

1 also a garage next to it that the roof is caved in  
2 completely. And the front door on it is the whole  
3 structure is --

4 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: That structure  
5 might have to be torn down.

6 MR. TAGLIAFERRI: That's on the  
7 property, not the house itself, but on the same  
8 property. But I would think at least --

9 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: That doesn't  
10 transfer to the house. That structure might have to be  
11 torn down but the house might not have to be.

12 MR. TAGLIAFERRI: The danger to it, if  
13 you're walking by, there is a glass window up top  
14 that's like ready to fall out.

15 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Still, that won't  
16 qualify to tear down a whole house.

17 MR. TAGLIAFERRI: I understand. I don't  
18 know what kind of water damage was done with the rain.  
19 Once you get water in the house, that's when the  
20 structural deterioration really starts.

21 I don't know what that roof is like or  
22 anything. I mean --

23 MR. FEBBO: That's why we need the  
24 engineer to go and inspect that and that will answer  
25 the questions.

1 MR. TAGLIAFERRI: A lot happened in eight  
2 years.

3 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: I agree with you.  
4 Let's try to get it done tomorrow, Dave. Thanks,  
5 Steve. Anybody have any other questions for Bill.

6 MR. FERRETT: Yeah. Bill, I got a  
7 question. Bill, in your report, the dedication to the  
8 Housing Authority, you said that has to be reviewed by  
9 the engineer. I'm wondering what part he plays in the  
10 subject.

11 Secondly, as I'm looking it over here,  
12 someone had to go to work and give you permission to go  
13 ahead and engage in an agreement to pay for a housing  
14 source to pay the sewer fees.

15 According to the 64 contract, which is  
16 signed by Council and everything, it does not say  
17 anything of this nature and sort of violates what is  
18 actually in that contract where it says that the  
19 Housing Authority is supposed to give us 10 percent.  
20 So, where do we run with this?

21 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: All right. The  
22 reason he's reviewing the deed is because I don't know.  
23 It's in meets and bounds.

24 Until he plots it out, I want to make  
25 sure we're getting the streets. I can't see that. I

1 don't have the computer capability to plot out points  
2 and see where the streets go.

3 MR. FERRETT: Right.

4 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Since I've been  
5 here, the complaint was over there that they don't pay  
6 sewer. So I said, if we're taking over the streets, we  
7 want you guys to start paying the sewer.

8 MR. FERRETT: That was never in the  
9 contract whatsoever.

10 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: They were always  
11 supposed to pay sewer.

12 MR. FERRETT: No.

13 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Somewhere along  
14 the way, the Borough got in an argument and the County  
15 said, that's a tax. And the solicitor said, okay, it's  
16 a tax.

17 But your sewer fee is not a tax. Your  
18 sewer fee is maintenance of your sewer system. So,  
19 they've been able to skirt paying all these years. And  
20 that was always a complaint of the Council that I  
21 remember. But they pay no sewer fees over there for  
22 any of the units.

23 So I had requested that they start paying  
24 sewer fees when we take over the roads.

25 MR. FERRETT: Well, first of all, I don't

1 agree with you simply because of the fact that --

2 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: They'd be happy  
3 not to pay them.

4 MR. FERRETT: I think in the January  
5 thing, I will bring the contract in and you can review  
6 the contract for yourself and see for yourself. And  
7 let every Councilman go ahead and review it simply  
8 because of the fact that I'm fully aware of this.

9 When you're saying something like this  
10 here, we're not talking about Koler Avenue. We're  
11 talking about every street that's going to be bound by  
12 the Housing Agency.

13 And we're going to be obligated by this.  
14 And where's this money going to come from? You know,  
15 all those down at the lower end, they're in terrible  
16 shape. Now we're going to be responsible to get these  
17 fixed.

18 You're going to go to work to get the  
19 deed of dedication. Or somebody is going to come up  
20 with the streets that were never there before, never  
21 before.

22 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: I can tell you  
23 that I think it's Koler and the other one were laid out  
24 years ago. Okay? They're going to give us a deed to  
25 them.

1 But they were already laid out in the  
2 Borough on the person that subdivided them. That  
3 person is long since dead. You're not getting a deed  
4 from them.

5 Apollo and Eisenhower are inside their  
6 parcel of land. We are getting liquid fuels, I think,  
7 for all of them.

8 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: All of them. Yes.

9 MR. RUSSICK: You don't own the street,  
10 you can't get nothing.

11 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: I'm not going to  
12 get into that argument with PennDOT. If they put them  
13 down and nobody takes them off here.

14 MR. RUSSICK: No. The Borough puts them  
15 on the application.

16 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: That's not the  
17 way -- I've seen it happen.

18 MR. RUSSICK: That's the way it works.

19 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: It doesn't work  
20 that way here. There's more streets that get put on.

21 MR. RUSSICK: This is Pennsylvania, Old  
22 Forge is Pennsylvania.

23 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: So, we get money  
24 for them.

25 MR. FERRETT: Well, I don't agree with

1 you. But that's only my personal opinion, because,  
2 like I said before, at the last meeting, Bill, there's  
3 no question in my mind, there were never no roads up on  
4 Koler Avenue or anything like that because we played  
5 baseball on the roads.

