

OLD FORGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

IN RE: SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

HELD:

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

TIME:

6:00 P.M.

LOCATION:

OLD FORGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
310 South Main Street  
Old Forge, Pennsylvania

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

RUSSELL RINALDI, President

JIM HOOVER, Vice President

ANDREW BUTLER - absent

MICHAEL KOMENSKY

ALLISON McCAWLEY

MIKE LETTIERI - absent

DALE MIKOLACZYK - absent

MARYLYNN BARTOLETTI, Borough Manager

WILLIAM RINALDI, Esquire, Solicitor - absent

MICHELLE SMOLSKIS  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 MR. HOOVER: We'll start the meeting  
2 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3  
4 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

5  
6 MR. HOOVER: Okay. We have a few  
7 members that are going to be a little bit late,  
8 so they'll come in shortly, but because there's  
9 so many people here and we have another meeting  
10 at 7, I want to stay on track.

11 Tonight's meeting is for obviously  
12 the bridge closure between Moosic and Old Forge  
13 down on Main Avenue.

14 MR. KOMENSKY: No.

15 MR. HOOVER: Oh, the Lonesome Road  
16 one?

17 MR. KOMENSKY: Milwaukee Avenue.

18 MR. HOOVER: Milwaukee Avenue. I  
19 knew it was one of them. So, PennDOT's here  
20 and their representatives, so we'll start the  
21 meeting off with their presentation. Do you  
22 want to do that first?

23 MR. LOVALLO: Yeah.

24 MR. HOOVER: And then we have a big  
25 sign-in sheet over there. We'll get

1 everybody's input afterwards.

2 MR. LOVALLO: Yeah. There is a  
3 sign-in sheet. There's also project details  
4 and a comment form. You're encouraged to grab  
5 all of those.

6 My name is Louis Lovallo. I'm with  
7 LaBella Associates. I'm here with Mike Mecca  
8 and Ben Cole, also with LaBella Associates, and  
9 I'm here to talk to you about how we're gonna  
10 replace the Milwaukee Avenue bridge going over  
11 Saint Johns Creek.

12 Like I said, the proposed project is  
13 the construction of a new bridge which will  
14 carry Milwaukee Road over Saint Johns Creek.

15 We will also be replacing about 280  
16 feet of asphalt roadway and also updating the  
17 guide rails on all four quadrants.

18 The existing bridge is currently  
19 posted for 31 tons, and recent inspection has  
20 that due to advanced deterioration of the  
21 concrete and steel reinforcement of the  
22 existing super structure.

23 The project site also has a history  
24 of flooding, most specifically one of the  
25 residents kindly gave us a photograph of the

1 date of August 13, 2018, which showed the north  
2 side of that bridge inundated with water.

3 Rainfall totals from back in that  
4 date said over four and a quarter inches fell  
5 within a 24-hour period, which corresponds with  
6 about a 25-year storm event which caused the  
7 bridge and the roadway to overtop -- the bridge  
8 didn't overtop, the adjacent roadway, low part  
9 just north of the bridge, overtopped.

10 The proposed bridge will have a  
11 waterway opening 82 percent larger than the  
12 existing. That's in detail in that far left  
13 picture on top. The current bridge is  
14 basically a standard masonry abutments.

15 The proposed structure will have  
16 sloping embankments with the abutments located  
17 outside the waterway, again, giving it more  
18 than 82 percent larger waterway opening to help  
19 convey the design storm and to keep the  
20 upstream flooding from happening, or basically  
21 to reduce the upstream flooding.

22 There are no permanent right of way  
23 takes as part of this project. There will be a  
24 couple of temporary construction easements.  
25 You could see that on the second to left board.

1 Just a temporary construction easement is just  
2 allowing the contractor to have access to the  
3 property just long enough to construct a  
4 bridge. Everything is brought back to normal  
5 when they leave. And like I said, it's just  
6 temporary.

7 The bridge will be constructed in  
8 two stages. Looking at our third poster from  
9 the left, it'll be constructed in two halves.

