line is, it's a lot

of money to a lot of people here. How could that expenditure -- how can we spend that kind of money? I'm just being realistic. It's not a trick question.

MR. O'MALLEY: I know in 2021, there was like 3 million left.

MS. BRIER: Well, first of all, when we got that money, we were 19 million dollars in debt from the prior Councils. So we spent some to pay some of that down, some of that debt. They used some for Schautz. We used some for deficits at the end of the year. That's part --

MR. LUCIANO: What about all the tax money that we collected from Dunmore?

MS. BRIER: Well, we're not putting it in the bank. We're spending it on police, fire, DPW, Community Center. We are spending it on services for the people of Dunmore. And we're doing -- let me finish -- as you just said we have a great police department. We have a great fire department. We have a great DPW.

MR. LUCIANO: Yes, we have.

MS. BRIER: But they cost money.

They cost a lot of money.

MR. LUCIANO: They should.

MR. HALLINAN: Okay. Okay.

MS. BRIER: So that's where -- and if you want to see where the money goes, that's all public knowledge. It's public.

MR. HALLINAN: You guys, we can go -- please. We're well over five minutes.

MR. LUCIANO: I agree with you. I think you have. First of all, I think you people try to do a good job.

MS. BRIER: Thank you. We work hard.

MR. LUCIANO: I really do. I know you work hard.

MR. HALLINAN: Guys --

MR. LUCIANO: Look, let me just end it. Look it, take it easy, Hal, we're fine.

MR. HALLINAN: No, but there is other people that want to talk and we limit everybody to five minutes, Joe.

MR. LUCIANO: I'll well beyond five and so wasn't everybody else. So don't give me that crap. So was everybody else. One last question. I took my two Ativans. Let me tell

you something. The bottom line is, how are we making out with negotiations with Keystone Landfill? Has there been any headway? That's a question I want you to answer. Are we making any headway? Since we have 1 point million dollars in our savings, we're on the verge of bankruptcy, how are we doing with it?

MS. BRIER: We're not on the verge of --

MR. HALLINAN: We're still in negotiations.

MS. BRIER: We're not on the verge of bankruptcy.

MR. LUCIANO: Is our Solicitor in on the negotiations?

MS. ZANGARDI: Yes.

MR. HALLINAN: Yes.

MR. LUCIANO: Okay, so what do you think -- question, you probably can't answer this. What do you think is the sticking point? I'm being just serious, throwing it out there.

MR. HALLINAN: I don't know.

MR. WOLFF: We can't talk about the negotiations.

(Cross talking)

MR. LUCIANO: I just said can I ask a question. That's fine. Bottom line is, 1.2 million dollars doesn't cut it, okay, doesn't cut it. So I feel sorry for you because you're really doing it. You're really trying and having a good job. But right now, you know, most of you won't be here in May. But that's okay. All right. See you guys. I have to go to work.

MS. ZANGARDI: Bye, Joe.

MR. HALLINAN: Thanks, Joe. Anybody else?

MR. BOLAND: Mike Boland, just to touch on what he was saying about the housing and stuff. All right. I know as a landlord you have to have -- if you have two units you have to have $300; three units, 450, right?

So there's a house right on the corner of San Cataldo Street and Franklin Street. There's got to be four apartment units in it, right, again, out-of-town people coming here and moving here.

So when I had problem years ago in the red book -- the zoning book it says 1.5 parking spots times two per unit. That house

has three to four units in it. And there's only enough room for three or four cars in front of the house. So how do we allow these buildings to be zoned as apartment houses?

MR. WOLFF: That's for new construction. So the buildings that have been there's for 100 years, there's not much we could do with that. When they are building a new unit, it has to comply.

MR. BOLAND: All right. So if the building was originally sized for two units and now they have three or four there, how is that grandfathered in or how is that not new because now you changed if the original structure is two to one -- or four.

MAYOR CONWAY: There should be permits on file if that happened.

MR. BOLAND: There should be.

MAYOR CONWAY: If there's not, that's a problem.

MR. BOLAND: Okay. But so as the Borough, you guys collect this from the landlord, right? So you should have a master list of saying there should only be three units in this building.

MR. WOLFF: We're completely rebuilding that.

MAYOR CONWAY: So if you have somebody that is in that situation, call the Borough Building and we could get that straightened out. That's Mike Brazil's job.

MR. BOLAND: Well, now again, I heard this through the grapevine. I don't have nothing in writing, but on the corner of Corner Street and Chestnut, the old rug factory there, that is -- before it's supposedly approved and everything, now, how are they getting away by 1.5 times two for every unit?

