

Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, December 14, 2004
6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

"God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition"

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Joseph Barone - A

Thomas Lukasewicz - P

James Barnick - P

Daryl Menichetti - P

Cindy Johnson - P

Vice President - Susan Shortz - P

President - George Marushock - P

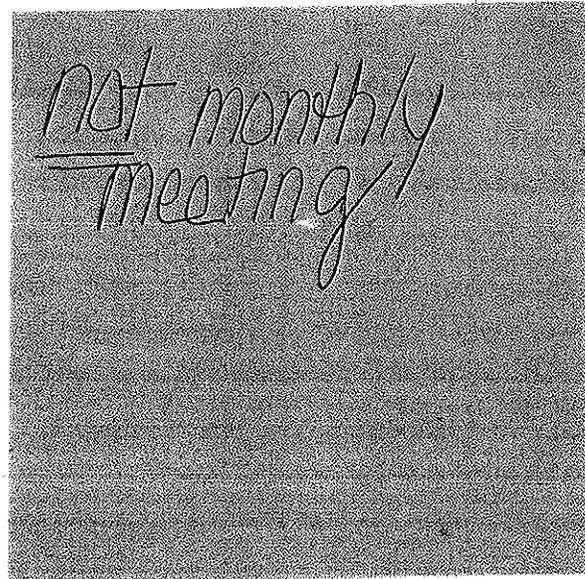
Solicitor - John J. Brazil, Esq. - P

Mayor - Stanley Lukowski - P

Treasurer - Mary Anne Paulic - A

Manager - Ken Novack - P

Assistant Secretary - Christine Hartshorn - P



Announcements:

Throop Borough Officials and Employees would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Blood Drive - Thursday, December 30, 2004 12:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. at the American Legion Raymond Henry Post #327 - 327 Lackawanna Ave. Olyphant.

The December Work Session & Monthly Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 28, 2004 beginning at 6:30 P.M.

The Landfill tour is scheduled for Friday morning, 12/17/04 at 9:00 A.M. Meet approximately 8:30 A. M. in the borough parking lot we can proceed up there and evaluate the situation.

Marushock: Audience comments on tonight's agenda and before we go on, if there's any newcomers here, we have a printed agenda with 12 motions. Barnick: Excuse me Mr. Chairman I want to add 2 on that I forgot about. Marushock: O.K. Mr. Barnick. Barnick: 1 is to authorize the DPW the purchase of a jackhammer. The other morning I come up and I said, "There's a sign

down on Pancoast Street". They said they don't have a jackhammer and they were told to rent one. That jackhammer they purchased was purchased or used years, about 10 years ago or if not more. It's about time they upgrade and get a good jackhammer for these signs. Marushock: Mr. Barnick I know Mr. Kalinoski is here. He discussed, and I know he's looking into it, he expressed a concern that there is a problem with the current jackhammer. He's looking at something. I believe the one we have now is gas operated. He's looking at the cost of an air compressor with an air-operated jackhammer with a tamper head for it. Is Mr. Kalinoski out there? Barnick: But in the meantime I mean where are you going here? You're gonna be renting a jackhammer \$60.00, \$70.00 bucks a day and signs you got blowing down, the way these winds be coming through here, they're getting blown down left and right. Marushock: All right. We got that on but just to let you know Mr. Kalinoski is aware of the problem. Unidentified: There he is. Marushock: Mr. Kalinoski in regards to that jackhammer. I know the one we currently have is not operating, we've been renting one when we need it. I discussed with you the other day the possibility of either a jackhammer, which would be gas operated, and/or purchasing air compressor with an air operated jackhammer. Kalinoski: Right. Marushock: I know you expressed the concern that you've been waiting for the purchase of an air compressor with an air operated jackhammer so that when we do crack sealing we can kind of blow out the cracks with the air compressor. Do you have a...Kalinoski: ...and the potholes but I have not gotten a price on the air compressor with the air jackhammer. Gas operated jackhammers are up to about \$3,700.00. Marushock: Mr. Barnick do you wish to move forward with the expenditure for the jackhammer then? Barnick: Unless you plan on getting the air jackhammer right away. Marushock: Time frame Mr....Kalinoski: I don't have a price on it yet Jim. I couldn't even tell you...Barnick: I mean I can't see renting one every time you gotta go put a sign in. Kalinoski: The one that we had *inaudible* but it's not gonna last. The bits are fallin' right out of it. It's leaking oil out of the head. Menichetti: Do you wanna wait and get prices Robbie and then let us know at the next meeting? It's just another week. Kalinoski: I could do that. Menichetti: Would you rather do that? Kalinoski: I would rather do that because if the price is gonna be close to what the gas-powered one is I'd sooner get the, the compressor with the air powered, and we'd have a lot more uses for it. Barnick: That's fine. Marushock: O.K. Do you wanna just scratch this one then Mr. Barnick? Barnick: Yeah. And then the other one is a traffic study at the top of Dunmore and Line Street. I understand there's been several fender-benders up there, at the doctor's office and across the street there with the 2 doctor's offices now. Marushock: At Dunmore and Line? Barnick: Yeah. Marushock: All right. That will be motion #17. Before we go on to audience comments on tonight's agenda does anybody else, Mr. Barnick are you done? Barnick: Yeah. Marushock: Does anyone else have anything to add? Johnson: I...go ahead Mayor, I'm sorry...Lukowski: I have a couple things. First of all Craig Benson, one of our part-time policemen is being deployed. He's gonna go to Ft. Bliss, Texas and then we know where's he's going to wind up and that will probably be in Iraq. So he is one of our part-time policemen. Of course Benson is a household name in this community. The police athletic league has been very, very active under the supervision of Officer Reed and Chief of Police Furiosi in that they were at the, what was it the mall a couple weeks ago? Unidentified: Sam's. Lukowski: Or Sam's, Sam's Club in helping the Salvation Army collect a lot, in fact the collected more money than the Salvation Army did. So it's very, very active group and they're involved in a lot of good, good,

solid projects in our community. You know the police have got a cross-reference book, a new book that's just out. Let me tell you the problem we're having with Throop. Throop homes are listed in 5 different communities, would you believe? They're listed in Scranton, they're listed in Dunmore, they're listed in Throop, they're listed in Olyphant - 6 I should say if you want to count Throop, they're listed in Blakely, and they're listed in Dickson City, Throop is. You know why that our population is inaccurate all the time or why we don't get the things that we should be getting? Now they're saying that we're falling below 4,000 people, we won't be eligible for grants. You know this situation with this zip code is just impossible. It's unbelievable what's happening to our community because of a simple thing like that. It's not simple for the Federal Government, it is, it's just, I don't know what you would want to call it. It's just fouling up things a lot. Marushock: O.K., is that it mayor? Lukowski: Yeah, that's about it. Thank you very much. Marushock: O.K. Ms. Menichetti do you have any motions? Menichetti: Yeah. Mayor, are we doing anything for Mr. Benson? Are you going to have any kind of... Lukowski: I don't know. Are we going to have time to...? Furiosi: Well, I learned that Craig was leaving, was going to be deployed on the 18th of December. We just found out now. I had called Craig's dad. He's leaving tomorrow. What I'm hoping is possible he may get a leave 'cause he's going from here to Ft. Blyss Texas for 2 weeks, from there he's going to Kuwait, and from Kuwait he's going into Iraq. So I don't know if sometime before he leaves for Kuwait... Menichetti: He'll come home. Furiosi: He'll come home and what I'd like to find out if that's possible and he is coming home, if we could put something together. Maybe even a small parade or something to acknowledge.... Menichetti: Or have even something over at the Civic Center. Furiosi: ...even something at the Civic Center. Lukowski: 1 other thing. I got ahead of myself and Neil could give you even more details on this. There is a problem. There is a problem here in Throop on Cypress and Sanderson Streets. It's gonna have to be corrected 1 way or another. In fact I was nearly involved in one myself. Some youngster pushed, drove, passed me out right at the bottom of the hill practically and cut me off. This is what's happening there. We've gotta have a lot of review on that situation, that traffic situation at Dunmore, or rather at Sanderson and Cypress Streets because we've had 2 people killed in recent weeks. Marushock: For everyone's information a meeting was conducted at the Penn Dot facility in Clarks Summit yesterday, being Monday. It was attended by 2 engineers I believe, and 2 traffic study analysts from the state of Pennsylvania, Chief Furiosi, Mr. Kalinoski, Mr. Novack, and the representative from K.B.A. engineering. What we discussed in our meeting this morning that I mentioned previously is at this time some increased signage to be put in place. And I know Mr. Furiosi you also would like to address council and the public here in your comments and recommendations involving that area. Furiosi: Yes I would. It was about 10 or 12 years ago we were having problems with accidents between Dunmore and Center, and Dunmore and Sanderson Street. At that time PENN DOT came down. We did a study and PENN DOT came up with this traffic pattern that is in effect now on Dunmore Street. And what it is is when you're coming off South Valley Ave. there's signs on both sides - signs saying "DO NOT PASS - LEFT TURN ONLY". And there's hash marks in the roadway on the left lane indicating once you get in that left-hand lane your next intersection left you have to turn left. You cannot pass it. Example- If you're coming up and you're passing Murray Street, if you're passing Murray Street and you're gonna turn left on Clark it's a violation. You have to turn left on Murray. All the way up. If you're passing Clark and you

decide to turn on Center it's a violation. Since we've had that pattern down it has eliminated a lot of accidents. I'd say over 90%, and that's high, of accidents. And since that pattern's been down we've had no fatales, no fatalities there at all. Cypress and Sanderson Street the last 2 fatales - I was in pursuit from a Dunmore police car, which caused the accident involving Mr. Clark. Another one was just a careless driver. She's coming down in the right-hand lane on Cypress, the vehicle was in the left lane - Mr. Pisanchyn. Through the intersection the girl thought - Oh geez I missed my turn. Now for what reason I have no clue she decides that she wants to turn left into the bank parking lot. Cuts right in front of Pisanchyn. He, naturally he hit her, t-boned her which ended up in a fatale. That's 2 accidents or 2 fatales in less than a month, 4 days shy of a month. I strongly, in my opinion, would like to see the same pattern laid down on Cypress Street that's on Dunmore Street. And that is once you're coming down Cypress Street those hash marks and the signage when you get to Simpson you're gonna have to turn left on Simpson. If you pass Simpson you're gonna have to make that left at the traffic light. Anything straight you're gonna get tagged. I know it's gonna be a backup in traffic in the right-hand lane but we have that on Dunmore Street to a point too. It's bumper to bumper traffic. And on Dunmore Street when they first implemented this people were upset because I was out there watching the traffic. I had people throwing me five fingers up to their nose, throwing me fingers, if I could read their lips - obscenities. But now they're used to it. It's gonna take time to get used to it but it's gonna alleviate a lot of problems. And 2 fatales, regardless of how they occurred, is too many.

Lukowski: Plus remember the school bus incident too. That could have been a real disaster and that was just a, not that long ago either. Furiosi: Well that was an equipment violation on the truck that caused that but it's just, it's just getting out of hand. And you can enforce it, I mean I can have a car there enforcing the speeding but if a call comes in and the call has more priority well that car's gonna go and leave and assist the other car. But once you start hammering them, and I'm not saying we have to go out and give them a ticket first day. I mean we give them warnings and after a period of time they don't want to adhere to the warnings then they get the citations. But I think it's very important that we do implement that. Now at that meeting at PENN DOT they said they were gonna put signage up indicating LEFT TURN ONLY- LEFT LANE TURN ONLY. And that's fine, I mean we could try that but I, again I strongly suggest the hash marks and I don't know if Robbins here... Unidentified: No he's not. Marushock: Again Mr. Kalinoski pointed out I think part of PENN DOT'S recommendation is to construct something overhead also. Furiosi: Yeah and I'm gonna pull the data for the last 5 years of accidents on Cypress and Sanderson, in fact Cypress all the way down whether it be Center, Clark, Dudley, Murray. So I'm gonna pull the data for PENN DOT on that but we had the study done for Cypress Street and it was approved by PENN DOT. The only problem was when it was brought up to council and it was tossed around apparently some of the residents in the 300, 400 block of Cypress Street were a little upset because it would have taken away from their parking. Well that 300 and 400 block is ample parking. They all have off-street parking. There's off-street parking in those 2 blocks so it's not really effecting anybody. Because I don't see why it would be an inconvenience pulling into you're driveway or you're off-street parking to get out of your car to enter your home rather than park on the street, get out and walk into your home.

