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COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF DUNMORE

HELD:

Monday, July 13, 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 MR. MCHALE: Everybody please stand
2 for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3
4 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

5
6
7 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mrs. Scrimalli.

8 MS. SCRIMALLI: Present.

9 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Burke.

10 MR. BURKE: Present.

11 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro.

12 MR. VERRASTRO: Present.

13 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Dempsey.

14 MR. DEMPSEY: Here.

15 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Hallinan.

16 MR. HALLINAN: Here.

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Nardozzi.

18 MR. NARDOZZI: Here.

19 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. McHale.

20 MR. MCHALE: Here.

21 MR. HALLINAN: I'd like to ask

22 everybody to give a moment of silence for

23 Officer Wilding. Everybody knows it's very

24 tragic for him and his family and his little

25 children are going through and the City of

1 Scranton. Please give a moment of silence for
2 the police and the family.

3
4 (Moment of silence.)

5
6 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you.

7 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Before we get into
8 the public comment on agenda items, I request
9 of Council, as you know, we have an ordinance
10 that reserves funds in case of a fire or other
11 disaster to a property wherein the insurance
12 company turns the proceeds over to the Borough
13 to assure that the property is properly handled
14 and that no liens occur.

15 We had a particular situation some
16 years ago where the money came into the Borough
17 and there was a question of title. There was a
18 question percentage of ownership. There was a
19 question of right to the money, etc. So the
20 money has been held for quite a while.

21 We learned that the property changed
22 hands and that permits have been issued to make
23 the house habitable and the intended investment
24 is to bring it back to code. It's an unusual
25 situation. So I request Council to pass a

1 motion allowing me to issue the net funds back
2 to the insurance company for disposition as
3 best they see fit.

4 I would prefer not to get into the
5 address or the names because there may be
6 litigation at some future date.

7 MR. VERRASTRO: Do you want me to
8 make a motion now or do you want --

9 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yes, sir --

10 MR. VERRASTRO: -- to wait until
11 after public comment?

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Right now, sir.

13 MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that
14 motion.

15 MR. BURKE: Second.

16 MR. MCHALE: We have a motion and
17 second. On the question.

18 (No response.)

19 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor
20 signify by saying aye.

21 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

22 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so
25 moved.

1 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Thank you. I'll
2 direct the Treasurer to return the money to the
3 insurance company. I believe next Tuesday will
4 be the first available day to do so. Public
5 comment on agenda items.

6 MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to address
7 Council on agenda items tonight? Please.

8 MR. ZECH: Edward Zech, 206 Andrews
9 Street. The unpaid bills Page 3, second from
10 the bottom, there's an invoice 36 drawn on the
11 Community Center for \$6,385 to Patrick Reese.
12 But it doesn't really give any kind of
13 information or anything as to what that bill is
14 for.

15 MR. MCHALE: We had the security
16 cameras replaced in the whole building because
17 they were malfunctioning and they weren't
18 working, a lot of dead spots. So that's the
19 replacement of the security cameras.
20 Mr. Kearney, is that correct?

21 MR. KEARNEY: Yes.

22 MR. MCHALE: The whole system.

23 MR. ZECH: Shouldn't that be made
24 out to a corporation or something other than an
25 individual?

1 MR. MCHALE: I'm not quite sure how
2 the invoice came in, sir, but I can
3 double-check that.

4 MR. ZECH: That's a lot of money.

5 MR. MCHALE: Yep. Anybody else like
6 to speak on agenda items tonight?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. MCHALE: Seeing nobody else --

9 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next would be a
10 motion to approve the minutes.

11 MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that
12 motion, Mr. Chairman.

13 MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

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

16 (No response.)

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

19 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

20 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

21 (No response.)

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

24 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Motion to approve
25 and pay the open bills.

1 MR. DEMPSEY: I'll make the motion.

2 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

3 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
4 second. On the question.

5 (No response.)

6 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor
7 signify by saying aye.

8 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so
12 moved.

13 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number six,
14 personnel matters, the first would be a motion
15 to ratify the hiring of part-time office staff,
16 Nicole Wolff and Olena Shemchuk.

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

19 MR. NARDOZZI: I'll second.

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

22 MR. NARDOZZI: On the question?

23 MR. MCHALE: Please.

24 MR. NARDOZZI: Mr. Chairman, the
25 reason why we're making this move so the public

1 knows, we have a full-time employee in the
2 office that has gone out on family medical
3 leave and to pick up the slack with the help in
4 the office, there was help needed before they
5 went out on FMLA. So we decided to hire two
6 part-time women in the office at I believe it's
7 20 hours a week each, \$12.50 an hour.

8 MR. MCHALE: Just to add to what
9 Mr. Nardoizzi said, we had a retirement
10 effective December 31st of last year. That
11 position is in the budget, was never filled.
12 So when an additional one of our staff -- and
13 there are only four there now.

14 When we went down to three, the need
15 obviously got much greater. So we did bring on
16 these two applicants on a part time at will
17 basis as Nard said, 12.50 an hour. Anybody
18 else on the question?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor
21 signify by saying aye.

22 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

23 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so

1 moved.

2 ATTY. CUMMINGS: The next motion
3 under Personnel at the request of the Fire
4 Chief is to hire two active reserve
5 firefighters Kyle Stanton and Paul Kwiec.

6 MR. VERRASTRO: I'll make that
7 motion.

8 MR. NARDOZZI: I'll second it.

9 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
10 second. On the question.

11 MR. VERRASTRO: Yes, I don't know
12 how familiar you are with our firemen's
13 contract, but the CBA has a minimum Manning
14 Clause that requires a minimum of 15 people be
15 on staff at any given time as far as payroll
16 goes and bodies on the floor.

17 We had somebody leave a few months
18 ago -- actually two people that have left.
19 Well, one is definitely gone and the other one
20 it doesn't seem like he's coming back. So
21 we're filling them with active reserve spots
22 for now so that we have enough men on the
23 floor.

