

1 OLD FORGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

2 OLD FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

3
4
5 IN RE: REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

6
7
8
9 FEBRUARY 21, 2017

10 7:00 P.M.

11 OLD FORGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

12 314 SOUTH MAIN STREET

13 OLD FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

14
15
16
17 COUNCIL MEMBERS:

18
19 ROBERT SEMENZA, PRESIDENT

20 JOSEPH LENCESKI, VICE-PRESIDENT

21 JOSEPH FERRETT

22 RUSSELL RINALDI

23 DEVON BROWN

24 RICK NOTARI

25 WILLIAM RINALDI, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

MARYLYNN BARTOLETTI, BOROUGH MANAGER

Mark Wozniak
Official Court Reporter

1 MR. SEMENZA: Good evening, ladies
2 and gentlemen. Welcome to the Old Forge
3 Borough regular council meeting of February
4 21, 2017. I'd like to start the meeting
5 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

6 (The Pledge of Allegiance was
7 recited.)

8 MR. SEMENZA: Once again, ladies and
9 gentlemen, welcome to the Old Forge Borough
10 Council meeting. Roll call, please.

11 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Brown?

12 MR. BROWN: Here.

13 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Notari?

14 MR. NOTARI: Present.

15 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Febbo is absent.
16 Mr. Ferrett?

17 MR. FERRETT: Here.

18 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Rinaldi?

19 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Here.

20 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Lenceski?

21 MR. LENCESKI: Here.

22 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Semenza?

23 MR. SEMENZA: Here. We'll go
24 through some housekeeping, hear from our
25 department heads, go down the table and see

1 if any councilmen have anything to report.
2 There's a public sign-in sheet if anybody
3 would like to address council.

4 At this time the chair would
5 entertain a motion to approve the minutes.

6 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'll make that
7 motion.

8 MR. SEMENZA: By Councilman Rinaldi.
9 Can I have a second?

10 MR. FERRETT: I'll second that.

11 MR. SEMENZA: Seconded by Councilman
12 Ferrett. On the question? Public input?
13 Roll call, please.

14 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Brown?

15 MR. BROWN: Yes.

16 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Notari?

17 MR. NOTARI: Yes.

18 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Ferrett?

19 MR. FERRETT: Yes.

20 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Rinaldi?

21 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yes.

22 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Lenceski?

23 MR. LENCESKI: Yes.

24 ATTY. RINALDI: Mr. Semenza?

25 MR. SEMENZA: Yes. The next motion

1 is a motion to approve the treasurer's
2 reports. Note that this does not include
3 sewer accounts.

4 MR. LENCESKI: I'll make that
5 motion.

6 MR. SEMENZA: By Councilman
7 Lenceski. Can I have a second?

8 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'll second
9 that.

10 MR. SEMENZA: Seconded by Councilman
11 Rinaldi. On the question? Public input?
12 Roll call, please.

13 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Brown?

14 MR. BROWN: Yes.

15 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Notari?

16 MR. NOTARI: Yes.

17 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Ferrett?

18 MR. FERRETT: Yes.

19 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Rinaldi?

20 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yes.

21 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman
22 Lenceski?

23 MR. LENCESKI: Yes.

24 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Semenza?

25 MR. SEMENZA: Yes. The next motion

1 is a motion to approve invoices for payment.
2 Note that this does not include sewer
3 accounts.

4 MR. BROWN: I'll make that motion.

5 MR. SEMENZA: By Councilman Brown.

6 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'll second
7 that.

8 MR. SEMENZA: Seconded by Councilman
9 Rinaldi. On the question?

10 MR. NOTARI: I have a few questions.
11 Marylynn, Jerry's Sport Center, what are
12 those bills for?

13 MS. BARTOLETTI: Bullets for the
14 police.

15 MR. NOTARI: That's an awful lot of
16 bullets, Chief. My other question is it
17 looks like the last payment to the fire
18 companies --

19 MS. BARTOLETTI: They were done on
20 Friday.

21 MR. NOTARI: For 2016 they were done
22 on Friday? Have we received a report yet
23 from the fire companies on their budget?

24 MS. BARTOLETTI: No.

25 MR. NOTARI: Have we asked for one

1 yet?

2 MS. BARTOLETTI: No, but since there
3 are people here tonight it might be a good
4 time to explain to them exactly what you're
5 going to request from them. That would be
6 set for starting with money through 2017.

7 MR. NOTARI: Basically because of
8 the contributions that are made by the
9 borough and the taxpayers of Old Forge to
10 the three fire companies I would like to
11 request a report, a budget report for each
12 of the fire companies on their expenditures
13 and their revenues for their year going
14 forward.

15 So hopefully, Mare, you would -- I
16 mean, Bob, I guess -- I don't want to speak
17 out of turn, but if we can have the borough
18 manager send a letter --

19 MR. SEMENZA: Absolutely.

20 MR. NOTARI: -- to each fire company
21 asking for that information.

22 MS. BARTOLETTI: That's fine.

23 MR. NOTARI: Thank you. That's all.

24 MR. SEMENZA: Public input? Roll
25 call, please.

1 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Brown?

2 MR. BROWN: Yes.

3 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Notari?

4 MR. NOTARI: Yes.

5 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Ferrett?

6 MR. FERRETT: Yes.

7 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Rinaldi?

8 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yes.

9 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman
10 Lenceski?

11 MR. LENCESKI: Yes.

12 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Semenza?