6 That land was never developed. Rossi and  
7 Vendi, who purchased that land, didn't purchase that  
8 land until the '50s.

9 So there's no way possible could there  
10 ever have been roads there. But that's water over the  
11 dam. No way anybody is going to prove anything.

12 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Went to the tax  
13 sale with Pahutski and the lots to the county were  
14 from.

15 MR. FERRETT: The only reason I'm looking  
16 at all this over here, when you say sewer fee, I bet  
17 all the tea in China that if the sewer fee was \$25.00,  
18 they would never accept it.

19 Because the sewer fee is only \$40.00,  
20 they're willing to accept that versus the \$200,000.00  
21 roads they're going to get, plus other roads we're  
22 going to take over.

23 This is opening up a can of worms.  
24 You're going to see some day, going to come back and  
25 bite us. Nobody realizes that.

1                   ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: No, because the  
2 original contract says, they were supposed to dedicate  
3 the roads to us in 1966 and they never did. They never  
4 did. That's the problem.

5                   MR. FERRETT: The contract specifically  
6 states that, in 1964, when they purchased all this land  
7 and everything, that in lieu of taxes, they were giving  
8 us \$1,500.00 to start with.

9                   If you read the contract further on, the  
10 contract specifically tells you, you go page 3 or page  
11 4, it specifically tells you that when the county is  
12 ready to give to the Borough the streets, the sidewalks  
13 and everything, after they've done all the work that  
14 was necessary, they will give -- the Borough will  
15 accept them. And, in lieu, they will get 10 percent of  
16 the rent. That's my comments.

17                  ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: I agree with you  
18 that we're supposed to get something in lieu of taxes.  
19 It's just how they manage to convolute the taxes within  
20 the sewer bill.

21                  MR. FERRETT: So the question is, how did  
22 you come up with this agreement, by whose authority?  
23 And how is it that we're circumventing the contract  
24 that was signed in 1964? That's my point.

25                  ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: We're not

1 circumventing it because we're carrying it out. It's  
2 not that we get the roads when they start paying taxes.

3 The roads had to be given to us when they  
4 finished building the structures in the development.  
5 They never did that. It just fell through the cracks.

6 MR. FERRETT: So, are they going to give  
7 us the roads down on Apollo Drive and everywhere else?

8 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Yes.

9 MR. FERRETT: And we're going to have pay  
10 for them and fix them, correct?

11 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Correct, like any  
12 other development that gets developed. But, over the  
13 years, everybody was upset they weren't paying the  
14 sewer fees because that's not a tax. So I said, we got  
15 to get sewer fees.

16 MR. FERRETT: There's nothing in the  
17 contract about sewer fees.

18 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Yes, there was.  
19 Because there's letters going back and forth arguing  
20 with the Borough that sewer fees are not taxes -- are  
21 taxes and we're not going to pay them. And the Borough  
22 caved on the issue and that's why you can't get sewer  
23 bills. I have the letters.

24 MR. FERRETT: Whatever happens, come  
25 January --



1                   ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: If you don't want  
2 the sewer fees, I'll tell them.

3                   MR. FERRETT: No. Whatever this Council  
4 wants, let them do what they want. I have a right to  
5 cast my vote the way I think. That's giving my  
6 personal opinion.

7                   I know because I've been there. I have  
8 the records and everything. These guys don't have the  
9 records.

10                  MR. RUSSICK: Aren't the roads supposed  
11 to meet a standard before the Borough accepts those  
12 roads? You do it with other developments, they have to  
13 meet a standard. They have to be paved properly, et  
14 cetera, et cetera. So, why should they be any  
15 different? Just asked the question.

16                  ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: That's up to  
17 Council. If they want to get into a fight over that  
18 development, then I'll be happy to do it.

19                  MR. RUSSICK: It's our money.

20                  ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Trying to resolve  
21 the problem.

22                  MR. RUSSICK: Councilman Ferrett said  
23 that's our money that's supporting these developments.

24                  MR. BROWN: Mr. Ferrett, your main issue  
25 is that we're not going to have enough financing to

1 take care of those roads; correct?

2 MR. FERRETT: I don't know.

3 MR. BROWN: Is that what you're --

4 MR. FERRETT: I don't have no control --

5 MR. BROWN: I'm asking what your personal  
6 issue was or your question.

7 MR. FERRETT: No. The money that's going  
8 to be taking care of for the county roads is coming out  
9 of the county money. It's not coming out of the liquid  
10 fuel money or nothing. It's coming out of the county  
11 money.

12 Which means that that money -- in the  
13 past, we have always used that money for the separation  
14 of stormwater from sanitary. You're not going to be  
15 able to do it now, because the money is being evacuated  
16 and gone.

17 And you know what? When the government  
18 says it's going to become mandatory, separate sanitary  
19 from sewer, you're going to wonder, what are we going  
20 to do, raise taxes?

21 We had an opportunity --

22 MR. BROWN: So, a pilot is payment in  
23 lieu of taxes program. And at any time, the host  
24 municipality can request a meeting with whoever is  
25 being granted a pilot, in lieu of taxes.