Marushock: Chief Furiosi do you have an idea of when the change in signage would take place? Furiosi: Well they can't do anything with the line markings now because of the winter so they're

gonna put the signage up and hopefully if council passes a resolution or an ordinance, whatever it takes to put that study in effect where it was approved, come this spring they'll start painting the lines. Marushock: So we would need something as far as a motion to authorize a traffic study? Furiosi: It was already done. The traffic study was done Geddy when we did Dunmore Street we did both, we did Dunmore and Cypress. Marushock: What do we need? Do we need more this evening to move ahead any further *inaudible* problems on that street...Furiosi: Well the parking, I don't know, you would have to have them come down. I don't know if you're familiar with Dunmore and Center Street. If you come out Center Street on to Dunmore if you look to your left, not to your right now, there's no parking I think it's about three hundred and some feet to the left going down. We would have to implement that on Cypress Street also. Eliminate that parking, no parking signs indicating for whatever the length was, if it was 250 feet, 300 feet, whatever it was. That's, we would have to implement that. Marushock: Would we need a public hearing then prior to the elimination of that parking? Furiosi: I don't believe so. Brazil: No you wouldn't need but you would have to do it by ordinance. Marushock: O.K. So do we want a motion on this evening to have an ordinance developed regarding the parking in what 300 and 400 block of Cypress? Furiosi: I believe that's what it was. I think it was 300 and 400 block of Cypress Street. I don't know Tommy were you on council at that time? Lukasewicz: Yeah. Furiosi: About 10 or 12 years ago? Lukasewicz: Why can't you just eliminate a left turn. If you eliminate the left, if you're in the left lane you have to turn out to Sanderson and that's it. You shouldn't be allowed to go forward. Furiosi: You shouldn't. Lukasewicz: You shouldn't. Furiosi: And the signage they have up there now with the arrows - is it enforceable? PENN DOT says you know it is. I disagree. Like I said I don't believe that is enforceable at the intersection. Lukasewicz: That's the *inaudible* right there. If nobody goes forward in that left lane you'll have no problems. Furiosi: Once they get...Lukasewicz: I never understood that you could go forward all the first few years I was in Throop. When I come there I automatically make a left. It's just a shortcut to get around the people on the right if you're going left. Furiosi: Right. But a lot of people...Lukasewicz: That's why I wanted to stop it back then and nobody would vote for it. You don't have to eliminate parking. Furiosi: But a lot of people do when they do, coming down Cypress Street and say they, they have the green light and they're in the left lane and they go through the intersection well they'll ride that intersection, that left hand lane all the way down...Lukasewicz: That's exactly what they do. That's right and that's wrong. Furiosi: But *inaudible* signage indicating you can't do that. Marushock: Now my experience there is in my carpool I work with a gentleman that lives on Meade Street so I've come down Cypress Street and depending on the traffic I would actually be in the left lane because I am next intersection. I'm not gonna turn up to Sanderson but I am on to Meade Street. Furiosi: Right. Marushock: And usually if you're in the right lane there are times that you don't, there's not enough time to get over. And the distance, which is approximately 500 feet from Sanderson to Meade Street I would be in the left lane. *Few heard saying, "That's right." "Yeah."* Marushock: I'd have my left turn signal on and again when the light, if the light was green and there is no traffic I would be in the right lane and then move over after the intersection depending on the flow of traffic. Lukowski: You've gotta act fast too because you'll be rear-ended. *Few begin speaking at once, inaudible.* Lukasewicz: If you're in that left lane you should have to turn on th Sanderson and that's it. You should not be allowed to go forward for the first 2 blocks. Lukowski: How would

you do that? Furiosi: And the other suggestion was also if the borough had one of those poles, one of the traffic signal poles... Unidentified: A mast arm. Furiosi: Right. With the signage indicating at that intersection LEFT. Lukasewicz: That's it - LEFT TURN ONLY. Menichetti: Or you could have an arrow, a green arrow. Lukasewicz: Eliminate any cars going forward for 2 blocks in the left lane. Furiosi: That would satisfy that intersection. My thing is though once they, once somebody's let's say in the right lane at the intersection. Now it changes green, now they go into the right lane, now there's cars in front of them so they're gonna zap over in the left and pass. Marushock: Right. Lukasewicz: So you should have ... Marushock: No passing... Lukasewicz: The left lane should be nothing whatsoever. No one allowed to go in it to make a turn or anything... Furiosi: After the intersection after the light if you decide to get in that left hand lane then you better turn at that next left intersection. Menichetti: What was PENN DOT's suggestion? Lukasewicz: If you don't do it for 2 blocks then you're not gonna have that problem. Don't allow it until Center Street to turn left. Menichetti: Is this PENN, is that what PENN DOT's suggesting? *Few begin speaking.* Lukasewicz: Have no left turn on Meade Street. Mykulyn: PENN DOT did when they *inaudible* the studies. Their recommendation was to make that lane a left-turn only lane. Separate it out similar to what's on Dunmore but it was never implemented fully. So it was implemented partially all be it what they did was they came in and they stripped it with a solid white line so that they separated out the lanes. And they put up the sign in that said that has the arrow and the only for the left turn only and the straight through arrow in the right-hand lane. Now, and that's their point on enforcement. That's what they were making as a point on enforcement was that the signing is already up. That it could, their point was that they felt it could be enforced as a left turn only and if someone was going past through to the next intersection that you could ticket them. Furiosi: Right but that was only prior to the intersection. Mykulyn: Right. Furiosi: After the intersection there's nothing. Mykulyn: Right. And what, the stripping that they, it would be similar to what was on Dunmore, was what was done in the study that was done... Furiosi: 10 or 12 years ago. Mykulyn: But was never implemented. So what they, so they made a suggestion that possibly what you could do is sign it more so that, you know, at least in the interim until something else could be done certainly they can't do anything now with the stripping, anything on the street because it's too cold to do it. But their suggestion in the interim was that they could put up some signs in the neighborhood, I think they said in the area of Line Street so that there were some additional signs there so you forewarn, you know, hey get in the lane. And then, but also in the area of Line Street they were talking about the mast arm so that would be overhead so that you'd see what the lane markers were above the lines themselves. Lukowski: That would be good yeah. Lukasewicz: That should work. Lukowski: Yeah that would be a good... Menichetti: I don't see why we don't just do that then. Furiosi: I think also was in the left lane half through the intersection the signage would indicate NO PASSING. Marushock: That would work too. Furiosi: That would eliminate getting over from the right lane into the left after the intersection and just shoots you down passing all these left intersections. Menichetti: Or just we'll have the left lane for left turns only. I mean... Shortz: So they're gonna put more signs up then? *Inaudible* agree to put that mast on? Mykulyn: No... Furiosi: We don't have, I don't believe we have a mast for it. Shortz: No but I mean to do that, who's responsibility is that? Mykulyn: They said they would put up the additional post-mounted signs on the side of the road. That if the borough wanted the additional signing above

the lanes that that would be the borough's responsibility to do that. . Shortz: That's ours.
Lukasewicz: Then we should look into doing it and get a price on what it would cost to do it.
Marushock: Then should we leave this motion stand to make the parking...Lukasewicz: You don't need to eliminate the parking...Marushock: ...or should we just go with the signage for now? Shortz: I would say try that and see if it works but I think that *inaudible* is a good idea.
Furiosi: Well the only problem with the, if we do pass that where there's no passing once they cross the intersection when they get in that left hand land I mean if there's cars there.
Lukasewicz: Eliminate the left lane for 1 block. Eliminate it - don't let anybody travel in that left lane for 1 block. This way there would be no turns onto Meade Street, you couldn't turn until Center Street. Because it's just a short cut for people going up to Meade Street. That's where you run into the problems. They're trying to bypass the light over by Turkey Hill. They don't want to come Sanderson. Furiosi: I would say so. Lukasewicz: I'm 100% right. Menichetti: And I've done that myself because that light is so long so I go down...Lukasewicz: So if you're gonna eliminate any traveling in that left lane from the light to Meade Street...Menichetti: Yeah but suppose you want to turn on Meade? Lukasewicz: Eliminate turning on to Meade Street is what I'm saying. This way you're eliminating the whole problem. This way nobody could get into that left lane to make a turn until they go 2 blocks down the road. They have further area to travel this way it gets broken up by that...Shortz: If you do that you're essentially making Meade Street... *Few begin speaking*. Unidentified: What about the people that live on that street? Unidentified: You're making that a one way then. Unidentified: Yeah that's what I was just saying. Lukasewicz: Maybe that's the way to do it. Furiosi: Maybe it would make it easier Tom to just put the...Marushock: To do just the signage now. Furiosi: To just put the signage DO NOT PASS...Menichetti: Because there's a doctors office...Furiosi: If somebody gets in that lane and they want to turn on Meade fine but if they're gonna continue past Meade to Center and make the left then that's a violation because they're passing. Marushock: How 'bout if we try the signage *inaudible* and see if that works and try and keep *inaudible* on that and monitor that situation. Furiosi: My thing is trying to get everything bottled up in the right hand lane at that intersection instead of having 2 lanes. *Few speaking*. Lukowski: But Neil it's hard to get into that left-hand lane then once you get by that light. Lukasewicz: We should get prices...Lukowski: Difficult don't you think? Furiosi: No, once you get to that traffic light if you're in that left-hand lane at *inaudible* you gotta turn left. Lukowski: Oh there. O.K. Lukasewicz: That's the way it should be. Furiosi: If you're in the right lane and you go through the intersection and you want to turn left on to Meade you just get over on your left hand lane and make a left on to Meade. Lukowski: Yeah but sometimes it's...Furiosi: Once you get...Shortz: But if there's no passing... Lukowski: But with the no passing yeah that would work right. Furiosi: No passing...*Few speaking at once*. Furiosi: Because Dunmore Streets been very successful since it's been in effect. Marushock: How 'bout then for motion #18 we put a motion on the secure prices on an overhead mast on Cypress Street, that would be south of the intersection at Sanderson? Mykulyn: No I think they were looking, they were looking to , their suggestion in regard to the mast arm and the lane markers was that, to do that in the area of Line Street so that they, that tells them right from the beginning what line they should be in. Basically where the traffic is, where the traffic would end up coming from 2 lanes or actually 3 because you've got the lane that turns to, on Line Street there to University. Menichetti: Yeah. Mykulyn: The, you know

where you're taking the 2 straight through lanes and knocking them down and now making them all 1. You know if those 2 straight through lanes become 1 lane in essence now what that signing overhead would help to explain where you should be. Unidentified: In it, being that, a 1 way. Mykulyn: Correct. Marushock: Is there where they wish to locate it though? As far back as Line Street? Furiosi: Yeah to give the motorists advanced notice prior...Marushock: So then we're looking for a motion to secure prices on an overhead mast on Cypress Street at Line Street intersection? O.K. I guess that's it on that one. Any additional motions? Ms. Menichetti did you have any? Ms. Blanchard? Johnson: I was thinking about a motion for all Throop businesses to have 15 minute customer parking and I talked to the chief and he said like he didn't see a problem unless it was near an intersection and he'll check it out. A lot of the business don't have you know parking for their customers, you know what I mean like signs just for like ...? Menichetti: Well we don't have, we don't have meters or anything so....Johnson: Well so that it's not illegal where they're parking if it's on, do you know what I'm saying chief? When you said it wouldn't be a bad idea but you said like near intersections and stuff like 15 minute customer parking for all the Throop businesses. Furiosi: Yeah that wouldn't be a problem. The only problem like I said would be if they were blocking the intersection. Marushock: I mean that's natural that they would need to...Furiosi: But putting a sign up alongside of a business - 5 MINUTE PARKING - you know business...Johnson: Just for everybody... Marushock: Does that sound feasible? Lukasewicz: That would be on, even if there's no parking on that side of the street they would be allowed to park there? Marushock: No. Furiosi: Oh no, no, no, not...*Few begin speaking at once*. Lukasewicz: How is it going to work? Johnson: Well how could that work? Wouldn't that be nice though for all the customers, like all the businesses to have...Lukasewicz: But how? Johnson: Well even if ...Furiosi: Not in a prohibitive zone where it's ordinance - NO PARKING. Marushock: Right. Not to supersede anything such as that where the parking is too close to an intersection. Furiosi: Right. I'm under the ...Lukasewicz: So what you're trying to do is that if someone goes and parks in a place where they only park for 15 minutes so he doesn't take up that spot all day. Johnson: No, no, I just, I guess I'm...Lukowski: She's just talking during the holiday season really, right? Lukasewicz: No this is for, this is for all the time. Johnson: Well just so it's not like the cars being stopped from being parked somewhere. Menichetti: And do you want that all day or between the hours of something and something? Johnson: What am I trying to say? Well isn't down on the Boulevard someone was telling me that there's like certain spots like the businesses down there too that there's no parking? Marushock: I know there's some areas in town here where part of it is business parking. I'm using George Street as an example. Kind of in the evening if you came into the apartments you need to park in front of them because it's...Menichetti: Yeah. That's why you'd have to have a time limit. Marushock: Am I correct? Lukasewicz: You can't prohibit someone from parking on the street if that's their only place to park. Marushock: Right. Right. Johnson: I think what I was just trying to do then was to give them some sort of parking but that would make no sense then. Marushock: We don't have the facility that...Menichetti: Where were you, where were you most concerned about? What part of town? Johnson: Just anywhere business. All the businesses. Marushock: Because then again...Johnson: But then most of the streets are the 1 side so you can't. Lukasewicz: They are so you really can't do it. Johnson: I know you can't do it. Lukasewicz: It's not gonna work. Marushock: If *inaudible* gonna do that just for

