

BEFORE

NEW HOPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

In Re: Workshop Meeting

- - - -

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

- - - -

A public meeting was held at the Borough Municipal Building, 125 New Street, New Hope, Pennsylvania 18938, commencing at 7:00 p.m. on the day and date above set forth, before Tara Wilson, Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18901

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1 BOROUGH COUNCIL:  
 2 Mayor Laurence D. Keller  
 3 Dan Dougherty, Vice-President  
 4 Tina Leifer Rettig, President Pro Tem  
 5 Laurie McHugh  
 6 Ken Maisel  
 7 Peter Meyer  
 8 Louise Feder  
 9 EJ Lee, Borough Manager  
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1 AGENDA  
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 3 1. Call to Order 4  
 4 2. Authorization of a part-time hire for 5-12  
 5 the police department  
 6 3. Parking Presentation 12-63  
 7 4. Bridge St. Project discussion 63-82  
 8 5. Grant Applications  
 9 a. TCDI Grant for Feasibility Study for  
 10 Parking Deck and Foot Bridge  
 11 b. Keystone Planning Grant for Visitors  
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 13 6. Public Comment 82-85  
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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: So I'm just going to  
 2 call the meeting to order. Okay. First off,  
 3 before -- we have an agenda item, I'm going to be  
 4 on record, that we don't normally don't it this  
 5 way, but there's some pressing matters before the  
 6 borough. Normally at the work session, we don't  
 7 vote in a work session, but we -- council's  
 8 decided we're going to basically vote on this one  
 9 particular item tonight, and --  
 10 Now here comes Tina.  
 11 MS. RETTIG: Laurie, will be in, in two  
 12 seconds.  
 13 (Inaudible discussion.)  
 14 MR. DOUGHERTY: Off side here, there's  
 15 actually two motions.  
 16 MS. KINGSLEY: Can you guys speak up,  
 17 because we can't even hear you.  
 18 MR. DOUGHERTY: Sorry about that. It's  
 19 the first time anyone's ever said that to me.  
 20 What we're going to do is tonight is  
 21 vote on a couple of things. You'll see it's not  
 22 an earth shattering item, but it has some -- it  
 23 has a little bit of pressing aspect to it. So  
 24 the first motion that I'd like to motion is to  
 25 amend the agenda, to add an item which would

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1 normally have been just discussed later this  
 2 evening.  
 3 The item is the authorization of a  
 4 part-time hire for the police department.  
 5 MR. MEYER: So moved.  
 6 MS. FEDER: Second.  
 7 MS. LEE: Okay. So what that is for  
 8 the authorization to amend the agenda.  
 9 MR. DOUGHERTY: So the agenda is --  
 10 this here that has that item on it. Because this  
 11 agenda had come out earlier without that item.  
 12 Now, the second motion is to basically  
 13 authorize the hiring of a part-time officer for  
 14 the police department. We obviously -- we have  
 15 received a letter from the chief that described  
 16 some resource issues. There's some -- rather  
 17 than wait until the 18th, which is our next  
 18 formal meeting, our next council session, we --  
 19 we sort of collectively informally talked about  
 20 this not in a -- not in a meeting or anything,  
 21 but one off, so we came to the conclusion that we  
 22 thought it would be okay to vote on this tonight,  
 23 so as to empower the chief to go off and start  
 24 the process rather than have him wait until the  
 25 18th of February to start the process to hire

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1 someone.  
2 So that's what the background is.  
3 We're being very transparent here, we don't  
4 normally vote in work sessions, but we are  
5 permitted to. We are permitted to vote in public  
6 meetings and that's what this is and so it's for  
7 the record we're putting it out there. It's not  
8 council's intent to start voting at work  
9 sessions, but in this particular case given the  
10 need for the police department, we felt it -- it  
11 was warranted. So that's a long preamble. I'd  
12 like to I guess --  
13 MS. LEE: So can we go back one?  
14 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- make a motion.  
15 MS. LEE: Well, Peter made a motion.  
16 Louise seconded to amend the agenda.  
17 MR. DOUGHERTY: That's right.  
18 MS. LEE: Can I get everyone's vote?  
19 Can I get a vote on that?  
20 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.  
21 MS. LEE: Okay. Thank you.  
22 MR. DOUGHERTY: Now, I think I -- I'm  
23 going to try now -- am I permitted to actually  
24 make the motion?  
25 MS. LEE: Yes. Make the motion.

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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: Okay. Make the motion  
2 to actually authorize the chief to hire one  
3 part-time person at the current existing rate,  
4 which is \$20 per hour.  
5 MS. LEE: It's 20.40 per the 2020 --  
6 MR. DOUGHERTY: Oh, it's \$20.40 --  
7 MS. LEE: Yes.  
8 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- per hour for -- so  
9 he can actually start that ball rolling and get  
10 back up to some stead.  
11 Any discussions or questions?  
12 MR. MAISEL: If you're making that  
13 motion, I'll second. I'll make that mo -- you  
14 made the motion, I'll second.  
15 MR. DOUGHERTY: So the motion is now on  
16 the floor, is there any discussion from council?  
17 Questions from the public?  
18 MS. KINGSLEY: Yes. Alison Kingsley,  
19 New Hope Borough. Is this for the same officer  
20 that council didn't vote on the last time at the  
21 last meeting?  
22 MR. DOUGHERTY: No.  
23 MS. KINGSLEY: So we're going to start  
24 the process all over again?  
25 MR. DOUGHERTY: This is a part-time

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1 officer.  
2 MS. KINGSLEY: I understand. That was  
3 what proposed by the chief and the mayor and the  
4 last meeting where council had tabled it.  
5 MR. DOUGHERTY: No.  
6 MS. KINGSLEY: Yes.  
7 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, my understanding  
8 --  
9 MR. MEYER: Different personnel.  
10 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- is that -- go ahead.  
11 Somebody -- I don't want to talk too much,  
12 because as a chair, but --  
13 MS. KINGSLEY: At the last meeting,  
14 Mayor Keller made a motion to hire a part-time  
15 police officer who had experience, so forth and  
16 so on.  
17 MS. RETTIG: Different individual.  
18 MR. DOUGHERTY: It was approved.  
19 MS. KINGSLEY: So my question is --  
20 MR. DOUGHERTY: But it wasn't tabled,  
21 it was approved.  
22 MR. MAISEL: It was approved.  
23 MS. KINGSLEY: Not -- not at the last  
24 meeting.  
25 MS. RETTIG: Yes, it was.

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1 MS. McHUGH: Wasn't it two meetings  
2 ago?  
3 MR. DOUGHERTY: Two meetings ago.  
4 MR. MAISEL: Two meetings ago, four to  
5 three.  
6 STEVEN COPPENS: So this is for another  
7 officer?  
8 MS. RETTIG: And this is for a  
9 different officer.  
10 MS. KINGSLEY: This is a second  
11 officer?  
12 MR. DOUGHERTY: Okay. So does anyone  
13 else have any questions?  
14 Yes.  
15 ED DUFFY: Ed Duffy, New Hope. What  
16 does the mayor think about that?  
17 MR. DOUGHERTY: That's a very good --  
18 Mr. Mayor, would you like to comment --  
19 MAYOR KELLER: Sure.  
20 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- and discuss the  
21 rationale. So one, we're in a very difficult  
22 position. We still haven't replaced our corporal  
23 that retired in March, so that's almost 11 months  
24 ago. We have another officer that's going to  
25 have work done on his feet and then I think his

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1 after that possibly his shoulder, so he could be  
 2 out for three months. That's taking two people  
 3 off our schedule. And we have another officer  
 4 that's out right now for a couple of weeks and  
 5 it's very difficult to -- you can never have too  
 6 many part-time officers.  
 7 In this case we have a very young man  
 8 that just came out of the academy in October and  
 9 he's -- the chief is very high on him. We've  
 10 done the interview process, but the only thing we  
 11 have left is a background check. Two of his --  
 12 his father and his uncle are both officers in  
 13 Bucks County, so he has a history and -- so he  
 14 has the right mindset and to wait until the  
 15 February -- the meeting, our normal meeting in  
 16 this case, we're short and we can always use  
 17 another body. So it's one of the reasons that  
 18 I'd encourage to us give chief a chance to get  
 19 another person on the roster.  
 20 So I support it a hundred percent. And  
 21 it's rare, I don't think in 20 years -- of  
 22 course, we haven't had work sessions until two  
 23 years ago, so we never did it at a work session.  
 24 This is a new thing. I don't think it's going to  
 25 be common, but we're pressed right now.

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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: Oh, I'm sorry. I'd  
 2 like to call the vote.  
 3 All those in favor, please say aye?  
 4 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.  
 5 MR. DOUGHERTY: All those opposed?  
 6 So I think that motion passes.  
 7 MS. LEE: Thank you.  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: Thank you for your  
 9 accommodating that. It will not be this  
 10 council's intent to, except in very specific  
 11 circumstances, to pass things at work sessions.  
 12 I think we're all in the same page, everybody on  
 13 council is of the same mindset on that.  
 14 Next item on the agenda is a parking  
 15 presentation by, I guess, Laurie and Tina. So  
 16 I'll turn it over to them.  
 17 MS. RETTIG: So Laurie and I are two  
 18 members of the three member parking committee  
 19 where we've been evaluating parking in New Hope  
 20 and looking at ways to solve some of our issues,  
 21 hopefully. So we -- the quote by the guru of  
 22 progressive parking, does anybody need me to read  
 23 this out loud? You all can see it?  
 24 MS. McHUGH: And just so you know, this  
 25 is a re-presentation. We first presented it at

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1 ED DUFFY: It's appropriate.  
 2 MS. KINGSLEY: Comment. I don't have a  
 3 problem with hiring the officer at all. In fact,  
 4 I'm in favor of it. My question is then just for  
 5 my own clarification, did we hire the officer  
 6 that --  
 7 Larry, that you and chief --  
 8 MAYOR KELLER: Yes.  
 9 MS. KINGSLEY: -- presented who was the  
 10 experienced officer --  
 11 MAYOR KELLER: And he's been working.  
 12 MS. KINGSLEY: -- and retired?  
 13 MAYOR KELLER: Thank God. 'Cause we  
 14 used him on many shifts.  
 15 MS. KINGSLEY: That was my concern.  
 16 MAYOR KELLER: Yeah, that was actually  
 17 a four to three split.  
 18 MS. KINGSLEY: I thought this was in  
 19 replacement of that.  
 20 MAYOR KELLER: It was a split vote, but  
 21 it ended up going through.  
 22 MS. KINGSLEY: Thank you.  
 23 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, I guess. Do I  
 24 call for a vote?  
 25 MAYOR KELLER: Austin McCleod.