13 MR. SEMENZA: Yes. Next motion is a
14 motion to approve sewer department financial
15 reports.

16 MR. NOTARI: I'll make that motion.

17 MR. SEMENZA: By Councilman Notari.

18 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'll second
19 it.

20 MR. SEMENZA: Seconded by Councilman
21 Rinaldi. On the question?

22 MR. NOTARI: I have a question.
23 Lucille, in the report that we were given
24 there's system status reports. It says aged
25 balances. Now, does that mean -- like,

1 where it says over 30, over 60, over 90, is
2 that people who have --

3 MS. YEAGER: Owe that amount.

4 MR. NOTARI: So they haven't paid in
5 90 days?

6 MS. YEAGER: Yes.

7 MR. NOTARI: So we have that much
8 outstanding --

9 MS. YEAGER: It's two-thirds less
10 than it was about eight months ago.

11 MR. NOTARI: So that number, 94,000,
12 roughly, of over 90 days.

13 MS. YEAGER: I want you to
14 understand that the bills just went out, and
15 that \$40 is included in that.

16 MR. NOTARI: In the over 90?

17 MS. YEAGER: Yes. The \$40.

18 MR. NOTARI: So we don't necessarily
19 have that much outstanding money?

20 MS. YEAGER: You really won't have a
21 very accurate report until after the due
22 date, which is April 5th. Anything printed
23 after that --

24 MR. NOTARI: I guess my question is
25 when I saw that number I became alarmed that

1 we have that many people that owe over 90
2 days.

3 MS. YEAGER: You have a lot of
4 people owe over 90 days on the payment plan.

5 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I did meet
6 with her Friday. I think what -- and again,
7 correct me if I'm wrong. I think Mr.
8 Notari's asking that that whole number is
9 everything from this January, February and
10 March, because the way I took your
11 explanation in the office that day was after
12 the due date, then it will calculate itself
13 to exactly what was over and what wasn't
14 over. But the way the system is set up you
15 have to wait.

16 MS. YEAGER: If the money's owed
17 it's billed out. Is that okay?

18 MR. NOTARI: That makes more sense
19 to me.

20 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: We do one bill
21 per year.

22 MR. NOTARI: My other question is
23 the balance we hold in our checking account,
24 is there a reason we hold so much in the
25 checking account?

1 MS. YEAGER: Some of that could be
2 put into the savings.

3 MR. NOTARI: Can we do that?

4 MS. YEAGER: Yes, we can.

5 MR. NOTARI: I know as a sewer
6 committee we talked about that a little bit,
7 and probably, I would say, a majority of
8 that number should be put into the savings
9 account.

10 MS. YEAGER: Okay.

11 MR. NOTARI: So can you do that as
12 soon as possible?

13 MS. YEAGER: I'll do it tomorrow.
14 All it is is a transfer. No problem.

15 MR. NOTARI: As long as nobody else
16 has any problem.

17 MS. YEAGER: The reason that was
18 held up so long is we thought we were
19 putting that in PLGIT.

20 MS. BARTOLETTI: It's where we put a
21 lot of money.

22 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: To gain
23 interest.

24 MS. BARTOLETTI: Lucille wouldn't be
25 able to do that. We talked about doing it

1 in the past. Once you have everything
2 straightened out council could pass a
3 resolution to open an account in PLGIT and
4 then I can transfer that money. That's a
5 lot of money to be sitting there.

6 MR. NOTARI: Is that something you
7 would recommend?

8 MS. BARTOLETTI: Oh, yes, rather
9 than savings because PLIGIT's interest rates
10 are a lot higher than a local bank.

11 MR. NOTARI: Lucille, can you make
12 that transfer, and then we have to put an
13 ordinance together?

14 MS. YEAGER: You have to pass a
15 resolution.

16 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: No, to
17 transfer money.

18 MS. YEAGER: Oh, yeah, I can do that
19 tomorrow.

20 MR. NOTARI: Why don't we do that.
21 Then we'll have Bill draft an ordinance so
22 we can put that into --

23 MS. BARTOLETTI: PLGIT will have
24 one, so we'll get it from them for the next
25 meeting. We'll just pass it so it's on the

1 books. PLIGIT's interest rates were really
2 low, so now they're starting to climb back
3 up again. They are much better than the
4 local banks. Now's a good time to do it.

5 MR. SEMENZA: On the question?
6 Public input? Roll call, please.

7 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Brown?

8 MR. BROWN: Yes.

9 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Notari?

10 MR. NOTARI: Yes.

11 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Ferrett?

12 MR. FERRETT: No.

13 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Rinaldi?

14 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yes.

15 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman
16 Lenceski?

17 MR. LENCESKI: Yes.

18 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Semenza?

19 MR. SEMENZA: Yes. The next motion
20 is a motion to approve sewer department
21 invoices for payment.

22 MR. NOTARI: I'll make that motion.

23 MR. SEMENZA: By Councilman Notari.

24 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'll second
25 it.

1 MR. SEMENZA: Seconded by Councilman
2 Rinaldi. On the question? Public input?
3 Roll call, please.

4 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Brown?

5 MR. BROWN: Yes.

6 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Notari?

7 MR. NOTARI: Yes.

8 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Ferrett?

9 MR. FERRETT: Yes.

10 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Rinaldi?

11 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Yes.

12 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman
13 Lenceski?

14 MR. LENCESKI: Yes.

15 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Semenza?