1                   So, at any time, you could, if you want,  
2 as a request of Council or administration, a meeting  
3 can be set up. And you can ask or kind of I don't want  
4 to say demand, but use demand that a certain amount of  
5 finances be provided to the host municipality for the  
6 person that is not being taxed.

7                   You know, it just happened today down in  
8 the paper in Wilkes-Barre. King's College is paying  
9 63,000 in lieu of taxes to Wilkes-Barre because they  
10 had a shortage on their budget.

11                   Wilkes College just had to pay 75,000 in  
12 lieu of taxes. So, I mean, at any time, if you feel  
13 that this -- you know, a county-owned property or  
14 not-for-profit is being granted a pilot in lieu of  
15 taxes and you want to see revenue from the  
16 not-for-profits, you can request a meeting and  
17 basically mandate, you know, that some financial  
18 contribution be made to the Borough.

19                   So, if you're worried about the revenue  
20 coming to take care of those roads, set up a meeting or  
21 go through the chain of command and set up a meeting  
22 with Marylynn and the County Housing Authority.

23                   I mean, because that's what it falls  
24 under, payment in lieu of taxes. Because it's a  
25 not-for-profit agency.

1 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: We get money.

2 MS. BARTOLETTI: We get 1,400 a year from  
3 them. We tried to have several meetings with them and  
4 insist that the roads are ours and our responsibilities  
5 to fix them. They don't have any extra money. They  
6 won't pay any money. It goes on and on and on.

7 They even have Sid Michaels involved, who  
8 had his administrative assistant call here and be  
9 rather nasty about the fact that the Borough hasn't  
10 done anything about the roads.

11 That's why Bill was trying to get one way  
12 or the another, get some type of settlements out there  
13 with the attorneys for the County Housing.

14 MR. BROWN: Yeah, and I'm not saying.  
15 I'm just saying, if Joe is worried about not having  
16 enough revenue, then we should be asking for more of a  
17 contribution from the Housing Authority.

18 Not even asking. If they want to say  
19 they don't have it, be demanding. I mean, they're  
20 getting federal money from the federal government, from  
21 HUD, Housing and Urban Development for these agencies.

22 MS. BARTOLETTI: True. We met with them  
23 several times and they've turned it down. I would  
24 suggest, if you want to do that, have the meeting with  
25 the entire Council and Bill, with the representative

1 from the County Housing and try to do it that way, so  
2 everyone is on the same page.

3           Instead of just trying to have a meeting  
4 with one or two people and, you know, go from there.

5           MR. BROWN: Yeah. That was only my  
6 suggestion to Mr. Ferrett's concern. So, that's Joe.  
7 That's just, you know, a recommendation if you want or  
8 to help you out.

9           MS. BARTOLETTI: Just for the record,  
10 they do give us \$1,400.00 a year.

11           MR. FERRETT: That was when they first  
12 started the program and the project.

13           MS. BARTOLETTI: I know. Never gone up.

14           MR. FERRETT: I realize I'm probably the  
15 oldest one here, but I'm going to tell you something.  
16 I know for a fact, but the fact is, it's not  
17 documented.

18           It was stated that after 30 years, if the  
19 Borough wanted to take over the project, they could  
20 have taken it over.

21           And the Borough is not in the process of  
22 doing this. But, what I'm saying is it was on the  
23 table. Can I prove this point? No, I can't prove it  
24 because I can't find it in the contract where it says  
25 that.

1 But I was around when these statements  
2 are being made and everything.

3 MS. BARTOLETTI: Right.

4 MR. FERRETT: See, my point behind all  
5 this is, the County is collecting all the taxes.  
6 They're getting all this revenue coming in.

7 And when they originated this thing in  
8 '64, people probably were paying 75, 80, \$90.00 rents.  
9 Today they're paying, 250, \$300.00 rent and everything  
10 of this nature.

11 If you read the contract, it specifically  
12 tells you, in lieu of giving over the streets, 10  
13 percent of the rent.

14 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: It says, in lieu  
15 of the taxes, they will pay you what the profit is.  
16 Percentage. Doesn't say -- the streets aren't  
17 connected with that.

18 It's in lieu of taxes, they will pay  
19 this. And they got that to include --

20 MR. FERRETT: Bill, it specifically  
21 states -- I know it's on page 3 or page 4, but I've  
22 been going over this day in and out.

23 You know what? There's only one way to  
24 prove to Council. You know what? I don't want to do  
25 that any more. It's useless and everything.

1 I'm telling you it specifically states  
2 that if the Borough takes over these streets, if the  
3 county wants to give over the streets, in lieu of  
4 taking over the streets, the Borough would be getting  
5 this 10 percent. Look it --

6 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: I think you're  
7 talking about take over the whole, all the housing.

8 MR. FERRETT: No, no, that's not.

9 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Bill, did you review  
10 the contract?

11 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: I reviewed  
12 electronic. We haggled over it with three different  
13 solicitors for three different terms. They don't want  
14 to pay more. They say they can't pay more. They were  
15 going to pave the roads. Now they're not going to pave  
16 the roads.