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1 the November meeting and then we had some  
 2 conversations and kind of had -- just revamped it  
 3 a little bit, we made a couple of adjustments.  
 4 So this is -- for the sake of time, we're kind of  
 5 just blowing through this because we did go  
 6 through it at depth during our November meeting.  
 7 So we're really just concentrating on the  
 8 changes.  
 9 MS. RETTIG: This is guy is a professor  
 10 of urban planning and he's known, I'm fairly  
 11 certain worldwide, as being like the guy in  
 12 matters dealing with municipality --  
 13 municipalities and parking, so --  
 14 Our study findings. There are spots in  
 15 New Hope, okay? The problem is, that it's not  
 16 generally located in the areas of highest demand.  
 17 Everybody wants to be right of front of where  
 18 they want to be instead of walking a little bit;  
 19 but we do have parking. Most congestion is cars  
 20 circling because if they don't find a spot where  
 21 they want to be, they're just going to keep  
 22 circling and then we have the light at Main and  
 23 Bridge and people will just keep circling around.  
 24 So that's causing a lot of our traffic and people  
 25 will be looking for -- they want -- you know,

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1 some customers might look for less expensive  
 2 parking and walk a little bit. And most people  
 3 are just really took for the convenience, they  
 4 just want to just park the car and go where they  
 5 want to go.  
 6 MS. RETTIG: So currently we're at 75  
 7 cents an hour, 11 hours a day, 7 days a week,  
 8 which is 8 and a quarter for a full day of  
 9 parking. And the private lots charge, some of  
 10 them, you know, \$20 and up. It should never be  
 11 that street parking is less expensive than lot  
 12 parking, it should never be that way. So the  
 13 premium on-street spaces should be priced higher  
 14 because that encourages people to do like  
 15 short-term parking, like at the airport. If you  
 16 ever notice when you go to the airport, there's a  
 17 short-term lot, the daily lot, and the long-term  
 18 lots. And the long-term lots are farther away  
 19 and they're the cheapest. The short-term lot is  
 20 right in front of the terminal, but it's  
 21 literally supposed to be for an hour's use  
 22 because if you parked there all day long, it  
 23 would cost you, you know, a hundred dollars.  
 24 Okay. Ninety-one percent of business  
 25 owners in New Hope say that parking is the

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1 debating whether or not it would be valid all  
 2 year or just during the, what we would consider,  
 3 like the off months. So that residents, you  
 4 know, would be able to come down, find spots and  
 5 it would still be 75 cents.  
 6 We have over a million visitors to New  
 7 Hope annually. I like to refer to us as a shore  
 8 town without the beach because that is a lot like  
 9 what we are. And most of our patrons are out of  
 10 town visitors. And the majority, as everybody  
 11 can see on the slide, the majority of our  
 12 business owners support a business improvement  
 13 district. So we are going to be using the  
 14 parking increase to fund this downtown  
 15 revitalization. We want bury power lines. We  
 16 want to enhance the sidewalks and improve the  
 17 infrastructure and we would like to do this  
 18 without raising taxes or with keeping tax raises  
 19 to a minimum.  
 20 Raising taxes affects the 2500 people  
 21 that live within the borough, raising parking  
 22 affects the million plus out of town visitors who  
 23 come into town. And it's a way of raising  
 24 revenue and to support these projects without  
 25 having to burden the 2500 people who live here.

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1 biggest challenge, but we have done some work and  
 2 most owners and employees park directly in front  
 3 of their businesses and that is not conducive to  
 4 letting people that actually want to shop in  
 5 those businesses, find good parking.  
 6 So we are proposing an increase in  
 7 hourly parking up to a dollar fifty on all street  
 8 parking spots. What that will do is that will  
 9 raise the rate enough that shop owners will not  
 10 park in front of their shops and their employees  
 11 won't park in front of their shops. Because now  
 12 instead of eight and a quarter for an entire day  
 13 it's actually going to be sixteen fifty. And  
 14 people can park at the American Legion lot for  
 15 \$4, and the high school is free after school and  
 16 some weekends.  
 17 So, and one of the things we're  
 18 proposing is a resident parking card that will be  
 19 available to all borough residents. You have to  
 20 show your driver's license, it will be registered  
 21 to the license plate of your car so it will  
 22 prevent people from handing it off to other  
 23 people. That will bring parking back down to 75  
 24 cents an hour. It has a maximum of four hours  
 25 allotted to it on a daily basis. And we're

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1 It's just what the street would look  
 2 like without the power lines. Same thing.  
 3 MS. McHUGH: And that's it basically.  
 4 MS. RETTIG: And that's it. Any  
 5 questions?  
 6 MR. DOUGHERTY: I'd like to open the, I  
 7 guess, the table up for questions and then we can  
 8 take questions -- comments from the public.  
 9 MS. RETTIG: Anything on council?  
 10 MR. MAISEL: Do have you have a photo  
 11 with you? Do you have a written -- you don't  
 12 have a written piece of -- did I -- did I --  
 13 MS. RETTIG: Do we have it printed out?  
 14 MR. MAISEL: Yeah, yeah. Do you have  
 15 anything printed?  
 16 MS. McHUGH: Ken, have you met me?  
 17 MS. RETTIG: No, we -- we can.  
 18 MR. MAISEL: No, I just wanted to make  
 19 a couple --  
 20 MS. McHUGH: I can send you the --  
 21 MR. MAISEL: No, I just -- yeah, no  
 22 that would be fine. Can I get started?  
 23 MS. RETTIG: Yeah, please.  
 24 MR. MAISEL: I mean, there's a couple  
 25 of references there that to the earmarking of

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1 revenue realization that I think is perhaps a  
 2 little overreaching in terms of what is going to  
 3 be derived by the actualization of these dollars;  
 4 specifically, burying the power lines as it  
 5 relates to the increase in parking fees in -- at  
 6 least in the short term, is not a realistic, you  
 7 know, expectation, I don't think. I mean, but I  
 8 do think sidewalk improvements and some of the  
 9 other things and that's I wanted to have the --  
 10 that slide in front me because I think those are  
 11 real, you know, as opposed to, you know,  
 12 suggesting that that is going to somehow create  
 13 an influence -- an influx of dollars that is  
 14 going to, you know, create that -- that  
 15 opportunity.

16 While it's great one and I think we all  
 17 would love it, I just think it's a little, you  
 18 know, overreaching. But I think the ideas of the  
 19 economics of it, I mean and the effort and the  
 20 logic, it's certainly sounds -- I mean, it sounds  
 21 sound to me.

22 MS. McHUGH: I just sent it to you,  
 23 just FYI.

24 MR. MEYER: So if --

25 MS. RETTIG: I'm sorry. Just it would

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1 second here.

2 MR. DOUGHERTY: The point is, it's  
 3 approximately \$400,000.

4 MS. McHUGH: We would like to say  
 5 350,000 as a conservative.

6 MR. DOUGHERTY: Because behaviors  
 7 change some people might --

8 MS. McHUGH: Because the idea --

9 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- just -- is part of  
 10 what we're trying to have happen here.

11 MS. McHUGH: One at a time. So the  
 12 idea is to get people to move away from the  
 13 on-street to out of town. The people that are  
 14 here every day, opening spots. So we -- yes,  
 15 we'll lose that revenue, so we don't know that  
 16 we're going to -- who's going to -- you know, the  
 17 idea is that we -- the people will start coming  
 18 now because they know that there's a spot there.  
 19 So that's why we want to be more conservative in  
 20 saying that.

21 MS. RETTIG: But if we -- if we figure  
 22 that we -- knowing that behaviors will change,  
 23 even it's \$250,000 a year in extra revenue, to  
 24 earmark that and put it into a separate account  
 25 and let it start building, it will not take a

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1 be extra -- if I did this right -- 8.25 a day  
 2 times --

3 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, you know, when  
 4 the price of something changes, behaviors will  
 5 change as well, so these would be broad  
 6 estimates.

7 MS. McHUGH: Exactly.

8 MS. RETTIG: Right. Right, exactly.

9 We're not -- nobody's saying this is -- but it's  
 10 going to roughly be, roughly, an extra 3,000 a  
 11 year.

12 MR. MEYER: Per parking space.

13 MR. DOUGHERTY: Three hundred.

14 MS. RETTIG: Per --

15 MR. DOUGHERTY: No, I think -- I think  
 16 that when we did some of the numbers back in the  
 17 envelope, I think we were coming up with a number  
 18 in the range of \$400,000 per year.

19 MS. McHUGH: We did 350,000 to be  
 20 conservative.

21 MS. RETTIG: Right, that's -- but  
 22 that's per parking space what I just said.

23 MR. DOUGHERTY: Yeah, but that would be  
 24 900 million, 3,000 times 300 is 90.

25 MS. RETTIG: No, it was -- wait a

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1 decade --

2 MR. DOUGHERTY: For it to be become  
 3 real money.

4 MS. RETTIG: -- for it to become real  
 5 money where we could actually use it for these  
 6 improvements.

7 MS. FEDER: So may I --

8 MR. MEYER: Uhm --

9 MS. FEDER: Oh, sorry. Peter, go  
 10 ahead.

11 MR. MEYER: Go ahead, Louise.

12 MS. FEDER: Just apologies if this is  
 13 the freshman of council --

14 MS. McHUGH: No. No apologies.

15 MS. FEDER: So when was the parking  
 16 study done and when was the renaissance study  
 17 done? Were they both a 2009 study?

18 MS. McHUGH: The renaissance study was  
 19 -- that was 20 --

20 MS. RETTIG: When was that?

21 MS. McHUGH: The one was 10 years ago.  
 22 The original one was 10 years ago.

23 MS. FEDER: So that's -- and I think  
 24 it's a -- it's a great presentation, but that's

25 sort of where I stumble in backing into some of

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1 these numbers is if we're basing how people are  
2 interacting with our town on something that's --  
3 I mean, it's 2020, so if it was done in 2009,  
4 we're actually talking over a decade ago. I'd be  
5 curious about how people are continuing to use  
6 those spots and how merchants are continuing to  
7 use those spaces.

8 MS. McHUGH: Well, we had to go with  
9 the studies that we had.

10 MS. FEDER: I understand.

11 MS. McHUGH: We couldn't employee  
12 another parking study.

13 MS. FEDER: But you can understand my  
14 point, right, where if we're looking at 11 years  
15 ago that's --

16 MS. RETTIG: Well, we actually have a  
17 report that we got from the police department  
18 where we were able to isolate license plate  
19 numbers and see on a day-to-day basis which  
20 license plate numbers were in front of which  
21 spots every single day for eight hours a day or  
22 five days a week for eight hours a day. So that  
23 was something we only did six months ago.

24 MS. McHUGH: That's current data. So  
25 we know that there are people -- and we were able

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1 was about what the dates were the data is coming  
2 from

3 MS. McHUGH: Yes.

4 MS. FEDER: And then my second question  
5 is, if we are looking at doubling the parking  
6 meter rate and it's looking at what? Did you say  
7 16.50 per day, is that the number?

8 MS. McHUGH: Yes.

9 MS. FEDER: And if the lots are still  
10 charging upwards of \$20, I would struggle with  
11 seeing how that would solve the problem of  
12 somebody parking in front of their store.

13 MS. RETTIG: Baby steps.

14 MS. McHUGH: Yeah, we would love --

15 MS. RETTIG: We would love to jack the  
16 parking rates.

17 MS. FEDER: Which is actually -- that's  
18 not what I'm asking for, but certainly that's --  
19 I think I --

20 MS. RETTIG: Baby steps.

21 MS. FEDER: What I wonder about is how  
22 this increase would solve that problem. I think  
23 they're two great conversations to have, but I  
24 don't see how the one measure actually affects  
25 that issue.

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1 to do with the back office of the kiosk, which we  
2 weren't able to had when he had meters because  
3 there was no back office.