16 MR. SEMENZA: Yes. I'll go to our
17 department heads. Paul, DPW?

18 (Mr. Papi read his report, which is
19 attached.)

20 MR. SEMENZA: Thank you, Paul.
21 Anybody have any questions for Paul?

22 MR. NOTARI: Paul, what's the
23 typical process that you go through with a
24 snowstorm in terms of plowing and salting?
25 Do you wait for the storm to be over to plow

1 or --

2 MR. PAPI: Every one is different.
3 It depends on how much snow we're getting,
4 slush before the snow.

5 MR. NOTARI: I don't want to say I
6 got a few calls complaining, but people bust
7 our chops because we're on council. We all
8 have our friends that think they know
9 everything. I was probably one of those
10 people at one time. But people are off to
11 work in the morning and their streets aren't
12 plowed. Is there a way to battle that or is
13 it just that we're going to wait until the
14 storm is pretty much over until we plow side
15 streets?

16 MR. PAPI: It depends on how much
17 we're getting. We go by the forecast. If
18 we're getting seven inches of snow, as soon
19 as we have three or four down we get right
20 out. When we get out it takes us
21 approximately three or four hours to go
22 through. Everybody gets through the town
23 once and then we start over again. See how
24 much more came down.

25 MR. NOTARI: I thought the guys did

1 a great job. It's not so much the job
2 they're doing, it's when they're doing it.

3 MR. PAPI: I always said God can't
4 even plow snow right.

5 MR. NOTARI: Pat was up my street
6 and Pat did a great job, and that day I went
7 to work the side streets were better than
8 the main streets. They really were. So our
9 crew's doing a good job. It was just a
10 matter of when we go out.

11 MR. PAPI: That was our big snowfall
12 of the year. We only plowed one other time.
13 We had two inches and we didn't really have
14 to plow.

15 MS. BARTOLETTI: Just point out,
16 too, that we had two brand new guys that
17 never plowed before. That was their first
18 snowstorm, too. They're in the learning
19 stage as well.

20 MR. PAPI: I thought they had done
21 excellent.

22 MR. NOTARI: Again, I did, too. It
23 was just a matter of what time we get out.

24 MR. PAPI: The roads were slick and
25 we haven't had an accident or mishap.

1 They've been careful and I'm happy.

2 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody else?

3 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: The 232
4 Charles Street, that was in front of Rod's
5 house where the sidewalk was dug up and also
6 the street? Right on the corner?

7 MR. PAPI: I believe so.

8 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: If you could
9 or someone in the borough building could
10 contact the water department. They just put
11 the cold patch in. It's all gone now from
12 erosion. There's another -- the hole has to
13 be almost a foot and a half, two feet deep.

14 MR. PAPI: Right on the corner of
15 Charles and Stewart?

16 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Charles and
17 Sanderson. That's where his sidewalk is all
18 busted up there with a little bit of cold
19 patch, and the water company told him
20 they're coming back in the spring to put a
21 new sidewalk in for him.

22 MR. PAPI: I know where you mean.

23 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Also behind
24 Burger King do we have a mine subsidence?

25 MR. PAPI: I just put a cone there

1 today. That's an ongoing problem. There's
2 some big pipes underground there. I'm going
3 to meet with Matty there tomorrow, see what
4 we can do for a permanent fix.

5 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I knew you
6 knew about it because I saw the cone there.
7 I drove that way because of the fire on
8 Sussex Street. They had the road blocked
9 off. I noticed it.

10 MR. NOTARI: Can we call PennDOT
11 tomorrow and ask if they can fill the hole
12 on Moosic Road, near the light? There's a
13 huge hole right next to Fanucci's. Halfway
14 between the driveway and the light on the
15 right hand lane. I appreciate that, Paul.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. PAPI: Will do. I'm not saying
18 they're going to respond.

19 MR. NOTARI: At least let them know.

20 MR. PAPI: PennDOT doesn't get
21 excited no matter what you tell them.

22 MR. SEMENZA: Thanks, Paul. Steve,
23 zoning officer's report.

24 (Mr. Bieryla read his report, which
25 is attached.)

1 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any
2 questions for Steve?

3 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Just
4 information about the one section in your
5 report about the aging residents. I think
6 if you speak to Marylynn -- Mare, didn't we
7 have money that we used in the past, CDBG
8 money, to help --

9 MS. BARTOLETTI: We had a lot of
10 money to use, but then the county also had
11 money of their own. So instead of using
12 ours, they used theirs. That's why I
13 mentioned to Steve about calling about the
14 CDBG because I know that the county does
15 have some of their own that is earmarked for
16 helping people like that.

17 MR. RUSSEL RINALDI: I know we had
18 it in the past.

19 MS. BARTOLETTI: She seems like she
20 was really taken advantage of and she could
21 really use the help. So I hope in the
22 county's eyes that is a good project for
23 them.

24 MR. NOTARI: Steve did contact me to
25 try to get some help. I talked to the

1 county planning and economic development
2 department, who handles those type of
3 things. They thought it might be a better
4 route than CDBG money because the
5 regulations have kind of changed. I needed
6 to get them some information so they can
7 send down an inspector. I got that
8 information from Steve tonight. The
9 inspector, I guess, will be Lou Stassi.
10 He'll probably stop down within a week or
11 two to check and see if there's some
12 different kind of money that could possibly
13 be used.

14 MR. LENCESKI: Perfect. When you
15 hear the condition of how she's living
16 because the person who she paid to do the
17 work never came back, I mean, no one should
18 have to live like that.

