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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, May 11, 2015

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

LOCATION:

DUNMORE COMMUNITY CENTER  
1414 Monroe Avenue  
Dunmore, Pennsylvania

C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

MICHAEL MCHALE, President

PAUL NARDOZZI, Vice President

SAL VERRASTRO

TIMOTHY BURKE

CAROL SCRIMALLI

THOMAS HALLINAN

MICHAEL DEMPSEY

THOMAS P. CUMMINGS, Esquire, Solicitor

MARIA McCOOL, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2

3

4 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

5 MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

6 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Burke.

7 MR. BURKE: Present.

8 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro.

9 MR. VERRASTRO: Here.

10 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

11 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.

13 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

14 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Nardozzi.

15 MR. NARDOZZI: Here.

16 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.

17 MR. MCHALE: Here.

18 ATTY. CUMMINGS: The first order of  
19 business prior to the actual meeting is to  
20 conduct a public hearing on the application of  
21 Club 530 that the current license is Club 530  
22 in Scranton to transfer that liquor license for  
23 6-pack sales to Drinker Street Six Packs To Go,  
24 788 East Drinker Street.

25 This is the same type hearing we

1 had five or six times in the past two or three  
2 years. Basically the LCB allows a transfer of  
3 licenses from one municipality to the other  
4 and in this proposed case from Scranton into  
5 Dunmore but requires review of Borough Council  
6 and a public hearing for comment.

7 The other ones have gone through, as  
8 a matter of fact, we do have the benefit of the  
9 transfer fee and the annual renewal fee as well  
10 as such other taxes as they generate.

11 The applicant is here this evening  
12 with their attorney. They have submitted the  
13 plans. And first I guess would be if anyone on  
14 Council has a particular question.

15 MR. MCHALE: Anybody?

16 (No response.)

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: There being none,  
18 does anybody in the general public have a  
19 question?

20 (No response.)

21 ATTY. CUMMINGS: There being none,  
22 the hearing is then closed. We go back to the  
23 public comment on agenda items. Number four on  
24 the agenda as printed will come in after number  
25 five.

1 MR. MCHALE: Would anybody like to  
2 speak on any agenda items this evening?

3 (No response.)

4 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next item is a  
5 motion to approve the transfer of Pennsylvania  
6 Liquor Control license R13470, LID number 54512  
7 from Club 530, Incorporated, current license  
8 municipality Scranton, Lackawanna County to  
9 Drinker Street Six Packs To Go, LLC., located  
10 at 788 East Drinker Street, Dunmore, PA 18512.

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

12 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll second it.

13 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a  
14 second. On the question.

15 (No response.)

16 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor  
17 signify by saying aye.

18 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so  
22 moved.

23 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Thank you.

24 Gentlemen, you're free to go. And thank you  
25 for attending. The next item is a motion to

1 approve the minutes.

2 MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that  
3 motion.

4 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

5 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a  
6 second. On the question.

7 (No response.)

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

10 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

11 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

12 (No response.)

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

15 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve  
16 and pay open bills.

17 MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that  
18 motion.

19 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

20 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a  
21 second. On the question.

22 (No response.)

23 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor  
24 signify by saying aye.

25 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

1 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so  
4 moved.

5 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Personnel matters,  
6 motion to hire part-time firemen Shane  
7 Bushpics, Zachary Calvert and Stephen Warner.

8 MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that  
9 motion.

10 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll second it.

11 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a  
12 second. On the question.

13 MR. VERRASTRO: Just to refresh  
14 everyone's memory, these are the gentlemen that  
15 we said we wanted to hire last meeting. They  
16 completed all the background checks. They  
17 started their training. And now they are doing  
18 their inservice, just as an update.

19 MR. MCHALE: Quickly, just these are  
20 not additional firemen. These are added to the  
21 part time available roster.

22 MR. VERRASTRO: Part time added to  
23 the roster for vacation days, if somebody calls  
24 in sick, holiday, stuff like that. And this is  
25 the first round of part-timers that we actually

1 had do physical fitness. This is the first set  
2 of part-timers that we actually had go through  
3 a couple extra steps, a PT test and they all  
4 did very well on it along with the other  
5 services that they had.

6 MR. MCHALE: Okay. Anybody else on  
7 the question?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor  
10 signify by saying aye.

11 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

12 MR. MCHALE: Opposed.

13 (No response.)

14 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so  
15 moved.

16 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Not on agenda but  
17 will be subject to public comment prior to any  
18 action, discussion the Borough at the last  
19 meeting had discussed retaining a new firm to  
20 handle the street lights maintenance and  
21 outages in the Borough, basically have service  
22 without any problems.

23 Is there anybody in the public that  
24 would like to comment on the Borough retaining  
25 a new company to maintain the street lights?

1 (No response.)

2 ATTY. CUMMINGS: There being none.  
3 Mr. Hallinan?

4 MR. HALLINAN: I'd like to make a  
5 motion that we hire MJ Cordaro, Joe Kries to do  
6 street light maintenance. It's something we've  
7 been lacking. And I just want to see us move  
8 forward with a final contract that Tommy and  
9 Vito could put together. I'm putting a motion  
10 out there that we hire Joe.

11 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

12 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a  
13 second. On the question.

14 MR. BURKE: On the question, the  
15 last company wasn't getting the job done. A  
16 lot of people in the audience could attest to  
17 that. Street lights, it was a must to get  
18 somebody to actually do the job.

19 MR. VERRASTRO: With that, we're  
20 talking about a one-year contract, right? I  
21 think we should set a --

22 MR. HALLINAN: Yeah, I'll go with a  
23 one-year contract. I have no problem with  
24 that.

25 MR. NARDOZZI: Mr. Chairman, when



1 would it commence?