10 The first half will be we will route  
11 two-way traffic on a one-lane temporary  
12 signalized on the western side of Milwaukee  
13 Avenue while they replace this eastern side of  
14 the bridge.

15 And then the second phase will be  
16 just the exact opposite. They'll put traffic  
17 onto the newly constructed bridge and demolish  
18 the remaining part of the old bridge.

19 There will be a maximum seven-day  
20 detour as needed, typically for when the beams  
21 are being delivered and installed. The  
22 temporary detour will take West Oak Street,  
23 South Main Street and Drakes Lane to circumvent  
24 traffic around the job site. And, Like I said,  
25 it will be seven days maximum.

1 Environmental constraints include,  
2 because we are so close to Lackawanna River,  
3 Lackawanna River has a natural producer of  
4 trout. We will have an in-stream restriction  
5 on the job site from October 1st through  
6 December 31st. So there will be no work within  
7 Saint Johns Creek within those times.

8 Also, there is the existence of  
9 Northern Long-Eared Bat habitat. So, they  
10 would not be able to cut trees down from May  
11 15th to August 15th. So, there's going to be  
12 some construction constraints.

13 Proposed construction is anticipated  
14 to begin summer of 2028 and anticipated to last  
15 approximately eight months, given the state of  
16 construction having to do one side at a time.

17 Again, from my standpoint, fairly  
18 straightforward project. If anybody has any  
19 questions at this point, we're open to  
20 concerns.

21 MR. HOOVER: We're going to go by  
22 the sheet first. We have a sheet of paper  
23 where people signed in, we'll go by that sheet,  
24 and if anybody wants to answer a follow up  
25 question, we can do that.

1 MR. LOVALLO: Okay.

2 MR. HOOVER: So, the first speaker  
3 will be Chris Tomaszewski.

4 MR. TOMASZEWSKI: I'm with PennDOT.  
5 I'm just here to answer any questions.

6 MR. HOOVER: Okay. Katie Markowitz.

7 MS. MARKOWITZ: I'm with the  
8 project, too.

9 MR. HOOVER: Okay. Gail Sauers.

10 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Gail  
11 Litwiniec-Sauers, L-I-T-W-I-N-I-E-C hyphen  
12 S-A-U-E-R-S. May I speak, or should I wait  
13 until you go through your list?

14 MR. HOOVER: No, you're good. Go  
15 ahead.

16 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Hi everybody.  
17 So, my name is Gail Litwiniec-Sauers. I am  
18 here with my family, Bob Litwiniec, Shari  
19 Miller. I've got Lynn Miller in the back,  
20 Larry Durity (phonetic). I've got Greg Hatala.  
21 Did I miss anybody?

22 We are all partners is Shawnee Hill.  
23 It's a partnership. Your project is on our  
24 land, your temporary easement is our land, and  
25 my question first and foremost is are you

1 planning on cutting any trees down on our land?

2 MR. LOVALLO: Do you want to show me  
3 exactly where?

4 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Absolutely.

5 MR. MECCA: So, Lou, she's concerned  
6 with this area. Michael Mecca, M-E-C-C-A.

7 (Inaudible side conversation.)

8 MR. LOVALLO: As far as cutting  
9 down --

10 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I saw you  
11 have cleared this portion here, but I'm told  
12 that your easement goes all the way back to  
13 here.

14 MR. LOVALLO: That could just be for  
15 just entry. Obviously we're putting guide rail  
16 in here --

17 (Inaudible conversation.)

18 MR. HOOVER: Lou, we're trying to  
19 get this on the record --

20 MR. LOVALLO: Oh, I'm sorry about  
21 that.

22 MR. HOOVER: So, if you could talk a  
23 little bit louder and don't be rambling.

24 MR. LOVALLO: Sorry about that. So,  
25 the short answer is I don't know off the top of

1 my head if we're taking any large trees. Most  
2 projects do involve clearing and grubbing of  
3 some sort. Once we get the final design, we  
4 will be able to decipher which trees have to go  
5 and could stay.