17 They want to give the roads to us, which  
18 they were supposed to do in the beginning. And they  
19 never did.

20 MR. RUSSICK: Thing of it is, if the  
21 County own those roads, the Housing Authority owns  
22 those roads and they're not doing anything about it,  
23 why don't you get in touch with HUD and say the County  
24 is not doing what they're supposed to be doing.  
25 Circumvent the County.

1 I mean, HUD oversees these housing  
2 developments. I know that for a fact. And if they're  
3 not complying, the County is not complying with their  
4 end of paving those roads and keeping this area safe,  
5 HUD should know about it. Let HUD go after them.

6 Like the Councilman said, HUD gives the  
7 County money through that Housing Authority to maintain  
8 those properties.

9 And they're not being maintained  
10 properly. So, go back to the people that are through  
11 HUD. Make a complaint with them guys.

12 MR. FERRETT: It is a HUD program.

13 MR. RUSSICK: Go to HUD. I think they're  
14 in Philadelphia. Get in touch with those people.

15 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Are you going to get  
16 me a copy of that?

17 MS. BARTOLETTI: It's in my office.

18 MR. FERRETT: She'll give you a copy.

19 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Anybody have anything  
20 else for Bill?

21 MR. FERRETT: No.

22 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Whatever it says,  
23 decide what you want to do because the County doesn't  
24 want to do anything. We've gone through it.

25 MR. BROWN: Bill, quick question. I



1 think what you have in here is alright. But, after we  
2 take it over, my question is, or maybe to the Council,  
3 would you guys like to and Marylynn and administration  
4 or Joe, set up a meeting requesting more of a  
5 contribution -- more of a contribution from their pilot  
6 for us offering them the pilot, the payment in lieu of  
7 taxes.

8 If we got more money than the \$1,400.00  
9 that we get now, it would be, you know, something more.  
10 I'm not saying they're going to come with, you know,  
11 open arms or open their pocketbook and say, take it  
12 all, but, I mean.

13 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: It's not a pilot.  
14 It's Housing Urban Development development that they  
15 did in the '60s. County bought land and erected  
16 low-income housing on it.

17 MR. BROWN: Non-for-profit.

18 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Wouldn't have to  
19 pay taxes.

20 MR. FEBBO: Bill, is the Mayor getting  
21 together with Council with them, as you mentioned  
22 before, sitting down with the County and hammer out  
23 here and there.

24 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Yes.

25 MR. FEBBO: Because all we're doing is

1 kicking the football down the field again and going  
2 nowhere with it and comes up at every single meeting.

3 MR. FERRETT: Like the Rosemont  
4 situation. Going round and round for seven years.  
5 Something is very important, Mr. Febbo. You don't  
6 understand.

7 MR. FEBBO: I understand.

8 MR. FERRETT: Paying for roads that we  
9 don't and people are not getting their roads paved.

10 MR. FEBBO: Joe, I'm not disagreeing with  
11 you. But let's deal with what we're talking about  
12 here with the project and get to Rosemont.

13 And I'm saying, I'm saying, requesting  
14 that to the Chairman perhaps that we meet with County  
15 officials, sit down at the table with them and see what  
16 we can bargain with them or barter with them or  
17 negotiate with them, so we can all get on the same page  
18 and move forward.

19 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: We could definitely do  
20 that. But like Marylynn stated before, we had to sit  
21 down with them, and it basically got us nowhere. But  
22 we can absolutely do it again, so.

23 MR. FEBBO: Let's do our homework. We  
24 have contracts and Joe thinks he has something in there  
25 he can take to the table with us. Put it to rest, one

1 way or the other.

2 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Could we contact them  
3 and maybe set it up for mid-January sometime, Marylynn?

4 MS. BARTOLETTI: Yeah.

5 MR. FERRETT: I don't have a problem.  
6 All I'm saying that it's not a question of taking over  
7 the roads. It's a question what do you get in lieu of  
8 taking over the roads?

9 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: I understand your  
10 point.

11 MR. FEBBO: Either way, we need to  
12 negotiate here. Renegotiate, I should say.

13 MR. RUSSICK: I would also tell the  
14 County, if we don't get results here, that you're going  
15 to go to HUD and let HUD overlook the situation.

16 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Anybody have any other  
17 questions for Bill? Thanks, Bill. Marylynn, Borough  
18 Manager's Report, please.

19 BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

20 MS. BARTOLETTI: Special meeting a week  
21 from today, 12/27 at 5:00, in order to pass the final  
22 budget and the tax ordinance.

23 Now, everyone has my financial report.  
24 Does anybody have any questions on any of the reports?

25 MR. FERRETT: Yeah. I have one little

1 question I have to ask. I don't have a problem  
2 whatsoever with the report that you're giving us.

3 What the exception is, there's nothing in  
4 this report in reference to the access part dealing  
5 with the liquids fuel money, how much money is there or  
6 whatever the case may be.

7 We used to get a report a long time ago  
8 on this, how much money is in the liquid fuel and what  
9 the expenditure is.