2 MR. MCHALE: As soon as Mr. Cummings  
3 and Mr. Ruggiero negotiate final terms.

4 MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you.

5 MR. MCHALE: I assume, Tom, that's  
6 what you want?

7 MR. HALLINAN: Yes, that's what I  
8 want. Thank you.

9 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else on the  
10 question?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. MCHALE: All in favor signify by  
13 saying aye.

14 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

15 MR. MCHALE: Opposed.

16 (No response.)

17 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so  
18 moved.

19 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

20 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number nine is  
21 public comment.

22 MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to address  
23 Council tonight, please. If you could state  
24 your name and address for the record?

25 MR. HOGAN: My name is Bob Hogan,

1 Hill Street in Dunmore. First off, we should  
2 be able to set aside at least 30 spaces out  
3 here to be able to park. There is no reason  
4 that this center that the parking is for can't  
5 do it when there's parking available for them  
6 to park.

7 But that's something that should be  
8 looked at and there should be at least 30  
9 spots.

10 MR. HALLINAN: I think the  
11 construction is deterring a lot of parking  
12 spaces. But I couldn't agree with you more.

13 MR. HOGAN: The second question is,  
14 how about the letter for Council for opposing  
15 or supporting the landfill?

16 MR. BURKE: We decided to do more  
17 legal research on it.

18 MR. HOGAN: Okay. The parking, I  
19 don't want to get a handicap sticker just to  
20 come in here.

21 MR. MCHALE: Thank you, sir.

22 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

23 MS. GRAFF: My name is Connie Graff.  
24 I live on East Elm Street. I'm here with some  
25 neighbors. We're having an awful time with a

1 new neighbor. They own the home. She owns the  
2 home. But it's overrun with teenagers for some  
3 reason, very suspect.

4 They're loud. They are running up  
5 and down the street. They have probably five  
6 dogs between them. And there are illegal  
7 tenants in the basement. It's not equipped to  
8 rent. And they are allowed to run all over.  
9 We have an elderly neighbor that had to call  
10 her son to clean up the dog dirt because they  
11 just don't.

12 They nipped a neighbor the other day  
13 as well. They are out late screaming, carrying  
14 on. And they don't live there. They are just  
15 teenage company.

16 MR. MCHALE: Visitors.

17 MS. GRAFF: One looking a little  
18 rougher than the other. And the police were  
19 called your records will show how many times  
20 someone called the police. And just the other  
21 night they were there because of the dog bite.

22 And they no sooner pulled away when  
23 this lady was in front of the house screaming  
24 at the top of her lungs. I don't know if she  
25 was coming off something or on something or

1 just angry, you know. And I didn't call the  
2 police but they were just here.

3 MR. HALLINAN: No, no. Call them  
4 again.

5 MS. GRAFF: Like should we have a  
6 substation there? What are our rights?

7 MR. NARDOZZI: Mrs. Graff, one of  
8 the things we do in the summer I know with the  
9 police department they do foot patrols every  
10 summer. And I know the weather is starting to  
11 get nice now. I will talk to the Chief.

12 MR. VERRASTRO: I already have.

13 MR. NARDOZZI: Mr. Verrastro already  
14 talked to him about putting actual foot patrols  
15 up there.

16 MR. VERRASTRO: There will be foot  
17 patrols starting at Willow and Elm Street.

18 MS. GRAFF: Oh, really, because  
19 during the day it doesn't seem to be a problem.  
20 The kids are in school.

21 MR. VERRASTRO: No, this will be at  
22 night.

23 MS. GRAFF: But they're teenage and  
24 there is something not right there.

25 MR. VERRASTRO: What's the address

1           there?

2                   MR. HALLINAN: Do you want to give  
3           that address after to Mr. Verrastro?

4                   MR. MCHALE: And we'll have  
5           Mr. Lorince look into the basement issue as  
6           well.

7                   MS. GRAFF: Yeah, because I know  
8           from the previous person that lived there went  
9           to a nursing home. The kid sold the house.  
10          It's a living room area type. They gave her a  
11          room for a computer, a shower, and a toilet.  
12          That's all that's down there. They have four  
13          adults and three or four dogs.

14                  MR. NARDOZZI: Is it a single family  
15          home?

16                  MS. GRAFF: Yes.

17                  MR. NARDOZZI: I know the one you're  
18          talking about.

19                  MS. GRAFF: So the whole situation  
20          is -- it's actually scary. We have a mixed  
21          neighborhood. We have kids. We have older,  
22          retired, you know. We have people still  
23          working. We sit on our porches at night like  
24          most folks and you can't. It's just  
25          unbelievable.

1 MR. HALLINAN: Please call the  
2 police anytime. And at any time repeatedly  
3 call them because then that only builds up the  
4 record against them too.

5 MS. GRAFF: I thought oh, my God  
6 they just made --

7 MR. HALLINAN: No, they will keep it  
8 anonymous for you too.

9 MR. NARDOZZI: Mrs. Graff, we will  
10 be on this tomorrow.

11 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

12 MS. OCCULTO: I'd like to comment  
13 also.

14 MR. MCHALE: Can you say your name  
15 and address for the record?

16 MS. OCCULTO: Joan Occulto.

17 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

18 MS. OCCULTO: 136 East Elm Street.  
19 I'd like to follow her story. I have seen  
20 young children from age 14 -- the oldest is 16,  
21 17 years old. I seen them -- drugs being  
22 passed from one to the other.

23 The policemen come. As soon as the  
24 car pulls up then the kids start coming. They  
25 see a car there they're not coming. They go

1 the other way. One of the men came -- all --  
2 we're talking all kind of race, all kind of  
3 race, mixed race. One man that lives there a  
4 black, he was coming down the street to go home  
5 and the police car was across the street.

6 He saw that and he kept going and  
7 went around the corner. Right then the cop  
8 pulled out and he must have been around the  
9 corner watching. He goes back and goes in the  
10 house. And no sooner the cop left, a car pulls  
11 up lets the motor run which is done ten times a  
12 day.