MAYOR CONWAY: They could get a variance from the planning -- or zoning -- planning or zoning.

MR. WOLFF: You have to take it up with the zoning board. They're their own --

MR. HALLINAN: They're their own body. Mr. Boland, I don't mean to interrupt and just so you know, if you have these issues with zoning with that building, go to a zoning meeting. And that's where you should present it.

We are separate entities. We've

always wanted that. We don't stick our nose in their business. We don't do that. So you either you go to the planning or zoning. You are more than welcome, bring up them complaints. They're all valid.

MR. BOLAND: I just figured this is the Borough.

MAYOR CONWAY: Or call Mike Brazil because that's really frustrating for the landlords that are paying. We had that conversation earlier that are paying the $75 and there's people cheating it, I think we'd want to know that because that's money out of the Borough's pocket, so please call.

MR. BOLAND: Yeah, 1.5 times two for every unit. I mean, that's -- there should be no waiver because every time you do that, you're inconveniencing the neighbor on this side. You're inconveniencing the neighbor on that side.

MAYOR CONWAY: That is why they have those public meetings for planning and zoning so the neighbors could go and voice their concern.

MR. WOLFF: So even the existing

ones, I'll give you an example. There's a building on the 700 block of Smith Street. And that building was -- if you look at the county, stick to your point, for all -- we are doing work, believe it or not. And I invite anyone to come to the Borough Building.

I've offered it to Mr. Fisk many times. I'll offer it to anyone, stop in and see what we're not doing and you'll be surprised what we're not doing. We're extremely busy. But 700 block of Smith Street, numerous, numerous parking complaints reported to our zoning officer -- code enforcement zoning officer, Mr. Brazil.

We tracked it down. It's a single family. The building is shut down. We shut the building down. So we are doing -- when it's reported, we are doing what we can. But we are -- we are America. We have to follow rules too.

So we are doing that. So if it's reported to us, Mr. Brazil gets calls from Realtors all time and they walk away unhappy. They'll say they're advertising it as a three unit. He'll say, good luck to you. It's only

a two unit in the county or it's a single family.

So we're combatting that every day. Every day we're combatting that to answer your question.

MR. BOLAND: All right. I'll go to a zoning meeting.

MR. WOLFF: Yeah, for those specific things that's a zoning.

MR. HALLINAN: For those questions you should. Thank you. Or any other questions, give Mr. Brazil a call first before you go to the zoning meeting.

MR. BOLAND: -- called me last time.

MS. BRIER: He'll help you.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Anyone else want to address Council?

MS. IGOE: MJ Igoe, 222 East Drinker Street. Back to this Community Center which was rightly used last Sunday. It was filled with people. It was a wonderful affair that was held here. What I have found in doing some investigating is that this particular center is the only community center in Lackawanna County that is not aligned with UNC with their

programming coming into the centers.

There you are losing money. If I want to take a painting class here, I have to pay $45. If I go to the Hill Side Community Center, I don't pay anything. It's paid for through the Lackawanna County Area on Aging, UNC and through the arts fellowships and grants.

MS. BRIER: And, MJ, you know we're affiliated with the triple A, the Lackawanna County Area on Aging.

MS. IGOE: I'm aware of that. But it's UNC that brings the programs into these places.

MS. BRIER: And the other -- and Aging. We have so many programs here that come through --

MS. IGOE: So when I looked and I asked someone about the pickleball, I said that's a court issue. That is not anything in here for seniors or your 55 plus community.

MS. BRIER: No, it is too.

MS. IGOE: They could play over there to their heart's desire. But that is not this room and --

MS. BRIER: But it's still under triple A.

MS. IGOE: I got it. I got it. But they're not serving the rest of the quote/unquote senior community. They're not being serviced here. They can't get meals. They can't get the hot lunch.

MS. BRIER: There's meals here.

MR. HALLINAN: You know what, MJ, valid point. Beth, are you the liaison to the lady in here that runs the --

MS. IGOE: Allison.

MR. HALLINAN: Will you talk to Allison about trying to get -- let Beth talk to --

MS. ZANGARDI: I'll call Allison and find out.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Find us more money, I'd appreciate it.

MS. IGOE: I could tell you there is more money to be brought into the center and that's one way.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

MS. BRIER: Of cutting costs.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you very much.

I appreciate that very much. Anybody else want to address Council? Next, public officials.

MR. WOLFF: Public officials. I just have a couple things. I see Bunker Hill. I just had a call -- I got -- I had a call maybe a week ago or so with the engineers for the Bunker Hill bridge. They are two years into. Unfortunately there's -- they are still three, four years out.