10 MS. BARTOLETTI: If you want, I can give  
11 you one right after the meeting. I didn't put it in  
12 the packet. But it looks just like this, except liquid  
13 fuels. If you want, after the meeting --

14 MR. FERRETT: Right. No. But I'm  
15 saying, shouldn't we get that every month like that?

16 MS. BARTOLETTI: Yeah.

17 MR. FERRETT: So everybody knows what's  
18 going on.

19 MS. BARTOLETTI: Yeah. Sometimes we do.  
20 Sometimes we don't.

21 MR. FERRETT: The only thing.

22 MS. BARTOLETTI: The next thing is,  
23 everyone got a copy of the budget. It's the one we  
24 passed out in the beginning of the meeting. So I  
25 would ask everyone to really take a look at it.

1                   And if you have any questions before the  
2 next meeting, to try to get to me so that I can answer  
3 any questions in advance so that the passing of the  
4 budget can be a nice, smooth process.

5                   MR. FERRETT: Are all the raises and  
6 everything, money involved in here, are all put in  
7 here?

8                   MS. BARTOLETTI: Yes.

9                   MR. FERRETT: All except the two  
10 contracts, right?

11                  MS. BARTOLETTI: Yes. And that's --

12                  MR. FERRETT: They're not -- I mean, what  
13 I'm saying is, there's nothing plugged in here that may  
14 be given.

15                  MS. BARTOLETTI: There's increases put  
16 in. They're just the increases for the departments  
17 that are still negotiating contracts are basically  
18 estimated.

19                  MR. FERRETT: That's what I'm saying,  
20 there are estimated figures, just in case?

21                  MS. BARTOLETTI: Yes.

22                  MR. FERRETT: So we don't find out that  
23 whatever the case may be, we don't have to raise taxes  
24 since we didn't plug nothing in.

25                  MS. BARTOLETTI: We will not raise taxes.

1 MR. FERRETT: All right. That's good.

2 MS. BARTOLETTI: Do you want to go  
3 through anything? Do you want to look at it first?  
4 Tell me what your ideas are on this.

5 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: The only question I  
6 had about it was, the copy we got tonight, same exact  
7 one, that the finance committee had earlier.

8 MS. BARTOLETTI: Except for the  
9 handwritten adjustments are now typed-in adjustments.

10 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Just so I don't go  
11 back and forth between them, I'll just go through one,  
12 because I marked day and evening on them. That's why.  
13 So I know which one I'm doing.

14 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Everybody want to  
15 review it. And if they have any questions, they can  
16 call Marylynn and either meet with her or talk to her  
17 over the phone, I mean.

18 A lot to go through line by line here.  
19 If you want to, you can. Everybody good with that?  
20 All right.

21 MS. BARTOLETTI: Anything you want  
22 explained tonight, anything you want to discuss  
23 tonight?

24 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Is that it? Anybody  
25 have any questions for Marylynn? Thank you, Mar. At

1 this time, go to public comment. Joe Russick.

2 MR. RUSSICK: Joe Russick, 642 Clark  
3 Street, Old Forge. In reference to the LED lighting,  
4 do we have any information on updates, when that's  
5 going to take place in the Borough?

6 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Marylynn, do we have  
7 any idea when the LED lighting is going to start?

8 MS. BARTOLETTI: No. We're waiting on  
9 PPL now.

10 MR. RUSSICK: In other words, it's in the  
11 works.

12 MS. BARTOLETTI: Um-hum. They said the  
13 bill is paid. You know, it's just a matter of us being  
14 in line now. Waiting for them. That's it.

15 MR. RUSSICK: All right. Just, if you go  
16 through the various towns, you could see they have  
17 these LED lighting.

18 And Saturday night, if everyone  
19 remembers, it was a bad night. The roads, newly paved,  
20 pretty dark. But if you go into areas where they have  
21 this new LED lighting, boy, you could see the  
22 difference.

23 Okay. So I was just wondering where we  
24 stood with those or, you know, as in the past, it was  
25 mentioned that it's in the works. Another --

1 MS. BARTOLETTI: So, it's a process we  
2 had to go through with and go through each streetlight  
3 to decide the ones that weren't ten years old, if we  
4 wanted to pay to have them changed or not.

5 And what the decision was is to pay the  
6 extra money and do it all at once rather than a piece  
7 series.

8 And once it was done, it took them about,  
9 I'm going to say, a good two months to get back with us  
10 with an invoice based on what was free, what was going  
11 to be partially paid for and what we fully had to pay  
12 for.

13 Once we got the invoice, it went before  
14 Council last month. The bill is paid. PPL contacted  
15 us and said we're in line.

16 MR. RUSSICK: So we pay the electric bill  
17 every month based on the amount of lights.

18 MS. BARTOLETTI: Yeah.

19 MR. RUSSICK: In saying that --

20 MS. BARTOLETTI: Otherwise, it would be  
21 out.

22 MR. RUSSICK: No. I understand. That's  
23 what I heard.

24 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: If you find a way  
25 around, let me know.