6 MR. MECCA: Yeah. What we could do  
7 is we could look at it a little closer, see how  
8 many trees are in the easement, and then we  
9 could try to preserve them as best we can.

10 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: How many feet  
11 from the middle of the road is your easement?

12 MR. MECCA: Do you know that  
13 offhand, what the end of the easement is? I  
14 guess it would be this line.

15 MR. LOVALLO: Yes, right there. So,  
16 if you want to call it about 20, 30 feet from  
17 the center.

18 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Center of the  
19 road on Milwaukee?

20 MR. LOVALLO: Maybe about 40,  
21 actually.

22 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: There's a lot  
23 of trees in there.

24 MR. LOVALLO: Well, I'm not saying  
25 they're going to be cutting down everything in

1 here. That's just to get manpower and  
2 equipment. Obviously, any large trees, they  
3 try to avoid any large timber.

4 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: And my next  
5 question is you're talking about expanding to  
6 82 feet, you said?

7 MR. LOVALLO: 82 percent larger  
8 waterway, yes.

9 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: So, by doing  
10 that, will that cut into our land?

11 MR. LOVALLO: Well, as you could  
12 see, the top left picture, the very top left,  
13 that's what the new bridge will look like, and  
14 so essentially, as you could see on the second  
15 picture, the white rock-looking patch, that's  
16 essentially what we're putting in. So, that's  
17 how wide it's going to be.

18 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: That still  
19 didn't answer my question.

20 MR. LOVALLO: So, no, the final  
21 structure will be within right of way.

22 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: And you're  
23 talking about this area here?

24 MR. LOVALLO: Correct.

25 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Okay.

1 MR. LOVALLO: That's all going to be  
2 within current right of way.

3 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Thank you.

4 MR. LOVALLO: You're welcome.

5 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: And just for  
6 the record, as far as proper notice for this  
7 meeting tonight, I don't feel that we received  
8 proper notice. We didn't get notice. So, who  
9 is -- I'll give a copy of this to the reporter,  
10 secretary? Who?

11 MR. HOOVER: Here, I'll take it.

12 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I'm sorry, I  
13 don't know all your names. And this is just  
14 giving you the addresses of people to notify in  
15 the future for any meetings.

16 This we got lucky, it was sent to  
17 one person who actually opened it in time, but  
18 we have people who live in Florida and we need  
19 time to make transportation arrangements if  
20 people want to come to these meetings, and we  
21 just didn't have it. I had two days' notice.

22 MR. LOVALLO: When did you get the  
23 letter?

24 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: It was mailed  
25 on the 7th and we got --

1 MS. HATALA-MILLER: It came to my  
2 house.

3 COURT REPORTER: Can you state and  
4 spell your name?

5 MS. HATALA-MILLER: The letter came  
6 to my house, Shari, S-H-A-R-I, Hatala,  
7 H-A-T-A-L-A, Miller, M-I-L-L-E-R.

8 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Any other  
9 questions anyone?

10 MR. HATALA: I might ask a question.  
11 I'm John Hatala.

12 MR. HOOVER: John, you have to wait  
13 your turn.

14 MR. HATALA: Oh, I'm sorry.

15 MR. HOOVER: I won't forget you.

16 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I didn't sign  
17 him in.

18 MR. HOOVER: All right. I won't  
19 forget you, John.

20 MR. HATALA: No problem.

21 MR. HOOVER: Gail, do you have any  
22 more questions?

23 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Nope.

24 MR. HOOVER: Nope? Okay.

25 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Not at this

1 time.

2 MR. HOOVER: Now, are the rest of  
3 you going to talk too, or one by one, or no?  
4 Just one? Because all your names are here.

5 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I thought we  
6 were just signing in.

7 MR. HOOVER: Okay. Not a problem.  
8 Eric Firo, F-I-R-O. He's with PennDOT. All  
9 right. Then there's one here on 530, 553  
10 Milwaukee Avenue. I can't understand that.  
11 Larry Rossi. Larry, you're up. Go ahead,  
12 you're up. Do you have any questions?