13 He goes in. Lets his door open  
14 even. Goes in. Knocks on the door. Comes out  
15 and two minutes, pulls out and goes. They are  
16 going in there for drugs and everybody knows  
17 it. And I think it's a shame that we're  
18 allowing a house like that in our area.

19 I mean, Dunmore is supposed to be a  
20 safe place. It isn't anymore not if we're  
21 allowing stuff like that.

22 MR. HALLINAN: No, no, it is a safe  
23 town. Just give us the address after. And  
24 we'll -- and again, I don't know what the  
25 police are doing. They could be watching the

1 place. I don't mean to interrupt you but they  
2 have a job to do and they have to kind of watch  
3 how they are doing it too.

4 MS. OCCULTO: The police found a  
5 needle in front of their home. And guess what  
6 the owner said? Oh, I don't know where that  
7 came from. I mean, so then they get away with  
8 it?

9 MR. NARDOZZI: But you still have to  
10 have proof, Mrs. Occulto. You still have to  
11 have proof.

12 MS. OCCULTO: I could be a witness.  
13 I see kids go in there two girls come up the  
14 street --

15 MR. NARDOZZI: Back up for a second.  
16 You said they found a needle. You still have  
17 to have proof who put it there.

18 MS. OCCULTO: I'm saying we know who  
19 put it there. What has to happen --

20 MR. NARDOZZI: That don't cut the  
21 mustard in the law.

22 MS. OCCULTO: Somebody has to watch  
23 the house or it's going to stay there.

24 MR. HALLINAN: That's why we'll tell  
25 the Chief and do things --



1 MS. OCCULTO: Okay.

2 MR. HALLINAN: Okay? All right.

3 MS. OCCULTO: If anything is done  
4 about it, would you please let one of us know  
5 up on Elm Street so we know it's being taken  
6 care of?

7 MR. HALLINAN: Absolutely. Okay.  
8 Thank you.

9 MR. MCHALE: Thank you.

10 MR. NARDOZZI: Mrs. Occulto, I'll  
11 keep in touch with my cousin Patty and your  
12 husband. I see your husband from time to time.

13 MS. OCCULTO: Okay. Thank you.

14 MS. HALLINAN: My name is Kelly  
15 Burke Hallinan. I live in the 1700 block of  
16 Madison Avenue -- lower Madison Avenue, the  
17 lower half of the 1700 block.

18 We are in an R1 single residence  
19 zone. I have gone to zoning. I was on the  
20 agenda. I filed a formal grievance. I  
21 attended two meetings. And the outcome was I  
22 was told to get parking permits to be able to  
23 park in my neighborhood.

24 We have a problem where now it must  
25 be eight homes -- single family homes have been



1 copy for us? Or how about if I give you my  
2 e-mail and you sent them to me, okay?

3 MS. HALLINAN: Sure. I have all the  
4 ordinances are broken. They are not being  
5 upheld. I have to abide by these ordinances.  
6 Now, I have contacted an attorney who deals  
7 with and he specializes in real estate and  
8 zoning.

9 I also contacted I've been working  
10 with a man from the Pennsylvania Department of  
11 Economic Development who assures me I'm not  
12 misinterpreting the ordinances. Joe Lorince  
13 told me that nothing could be done about it  
14 because people are already moved in.

15 So I told him when two other homes  
16 were purchased the homes are now owned by new  
17 people and they appear to be breaking them  
18 down, turning them into apartments. They are  
19 being altered illegally actually according to  
20 the ordinances.

21 We are a single family residence  
22 zone. I have it in the map. We're R1B, single  
23 family zone block. And I have students  
24 literally 7 and a half -- they're -- and now  
25 they're moving out. And these are females and

1           males now we have three guys moving in.

2                     There's never three. He leases to  
3           three, you end up with five to seven that stay  
4           every night. There's motorcycles parked all  
5           over the front yards. They are not providing  
6           parking -- off street parking which is also in  
7           the ordinance.

8                     They are all illegally done. They  
9           are not being maintained. They're not being  
10          kept or not being inspected. And something bad  
11          is going to happen.

12                    Now, not to stray, but I do believe  
13          that the serious rat problem -- this rat was in  
14          my grill that I cook my family's food in. They  
15          are big as woodchucks down there. This one we  
16          just got last week on my basketball court. He  
17          tried to get away. I have two dogs. I can't  
18          set traps and bait.

19                    I did call Joe. And Joe didn't do  
20          anything about it so I called Carl myself.  
21          Carl came down. And he said I baited the back  
22          alley but it appears when -- I don't know if  
23          you know Fazio's house there was a Joe Fazio  
24          that died.

25                    The house went for sheriff's sale.

1           It was a single family. We were there too. We  
2           were at zoning for that meeting. It was  
3           supposed to stay single family and Joe Lorince  
4           said he let it go to be a two family because  
5           Fazio -- Andy Fazio and his brother were going  
6           to live there.

7                       Well, they flipped it and now it's  
8           for sale as a multifamily and it was a single  
9           family. So this is just an ongoing problem.  
10          So if you can tell me -- if you can't help me,  
11          I've gone to zoning already. I went through  
12          all of the proper steps. I met with an  
13          attorney first. He told me stop with the  
14          e-mails. File your complaint the way you  
15          should. Get on the agenda which we did.

16                      And there were other neighbors that  
17          couldn't be here tonight. But there were other  
18          neighbors there with me -- homeowners because  
19          now what's happening is -- like even Bewick's  
20          house was sold and it's being rented out. The  
21          owner doesn't live there. He lives in Florida.  
22          It's a single family. I mean, it's not  
23          supposed to be like that.

24                      MR. NARDOZZI: There are -- in the  
25          ordinance, there are maximum number of



1           like I said, I consulted with an attorney. And  
2           he said, no, you're not misinterpreting.  
3           Nothing is being done.

4                         MR. HALLINAN: Tom, can I ask you a  
5           question? When these houses are -- can we go  
6           in and inspect them at any time or do we have  
7           to wait until the tenants move out?