24 MR. MCHALE: Just to add to what Sal
25 said, the interviews were conducted. The two

1 gentlemen being appointed if it passes tonight
2 come from our part-time workers, come highly
3 recommended, were interviewed by the Chief the
4 Assistant Chief -- Chief DeNaples, Assist Chief
5 Dee and Captain Wolff along with three members
6 of Council as well.

7 And both received glowing
8 recommendations from each one of them. And so
9 we're proud to add them tonight if the vote
10 goes that way. So I had a motion and a second.
11 Anybody else on the question?

12 (No response.)

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

15 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

16 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

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

20 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number seven
21 is a motion to accept the Lackawanna County
22 Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation
23 Assistance Plans and enter into a cooperation
24 for agreement for implementation with
25 Lackawanna County as required by both the

1 Commonwealth and HUD for participation as an
2 Entitlement Community in the Community
3 Development Block Grant, CDBG Program.

4 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll make that
5 motion.

6 MR. DEMPSEY: Second.

7 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
8 second. On the question.

9 (No response.)

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

12 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

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

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number eight
18 is a motion to accept and adopt the Lackawanna
19 County Hazard Mitigation Plan updated as
20 required by the Federal Emergency Management
21 Agency. This adoption is a requirement to
22 obtain future state and/or federal disaster
23 funding.

24 MR. NARDOZZI: I'll make that
25 motion, Mr. Chairman.

1 MS. SCRIMALLI: I'll second that.

2 MR. MCHALE: I have a motion and a
3 second. On the question.

4 (No response.)

5 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor
6 signify by saying aye.

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. MCHALE: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. MCHALE: The ayes have it and so
11 moved.

12 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number nine is
13 a report from Gerard Hetman, Coordinator,
14 Lackawanna County. He said he may be running a
15 few minutes late.

16 Item number 10 is Gary Duncan,
17 Dunmore Neighborhood Watch.

18 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Duncan.

19 MR. DUNCAN: Gary Duncan, 117 Barton
20 Street. Just to let everybody know a week
21 tonight is the July Dunmore Neighborhood Watch
22 meeting in this room. I'll give you the next
23 month's in advance is August 17th will be the
24 following month's Dunmore Neighborhood Watch
25 meeting. So everybody here tonight is invited,

1 next week 7 p.m. in this room.

2 I had a couple concerns over the
3 weekend from four different neighbors in the
4 area of Clark's Tavern, noise and everything.
5 Some of the neighbors are hesitant even to call
6 the police. They don't want any repercussions
7 with the folks from the bar.

8 I guess it's after closing time
9 after two people are lingering. They are very
10 loud, I guess sometimes leaving trash in the
11 area. One of the neighbors picks up the
12 following morning but it came from four
13 different folks.

14 And then Clay and Delaware -- and,
15 Bill, I talked to you a second ago about it. I
16 have reports again from neighbors about people,
17 the California stops are sometimes just blowing
18 right through Clay and Delaware so --

19 MR. MCHALE: I kind of know about
20 that area.

21 MR. DUNCAN: I know you do. I'm up
22 there too. But I tell the people I'll make
23 sure I report it.

24 MR. MCHALE: Absolutely.

25 MR. DUNCAN: So I just want to pass

1 that along to everybody. And, Didge, I want to
2 thank you for getting the signs in and
3 everything along Grove Street and with Mr.
4 McGraw.

5 I'm sure nobody will be happier than
6 Jimmy McGraw to hear that. So much
7 appreciative to you guys. And I think that's
8 everything, guys. Did everybody get the
9 responses from Vito and the e-mail? If not, I
10 have copies. So we're good?

11 MR. HALLINAN: We're good. Yeah,
12 we're fine.

13 MR. DUNCAN: Hope to see you folks
14 next week, 7:00. If you could make it, that
15 would be great.

16 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Item number 11, Mr.
17 David Valvano, Chief of Staff for
18 Representative Frank Farina.

19 MR. MCHALE: Do you have anything
20 tonight?

21 MR. VALVANO: Yeah, good evening,
22 Council, just to let you know a local share
23 account grant is open again until September
24 30th. You can apply up to three projects. And
25 we're having a shredding event July 18th, this

1 Saturday from noon until two at Nay Aug Park by
2 the Everhart Museum. So you're allowed up to
3 four bags or boxes.

4 MR. DEMPSEY: I didn't hear you.
5 What grant was the grant?

6 MR. VALVANO: The local Share
7 Account.

8 MR. VERRASTRO: How much -- well, is
9 there an amount of money you could apply up to
10 with that?

11 MR. VALVANO: It depends on the
12 project what you can ask for. I think the
13 Splash Park got 45,000 this year.

14 MR. MCHALE: Dave, what about a
15 bigger project? I know it's a loaded question
16 I know. Is the possibility of getting a
17 considerable amount -- we have a project that
18 is sorely needed, a road project. Let's put it
19 that way.

20 MR. VALVANO: You can do the asking.
21 We can work with you on that and, you know,
22 with Senator Blake. Put it in. And we'll --

23 MR. MCHALE: We'll give you a call.
24 Thank you.

25 MR. VALVANO: Sure.

1 MR. MCHALE: Anything else, sir?

2 MR. VALVANO: That's it.

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Public comment on
4 non agenda items.

5 MR. MCHALE: Anybody like to comment
6 tonight to address Council? Please.

7 MS. HALLINAN: My name is Kelly
8 Burke Hallinan, property owner 1723 Madison
9 Avenue. I'd like to thank Tom Hallinan, Didge,
10 and John Murray for having the landlord of the
11 apartment house next door to me remove the
12 multiple bags of garbage from the third floor
13 porch of his building.

14 Garbage was there for weeks.
15 Rodents were feeding from it and the smell and
16 the bugs were becoming overwhelming. This and
17 other issues I've informed the Borough
18 multiple times should not be happening. I
19 didn't see online that the landlord has been
20 cited for the garbage incident. Does anyone
21 know if he has?