1 MS. BARTOLETTI: Believe me. They have  
2 no mercy on municipalities.

3 MR. RUSSICK: Our streetlights or traffic  
4 lights are LED, I assume. How about those flashing  
5 lights down by Augustine, are they LEDs? Who pays for  
6 the electric bill for those?

7 You know, it's a hazardous area there  
8 where they have the flashing, the turn lights.

9 MR. PAPI: Dangerous curb ahead.

10 MR. RUSSICK: Is that us or PennDOT? I'm  
11 looking because, you know what, I'll tell you what, if  
12 you -- I changed my lights over to LEDs, all of them.

13 I experienced at least a third reduction  
14 in my electric bill. So, my point is, there's  
15 technology out there. Everyone knows, I mean, it's  
16 hard to find incandescent light bulbs.

17 MS. BARTOLETTI: A process that we've  
18 been working on for the better part of the six months.

19 MR. RUSSICK: You know, we're paying the  
20 electric bill. We want to save too. All right. Thank  
21 you.

22 One last item, in reference to our  
23 website, what's the status of our website? Are we  
24 close to that?

25 MS. BARTOLETTI: Are you just busting me

1 tonight?

2 MR. RUSSICK: No, no. I'm serious.

3 MS. BARTOLETTI: It's just not done yet  
4 because I've been working solely on the budget.

5 MR. RUSSICK: I understand. I think it's  
6 important if the citizens are informed. I'm not  
7 busting you. I never do that. If anything, I helped  
8 you many, many times. And you know that.

9 MS. BARTOLETTI: No. I just thought you  
10 were saying it to bust me, like to tease. You know  
11 what I mean?

12 MR. RUSSICK: I'm not teasing, because I  
13 think it's a good thing for the Borough, you know, if  
14 we can get, you know, the transcripts on our website,  
15 like many other municipalities do.

16 It draws peoples' interest. That's what  
17 you want, you want citizens' input. Because, actually,  
18 we have a vested interest in this town, right, every  
19 citizen.

20 That's why I'm here, because I want to  
21 make sure that we get the best. You know, we want the  
22 best, right, because we live here. Merry Christmas and  
23 Happy New Year.

24 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: And all this time we  
25 thought you were bored. Merry Christmas, Joe.

1 MR. RUSSICK: Surprise.

2 MR. FERRETT: One time you're wrong.

3 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Chris Cawley. Ashburn  
4 Associates, right?

5 MR. CAWLEY: Ashburn Advisors.

6 C-a-w-l-e-y. I have a company called Ashburn Advisors.  
7 We have offices up here in Northeastern Pennsylvania  
8 and also down in the Philadelphia area.

9 And I was asked to come to Council this  
10 evening to -- one of our services that we do is we help  
11 municipalities coordinate the planning, the procurement  
12 and the compliance aspect of the grants.

13 Okay. Grants are very hard to come by,  
14 either from the federal level or the state level. But  
15 the state level has started to free up within the last  
16 year and a half. And they are giving out grants.

17 There are about four to five larger grant  
18 programs out there that encourage all the  
19 municipalities to apply for.

20 I work heavily down in Luzerne County. I  
21 work down in Pittston, Exeter, West Pittston, Wyoming.  
22 All them coordinate together for street scape programs,  
23 sewer infrastructure, water infrastructure. Anywhere  
24 from \$250,000.00 grants up to a million dollars,  
25 depending on what's going on.

1                   And I tell all municipalities, keep  
2 applying every single round and keep building the  
3 grants from that perspective.

4                   And what we do is we work with Council.  
5 We'll look at what your capital needs are, work with  
6 your engineers as well too and just keep pouring those  
7 grant applications out every single month.

8                   What we also did in the last month, last  
9 two weeks is work through Representative Kavulich's  
10 office and started putting line items for boroughs  
11 under the district for the RACP Program, Redevelopment  
12 Assistance Capital Program.

13                   That's a program given out by the Office  
14 of Budget down in Harrisburg. That's a unique program  
15 where you have to have a capital line in the budget in  
16 order to apply for it first.

17                   The rest of the grants you can go out  
18 there and apply directly for. Most of the grants, the  
19 municipalities have to be a conduit for everything.

20                   Even if there was a private developer  
21 coming up here, you guys would have to act as a conduit  
22 for it.

23                   Okay. There is an open round coming up.  
24 We just found out about it last week for the CFA.  
25 That's the Commonwealth Finance Agency,

1 Moto program. That's going to be due March 17th, I  
2 believe.

3 What that is, that's very similar to the  
4 PennDOT program. PennDOT multi-moto just closed this  
5 past Wednesday. In a nutshell, it looked for street  
6 improvements, street scape improvements, bike paths,  
7 all in that nature. Okay.

8 I highly advise you to apply for the  
9 program from that perspective. Okay. And then each  
10 month, there may be another. Heard you guys talking  
11 about separation of the water and sewer, which is a big  
12 problem for all municipalities.

13 There's a small grant program that just  
14 ended, I believe in October of this last year. Okay.  
15 So there's little programs that pop up every once in a  
16 while that we should be on top of, trying to apply with  
17 you guys for that.