example...*inaudible*. Many speaking at once. Johnson: I didn't mean to mess up the citizens parking either, you know...*Few continuing to speak at once*. I know. The 1 way, that wouldn't work. Lukasewicz: If you had parking on both sides then it would work but there isn't. Johnson: No we can't. We can't. Marushock: We need to let that go then I guess? Johnson: Yeah...Menichetti: Were you thinking of doing it on both sides of the street? Johnson: You can't though. Marushock: We can't. Lukasewicz: She was trying to think of wherever there's a business...Johnson: Like to give them parking...Lukasewicz:... but it just so happens that a lot of the businesses are on the side of the street that you can't park. Johnson: You can't park there anyway. Lukasewicz: And the if you put it on the other side...Johnson: So it wouldn't be all businesses. No...Marushock: O.K. Anything else? Miss Johnson do you have anything else that you wish to add this evening? Johnson: No. Marushock: Mr. Lukasewicz? Mrs. Shortz? O.K., before we get into audience comments...Lukasewicz: Yeah I do have something. I just wish that we could find some money for the 48 acres because I know if anyone's been watching what's been happening in Dickson City the bank took it over and now they're looking for another public entity to come in and take over or develop the land or whatever. And if that doesn't happen within 2 years it's gonna revert back to the state and that's a fine piece of land and I'd hate to see the same thing happen here in Throop. You know you've got 48 acres and nobody wants to use it. Lukowski: I always remember, and you could look back Tom, that person that came here - what did he want with the 48 acres? They wanted a strip mine. Lukasewicz: That's right. And they wanted to give us what 2 acres and they'd take the rest of it? Lukowski: Yeah. Lukasewicz: It's the most prime piece of real estate in Lackawanna County... Lukowski: Most beautiful too. Lukasewicz: ...and we don't want to do anything with it. Lukowski: Most beautiful. Marushock: All right. Moving on to the audience comments on tonight's agenda. This is, I'll go over the additional motions for everyone's information. The printed agenda went up to #12. Motion #13 will be a motion authorize borough employees entitled to holiday pay to take Monday, December 27 and Monday, January 3 in lieu of December 25 and January 1 holidays. Motion #14 will be a motion to accept the letter from Mr. Gavigan dated December 14, 2004 and to have Mr. Gavigan issue a letter to the borough regarding which specific ledgers or journals can be eliminated. Next motion would be a motion to pay Gannett Flemming \$3,004.63 as an outstanding balance for 2004. Motion #16 will be a motion to have Compu Data upgrade Throop Borough's computer system at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00. Motion #17 would be a motion for a traffic study at the intersection of Dunmore and Line Streets. Motion #18 would be a motion to secure prices on an overhead mast on Cypress Street at the Line Street intersection. Audience comments beginning in the first row...

Audience Comments:

Ray Jarosh - That 1 motion where you're going to do the upgrade, I'm assuming that's software upgrade. I think you ought to add a little bit more money on there and maybe upgrade some of the hardware too. Because if I remember 1 other meeting I was told that the operating system couldn't go up past Windows 2000 because the equipment was so old. So I'm guessing that's at least 5 or 6 years old. I think you ought to look into upgrading that. Marushock: I guess then we look into the cost of replacing it into something more modern or do we do an upgrade to our

current system? Could we look at...Menichetti: Well the hardware has nothing to do with the operating system. Hartshorn: The computer on my desk will definitely not handle the upgrade. There's not enough memory. Jarosh: Certain pieces of hardware can't be upgraded past a certain *inaudible* software...Hartshorn: We have to be careful with the upgrade that the computer that's in Ken's office will be able to handle it. So that's something that they would probably have to come out and just look at first and see and go from there. Menichetti: Well I mean computers aren't that expensive. You could get a Dell for what \$500.00 - \$600.00? Jarosh: Yeah. Menichetti: They're not that expensive. Jarosh: I just bought 1 up at Best Buy on black Friday for \$200.00. Menichetti: So that's not a big problem. So we could always do that. Marushock: Is that Mr. Jarosh?

Bob Bolus - On motion, on #3 here - I think it's a good idea to bring 61 in and, for a lot of reasons. #1 - I spoke to Jack Finnerty at Channel 61. We would have to tape it here and supply him with the tape. They won't just come out and do it because you're a remote but if someone calls him down the Scranton Public Library he'll tell you the type of taping he needs. That would be in the quality that they need to televise it. And I think it would benefit the borough a lot especially listening to what the mayor had to say earlier about the way the populations decreasing here and everything else. 61 reaches a wide area that will allow more people in the area to really know what Throop's about. It could be more progressive at least maybe toward more development, a better increase in the tax base, which is gonna decrease the tax rate. So I think it has a lot of pluses. Menichetti: And they would get 1st hand information on what goes on too. Bolus: Absolutely. Instead of maybe what you may read in the newspaper or skip a lot of things. I think Throop has a lot to offer to a lot of people in the community that really have no idea where the heck Throop is. And I think that it's gonna be a good benefit and I'd like to see Throop move forward with that. It's a way of telling people out there who we are in Throop and why you should really want to come here, build a home or open up a business here. And I think it's a good way to sell the town that way. I think the mayor would agree. It's a way to get out and maybe doing that will also help us get something done with the zip code change and things like that because we're running into a dead end street. So someone out there may here it and be able to help us in an area that we can't get the help. Lukowski: We're being stuffed no doubt with this zip code. We are being picked on really. Bolus: Absolutely. We have to find a way to move around to do that. And another thing, Tommy brought it up - it wasn't a motion but on the 48 acres we would be a bunch of fools in this town to loose that land. Whatever it takes to start something you have to start it. No matter what's underground or what, you can't live with an excuse with it anymore. We cannot loose 48 acres of prime real estate in this valley. Land is going for enormous amounts of money and believe me if it was for sale tomorrow I'd be one of that'd wanna bid as well as God knows how many other developers and people in the area. So it's something we can't let go so whatever it takes make a motion to start something, whatever it is, but please do it. Not only in the interest right now but in the interest of the future. If we're gonna move this town forward lets not loose 48 acres that's gonna contribute to the future growth of this community. And it's definitely got potential; it's there. They're not making any more land. On Sanderson and Cypress I totally agree with the chief. Coming down, I mean how many times people come down you have a problem. But the biggest problem is when you're turning right to

go on Sanderson that car lot that opened up. People turning stopping right in front. While you're looking to the left to see if any traffic's coming down, you pull out and somebody stops dead and turns right into that car lot. It's bad and sooner or later something's gonna happen there. Especially now if we start boxing more traffic in the right lane and you're gonna turn right there it could be a bigger problem. And it's just waiting for something to happen. With the air compressor that Robbie's looking for - you know the auction, there's, the state has a lot of these auctions with jackhammers and air compressors that are like in great shape. They're at auctions all over the country and it may not hurt us to at least go look at them and try to buy one at a public auction. A lot of construction companies go out, that state has them, and see if you could buy one. It might save you a lot of money. Marushock: Mr. Bolus do you have an approximate idea of what those package deals go for - the compressors and the jackhammer. Bolus: I've seen them go as low at \$500.00 and as high as \$2,500.00. And that, I mean you can get air hoses, compressors, diesel compressors, there's attachments to them. There's a lot of things you could buy at sales so... Marushock: I know the borough did get information regarding information that's basically opened up to municipalities. Bolus: Yeah. Marushock: Where have 1st option and then whatever municipalities turn down then it goes to a public auction. Bolus: Right. Marushock: Maybe Mr. Novack and Mr. Kalinoski can go on the Internet and try to find out what is available or when it is available and try and secure some... Bolus: And I think that, I'm only looking at ways that if I were to go buy one tomorrow and I'm not using it every single day of the week that's what I'd go out and buy. It saves you the money and it's gonna do the same job and it's gonna be as efficient. Last thing I want to do - I understand today that the district attorney was up here questioning what was going on at the Civic Center and about the surveillance that was brought up a couple weeks ago *inaudible*. And you know I've watched the Civic Center as well as everybody else has. This is the best I've ever seen it. It's lit up, it's operational, it's accountable - which we had problems in the past and nobody did anything. And because it's being monitored or conversations are being monitored - that's what the system was for is to protect the people and children in there. After all it's the council's before that actually implemented this to put it in there. And why not use it and if it's being used as it is, and I understand that she was vindicated from any wrongdoing over there. And I think this council's owes her an apology. Menichetti: We didn't, we didn't send the district attorney over there. Bolus: I understand. Well who ever did... Menichetti: Well I certainly didn't. Bolus: No, no, but what I'm saying... Menichetti: I didn't even know about it. Bolus: But my feeling is Daryl that if it was, whoever did it or for whatever reason they did it, malicious or whatever it may be she's been cleaned of everything. Let's get off her back and let her do her job. We have other issues in this town to worry about and I think those that are doing it have to stop it. I mean this is what's ripping this town apart. We can't pay the petty politics or the petty games anymore. So those that are doing it I think it's time to grow up and let's move on to the real problems and let somebody do her job. Marushock: As indicated Mr. Bolus there were no problems found by the county detectives in their visit to the Throop Civic Center. Bolus: I think everybody should be made aware of it that's why I brought it up. Marushock: O.K. Bolus: Is that everybody out there should be made aware that there are no problems. Let's leave it rest where it's at. Let someone do their job and let's look at the real issues we have in the town and start focusing on them and, you know, let's do what's right and quit playing games. Marushock: What can be distracting

when these people are gonna find out that county detectives were over at the Civic Center. We do have a letter concerning everything that happened there today that I am going to read for the permanent record. Again, just to clear the air, there were no problems found by the county detectives, O.K.? Bolus: Well I think credit should be given then to Melissa and she should be exonerated from all the criticism that she's been taking at these meetings in the past. **Tape change. Mr. Bolus invites everyone to attend his annual all day Christmas dinner buffet at St. Lucy's Church. **

Larry Hartshorn, 140 Dimmick St. - You're talking about Cypress Street - I was involved in 1 of the accidents over there. Puttin' signs up is not gonna stop anything because they don't pay no attention to them. What you gotta do is get rid of some of the part-time police we have here, hire 2 good policemen, they'll pay their own wages right out there. Use some of the speeding equipment that you got. Where is it sittin' in the trunks of the cars or in the *inaudible*? Get some enforcement. Arrest a few people for comin' down - you'll see how quick they stop. If you remember going through Chinchilla company many years ago you took your time when you went through there because you knew if you went over the speed limit you were arrested. And this is what you gotta do over here. That's the only way you're gonna stop that. I see them flying down through there every morning when I drive the bus through there. Marushock: I know the police have monitored that intersection quite a bit lately with cop cars...Hartshorn: Yeah but monitoring them and looking at them going down the street and saying, "Boy look at that guy went...". That's no good - arrest them. Not just telling them that Oh look, look at that guy going. Arrest them. They get that thing put against their license and their license taken off them they'll release what it is to drive and they'll take their time. Because you're gonna have more. Marushock: Is that it Mr. Hartshorn? Hartshorn: Yeah.