4 MS. FEDER: Right.

5 MS. McHUGH: So we had no idea what  
6 people were doing prior to the kiosks. What we  
7 know now is that there at least -- at least 40  
8 parking spots that are taking up over 80 hours a  
9 day on Main Street, at least 40. Now, it's going  
10 to change daily, but that was the -- the estimate  
11 or the average of. So we lose 40 spots to  
12 employees or -- we don't know who they are, but  
13 the same people parking there over eight hours.  
14 Now, 40 parking spots on Main Street is huge.  
15 It's huge.

16 MS. FEDER: Oh, no, certainly. I  
17 wouldn't contest that.

18 MS. McHUGH: Yeah. And that's why --  
19 and if you ever drive down Main Street during the  
20 day at 10:30 -- 10, 10:30 it's empty. Come 11,  
21 11:30, it's packed, there's nobody on the  
22 streets, there's nobody in the stores. I know  
23 because we've been researching it, I'm down there  
24 all the time, they're employees.

25 MS. FEDER: Okay. So my first question

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1 MS. RETTIG: You -- wait. You don't  
2 see how which measure?

3 MS. FEDER: I'm seeing -- what I'm  
4 saying is, that I see a need to talk about what  
5 the parking meter rates are, but what I don't see  
6 is how adjusting that rate will solve the issue  
7 of people parking in front of their store all  
8 day.

9 MS. RETTIG: If you double what they're  
10 paying on a daily basis, every day, five days a  
11 week, that's going to start hitting them; if they  
12 have a cheaper option and they just have to walk  
13 four blocks away.

14 MR. MAISEL: They're making the  
15 assumption, which it might be a good one that an  
16 employee of the store wouldn't want to be pay \$16  
17 -- 16 and a half dollars to have their car parked  
18 in front of their store all day, but they -- you  
19 know, but they're willing to pay eight and a  
20 quarter. I think that's the theory, right?

21 MS. McHUGH: Right. I mean, that's the  
22 logic. So that's either true or it's not true.  
23 You know, I mean, I don't know if it is or not.  
24 I mean, but --

25 MR. MEYER: If I may, there's another

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1 point here which is certainly increasing the rate  
2 will create -- will reduce the incentive for  
3 parking in front because the savings is not as  
4 great over what it might be someplace else; but  
5 the real issue is, you know, yeah, fine, maybe it  
6 should be \$2 an hour or two fifty an hour or  
7 something else like it, but let's -- I'm going to  
8 the issue of baby steps to let's move it a little  
9 bit.

10 But the other side of, I think the  
11 whole issue here is that's going to have some  
12 effect certainly during the week. And it is  
13 during the week that some of those off-street  
14 parking spaces are far less expensive than 16.50  
15 a day, okay? So that, that may open things up at  
16 least during the week and maybe if in fact  
17 there's parking in downtown New Hope during the  
18 week for people who come in from out of town  
19 during the week, we might get a little bit more  
20 out of town visitors during the week. That's  
21 certainly one possibility that may be relevant  
22 here.

23 But the other side of it I think is --  
24 MR. DOUGHERTY: Peter, I think -- can I  
25 interrupt? I think you mentioned that there's

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1 eat lunch and not having to do this because  
2 there's absolutely no spots on the street. And  
3 now they're forced to pay \$20 in the lot and  
4 they're like I just wanted to go get a, you know,  
5 \$10 bottle of olive oil.

6 MR. MEYER: Now, one of the -- well,  
7 one of the other points is that the surveys that  
8 got done by our economic development consultant,  
9 80 percent of the residents we're making noises  
10 about -- or something like that -- about not  
11 coming downtown because there's no parking.

12 MS. McHUGH: Correct.  
13 MR. MEYER: That's during the week.  
14 And if this frees up some of that, that response  
15 in part, if you will, a citizen demand, which I  
16 think is worth pursuing.

17 My concern, if I may add it now is,  
18 could you explain to us a little bit more about  
19 how the funds get sequestered into the equivalent  
20 of a business improvement district? Typically a  
21 business improvement district, if you look at the  
22 law in Pennsylvania, is a district in which the  
23 businesses and/or property owners in the district  
24 -- and/or -- agree to have a business improvement  
25 district and agree to be charged something in

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1 other places that are significantly cheaper  
2 during the week than sixteen fifty, could you  
3 enunciate that a little bit? I just happen -- I  
4 remember the number there's someplace with --

5 MR. MEYER: I've seen \$5 --  
6 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- I think for \$4, \$5,  
7 right.

8 MR. MEYER: -- and I've \$10 --  
9 MR. DOUGHERTY: Right, right.

10 MR. MEYER: -- all right? In terms of  
11 off-street parking during the week.

12 MR. DOUGHERTY: During the week.

13 MR. MEYER: It may go up to 20 on the  
14 weekend.

15 MS. McHUGH: Correct. That's correct.

16 MS. RETTIG: Right. And we're not  
17 saying this is going to solve everything. And  
18 nothing is going to solve the problem of a nice  
19 75 degree sunny Saturday, which should be our  
20 worst issue. Like, we get that. It's we're  
21 primarily looking at during the week and on the  
22 offseason as a way for people to come down and be  
23 able to park their car for short-term time  
24 periods and get into the stores that they want to  
25 get into, eat lunch at the places they want to

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1 order to raise the funds for special services for  
2 the business improvement district. This is the  
3 flip side of that. We're saying we're creating a  
4 business improvement district and not asking the  
5 actual business owners or property owners in the  
6 district to kick funds into it.

7 MR. DOUGHERTY: Peter, I've been  
8 following, I don't know if there's been a  
9 suggestion here to create business improvement  
10 district. I think that would be scope creep a  
11 little bit to actually create a true -- I haven't  
12 heard that from parking --

13 MS. McHUGH: We can call it whatever we  
14 want to call it.

15 MR. DOUGHERTY: I'm afraid that --  
16 (Indiscernible discussion, simultaneous  
17 speakers.)

18 THE REPORTER: One at a time.

19 MR. MEYER: -- what I happen to know  
20 exists.

21 MR. DOUGHERTY: Right, so you're  
22 applying to --

23 MS. RETTIG: Right. I think that the  
24 slides said that the business owners would be in  
25 favor of the BID.

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1 MS. McHUGH: That's why we used that  
 2 language  
 3 MS. RETTIG: But we put business -- or  
 4 downtown revitalization.  
 5 MR. DOUGHERTY: Something.  
 6 MS. RETTIG: We put DRD.  
 7 MR. DOUGHERTY: I think the critical  
 8 thing that the finance committee laid -- weighed  
 9 in on is that being a pecunious person myself, I  
 10 didn't -- we don't want this to be just more  
 11 money in the general fund. And the finance  
 12 committee has been -- has tasked staff to develop  
 13 a plan by which the additional revenue from such  
 14 a thing, if it measurable, the way we, you know,  
 15 measure with reasonableness as to what before and  
 16 after, whatever that number came to, would be  
 17 sufficiently sequestered so that, you know, we  
 18 didn't have six new public works trucks driving  
 19 around town with this money. So it would be  
 20 specifically for the things listed out there.  
 21 Now, if that -- to Ken's point, burying  
 22 power lines is a massive undertaking and \$400,000  
 23 or 350 a year is not going to get that happen any  
 24 time soon, but certainly sidewalks and all that  
 25 type of stuff can be tackled with -- with even

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1 half that money much of the sidewalks -- there  
 2 could be a lot of improvements in just one year.  
 3 So you can -- if this goes through, I can assure  
 4 you the finance committee will do everything in  
 5 its ability to make sure not one penny of that  
 6 money gets spent on anything other than what  
 7 those things are. Whatever those things are,  
 8 that list of things are, whatever the council  
 9 decides is of a level of import that it should be  
 10 focused on with this money. And it would have to  
 11 be in support of the business and the borough in  
 12 the downtown section, right.  
 13 MR. MEYER: So our situation is, we  
 14 received the report from you. We've engaged in  
 15 discussion about it, I'm assuming that this will  
 16 eventually become either a resolution or a --  
 17 MS. RETTIG: At some point.  
 18 MS. LEE: Would be a resolution.  
 19 MR. MEYER: Is this scheduled for  
 20 February?  
 21 MS. McHUGH: We would like to schedule  
 22 it.  
 23 MR. MEYER: I'm really happy --  
 24 MS. McHUGH: Again, this is a workshop,  
 25 so this is --

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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: Again, I think -- I  
 2 think if --  
 3 MS. McHUGH: We were tasked with the of  
 4 idea of figure out, come to us, with ideas of how  
 5 to fix parking, which has been a problem in the  
 6 borough since the 60s apparently. I saw a photo  
 7 of a council meeting from the 60s and on their  
 8 agenda was parking. So it's never been addressed  
 9 to point that it's still coming up all the time,  
 10 put it that way.  
 11 We've gone out, we've researched it,  
 12 we've listened to seminars. We've gone to other  
 13 boroughs, to other townships. We've looked to  
 14 see what everybody else is doing. Now, it always  
 15 comes down to people are parking in front of  
 16 their stores. I've -- we've gone around, I've  
 17 talked to -- I go around and talk to people, hey,  
 18 where do you park? They don't know who I am.  
 19 And they'll go, I come last minute and  
 20 I park right in front, I always get a spot  
 21 because I get here early enough and then I put it  
 22 in my Park Mobile and I don't have to worry about  
 23 it. I'll put in three hours if I'm running late,  
 24 I'll put in five. I can put in this and that.  
 25 So people are parking in front of the stores.

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1 And they don't think it's a big deal because I'm  
 2 only one person. There's a lot of spots, I'm  
 3 only one person. So we have to find a way to get  
 4 them to move out. So when Joe from Village 2  
 5 comes down and wants to stop at the fish store  
 6 and just pick up dinner, he doesn't have to say,  
 7 oh, there's parking, this is why it sucks in New  
 8 Hope, parking sucks, I'm never going to come down  
 9 here again.  
 10 So there is what we've come up with.  
 11 We're hoping that it works. We think it'll work.  
 12 It seems to have worked in other places. Again,  
 13 baby steps and how to entice people to take the  
 14 increase is by saying, we're not just doing this  
 15 a money grab, we're doing this because we want to  
 16 help you, your businesses, that nobody can park  
 17 in front of, especially on the offseason and fix  
 18 all the things that you said were a problem to  
 19 you when we had the study done.  
 20 MS. RETTIG: I was driving through  
 21 downtown the other day and it was cold and it was  
 22 raining, and there was not a spot available on  
 23 Main Street. Explain to me on a cold, rainy day,  
 24 the end of January and there was not a human  
 25 being on the street, who's parked in all those

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1 spots at 3:30 in the afternoon? Not dinnertime,  
 2 not lunchtime. The only explanation I have is  
 3 it's the business owners and their employees.  
 4 MS. FEDER: So, Laurie, to go back to  
 5 your point about how the hope is that it doesn't  
 6 just look like a money grab and we're trying to  
 7 just raise these rates, I think what I'd be  
 8 interested in seeing is, if we're going to talk  
 9 about doubling the rate for on-street parking in  
 10 New Hope, it would be interesting to see -- and  
 11 I'm pointing above your head, I'm sorry.  
 12 MS. McHUGH: Oh, that's okay.  
 13 MS. FEDER: -- the items that you're  
 14 listing up there, to see what the budget for  
 15 those items are and what kinds of projects are  
 16 actually looking at taking on here. If we're  
 17 going to tell all of town that we're going to  
 18 double all the parking meter rates, how much are  
 19 we actually talking banking aside for burying  
 20 power lines? What kind of sidewalk enhancements  
 21 are we looking at doing and what is the improving  
 22 of the infrastructure. I think the specifics  
 23 would help make that --  
 24 MS. McHUGH: Okay.  
 25 MS. FEDER: -- feel a little bit more