18 Anything that I can do to assist you, I'd  
19 be more than welcome to do it. Any questions?

20 MR. RUSSICK: I have a question. You  
21 work for the government or local government services?

22 MR. CAWLEY: No.

23 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Chris, the reason I  
24 asked you to come tonight is because, as we stated at  
25 the meeting before, Councilman Febbo, myself and

1 Councilman Brown, we met to discuss long-range capital  
2 improvements.

3 That's the committee we're on I chair.  
4 Mr. Febbo met with Sid Michaels. I wasn't there. I  
5 think Councilman Lenceski was there as well, just to do  
6 some basic beginning instruction of grants and programs  
7 like that.

8 So, what we were looking to do was -- you  
9 mentioned you worked on Pittston, down in Luzerne  
10 County. We were looking to do something like that up  
11 here, at least present something like that for the  
12 Council from our committee.

13 I'm sure that the Council would, you  
14 know, be in agreeance with some beautification, street  
15 scape, whatever the terminology is, I'm not sure.

16 What would be our first step that we  
17 would have to take for something like that? Is it set  
18 up a meeting with you and Council, go over a couple  
19 things?

20 MR. CAWLEY: Whatever that committee is,  
21 myself, and your engineer, we're going to have to  
22 define a project and get estimates on the project  
23 because the numbers define the whole project.

24 And that will take us -- that CFA moto  
25 that's coming up, that will take us 2 or to 3 weeks of

1 an application period. It's good timing right now. We  
2 should sit down sooner than later.

3 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Chris, what's the cost  
4 per grant, how do you charge?

5 MR. CAWLEY: How do we charge? We only  
6 work on a contingency basis. So, if you're not  
7 successful in it, there's no fee cost to it. So, then  
8 what we normally do is bill our fees back into the  
9 program itself.

10 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Taking a cut of the  
11 grant, basically.

12 MR. CAWLEY: Correct.

13 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: So, what kind of --

14 MR. CAWLEY: They range anywhere from 1  
15 percent to 5 percent, depending upon the loan program,  
16 depending upon the amount. You know, we have as much  
17 work in a \$100,000.00 grant as we do in a  
18 million-dollar grant.

19 Also realistic that we can't hit a  
20 municipality really hard on the \$100,000.00 because  
21 there won't be much left. We work with the  
22 municipality on the fees.

23 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: The higher the grant,  
24 the more you charge?

25 MR. CAWLEY: Right. The percentage

1 goes down on that perspective.

2 MR. RUSSICK: Is there going to be  
3 administrative cost included into that grant part of  
4 it?

5 MR. CAWLEY: Sometimes.

6 MR. RUSSICK: Not always.

7 MR. CAWLEY: Not all the time. Depending  
8 on the program itself, they may have a small allowance  
9 on there, anywhere from 1 to 3 percent.

10 MR. RUSSICK: That wouldn't take care of  
11 your fees then?

12 MR. CAWLEY: Try to include that in  
13 there.

14 MR. FERRETT: What about getting grants  
15 for -- say, for instance, we wanted to renovate this  
16 building or do something to the building, is there some  
17 way that you can give us some advice as to grants or  
18 getting grants or is it possible --

19 MR. CAWLEY: I think you guys try to use  
20 the Monroe County LSA. That has a lot of hands in the  
21 pot. And then the other one would be potentially the  
22 RCAP, Redevelopment Assistance Council Program.

23 MS. BARTOLETTI: Just finishing one of  
24 them now.

25 MR. CAWLEY: Which require the 50 percent



1 match on that.

2 MR. FERRETT: Get the grants for us for  
3 something of this nature, correct?

4 MR. CAWLEY: Correct.

5 MR. FERRETT: Are you very influential?

6 MR. FEBBO: Didn't answer it.

7 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Speaks very nicely.

8 MR. RUSSICK: Good question, Joe.

9 MR. CAWLEY: You're right. That is key.

10 MR. FERRETT: See the trouble we're in.

11 MR. CAWLEY: It's the same thing going on  
12 in every municipality, infrastructure needs every  
13 single year.

14 MR. FERRETT: You know what the old  
15 saying is, all depends on what kind of hand you have.  
16 Those politicians up there are -- got Donald Trump in  
17 there now.

18 MR. CAWLEY: Any questions?

19 MR. LENCESKI: Could you give us your  
20 fees in writing?

21 MR. CAWLEY: Sure, yeah. Do you want me  
22 to e-mail you my fees?

23 MS. BARTOLETTI: Sure.

24 MR. CAWLEY: Sent out a proposal. Okay.

25 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: I don't have any

1 questions. Anybody have any questions?

2 MR. FERRETT: No. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: The Chair is going to  
4 go into new business.

5 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Just for the  
6 sewer committee, take a look at the sewer budget  
7 portion, when you get a chance.

8 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Say that again, Bill.

9 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: The sewer budget,  
10 just go over that, because, with the numbers she has,  
11 starting to spend more than you're taking in.

12 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Before new business.

13 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Just saying  
14 between now and the time you pass the budget.

15 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Okay.