Mr. Tanana - Just on Craig Benson being deployed - he's also a member of the fire department, Volunteer Hose Company #3 Rescue Services. We're starting a Military Assistance Team for his detachment and also the detachment that's going to be joining them prior to the deployment over to Kuwait and eventually into Iraq. We already have, Price Chopper is gonna let us set a box up so people can deposit personal hygiene items. What we're gonna do is we're working with the armory down in Scranton where they're set up as, for the reserve unit. They're gonna send us a list of everybody in their detachment and the personal items they need. We're gonna go up every week or 2 weeks, empty the box, box them up and sent them personalized to all the soldiers within Craig's detachment and the other unit that's eventually be attached to him when he gets over to Iraq. Marushock: O.K. Tanana: If anybody wants to help out when we're, when we're doing this, boxing up the items and everything. I mean that's pretty much all it's gonna be is boxing the items up. They're gonna ship them. They already put us in contact with somebody to give us shipping to where it's gonna go down to Ft. Indian Town Gap and then get shipped over to Kuwait and eventually get to their base in Iraq. Marushock: O.K. Thank you Mr. Tanana. Also motion #2 to eliminate the 2005 borough property tax to 0 millage. Right now it's only 4 mills, correct? Marushock: Correct. Tanana: How much does that generate, approximately maybe \$70,000.00? Marushock: Approximately projected for 2005 would be \$99...almost \$100,000.00. \$99,872.00. Tanana: Instead of eliminating it why don't you reduce it and put it into an emergency

services fund of some kind. I don't know if you know or not but the prices to run a volunteer fire department are going through the roof. If you look at a base pumper you're looking at anywhere from \$250,000.00 to up to \$335,000.00. Just a set of equipment is almost \$3,000.00 for us to equip our volunteer fire fighters and that's just without an air pack. That's just their base clothing equipment. And although we appreciate your generosity of the \$25,000.00 we have to make some tough decisions on who's gonna get upgraded, who's gonna stay downgraded. Putting anybody who's willing to put their life on the line for nothing, in jeopardy it's not worth it when, I haven't heard of anybody complaining about the 4 mill taxes in town. I mean it's the cheapest rate besides Old Forge and Taylor, which have 0. Marushock: Well the plan that we have in the works right now is to try to help the people of Throop, especially this year when we did not take the money away from the fire department. We stayed at \$25,000.00 allotments each department because in lieu or in sight of the large increase in the county taxes we figured that we would like to do something for the property owners in this borough. And it would be nice to move forward as a team for all of us to try to keep the property taxes at 0, especially with the income we have coming into this borough. Tanana: That would make sense but also on the other hand eventually you're looking at a volunteer department that runs actually more fire calls than the paid department in our neighboring Dunmore. Marushock: I see a lot of people out in public and they're very much aware of what our Throop departments get and they've kind of said that you know they wish that they had that opportunity to receive that amount. That the other departments in outlining areas operate with much less income from their local governments. Tanana: I mean according to our budget and according to the state the office of fire commissioners did a survey, actually it's a report that is available on line and it's an updated report. In accordance with the budget of our borough and everything we're pretty much in line because we're unique in that we have 3 separate departments instead of a combined department. So you combine the \$25,000.00 it's \$75,000.00. That's about in line because the office of state fire commissioner's been pushing for a grant program to have yearly funding. And it's getting harder and harder for him to get legislative support to keep that grant going. And that only guarantees anywhere from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 to each fire department and it's on a competitive basis along with the federal grant program which has been cut by about a billion dollars this year for '05. Marushock: O.K. We'll take that under consideration Mr. Tanana. Bolus: Geddy...*inaudible*. Marushock: Yes Mr. Bolus. Bolus: If I may. I proposed this in Scranton for the fire department or the ambulance squad or even the police department. If someone's involved in an accident you have the total cost - what that fire truck costs - per man to go just to an accident now. It has nothing to do with you're home or nothing like that but involving an accident either the police car, the fire truck, or even if we need the DPW. A minimum charge of \$200.00 or 2 hours, whatever the cost of that fire truck cost, if you had 3 men on it whatever the hourly rate would be, the cost of the machine. The cost of each separate department. Let's say it cost for that fire truck \$300.00 an hour with the men on it you would charge a minimum of \$600.00 to go to a, wash an accident scene down and they give it to their insurance company. They pay for towing, they pay for storage, and it's all involved in the clean up of an accident. And you know they could go out here on the new highway at 6:00 it could be a tractor-trailer overturned. This brings in additional revenue to the fire departments. And Mr. Brazil may have to figure out how you do that legally or the ordinance thing that would be imposed to do that. That cuts a major cost of operating their department. Instead of being

volunteer and basically a charity going out they would charge just like we would with a tow truck. They charge a minimum 2 hours and that's it. That's your rate and you get paid for it. Unidentified: Wouldn't that have to be a paid fire company? Bolus: No. No. Unidentified: I mean they just go *inaudible*. They're not getting paid... Bolus: It doesn't make a difference. Tanana: Mr. Rocco it would have to be done by ordinance. Bolus: It would be an ordinance that would allow them to charge a minimum of 2 hours when that fire truck goes out. You still gotta pay for the fire truck. Somebody's gotta put money out to buy it. Somebody's gotta pay lights for the building. You can't just be a charity, you charge for that service. You pay for a tow truck. Unidentified: I agree with him. Bolus: You pay for a surgeon to put you back together. Menichetti: I think that's a good idea. Bolus: You pay a hospital. Your insurance pays for all of it. Unidentified: Oh I agree with you. Marushock: That's something we could look into definitely. Bolus: It's just a thought that increases the revenue in the department without taking it from the taxpayers. Menichetti: Would the insurance pay....? Bolus: Oh absolutely, they have to. Menichetti: I know they pay ambulances. Tanana: Some of your surrounding boroughs already do it. Dickson City does it. Dunmore does it. I think Abington Township does it. Bolus: They can't get a police report if they don't pay the bill. It's all a part of doing business. Marushock: It's something to consider. Menichetti: I think it's something that we could consider yeah. Bolus: You know it's just another source that you have the asset you may have well utilize it. Take the burden off of them instead of them trying to figure out where *inaudible*. They're earning their keep as well as providing the protection to the borough as well. Unidentified: Mr. Brazil already gave me a copy of an ordinance from Moosic that we were looking at just to see, false alarms and stuff like that. Bolus: Yeah, any of that you pay. Unidentified: We are working on that just... Bolus: Yeah, it's a minimum 2 hours. You send that fire truck out false alarm, a non-profit, whatever it is you gotta pay. Menichetti: Well anything we can do to help we would be happy to. You know *inaudible* something up. Marushock: Mr. Tanana did you have anything else along that line in your comments? Tanana: No.

John Musewicz, 2 Mruck Street - George just to make you aware and the rest of the officials aware that you have another borough employee that's been working across at the Civic Center for many years that has a husband that's a Sergeant in the United States Army who is presently serving in South Korea. And the cloud hangs over his head in '05 for possible deployment to Iraq. He's a tank driver, a tank commander in the United States Army. If you don't know who that is it's Kim Musewicz O'Conner. She's a borough resident. She also works for many years over at the Civic Center. Her husband like I said is serving in South Korea in the United States Army and there's some reports, early preliminary reports that he may be deployed in Iraq possibly in '05 sometime. So just to let everybody know that we do have another employee who has a very close family member, husband, that's in the service. Marushock: O.K. Menichetti: Let us know if it ever comes to the point where he's going and you know if there's anything we can do you know we will. Musewicz: And tensions go back and forth because we all know tensions go back and forth over in South and North Korea. It's not that... Menichetti: Yeah. That's no picnic there either. Musewicz: It's not the best case scenario over there either but he's doing fine. He'll be home in January for a couple weeks to see his son who Kim is raising if everybody doesn't know that. And also just to take a minute, we just finished, as long as we're talking about the Civic Center for a

couple minutes we just finished the 5th Annual Rick Vinansky Memorial Basketball Tournament, which the Civic Center just hosted. It was a 17-team tournament, which the team members play in the Mid-Valley Basketball League, which I currently, I'm the President of the league. I've been President for quite a few years, probably close to 15 years. But Melissa, this is her 1st year that she did the tournament, she hosted it. She did a very well, they did a very good job over there. Melissa did a good job. She got very strong support from her staff especially some of her staff that actually did tournaments in the past, the same tournament. Once again this was the 5th Annual Rich Vinansky. It went very well. It ended yesterday with a little, we had a little ceremony. The Vinansky family was there. The family is very proud that this tradition is continuing at the Civic Center and in the borough. The tournament went very well and I just want to make the point that Melissa did a nice job and she got exceptional support from her staff. Lukowski: John where do some of the teams come from outside of Throop? Musewicz: Some of the teams come from North Pocono, Old Forge, Dickson City, Clark Summit, Dunmore, Jessup. 17 teams - it went for 8 days. Lukowski: That's great. Musewicz: It went for 8 days. It was a nice tournament. If anybody didn't stop in it was a very nice tournament. 6th grade, young kids. They did a good job. Marushock: O.K. Thank you Mr. Musewicz. Do you have anything else? O.K. If we could get underway with the motions on this evenings agenda. Before doing that we will open the bids for the Sulphur Creek clean up. The first one will be opened is for Leeward Construction in Honesdale Pa. Menichetti: This is Linde? Marushock: This is from Leeward that I'm opening right now. Menichetti: I don't have Leeward on here. Marushock: There's actually 4 but the first one I have right now that I've already started opening is from Leeward Construction. Total base bid is \$16,600.00. Bid bond is attached. The prices per hour - the excavator long reach, 58-foot boom is \$225.00 per hour for approximately 48 hours comes to \$10,800.00. Menichetti: We don't need... Lukasewicz: It all adds up to \$16,600.00. Marushock: O.K. but they had it broken down I think.... Mr. Mykulyn right? I mean depending on the equipment? Mykulyn: No.... Marushock: Just the total base bid? Mykulyn: The bid goes to whoever has the lowest, responsible, reasonable bid. Marushock: O.K. The second one is from Ankiewicz trucking in Mountain Top Pa. Menichetti: How do you spell that? Marushock: A-n-k-i-e-w-i-c-z Trucking. Total base bid of \$19,544.00. The next bid is from J.J. Waski Construction in Olyphant Pa. Total base bid is \$19,080.00. The last bid from Linde Enterprises in Wilkes-Barre Pa. Total base bid of \$19,580.00. Mr. Mykulyn I believe our estimated cost on this project was around \$10,000.00? Mykulyn: The original, before we added the, before we changed under the addendum I think we were at \$12,000.00 and with the addendum I think brought it up to just under \$14,000.00. Menichetti: So that \$16,000.00 one is more in line? Marushock: Well should we have a motion to accept all the bids or a motion to reject and re-bid? Do these seem high? Mykulyn: I don't think it's exceptionally high. It's kind of a tough thing to estimate. As you're aware 1 hour is an hourly rate deal. If you are under the 25,000 that we anticipated that put us in weight grades I don't think, I think it's reasonable to make a motion to accept them and we can have further review, John and I. Lukasewicz: I'll make that motion....

<u>Name of Bidder</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Linde Enterprises, Inc.	Wilkes-Barre, PA	\$19,580.00
J.J. Wasko Construction	Olyphant, PA	\$19,080.00
Leeward Construction	Honesdale, PA	\$16,600.00
Ankiewicz Trucking	Mountaintop, PA	\$19,544.00

1. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Menichetti

To accept the Sulphur Creek bids and to award the bid to the lowest most responsible bidder upon favorable review of the Borough Engineer and Solicitor.