19 I just have one thing. Steve was
20 mentioning about the person on Henderson
21 Street that he was helping with the dogs. A
22 lot of times things like this go unnoticed,
23 but I just wanted to say that Steve went so
24 far above and beyond to help this man. He
25 was pretty much down and out and then stuck

1 in the hospital and had animals that needed
2 to be taken care. But Steve also was trying
3 to make sure that his pipes didn't freeze in
4 the house when it got really cold. He took
5 care of the mail, he followed up with the
6 Area Agency on Aging, he kept in touch with
7 the people at the nursing home where the man
8 was. Unfortunately, the guy did pass away.

9 But I just wanted to mention that
10 because you really did go so far above and
11 beyond to try to help that guy and all the
12 animals that were in the house. I think it
13 was a really good job.

14 MR. BIERLYA: My only concern about
15 that right now is his son is incarcerated.
16 He won't be getting out of jail for seven,
17 eight months. No other family that I know
18 of, and right now the house -- we really
19 can't go in it to keep the furnace going.
20 I'm pretty sure that the bills are piling
21 up. I was talking to the mail lady today.
22 She is holding -- when I informed her that
23 he had passed way, she is still holding his
24 mail up at the post office. I told her to
25 continue to do so and I would try and get

1 some other information.

2 But I'm just worried about that's
3 going to become one of these houses that the
4 pipes bust, there's going to be damage, it's
5 going to be no good. I didn't know if there
6 was anything more that the borough could do
7 being that there's no --

8 MR. SEMENZA: Can we contact the
9 water company, have them shut off the water
10 to the house?

11 MR. LENCESKI: You have to get
12 someone in there to drain the furnace and
13 all the pipes.

14 MR. BIERYLA: I asked attorney
15 Rinaldi about it, and it was, like, see what
16 they're going to do. Well, Area Agency on
17 Aging and whoever's in the will. I haven't
18 seen that since the man isn't buried yet. I
19 haven't seen anything in the obituaries, and
20 I'm not getting a call back from them. I'm
21 concerned that's going to become one of
22 these properties that the pipes do bust.
23 We've been pretty fortunate.

24 He was reaching out to McGuire when
25 he was alive. McGuire was not returning his

1 calls. In turn, I had Bob Giglio go over
2 and he took care of the furnace three or
3 four times.

4 But this point in time you know
5 nobody to speak for him, and the borough
6 really can't take it on to say well, he said
7 we can do this. So it's just the property
8 now that I'm worried about that's going to
9 be one of these. If it does bust it's going
10 to really cause -- it's just going to sit
11 there and deteriorate and it's going to be
12 one of these decrepit properties that we
13 talked about.

14 MR. SEMENZA: Bill, there's nothing
15 really we can do, is there?

16 ATTY. RINALDI: Where is the
17 deceased? At a funeral home or at the
18 coroner? You can call the coroner's office
19 and ask them who picked up -- did he die at
20 home?

21 MR. BIERYLA: No, he died in the
22 hospital.

23 ATTY. RINALDI: Check the coroner's
24 office, track that --

25 MR. PAPI: How long ago did he pass

1 away?

2 MR. BIERYLA: Two weeks. On our end
3 I just wanted to know what --

4 ATTY. RINALDI: That's why I wood
5 check the coroner's first. If somebody
6 claimed the body. I mean, they buried him.
7 That means they have power of the estate.

8 MR. BIERYLA: I'll contact the
9 coroner. We just can't go in somebody's
10 house and start doing things like that.

11 MR. SEMENZA: Thanks, Steve. Dave,
12 engineer's report, please.

13 MR. LOPATKA: I'll be brief. I did
14 have a report but I forgot my file. Just
15 three quick things. First, Rosemount, I
16 stopped over there in January and I marked
17 out the area and checked the entryway after
18 a rainstorm, took some photos. That was all
19 provided, I believe, as part of the report
20 that I sent to his engineer.

21 Second is Kohler Avenue. Kohler
22 Avenue is actually designed. We're
23 finalizing the specs right now, so that will
24 be going back to the county, and the county
25 is actually looking to bid that this year.

1 The third thing was I assisted
2 Marylynn and Bill with preparing the
3 application for the RACP funds.

4 Other than that, that's about all we
5 did in January. Any questions?

6 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any
7 questions for Dave?

8 MR. LENCESKI: Dave, you're putting
9 together the plans for the remodeling of the
10 borough rebuilding?

11 MR. LOPATKA: Well, we had a meeting
12 set up and Marylynn got sick. We're trying
13 to get it back together.

14 MR. LENCESKI: I was wondering if
15 you could look into as you pull into the
16 rear of the building, on the right side,
17 that grassy area. Maybe we can develop that
18 into a parking lot.

19 MR. LOPATKA: We will be getting
20 together shortly. I'll send Marylynn
21 another -- we had that one meeting set up.
22 She got sick, then she was in court. I'll
23 send the guy out and we'll get back on that.

24 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody else? Thanks,
25 Dave. Chief, police report, please.

1 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Good evening. I
2 only have a few things. First thing is we
3 got a grant again for money. I'm not sure,
4 an undetermined amount, how much it's going
5 to be. It's going to be for the weeks of
6 May 22nd to June 4th. It's going to be
7 another buckle up grant.

8 I just got a proposal again to send
9 two more officers for the car seat
10 technician so we can apply for that grant
11 that comes back in August into September,
12 when school comes back in. So we would have
13 actually four technicians to get more money
14 to pay for the grant.