22 It's not online yet. Also he was
23 ordered by the inspector to have the house
24 sided by the end of June. It hasn't happened
25 yet.

1 MR. HALLINAN: I would have to talk
2 to Mr. Lorince.

3 MS. HALLINAN: Joe Lorince informed
4 me that he was the person that approved the
5 addition of the third floor apartment in the
6 attic of the two family home next door to me.
7 Code Enforcement Officers don't have the power
8 to allow or approve additions which are against
9 ordinances per the Municipality Planning Code.

10 Third floor apartments also located
11 in a zone that does not allow three units per
12 home, period. This is the same apartment with
13 the garbage and the residents of the tenant
14 that is now harassing me due to the Borough
15 contacting his landlord.

16 Harassment has caused us not to be
17 able to safely enjoying our porches or our
18 yard. Our dogs must now be accompanied by one
19 of us at all times in our yard due to his
20 threats against them. Police cited the tenant
21 and now I have to appear in court along with my
22 daughters as witnesses who heard him screaming
23 at me while in her room with the air
24 conditioning on listening to music at 10:45
25 p.m.

1 Dunmore currently has a ridiculously
2 large amount of rental properties. I had asked
3 Vito to send you all the information, census
4 reports. We have over 43 percent of the
5 Borough's homes being rented.

6 Our Borough doesn't benefit in any
7 way, shape, or form on this factor. Only the
8 landlords of the properties do. This was once
9 a tight-knit community compromised of
10 generations of wonderful families now host to
11 short term renters.

12 The homes being purchased now are
13 being cut up in multiple units and are nothing
14 more than money making businesses owned by
15 landlords that do not care about the appearance
16 of these properties that they don't even reside
17 in.

18 You could drive by my house 1723 and
19 look at 1725 and see there is no paint on the
20 house. There's wood siding missing. That's
21 what happens. It's Code Enforcement's duty to
22 monitor and regulate all the homes' property
23 according to ordinance and zoning. They have
24 not.

25 I have proven to you that there are

1 apartment houses being allowed against
2 ordinances and provided loads of documentation
3 so much so that I'm not even going to waste any
4 more money on ink to do it again.

5 Joe Lorince has provided nothing.
6 This is a UCC -- this is what he's showing
7 everyone. This was an amendment to a UCC which
8 Dunmore is opted to the UCC for all residential
9 property maintenance for rentals and
10 residential properties.

11 The addition would have had to have
12 been before taking place and be rented before
13 April of 2005 for any of this to qualify.
14 Well, I have given you all the information that
15 shows that these apartment houses and additions
16 were created after 2005. So they are not
17 legal.

18 So this is the only paperwork he has
19 where I have this and another legal box full
20 showing all the broken ordinances. This is
21 dated. So if he gave it to anyone right at the
22 bottom it was dated and they are illegal.

23 So it does not have anything to
24 prove otherwise. I don't know if everyone read
25 everything that I have sent to you. Zoning

1 received everything July of 2013 that I
2 presented to you in last few months.

3 This harassment issue now going from
4 a nuisance to a health hazard because now
5 there's rats because there is garbage left out.
6 Didge saw more than I did. I could only see
7 what was falling down the steps of the
8 apartment.

9 Didge actually saw I guess the whole
10 porch was full of ripped up garbage. It was
11 there for about a month. Only two people lived
12 there. You know, if rats want to stay in our
13 neighborhood, there you go. You know, that's
14 their feeding source.

15 But it's gone from nuisance to
16 health issue and now my -- and my family's
17 safety is at risk because of people and it's
18 not just this guy. The guy before him I told
19 you ended up paying \$500. He hit my car. The
20 people before that, you know, that were up all
21 night drinking, cursing, falling down.

22 You only get -- that's what you get
23 in an apartment house that looks like that with
24 the third floor attic that's been transformed
25 into an apartment. So what I would like to

1 know is, I've proven everything to you unless
2 Joe Lorince gave you something that he didn't
3 give me, he's proven nothing. So I want to
4 know what date I could expect action to begin
5 to make the building next door to me and then
6 the others in the neighborhood back into
7 conforming to Madison Avenue zoning and
8 ordinances per Dunmore's own written
9 regulations?

10 MR. HALLINAN: Mr. Cummings, can we
11 look into this beyond what Mr. Lorince has
12 done? She's contending that the home next door
13 to her was a two unit up and down and the guy
14 turned it into a three. Do we have recourse as
15 Council to go in there and turn it back to what
16 she contends it was if that's the case?

17 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I would
18 respectfully verify the dates and information
19 and then give you letter of opinion.

20 MR. HALLINAN: Would you do that for
21 us, please?

22 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Absolutely.

23 MR. HALLINAN: Thank you, Mr.
24 Cummings.

25 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Two weeks?

1 MR. HALLINAN: Is that fine with
2 you, two weeks?

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I need at least two
4 weeks.

5 MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

6 MS. HALLINAN: And that's just for
7 the one next door to me.

8 MR. HALLINAN: And then let's start
9 moving.

10 MS. HALLINAN: I have them all.

11 MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

12 MS. HALLINAN: It all proves that
13 none of them have their additional units before
14 this UCC that Joe keeps saying it's legal
15 because of this.

16 MR. HALLINAN: Kelly, I couldn't
17 agree with you more even though, you know, I
18 have been down there. We are going to start
19 losing neighborhoods throughout the whole town
20 if we don't start taking action on people just
21 turning homes -- if your neighbors don't say
22 anything, we never find out.

23 It doesn't go through the process.
24 So if somebody turns a home into a little
25 apartment that they decided to rent out to a

1 student from Marywood or Penn State and they're
2 making money, well, then they -- eventually we
3 don't find out about it and nobody knows unless
4 somebody says something. Somebody has to
5 complain.