But there is progress. They have some tentative plans that they are going to put out there. And they are looking to have a public hearing in the spring. That will be advertised. That will be posted with different options that they are suggesting.

The engineers went through. They did all of their surveying and whatever engineers do. Mr. Eboli's son would be better to answer those questions.

(Audience speaking)

MR. HALLINAN: Greg, please, we're on the record. Can you please just introduce yourself? If you're very loud, you could do it from back there.

MS. SANTARSIERO: Rosemary

Santarsiero, 205 Sand Street in Bunker Hill. Thank you. I appreciate the update. But if you do, like you said, there's going to be a meeting. If you could put that in the paper because a lot of the residents in that area are older, elderly, and they're not on Facebook.

MR. WOLFF: Absolutely, and anything outside of our norm -- it's -- it's a money issue too. I don't know -- it costs a lot to advertise, not like 200 bucks.

MS. BRIER: And we put it on other things besides Facebook. It's on our website as well.

MS. SANTARSIERO: Right. There's a lot of elderly that don't have --

MS. BRIER: No, I agree.

MS. SANTARSIERO: I speak for my parents. Like, I understand, my parents, they're not on a computer. You know, it's me.

MR. WOLFF: So anything outside of the norm, we do advertise outside of our annual. So something like that, yes, we will.

MS. SANTARSIERO: Thanks. I appreciate it.

MR. WOLFF: You got it.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

MR. WOLFF: Just a couple other things that I have. The fire department, you know, some of the narrative being put out there -- and I'm not specifying anybody, is that the Borough has not worked towards the fire department hiring.

Just last year we hired two firefighters off the list. One ended up resigning and believe it or not, one was involved -- a part timer was involved in a helicopter accident on his full time job.

So he didn't work a lot. But these are the things that were -- it's a constantly evolving situation. So we're -- we're putting out tests. We have to follow those test processes. We've been talking to the union for different options.

Unfortunately, as a borough, there's not many good options to do lateral transfers and things like that to bring people in quicker. But we continue to look for those things in working with the union.

So, you know, these -- these processes, they take months. It was July that

the test was put out. But that process started when we had a firefighter -- one of those two firefighters resigned in April.

So at that point, we knew we needed to immediately do something. So the process started then. So it is something that we continue to work on and we will. It's again, it's a quick-moving situation sometimes with things happening, with people resigning, you know, abruptly, and some other things happening.

But just so, again, that narrative out there that we're just kind of letting it slide is not what's happening. We are continuing -- we continue to work on this. And we have and we will continue to work on it. That's all I have. Thank you for everyone for coming.

MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Perry?

ATTY. PERRY: I'd just like to congratulate my high school classmate, Didge. You know, you're not supposed to leave anybody behind, but congratulations.

MR. JUDGE: Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Mayor Conway.

MAYOR CONWAY: Yeah, Congratulations, Didge. He doesn't say much, but he'd do anything for anybody. He always has. It's been great working with you. Congratulations on your retirement.

MR. JUDGE: Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Janet.

MS. BRIER: Yeah, you know, also I want to congratulate you because I'm really happy for you, Didge. But I also want to thank you for 40 years of service to this town. I mean, it's amazing what you've done. And I know just in my brief tenure here, if I needed something, it was done, like, the second I called you.

And I just want to say how grateful we all are to everything that you've done for us because I know, like, if we call you on like on a Sunday morning at 7:00, you respond. So it's not like you had a nine-to-five job. And you never treated it that way. So we really, really appreciate all you've done. Thank you.

MR. JUDGE: Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Beth?

MS. ZANGARDI: A few things. I will

be in touch with Allison, but I have to call you and talk to you about what you want me to do.

MS. IGOE: Well, I've already found out her hands are tied. So I went to someone on the board --

MS. ZANGARDI: Okay. Let me just touch base with you after.

MS. IGOE: And I sent her a copy of other --

MS. ZANGARDI: Let me touch base with you after the meeting, okay? Secondly, Wreaths Across America, great idea. Thank you for bringing that up. Welcome aboard to Marty Monahan. Didge, goodbye. We gave our hugs. Enjoy retirement. God bless you.

Lastly, I find it offensive that people in this community are going to accuse anybody up here. We make $3,000 a year, $3,000 a year. I donate my money back to the community. I just did it last week with the purse bingo.

Ask my husband who I have dragged down so many rabbit holes with me, garbage cans. How many phone calls did I make, Ritter?

Over 600. Nibs Loughney and my husband went out two days last week to deliver garbage cans to people.