15 The command car, we're not sure
16 what's going on with it. I have to send it
17 to Barber Ford. I sent it to Billy today,
18 he said there was no issues with it. It
19 came back, it's dead in the parking lot
20 again. I went to the fire in a marked car
21 today. I not sure if my computer's drawing
22 power from somewhere. The computer stays
23 off and I'm still losing power.

24 The final thing, on the roster that
25 I divided with you, two things. DonVito,

1 he's going to be off the roster as of March
2 1st. He gave his resignation letter.
3 Trubia is staying on. Something with the
4 county. They have to work X amount of
5 shifts because they made their amount to get
6 insurance there. So he's leaving here so he
7 has to work the sheriff's more.

8 And the 32-hour position, I sent a
9 letter. Friday is the deadline for
10 interested officers. We'll do that next
11 month for the position. That's all I have.

12 MR. SEMENZA: Chief, have you looked
13 into any more grants for that NRAD system?

14 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No, that wouldn't
15 be under a grant because under the speed,
16 all that safety, that's for enforcement, not
17 for equipment. So we would have to pay
18 that. But the amount of money we get for
19 the citations and everything, that's a zero
20 tolerance. Probably over the two-year span
21 we'll actually pay for that system.

22 MR. SEMENZA: I think we should
23 revisit that and look into it again because
24 I really like the idea of the borough having
25 that.

1 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I believe we
2 budgeted that. Me and Jerry's Sport Center
3 had a heart to heart. That's what it was.
4 Usually the first week and a half I try to
5 do all my budget. You'll see the bunch of
6 different names. Everything just went
7 downhill from there.

8 MR. SEMENZA: Let's take care of
9 that.

10 CHIEF DUBERNAS: The mayor budgeted
11 a sign, too.

12 MR. NOTARI: It would be nice to
13 have for the spring.

14 If anybody complains about that red
15 van, it's a gentleman from 126 Henderson
16 Street. A lady at the dialysis center
17 called and told us the van is here.

18 MR. NOTARI: Since you brought it
19 up, how about the red truck in front of
20 Saint Lawrence's?

21 MAYOR MULKERIN: It's gone. I could
22 be wrong, but I think they just moved it
23 right across the street.

24 MR. NOTARI: It had two flat tires.
25 How can it be for sale?

1 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Everything's valid
2 on it. If it's legally parked we can't do
3 anything with it.

4 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any
5 questions for the Chief?

6 MR. FERRETT: Chief, at the last
7 meeting we had -- the subject came up about
8 a one-way street or a two-way street on
9 Lawrence Street. You said you made a
10 traffic study on the subject and everything
11 and you said that basically people are
12 taking shortcuts through Lawrence Street and
13 everything. Originally it was there for a
14 purpose of a one-way street because of
15 conditions from the church services, kids
16 playing basketball, things of this nature.

17 Have you made a study or anything to
18 change this around completely besides taking
19 shortcuts? Everybody takes a short cut. I
20 take a shortcut from a lot of streets
21 myself. Have you studied it on a Sunday how
22 the traffic is over there with people coming
23 out of church or at other times that you
24 think it should be two ways?

25 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No, because I think

1 we made an agreement that we're going to let
2 it go for six months and see how it plays
3 out.

4 MR. FERRETT: Is that what we said?

5 MR. SEMENZA: We voted on it to make
6 it a one-way street, from my impression.

7 MR. NOTARI: No, we tabled a motion
8 to make it a two-way street because
9 officially on the books it's a one-way
10 street.

11 MR. SEMENZA: No, we made a motion
12 to make it a one-way street and it's a
13 one-way street.

14 MR. NOTARI: It already was one way.

15 CHIEF DUBERNAS: It was always a
16 one-way street.

17 ATTY. RINALDI: You tabled the
18 motion to make it two ways.

19 MS. BARTOLETTI: The sign was never
20 taken down. It never officially changed on
21 the borough's books.

22 ATTY. RINALDI: It's a one-way
23 street.

24 CHIEF DUBERNAS: So it went back to
25 the original 2009.

1 MR. SEMENZA: I believe the table
2 wasn't -- well, there was a vote on the
3 table and it failed. Correct?

4 CHIEF DUBERNAS: So it stayed a
5 one-way street. The next day Paul put all
6 the signs back up.

7 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: The table
8 Chairman Semenza is saying is correct. It
9 failed. It got voted -- because I seconded
10 it and then I voted against it because I
11 asked Bill --

12 MR. SEMENZA: "Motion on the floor
13 by Councilman Ferrett to table the
14 ordinance."

15 Councilman Rinaldi seconded that.

16 I said "seconded by Councilman
17 Rinaldi."

18 "I'd like to make the motion to vote
19 on the ordinance," Councilman Notari said.

20 "ATTY. RINALDI: You first have to
21 vote on the motion and on the table, so you
22 do that first."

23 "On the question"?

24 On the question, Councilman Brown
25 posed a question "before tabling this would

1 require we enforce what's on the books.
2 That means we have to enforce it and put the
3 signs in regards to the one way.

4 "Correct. Public input"?

5 Councilman Rinaldi: "On the
6 question, just so I'm not confused, Bill, if
7 it were to be tabled it would revert back to
8 a one way?"

9 "Yes, it's a one way."