6 That's why, you know, could it be,
7 you know, the ball was dropped. I don't know.
8 I'm not going to make excuses for anybody. But
9 there is a problem. And we are addressing
10 things. We're trying to move forward. This
11 has been going on for years and we are moving
12 forward on it.

13 So I appreciate you coming in every
14 time and telling us. And I would like to tell
15 you too, it wasn't just me and Didge. It is
16 all of Council there getting involved. And I
17 do call them and bug them. You have the
18 backing of all of Council.

19 MS. HALLINAN: So everyone knows, it
20 was a Friday night. I never called anyone on
21 Friday night to come out for this. It just so
22 happened Didge was informed. Didge was at a
23 dinner in Wilkes-Barre. And I was cooking on
24 my grill and I see Didge come up through the
25 back.

1 And then he went up. He just
2 thought it was a couple bags. I don't know why
3 because I wouldn't have called for a couple
4 bags of garbage. There were -- there was a lot
5 of garbage. And he went nuts and then he
6 started calling people. He shouldn't have had
7 to come down --

8 MR. HALLINAN: Well, I got the call.
9 And I was at a wedding to tell you the truth.
10 And I called Mr. Judge and I said, would you
11 please do me a favor? I said, there's a bag of
12 garbage. It's going to go through the weekend.
13 They are gone away on vacation. I said it's
14 just going to sit there and become a bigger
15 problem with rodents, whether squirrels, rats,
16 whatever.

17 I said, could you please go get it
18 out of there? And he was off hours and he said
19 I'll go right over and get it and --

20 MS. HALLINAN: And he did. It
21 wasn't just a bag. It was like a month's worth
22 of garbage.

23 MR. HALLINAN: So then we did what
24 we did and you know what turned into that night
25 and even the police officers did their job and

1 it was great. It was a cooperation of all the
2 parties involved.

3 MS. HALLINAN: Well, just one more
4 thing. Keep in mind now that I've been
5 harassed, this isn't a typical, you know, this
6 is your next door neighbor that, you know, you
7 just bought the house and he lived there for 50
8 years and he doesn't want your grass clippings
9 going over to his yard or snow, the normal type
10 of neighborly things that should be happening
11 in Dunmore and is acceptable to be happening,
12 someone set in their ways.

13 These are strangers. You know, this
14 guy and the girlfriend that lived with him, has
15 two pages of offenses. I looked them up and
16 they are not all parking violations. So I am
17 fearful.

18 And I'm more fearful that he's going
19 to say something to my husband because my
20 husband wanted to go down that night after, you
21 know, you walk out in your yard at quarter to
22 10 at night to close your cellar door and
23 somebody comes running down three flights of
24 steps in the dark in the back toward an alley
25 and starts to scream at you because you, you

1 know, had garbage removed so you could use your
2 backyard and your deck for the 4th of July, you
3 know, it's not the right. It shouldn't be
4 happening.

5 MR. VERRASTRO: Kelly, was the fire
6 marshal there also or just --

7 MS. HALLINAN: I didn't see the fire
8 marshal.

9 MR. HALLINAN: I don't think we had
10 the fire marshall.

11 MS. HALLINAN: Well, that's another
12 thing, when you send -- you could inspect them
13 all you want. You know, that's great. But my
14 gripe is they are illegally there. They are
15 there against ordinance. I didn't buy a house
16 in the Bronx.

17 I bought a house in the Hollywood
18 section. And it's turned into the Bronx
19 obviously. Now I have to go to the magistrate.
20 I had to go there for the guy that lived there
21 before that hit my car. You know, but you send
22 a letter out and say -- just like you did with
23 him, we're going to inspect your house in two
24 weeks, well, there was no garbage on the porch
25 when he got there in two weeks.

1 And the landlord came earlier to
2 make sure there wasn't garbage there. When you
3 give someone advanced warning, they're going
4 make everything as nice as it could be for that
5 time.

6 But all the other days we have the
7 garbage out there, you know, all the things
8 that I complained about before. And none of it
9 should be happening because the apartment
10 shouldn't be allowed to exist.

11 MR. VERRASTRO: I don't recall --
12 Eric is here. I'm sorry, don't you go down as
13 hazmat call when you have an odor? And that is
14 a completely different run from just a legal --
15 illegally dumping. It's a health issue.

16 MS. HALLINAN: Sure it is. That's
17 my point.

18 MR. VERRASTRO: But if the calls
19 come in the right way with the police working
20 with it, if it comes in as a hazmat call, it
21 shuts it down. Am I wrong with that?

22 MR. SHIGO: Yeah, if we get out
23 there and there's code violations --

24 MR. VERRASTRO: Like, if the fire
25 exits are blocked, it shuts the property down.

1 MS. HALLINAN: So why doesn't that
2 happen? You know, I'm doing what I'm told to
3 do. I was told to call the police. And I'm
4 calling the police and unfortunately Didge and
5 John Murray had to come out on a Friday night.
6 But I don't know that, Sal.

7 I appreciate the information. But
8 it's not happening just like I was told the
9 house would be sided by the end of June. Well,
10 that didn't happen. And all of this transpired
11 after the end of June into July. So it just
12 seems like I'm getting yessed to death.

13 And nothing really going the way
14 it's supposed -- you know, if maybe the
15 landlord was cited, maybe if hazmat came down,
16 maybe that wouldn't happen again. But I don't
17 know that it will happen again because we've
18 already gone
19 through --

20 MR. HALLINAN: I don't mean to --
21 Joe's not here and I'm not going to, you know,
22 speak for him or anything. But I don't know
23 how many days -- because I know at the time
24 they told him they were going to shut him down.
25 So I don't know if there's a letter of how many

1 days, Tommy, that if he gives them some kind of
2 notice --

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: I would prefer not
4 to --

5 MR. HALLINAN: Okay, I'm sorry.

6 ATTY. CUMMINGS: -- telegraph and
7 litigate of record here and then hang ourselves
8 later.

9 MR. HALLINAN: Gotcha. Okay, so we
10 have to watch out for things like I just said.
11 But I don't want you living in fear sitting on
12 your porch and not even be able to put your
13 dogs out. So I don't know if you could talk to
14 Mr. Springer afterwards.