Lukasewicz: On the question: *Inaudible* the contractor who didn't have the form, who was the bidder on that? Menichetti: American Asphalt. Brazil: Before you go... Menichetti: Did we you get the bid on that? Brazil: Is the bid's going to be accepting is it also going to be award upon review just as the motion reads? Lukasewicz: I would like to have it award... Brazil: O.K. O.K. Lukasewicz: Because it definitely has to be done. Menichetti: It says to award the bid to the lowest... Lukasewicz:... and receive. Marushock: To accept and to reward upon favorable recommendation? Brazil: Right now it would be Leeward unless there is some problem. Lukasewicz: Especially when you got 4 bids and then 1 appears to be lower. The other 3 are so close so *inaudible* seems to be out of the ordinary. Marushock: Well to adjust this agenda then we will make that as the first motion? To accept the bids and also to award that bid on favorable recommendations. Marushock: Anyone else on the question? Barnick: Yeah on the question; Just remember I won't be voting for this company. They were the ones that did the Boulevard project and there's many problems still outstanding down there. Lukasewicz: I think that's why I was trying to tell *inaudible* and if there is any pending litigation with certain companies that might come into play that's giving them additional work when other *inaudible* haven't been satisfied. Lukowski: What's the status of that then? I mean... Barnick: I don't know. Lukowski: ...that's been on the back burner for about 3 years now. Marushock: Anyone else on the question? Egan: I just, the wording of this motion didn't change then, right? Marushock: No. Egan: O.K.

5 in favor - Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Johnson, Shortz, Marushock

1 against - Barnick

Motion carried

Marushock: Next is a motion to amend the proposed 2005 Budget to include a 3% raise for all non-contracted employees, a \$1,000.00 raise for the Borough Solicitor and to eliminate the 2005 Borough Property Tax and have the Borough Solicitor draw up the zero millage ordinance. Marushock: On the question. Barnick: Yeah on the question; I'll have to be voting against it 'cause it's not separated. There's some I might go for there's some I might not. It should be divided into separate motions. Marushock: With the way the motion is Mr. Barnick do you wish to express your concern on what you would be in favorable and that could be noted for the record then? Barnick: No it's 1 single motion. Marushock: Well without breaking everything down I don't see why we can't voice your concern on what part of that motion you don't, you are in favor of and what part you... Lukasewicz: Why can't we do a 2A, 2B, and 2C - very simple. Johnson: I agree with that. It could be done that way. Marushock: Why are we tearing it in part...?

Lukasewicz: Because you have the right as a councilman to vote in favor of or not in favor of whatever you want eye for eye to the budget. This is grouping things to make you vote inappropriately. Marushock: It's not done with that intention and as I said you can vote, you can take that apart any way you wish. If this is what we want to do - we want to do the first part... Lukasewicz: When you vote on something you can't say, "I'm voting in favor of A, not in favor of this." You have to vote all in favor or not in favor. Marushock: No you can separate. Barnick: No. No you cannot. No you cannot. Lukasewicz: Legally when you go to vote you cannot. We've done it that way but it's not the way to do it. Johnson: Not with the budget you can't. Menichetti: Mr. Brazil can you... Johnson: Can we separate Mr. Brazil. Brazil: I would suggest if there's issues on them then separate them out and vote them because once this is all done then you're gonna have to vote to adopt the final budget, O.K.? Marushock: O.K. O.K. then let's break it apart...

2. A) Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To amend the proposed 2005 Budget to include a 3% raise for all non-contracted employees.

Marushock: On that question - anybody have any questions on that part of this motion? Barnick: Yeah on that question; You have employees here that haven't even been here a year. That's all I got to say on that. Marushock: O.K. Anyone else on the question? Johnson: I do. I think we should not use the 3%, use what Daryl has in the packet - the \$2,000.00 and the other raises. It's broke down, it's page 49 in our packet. And not only that Mr. Novack has a recommendation in there for Christine Hartshorn, that's #51 in the packet, and that's what we hired him for to recommend people who deserve raises and this and that so I don't think 3% is fair enough for some of the people. Marushock: O.K. Well again I mean we tried to put all these numbers to work and be fair with everybody across the board. I think we were reasonable in awarding a 3% raise and then we could try to control some of our spending and with the ultimate goal of eliminating the borough property tax. Anyone else on the question?

3 in favor - Menichetti, Shortz, Marushock

3 against - Lukasewicz, Barnick, Johnson

** Vote is tied ** Lukowski in favor

Motion carried

B) Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Shortz

A \$1,000.00 raise for the Borough Solicitor.

Marushock: On the question? Johnson: I think that should be what Daryl had in mind, \$2,000.00.

Marushock: Well again trying to definitely control our cost.

3 in favor - Menichetti, Shortz, Marushock

3 against - Lukasewicz, Barnick, Johnson

** Vote is tied ** Lukowski in favor

Motion carried

C) Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Menichetti

To eliminate the 2005 Borough Property Tax and have the Borough Solicitor draw up the zero millage ordinance.

Marushock: On the question? Menichetti: 1 thing - I think it just has, the ordinance has to be amended I don't think we need a new ordinance is that correct Mr. Brazil? Brazil: Well eventually we're gonna have to do ordinances on all the taxes O.K. So it would be my suggestion that if this is voted positively then you have a motion to adopt the final budget which is set before us, which I think these are incorporated in, I don't really know. Together authorizing me to prepare the ordinance 'cause then they will have to be advertised and voted on in your next meeting.

Marushock: So really part of this motion we're going to need a D part for final passage of the 2005. Brazil: My suggestion would be just to have this motion, this motion would be to eliminate the 2005 property taxes and then the next motion would be to adopt a final budget as per what's before us and then prepare the appropriate ordinances for that. Marushock: We can adopt the final budget tonight because we have all these final numbers in place, correct? We can adopt, we can have final passage of the 2005 budget this evening...Brazil: Right. Marushock: ...we have all the numbers in place and to develop the ordinance regarding the *inaudible*. All right. Then we will have that behind us if we do that as part D? Brazil: Right. Right. Marushock: Let's get back to part C - Motion on the floor by Mr. Lukasewicz, seconded by Ms. Menichetti to eliminate the 2005 Borough Property Tax and have the Borough Solicitor draw up the zero millage ordinance. Anyone else on the question?

All in favor

Motion carried

Marushock: Now part D of this will be to adopt the 2005 budget. Brazil: Right, which is presented here before and which is, the 2005 is now the amended proposed budget O.K.? Marushock: O.K. Brazil: You have to adopt a final budget for 2005. Marushock: To adopt the amended 2005 budget? Brazil: No, just to adopt your 2005 budget. O.K.? My understand is that the and Ken correct me if I'm wrong, the budget that you've presented here, the 2005, incorporates these changes? Novack: Yes. Yes. Brazil: O.K. Well then that would be your final budget. So it would be a motion to adopt the 2005 budget. Marushock: O.K.

D) Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To adopt the 2005 budget.

Marushock: On the question? Lukasewicz: Yeah on the question; I'll be voting against the budget and I'm staunchly opposed to it for more than 1 factor but the main factor that really peeves me off is that we've got 48 acres that I can't get anybody to budge even 1 red cent. And your gonna loose this 48 acres and I don't know why no one wants to have it...Lukowski: Well we don't want to loose it. Lukasewicz: Well it's gonna be lost. Stanley I've been trying for years. It took 12 years for this borough to acquire that land and for 4 years now I've been trying to get something started on it and nobody will work with me. Everyone's against the idea of that 48 acres and I just can't

see it and you know...It happened in Dickson City. They're gonna loose it and I hate to say it but there's some people that aren't using common sense here and we're taking a chance at loosing a piece of property that's a benefit to this borough. Lukowski: There are some question marks there but that, I'll tell you what it's probably the most beautiful piece of land in the whole county. It oversees practically every community. Lukasewicz: There's a lot of question marks when it comes to that land where it was mined and it was fires and there's spoils...Lukowski: Yeah I know. I know. Lukasewicz...Look around under construction. Every one of these developments, every piece of property. You're paying \$55,000.00 for a lot in Dickson City on an old mine spoils. Such good property why let it go to waste? I don't understand it. Lukowski: There are some question marks but you can't let it go. You just can't. Lukasewicz: The positives outweigh the negatives. Lukowski: Yeah, you're right. Barnick: Just on the question; I have to agree with you. Maybe you should take that 4 mills and instead of eliminating the property tax put that amount of money into that property up there because you hate to loose 48 acres like that. It's the only prime land left here in the borough really to do anything with. Lukowski: And they'll, you know the state will move on that if... Barnick: Oh yeah they're gonna move on it. Just like the bank moved on Dickson City's... Lukasewicz: ...20 or 30 years from now when we're not here and someone says, "Boy, it's a shame they gave that land away." Barnick: I mean I'm all for the 0 property tax and stuff like that but I mean it's minimal. It's very minimal the amount of millage right now. People always said that and it's great. That or you put even the 4 mills back into the streets where it should have been. Nothing was done this year except for 1 project. I just hope we have enough to do other projects next year. *Few begin speaking.* Marushock: Wait, hang on. Anybody else on the question? Menichetti: I call the question. Marushock: Roll call please. Unidentified: Can we comment on the motion that was added? Unidentified: Yeah we gotta comment on it. Unidentified: Motion D wasn't on the original printed agenda. Unidentified: That's right. None of those were. Shortz: They were all there except...Unidentified: Well still...Shortz: But you're saying none of them were there. They were all there but except for...Unidentified: You broke it up. It's too bad you don't listen...*Few speaking.* Barnick: The budget, that was not a motion so you're supposed to have audience comment. Marushock: O.K. We'll go into audience comments on part D of this motion. From now on...*inaudible. Many speaking at once.* Marushock: Mr. Rocco please, let me go to audience comments - part D - of motion #2.

Audience comments:

Unidentified: Yes I think you outta put something in there for the 48 acres. It'd be a damn shame to loose that, you know? Like Tommy said and Jimmy, leave the 4 mills there. It's not all that much. It's not enough to buy a carton of cigarettes. Lukowski: Allocate even a token amount - whatever - and go from there. Unidentified: Do whatever it takes. Marushock: O.K. Unidentified: I mean it's a shame. My God, you buy a carton of cigarettes for \$30.00. Unidentified: Split the difference. Leave 2 mills in, take 2 mills out that way you gave everybody a tax break and you're doing something with that land up there. Marushock: O.K. Mr. Bolus? Bolus: What kind of money are you talking to start something? Like...Lukasewicz: I was only asking for \$40,000.00. Just to get started... Unidentified: *Inaudible* get something. Lukasewicz: Let the people see what's in there and then they'll know what a valuable piece of property it is. Bolus: I understand but what would be, the bare minimum be to at least do something? I mean you don't have to develop the whole thing. If you just did something to preserve your right to purchase. Lukowski: Yeah, that's a good point. Yeah. Bolus: What's it take to do, cut a road, cut a...Marushock: We