10 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: This is what I
11 think we did. It's always been a one way.
12 We voted to make it a one way. We never
13 finished the --

14 MR. SEMENZA: Councilman Rinaldi
15 rescinded his second. We had to vote on the
16 motion.

17 CHIEF SEMENZA: They passed the one
18 way. That's when Paul put the signage back
19 up.

20 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Because it was
21 on the books as a one way --

22 CHIEF DUBERNAS: From 2009.

23 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: It was in the
24 minutes voted on as a one way. The signs
25 were taken down and it was allowed to be a

1 two way, and but there was never an
2 ordinance on the books that said it was a
3 legal one way. That's what we did that
4 night. We made it a legal one way.

5 MR. SEMENZA: The motion was
6 re-establishing two-way traffic on Lawrence
7 Street. It was re-establishing two-way
8 traffic. That's what the motion was.

9 MAYOR MULKERIN: Because on the
10 books it was listed as a one way even though
11 it was two ways.

12 ATTY. RINALDI: You only had one
13 ordinance in front of you, and that was to
14 make it two way.

15 MAYOR MULKERIN: And that failed.

16 MR. NOTARI: So it reversed back to
17 what it was. There's been a couple
18 problems. Minor ones. I've gotten the
19 calls.

20 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any more
21 questions for the chief?

22 MR. LENCESKI: I do. Officer
23 DonVito, how long has he been with us?

24 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Six months.

25 MR. LENCESKI: Six months. How much

1 did it cost to train him?

2 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Over \$6,000.

3 MR. LENCESKI: And that's not
4 including his wages.

5 CHIEF DUBERNAS: He was scheduled
6 for four shifts this month, he called off
7 three of them.

8 MR. LENCESKI: Thank you.

9 MR. NOTARI: Do we have any ability
10 to hold these people that we train -- can we
11 make it part of the hiring process? I mean,
12 Bill, do we have any legal ramifications?

13 ATTY. RINALDI: You can pay them
14 more. They're part-timers. It's their
15 issue, pay.

16 MAYOR MULKERIN: That's the main
17 issue, is the pay, because when they're
18 going through the training program, which is
19 320 hours, that they're getting a lot of
20 shifts because they're always paired up. So
21 they're here, they're making money, they're
22 putting in the work.

23 As soon as the training is done, now
24 we don't have as many shifts to offer. So
25 when they're only getting three shifts a

1 month and their pay is low they go where the
2 money is.

3 MR. NOTARI: Well, regardless of
4 what the pay is, if they're not getting
5 shifts -- I mean, whether the pay is \$15 an
6 hour or \$18 an hour, that \$9 isn't going to
7 make a difference. The shifts aren't there.
8 What I'm saying is, is there any way for
9 us --

10 MAYOR MULKERIN: That's what I
11 asked, do they sign a year on. But they
12 have to guarantee a year.

13 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Part-timers on an
14 average usually get seven, eight shifts a
15 month, except for the 32 people. So they're
16 pretty consistent. It's usually two to
17 three a week through the whole month, but a
18 lot of them leave because of the pay.

19 MR. BROWN: But if you put a stipend
20 in there for a non-compete within their
21 contract that would require them --

22 MR. SEMENZA: Can we do something
23 like that for a part-time employee?

24 ATTY. RINALDI: No.

25 MAYOR MULKERIN: Not for part-time.

1 ATTY. RINALDI: You can't stop a guy
2 from working.

3 MR. BROWN: I had to sign two
4 non-competes where I work and I'm part-time
5 both places. I had to sign two. They're
6 not for long. One is for six months and one
7 is for a year.

8 ATTY. RINALDI: I don't think a guy
9 is going to sign a non-compete for three
10 shifts three days a month.

11 MR. NOTARI: He might not, but it's
12 going to save us \$6,000 in training costs.

13 MR. BROWN: Both places I signed
14 one. One for real estate and one for
15 working in the bank. So I don't know if
16 we're able to or not.

17 MS. BARTOLETTI: What does your
18 training entail? For those who don't know.

19 CHIEF DUBERNAS: It's 320 hours,
20 200 -- that doesn't include the computer
21 training or SOP training. So they will ride
22 with somebody for 280 hours, which the first
23 two to three weeks they basically try to
24 average 40 hours a week, between 32 and 40
25 hours a week. They will mirror whoever the

1 FTO is.

2 The following section they will
3 handle all the calls, do everything, and the
4 FTO will mirror them.

5 The last 40 hours, 280 to 320 hours,
6 they're on their own, they handle
7 everything, but they can only work when
8 there's an FTO on. Right now I have six
9 FTOs. So there's always somebody on.
10 Sometimes there's two FTOs, sometimes only
11 one. But no matter when a new trainee is
12 on, there's always an FTO for the 320 hours.

13 And that's the problem. They get
14 excellent training here and they learn a lot
15 because we're extremely busy for a small
16 department, and then they go on to somewhere
17 else.

18 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Did DonVito
19 put in for the 32-hour position?

20 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No, he left. It
21 wouldn't have worked for him because of
22 something with the sheriff. Him and Trubia.
23 Trubia said he needs the money. He just got
24 married and everything.

25 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I don't know

1 why anyone would leave. I mean, we can
2 speculate on stuff. But that's why I'm
3 saying if he put in for the 32-hour position
4 it would be like -- if he was awarded it he
5 would have got the certain shifts. So
6 whatever his reason is for leaving, he left.
7 But I was just saying it's odd that he
8 didn't put in for it if he was looking for
9 more shifts. He must have went elsewhere
10 for some other reason.