15 I know you can't do it anonymously
16 anymore because the guy knows who you are
17 complaining. But you shouldn't have to live in
18 fear like that. That is totally wrong. It's
19 your neighborhood. It's your porch. You know,
20 I just don't know how you do it. And it's
21 wrong.

22 MS. HALLINAN: I didn't address him.
23 I had nothing to do with him. I wanted the
24 landlord cited so it wouldn't happen again.

25 MR. HALLINAN: We'll talk to Captain

1 Springer when we're done here, okay?

2 MS. HALLINAN: Okay, thank you.

3 MR. HALLINAN: Thanks, Kelly.

4 CAPT. SPRINGER: He's got two
5 hearings pending.

6 MR. HALLINAN: Does he?

7 MR. MCHALE: Mrs. Hallinan, just for
8 my -- I'm sorry, is it, Mrs. Hallinan?

9 MS. HALLINAN: Yes.

10 MR. MCHALE: Just to give you an
11 idea that night I got a call I was with my son
12 at a baseball game. And, you know, when Didge
13 calls like he did that night, I knew how
14 serious it was. And we all got involved.

15 If I didn't take you seriously
16 before and I did -- beyond serious, a week ago
17 and the exact situation at a home that is in my
18 name -- it's our homestead. My mother lives
19 there had the same problem with a neighbor who
20 lives behind her, same exact thing that's going
21 on with you.

22 Two guys were arrested -- two or
23 three people were arrested that night. And
24 it's been a nightmare for a 70-some year old
25 woman who is down there by herself in a big

1 home. So I agree with you. If you didn't
2 think I take you seriously, I'm a million
3 percent behind you before and I personally
4 think -- and this is not speaking as Council.

5 I personally think that we have to
6 change the way that we're doing these things.
7 We're taking the position of we don't want to
8 hurt these landowners. I don't care. If they
9 did something wrong, throw them out. Let them
10 sue us. That's what I want done behind my
11 mother.

12 And I know if it was near my home,
13 I'd be doing the same thing. I know Lori all
14 my life. I would never do anything to hurt her
15 or anybody. But it hit home to me the other
16 night when I had to leave a Little League game
17 to run down my mother's house with 40 people
18 outside fighting at a one or two bedroom place.

19 So I feel your pain. Believe me and
20 Tommy knows, I yelled for a week after what
21 happened at my mother's and yours that I really
22 do think we need to change the way we're
23 thinking about these landowners. I'm not
24 saying we're protecting them. But I think we
25 got to get a lot more aggressive than we have

1 been.

2 MS. HALLINAN: Right. It's not
3 ending. It's this one. My husband runs a
4 men's shelter. One of the guys that used to
5 live in the shelter came and my husband saw him
6 outside. He said I was going to look at this
7 apartment next door but who the hell would want
8 to live there. And this guy came from a
9 shelter. There's no paint on the house. It's
10 disgusting.

11 MR. MCHALE: I just want to let you
12 know it hit home to me. And like I said, I
13 felt for you before and it's not going to --
14 I'm not going to let it rest.

15 MS. HALLINAN: Well, thank you. I
16 appreciate it.

17 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else like to
18 address Council tonight?

19 MARCUS HALLINAN: How are you doing?
20 My name is Marcus Hallinan. I'm the son of Jed
21 and Kelly. I'll just make it real short and
22 sweet. Can we get Mr. Lorince here to clear
23 this up? I don't know why he doesn't come.

24 MR. MCHALE: He as well as the Fire
25 Chief, the Police Chief, and DPW Director have

1 been asked to show up at every meeting. They
2 come intermittently except for that guy who is
3 there every single time. I'm going to make it
4 a priority that they have to. It's going to be
5 part of their job. I promise you.

6 MARCUS HALLINAN: All right. I
7 appreciate that. It just seems like someone is
8 right and someone is wrong.

9 MR. MCHALE: I agree.

10 MARCUS HALLINAN: And it seems like
11 everyone is fighting here and Joe Lorince is
12 not here. So that's all I wanted to say.

13 MR. MCHALE: Can't disagree with
14 you. I agree.

15 MARCUS HALLINAN: Thank you.

16 MR. MCHALE: Anybody else tonight?
17 Please.

18 MR. ZECH: We have a couple streets
19 around Dunmore Corners, Delaware, Chestnut,
20 North and South Apple, Harper that are no turn
21 permitted left. Period. I wish somebody would
22 enforce that.

23 MR. MCHALE: I agree with you.

24 MR. ZECH: North and South Apple and
25 Drinker is a disaster. If there's ten cars in

1 a row, eight or nine of them turn left or go
2 straight across the intersection which they are
3 not permitted to do. You could only make a
4 right turn on either side from 8:00 until 6:00
5 in the evening. But if you're standing there
6 in the line, they are either going across or
7 they are turning left.

8 Chestnut Street, three, four cars at
9 a time. I had a guy turn out of the north --
10 the First National Bank drive-in going left in
11 front of me the other day. It shouldn't be
12 happening. It's all posted. It's all posted.

13 MR. NARDOZZI: Ed, you could put up
14 all the signs in the world, all right? You
15 could put up all the signs up to tell them
16 don't do this and don't do that. It's still up
17 to that individual driver, all right?

18 MR. ZECH: The only way it's going
19 to stop is when somebody says --

20 MR. NARDOZZI: Exactly.

21 MR. ZECH: -- we're done warning.

22 The sign's been up for two years now.

23 MR. VERRASTRO: Longer.

24 MR. NARDOZZI: Longer.

25 MR. ZECH: Harper Street across from

1 the Post Office where they have the drop off
2 for the mail, all of a sudden people are
3 starting to park on the north side of Harper
4 Street there. When somebody pulls in to drop
5 mail off, now Harper Street becomes a one lane
6 road. So I wish something would be done there.