You accuse me of taking advantage of people in this community? How dare you. It's offensive. I give everything I have to this community. I stood up. Everyone one of us have stood up and we're being abused.

Don't come to me and abuse me. I stood up. I saw the failure of this community. I saw the blighted properties. I'm the one making the phone calls. My coworkers here are making phone calls. We're constantly talking.

I find it offensive that you people because you want us out and that's fine. I'm ready to go, come in and think could you do a better job than me? How many phone calls -- Ritter, how many rabbit holes have I dragged you down.

So please -- you could say whatever you want. Do not insult me, my intelligence, and my hard work. I'm offended. Ask Chris, how many times. Didge, how many times. You could ask Chris Kearney -- who do you think got the money to put these floors in, get the

volunteers to paint? These two right here. So how dare you.

How many phone calls have I gotten? Sure, no problem. I've never turned anybody away. For anyone to come into these rooms and accuse me of being abusive or anything else, shame on every one of you. That's all I have. Thank you.

Wait. I'm sorry, one more thing. The Berkheimer situation, what had happened there again, we had issued -- we went to Berkheimer to do the garbage fee. They had to investigate it and get the list. That's where the mistake was.

We should have put it back another year. We didn't. We had discussed it. We were on time with it. Berkheimer took longer. We did not realize the mistake we were making. That's all I have. Thank you so much.

MR. HALLINAN: Kathryn.

MR. SMOLSKIS: Can I have two minutes? John Smolskis, Monroe Avenue. Just quickly, I think the biggest thing that probably upsets everybody -- and you see it on Facebook because you knew in December of 2025.

Just come out in January -- this probably -- none of this would be going on.

It's that cut and dry. You held out until July. And don't sit there -- crucified, yeah. People are upset. That's all I got to say.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you, Mr. Smolskis.

MS. BRIER: Thanks.

MR. HALLINAN: Kathryn.

MS. OVEN: Didge, congratulations on your retirement. I hope you have many years of health and happiness and no phone calls early in the morning. I know I had a couple, Didge, there's a tree down. You were always so responsive and I appreciate that.

Chief Monahan, welcome. Sorry I wasn't able to get to your swearing in. I was out of town. But I'm excited for this next chapter. And the reviews of you have been really outstanding. So anything we could do to help, we're here.

I'm thrilled we're hiring some firefighters. As Greg -- Mr. Wolff explained, it's a long process. It's not something that

we were ignoring. We believe that they're an important part of our community. And we want to keep our residents safe.

One thing I would say is there is a huge disparity between the services that we provide and the money that we bring in. And that's why we decided to try to do the refuse fee as a revenue generator.

It wasn't done properly. We admitted that several meetings ago. But we're running in a deficit every year. And we don't want to cut services. We want to provide full-time fire, police, DPW. We want the community centers. We want the parks. They cost money.

So we're trying our best. Anybody has any ideas how to generate money, feel free to come up and tell us because that's all we talk about.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you. Nibs.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Chief, congratulations. We're looking forward to you steering our young department in the right direction. I certainly appreciate you taking that on. You come from a long line of law

enforcement. Your grandfather was the chief here for how many years?

CHIEF MONAHAN: A long time.

MR. LOUGHNEY: You're starting to look like him. You are. Chief DeNaples, good job. And I apologize. If there's a problem with communication, we better have address it and because it will only affect us in the long run. Thanks for bringing it to our attention.

And congratulations to the two firemen that were put on tonight. Obviously they are getting trained or something because they're so excited they weren't here. But with that, Verizon is up in the Swinick Development. And they are putting underground cable.

And, Greg, I want Michael Brazil to go up and make sure that they know it has to be restored as it was prior to them cutting.

MR. WOLFF: Yes, and it actually -- the Mayor spearheaded -- we did a stop work order on Verizon. They started on Nicole Drive. And we put a stop work order and we tightened some things up for them moving forward, but, yes.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Okay. I want that addressed tomorrow with Mike Brazil. And what could I say about our guy? He is Dunmore. That man is Dunmore. And that's why my wife and I chose him as our son's godfather. Didge has been in our family -- we've been in the same family since we're kids.

And, Didge, I'm going to miss -- I'm going to miss you on the other end of that phone.

MR. JUDGE: Well, I'm going sit on the porch with you now.

MR. LOUGHNEY: You know where I live. Come down on the deck. Donna will have something for you. Again, Didge, your dedication to this community is unwaivered. I mean, you did -- even when you were away on vacation you would get calls. That's going to be hard to replace.

MR. JUDGE: Well, thank you.