are in arrears...Barnick: We are not in arrears. Would you please stop...*Many begin speaking.*
Marushock: ...any money...Barnick: That is not arrears. Marushock:...to the original agreement.
Barnick: That is not arrears. Menichetti: We could open the road, do something. Lukowski: I
wouldn't be too conservative on that point. Menichetti: And that would preserve...Barnick: What
I'm saying, what would it take. You put \$500.00 in there for example. Would that start
something? Lukasewicz: You need more than \$500.00. You need, realistically you need probably
\$40,000.00 to at least get a gate sufficient to maintain it, some fencing coming in so you got
somewhat of an area getting in there that's secure, a road down with a base...Marushock: The
gates supposed to be...Menichetti: We already passed a motion to put a gate in. Lukasewicz: It
wasn't, but why wasn't it done? Menichetti: I don't know. Marushock: Ask Mr. Kalinowski about
that because that was done by motion...Lukasewicz: I know but still, it's the same thing as
nothing gets done. Bolus: Ged, what I'm saying is having, you don't have \$40,000.00 today to do
something major. What I'm saying, no matter what you do is to start to do something is what I'm
saying. As long as you do something toward the construction of that property. If it's cut a 20-foot
road into it and then put, whatever you start you have to start something until this borough can
figure out, maybe look for donations, put a fund drive on. There's a lot of things you could do
because...Menichetti: Bob next year we'll have our \$700,000.00 loan paid and...Unidentified: It
might be too late. It might be too late. Menichetti:...and we'll be more solvent and we could do
things like that. Bolus: Right. I understand that Daryl. What I'm saying is - what would you need
today to go do anything, period, anything. It doesn't make a difference what you do as long as
you do something. Unidentified: Like you said cut it down to 2 mills...Bolus:...next year but do
something to show that there's an intent on the borough's part to...Lukasewicz: Bob, I'd like to
see \$10,000.00 contributed but you know what? I don't think I could get \$10,000.00.
Unidentified: There's \$7,500.00 listed here for 'Throop signage'. Lukasewicz: Yeah, I don't know
where that came from. I guess we're replacing the signs in Throop. I don't know...Unidentified:
What is that? That's a lot of money for a sign. Lukowski: It's 4 signs. That would be 4 signs.
Lukasewicz: They're not that bad. The maintenance man fixes them up every year. He paints them
and they're fine. There's 7,500.00 that could go up there. Bolus: Well that's what I'm saying. If
you took part of that money even and started...Menichetti: Well a budget is only a guideline. I
mean it's not carved in stone. We can move money and we can use it for different things.
Lukasewicz: No. If you don't budget anything though nothing's gonna get done there...Lukowski:
Yeah. You can't sit on it really. Unidentified: You gotta commit yourself. Lukasewicz: Nobody
will commit anything for it. You can't...Unidentified: *Inaudible* already said he doesn't want to
spend money on it if the state is gonna come in and take it over. So it's no the fact that it's not in
the budget or anything else. He's gonna disapprove it no matter what because he believes that
we're in arrears and the state's gonna take that over. Marushock: Correct. Bolus: Wasn't
somebody supposed to check? I recollect...Lukasewicz: Atty. Cimini had contacted the DEP and
they told him you know if you want to all start over and come in with a different kind of plan and
a different overlook of, go ahead and do it. Prepare something and present it to them and they'll
look at it. I'm sure you come in there to the DEP and say, "Here. We've had these problems,
we've corrected so many sewers, we're gonna build a DPW complex, we're spending our money
here. We don't wanna loose this land. We wanna allocate a little bit now to get started. Can we
please?" Brazil: You could do that. Lukasewicz: They'd say yes. They don't want the land. Bolus:
All right. You could pass this tonight, whatever you're doing here now. Why don't you put
another motion on the table to have the solicitor or whatever move forward and at least

understand it instead of all the assumptions - can we? Can we? And know where you're going. It's a very simple...Lukasewicz: Bob I tried that and it didn't go...Bolus: Well let's try it tonight again. We all know where we're at. I mean...Menichetti: There's another side to that. Right now they're leaving us alone but bringing attention to the matter might start something, you know? Right now they don't know what we're doing and they don't really care. But if you're gonna be writing them letters and bringing attention to it you are gonna bring, probably bring some problems to it. Bolus: But then, if you don't want to do that Daryl then start doing something. Menichetti: Well we did. We said we were gonna put up a gate and possibly try and open up a roadway there. Unidentified: Well you gotta commit yourself in the budget. At least it's there. Then you're gonna say you don't have it. Reduce it to 2% - that'll give you \$50,000.00 to do it. Menichetti: Well we had budget meetings, Mr. Rocco. The 4 of us were here and this is the budget we have decided on. *Many begin commenting.* Rocco: I think the citizens should have a little say. Menichetti: These people didn't show up for the budget meetings and now here we are adopting it and they want to change it. Well I'm sorry but we sat through the meeting - they didn't. Rocco: Well the citizen's have the right to say something. Marushock: Continuing with audience comments on motion #2 - item D please. Mr. Bolus were you done? Bolus: I think, yeah even if you pass your budget whatever you're doing here I think somewhere before this meeting adjourns this evening you could put it in a budget, even though you've had budget meetings and stuff. That, because you've added a part to the budget meeting tonight like 2 D - allocate \$1,000.00 toward it. At least go to the state and say, "Look we put \$1,000.00 toward it. We're trying to move forward". And at least do something to show that there's an intent. Right now all's we've been doing is talking about it for years and years and years. But at least show an intent and then you can move forward. The state's gonna come one day and you're gonna get a letter and say, "Guess what guys? You're done". Menichetti: Mr. Bolus I'd just like to say one thing. This is the first year that I've been in the majority, O.K.? I've always been in the minority sitting here. And these men had the majority all these years and they did nothing with the 48 acres. I had nothing to say about it. So I don't know why...Lukasewicz: Daryl. Menichetti: All of a sudden this big thing...Lukasewicz: Daryl. Daryl. Menichetti: ...that it's us all of a sudden Lukasewicz: There's never been enough of a vote to do anything with the 48 acres. It was never a majority thing - the 48 acres. Menichetti: Well why not? You were all in favor of it. Joe was in favor of it, he was in favor of it, you...Lukasewicz: Daryl I have been trying to do stuff with that 48 acres for as long as I could remember and I've never been able to get 4 votes. It's got nothing...Menichetti: And why was that? Lukasewicz: Why? Because for some reason nobody...Menichetti: But now you're blaming the 4 of us? Lukasewicz: I'm not blaming you. Menichetti: You were never able to but now you're blaming us. Lukasewicz: I'm not blaming anyone. I'm just asking - can we get something started. I can't get anything started. Menichetti: I thought we did. I thought we did. I thought we were starting with the gate and then we were gonna put a road. Lukasewicz: It didn't go nowhere. Marushock: Well the gate was approved. Then why it's not...Menichetti: It was approved. Shortz: He was supposed to get us prices...Marushock: You better contact Mr. Kalinoski because that was gonna be done...Shortz: ...that motion, follow through with anything. Marushock: Right. The gate was gonna be built under the agility program with basically no cash outlayed ...Lukasewicz: I heard that last, I heard that last meeting...Marushock: You're right Mr. Lukasewicz and it's not been done. And it's not been done. Lukasewicz: It's not going to be done. Marushock: Mr. Novack can you please bring it to Mr. Kalinoski's attention ...Lukowski: Push it. Push it. Marushock: ...that the concerns wanted answers to why the gate to the 48 acres has not

been put in place. Menichetti: I don't wanna loose that land either. *Few speaking at once.*
Menichetti: I just didn't want the DPW garage up there but I don't want to loose that land. Bolus:
I don't think Daryl or the majority they should be blamed because we've listened to this and you
know Tommy I've listened in the past when *inaudible* and Chrzan and all them were on there you
could never get the votes to go ahead and do it. Unidentified: Yeah but you can't live in the past
either. You gotta go forward. Bolus: We're here now ...Lukasewicz: You still can't get 4 votes to
do anything there. Marushock: All right. Let's get back the audience comments. Unidentified: Mr.
Kalinowski's here. Menichetti: What about the gate at the 48 acres Rob? Kalinoski: I didn't even
get to it and you could all blame me. Unidentified: There you go. Marushock: Rob could we
please get that in place? Menichetti: They're blaming us so...Marushock: I know it was to be
constructed by that gentlemen in Pittston under the agility program...Kalinowski: 3,4 months no.
Marushock: Can we, can we get that it? Kalinoski: I'll do it tomorrow. I'll do it tomorrow.
Lukowski: You started a ruckus here Bob today. Lukasewicz: It's got nothing to do with the gate.
The gate, the gate is just a figurative spot there. That's nothing. You still haven't committed
to...Unidentified: You gotta do something. Lukasewicz: You made a gate. What have you done?
Nothing. Is it gonna be opened? No because you don't have a road so what good is the damn
gate? Bolus: So what do we do? Lukasewicz: Nobody still has worked with me to do something
there. Bolus: ...I wanna end it because it's a late night for everybody. What's it need to start
something beyond the gate to show the state we're doing something? Marushock: We don't have
an answer. Menichetti: A bulldozer. Lukowski: Bulldozer - exactly. Lukasewicz: ...\$10,000.00 to
get a road going there. That's what you need. Lukowski: Level something there. Unidentified:
Don't buy Rinaldi's property and go up there and put it up there. Marushock: Continuing with the
audience comments, O.K.

Larry Hartshorn - Yes. If you're looking for money go up there on that property and take the
money that you're spending on this piece of junk over here - Rinaldi's property - and so up there
and use it on that land. Unidentified: That's right. Hartshorn: This is nothing but a garbage dump
and a troublemaker. And if you, and I'm, again I'm telling you it's a garbage dump because I know
- I put it there working for this borough. So you go and build your places down there and let him
go ahead, and let him charge you \$80,000.00 to remove that dump, which he was supposed to
have out of there.

*** Tape Change ***

Marushock: ...a different part where we actually have audience comments on part D now, which
is to adopt the 2005 budget. And the raises that we put in place for 3% I thought we were being
fair in order to try to control spending. Anyone else on audience comments, part D of motion #2?

3 in favor - Menichetti, Shortz, Marushock

3 against - Lukasewicz, Barnick, Johnson

** Vote is tied ** Lukowski* against

Motion failed

*Lukowski: I'm against because you're not including that...*clapping heard.* Menichetti: You're
not coming to any more meetings...Lukowski: ...can't sit on that any more. Can't sit on that
anymore. Shortz: ...didn't sit in on one budget meeting and now...Menichetti: Yeah. Shortz:
...we're gonna be at the end of the year without a budget. Lukowski: That's right. Shortz: ...and

now you want to change things. Why didn't you change it before? Marushock: Quite frankly it's up to you people to put something in place for this budget then. I have no final... Menichetti: And get the votes too. Lukasewicz: It didn't make a difference what I wanted to put in this budget anyway 'cause you put in what you wanted anyway. *Many speaking at once, inaudible.*

Lukasewicz: I could find \$40,000.00 very simply but will I get the votes to *inaudible* the \$40,000.00 someplace? Marushock: Mr. Brazil what happens if we don't have a budget going into the end of the year, beginning of the next year. Brazil: Well you have to have a budget, O.K.? If you don't have a budget... Marushock: I can't get a budget. Menichetti: Well the mayor just voted against it so let him get it. *Many speaking at once, inaudible. Gavel heard.* Marushock: O.K., please, we're discussing with Mr. Brazil what our problems are because if don't have a budget. Mr. Brazil... Brazil: O.K. *Many continue to speak. Gavel heard again.* Marushock: Please let Mr. Brazil continue. Brazil: O.K. If I could make a suggestion and... Marushock: I cannot hear. Brazil: ...this is entirely up to council but there seems to be the question with Mr. Lukasewicz is having some money in there at least to show we're committed towards this and I think the mayor had a concern. I mean you can move and amend this and put in a figure, \$10,000.00, and just reduce that from your surplus. I don't know if that would change but that's your call. But you know it's something to consider if you want to do a budget tonight. Marushock: If we put \$5,000.00 in for the 48 acres, \$5,000.00, is that gonna effect anybody if we go to the \$5,000.00 appropriated? Take the \$5,000.00 out of the surplus carryover. It's not gonna help? Novack: No. You're probably gonna have a bigger carryover than the figure that's listed on the \$72,000.00. This is just an idea right now. Brazil: Right. Novack: I'd say it could be double that. Suggestion - add \$10,000.00 and create a line item for something to be done up on that land. At least you'll have the \$10,000.00 to start with. Marushock: I'm looking to go \$5,000.00. Is that gonna work? Novack: It can be done I'm just saying... Marushock: Just to show the state in good faith that we're trying to do something so they then hopefully have that... Lukasewicz: ...\$72,000.00 carry over and you said maybe you could double that? Novack: We could be, yeah, it's hard to say right now Mr. Lukasewicz because... Unidentified: Commit \$40,000.00. Lukasewicz: \$5,000.00 is a joke. Commit enough to do... *Few speaking.* Lukasewicz: \$5,000.00 is a joke. Unidentified: But it's a start Tommy. You gotta start somewhere. Lukasewicz: No. I want a commitment. \$5,000.00 - that's not a commitment. Unidentified: It will come. Lukasewicz: That's not a commitment. Lukowski: Put the gate up. It'll be enough for the gate. Barnick: That's on agility. That's supposed to be free on agility. Lukasewicz: \$25,000.00. Marushock: No. All right then the budget don't pass then I guess. I can't go unless somebody else got some other options here but it's up to you people to put this budget... Unidentified: Well give a number and vote on it. You can't turn it down. Marushock: I'm willing to commit \$5,000.00 to try to get approval on this budget for the 48 acres. Take the \$5,000.00 to come from the surplus. I'm not going an inch further. Lukasewicz: I'd like to put a motion to take \$25,000.00 from the carry over and earmark it as a line item to be dedicated towards the road, an access going into the 48 acres. Marushock: O.K., the motion on the floor by Mr. Lukasewicz for \$25,000.00 to be earmarked for an access road to the 48 acres. Do we have a second on that? Barnick: Yeah, I'll second it. Marushock Second by Mr. Barnick. Shortz: Excuse me, what motion is this going to be. Are you making this an E or...? Marushock: 2E. Menichetti: Now where is this money coming from? Lukasewicz: From the carry over. Lukowski: Carry over.

E) Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Barnick

For \$25,000.00 to be earmarked for an access road to the 48 acres.

Marushock: On the question. On the question; I cannot see putting this in with the agreement that we currently have in place where the borough would commit \$250,000.00 to that site for a period of 10 years. I think we are now in the 6th year of that agreement where we have not put that money in in any of these 6 years. Part of the agreement says if we don't live up to that agreement any and all improvements can be, revert back to the state. To do this \$25,000.00 with that agreement in place, I cannot support that. Lukasewicz: On the question; with \$25,000.00 we could have a machine there to properly grade a road in, that would allow for some of the materials that we need to get in it. Get in far enough there so the people of Throop could get in there and see what we have. If you go in there and you get on that mountain and you see how big 48 acres is people are gonna say, "Move on it. Do something". A gate, putting a gate up no one's gonna get in it again for another year. \$25,000.00...Marushock: Like I said I apologize on the gate because it should have been in place. Lukasewicz: ...a little bit of money.

4 in favor - Lukasewicz, Barnick, Menichetti, Shortz

2 against - Johnson, Marushock

Motion carried

Lukasewicz: Do you want to do the budget over again? Brazil: No. You would then have a motion on the 2005 budget with that as an amendment then. Lukasewicz: That's right. So that, so now we could vote on the budget again. Brazil: Huh? Lukasewicz: Now we could vote on the final budget again. Brazil: You could vote on the final budget. Marushock: This will be I guess marked as 2F. Brazil: 2F. Marushock: I'm sorry on this. And it would be to adopt the 2005 with the amendment that \$25,000.00 of the surplus be appropriated toward the gate or access road to the 48 acres. Brazil: Well this, we've already voted to put that into our proposed budget so right now...Lukasewicz: Just voting on the budget. Brazil: ...it would just be a vote on the 2005 budget, O.K.? Lukasewicz: Yes. Brazil: Just a straight vote on that. Lukasewicz: *Inaudible* the amendments. Lukowski: As simple as that, right? Menichetti: We have to have a budget.

F) Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To adopt the 2005 budget.

Marushock: On the question. Egan: I have a question. Is this just gonna go back to reading adopt a 2005 budget or is it gonna say - with the \$25,000.00 amendment? Brazil: Right. No, it's gonna be adopting a 2005 budget. Egan: Period. Brazil: Right. Egan: All right.

4 in favor - Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Shortz, Marushock

2 against - Barnick, Johnson

Motion carried

Johnson: A road to nowhere Ged for \$25,000.00 but we can't give our employees a raise. A road to nowhere. Marushock: We gave raises Miss Johnson. Johnson: O.K. That's good. Marushock: We gave raises and I believe we did that fairly. Johnson: Yeah. Your fairly. Marushock: O.K.

Moving on....

3. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Johnson

To ask Channel 61 to tape and film Council meetings so Borough residents can have a glimpse and 1st hand information on how their elected officials are conducting the business of their community including finances, social events, obligations and investigations.

All in favor

Motion carried

4. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

Marushock: O.K. Now at this time as far as correspondence I will read into the record addressed to council and residents of Throop from Melissa Casey, Throop Civic Center Director. It goes as such:

Dear Council Members and Residents, As many of you probably remember from the last council meeting, Mr. Barnick had made intentionally false and malicious accusations that I was "tapping the wires" at the Civic Center. His accusations of criminal activity were slanderous and were intensified with Mr. Barone and Mr. Lukasewicz's comments to spark humiliation and ridicule in my job performance. Mr. Barnick originally made these previous false accusations in the Borough building in front of Borough employees and Throop residents present in the building at that time. After the accusations were made, the Chief of Police and another officer approached me in my office, without a warrant or subpoena to investigate the accusations made by Mr. Barnick. After their brief investigation I was cleared of these ridiculous accusations. As the Director of the Throop Civic Center I am to monitor any activity in the building. (These devices were placed in my office as a way to monitor and protect the children that attend the Civic Center.) During last month's council meeting the same 3 council members, Mr. Barnick, Mr. Barone, and Mr. Lukasewicz had questioned me on how and why I was using the monitoring system. Let me emphasize that it is council that placed this system in my office at the Civic Center well before I was hired as the Director. As part of my job as the Director, I was asked by the Council to use this monitoring system to monitor activities in the center. While I do understand that it is Council's job to oversee the Center, but Mr. Barnick's comments and accusations fell outside of his responsibility to the Borough of Throop driven by a personal need for power. Mr. Barnick checked his responsibilities to the Throop Borough when he falsely accused me of this crime and discredited my accomplishments with managing the Center for the Throop residents. If this incident of harassment and humiliation wasn't enough, on December 14, 2004 two Lackawanna County Detectives approached me in my office and asked to speak with me concerning the already proven false accusations of wire taping. They had questioned me regarding the monitoring system and how it works. After answering several questions and after the detectives investigated the equipment, they had told me that I had done nothing wrong. As the Director, I have been given the authority and responsibility to monitor the activities in this building so long as the tapes are not recording audio. After investigating the equipment, the detectives found that the cable to

record audio isn't even accessible. For the second time the criminal accusations were proven false. Unfortunately, these instances are not the only accusations that Mr. Barone, Mr. Barnick, and Mr. Lukasewicz have subjected me to harassment and humiliation. They are quick to criticize the center and my job performance; influence of such is felt daily. Fortunately, for the Residents of Throop, I routinely work overtime unpaid to counteract the negativity these Council members bring to the center. For example, I organized, with the help of my staff, the Children's Halloween Parade, Craft Fair, Vinansky Tournament and Thanksgiving Food Drive, all of which were wonderful events held for the Residents and benefit of Throop. Mr. Barnick, Mr. Barone, and Mr. Lukasewicz did not come to any of these events, while other council members actively support the activities and events that go on at the Civic Center. It was my intentions in writing this letter to call to the attention of the Throop Residents the harassment I receive daily from Mr. Barnick, Mr. Barone, and Mr. Lukasewicz in their attempt to slander my name and tarnish my reputation in this community. These activities clearly fall outside of their role as council members and serve merely to underhand the good the Throop Civic Center brings to its residents. I remain fully committed to my position as Director of the Throop Civic Center and look forward to working with Council to better the Community. Sincerely, Melissa Casey.

Lukasewicz: Mr. Chairman I'd like to make a motion to accept the correspondence as read or posted. Marushock: O.K. Barnick: And I'll second it. Lukasewicz: And on the question; Well I'll get to the last paragraph. I wish that she was here because I would love to discuss this with her in public and I will be discussing this with her in public at our next monthly meeting when she has to attend. But just to touch on a few of the items as clarify a couple points that I believe need to be clarified. "It was my intentions in writing this letter" - quote- this is Melissa speaking - "to call to the attention of the Throop residents the harassment I received daily... Barnick: Daily. Lukasewicz: ... "from Mr. Barnick, Mr. Barone, and Mr. Lukasewicz". Now I don't know how you understand what daily means but I understand daily as daily - every day. I have spoken to that girl twice at the Civic Center. I do not go in that Civic Center. I do not harass her. I have never harassed her and I would never ever harass any employee of the borough of Throop. That's not of my character and never will be. Barnick: Just on the question... Lukasewicz: And there's other things here that I'd like to discuss also but I'm not going to. I'm just clarify that I do not harass and I have never harassed anybody. Marushock: O.K. Barnick: Just on the question; In going through this letter this is a deviate way to play politics. They're trying to identify and give you a title of somethin' - harassin', tormentin'. I could tell you truthfully I met her once, the first time she was hired here. Second time was in the council meeting right here. Last week or two weeks ago when I questioned about whether the audio was being played not whether you're wiretapping and this and that. Whether the audio was being played on... Johnson: Then who sent the detectives up do you think? Barnick: ...over at the Civic Center and listening to the conversations. Apparently... Menichetti: Where did the detectives come from? Barnick: Don't ask me. Johnson: Oh come on. Barnick: I had nothin' to do with it. You're asking the wrong person. Marushock: I can't believe the detectives acted when we had other complaints... Barnick: I had nothin' to do with it. Menichetti: Yeah. The D.A.'s office just sent them up here out of the clear blue sky. Barnick: Let me tell you something I could honestly say I had nothin' to do with it. Why don't you call them. Lukasewicz: Daryl, Daryl why don't you ask the detectives *inaudible* why they came here. Why don't you ask them where it came from. Barnick: 'Cause I had nothin' to do with it. Lukasewicz: All right. And I had nothing to do with it. So why don't you ask... Barnick: Nothin'

whatsoever. Lukasewicz: ...and I'm sure that they'll tell you where it came from. Menichetti: They were asked. Barnick: You should go down and ask them. Lukasewicz: Well where they were asked by I had not a damn thing to do with it. Barnick: Now according to this letter, I'm not finished...Menichetti: Well detectives from the D.A.'s office don't just come up on their own. Lukasewicz: Ask the D.A.'s office...Barnick: Go ask them. Lukasewicz: Ask them. They have to tell you. Barnick: Somebody had to approach them. Lukasewicz: That's right. Ask them who approached them....Barnick: Somebody had to approach them. Lukasewicz: ...don't blame me. Barnick: And don't blame me. So getting back to this "daily". Now what this is, these continuous letters being put out by Miss Casey, Mrs. Casey - daily harassments. I don't go over there. I do not go over there. 1 time to meet her in the last year because of situations like this where she writes these very vindictive and harassing letters. That's the reason I don't go over there. They're trying to play a set up game with politics with Daryl Menichetti as the lead. And that's all I got to say. Menichetti: You know, you give me a lot of credit...Barnick: Yes I do. Menichetti: ...that I truly do not deserve. Barnick: Credit. Menichetti: Because I never saw this letter until I walked in here tonight. Barnick: Awe I'm sure you proofread it. I'm sure you proofread it. Menichetti: I didn't see it until I came in here tonight. That's how much I know about this. Shortz: Well you're just as sure she proofread it as we're sure just as sure...Barnick: And then she's more or less saying that I contacted the detectives. Well we're gonna go another route there too. Johnson: What ya gonna do sue us or what? Barnick: Yeah. You're getting good at that anyway. Johnson: Huh? Huh? Unidentified: Why don't you request the solicitor and ask the District Attorney who made the complaint. Barnick: He could. Johnson: Yeah. Could you do that Mr. Brazil? Menichetti: We already...Johnson: I have a couple things for you to check out if you would. I'll be writing you a memo for the district attorney on different things going on in this borough. Bolus: You know everything that's gone on with the civic center that we hear now...Johnson: And I'm serious...Barnick: Bob I've been, I haven't seen her but 2 times in the last year that she's been hired - once over there and once here. Lukasewicz: I wish you would find out. Bolus: Hey, she's doin' her job. She's doin' her job. Barnick: When I question, I have a right and a representative as this borough I question expenditures in all departments, I question hours, jobs, I don't care. I'm gonna question. It's my right to question. Bolus: Where were you guys, where were you guys, Chrzan and everybody when...Barnick: And it's not your turn to speak at this time either. Bolus: ...money was stolen outta there and we had all the problems. Why didn't you call the DA then? Barnick: And why don't you pay your taxes? Bolus: Don't you worry about what I do big mouth, worry about pointing the finger. Barnick: There you go. You're worried about pointing the finger so...Bolus: My taxes are always paid. I'm not like you runnin' around without permits. Barnick: Yeah well...*Gavel heard*. Bolus: You're pointing the finger over there and you were they guys who brought it down in the first place. Barnick: Yep. That place ran well...Menichetti: To the tune of being in the hole \$250,000.00 a year. *Few speaking, gavel heard*. Marushock: The questions been called. Roll call please on this motion. Novack: Mr. Lukasewicz? Lukasewicz: Before I vote on that Atty Brazil I would wish that you would contact Melissa and have her describe to you what she means in here by me harassing her on a daily basis. You, as the solicitor that represents me and this borough, I need some answers to this letter of how I harassed that girl. Menichetti: And I want to know who requested the district attorneys office...Johnson: Yeah, 2 detectives were in there today. Menichetti: I want to know who it was. Lukasewicz: I would like you also to contact the district attorney's office and find out how and why they went there. Brazil: O.K. Lukasewicz: O.K. But I need to see something in writing, a

Marushock: On the question. Lukasewicz: On the question; It's a shame that Mary Anne didn't have the time to give to really devote to it that is needed and I'd like to thank her for her time, coming in and trying to do whatever she did. Marushock: Yes. I'd like to emphasise Mr. Lukasewicz's comments that she would have been very good if she had the time available and it is with regrets that we receive this. But she did her part to fill us in in the meantime and *inaudible*.