7 There's never been any parking
8 allowed on Harper Street at all from Reilly
9 Street all the way to Blakely Street. Now
10 somebody is starting to park right across from
11 the mailboxes. And I don't know if we can do
12 anything about it, but the state should not
13 have designated Andrews Street 100 block as a
14 detour for East Warren Street.

15 In it's best days that -- any part
16 of Andrews Street is lucky to be one lane.
17 They very easily could have designated Harper
18 Street as a detour coming up from the corners
19 as opposed to having a truck or bus or whatever
20 trying to detour up Andrews Street because it
21 becomes a one lane road when the people park on
22 it.

23 And then it's barely one lane. I
24 wish we can do something with PennDOT on that.
25 They should not be able to just pick a road and

1 say this is a detour.

2 MR. HALLINAN: PennDOT would have to
3 go from a state road to a state road.

4 MR. ZECH: Well, they don't. They
5 go from --

6 MR. HALLINAN: -- I saw the signs so
7 I hope nobody just agreed to that, you know, or
8 one of the engineers.

9 MR. ZECH: They designated Throop
10 Street as a detour. That's not a state road.

11 MR. HALLINAN: No.

12 MR. ZECH: Now, I mean, if they want
13 to take them over and take care of them, that's
14 fine.

15 MR. HALLINAN: If somebody agreed to
16 it, that's one thing that I'm not aware of.
17 But if -- the procedure is PennDOT usually
18 sends a state road from one state road to
19 another state road on a detour.

20 MR. ZECH: I mean, this detour could
21 be a little while. They are having some
22 difficulty over on Warren Street with some
23 unforeseen circumstances. But it never should
24 have been allowed. I would have thought better
25 of them than to try to send traffic up a one

1 lane road.

2 MR. HALLINAN: Vito, can you check
3 on that detour, please?

4 MR. NARDOZZI: Ed, I'll get ahold of
5 the Chief. We'll meet with PennDOT about
6 Harper Street. They have to approve the
7 signage to make sure there is no parking on the
8 north side.

9 MR. ZECH: Well, there is already
10 signs up. Some probably you can't read, but
11 they've been there.

12 MR. NARDOZZI: I think it needs new
13 signs. We'll be on it.

14 MR. ZECH: It's just that you end up
15 down there -- if somebody is at the mailbox and
16 somebody is parked here and you want to come
17 down Harper Street or go up Harper Street,
18 somebody wants to turn out of the Post Office
19 lot, now everybody is standing still looking at
20 each other because there is no way to go if
21 that could be checked into. Thank you.

22 MR. MCHALE: Yep. Thank you.
23 Anybody else tonight?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. MCHALE: Seeing nobody.

1 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Next item is
2 report of public officials. I'll go first if
3 you don't mind.

4 MR. MCHALE: Please.

5 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Verrastro has
6 asked me to amend the ordinance regarding the
7 fire insurance holdback to include a bonding
8 provision in the case of transfer. That
9 will -- we'll have that in place for your next
10 meeting that way perspective will not affect
11 the current.

12 I will advertise for the gym floor.
13 I will advertise for the firehouse
14 construction. And Mr. McHale two weeks ago
15 instructed me to review the ordinance regarding
16 the housing and zoning to see if there needs to
17 be an amendment within the constitutional
18 framework would allow more action.

19 And if not, then the proper
20 procedure to act immediately rather than having
21 people come to Council meetings. That's all I
22 have, sir.

23 MR. MCHALE: Thank you, sir. Mr.
24 Ruggiero.

25 MR. RUGGIERO: No.

1 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Judge.

2 MR. JUDGE: Nothing.

3 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Kearney.

4 MR. KEARNEY: Nothing.

5 MR. MCHALE: Quickly while -- I
6 called Mr. Kearney. There is a note here that
7 our Summer Program started a week and a half
8 ago. And I am getting so many calls in
9 appreciation of what's going on.

10 There's close to 200 kids at the
11 three parks. They get free lunch every day.
12 It's not a big lunch but it's a nice boxed
13 lunch where they get a sandwich and something
14 to eat. And to me right now it's been a raving
15 success. So thank you, Chris, for everything
16 that you've done. Keep up the good work. And
17 anything you need to continue the program,
18 please let us know. Mr. Dempsey, want to lead
19 us off tonight?

20 MR. DEMPSEY: Sure. Just quickly
21 the Chief of Police informed me over the last
22 couple of weeks that they made -- or at least
23 had part in two very big drug arrests almost
24 200 bags of heroin, crack cocaine. So I just
25 want to, you know, tell those guys good job.

1 We have two officers Captain
2 Springer and Bon here tonight. So thank you
3 guys. You guys are doing an excellent job.
4 Also, Chris, great job with the Summer Program.
5 I'm getting a lot of calls as well. So you're
6 doing a great job with that.

7 Finally my sincerest condolences to
8 the family and friends, obviously the City
9 Scranton and the Scranton Police Department for
10 John wilding. It's an awful tragedy that seems
11 to happen more often these days. So you guys
12 do a terrific job. We appreciate everything
13 you do. So keep up the good work. That's all
14 I have tonight.

15 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Hallinan.

16 MR. HALLINAN: I concur with
17 Mr. Dempsey about the Wilding Family. Every
18 day they put their uniforms on. You don't know
19 if they are coming home. And I appreciate
20 everything you guys do every day. It's -- take
21 you for granted. People scream at you for
22 giving tickets.

23 But they don't see the other stuff
24 that you do every day. And it doesn't hit the
25 paper. And you guys are doing an excellent

1 job. We appreciate everything you do.

2 Chris, anything with the Summer
3 Program, please contact me. I'm your liaison,
4 whatever you want. And, you know, you're doing
5 a great job. Be prepared when that water park
6 gets in action because I'm sure you're going to
7 have a lot more than 200 hundred going there.
8 That's a great thing that's going on up at
9 Sherwood.