13 MR. ROSSI: No.

14 MR. HOOVER: All right. John  
15 Hatala, you're next.

16 MR. HATALA: Me? Oh, John Hatala.  
17 Do I have to sign in or anything?

18 MR. HOOVER: No, you're good.

19 MR. HATALA: Okay.

20 MR. LOVALLO: I would actually like  
21 you to just for my minutes. By the time the  
22 meeting's over, not right now.

23 MR. HATALA: Okay.

24 MR. MECCA: What we do is we take  
25 the minutes -- or the sign-in sheet, we attach

1           that to the environmental document. So that's  
2           what that sign-in sheet is for, not necessarily  
3           who wants to speak.

4                     MR. HOOVER: Okay.

5                     MR. HATALA: Oh, no, I'm fine. I  
6           was just asking about -- I was asking about the  
7           road. Like, how much of the road are they  
8           gonna take off on each side of our property?  
9           Because I know exactly where the road is.  
10          Aren't you gonna do something with that road  
11          that goes in through the back? That actually  
12          is a road.

13                    MS. HATALA-MILLER: No. The access  
14          road? They're not using it.

15                    MR. HATALA: Oh, they're not gonna  
16          touch that? Okay. That was my question.

17                    MR. LOVALLO: I'm gonna have to get  
18          back out there. I did not see an access road.

19                    MR. HATALA: There is, but my dad  
20          had it blocked in with mounds of dirt so quads  
21          don't go back there.

22                    MS. HATALA-MILLER: We have trouble  
23          with quads.

24                    MR. HATALA: Yeah, we have a lot of  
25          trouble, and people dumping.

1 MR. LOVALLO: Well, I mean -- all  
2 right. Could you please show me on the map  
3 again? Just for future reference, would you be  
4 open to letting the contractor use that  
5 temporarily just for my own --

6 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: So, it's  
7 actually right in -- here's an access road that  
8 it actually could at one point drive up here  
9 and --

10 MR. HATALA: Right. It goes right  
11 around our property.

12 (Inaudible conversation.)

13 MR. HOOVER: Bill, do you have any  
14 questions?

15 MR. STULL: Yeah.

16 MR. HOOVER: All right.

17 MR. TAGLIATERRA: Mark Tagliaterra,  
18 Borough Fire Chief, T-A-G-L-I-A-T-E-R-R-A. How  
19 long did you say the project's going to be,  
20 from summer of '28 for how long?

21 MR. LOVALLO: I would say breaking  
22 ground summer of '28, approximately eight  
23 months.

24 MR. TAGLIATERRA: Eight months.  
25 Okay. You said road closures for beam

1 installation?

2 MR. LOVALLO: Correct.

3 MR. TAGLIATERRA: Is that seven days  
4 in a row, or is that periodically the road will  
5 be shut down, set the beams, and then reopen?

6 MR. LOVALLO: I would say at least  
7 once per phase they'd have to have it shut  
8 down. A maximum seven days. I wouldn't  
9 anticipate going the full seven to deliver  
10 beam, but --

11 MR. MECCA: Is that mostly for crane  
12 setup or is that --

13 MR. LOVALLO: Crane setup and I  
14 believe beam delivery and beam setup.

15 MR. TAGLIATERRA: And will this be  
16 done during the day or at night?

17 MR. LOVALLO: Well --

18 MR. TAGLIATERRA: Because where our  
19 firehouse is, for us to get to the lower end of  
20 Old Forge, now we have to go up to Oak Street  
21 all the way around instead of going straight  
22 down Milwaukee Avenue.

23 So that's where our concern is down  
24 there. Our concern is public safety. And with  
25 the road shut down, it's gonna take an extra

1 couple minutes to get to the lower end of Old  
2 Forge, so that's why we need to know if it's  
3 going to be days that's closed, is it going to  
4 be hours that's closed?

5 If it's going to be hours that it's  
6 closed, we need to know what hours so we can  
7 stage something on the other side of Milwaukee  
8 Avenue in case we get a call.