8                         ATTY. CUMMINGS: If it's a  
9           multifamily, we have the right to give notice  
10          of intent to inspect. And then if they refuse  
11          us access, we give -- there's like a two or  
12          three step procedure. And then we can't force  
13          our way in but we can then condemn it because  
14          they refused to let us inspect it. But that's  
15          in a multifamily.

16                        MR. HALLINAN: And are they listed  
17          as multifamily when -- I don't know this --  
18          they are single homes but they are just doing  
19          it on their own?

20                        MS. HALLINAN: Yeah, I have 1731,  
21          now it's two apartments. And they are doing it  
22          without -- so if they are applying for permits  
23          and getting permits for a single family home,  
24          one address, it should be one. It shouldn't be  
25          allowed. We're in an R1 single family zone

1 area.

2 MR. VERRASTRO: Where the loophole  
3 is multifamily home starts at three units. We  
4 have to figure out how to do it because a  
5 duplex isn't considered a multifamily.

6 MS. HALLINAN: There was two homes  
7 with two addresses that were -- Fazio's was  
8 full. We had up to 30 college students. We  
9 had them hanging off the roofs and everything  
10 at that time. Unfortunately Fazio got very ill  
11 and the house went up to sheriff's sale but  
12 fortunately --

13 MR. VERRASTRO: Did that happen  
14 after we talked or before we talked last time?  
15 The Fazio -- because we talked about this. You  
16 and I talked about this last year.

17 MS. HALLINAN: Oh, Fazio's just  
18 happened. Fazio's after we went to zoning and  
19 it was a single family with one door. And I  
20 showed them the deed with one address. It got  
21 two addresses. You try to find a house -- if  
22 someone becomes a fireman that is unfamiliar  
23 with Dunmore or an EMT comes, you can't find  
24 the houses even if you have your lights lit up  
25 because that's the problem.



1                   There's, you know, 1731 and a half  
2                   people put because there is only one number on  
3                   the house. People are looking for these  
4                   houses. Also there's a lot that Bewicks had  
5                   complained about in the back of their home  
6                   where they got funding from a grant from  
7                   Lackawanna County and got it torn down.

8                   No one has ever looked at it again.  
9                   There's possums. There's woodchucks, maybe  
10                  that's where a lot of the rats are. This is  
11                  feet from my house also in the rear. No one  
12                  cuts the grass. The people that rent Bewick's  
13                  use it as their dog's toilet and never clean it  
14                  up.

15                  No one's ever come back to that  
16                  property since it's been torn down. I thought  
17                  they were supposed to if they had a grant to  
18                  knock them down I thought someone was supposed  
19                  to maintain the property. I mean, at least  
20                  just cut the grass or now they have to go in  
21                  with a machete or something.

22                  MR. HALLINAN: There's an ordinance  
23                  over, you know, keeping your lawn --

24                  MS. HALLINAN: And the house next  
25                  door to me is my biggest issue. If anything

1           can be done right now, the house next door to  
2           me which I have the name of the owner because  
3           it's not, of course, he's a lawyer. It's not  
4           under his name. It's under a corporation.

5                     He's the one that has -- we just got  
6           two nice new tenants on the third floor that I  
7           happened to go on Unified Judicial and saw a  
8           lot about them. I know you can't do anything  
9           about that. But I could hear the activity.

10                    But they are on third floor. Like I  
11           said, I have college students on the second  
12           floor. He rents to three and there's never  
13           three in there. And sometimes there's 20 on a  
14           weekend. And they're out partying on -- wait  
15           until you see the porch.

16                    The house in between Bewick's and  
17           this house -- it's the house between myself and  
18           Bewicks. When it's windy, the wood actually  
19           flies off the house. The shingles hit my  
20           house. A satellite fell off the house.

21                    MR. HALLINAN: The dirty yellow  
22           house.

23                    MS. HALLINAN: The dirty yellow  
24           house. And you go on Bewick's side, you could  
25           watch the squirrels and the birds fly in all

1           day because the siding is actually pulled away  
2           from the house. And there are animals just  
3           crawling up the side of the house. This is  
4           right next door to my house and the rats.

5                        I mean, come on, a rat in your  
6           grill? You know, I have to boil everything  
7           before I even attempt to cook on it and I have  
8           dogs. So there must be, you know, the saying  
9           is if there's one rat there's a hundred. I  
10          have two dogs in the yard for them to come up  
11          on my porch -- thankfully for Mother's Day I  
12          got a security camera so I will find out where  
13          the rats are actually coming from.

14                       I can't put traps out because of the  
15          dogs and I shouldn't have to. I grew up in  
16          this home. There was never a rat problem.

17                       MR. NARDOZZI: Kel, we'll be on it  
18          tomorrow and the other one too. Kelly, if you  
19          can e-mail -- my e-mail is on there. You can  
20          e-mail whatever you have. If you send it to  
21          me, I will forward it to everybody else.

22                       ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Duncan.

23                       MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Barton  
24          Street, Dunmore. Just a couple announcements  
25          and I'll be very quick. From the Dunmore

1 Neighborhood Watch for those folks that are  
2 here tonight, you are certainly welcome to come  
3 to our meetings fortuitous that we're here  
4 together tonight.

5 We're having our community  
6 neighborhood walk which will be this Sunday,  
7 May 17th. We conduct those walks at noon,  
8 okay? We're going to be going through the  
9 Gilroy, Hill, Smith, Cooney, Chestnut Street  
10 corridor. Parking will be at St. Anthony's  
11 playground. That will be this Sunday at noon.

12 The next Dunmore Neighborhood Watch  
13 meeting will be a week today. It will be  
14 Monday, May 18th. We keep our meetings just  
15 like Council. It's at 7 p.m. It's in this  
16 room. So again the neighborhood walk is  
17 Sunday, May 17th at noon. Park at St.  
18 Anthony's playground. We hope to see you folks  
19 there.