10 And, Vito, would you do me a favor?
11 When that air quality report comes out from the
12 monitor they are doing up in that area, could I
13 get a copy of that? I have a few people that
14 are interested in seeing what's going on up
15 there, okay? Thank you very much. Thank you.
16 That's all.

17 MR. MCHALE: That's it?

18 MR. HALLINAN: That's it. I swear
19 to God.

20 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Nardozzi.

21 MR. NARDOZZI: Thank you, Mr.
22 Chairman, just sincere condolences to the
23 family of Officer John Wilding. I think we all
24 feel the same. What happened should have never
25 happened but it did. It's unfortunate.

1 Also recycling cans, we have a lot
2 of requests. Is there any chance of us looking
3 into getting more recycling? I think we're in
4 dire need of those.

5 MR. MCHALE: Vito was working on a
6 grant.

7 MR. NARDOZZI: I believe we're out
8 of them altogether. So whatever we can do on
9 that in that respect. And, Chris, good job
10 with the Summer Program. Thank you. That's
11 it.

12 MR. MCHALE: That's it. Mrs.
13 Scrimalli.

14 MS. SCRIMALLI: I too would like to
15 express my sincere condolences to Patrice
16 Wilding and her family, very tragic. And we're
17 all very, very deeply upset by this. And that
18 also brings me to thank the police department
19 for their hard work with the drug busts that
20 have come across our knowledge here.

21 Also, Didge, I want to thank you.
22 You have been very helpful these past few
23 weeks. And we appreciate all the work you're
24 doing. Fire department, thank you guys.
25 Kelly, thank you for coming and your family.

1 We understand and we're trying very hard to
2 bring some resolve to your situation.

3 On another note, the slash pad as
4 Tom had mention, it's almost finished. So
5 we're very close. I would say maybe another
6 week, maybe two. But I would say by the end of
7 next week your children could come and use the
8 splash pad at Sherwood Park. We're all excited
9 about that. I do want to thank you all for
10 coming and that's all I have for tonight.

11 MR. MCHALE: Thank you. Mr. Burke.

12 MR. BURKE: My condolences to the
13 Wilding Family. Good work to the police
14 officers on that bust job. Fantastic work.
15 Didge, I was wondering if you got in contact
16 with Mr. Valenza on the stop signs we were
17 talking about in May?

18 MR. JUDGE: I don't see him. I see
19 his car.

20 MR. BURKE: Okay. Would you be able
21 to stop at the office and get his phone number
22 tomorrow?

23 MR. JUDGE: Yeah. The other signs,
24 I got your signs up on Dunham Drive. They're
25 all up. I'll find it.

1 MR. BURKE: If you can just get his
2 number from the girls in the office and give
3 him a ring.

4 MR. JUDGE: Okay.

5 MR. BURKE: Tom, I was wondering the
6 same question about if we found out anything
7 with Dunmore having a say on the Sewer
8 Authority sale. I know you were going to talk
9 to --

10 ATTY. CUMMINGS: We did not get
11 anything back that I know of. I didn't check
12 since the end of June. We did not get anything
13 back from Pennsylvania Municipality Authorities
14 Association.

15 I'm of the same opinion we have the
16 one-fifth vote. And we have the right to
17 challenge anything that is contrary to the
18 charter. Other than that, can Dunmore
19 individually stop it as one of five, not that I
20 could find.

21 MR. BURKE: I thought last meeting
22 you were going to talk to Mr. Peters. He's the
23 Sewer Authority Solicitor?

24 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Mr. Belardi.

25 MR. BURKE: Belardi. Okay, would

1 you be able to try to get in contact with him
2 again and see if he's got any info?

3 ATTY. CUMMINGS: Yeah, he has not
4 had any change of the position. He has also
5 not heard back from the Municipal Authorities
6 with anything contrary.

7 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Cummings, Mr.
8 Burke, just -- I did bring that concern --
9 there's two attorneys on the Board and brought
10 that to them and both called me back saying
11 they couldn't find a thing for us to stop it
12 with one vote. If you could point us in a
13 direction where you thought that was the last
14 time, I'll do my best --

15 MR. BURKE: If we can just have --
16 hire a paralegal to look up info on it on
17 situations where it happened before.
18 Obviously, there's been authorities sold
19 throughout the country. But just so Dunmore
20 knows where it stands because we've been
21 looking for an answer for over a year now and
22 we haven't gotten any further on it.

23 MR. MCHALE: It just -- and I don't
24 mean to -- I agree with you a million percent.
25 I think you and I are on the same line on this

1 subject. It's just if you're looking for
2 something that's not there, you'll never find
3 it. Do you know what I mean?

4 And I'm wondering if we're up
5 against that wall right now. It's just a
6 concern of mine. I have no problem continuing
7 to search if you want to do so, I'll back you.
8 I just don't know where to look.

9 MR. BURKE: Yeah, I would suggest a
10 paralegal just to look up info on cases that
11 happened throughout the country just to get an
12 idea.

13 MR. MCHALE: I'll try to find one.
14 You do the same. And we'll meet in the middle.

15 MR. BURKE: Sure.

16 MR. MCHALE: And I'll try to do so.
17 I'll send you my notes. You do the same.

18 MR. BURKE: Okay.

19 MR. MCHALE: Honestly I brought the
20 concerns to those two with your -- because you
21 said you thought something could have happened
22 last time when you did it last time, whatever
23 the case may be. They took several days, but
24 they both got back to me with a negative on
25 both ends.

1 MR. BURKE: Yeah, I just hate to see
2 something happen without Dunmore ever knowing
3 that they had a chance and pass it up.

4 MR. MCHALE: I agree with you.

5 MR. BURKE: It's time -- as I read
6 in the paper, it's getting towards the end here
7 where they are trying to sell it. And, you
8 know, it would be a shame if we found out we
9 really had a say in it and never took advantage
10 of that.