9 MR. LOVALLO: We will do a  
10 construction schedule, we'll certainly  
11 coordinate with yourself and with the rest of  
12 the Borough which is day or night better, and  
13 go from there. We'll put that in the schedule  
14 to make it work, especially with the emergency  
15 responders.

16 MR. MECCA: Yeah. I think what he's  
17 looking at is he's looking at crane placement.  
18 It's half with construction.

19 MR. LOVALLO: Right.

20 MR. MECCA: So, if we're narrowing  
21 it down to one lane during construction, we're  
22 building on the second half, and then to fit a  
23 crane in there, a crane's typically --

24 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

25 MR. MECCA: They're 20-some feet

1 wide, and you still got to get the beams in,  
2 and if the cars are passing -- once the crane's  
3 set up, it only takes one day to set the beams.  
4 It looks like we're not setting any more than  
5 three beams at once. That's one day.

6 But then if they have to -- if the  
7 crane is blocking the road at all, you know,  
8 and we can't run traffic through there, and  
9 like I said, I'm not 100 percent sure yet  
10 whether or not that's the case, you know, it  
11 can be much shorter, it can be, you know, like,  
12 maybe just one day if we're --

13 MR. LOVALLO: Yeah, I wouldn't  
14 anticipate the full seven --

15 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

16 MR. MECCA: But we'll look at that  
17 further and we'll see if there's a way we can  
18 get it so the crane's set off of the side, and  
19 then, you know, we can get the beams delivered  
20 and placed.

21 If we can, we might not even have to  
22 use it, if we can get the crane in a position  
23 where it can deliver the beams. Even if we had  
24 to pick the beams from the lane, the open lane,  
25 and set it, you know, I've seen us do that.

1 We've had rolling stops. Not even shut down in  
2 some cases.

3 So, that's potentially we may not,  
4 but just there's possibility we would be  
5 closing it for a little bit.

6 MR. LOVALLO: It's an option for the  
7 contractor, because then the state DOT would  
8 not even allow more than seven days. Seven  
9 days is the max.

10 And, yeah, even during construction,  
11 the contractor would make the public aware  
12 plenty in advance that the detour would be in  
13 place from here to there.

14 MR. TAGLIATERRA: When it's down to  
15 one lane, are you going to have flaggers there?  
16 Are you going to have light --

17 MR. LOVALLO: Signal. Temporary  
18 signals.

19 MR. TAGLIATERRA: So, will that  
20 signal have an Opticom device on it so the fire  
21 apparatus going --

22 MR. LOVALLO: We've given them  
23 control, right, Mike?

24 MR. MECCA: I think they could work  
25 that in if you have something.

1 MR. TAGLIATERRA: Yeah, we do.

2 MR. MECCA: Okay. Yeah, we could  
3 work that into the system.

4 MR. TAGLIATERRA: Me, personally, I  
5 don't know if Bill is going to agree with me,  
6 we would want that on those lights.

7 MR. MECCA: Yeah, we could work that  
8 into the signal.

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

11 MR. LOVALLO: Thank you.

12 MR. MECCA: As far as just going  
13 back to the notice, I think the letter you  
14 received on notice, I think it was published in  
15 the paper, and that's the obligation. I think  
16 we did send out the letters as courtesy to the  
17 adjacent property owners.

18 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: The issue  
19 would be people who live out of town won't ever  
20 see that notice.

21 MR. MECCA: Yeah, I know.

22 MR. LOVALLO: We obviously had a  
23 discrepancy with the property owners, so we --

24 MR. HOOVER: What we can do at the  
25 next -- I mean, there's probably going to be

1 another meeting in regards to this, you know,  
2 so --

3 MR. LOVALLO: We usually do one  
4 public meeting like this.

5 MR. HOOVER: Oh, yeah?

6 MR. LOVALLO: This is pretty much  
7 the obligation.

8 MR. HOOVER: You're not going to  
9 start this until 2028?

10 MR. LOVALLO: Yes.

11 MR. HOOVER: If we had to request  
12 another meeting, who would we have to contact,  
13 you or PennDOT?

14 MR. LOVALLO: The State, I would  
15 imagine.

16 MR. HOOVER: PennDOT?

17 MR. LOVALLO: Yeah.

18 MR. HOOVER: And who would that be?

19 MR. RAU: Me. Donald Rau.

20 MR. HOOVER: Donald?

21 MR. RAU: That's right.

22 MR. HOOVER: Okay. On  
23 notifications, the Borough normally notifies,  
24 Mare, what is it, 100 feet from where the job  
25 is being -- 100 feet in every direction?