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1 fourth thing or the sixth or the eighth thing.  
 2 And then all of a sudden as a result of this, we  
 3 accomplished this. So I think it's a good --  
 4 it's a good story.  
 5 MS. McHUGH: The order of --  
 6 MR. MAISEL: Well, just I think we need  
 7 to do an inventory of, you know --  
 8 MR. MEYER: Needs.  
 9 MR. MAISEL: -- of the sidewalks or an  
 10 inventory of, you know --  
 11 MS. McHUGH: Well, we would have to  
 12 bury the power lines first probably.  
 13 MS. FEDER: But if that's the case,  
 14 then what is the money for that? And if that  
 15 doesn't happen, how much are the other  
 16 improvements going to cost. Because certainly if  
 17 you don't get approval to bury the power lines  
 18 you're not going to not enhance the sidewalks.  
 19 MS. McHUGH: Absolutely, right.  
 20 MS. FEDER: What do those different  
 21 paths look like.  
 22 MS. McHUGH: And this is --  
 23 MR. DOUGHERTY: No. I'm sorry. Where  
 24 I was -- I think if you don't get approval to  
 25 bury the power lines that's -- that could be five

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1 tangible and have some kind of ownership over  
 2 what we're actually looking at doing here.  
 3 I think if we're going to talk about  
 4 burying the power lines too, I'd be hesitant  
 5 about saying that's what we're doing without  
 6 having, you know, buying from PECO, what an  
 7 actual -- not an actual, but a loose budget of  
 8 what we're looking at there. I agree with Dan I  
 9 think banking aside 300, \$400,000 a year, of  
 10 course, that's a massive undertaking, but I think  
 11 if we're going to double it and talk about it as  
 12 a baby step in order to help improve parking  
 13 downtown, I think we have to then look at the  
 14 flip side and say, what precisely are we hoping  
 15 to do with that money beside just a bucket on the  
 16 side for eventual improvements.  
 17 MR. MAISEL: I'd like to underscore one  
 18 other point that Louise is making and that is  
 19 maybe we identify the -- let's say, the -- forget  
 20 the power lines for a second. But if you took  
 21 the two or three items that and we start having  
 22 like earmark the first ones that we would do so  
 23 that the evolution of this thing becomes  
 24 transparent. But this first 50,000 that we got  
 25 we've improved this and this and that this is the

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1 years from now. I think that to Ken's point,  
 2 there's tremendous sidewalk issues on Mechanic  
 3 Street. There's a drop-off of 14 inches from the  
 4 curb down to the street. That's our street, we  
 5 own that street. I believe it's not a state  
 6 road, we can't blame the state for that one,  
 7 right? So there's a 14 inch drop in front of  
 8 Nektar and -- literally.  
 9 MS. McHUGH: I -- yeah. I've been  
 10 there.  
 11 MR. DOUGHERTY: There's things that are  
 12 shovel ready today that are sidewalks that don't  
 13 -- that can't wait for the four to five years  
 14 it's going to take with that agreement.  
 15 MS. FEDER: Oh, I agree. I think you  
 16 and I are saying the same thing.  
 17 MS. McHUGH: So --  
 18 MR. DOUGHERTY: So there's money to be  
 19 spent.  
 20 MS. McHUGH: Okay. So would that be  
 21 what council -- if this got approved, is that  
 22 what you guys would want to see first is sidewalk  
 23 repairs?  
 24 MS. FEDER: I think it'd be good to  
 25 know what the options are, right? How much would

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1 it cost to fix --  
 2 MS. McHUGH: Well, that's why we're  
 3 workshopping it.  
 4 MS. FEDER: No, I agree.  
 5 MR. MAISEL: Is this list the limit of  
 6 it or --  
 7 MS. McHUGH: No.  
 8 MR. MAISEL: -- can it be spread out?  
 9 MS. RETTIG: No.  
 10 MR. MAISEL: So I think, you know, we  
 11 just need to brainstorm and, you know, talk about  
 12 the --  
 13 MS. McHUGH: Yeah, that's the what the  
 14 purpose is -- right.  
 15 MR. MAISEL: I mean, doing somebody's  
 16 sidewalk in front of their business, is that  
 17 really the borough's responsibility or is it the  
 18 shop owner's respons --  
 19 MS. LEE: So, yeah, that is one of the  
 20 concerns that I have --  
 21 MS. McHUGH: It's a loaded question.  
 22 MS. LEE: -- is, the sidewalks are  
 23 always the responsibility of the property owner,  
 24 both business and residential. So you want to be  
 25 careful about setting precedence of maintaining

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1 MS. RETTIG: (Inaudible.)  
 2 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- we have to figure it  
 3 out, but I'm not saying to just fix all the  
 4 sidewalks in front of commercial spaces either,  
 5 but --  
 6 MS. RETTIG: Right.  
 7 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- at the same time if  
 8 --  
 9 MS. RETTIG: No, I think we're talking  
 10 about -- excuse me for interrupting. If we're  
 11 going to fix sidewalks, we're going to fix all  
 12 the sidewalks.  
 13 MR. DOUGHERTY: Maybe there's -- this  
 14 can be worked out. You can figure this out, is  
 15 what I'm trying to say.  
 16 MS. McHUGH: Well, can we do a one time  
 17 thing that, okay, because we have money from this  
 18 increase, one time we're fixing all the  
 19 sidewalks. Or we're fixing the sidewalks on Main  
 20 Street. Can you do that? Can you put that in  
 21 some kind of legal form that says, this is a one  
 22 time issue only, so you can't come back in five  
 23 years and say, well, you put the sidewalk down,  
 24 we need it fixed? Is that something that's  
 25 even --

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1 sidewalks for businesses only, only in a certain  
 2 area and then not have that available for other  
 3 property owners in the borough as well.  
 4 MR. DOUGHERTY: So that's what has to  
 5 be navigated. I think if you're not careful it's  
 6 going to be paralysis by analysis here.  
 7 MS. McHUGH: Yeah, I agree.  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: So I think if your  
 9 heart's in the right place, you can figure out a  
 10 way to do this that would assuage the issue that  
 11 we're fixing up all the commercial sidewalks, but  
 12 the residential sidewalks up on Ferry Street  
 13 aren't -- aren't going to get improved, this or  
 14 that.  
 15 I think the side -- we all know the  
 16 sidewalks are in horrific shape in the borough.  
 17 We don't have -- we do not have the throughput,  
 18 the demeanor, the attitude it requires to go and  
 19 cite and enforce these business owners to tear up  
 20 the front of their sidewalk. It hasn't happened  
 21 in the last 60 years, I don't think we're going  
 22 to suddenly start doing that. So at some point  
 23 we're going to have to figure out what we're  
 24 willing to do and what we're willing to fix. And  
 25 I think to EJ's point, I think we do have to --

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1 MS. LEE: I mean, I would imagine --  
 2 MS. McHUGH: -- conceivable?  
 3 MS. LEE: -- that's several -- it's a  
 4 multi-year project, it's a pretty huge  
 5 undertaking.  
 6 MS. McHUGH: Yeah.  
 7 MS. LEE: So --  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: I mean, we've -- we  
 9 repaired sidewalks on the Main Street improvement  
 10 project.  
 11 MS. LEE: We have, yes.  
 12 MR. DOUGHERTY: We're repairing the  
 13 sidewalks on the -- we're about to -- for the  
 14 Bridge Street project.  
 15 MS. McHUGH: Right.  
 16 MR. DOUGHERTY: I mean, those we used  
 17 public funds to do that. Okay? So I mean, these  
 18 are problems. These are good problems to have,  
 19 having money and trying to figure out to make  
 20 sure that you don't spend it to create precedent  
 21 is like a -- it's a First World problem, that's  
 22 for sure, but --  
 23 MS. LEE: Right. I mean, we certainly  
 24 could pursue a multi-year project like that, but  
 25 keeping in mind that long-term maintenance is

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1 still the responsibility of the property owner.  
 2 MS. McHUGH: Right. That's what I'm  
 3 saying. Like, hey, we're fixing it right now.  
 4 MR. MEYER: It is conceivable that we  
 5 could fix the sidewalks at the same time as we  
 6 cite -- I know legally this is possible. That we  
 7 cite the land owners -- the property owners for  
 8 not having maintained their sidewalks. I live in  
 9 a town in which we were told if you don't clean  
 10 it -- if you don't fix your sidewalks, we'll fix  
 11 them for you and bill you for them.  
 12 MS. McHUGH: Don't do that.  
 13 MR. MEYER: Now, whether or not we do  
 14 that, that is certainly a -- what we're doing at  
 15 that point is improving the infrastructure before  
 16 we otherwise could. Because otherwise we'd have  
 17 to wait until we had all of our disputes with the  
 18 landlords solved, but that could also be part of  
 19 our expressed intent. And I don't see any reason  
 20 that we can't do that as well.  
 21 MS. RETTIG: I mean, certainly open if  
 22 you all want to put your thinking caps on and  
 23 send us a list and when the parking committee  
 24 meets again -- we're missing Connie -- definitely  
 25 -- and we can start calling and finding out what

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1 appetite for this at all. We're not going to  
 2 spend hours and hours saying, oh, here's the  
 3 project, we can get this, this and for you guys  
 4 to go, we're never going to do that. That's why  
 5 -- so this is -- again, we're not putting the  
 6 cart before the horse. We're starting with this  
 7 seeing what the appetite is and then getting your  
 8 input. What would you like to see done with the  
 9 money? We might be totally off, maybe there's  
 10 something we're missing.  
 11 MR. DOUGHERTY: Yeah, and I just point  
 12 out, because -- is that, this is probably the  
 13 only council in the borough in the state that's  
 14 actually thinking about increasing a fee that's  
 15 going to apply 90 cents on the dollar to people  
 16 who don't live in its borough, who is spending  
 17 most of its time worrying about how it can spend  
 18 the money, and making sure we don't -- we spend  
 19 it perfectly, flawlessly in a planned pattern.  
 20 Meanwhile had you just come here and  
 21 said, here's the reasons why this is should be  
 22 approved and the money's going to go in the  
 23 general fund and buy seven new shiny new trucks  
 24 for the public works, then we wouldn't have to do  
 25 three years of analysis as to how this money

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1 -- what each of these project's ballpark cost. I  
 2 mean, nobody's going to give me a definitive  
 3 answer on what it is, you know, but we can  
 4 certainly start --  
 5 MS. McHUGH: Spitballing it.  
 6 MS. RETTIG: -- doing some due  
 7 diligence and finding out what these projects  
 8 would cost. But again, we don't want to do  
 9 things ass-backwards. You know, we don't want to  
 10 say we're going to commit to funding sidewalk  
 11 repairs -- or not repairs -- laying new sidewalk  
 12 and then two years later say, oh, well, now we're  
 13 digging everything up because we're burying power  
 14 lines, that's dumb.  
 15 MS. FEDER: I think that's where the  
 16 root of my questions come from is, if we're going  
 17 to undertake a pretty substantial increase to the  
 18 metered parking, I think we need to do that a,  
 19 you know, as specific as you can get it, plan  
 20 with what we're going to do with that money,  
 21 which is why I'm asking those questions about  
 22 what those projects are and what numbers we're  
 23 backing into with that increase.  
 24 MS. McHUGH: And that's the idea of the  
 25 workshop is, to present it, see if council has an