11 MS. BARTOLETTI: People who work in
12 the sheriff's office, that's their number
13 one. So I don't think you can do --

14 MR. NOTARI: If he got enough hours
15 he would.

16 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Also you said
17 about a roster. I didn't get one in my
18 packet.

19 CHIEF DUBERNAS: It was the yearly
20 report. Everything was there. The only one
21 that would be off that would be DonVito.

22 MR. NOTARI: We have to come up with
23 some type of solution. We're training these
24 officers and then they're leaving. It's
25 costing the borough money and we're not

1 really getting anything out of it. I don't
2 know what that solution is. Do we know how
3 other departments handle it? Or do they not
4 handle it? Are we the one that's really
5 getting stuck with training northeastern
6 Pennsylvania's police force?

7 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No, a lot of
8 departments are like that.

9 MR. NOTARI: Is there a way to -- if
10 they leave after six months that they owe us
11 the money or half of it? Can we do that or
12 no? I'm just reaching here.

13 MR. FERRETT: Chief, how much of a
14 problem or how much help would it be to you
15 if it were possible to put another 32-hour
16 man on?

17 CHIEF DUBERNAS: That still doesn't
18 alleviate people from leaving.

19 MR. FERRETT: That's where your time
20 problem is.

21 CHIEF DUBERNAS: All the money --
22 yeah, but a 32-hour person can leave.

23 MR. FERRETT: That's not what I
24 asked you.

25 CHIEF DUBERNAS: You can put a full

1 time person on. For all the money we spend
2 in part-time people that train we could have
3 put two full timers, for all the people that
4 left in the last year and a half.

5 MR. FERRETT: Now we're going back
6 to willy washing. I only merely asked you
7 one simple question. If you have another
8 32-hour officer would that be any help to
9 you? You come out there, you want full
10 time. That's a subject that's been going on
11 for how many months now?

12 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Because when you
13 get full time you get somebody that's
14 dedicated to the borough of Old Forge.
15 They're here. A 32-hour person can get up
16 and leave and you spent all that money
17 again.

18 MR. FERRETT: We had no problems
19 before when Semenza was here.

20 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Mr. Ferrett, I
21 don't know what to tell you. With the
22 amount of people that left in the last year
23 and a half, part-timers -- and the majority
24 of it is they can't -- the contract, they
25 only get, I think, 12 dollars and some-odd

1 cents and they leave. You know what I mean?

2 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I think what
3 Mr. Ferrett might be saying -- because I
4 know we all went back and forth with it the
5 past few months.

6 Joe, pay attention to see if this is
7 what you were saying. If another 32-hour
8 officer is put on, he or she was definitely
9 known that they were going to get four
10 shifts, their pay would go up at least six
11 bucks an hour because it goes from \$12 to
12 \$18.98 -- \$18.95. So they'd be getting a
13 \$6.95 an hour raise, they'd be awarded
14 weekly four shifts.

15 I think what you're saying, Joe, if
16 you knew you were getting \$6.95 more an
17 hour, 32 hours a week, would that entice you
18 to stay.

19 MAYOR MULKERIN: I can answer that.

20 MR. FERRETT: My question behind all
21 of this is that we're hearing answers that
22 people are not dedicated, people are
23 leaving. We have a problem with scheduling.
24 If you have another 32-hour man that's going
25 to be there getting his time and making a

1 good dollar and everything of this nature
2 what is the problem? If it fills the
3 schedule and it answers your question --

4 MR. NOTARI: We don't have a problem
5 with scheduling, do we?

6 MAYOR MULKERIN: No. Joe, getting
7 another 32-hour person doesn't guarantee
8 anything because we could fill that 32-hour
9 position, then they can say I don't want the
10 position. They still have the higher rate
11 then and they don't get the four shifts. So
12 it doesn't alleviate the problem of training
13 a part-time officer and spending the \$6,000.
14 Another 32-hour position doesn't fix that.

15 MR. FERRETT: I don't agree with
16 you.

17 MR. LENCESKI: In the last year how
18 many 32-hour officers left?

19 CHIEF DUBERNAS: This is what the
20 mayor is saying. If I hire you tomorrow as
21 a 32-hour person, you come in, you get four
22 days a week and you get \$20 an hour. Make
23 it even. Tomorrow you quit as a 32 hour,
24 you go back to regular part-time officer,
25 you still maintain that \$20 an hour raise.

1 MR SEMENZA: Why would he maintain
2 that raise?

3 MAYOR MULKERIN: It's grandfathered
4 in. They keep the rate.

5 MR. SEMENZA: Once you're hired at
6 that position they're grandfathered into
7 that rate?

8 CHIEF DUBERNAS: That's the way it
9 is. I have, like, seven or eight of them
10 like that now. Only two of them are
11 actually under the old grandfather.

12 MS. BARTOLETTI: Why did DonVito
13 leave?

14 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Something with the
15 sheriff's. Because of insurance.

16 MS. BARTOLETTI: You can hire as
17 many 32-hour people who would need
18 insurance. That's part of the problem, the
19 people need insurance. The 32-hour people
20 don't get insurance.

21 CHIEF DUBERNAS: The amount of money
22 we invested in the last year and a half we
23 could have paid for two full-timer salaries.
24 The trained officers that left here. Not
25 the ones that I have, that actually left

1 here.