All in favor

Motion carried

9. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To hire Aloysius Pietruszkiewicz as Borough Treasurer effective January 1, 2005.

Lukasewicz: Yeah on the question; Is this Wishy? Marushock: Yes. Menichetti: Yeah. Barnick: And at what rate is that? Lukasewicz: At what rate, yeah that's what I was...Menichetti: \$8,000.00 a year. The same as...Marushock: \$8,000.00 per year. Lukasewicz: \$8,000.00 per year. Can we amend the motion to include in there that possibly he can come in and be paid for 2 weeks prior to Mary Anne leaving to get a grip on it? Marushock: Well actually he's been coming in now. Lukasewicz: He has been? Marushock: He came in, Mary Anne just gave him a test course to see if he would be interested first of all. Now Mary Anne is still our treasurer of record. Before we could have anything of an official turnover Mr. Pietruszkiewicz would then have to be bonded. Miss Pollick is willing to stay on board after the first of the year at no expense to the borough to help train Mr. Pietruszkiewicz in the procedures of the borough treasurer. Lukasewicz: That's fine. I wasn't aware that he had been coming in. Marushock: I think Friday he was here just for a little...Menichetti: He just came in to see if he...Lukasewicz: My main concern is that someone shows him so that we don't run into the problem like we had. Marushock: Yeah. Mary Ann is willing to work with him. Lukasewicz: All right. Marushock: O.K. Lukasewicz: ...just leave it as is.

All in favor

Motion carried

10. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Menichetti

To hire Ruth Tanner as Assistant Director at the Throop Civic Center at a rate of \$8.85 an hour.

Marushock: On the question. Lukasewicz: Yeah I believe she's a Throop resident. Menichetti: Yes she is. Marushock: Yes she is.

All in favor

Motion carried

Marushock: Welcome aboard Mrs. Tanner. *Clapping heard*. Marushock: There's a letter also from Melissa. Lukasewicz: I saw it and I read it that's why...Marushock: And a letter of recommendation, O.K.?

this is final now because now they are under D.E.P. and all payments will come from their fund.
Marushock: O.K.

All in favor

Motion carried

16. Motion by Johnson

Seconded by Shortz

To have CompuData upgrade Throop Borough's computer system at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00.

Marushock: On the question. Menichetti: I do have a question. What if we get to the point where like our computers don't handle the operating system we put in? Then what...Marushock: Well evidently I believe even with Mr. Gavagin's recommendation the programs are available for the upgrade. Menichetti: Yeah but that has nothing to do with the *inaudible*. How much money do we have in office supplies and stuff like that Ken? Novack: The upcoming year or for this year? Menichetti: Yeah, if we have to buy a new computer. Novack: \$20,000.00 in 2004, \$19,000.00 in 2005. Office supplies...Menichetti: O.K., I just wanted to know. Thank you. Lukasewicz: Kenny that's your recommendation for this? Novack: Yeah,...

All in favor

Motion carried

17. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Lukasewicz

For a traffic study at Dunmore and Line Streets.

All in favor

Motion carried

18. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Shortz

To secure prices on an overhead mast on Cypress Street at the Line Street intersection. Prices should be obtained by mid-January and to have KBA, Mr. Kalinoski, Chief Furiosi and all other concerned personnel work along or together to get this to become a reality as soon as possible and to secure permits as needed, when needed.

Lukasewicz: O.K. Could we have the pricing back so if we want to we could award something that night? Marushock: Prices by mid-January? Lukasewicz: Yeah. And we might have to have the engineer work along just to develop exactly what needed. So can we include that in the motion - to have KBA work along with Mr. Kalinoski and the police department and whomever to properly develop it? Menichetti: This has been...Lukasewicz: I want to see this done as fast as possible. Menichetti: Yeah. I'm not gonna ask any questions. I was just wondering about the winter weather and if that was gonna have an impact on...Lukasewicz: You could put something on...Marushock: Mrs. Shortz are you in agreement with those changes by Mr. Lukasewicz? Shortz: Yes. Marushock: That we have a price by mid-January at the latest and we have KBA, Mr. Kalinoski and all else, Chief Furiosi work along...Lukasewicz: To secure whatever permits also because I know you're gonna probably need permits to stick things along the highway.

Whatever is needed to get the *inaudible* up as fast as possible. Marushock: Mr. Novack just for the record here can you also bring this to Mr. Kalinoski's attention and to your attention to make this a priority, O.K.? Egan: I'm sorry. Could you just read that back, just how you changed that motion? (Reference motion). Egan: O.K. Thank you.

All in favor.

Motion carried

Marushock: That's all we have on the motions. Does anyone else have any comments for the audience here about council? Brazil: Mr. Chairman the only thing I have - I will prepare the appropriate ordinances for implementation of the budget. Marushock: O.K. Brazil: I'll send them up to Ken and he'll have to advertise those 7 days before our next meeting. Marushock: O.K. We'll open up to new business.

Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson Street - What's the latest on raising that levy? That's supposed to be top priority. Marushock: *Inaudible*. I know it was the topic of discussion again and we've been meeting as I said every Tuesday morning. Let me see what I have here - So far only 1 homeowner has been contacted to date with an easement. I guess we need to speak with 2 other people and we have so far have not been able to make contact for the temporary easement to that site. Rocco: Do you know when that letter is supposed to be sent to them? Marushock: I believe something was sent to them but if not... Rocco: I never got nothing. Marushock:...I know they're trying to make contact. Now he just talked to the owners right along the levy, not along Sulphur Creek. Rocco: Yeah I know what you're talking about. Marushock: Are you 1 of these individuals Mr. Rocco? Rocco: No my daughter is and she never got the letter. Marushock: O.K. Is there a convenient time or could she please call Mr. Kalinoski that they could schedule a time that they could meet to try to get this thing to become a reality as soon as possible? Rocco: She's usually home around 3:00 - 3:15. Marushock: Mr. Novack could you make a note of that please. Perhaps you know the other property owner? Rocco: There's 3 *inaudible*. Marushock: Right. There's only 3, as of this morning there's only 1 homeowner that's been contacted. Rocco: Well who's that and I can tell you the other one. Marushock: I don't know. I don't have the names I just know that only 1 has been contacted. There are 2 more that we need to make contact with for a temporary easement. Rocco: Joe... *few speaking*. Unidentified: Barrett? Rocco: Yeah, Joe Barrett, yeah. Novack: You know he was looking for him because he said, "I just signed an easement" and he wanted to talk to him. I just met the gentleman... Marushock: O.K. now Mr. Novack did you get another easement tonight? Novack: No. Just 1, only the 1st one I guess that Tommy had. Marushock: Right. Novack: There's 2 they didn't get yet. *Few speaking, inaudible*. Marushock: Is there a time when we can hopefully catch him there? Rocco: He's in and out all day. Marushock: Maybe if you see him if you could put him on notice that the borough's trying to secure an easement to try and get this thing taken care of? Because that's basically the holdup right now is the easement across the property. It's been a topic of discussion like I say weekly at these meetings. Marushock: Is that it Mr. Rocco? Rocco: Yes. I'd just like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas. Marushock: O.K.

Ray Jarosh, 832 Pearl Street - Just wondering if you guys have checked into whether or not the minutes could be sent out by e-mail to people who were interested in reading them. Marushock: We have not followed up on that that I am aware of. Not yet Mr. Jarosh. Menichetti: What

would we have to do just, you give them to us on floppies right? Egan: Yeah. Menichetti: And we would just put an attachment and send them? Jarosh: Right. Just open a normal e-mail, put an attachment, type an address and send. Menichetti: Well that's pretty easy to do. We'd need a whole list of e-mail addresses though or would you just... Could we somehow just put it on or web site and then you could access it that way? Jarosh: Yeah. I didn't know Throop had a web site. Menichetti: Yeah we have a web site. I don't know if it's been updated recently but we have one. Jarosh: Now putting it on your web site probably would take a bit more time because you'd have to have somebody go in and... Menichetti: Would it have to be typed in there? Jarosh: No you could probably copy it but your still updating all the *inaudible* code to have it displayed and you would have to have an index and a sequence... If the borough doesn't have time would it be possible ask Cathy to e-mail them to me after you've approved them. *Inaudible*. Marushock: They are a matter of public record. Brazil: Right. Jarosh: Would you have a problem with that? Egan: No. Marushock: Does anyone up here... Egan: It's just file, send attachment right? Jarosh: Right. Egan: I could do that. Jarosh: Thank you. Marushock: O.K. Jarosh: Have a happy Christmas. Marushock: Thank you. You too.

John Musewicz, 2 Mruck Street - George do we anticipate the money for the fireworks will be there in June? Marushock: I believe that's in the budget. O.K.? Musewicz: Thank you.

Larry Hartshorn - Do you think, you have an extra man coming in during the week right mayor, during the day. Can you guys get some kind of speed things out there? You got 'em I know you have. You gotta start slowing these people down. It don't mean nothing, these accidents we have. I drive through there all day and just see. Marushock: Mr. Mayor maybe if you can make that recommendation. Lukowski: All right, yeah. Marushock: Now we do have the equipment. Especially now with the holidays that... Lukowski: Get out, yeah. Just gotta start getting out again, you know. Sure. Marushock: O.K. Lukowski: Anything for your safety Larry. Hartshorn: Thank you sir.

Eric Hartshorn - About the borough manager's recommendation - Do you only go by certain ones? Marushock: No. Hartshorn: Why was it against the borough recommendation tonight? Marushock: Like I said I think in all fairness regarding the raises it was done in a fair manner to control spending and be able to eliminate the 2005 property tax. Hartshorn: Tom is that the way you feel since you went for one of his recommendations? Lukasewicz: I didn't vote for any raise for anybody not all because I was trying to save money *inaudible* but I really want to see 48 acres developed as you know. I got some money earmarked there now and I'm *inaudible* in a meeting with Kenny and see if we can secure some funds. I know I spoke to you about environmental grants earlier. But I'd truly love to see something there and I'm gonna come in and work on it this year... Lukowski: Boy there are a lot of grants going on, especially Jessup, Lord Almighty come on. Lukasewicz: Speaking of grants we should give a recommendation to the hose company... Menichetti: Well the president of Jessup works for Mellow... Lukowski: I didn't want to get into that Daryl. Lukowski: Stanley did you see in the paper where hose company #2 secured \$225,000.00 for a new fire truck through the home act security... Unidentified: No that was #1 Tommy. Lukasewicz: That's not just for them that's for the people of Throop. I think Stanley you should come up with a plaque or something to present to them for the foresight to go out and secure funding. You know that's borough, that's wonderful. Unidentified: That was

hose company #1. Lukowski: Isn't that something. \$225,000.00 that they did on their own.
Lukasewicz: Yeah. Yeah. Jerry Barone is the person behind that. I saw it in the paper.
Lukowski: Yeah. Well he has some state contacts. Lukasewicz: Well whatever it is that's great.
That's a new fire truck for the borough of Throop. Lukowski: That's right, it's terrific.
Marushock: Audience comments new business continuing. O.K. Motion to adjourn?

Bob Cabets - I just want to commend yous for eliminating the tax especially when the county is raising the taxes and when you get reassessments that's another raise. Yous really did a good job as far as I'm concerned. Thank you.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes by Catherine Egan