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1 should be spent. But because we're going the  
 2 second step, we then -- now we're going to dither  
 3 ourselves to the point where, well, we can't do  
 4 anything until we know how the money is going to  
 5 be spent. You understand we sort of painted  
 6 ourselves into that. We're -- it's this the  
 7 paralysis thing is what I'm describing, so I  
 8 mean, that --  
 9 MR. MEYER: Well --  
 10 MR. DOUGHERTY: I don't need a  
 11 response, Peter, I'm just laying that out, that's  
 12 my perspective, is you guys could've come back  
 13 and said the right thing to do is double the  
 14 fees. And you wouldn't have to say anything  
 15 about where the \$350,000 is going.  
 16 MR. MEYER: But see my point is --  
 17 MR. DOUGHERTY: And it would've made a  
 18 business case for it and it could, but because  
 19 we're -- now we have to make sure every single  
 20 dollar is spent flawlessly.  
 21 MR. MEYER: I don't think that we need  
 22 to make sure that every single dollar is spent  
 23 flawlessly before we go forward with this  
 24 provided we have an agreement on the part of  
 25 borough council that we are in some manner, shape

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1 or form earmarking these funds for these kinds of  
 2 projects even if we don't have the projects  
 3 completely priced out at this moment. And it  
 4 seems to me, that that -- that's my opinion, that  
 5 that is sufficient. Because at that point, I'm  
 6 addressing your point about the seven vehicles  
 7 for public works kind of thing.  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: Right. It makes it a  
 9 lot easier to vote for if we have a concept of  
 10 what it's going to be spent for. I'm just trying  
 11 to say, we can't -- we, you know, we don't have a  
 12 five-year strategic plan here, so we got to stop  
 13 pretending we do and say we can't spend that  
 14 money on these sidewalks because sometime in the  
 15 next seven to fifteen years we might dig them up  
 16 and put power lines under there. We're put --  
 17 that's the cart before the horse, that's my  
 18 perspective.  
 19 MS. McHUGH: Okay. So --  
 20 MR. DOUGHERTY: We'll turn it over to  
 21 public co --  
 22 Oh, Larry. I'm sorry.  
 23 MAYOR KELLER: If I may. So I guess to  
 24 start off, you're suggesting that we're going to  
 25 -- the parking committee's suggesting that we're

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1 MR. MEYER: A day.  
 2 MS. RETTIG: I mean, a day.  
 3 MAYOR KELLER: Well, their eight hour  
 4 work day is probably going to be seventy -- five,  
 5 six dollars, you want to double it, so it's! \$12,  
 6 that's \$60 a week for a person that's making \$10  
 7 an hour. That's -- that's -- okay.  
 8 MS. RETTIG: But then what do we do  
 9 about the same people that complain that nobody's  
 10 coming into their store to buy something because  
 11 Topeo, for instance, you cannot walk in, buy a  
 12 glass sculpture for \$1200 and walk it home.  
 13 MAYOR KELLER: Right. So my  
 14 suggestion, when I had this original  
 15 conversation, whether it has merit is, I was  
 16 under the impression that secondary parking in  
 17 our town further up on North Main Street to leave  
 18 that at 75 cents an hour so that the primary  
 19 spots are always left over; but for the people  
 20 that do work here, that certainly some of them,  
 21 will be able to park at the Legion, but some on  
 22 North Main you're going to ask them to come down  
 23 here, whether they will or not, you only have I  
 24 mean, 50 or 60 spots at the Legion. But if  
 25 they're going to open -- they're going to open

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1 going to raise the 300 plus spots in our borough  
 2 that we have, all of them are going to get raised  
 3 to a dollar fifty an hour?  
 4 MS. McHUGH: Yes.  
 5 MAYOR KELLER: Okay. So having that in  
 6 mind, the person that works in town -- well, let  
 7 me start off first with, where -- where is  
 8 parking for five dollars a day in New Hope?  
 9 MS. McHUGH: The Legion, it's \$4 a day.  
 10 MS. RETTIG: \$4 a day.  
 11 MAYOR KELLER: \$4 a day. And so right  
 12 now the Legion is being used exclusively for the  
 13 Odette's project.  
 14 MS. McHUGH: Yes, it is.  
 15 MAYOR KELLER: So sometime maybe in  
 16 June that will open up?  
 17 MS. McHUGH: Yes.  
 18 MAYOR KELLER: So if I work at the  
 19 Landing or I work at Topeo or somewhere North  
 20 Main Street then I will be -- my choice will be  
 21 to park -- to come down here and park at the  
 22 Legion rather than go up there and pay \$12 an  
 23 hour, that's what you're suggesting, right?  
 24 MS. RETTIG: They can still park if  
 25 they wanted to pay sixteen fifty an hour --

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1 both north and south lot, some will be able to  
 2 use for that, but still you're -- I thought the  
 3 idea was to get, at least the parking study that  
 4 I read, is primary is primary and secondary is  
 5 secondary.  
 6 So if we can get the people that are  
 7 parking in the primary spots to go the sort of  
 8 the peripheral spots, that then opens up the  
 9 primary spots and that -- charging them a dollar  
 10 fifty an hour is -- is certainly a viable  
 11 thought, but there's still -- we're going to have  
 12 people that are going to live or work in this  
 13 town and live in this town that they're going to  
 14 still need parking and so they're going to start  
 15 ending up spending \$12 a day to park.  
 16 MR. DOUGHERTY: Where's the \$12 from,  
 17 Larry?  
 18 MS. McHUGH: Because they're only eight  
 19 hours.  
 20 MAYOR KELLER: Eight hours times a  
 21 dollar fifty. Anybody that's employed here,  
 22 eight hours times a dollar fifty.  
 23 MR. DOUGHERTY: Gotcha. All right.  
 24 MAYOR KELLER: So when you multiply it  
 25 times five or some people work here six days a

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1 week, that's a hit -- that's a hit on their  
 2 wallet.  
 3 MR. DOUGHERTY: Unless they park at the  
 4 -- at the thing down --  
 5 MAYOR KELLER: The Legion's the only  
 6 lot that's four to five dollars.  
 7 MR. DOUGHERTY: Okay. Unless they park  
 8 down there.  
 9 MAYOR KELLER: And that's assuming that  
 10 they're going to keep that at \$4 an hour. Right  
 11 now --  
 12 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, we have to assume  
 13 -- we do have to assume current state, you can't  
 14 --  
 15 MAYOR KELLER: Right.  
 16 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- move all the numbers  
 17 around, but it could go higher absolutely. I  
 18 mean, that's where the customers are having to  
 19 park now, that's my perspective on it.  
 20 MAYOR KELLER: Right. So I'm just  
 21 saying that that's a -- that's a big lift.  
 22 MS. McHUGH: We looked into the  
 23 different zones and we talked to the chief and it  
 24 was just very cumbersome to just have two zones.  
 25 And where the cut off was, they were very

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1 that the parking committee analyzed varying the  
 2 rates and came to the conclusion based on what  
 3 chief had said, et cetera, that it would be very  
 4 difficult to enforce different rates for  
 5 different sections? Could you enunciate that a  
 6 little better?  
 7 MS. RETTIG: Basically that's exactly  
 8 what happened was we were looking -- when we  
 9 first did this, we had talked about Waterloo  
 10 Street and North Main, but north of --  
 11 Was it Randolph?  
 12 MS. McHUGH: Parry.  
 13 MS. RETTIG: Or Parry, and it was up  
 14 there and then there's was a section of Bridge  
 15 Street from I think after Union Square up to  
 16 wherever the last parking spot was. And we were  
 17 having a difficult time trying to break all these  
 18 different zones out and when we spoke to the  
 19 chief, he said, well am I supposed to tell  
 20 somebody that's on Ferry Street that they have to  
 21 pay a dollar fifty an hour, but basically if you  
 22 crossed, you know, Bridge Street that way, you  
 23 know, like up --  
 24 MR. DOUGHERTY: Cut through my house.  
 25 MS. RETTIG: Right. And crossed over

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1 concerned that how to address if somebody pays  
 2 for this zone, but is actually parked there. And  
 3 when we started counting the spaces, most of it  
 4 is premium parking. We only have 350 spots,  
 5 they're all really prime except far part of North  
 6 Main. And to make that one zone was -- a  
 7 different zone rather was very, very confusing  
 8 and cumbersome.  
 9 MR. DOUGHERTY: I thought North Main  
 10 and Ferry were going to be --  
 11 MS. McHUGH: We had -- we had --  
 12 MR. DOUGHERTY: Were going to be  
 13 nonprime.  
 14 MS. McHUGH: Yeah.  
 15 MAYOR KELLER: Correct. And also New  
 16 Street, so to call New Street a prime spot is a  
 17 reach.  
 18 MR. DOUGHERTY: No, but I thought Ferry  
 19 was --  
 20 MS. RETTIG: New Street is right here.  
 21 I mean, we're right on New Street, this is prime.  
 22 MS. McHUGH: This is prime.  
 23 MS. RETTIG: I mean, you park here, you  
 24 walk around the corner.  
 25 MR. DOUGHERTY: So is it fair to say

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1 like the next block up, that's 75 cents. And he  
 2 seemed to think that it would be a burden on the  
 3 police to have all these multiple different zones  
 4 in an effort to police them.  
 5 MS. McHUGH: And there are a lot of  
 6 cities that had different zones, we realize that.  
 7 It's just that for the number that we were going  
 8 to do, we were creating a lot of work for very  
 9 few spots.  
 10 MR. DOUGHERTY: I would suggest you get  
 11 -- bring those -- that -- the quantitative aspect  
 12 of that piece back to council and just so that  
 13 they feel more comfortable that that's something  
 14 that really should not be pursued. You know that  
 15 particular --  
 16 MS. McHUGH: You want the actual number  
 17 of what it would effect?  
 18 MR. DOUGHERTY: Not right this --  
 19 MS. McHUGH: I'm making notes.  
 20 MS. RETTIG: No, no, she's making  
 21 notes.  
 22 MR. DOUGHERTY: Because to Larry's  
 23 point, I think that was in play for a while and  
 24 that was part of the prior presentation, it's not  
 25 in the presentation today, so people need to be

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1 convinces, if you will, that varying the parking  
 2 rate by area is not worth it because it sounds  
 3 like because the number of spots you'd end up  
 4 with that would not be prime wouldn't be  
 5 significant, would be insignificant.  
 6 MS. McHUGH: It would cause a lot of  
 7 work for very few spots.  
 8 MS. RETTIG: It was causing a lot of  
 9 work for very few spots.  
 10 STEVEN COPPENS: I'm sorry. A lot of  
 11 work for who?  
 12 MS. RETTIG: For very few spots.  
 13 MS. KINGSLEY: If I could interject,  
 14 the original reason --  
 15 MR. DOUGHERTY: We're --  
 16 MS. KINGSLEY: I'm sorry.  
 17 MR. DOUGHERTY: Just wait. So we're --  
 18 I want to make sure that we're -- council is  
 19 before and then we're going to ask for public  
 20 comment, Alison.  
 21 So does anyone have any more -- and I  
 22 think if we turn, ask for public comment, we can  
 23 then come back to this discussion very briefly.  
 24 We are going to hit a hard stop here tonight,  
 25 folks, at 5:30. We have to go into executive

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1 people who are local to be, you know, using it.  
 2 And at least Lambertville is flat coming across,  
 3 but the problem with parking in New Hope is not  
 4 that there isn't enough parking, it's that people  
 5 like me, and there are too many people like me,  
 6 don't do hills anymore and New Hope has hills,  
 7 oops. So that's the first piece of it.  
 8 And then the second piece is, we're  
 9 just talking about burying power lines as if this  
 10 is some mandate that the residents of New Hope  
 11 have told you is really important to them. And  
 12 while I understand that in front of Fran's Pub in  
 13 particular it's a very narrow walk and to want to  
 14 not have a pole there sounds good. And I know  
 15 that there's places like Fieldstone that had  
 16 buried wires, but they're up away from the river.  
 17 And I think that a serious study on whether  
 18 burying lines when we already have suspect sewer  
 19 lines and water lines underneath by a private  
 20 authority, that we don't know if they would be  
 21 safe to put power lines next to. This is a way  
 22 bigger issue and we're talking about raising  
 23 funds for something I'm not sure is safe when you  
 24 live by a river that floods. And even it doesn't  
 25 flood majorly, the water gets into the ground.