2 MR. RUSSEL RINALDI: How many do you
3 think left?

4 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I'm badge 33, I'm
5 up to 108 and I have 20 police officers. So
6 over the last years --

7 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Fifty?

8 CHIEF DUBERNAS: If not more. Say
9 70.

10 MR. FERRETT: Do we have any problem
11 in the police department?

12 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No, I have
13 officers.

14 MR. FERRETT: Is the morale of the
15 police officers great?

16 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No.

17 MR. FERRETT: Is it going to get any
18 better if you hire more full timers?

19 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I can't answer
20 that.

21 MR. SEMENZA: Chief, I'm going to
22 set up a personnel meeting, myself,
23 Councilman Rinaldi and Councilman Lenceski,
24 and we're going to sit down and try to come
25 up with a solution for it and we'll go from

1 there. I mean, we can talk all day long
2 about what should be done and what could be
3 done and what everybody wants to be done,
4 but until we sit down and figure it out --

5 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I know both ends.
6 It's not you guys. I know what's going on.
7 I know part. I don't want to discuss it in
8 front of the public.

9 MR. SEMENZA: It's a personnel
10 issue. We'll discuss that in private.
11 Anybody have any other questions for the
12 Chief? Thanks, Chief. Lucille?

13 MS. YEAGER: I have nothing.

14 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any
15 questions for Lucille? Thank you, Lucille.
16 Bill, solicitor's report, please.

17 ATTY. RINALDI: I think we went -- I
18 can read -- we had the dangerous building
19 hearing tonight at 6:30. I just brought to
20 everybody's attention that there's a hearing
21 on March 16th to sell the Chelland property
22 free and clear of the liens. Collect back
23 taxes in the amount of \$17,170.94. If that
24 hearing is successful, the sale is to take
25 place on the 27th of March. So there may be

1 a new owner at that time barring either of
2 the banks from ponying up the taxes to
3 protect their liens or whether they're going
4 to write it off and not save the property,
5 or the owner of the property.

6 MR. FERRETT: Does that mean we
7 don't have to worry about knocking the
8 building down and putting our money into it
9 and never getting it back?

10 ATTY. RINALDI: If we spend money
11 before the sale we're not getting our money.
12 It's free and clear of liens.

13 The RFP is still there for everybody
14 to renew. We have 60 days from February
15 7th, if council wants to review it, if you
16 want to have a meeting with the person who
17 put in the bid. There was only one bid. Or
18 you can reject it and rebid it. It's up to
19 everybody here.

20 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Bill, can you
21 say the last sentence again?

22 ATTY. RINALDI: You can reject the
23 bid, discuss the bid with the bidder, or
24 accept it as is.

25 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: If there was

1 someone to bid on it on March 8th?

2 ATTY. RINALDI: I'm talking about
3 the RFP.

4 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I was talking
5 about the Chelland one. I'm sorry.

6 ATTY. RINALDI: The Chelland
7 building, there's going to be a sale of
8 it -- assuming the hearing is successful on
9 the 16th and none of the back taxes are
10 cleared up by either the property owner or
11 one of the two mortgage holders there's
12 going to be a sale on March 27th of the
13 property. That's it.

14 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any
15 questions for Bill? Thanks, Bill.
16 Marylynn, borough manager's report.

17 MSS. BARTOLETTI: I don't have a
18 whole lot tonight. I just wanted to see if
19 anyone has any financial questions since we
20 are into a new year and there's been some
21 changes. I want to know if you have
22 anything that needs to be explained on the
23 reports.

24 MR. FERRETT: Is it possible that
25 the liquid fuel money, that we can get a

1 report on this every month? Some people
2 asked the question, I didn't want to discuss
3 nothing.

4 MS. BARTOLETTI: That's it right
5 there.

6 MR. FERRETT: Will we get it every
7 month like this?

8 MS. BARTOLETTI: Yes.

9 MR. SEMENZA: Wasn't this in our
10 packet?

11 MS. BARTOLETTI: No. You have the
12 one for the general. This one is for liquid
13 fuels and paving. They look the same except
14 for figures.

15 MR. SEMENZA: Anybody have any
16 questions for Marylynn?

17 MR. NOTARI: I would like to say,
18 Mare, I received an e-mail from attorney
19 Coleman. I think a lot of us received that
20 e-mail regarding the recent court case, and
21 I'd like to thank you for your hard work and
22 the staff's hard work. This is very nice to
23 see attorney Coleman send this to us and I
24 appreciate all the work you did and that
25 attorney Rinaldi did for us as well. So I

1 would just like to echo his sentiments and
2 thank you very much.

3 MS. BARTOLETTI: Thanks. I
4 appreciate you bringing that up.

5 MR. SEMENZA: Anything else for
6 Marylynn?

7 MS. BARTOLETTI: I don't have
8 anything for you.

9 MR. SEMENZA: Thanks, Mare. At this
10 time I'll go down the table, see if anybody
11 has anything to report. Mayor?

12 MAYOR MULKERIN: Nothing.

13 MR. BROWN: Nothing. The only
14 thing, last meeting I touched base with you
15 and the girls in the office. We cancelled
16 the public safety meeting due to recent
17 events. We felt we should give some time to
18 the individuals involved. Next week I will
19 be doing mid-terms, so I have three tests at
20 night. I have a schedule coming out Friday
21 so I can let you know when I'm free and
22 everybody else by Friday to reschedule.

23 MR. NOTARI: I would just like to
24 ask the paving committee when you're taking
25 a look at streets, if we're going to do a