1 MS. BARTOLETTI: That's usually if  
2 there's a zoning issue.

3 MR. HOOVER: A zoning issue? We  
4 could probably do that for the next meeting.  
5 That way everybody will get a letter and I'll  
6 attach this to it, so you guys that are from  
7 out of town will get the notifications, too.  
8 If we have another meeting.

9 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I do have  
10 another question. Once this project begins,  
11 assuming it will begin, what is the Borough's  
12 responsibility in making sure that everything  
13 is done the way it's supposed to be done?

14 I know plans have to be submitted,  
15 but who's making sure that the plans are  
16 actually what they are?

17 MR. HOOVER: We have a borough  
18 engineer. He's not here right now, but we have  
19 a borough engineer, and he'll get the plans.

20 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: And what is  
21 his name?

22 MR. HOOVER: Dave Lopatka.

23 MS. BARTOLETTI: It's a state road.  
24 So PennDOT stays involved because that's a  
25 state road.

1 MR. HOOVER: Yeah. PennDOT stays  
2 involved because it's a state road, but we  
3 could have our engineer look at it. If there's  
4 any problems with those, he could notify them,  
5 also, you know, if he sees a problem.

6 MR. MECCA: Yeah. And just on that  
7 same line, PennDOT has a construction inspector  
8 out there, he's going to make sure the plans  
9 are followed.

10 And we're preparing the plans,  
11 PennDOT's going to approve the plans. They  
12 have consultant engineers who review our plans  
13 on their behalf and they approve it for PennDOT  
14 or in conjunction with PennDOT. So our plans  
15 get reviewed by them and then approved prior to  
16 bidding and such.

17 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: While I  
18 respect what you just said, I can tell you that  
19 that hasn't been done on a project in the past  
20 involving our land.

21 So I am going to request that there  
22 is some extra care taken in making sure that  
23 whatever dirt is removed is within the realms  
24 of the plan and not extra.

25 MR. RINALDI: Where's your property,

1 ma'am?

2 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: If I can  
3 point to it? We have 19 acres left. It's, I  
4 guess, the woodsy area that you would call. If  
5 you go into Shawnee Hills at the top of Ray  
6 Street, down Clark Street, all of that  
7 development started out as 63 acres -- or 60  
8 acres, and we have some acreage left on Olivia.  
9 There's four blocks left on Olivia.

10 MR. RINALDI: Are you Shari's  
11 cousin?

12 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I am.

13 MR. RINALDI: Okay. I know where  
14 your land is.

15 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: And so the  
16 property we're talking about primarily is the  
17 one that's just along the creek right now  
18 because this is future development for Shawnee  
19 Hills.

20 MR. RINALDI: Okay.

21 MR. HATALA: Russell, you grew up  
22 down there.

23 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

24 MR. RINALDI: I know where your land  
25 is. I've been down there a million times. I

1 thought your land might have been closer to the  
2 bridge.

3 (Inaudible crosstalk.)

4 MR. RINALDI: My apologies. I  
5 didn't know you were related. Sir?

6 MR. HATALA: Greg Hatala.

7 MR. RINALDI: Oh, hi, Greg. I  
8 didn't see you there.

9 MR. HATALA: Hey, Russell. As my  
10 cousin was saying on that past development,  
11 from what I had heard, there was over 600  
12 tri-axles of fill taken out of there, and they  
13 went underneath the decks, by over four to six  
14 feet they went under, and like she was saying,  
15 there was no engineer or nobody there.

16 And there was also supposed to be a  
17 meeting where there was supposed to be the  
18 surveyor, the Borough, the engineer, and like  
19 everybody, all these people were supposed to be  
20 present before they had started digging, and,  
21 like I had said, they took out over 600  
22 tri-axles of dirt.