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1 session because some of us have hard stops, we've  
 2 got to leave here at 5:55. So wherever we are on  
 3 this agenda, I'm going to announce now, at around  
 4 5:25 we'll stop -- we will have to stop and move  
 5 into executive session. So let's just know that  
 6 now. This was slated for 30 minutes, we've gone  
 7 42. So that's why.  
 8 Next, opening it up to public comment.  
 9 MS. McHUGH: Is everybody done?  
 10 Are you good, Mayor?  
 11 MR. DOUGHERTY: Recognizing Pam Kerr.  
 12 State your name and your address, please.  
 13 PAMELA KERR: Pam Kerr, K-e-r-r, North  
 14 Main Street.  
 15 In November, we -- a couple brought up  
 16 to the idea of time limits as opposed to  
 17 increasing the amount. And I would've thought  
 18 that the two-hour time limit would stop the  
 19 behavior you're concerned about and allow people  
 20 to have a meal, stop in and eat something,  
 21 whatever. That's one thing.  
 22 Number two, it's not just people in the  
 23 borough. I understand once you're talking about  
 24 this as instead of a tax, but people from  
 25 Solebury aren't using the borough and we'd like

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1 So I just have concerns at many levels,  
 2 but one of them is why not just a time constraint  
 3 which would address the initial issue for people  
 4 who are there. They can't park more than two  
 5 hours, they'll have to find a different place to  
 6 park. But I'd had to penalize low income  
 7 workers. It's hard enough finding people to work  
 8 in the shops as it is.  
 9 MR. DOUGHERTY: Thank you.  
 10 PAMELA KERR: That's --  
 11 MR. DOUGHERTY: I think as a general  
 12 concept, we're going to take the feedback from  
 13 the public comment and factor that into the next  
 14 presentation rather than --  
 15 MS. McHUGH: Yes, rather than  
 16 addressing it.  
 17 MR. DOUGHERTY: Mr. Duffy, please  
 18 identify yourself and address, please.  
 19 ED DUFFY: I back this lady in front of  
 20 me about a time limit on parking using the kiosk.  
 21 MR. DOUGHERTY: I'm sorry, Ed. We're  
 22 going to try to -- your name and your address.  
 23 ED DUFFY: Oh, that's right. Ed Duffy,  
 24 Arden 23, New Hope. I back the idea of time  
 25 limits on the parking. Either two or three

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1 hours, most likely two. And I think the kiosk  
 2 can enforce that, that they can't go back and  
 3 load the machine up again. I don't know how  
 4 sophisticated the kiosk is, but the cops can mark  
 5 -- mark tires was another thing, but the time  
 6 limit is the easy answer and probably the best  
 7 answer. Thank you.  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: And comments? Any  
 9 further public comments?  
 10 Steve?  
 11 STEVEN COPPENS: Steven Coppens, I own  
 12 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 West Bridge Street. One of  
 13 the things, if I remember correctly from prior  
 14 meetings, was we were talking about the residents  
 15 and the Solebury Township people are more or less  
 16 anybody with 18938 would have some kind of  
 17 reduced parking thing, am I correct about that?  
 18 MS. RETTIG: That was one of the things  
 19 we had originally talked about.  
 20 STEVEN COPPENS: Is that off the table  
 21 now?  
 22 MS. RETTIG: No, we just talked about  
 23 now just doing it for borough residents.  
 24 MS. FEDER: Oh, I missed that too.  
 25 STEVEN COPPENS: My question would be

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1 are all -- all these are valid points, I think in  
 2 the next presentation they have to be addressed,  
 3 discounted or --  
 4 MS. McHUGH: Understood.  
 5 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- modify the plan.  
 6 Alison?  
 7 ALISON KINGSLEY: Alison Kingsley,  
 8 South Main, New Hope. In making your financial  
 9 projections, I think it would also be helpful,  
 10 since you've mentioned that there were roughly 40  
 11 spots that people were parking in front of their  
 12 own businesses, I think to make the financial  
 13 projections in terms of what your increased  
 14 revenue is going to be, I think you also need to  
 15 show your loss of revenues and project that in  
 16 this too. You got loss of revenues from the  
 17 people who aren't now going to be parking on the  
 18 street in town, which is -- you got to take away  
 19 from where you're starting as opposed to just  
 20 assuming it's going to be replaced because it may  
 21 not be replaced.  
 22 You also have to take into  
 23 consideration the seasonality and you also have  
 24 to take into consideration the weekends. So  
 25 you're making the assumption of 365 days across

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1 what about the people in Lambertville.  
 2 MR. DOUGHERTY: We're going to try not  
 3 to turn this into discourse. You have questions,  
 4 we take them back, but this doesn't --  
 5 STEVEN COPPENS: That's fine. Take it  
 6 back.  
 7 MR. DOUGHERTY: That's what we're  
 8 trying to do, it's not a -- sort of --  
 9 STEVEN COPPENS: Well, I'm just saying  
 10 if we're going to do local, I mean, it seems to  
 11 me as though even though there's a river and a  
 12 state that's different and all that, we're still  
 13 just one community. And whatever benefit we get,  
 14 even though the people aren't paying taxes per  
 15 se, you're talking about not paying taxes anyway,  
 16 it's a parking issue, so let Lambertville get a  
 17 break too.  
 18 The other issue or note that I have  
 19 here is, you mentioned using the high school lot.  
 20 How long is the high school lot going to be  
 21 available? Because I was attending school board  
 22 meetings for a while and they were talking about  
 23 getting very restrictive on the parking at the  
 24 high school. I'm done. Thank you.  
 25 MR. DOUGHERTY: Laurie, I think those

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1 the board, I'm thinking, I don't know, but if you  
 2 are, I think you need to look at the fact that  
 3 most of the people employed in the borough are  
 4 working on the weekends, especially in the  
 5 restaurants, businesses and the retail businesses  
 6 that are open longer hours. During the week,  
 7 there's probably only one person in a retail  
 8 store, if it's even open and it's not open until  
 9 11 or 12 o'clock anyway if it's open at all. So  
 10 I think you really need to look at what  
 11 potentially is being lost and then look at what  
 12 you stand to gain.  
 13 The other thing is, if you're looking  
 14 at earmarking this revenue to be used toward  
 15 projects to some of the other points that have  
 16 been made that you need to identify those  
 17 projects and the costs associated with them. But  
 18 I think trying to sell to the public that you're  
 19 going to create \$250,000 a year and that's going  
 20 to be used toward X, that becomes -- to Dan's  
 21 point, that becomes this extended well, maybe it  
 22 will get used and maybe it won't or it just --  
 23 the council changes and it sucks into the general  
 24 fund think. I think if you are going to make a  
 25 master plan, you need to look at if you're

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1 generating \$250,000 a year, divide that by 12 and  
 2 how much money do you have available on a monthly  
 3 basis to cover the debt service on a bond that  
 4 will allow to you take on a major project in a  
 5 much more timely fashion? I think that becomes a  
 6 much more saleable plan because it's complete.  
 7 Right now it's only a piece and it's -- and I  
 8 agree with a lot of things that, you know, are  
 9 being proposed, but I think you need to present a  
 10 bigger piece and say, this money is broken down,  
 11 this is how we're going to use it and every month  
 12 this amount of money is going to be used to pay  
 13 off the bond. And then the taxpayer really sees  
 14 the benefit of what's happening without the  
 15 increase to the taxes.

16 Those are my thoughts.

17 MR. DOUGHERTY: Thank you. I think all  
 18 very good -- all very good input from the public.  
 19 I think if we can, like I said, make sure that  
 20 you address it in the next iteration.

21 MS. McHUGH: Understood. Cool.

22 MR. DOUGHERTY: And I'm not going to --  
 23 so I think if we're okay to move on, are you  
 24 folks good?

25 MS. RETTIG: Yeah.

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1 match requirement, which --

2 MS. KINGSLEY: Excuse me. Can you  
 3 speak a little slower and use the microphone,  
 4 please?

5 MS. LEE: Yes.

6 MS. KINGSLEY: And start over because I  
 7 don't we heard any of it. Thanks.

8 MS. LEE: Yeah. So this project was  
 9 funded in part by a PennDOT grant. The projected  
 10 total project cost estimate, when the grant  
 11 application was submitted, was for \$132,832. So  
 12 the grant request in the application's for  
 13 \$92,982 with a 30 percent borough match  
 14 requirement coming out to \$39,849.

15 After the grant -- the grant was  
 16 awarded and a contract executed with PennDOT,  
 17 council had to go back, come up with finalized  
 18 plans to pursue the project further. That took  
 19 about a year to two years. And when the project  
 20 plan was eventually finalized, our engineers went  
 21 out to bid last summer and the bid numbers came  
 22 in a little bit higher than what was projected  
 23 originally. It probably came out about \$30,000  
 24 higher than originally projected.

25 That had been discussed at that July

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1 MS. McHUGH: Yeah.

2 MR. DOUGHERTY: Our next topic of  
 3 discussion is the Bridge Street project  
 4 discussion, Steve. Whereby, if you recall -- to  
 5 set the stage a little bit, I think it was about  
 6 four, five months we, after about a year of  
 7 kicking the project around, it was determined  
 8 that the bids had come in and they were  
 9 dramatically higher than we had expected or had  
 10 hoped for to finalize the project. This is the  
 11 Bridge Street project going up the hill in the  
 12 pilings, et cetera.

13 At that time it was decided that we  
 14 should defer the project until this year. Staff  
 15 went out to the market, our engineering firm, and  
 16 had the thing rebid. And I'm going to turn it  
 17 over to EJ now for dis -- and then we're going to  
 18 discuss it today and our hope is in February that  
 19 this council would be able to vote on whether or  
 20 not we should proceed with this project.