16 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Make sure your  
17 sewer fees are on track. Should be building up a  
18 cushion each year. I don't want to see you eat into  
19 the cushion.

20 MS. BARTOLETTI: Lucille is not here  
21 tonight to answer any questions. Maybe the sewer  
22 committee could meet with her.

23 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: If anybody has any  
24 questions for Lucille on any of them line items, they  
25 could contact her. Please do if you have any questions

1 on it.

2 ATTORNEY BILL RINALDI: Only looking at  
3 what the actual was for 2016. Little more spent than  
4 taken in.

5 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: At this time, the  
6 Chair would look for a motion to approve an invoice for  
7 Pennsy Supply for \$90,901.31.

8 MR. FERRETT: I'll make that motion.

9 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Motion on the floor by  
10 Council Ferrett. Could I have a second?

11 MR. FEBBO: Second that motion.

12 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Seconded by Councilman  
13 Febbo, on the question.

14 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: One question I  
15 have, Mr. Chairman. Dave, your recommendation is to  
16 pay it?

17 MR. LOPATKA: Yes.

18 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Everything is all  
19 done, inspected?

20 MR. LOPATKA: Punch list is taken care  
21 of. And, according to Paul, we haven't had any other  
22 issues that came up.

23 MR. PAPI: They were a pleasure to work  
24 with. And any resident that had a problem, they took  
25 care of it.

1 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Now, is there any  
2 type of timeline as to say, like, February, after a  
3 little bit of snowfall, little bit of melting,  
4 residents call us and say --

5 MR. LOPATKA: There's a maintenance plan  
6 in place.

7 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: How long does it go  
8 for?

9 MR. LOPATKA: I think it's a year, right,  
10 marylynn?

11 MS. BARTOLETTI: Think it's a year.

12 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: A year from when  
13 work was completed or final payment was distributed?

14 MR. LOPATKA: I have to look. I'm not  
15 positive. Everything was forwarded to Marylynn.

16 MS. BARTOLETTI: Two years.

17 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: More than enough  
18 time. Okay. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

19 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Public input, role  
20 call.

21 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Brown.

22 MR. BROWN. Yes.

23 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Febbo.

24 MR. FEBBO: Yes.

25 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Ferrett.

1 MR. FERRETT: Yes.

2 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Rinaldi.

3 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yes.

4 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Lenceski.

5 MR. LENCESKI: Yes.

6 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Semenza.

7 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Yes. I never went  
8 down the table to see if any Councilman had anything to  
9 report. Councilman Brown.

10 MR. BROWN: Nothing.

11 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Councilman Rinaldi.

12 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: No, nothing to  
13 report. And I waited until the end to ask a question.  
14 And I'm not even sure if they still are. Mary, I guess  
15 I'll ask you to have them check.

16 Behind the Borough building, just as I  
17 pulled back there two nights ago, the lights behind the  
18 police station, they seem like they were burned out.  
19 Are they still burned out? Maybe they were burned out  
20 or on a timer.

21 If we could have someone check that out.  
22 It looked real dark. Chief, probably more like where  
23 you -- where you park your vehicle. It's against the  
24 building.

25 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Might be that light on

1 the building, like when I walk out.

2 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I don't know if  
3 there's a timer on it or it's just burned out.

4 MS. BARTOLETTI: Stacy would know more  
5 than me.

6 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Looks very dark  
7 back there. And actually thought about it today when I  
8 came here. That's all.

9 Other than that, I don't have anything  
10 else.

11 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I'll look. Maybe the  
12 light over the firehouse door.

13 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I don't know. It's  
14 on the back of the building.

15 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Light over the firehouse  
16 door probably.

17 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'm not sure.  
18 That's all. If we can take a look. If it is out, we  
19 can get it fixed. That's all.

20 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Council Ferrett.

21 MR. FERRETT: Nothing.

22 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Councilman Febbo.

23 MR. FEBBO: No.

24 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Councilman Lenceski.

25 MR. LENCESKI: Yeah. I just would like

1 to see or make sure that the sewer committee meets with  
2 Lucille on the 2017 budget for the sewer agency.

3 And just, at that, give us their advice  
4 whether we should accept that portion of the budget  
5 before we vote.

6 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Councilman Rinaldi,  
7 could you contact the sewer department and set up a  
8 meeting and contact the committee?

9 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yeah. I'll contact  
10 -- we have to contact Mr. Notari. You can set one up  
11 now. And I'll contact her tomorrow. Come in here  
12 tomorrow and contact him and contact you first and  
13 contact him and see what's good.

14 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Thank you.

15 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Welcome.

16 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Anything else?

17 MR. LENCESKI: That's all.

18 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Myself, I have  
19 nothing. I just want to wish everybody happy holidays.

20 At this time, the Chair would entertain a  
21 motion to adjourn.

22 MR. LENCESKI: Make that motion to  
23 adjourn.

24 CHAIRMAN SEMENZA: Motion on the floor by  
25 Councilman Lenceski. All in favor.

1 (Chorus of ayes.)

2 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI:

3 (Whereupon, at 8:35 p.m, the meeting adjourned.)

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## CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter,  
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