20 The meeting is a week tonight.  
21 We'll have the results of the walk. We'll get  
22 those out to Council obviously and out to Vito  
23 and the Solicitor and everybody. Thank you  
24 very much.

25 MR. NARDOZZI: Gary, did that

1 vehicle come back the one we talked about?

2 MR. MCHALE: Thanks, Gary.

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Anything from  
4 Representative Farina's Office?

5 MR. VALVANO: Just one thing, May  
6 21st from 10 to 2 p.m. here at the Dunmore  
7 Community Center, Representative Farina is  
8 having a senior health fair. The public is  
9 invited. So that's it. Thanks.

10 MR. MCHALE: Thank you, sir.

11 MS. SCRIMALLI: Thank you.

12 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to  
13 address Council?

14 MR. HOGAN: Don't forget the  
15 dedication for the Korean War Veterans the 30th  
16 down at the tank at noon.

17 MR. MCHALE: The 30th at noon at the  
18 tank.

19 MR. HOGAN: Right. You are involved  
20 in it.

21 MR. MCHALE: Yeah, absolutely.  
22 Anybody else like to speak?

23 MR. ZECH: Eddie Zech, 206 Andrew  
24 Street. Since summer sprung upon us lately,  
25 there's been some problems with these outdoor

1 patio fire boxes whatever you want to call  
2 them, heaters, whatever, where people start  
3 them up when they are having a party or  
4 something or when they are just sitting outside  
5 and they go to bed and those things are left  
6 outside.

7 Two, 3:00 in the morning all of a  
8 sudden you get up because you smell smoke  
9 because your windows are open now and your  
10 screens are in the doors and windows. And the  
11 first thing you think your house is on fire.  
12 Are those allowed? Are they considered open  
13 burn?

14 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Cummings?

15 ATTY. CUMMINGS: What the Chimineas?

16 MR. ZECH: Not the ones with the  
17 propane, the ones that they -- fire boxes, pit,  
18 whatever you want to call them.

19 MR. NARDOZZI: Fire pit, yeah.

20 MR. VERRASTRO: Some people use  
21 Chimineas but they have wood in there.

22 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I don't know if  
23 it's considered open burning.

24 MR. ZECH: Well, the flame is there.

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I'm not saying it

1 is or isn't. I'll look what the ordinance says  
2 and report to Council.

3 MR. ZECH: Right. I hope somebody  
4 would look into that. The only other thing I  
5 have is the next scheduled meeting would be  
6 Memorial Day; am I right, is that going to  
7 change?

8 MR. MCHALE: We cancelled it. Thank  
9 you, sir.

10 MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you.

11 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to  
12 speak tonight?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. MCHALE: Seeing none.

15 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public officials.

16 MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Scrimalli, do you  
17 want to lead us off tonight?

18 MS. SCRIMALLI: Yes, thank you, Mr.  
19 Chairman. I do want to thank everyone for  
20 coming. And I feel so bad about your issues.  
21 This is the first I'm hearing about it. And,  
22 Connie, I feel your pain. And I'll give you my  
23 phone number afterwards. You could call me  
24 anytime.

25 MS. GRAFF: Individually you can't

1 do anything.

2 MS. SCRIMALLI: You could call me  
3 with the issues that you have. And also the  
4 Act 32 Wage Tax meeting was cancelled for this  
5 past month. However, I do think we are going  
6 to be having a meeting for May.

7 And also Mr. Hogan had brought to  
8 our attention that the dedication for the  
9 veterans is going to occur May 30th.

10 MR. HOGAN: Korean War Veterans.

11 MS. SCRIMALLI: And that's the  
12 Korean War Veteran. They redid the tank. What  
13 else did they do? They put lighting in there  
14 and sidewalks and whatnot.

15 MR. HOGAN: I don't have a copy of  
16 the plans. There is renovation work going on  
17 in the area. Sal's more filled in.

18 MR. VERRASTRO: There's a monument.

19 MS. SCRIMALLI: That will be May  
20 30th at noon. And I hope you all could make  
21 it. And that's all I have for this evening.  
22 Thank you so much for coming. I appreciate it.

23 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Burke.

24 MR. BURKE: Yes, Miss Occulto, keep  
25 reporting because it will go on record. And,



1 Gary, did the county -- when the county spoke  
2 about the drugs that are coming to the area  
3 they are saying stopping in quick in and out.  
4 But you have to keep track of that, right?

5 MR. DUNCAN: Yes.

6 MR. BURKE: And always keep calling  
7 the police on that.

8 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I can't do that  
9 because that will be four times a day.

10 MR. MCHALE: Guys, we can't go back  
11 and forth.

12 MS. HALLINAN: I could call every 10  
13 minutes.

14 MR. NARDOZZI: Excuse me, one at a  
15 time. We have a court reporter.

16 MR. MCHALE: We have a court  
17 reporter. We can't go back and forth. I  
18 apologize.

19 MR. BURKE: That's what they  
20 suggested. That's what the county drug  
21 force --

22 UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Timmy, we were  
23 told that you have to put a complaint in. The  
24 police were called at least a half a dozen  
25 times recently, right? Doesn't that constitute

1 a complaint?

2 If you call 911, are you putting in  
3 a complaint in or does it have to be in writing  
4 or do we have to appear someplace?

5 MR. BURKE: I believe the call  
6 itself is a complaint. I too, I mean, you  
7 could call me at any time. I'm close to your  
8 neighborhood. I'll come up too. I'll get on  
9 the police. We all will. Everyone on Council  
10 will.

11 UNIDENTIFIED MAN: The police were  
12 there and they did stay maybe two hours, two  
13 hours and a half and we don't know what was --  
14 what they told them. You call 911 again they  
15 said you have to put a complaint in.

16 Well, the police cars are there like  
17 three or four times a month. I don't know what  
18 a complaint means.

19 MR. BURKE: I think just a call  
20 itself is a complaint according to the county.  
21 We'll make sure that they are checking it out.