MR. LOUGHNEY: So again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you've done for Dunmore. Thank you.

MR. JUDGE: Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Trip.

MR. O'MALLEY: I want to congratulate Chief Monahan. I apologize I couldn't make your swearing in. We had a cross country meet last Wednesday. But I wish you the best of luck. And so far the reviews have been spectacular.

CHIEF MONAHAN: Thank you.

MR. O'MALLEY: I want to also congratulate our two new firefighters, wish them the best of luck in their new positions. And I want to thank Mr. Judge for all of his years of service to the Borough. As the liaison to the DPW, we've had a really good working relationship. He always answered the phone when I called. And so I wish you well on a well-deserved retirement.

MR. JUDGE: Thank you.

MR. O'MALLEY: That's all I have.

MR. DEMPSEY: Yeah, very briefly, Chief Monahan, congratulations, welcome aboard. I'm really excited to have you. We've already had our first meeting as police liaison. We know we're going to continue that every month and I look forward to those and you keeping me informed.

Didge, we have a ton of great employees here. I never play favorites, but you were always number one, always number one, buddy. So when you go over Nibs's house and Donna's cooking, I better get a phone call.

MR. JUDGE: I'll call you.

MR. DEMPSEY: Thank you for everything you did. Thank you for everything.

MR. JUDGE: Thanks, Mike.

MR. HALLINAN: Of course I'm last and it's always the toughest because of all the compliments already went out. I'd like to say congratulations to the firefighters. We hope this works out well for us.

I'd like to say one thing too and I really mean this. I'm glad to see the banter because it means we all care. Even though you have an opinion, I have an opinion if we keep it onboard nobody is degrading anybody, we accomplish stuff. And that's what we're here for.

We don't have all the answers. We try. There's nobody up here doing -- the word covert bothered me because that happened years ago. If anybody remembers -- and I don't want

to give a history lesson, there were pay less paydays in October.

So we're running a deficit. We're trying to keep people in play. We're hiring people. We're trying to keep everybody safe. It's a juggling act and we're trying to do the best. But I appreciate the input. I hope like, Mr. Boland, we sent you in the right direction.

We're not trying to blow you off. We're just telling you that is where you should go. I want to meet with Mr. Padula over Section 8 and see what we can do there. And, you know, everybody has a valid point as long as we keep it civil. And that's all I ask.

Nobody needs to degrade anybody. We're not here for that. We're all Dunmoreans. We're going to go out and see each other at restaurants, wherever, on the streets, say hello at a picnic. But we all want to make the best thing. We want a great Dunmore.

And I think we're all on board with that. I'd like to say Didge was probably the best DPW in my lifetime because you were the only one. But I am being totally honest. This

man, you could call him at 3:00 on a Sunday morning and he'd answer the phone and he'd go and do whatever you needed.

I'd say, Didge, can you get this in the morning? This is really bad. I'll go now. I got it. Or he'd call me up at 7:00. It's done. No questions asked. No, you know, he just did everything we needed, plowed for 18, 19 hours a day.

You can't do that anymore. Nobody could. But you did it back in the day. And I really appreciate -- you're going to be really missed. I mean it from the bottom of my heart. I love you, brother. You were great. Whatever I needed, we tried to work it out and again, because you love Dunmore.

MR. JUDGE: Yeah.

MR. HALLINAN: As we all do. We're not here because we hate Dunmore or anybody here is doing anything wrong. Everybody's thanking the firefighters are great. We forgot the part-time DPW workers. They're an asset there too.

And nobody gets that these guys -- I love them because they're out in every element

of weather, freezing, high temperature. We all have good workers here. We really do. Like I said, I'm going to cry because I'm going to miss you, Didge. You're the best.

MR. JUDGE: Thank you.

MR. HALLINAN: Can I have a motion to adjourn?

MS. BRIER: Tommy, I have just one more quick thing to tell folks. We're having a food drive on Election Day at all five polling places like we did at the last election. We were able to supply five different food banks with a lot of food. People were incredibly generous for the food drive.

Now, that was a bigger election because it was a presidential election. So we don't anticipate as many people coming. But we just want to spread the word, all nonperishable goods. And then we take forever to get it, you know, straightened out once we get it here. But it worked out really well last time and appreciate everyone donating.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

MR. LOUGHNEY: Motion to adjourn.

MR. HALLINAN: I'll make that, sir.

Motion to adjourn?

MR. LOUGHNEY: So moved.

MS. ZANGARDI: Second.

MR. HALLINAN: Thank you all for coming.

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

(The foregoing certificate of this transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)