21 So, EJ.

22 MS. LEE: Sure. Thanks, Dan.

23 So as Dan summarized, this project was  
 24 funded in part by a PennDOT grant. The grant was  
 25 for \$92,982 and the borough had a 30 percent

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1 2019 meeting. Our engineer did recommend to  
 2 council that we go out to rebid during a lower  
 3 season, during a lower construction season.  
 4 Council did authorize that rebid. And so the  
 5 project was rebid in January of this year, just  
 6 last month. And the bids came in, they did come  
 7 in slightly lower, not significantly lower. The  
 8 lowest bid came in approximately \$9,000 lower  
 9 than the July bid prices that had come in.

10 The lowest bid in July came at \$132,975  
 11 for the base bid. If you all recall, I don't --  
 12 you probably don't recall, there were discussions  
 13 of adding two alternatives to that project. One  
 14 was adding in a red dye to the sidewalks so that  
 15 it adds a color to the sidewalk versus just a  
 16 cement sidewalk mainly because most of the new  
 17 sidewalks in the borough require brick sidewalks,  
 18 so it was to kind of match that. A second  
 19 alternate was also included to add brick stamping  
 20 to that to make it look like fake bridge -- or  
 21 fake brick, but keeping it as a smooth cement to  
 22 comply with PennDOT ADA requirement.

23 So anyway, going back, the original  
 24 lowest bid in 2019 came is at one thirty-two nine  
 25 seventy five. The lowest bid that just came in

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1 in the January rebid, came in at one twenty-three  
 2 seven thirty-five, which is approximately \$9,000  
 3 less. The one twenty-three seven thirty-five is  
 4 still approximately \$30,000 higher than the  
 5 original projected cost.  
 6 If the -- if the borough were to move  
 7 forward with the project, the expected total  
 8 project cost would be one hundred twenty-three  
 9 seven thirty-five just to pursue the base project  
 10 plus an estimated 53,207 for the match, which  
 11 would encompass all the engineering fees that we  
 12 have and will have incurred by the end of the  
 13 project.  
 14 So the total project cost now we're  
 15 looking at \$176,942 versus the \$132,832  
 16 originally projected for this project. It's  
 17 about a \$44,000 increase in the total project  
 18 cost.  
 19 You guys remember every number, right?  
 20 MS. McHUGH: I got them.  
 21 MR. DOUGHERTY: So, EJ, is it okay open  
 22 we open it up for discussion --  
 23 MS. LEE: Absolutely.  
 24 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- for council? Any  
 25 questions to EJ or to the finance committee or

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1 they want 25 and others were in the 40 range, so  
 2 it seems like it's a material difference.  
 3 And also the removal of the pilings,  
 4 which is their problem. I mean, if they value it  
 5 at only at \$800, while some others were at  
 6 \$2,000, that's their problem. I mean, they're  
 7 going to be gone. But those were two items that  
 8 I think is the entire differential. I mean, as  
 9 it turned out, I don't know if line item to line  
 10 item. But my particular interest would be is,  
 11 are they using the same material and is that  
 12 finishing that fence, which is really a dominant  
 13 visual on the -- on the whole program, you know  
 14 whether they've specced it out consistent with  
 15 the others.  
 16 MR. DOUGHERTY: Ken, I have the same  
 17 concerns about the variations of the bids for the  
 18 fence, et cetera.  
 19 EJ, is it possible that prior to our  
 20 council meeting that you could have Gilmore  
 21 Associate -- and Associates once again confirm  
 22 the comparability of the bids and specifically  
 23 around the fence that the fence that they're  
 24 going to install is the exact same product as  
 25 that been specced out, it's not a -- in other

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1 anybody?  
 2 MR. MAISEL: So the selection is  
 3 Ettore, is that correct?  
 4 MS. LEE: That is the lowest bid and  
 5 because it's a bid project, we have to go with  
 6 the lowest bid unless there is anything that  
 7 comes up with the bidder that doesn't meet state  
 8 requirements.  
 9 MR. MAISEL: Okay. There were two  
 10 items on their detail that -- being as  
 11 superficial as I am, I'm more -- I'm more  
 12 concerned with the aesthetics of things. So  
 13 there are two major aesthetic things -- well,  
 14 actually one is. But the removal of the stone  
 15 pillars and the decorative -- the pedestrian  
 16 protective fence, those two items represented the  
 17 single biggest difference from almost all of the  
 18 other bidders. And those would be two things  
 19 that I'd be very concerned with, particularly the  
 20 fencing. That if they're speccing this fence  
 21 out, this black aluminum whatever it is -- I  
 22 think that's what it was based on my recollection  
 23 -- that there would be that material a difference  
 24 from one to the next, in some cases it's on a  
 25 \$25,000 item for the selected provider, you know,

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1 words, it's a fairly standard aluminum type  
 2 fence, what Ken's point is, we don't want one to  
 3 -- after we get into this, find out that they've  
 4 got the wrong fence because it is dramatically  
 5 cheaper and that's what's driving most of the --  
 6 much of, not all of it, of their difference. And  
 7 the pilings -- so we had those questions and we  
 8 were -- but I think -- I think it's deserves a  
 9 follow-up.  
 10 MS. LEE: Yes. I will make sure we get  
 11 that with the information for your February 18th  
 12 meeting.  
 13 MR. DOUGHERTY: Any questions, further?  
 14 I mean, I want to point out to council in this  
 15 just when this project was approved in 2017, I  
 16 think I was here, so I'm casting the spurgeon to  
 17 myself here a little bit. The rule of thumb here  
 18 was about a \$130,000 project that the borough was  
 19 going to be responsible for about 40,000 of that  
 20 and that's what we voted on. That's what we  
 21 voted on, that's what we approved and that's what  
 22 we've taken, what now will be almost three years  
 23 to get it finished. And we spent a lot of money  
 24 basically with Gilmore and Associates talking  
 25 about stamped concrete, red concrete, tinted

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1 concrete, et cetera. That money is basically lit  
 2 on fire and thrown away because we're not getting  
 3 stamped concrete. Gilmore did what we asked them  
 4 to do, but also when we approved this, the amount  
 5 of the grant is still \$92,000. This thing's  
 6 going to cost a buck seventy-six now. Our cost  
 7 was 40, our sunk cost, the dollars that we've  
 8 already spent are 33. So I think, you know,  
 9 council has to be -- we, myself included, have to  
 10 be much more careful with these grants. These  
 11 grant we think is, you know, it's an 80 percent  
 12 grant, we think it's free money not when we  
 13 manage them they way we manage this one, it's not  
 14 free money. So I think we're going to end up  
 15 spending about \$84,000 instead of \$39,000.

16 So that concludes my rant.

17 MS. McHUGH: So should we just assume  
 18 that we're always going to overrun 20 percent  
 19 just so that we don't make you mad?

20 MR. DOUGHERTY: This is an excellent  
 21 question. I think what -- I think Peter has  
 22 tremendous experience, Peter is -- was not on  
 23 council at the time. Peter's going to help, I  
 24 think -- I don't think you were in 2017.

25 MR. MEYER: I wasn't.

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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, I think -- we're  
 2 going down that path.

3 MR. MAISEL: Yeah, okay. Yeah. All  
 4 right.

5 MR. DOUGHERTY: For the subject at hand  
 6 before we vote on this, I think I have to express  
 7 -- I may misspeak this --

8 EJ tell me.

9 -- but from what my -- what I was able  
 10 to glean, there was a flaw to the Main Street  
 11 improvement project that is inhibiting our  
 12 ability to get the refund or the grant money.

13 Is that a true statement, EJ? There  
 14 was a flaw before you got here and now -- and  
 15 that same flaw may exist inside this grant. And  
 16 we're not going to vote on this next -- at that  
 17 next meeting until we're all quite familiar with  
 18 what that flaw is.

19 So EJ, could you bring this team up to  
 20 speed?

21 MS. LEE: So what we shared -- what we  
 22 had discussed at the finance committee meeting  
 23 was that when I had submitted for the first  
 24 reimbursement request for the Main Street grant,  
 25 PennDOT's response to us was that engineering

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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: So I think Peter can  
 2 actually help us know what is likely to be and  
 3 make sure we're not applying for things that are  
 4 -- that we're just not at depth on things. Also  
 5 council has to do a better job at not just having  
 6 consultants do lots of variations on the project  
 7 because somebody thinks it might be nice to have  
 8 stamped concrete there.

9 MS. McHUGH: I agree.

10 MR. MEYER: And there's a further point  
 11 in all of this which is, in the process that  
 12 we're engaged in where Gilmore is getting paid  
 13 for writing the proposal for us, they have an  
 14 incentive for low-balling the cost to the borough  
 15 in order to get the borough to be willing to go  
 16 after the grant. And we have to recognize that  
 17 there exists that incentive and we need to pay  
 18 very, very close attention of that because I  
 19 don't think that we've been doing that in the  
 20 past either.

21 MR. MAISEL: If we have to contemplate  
 22 that then we have the wrong engineer.

23 MR. MEYER: Precisely. I'm not going  
 24 to disagree with you on that point.

25 MR. MAISEL: Well, I made a --

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1 fees were not reimbursable as part of the grant  
 2 application, if the engineer was a publically bid  
 3 engineer to manage that project.

4 Now, my understanding was that --  
 5 Gilmore's explanation was that when the project  
 6 first started, that wasn't the case and PennDOT  
 7 had changed policies somewhere along the way. I  
 8 don't know PennDOT had changed their policy, but  
 9 that was a difficulty that we're still trying to  
 10 work through.

11 Now the flip side to that was, the Main  
 12 Street project also came in slightly higher than  
 13 what was originally projected. And so the higher  
 14 cost will be taken into account as part of that  
 15 reimbursement, so it would cover some of that  
 16 engineering that --

17 MR. DOUGHERTY: Luckily we overspent so  
 18 it may look like the construction costs --

19 MS. LEE: Possibly.

20 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- will be part of the  
 21 grant.