22 UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Hey, Timmy, as  
23 soon as the police cars leave, I mean, I'm not  
24 complaining. They come when you call them,  
25 right? But as soon as they leave, the influx

1 of these kids, they are coming out of the sky  
2 as soon as they see the police cars leave.

3 There was one girl and her  
4 boyfriend, young. I don't think they were 15  
5 years old screaming, walking the whole block of  
6 Elm Street, using profanity. And the one girl  
7 laid right on the sidewalk there screaming.

8 MR. MCHALE: Sir, can we have your  
9 name for the record?

10 MR. OCCULTO: Ross Occulto.

11 MR. MCHALE: Okay. Thank you, sir.  
12 Anything else?

13 MR. BURKE: Okay. We'll be on --  
14 you can call my house at any time and I'll  
15 check on it too. We have to keep on them. And  
16 it is -- like the county said, this is  
17 happening not only in your neighborhood but Sal  
18 said we'll have foot patrols up there. I do  
19 believe that will help. Nobody wants that --

20 MS. OCCULTO: These kids --

21 MR. NARDOZZI: Mrs. Occulto, there's  
22 a quorum at a meeting only one person can speak  
23 at a time because Miss McCool here she has to  
24 record it and she can't record what two people  
25 are saying at the same time.

1 MR. BURKE: Even too if you guys  
2 ever get a chance to come to the crime watch  
3 meeting, it's -- there's a lot of info, very,  
4 very informative. And he gets good guest  
5 speakers. You could learn a lot from that on  
6 what to do in a situation.

7 Council comes to the meetings. He  
8 has police officers here. He has drug force  
9 people here. And you could learn a lot from it  
10 and what to look for. And like I said, I  
11 wouldn't want it in my neighborhood. It is.  
12 It is in my neighborhood too. We have the same  
13 kind of houses too.

14 And they are hard to catch. You  
15 call the cops and they're gone. The cops leave  
16 and they are back again. I know it's very  
17 hard. Eventually they will get hit with a  
18 sting operation. Try to stay in there and  
19 we'll do the best we can. Don't be afraid to  
20 call us. That's all I have for tonight.

21 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

22 MR. VERRASTRO: Yes, to start just  
23 to let everybody know unless there's any  
24 objections then I'll do it in the form of a  
25 motion. We have the funds to pay the TAN. I

1 just want to let everybody know and the public  
2 included that our TAN with the bills for  
3 approval this month, we'll pay our TAN off too.

4 That's our Tax Anticipation Note.  
5 Secondly, Tom, how do we go about this? I just  
6 want to get some information on it. Do we have  
7 the Fire Chief just do it or through Comm  
8 Center? Our fire department's having a problem  
9 at times with on-calls. They're getting  
10 stepped on.

11 I would like to see if there's a  
12 cost to start and what we would have to do to  
13 have our own frequency for our fire department.  
14 Like, our police department has its own  
15 frequency. Scranton fire has a frequency. Our  
16 fire department is sharing a frequency.

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: You want two  
18 frequencies?

19 MR. VERRASTRO: I want to see what's  
20 involved in getting one for our fire department  
21 because they were on call last week. And they  
22 were on a -- they had a smoke -- I forget how  
23 they phrase it. They were on a call were they  
24 had smoke wherever they were.

25 And they were trying to communicate

1           and it's -- there's was a call coming in for  
2           incidentally a Chiminea in Moscow that  
3           everybody was up there a supposed brush fire  
4           and these guys were on a call for a building  
5           that had smoke in it. And they couldn't talk  
6           to each other or Comm Center because that call  
7           was stepping on theirs because of -- and I  
8           guess it happens quite a bit.

9                        So I don't know if we're sharing a  
10           frequency because of -- that's the way it was  
11           set up whenever it was years ago for cost or if  
12           there is no room for other ones. How do we go  
13           about -- is it just a call to the county or  
14           does the Chief call and request or do we  
15           have --

16                       ATTY. CUMMINGS: I'll find out  
17           tomorrow.

18                       MR. VERRASTRO: I have no idea.  
19           They came to me at a safety meeting about it.  
20           And I didn't know what route to go.

21                       MR. NARDOZZI: Sal, if I may  
22           interject?

23                       MR. VERRASTRO: Sure.

24                       MR. NARDOZZI: At one time before  
25           you guys got on we had a local. We had our own

1 for Dunmore fire --

2 MR. VERRASTRO: No, they don't want  
3 us to have on that county channel --

4 MR. NARDOZZI: No, it was a  
5 dedicated channel that was just for Dunmore  
6 fire. So it's just something to look into,  
7 Tom. It still might be there just it's not  
8 active. We still might have the license for  
9 that frequency.

10 MR. VERRASTRO: I don't know what it  
11 is. And lastly with regard to Elm Street, I'm  
12 not going to talk it to death everybody is  
13 talking about it. But we'll get somebody  
14 there. I had complaints on Willow Street. So  
15 I had talked to the Chief and he told me he had  
16 some problems in that whole area.

17 So with the weather coming, he was  
18 going to start doing some foot patrols. That  
19 was last week. I don't know when he is  
20 starting to schedule them. I'm sure after  
21 tonight he'll have seven phone calls tomorrow  
22 and it will get done quicker than it was  
23 supposed to.

24 Kelly, if you think that is  
25 something that will help you there because of

1           the problems, I mean, summer there is no kids  
2           there now with summer with Marywood. Is it all  
3           year long or just --

4                       MS. HALLINAN: It's all year long.

5                       MR. VERRASTRO: Maybe we can request  
6           it for your block also because if you think it  
7           will help deter some of it. Word gets out they  
8           can't have fun in that neighborhood maybe  
9           they'll stop --

10                      MS. HALLINAN: Well, you know,  
11           bigger than that I have a teenage kids. I got  
12           kids. There's little kids up higher -- it's  
13           the overcrowding, the noise. It's  
14           unbelievable -- cars. I mean, this is because  
15           it's illegally done. I didn't move in a block  
16           and I don't pay taxes for a block where there  
17           is multifamily homes --

18                      MR. VERRASTRO: I understand.

19                      MS. HALLINAN: So it's right next  
20           door to your home. We had a nice little lady  
21           living there who went to bed at 9:00. And now  
22           you have people coming in and out all hours of  
23           the day and laughing, talking, motorcycles,  
24           you know, right next door.