11 MR. MCHALE: I agree. I agree.

12 MR. BURKE: Just hire a paralegal to
13 do this work for us, would help us
14 tremendously.

15 MR. MCHALE: I'll see what I could
16 find.

17 MR. BURKE: Also to the Hallinan
18 family, I believe too -- Marcus, we should have
19 our heads of departments here. When there is
20 something going on, any kind of new work on
21 apartments it be brought up just to prevent
22 this from happening just to see if there is any
23 violations because we usually hear after the
24 fact from the neighbors like in your case when
25 a code is broken.

1 But if we know -- if we have our
2 inspector here, say there's a project going on
3 on 1700 block of Madison Avenue, then the
4 questions could be asked. Joe, what it is
5 zoned for, what are they doing there before
6 this happens. I mean, it's a shame this has
7 happened and the hell you are going through
8 nobody should have to go through.

9 I think we have to have our zoning
10 man here to explain the projects that are going
11 on and prevent this from happening. I'm sorry
12 it's happening. I know it's happened to other
13 people too just like Mike's mother. It's
14 happened to other people. It's a shame the
15 neighborhood has to be ruined by people like
16 that.

17 I suggest we have Joe here to
18 explain what is going on at future meetings.
19 And if he's not there even if he could send one
20 of the clerks from the office even if it's on
21 overtime. I hate seeing this happen to our
22 neighborhoods, especially your family. I feel
23 horrible. I feel for you.

24 Just -- I think it has to be
25 preventative maintenance knowing beforehand

1 what's happening instead of after the fact.
2 The situation you're in now, it seems like
3 tough to get out of now. But I'm with these
4 guys too on trying to do whatever we can to
5 straighten it out.

6 I'm just hoping having Joe here we
7 can prevent it from happening to other
8 neighborhoods. That's all I have.

9 MR. MCHALE: Mr. Verrastro.

10 MR. VERRASTRO: Yes, I would like to
11 echo what everybody said about Officer Wilding.
12 My condolences go out to his family. We spoke
13 briefly about putting out some stuff to bid for
14 next year as far as roads. I don't know if
15 anybody looked at it yet.

16 But even if we're going to put some
17 of these roads out to bid next year, Grove
18 Street, it's terrible. There's one or two
19 other spots. I think you need to at least get
20 some potholes patched in that road. It's a
21 mess.

22 Didge, I don't know what you're
23 manpower schedule is like because it was summer
24 but some of those holes are really deep. And
25 it's pretty much the whole road. It's not even

1 like there's one or two on it. I don't know,
2 is it unrealistic to try to get that road at
3 least temporary patched with regular hot patch
4 so it lasts a little longer in two weeks, three
5 weeks?

6 MR. JUDGE: As soon as I get the
7 guys out of the fire house. I have three guys
8 there every day, Sal. That's my patching crew.
9 We haven't patched roads in three weeks.

10 MR. VERRASTRO: What are they doing
11 over there now?

12 MR. JUDGE: They're down in the
13 sewer lines now. Tomorrow they get the rest of
14 the dirt out of there. And I don't know if
15 they have anything else to do there, but that's
16 my patching crew.

17 MR. VERRASTRO: Well, all they are
18 doing is prepping the floor, correct?

19 MR. JUDGE: Right.

20 MR. VERRASTRO: Well, they should be
21 done with that in a couple days. Let's get
22 them --

23 MR. JUDGE: Exactly. When they are
24 done I'll have the crew out every day then.

25 MR. VERRASTRO: All right.

1 MR. HALLINAN: Sal, one second. Do
2 we still have a tag-along paver?

3 MR. JUDGE: Yeah, for hot patch you
4 mean?

5 MR. HALLINAN: For hot patch, yeah,
6 like a tag-along because that would be a lot
7 better on Green Ridge Street than patching by
8 hand.

9 MR. JUDGE: Most of the roads need
10 hot stuff.

11 MR. HALLINAN: Absolutely.

12 MR. VERRASTRO: There's a spot up on
13 West Elm Street that's terrible, up by where
14 Parodi Cigar is now, there's an intersection
15 probably 50 feet in --

16 MR. HALLINAN: Do we have our own
17 roller?

18 MR. VERRASTRO: What was it \$2,500?
19 Maybe if we get a list together so many tons
20 for \$2,500 or something like that. I forget
21 the price.

22 MR. HALLINAN: I couldn't tell you
23 the price. I'll check the availability.

24 MR. MCHALE: Meet with Didge and
25 we'll --

1 MR. HALLINAN: Okay.

2 MR. VERRASTRO: I have a couple.
3 There is some really bad ones.

4 MR. HALLINAN: We'll get a list
5 together before we can --

6 MR. VERRASTRO: Yeah, before we call
7 them, this way we'll know how many tons to
8 order.

9 MR. JUDGE: I have a list. I have
10 two sheets.

11 MR. VERRASTRO: I'll run a couple
12 ideas. It might help a little bit in the
13 interim to help maybe speed it up. Other than
14 that, thank you everybody and congratulations
15 to the new hirees that we have tonight. Have a
16 good night.

17 MR. MCHALE: I just want to add my
18 condolences to the Wilding Family. A lot of
19 times we get all caught up in the union stuff
20 and politics, you know, it's sad that at times
21 like this is when you appreciate the cops the
22 most.

23 As I said to you guys the other day
24 that I had an incident at my mother's that four
25 cop cars showed up at. And each one of them

1 was better than the other and really put her at
2 ease.

3 So, you know, I really am more
4 appreciative than ever for our police
5 department and the guys there. I'm going to
6 end with that. So I'll look for a motion to
7 adjourn.

8 MR. NARDOZZI: So moved.

9 MR. MCHALE: Do we have a second?

10 MR. HALLINAN: Second.

11 MR. MCHALE: All those in favor.

12 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. MCHALE: We're adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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