22 MS. LEE: Possibly. So, but, you know,  
 23 grants have become a little bit more restrictive  
 24 in the last several years where they do want  
 25 everything publically bid more than it was

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1 before. Again Gilmore's explanation was that  
 2 they received authorization from PennDOT that  
 3 engineering fees would be reimbursable. But  
 4 PennDOT later responded and said that unless the  
 5 engineer was a publically bid consultant selected  
 6 by a process, it wouldn't be reimbursable. So  
 7 we'll still working through that and --  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: And that's for the Main  
 9 Street reimbursement?  
 10 MS. LEE: Yes, yes.  
 11 MR. DOUGHERTY: So we do not have the  
 12 reimburs -- the grant money from the Main Street?  
 13 MS. LEE: We're still -- well, that  
 14 project hasn't been out yet either.  
 15 MR. DOUGHERTY: Oh, okay. It's a  
 16 process?  
 17 MS. LEE: So the final -- the final  
 18 inspection has not been completed on that.  
 19 MR. DOUGHERTY: So I, EJ, I didn't --  
 20 and you were not here, so it's nothing -- I'm  
 21 just pointing out to council, we collectively  
 22 have to understand that if we award this  
 23 contract, this contract, this whole process here  
 24 has that same illness, if you will, inside of it.  
 25 Is that the engineer --

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1 the case with Main Street for the Bridge Street  
 2 that the construction cost alone would be enough  
 3 to cover the match and the base grant. Because  
 4 if you --  
 5 MR. DOUGHERTY: Because the extra  
 6 \$40,000 --  
 7 MS. LEE: Yes.  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: -- the sum of the  
 9 costs, they might basically count those in our  
 10 \$92,000 refund, is that what you're trying to  
 11 say?  
 12 MS. LEE: Well, no, the total  
 13 construction cost for 132 is pretty close to the  
 14 132, so most of that would already be qualified  
 15 because it's construction. That would be done by  
 16 a publically bidded company. The rest of it, we  
 17 would -- I would have to find out exactly what  
 18 their engineering reimbursement process would be  
 19 for this one too.  
 20 MR. DOUGHERTY: All right. Well, you  
 21 understand my concerns, I'm not going to beat it  
 22 any further.  
 23 Does anybody have any questions -- I'm  
 24 sorry turn it over to council first. Any further  
 25 questions from council concerning this or for

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1 MS. LEE: Possibility.  
 2 MR. DOUGHERTY: Possibility. We're not  
 3 going to -- there won't be any surprises, so  
 4 we'll have to --  
 5 MR. MEYER: Is --  
 6 MR. DOUGHERTY: I don't know how we  
 7 navigate that and eliminate this to our  
 8 constituents moneywise, though.  
 9 MR. MEYER: I've been party to grants  
 10 where if in fact you had a consultant who helped  
 11 you write the grant, that consultant could also  
 12 not be reimbursed by the grant for the work done  
 13 on the grant. Is that a problem in this  
 14 situation?  
 15 MS. LEE: I'm not sure about the  
 16 situation, but what you're referring to, that is  
 17 a pretty standard --  
 18 MR. MEYER: Yeah.  
 19 MS. LEE: -- grant requirement that if  
 20 there was a consultant working on the grant, that  
 21 consultant is automatically disqualified from  
 22 participating in any the grant award.  
 23 For this one, though, I'll be honest  
 24 with you because the projected construction costs  
 25 have come in so much higher, that again, might be

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1 clarification?  
 2 I'll turn it over to public questions.  
 3 Mr. Coppens?  
 4 STEVEN COPPENS: Thank you, sir.  
 5 Steven Coppens, West Bridge Street. I'm a little  
 6 confused here, is the red dye going to be put in  
 7 the concrete?  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, nothing's been  
 9 voted on, Steve, so that -- what's been presented  
 10 here today from EJ is all the figures that she  
 11 gave, came out of the finance -- basically the  
 12 finance committee can't make that decision. This  
 13 council has before it in its paperwork, all three  
 14 variations, no -- no tint, tint plus stamp, okay.  
 15 They have all their numbers and what they vote on  
 16 some day --  
 17 STEVEN COPPENS: Can I get the number  
 18 please what the inclusive -- what the red dye and  
 19 the brick stamping included, can I get that  
 20 number?  
 21 MR. DOUGHERTY: Sure.  
 22 MS. LEE: For the lowest bid for the  
 23 recent one?  
 24 STEVEN COPPENS: Yes, please.  
 25 MS. LEE: Yes. So the base bid was one

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1 twenty-three seven thirty-five.  
 2 STEVEN COPPENS: Right.  
 3 MS. LEE: The base bid plus the  
 4 alternate, which is the red dye is one  
 5 twenty-eight one ninety. And then the base bid  
 6 plus alternate 2 with the red dye and the  
 7 stamping is one thirty-five six fifteen.  
 8 STEVEN COPPENS: Okay. How much is  
 9 Gilmore charging us every time we send this out  
 10 to be rebid?  
 11 MS. LEE: THE last rebid cost about  
 12 \$1100.  
 13 STEVEN COPPENS: Oh, that's not really  
 14 too bad. Okay. I would like to make a comment  
 15 here about, if I may, that the -- it's like the  
 16 gateway to the town that what we have there now  
 17 looks horrible, it's always looked horrible.  
 18 I've been in town since the 70s, it looked  
 19 horrible in the 70s and then even after Glen  
 20 Stephan revised it because he needed it for his  
 21 whatever, it still looks horrible.  
 22 But according my notes, in the last  
 23 year or two, council okayed \$6,000 for flowers  
 24 and I believe most of that was collected in some  
 25 kind of sale or something that the flower

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1 Now I'm done. Thank you.  
 2 MR. DOUGHERTY: Thank you.  
 3 Alison, I think you had your hand up.  
 4 MS. KINGSLEY: Last comment.  
 5 MR. DOUGHERTY: We actually are going  
 6 to have to close this if we -- in about one  
 7 minute and then we're going to move to public  
 8 comment. If you have public comments, we'll have  
 9 five minutes for those.  
 10 Go ahead.  
 11 MS. KINGSLEY: Quickly. Gilmore  
 12 actually in about 2016, which was when I first  
 13 got on council, I called Gilmore about doing  
 14 grants on Bridge, Ferry and Mechanic Street. And  
 15 in that conversation where I started talking  
 16 about Bridge Street, that grant -- that design  
 17 had already been drawn and it sat for almost four  
 18 years. So Gilmore in fact saved the borough  
 19 money by not redrawing everything.  
 20 The downfall, I believe of not just  
 21 that council, but previous and probably future is  
 22 that when go out to an engineer you already need  
 23 to have what your concept is of what you want  
 24 done fairly completely designed by council and by  
 25 the input from the public as to what it's going

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1 committee or whoever collected, but they spent  
 2 \$6,000 there; \$10,000 went to the library in the  
 3 budget, I think the library; 25,000 went to  
 4 parking; three and a half went to a Chestnut  
 5 Street survey for something or another.  
 6 MR. DOUGHERTY: Steve --  
 7 STEVEN COPPENS: Wait a second.  
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: Okay. We're actually  
 9 up against an absolute --  
 10 STEVEN COPPENS: Well, yeah, I'm almost  
 11 done.  
 12 MR. DOUGHERTY: I understand that your  
 13 litany of where we spent and how that relates to  
 14 the ink stamping --  
 15 STEVEN COPPENS: Would you please just  
 16 let me finish this, okay? You got 3500 for  
 17 Chestnut Street, then another \$10,000 to the  
 18 library; 5,000 shared services for ball fields  
 19 and \$5,000 to Solebury Township for something.  
 20 That's like \$50,000 right there that would pay  
 21 for the stamping and the color and we would have  
 22 something there for the next 75 years or whatever  
 23 instead of just one year's worth of stuff. And I  
 24 think council should be very aware of that and I  
 25 think you should go ahead and spend the money.

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1 to look like at the end. That makes there job a  
 2 heck of easier and a lot shorter. You know, to  
 3 nail Gilmore and this is, oh, you know, their  
 4 fault, I think is a mistake. Because she could  
 5 have easily blown me off right there and come out  
 6 and done a whole new design and pulled it off as  
 7 if it was, you know, all new work as opposed to  
 8 something that was already in their file.  
 9 So I think council needs to be careful  
 10 of quickly dismissing professionals who have a  
 11 history with the borough because they're -- very  
 12 few of them are, I believe as ethical as they are  
 13 number one and number two, has an institutional  
 14 knowledge, which none of you have as council  
 15 members. An institutional knowledge in the  
 16 borough is very, very important, and this  
 17 community has lost most of that.  
 18 MR. DOUGHERTY: Thank you, Alison.  
 19 I'm going to -- if council, we have to  
 20 stop at 5:30, I wanted to give the public a  
 21 chance for public comment, if that's okay. We  
 22 have some items on the agenda that will have to  
 23 deferred, that's what it boils down to.  
 24 Public comment. Ms. Kerr?  
 25 PAMELA KERR: Pamela Kerr, North Main

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1 Street. I am concerned because at a council  
 2 meeting I heard that the landlord registration  
 3 process was going to be discussed here and I have  
 4 seen this landlord form. I have a question about  
 5 when it was designed, is it old, is it new? And  
 6 there's is waiver offer until the 28th of  
 7 February, but the form, as it is, is impossible.  
 8 First of all, it hasn't been sent to landlords to  
 9 say what the borough's maximum is.

10 MR. DOUGHERTY: I can just say that  
 11 that was a planned thing, it was kind of rolled  
 12 out, pulled back. Right now it's being  
 13 reanalyzed, so you don't -- the thing that went  
 14 out until Feb 28, that deadline doesn't apply  
 15 anymore, you can forget about that. So the  
 16 subject of landlord registration is being  
 17 analyzed, the project, if you will, on how to do  
 18 it, everything.

19 PAMELA KERR: When was that form  
 20 created?

21 MR. DOUGHERTY: I don't know.

22 PAMELA KERR: It's not new?

23 MR. DOUGHERTY: I don't know. If I  
 24 knew I would've -- if it's new or not, I don't --

25 PAMELA KERR: I mean, it's -- if you

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1 Now, I think what we're missing is,  
 2 where do we put the deck have we got to that  
 3 point where if we have an opportunity without  
 4 these grants, or whatever, that we have a spot  
 5 that would we would ideally want to put a deck?

6 MR. DOUGHERTY: Not to my knowledge. I  
 7 have no -- the answer is, if you have comments  
 8 about where you would like to have a deck, Ed,  
 9 please provide them to us. But as far as the  
 10 status of a parking deck, that is not even in the  
 11 planning stages here and where it would be. The  
 12 answer's no, we don't have any kind of plan for  
 13 that.

14 ED DUFFY: What I'm saying is that it  
 15 would be great to have -- to pick out a location  
 16 so that's a foundation, so that people that may  
 17 be interested in talking to the borough about  
 18 doing a parking deck rather than you guys  
 19 conjuring one up and these people are  
 20 professionals that are in there. So I would --  
 21 that be something you guys would --

22 MR. DOUGHERTY: You know, thank you for  
 23 the comment.

24 ED DUFFY: -- talk about at a work  
 25 session?

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1 did it, you'd know you did it. You didn't do it.

2 MR. DOUGHERTY: Yeah. So point is, so  
 3 it's the project -- the project is being worked  
 4 on internally.

5 PAMELA KERR: So we don't have to worry  
 6 about any deadline at this point?

7 MR. DOUGHERTY: That's correct. That's  
 8 exactly correct.

9 Yes, Mr. Duffy.

10 ED DUFFY: Yeah, Ed Duffy, New Hope, 23  
 11 Arden. Are we going to talk about the parking  
 12 deck at all?

13 MR. DOUGHERTY: Today.

14 ED DUFFY: Yeah, on the grant  
 15 application?

16 MR. DOUGHERTY: We had it on the  
 17 agenda, but we are out of time.

18 ED DUFFY: Okay. Question, have you  
 19 really looked at private resources, because I've  
 20 heard in more than one conversation from a  
 21 prominent business person, that has -- is  
 22 invested in New Hope very heavily that he would  
 23 be interested in doing a deck. And then I saw a  
 24 private resident of New Hope that said he'd be  
 25 interested in doing a deck.

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1 MR. DOUGHERTY: Ed, it sounds like a  
 2 comment, a suggestion the people at the table  
 3 have heard the suggestion. That's all I can  
 4 comment on.

5 ED DUFFY: Okay. I'll talk to you guys  
 6 offline.

7 MR. MEYER: Thank you.

8 ED DUFFY: Thank you.

9 MR. DOUGHERTY: Well, thank you, folks.  
 10 We're actually going to have to move into  
 11 executive session now for -- and I appreciate all  
 12 your comments.

13 (Meeting concluded at 5:30 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately, to the best of my ability, in the notes taken by me at the meeting in the above matter; and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the same.

TARA WILSON, C.R.

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