25                      MR. VERRASTRO: No, I understand. I



1           just -- if you want that I can request that in  
2           that neighborhood also if you think it will  
3           help.

4                       MS. HALLINAN: It wouldn't hurt.

5                       MR. VERRASTRO: Okay. I'm done.

6                       MR. MCHALE: Mr. Nardozzi.

7                       MR. NARDOZZI: Mr. and Mrs. Occulto,  
8           when you call Comm Center, you are generating a  
9           report every time. So no matter the type of  
10          call that you are calling in, whether it's a  
11          nuisance, a threat or a theft, whatever it may  
12          be, there's a code.

13                      Every call gets logged. So every  
14          call if you're calling to say, you know, 110  
15          West Street, it gets logged under 110 West  
16          Street so someone could go back -- the Chief  
17          could go back on the computer at the police  
18          station and just check to see how many calls  
19          and what type of calls have come in on that  
20          particular place or even in the area.

21                      So every time you call, that's why  
22          it is important that you do call. If you see  
23          anything, that's what the police are there for.  
24          So just so know, it is generating a type of  
25          complaint at all times. So just keep -- if you

1           have to call five times a day, call five times  
2           a day. It helps down the road.

3                         What you're doing is you're building  
4           a paper trail against that address. And one of  
5           the things I notice is -- and I live close to  
6           you guys as you well know, you know, our area  
7           has changed. And I'm sure there is other parts  
8           of the town that have changed. But I see it  
9           down on Apple Street. It's the same thing.  
10          People walk by and you wonder, Where are you  
11          coming from, Bud?

12                        One thing you can't do. There are  
13          laws unfortunately that protect. So you got to  
14          watch too sometimes what you say when it comes  
15          to why, you know, housing they are protected  
16          believe it or not.

17                        However, when they are violating the  
18          law, that's when there are steps to take. So  
19          calling the police all the time and generating  
20          whatever has to be done a typical complaint,  
21          that helps a lot. Trust me. And we will be  
22          making sure the Chief they have the foot  
23          patrols up in your area and down by Kelly's  
24          too.

25                        And the other thing, Kelly,

1           responding to you we will be on the Code  
2           Office. That is for them to enforce. The Code  
3           Office is an enforcement. For the issues you  
4           brought up, I think you brought up about  
5           parking permits too?

6                   MS. HALLINAN: Yeah, that was the  
7           whole --

8                   MR. NARDOZZI: Can I finish? What  
9           you could do is you get with your neighbors if  
10          you could maybe get a petition together and  
11          petition and we can look into the possibility  
12          of like there is down by Marywood. I don't  
13          know if we can do it. We have to research it  
14          with the Solicitor as far as parking permits  
15          for your area.

16                   You see it done at the CMC, at  
17          Marywood, you know, just have to have a parking  
18          permit to help with you parking.

19                   MS. HALLINAN: I understand that. I  
20          live that -- I don't live next to a college or  
21          a school. I didn't buy a house next to one. I  
22          live by a --

23                   MR. NARDOZZI: Kelly, just do what  
24          I -- if you can get a petition together for us  
25          as far as --

1 MS. HALLINAN: In regard to what you  
2 just said about 911, if I may, we went myself  
3 and the neighbors to calling the non emergent  
4 number. Just like last week I found two people  
5 coming up on our porches with flashlights in  
6 their backyards under the porches. And I got  
7 my neighbor's attention and he called the non  
8 emergent. So does that get filed?

9 MR. NARDOZZI: Yes, because the  
10 police are being dispatched.

11 MS. HALLINAN: It's the Dunmore  
12 Police though do they --

13 MR. NARDOZZI: The police are being  
14 dispatched whether you call 911 or 342-9111.  
15 Whatever number you call, the police are  
16 getting dispatched and the incident is  
17 generated same date and time.

18 And again depending on what you  
19 called in, if it's logged, it's that kind of  
20 complaint.

21 MS. HALLINAN: Okay. Thank you.

22 MR. NARDOZZI: You're welcome. Mr.  
23 Chairman, that's all I have for tonight.

24 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

25 MR. HALLINAN: Kelly, please don't

1           hesitate to call the police. Call them ten  
2           times a day. Call as often as you want. And  
3           as far as the properties are being mishandled,  
4           give me the address even if you don't want to  
5           talk to Joe we'll get them down there.

6                        What's probably bringing in the rats  
7           too is just the high grass and they are living  
8           in there. And even the properties thing, don't  
9           put up with it. Let's go after it. You're  
10          paying good taxes in that area. Please. And  
11          if there is anything you need you call me.

12                       We're related through marriage so  
13          everybody knows we're not brother and sister.  
14          But anything you need, Kel, just, you know, you  
15          shouldn't have to put up with that.

16                       Even the people that are making the  
17          noises, 1, 2, 11:00 at night, I think the noise  
18          ordinance goes to 10 at night. Call.

19                       MS. HALLINAN: 10 or 11?

20                       MR. HALLINAN: Whatever, call. And  
21          it gets documented and then the police have a  
22          reason to, you know, make it almost like a  
23          nuisance household or nuisance complaint. Do  
24          what you have to do. And please don't feel  
25          threatened like, you know, because everything

1           could be done anonymous too. You don't have to  
2           leave your name. Do what you have to do.

3                   MS. HALLINAN: Oh, I go right out  
4           after them.

5                   MR. HALLINAN: I know you have some  
6           moxie in you. And that's all I have. Thank  
7           you.