23 We have no idea where that dirt went  
24 to. We don't know. And that's all supposed to  
25 be -- it's all supposed to be taken care of

1           where they know exactly where that dirt went to  
2           and how much dirt actually went there, and  
3           that's what I think my cousin is trying to get  
4           to is that when these projects are done, that  
5           they're not overlooked by certain people.

6                         Now, with PennDOT, I know that  
7           that'll be overlooked the right way because  
8           it's, you know, they're from the State, you  
9           know, they do things the right way.

10                        But these other developments that  
11           happened in Old Forge, you're not notified  
12           about what's going on and all these other  
13           things, and now we're in a big predicament over  
14           this load of crap that we're going through,  
15           actually.

16                        So, it's, like, it's a big headache  
17           on us and it's costing, not me, but my family,  
18           my aunt and my cousins and stuff, awful, awful  
19           lot of money because the Borough did not go  
20           through what they were supposed to go through.

21                        MR. HOOVER: Greg, who did the dirt?

22                        MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: I'm going to  
23           stop this right now. There's an ongoing  
24           lawsuit, and we shouldn't be discussing this  
25           here.

1 MR. HATALA: Yes. Exactly.

2 MR. MECCA: And I just want to say,  
3 I mean, basically this is a bridge project from  
4 PennDOT's perspective, so our job is to replace  
5 the bridge. We don't want to impact your  
6 property at all as much as we can help it.

7 As a matter of fact, all we have is  
8 a temporary easement right now. So, we're  
9 going to do our best to avoid any trees and  
10 avoid blocking that driveway, you know, to the  
11 best we can.

12 And I didn't see where the trees  
13 are, so I'm not committing to anything or  
14 anything, but, you know, we will do our best to  
15 work.

16 And the same thing with, you know,  
17 as far as, you know, like, our job is to  
18 maintain access the best we can, you know, so  
19 if we're going to do our best to design  
20 something that doesn't shut the road down for  
21 very long, if at all, hopefully we can avoid  
22 doing it at all, but, you know, it kind of  
23 depends on how much room we have, how flat the  
24 ground is, how big the crane is, where we have  
25 to put the beams, and where the utility lines

1 are.

2 So, again, we didn't get that far,  
3 but, you know, hopefully we can pretty much  
4 make everybody happy.

5 Like I said, our job is just to  
6 replace the bridge and kind of do it with the  
7 least impact to the community. So, that's what  
8 we're working on.

9 MR. HOOVER: Yeah. Anybody else  
10 have -- yeah?

11 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Just one  
12 quick question, where's the money coming from  
13 to do this?

14 MR. LOVALLO: State funding.

15 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: State? Okay.  
16 Is this a grant?

17 MR. LOVALLO: I don't believe so.

18 MR. TOMASZEWSKI: No. It's off our  
19 transportation improvement program. So there's  
20 funds that are programmed, you know, with the  
21 State, and this is being funded through that  
22 TIP process.

23 MR. HOOVER: Anybody else have any  
24 questions?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. HOOVER: All right. Well,  
2 that'll conclude the first meeting for the  
3 bridge project. I'm sure there'll be another  
4 one before we start.

5 MR. LOVALLO: All right. Well,  
6 thank you all for your time, and please fill  
7 out the questionnaires for the comment form,  
8 and any more comments, come up and feel free  
9 to --

10 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: When will the  
11 minutes be published for this?

12 MR. LOVALLO: As soon as possible.

13 MS. LITWINIEC-SAUERS: Will it be  
14 online?

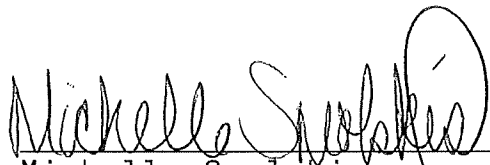
15 MR. LOVALLO: I usually e-mail all  
16 the attendants.

17  
18 (Meeting adjourned.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

  
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