8                   MS. HALLINAN: Thank you.

9                   MR. MCHALE: Attorney Dempsey.

10                   MR. DEMPSEY: Yes, just quickly,  
11          Timmy brought this up before but I really  
12          encourage you guys to go to the neighborhood  
13          watch. They do a terrific job. They take down  
14          all the minutes. They get it to us the next  
15          day. Vito takes care of everything and what he  
16          can't, you know, he gets all the information to  
17          all of us.

18                   So I would encourage you to do that.  
19          And the police are out there. They are doing  
20          the best they can. Friday night they conducted  
21          a drug patrol unit from 6 to 12. They  
22          collected \$3,000 cash, 30 grams of cocaine and  
23          arrested several individuals.

24                   So they are out there. And I would  
25          credit the Chief to that and I think it was

1           Officers Karem and Tommy Butler. They are out  
2           there. They are doing the best they can. But  
3           they need all the information. So I encourage  
4           you to keep calling, okay? And go to the  
5           neighborhood watch meetings.

6                         UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: That's 7:00,  
7           right? Next Monday?

8                         MR. DUNCAN: Yeah.

9                         MR. DEMPSEY: That's all I have.  
10          Thank you.

11                        MR. NARDOZZI: Mr. Chairman, if I  
12          may? I'm addressing with the police  
13          departments, sometimes when there's drug issues  
14          you don't know what's going on. You don't know  
15          what they are doing. They could be watching  
16          it.

17                        They could already have insider  
18          information what's going on like what happened  
19          over this past weekend. Just because you don't  
20          see anything don't mean nothing is being done.  
21          You know what I mean? So that's how we  
22          operate. Sometimes you don't.

23                        MR. VERRASTRO: But keep complaining  
24          about it.

25                        MR. NARDOZZI: Keep complaining

1           about it.

2                   MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

3                   UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I am.

4                   MR. NARDOZZI: You have to keep  
5 complaining about it. You really do. But  
6 sometimes you just have to wait.

7                   MR. VERRASTRO: Not complaining,  
8 telling them about it.

9                   UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I forgot to  
10 mention the Mecca girls, the two of them were  
11 coming home at midnight the other night. And  
12 two teenagers ran from that house over to them  
13 and they almost dropped dead. Now that's two  
14 elderly people in their 80s. You are not safe  
15 on the street at midnight because of that  
16 house.

17                   MR. NARDOZZI: It's unfortunate that  
18 our world has changed for the worse. So just  
19 so you know, what you're addressing tonight  
20 don't only happen in Dunmore. I work in  
21 Olyphant Police. We have the same issues in  
22 Olyphant and in Dickson and in Throop and  
23 everywhere. It's not unique to Dunmore.

24                   I know we were used to in our area  
25 especially everybody knew everybody. I'm sure



1 in the other parts of town it was the same way.  
2 It's changing unfortunately. It's changing.

3 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: We need more  
4 police.

5 MR. NARDOZZI: Well, that's --

6 MR. MCHALE: We're trying.

7 MR. NARDOZZI: That's coming.

8 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

9 MR. MCHALE: Vito, do you have  
10 anything tonight?

11 MR. RUGGIERO: No, I do not.

12 MR. MCHALE: Is Mr. Kearney here?

13 MR. KEARNEY: No, nothing.

14 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Judge.

15 MR. JUDGE: No.

16 MR. MCHALE: Attorney Cummings?

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: No, sir.

18 MR. MCHALE: I apologize, Tim,  
19 please.

20 MR. BURKE: Tom, I was wondering on  
21 that followup with the SSA. Anything new?

22 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Attorney Belardi  
23 did not get back to me. I'm still waiting to  
24 get a response from the Pennsylvania Municipal  
25 Authorities Association Eastern Pennsylvania

1 Solicitor. Their law firm is in Harrisburg.

2 He did not report back to me yet.

3 I'm having him handle it yet because there's  
4 no cost to us.

5 MR. BURKE: And that's been over a  
6 month he --

7 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I think it was two  
8 weeks.

9 MR. BURKE: Two weeks that he told  
10 you that? And then at a Council meeting --

11 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yeah, because it  
12 was the day of the last Council meeting which  
13 would have been two weeks ago. I think the  
14 guys name is Hann, H-A-N-N, the lawyer.

15 MR. BURKE: All right. Thank you.

16 MR. MCHALE: That it, Tim? I really  
17 don't have much. Again guys, please keep  
18 calling. We'll do everything we can. I know  
19 Paul will be at the Zoning Board tomorrow and  
20 we'll follow up. We promise. Keep coming to  
21 the meetings too even though it got a little  
22 out of hand tonight. We'll do everything we  
23 can. We promise.

24 This is the first time I'm hearing  
25 about it. We did hear about the zoning issues.

1 I apologize, yes, we did. You're going to  
2 follow up on that as well. That's all I have.  
3 Anybody else? One more thing down there?

4 MR. HALLINAN: I'd like to thank  
5 Didge and his guys for doing Grove Street.

6 MR. MCHALE: Tom is having a  
7 fundraising event. He's more of a sponsor of a  
8 fundraising event.

9 MR. HALLINAN: We're having a  
10 fundraiser in my daughter's name for Make a  
11 Wish. All proceeds will be benefitting Make a  
12 Wish. It will be May 23rd down at Morgan's Pub  
13 and Eatery. So if anybody could make it.  
14 Thank you for letting me announce that at this  
15 meeting.

16 Like I said, everything will go to  
17 Make A Wish in my daughter's name. And that's  
18 how she got to meet Harry Styles. That's teen  
19 idol. Thank you.

20 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else with  
21 anything before I adjourn?

22 MR. NARDOZZI: No.

23 MR. VERRASTRO: Motion to adjourn.

24 MR. NARDOZZI: Second.

25 MR. MCHALE: We have a motion and

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second. All in favor.

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

1  
2  
3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
5 notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy  
6 is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my  
7 ability.

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