

COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON

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HELD:

Tuesday, February 25th, 2020

LOCATION:

Council Chambers
Scranton City Hall
340 North Washington Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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

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- WILLIAM GAUGHAN, PRESIDENT
- KYLE DONAHUE, VICE PRESIDENT
- PATRICK ROGAN - absent
- MARK MCANDREW
- JESSICA ROTHCHILD

- LORI REED, CITY CLERK
- JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- KEVIN HAYES, COUNCIL SOLICITOR

1 (Pledge of Allegiance recited and a
2 moment of reflection observed.)

3
4 MR. GAUGHAN: Roll call, please.

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan. Mr.
6 McAndrew.

7 MR. MCANDREW: Present.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Dr. Rothchild.

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Donahue.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Here. Mrs. Reed,
14 please dispense with the reading of the
15 minutes.

16 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER.

17 3-A. CONTROLLER'S REPORT FOR MONTH
18 ENDING JANUARY 31, 2020.

19 3-B. MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON
20 FIREFIGHTERS PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
21 HELD JANUARY 15, 2020.

22 3-C. MINUTES OF THE NON-UNIFORM
23 MUNICIPAL PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD
24 JANUARY 15, 2020.

25 3-D. MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON POLICE

1 PENSION COMMISSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 15,
2 2020.

3 3-E. MINUTES OF THE COMPOSITE
4 PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD JANUARY 15,
5 2020.

6 3-F. AGENDA FOR THE NON-UNIFORM
7 MUNICIPAL PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD
8 FEBRUARY 19, 2020.

9 3-G. AGENDA FOR THE CITY PLANNING
10 COMMISSION MEETING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 26,
11 2020.

12 3-H. MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON SEWER
13 AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD
14 JANUARY 16, 2020.

15 3-I. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM
16 UFBERG & ASSOCIATES LLP DATED FEBRUARY 21, 2020
17 REGARDING LABOR SOLICITOR DISCLOSURES BY
18 CURRENT CONTRACTOR.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Are there any comments
20 on any of the Third Order items? If not,
21 received and filed. Do any Council members
22 have any announcements at this time? Okay, I
23 have two.

24 First announcement, an executive
25 session was held this evening prior to our

1 meeting to discuss a matter of litigation. And
2 I'd like to turn it over to Solicitor Hayes
3 just to take a moment to inform the public on
4 the budget -- the preliminary budget from the
5 fee agreement for the Act 511 case.

6 ATTY. HAYES: Thank you, Councilman
7 Gaughan. Earlier today we held an executive
8 session. Council held an executive session for
9 the exclusive purpose of meeting with
10 representatives from Stevens and Lee to obtain
11 an update with regard to the appeal that they
12 are pursuing on behalf of the City with both
13 the Commonwealth Court and as of today with the
14 Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

15 They reported to us that a Petition
16 For Extraordinary Jurisdiction has been filed
17 with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court I believe
18 today. We also reviewed a preliminary budget
19 with representatives from Stevens and Lee.
20 Issues and questions were raised regarding the
21 preliminary budget. And they have agreed to
22 provide us with additional information which
23 will be provided to the public when it's
24 finalized.

25 But again, the executive session was

1 held for the exclusive purpose of obtaining a
2 litigation update.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. The last
4 announcement I'd like to make is similar to
5 last week. I would just like to briefly note
6 the new timing device that has been installed
7 at the podium for the purpose of keeping track
8 of public participation time at our meetings.

9 Speakers will continue to have five
10 minutes to address City Council. The yellow
11 light will blink at the podium continuously
12 when two minutes of time remain. At one minute
13 of time remaining the yellow light will stay
14 fixed and then the red light will indicate the
15 five minute time limit has been reached.

16 The timing device provides an
17 opportunity for speakers to finish their
18 thoughts without the interruption of the bell
19 as was previously mentioned. And that is all I
20 have for announcements. Mrs. Reed?

21 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS
22 PARTICIPATION.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. The first
24 speaker tonight is the Honorable Mayor Paige
25 Cognetti.

1 MAYOR COGNETTI: Thank you. Good
2 evening everyone. Good evening. Thank you
3 guys for coming tonight. I just have a few
4 announcements that I wanted to make. So our
5 day of action -- Mayor's Day of Action is this
6 coming Saturday, February 29th. It's 10 a.m.
7 right here at City Hall.

8 We are going to be training
9 volunteers to be what we're calling census
10 ambassadors to go out into the community and
11 educate people not only about the census why
12 it's important, how to fill it out, but also
13 that it's safe to do so.

14 Not only is there information, their
15 personal information safe but also the -- in
16 terms of immigration enforcement their
17 information is safe. The federal government
18 cannot use information given at the census to
19 then go and enforce some of these immigration
20 laws.

21 So that is important. That is
22 really difficult across the nation for us to
23 get across. So we're trying to as a city -- as
24 a volunteer base of the City supplement the
25 efforts of the federal workers to answer the

1 census more completely than we did in 2010.

2 So that's on Saturday. Again, it's
3 the first of many, many efforts. But we're
4 looking for volunteers to come and get trained
5 up. We had an OECD staff and Megan from my
6 office went to a training in Allentown last
7 week or the week before to get trained up and
8 get a lot of materials that the state provided
9 for us to then -- to then be able to hand out
10 and use to educate.

11 So that's on Saturday. And we're
12 very excited about that. I think you all
13 know -- and I know, Kyle, you've been really
14 involved in this effort for a long time. It
15 takes every corner of the community and it
16 takes us all to be really going out and
17 focusing on this for the next few months.

18 So I'm excited about Saturday to
19 kick that off. Thursday, March 5th at 1:00 at
20 the Keystone Diner in West Side we'll be doing
21 the first Engage With Paige coffee. Anyone
22 from the community can come and ask questions.
23 It's, you know, basically a town hall that
24 we're doing it at a diner so it's a little more
25 informal, a little bit more relaxed atmosphere.

1 But we'll be doing something -- be doing a
2 coffee like every month.

3 Another piece is on Thursday at
4 2:00, I believe, so we sent a press release
5 yesterday. Thursday at 2:00 I'll be doing a
6 press briefing in the Governor's Room just to
7 update the press on what we've been up to in
8 the first couple months and what our
9 administrations' goals are. So again, the
10 first of many briefings like that.

11 The other piece is the flag design
12 contest. So we've received about a dozen
13 designs so far. The submissions are due March
14 20th. I wanted to pass this out to you all so
15 that you could see kind of the history of it a
16 little bit.

17 So it's a design contest that an
18 intern in our office is running. It's not
19 something that I'm working on on a daily basis.
20 And I wanted to show on this piece of paper and
21 many of you -- in the audience. So in 1907 --
22 there was no flag for Scranton until 1907.

23 The then Mayor of the city ran a
24 design contest. I believe the winner received
25 \$20 dollar, which in 1907 was pretty good.

1 There's no remuneration for this contest, nor
2 was there one in 1966 when they ran a contest
3 again.

4 So you could see in 1907 there was a
5 coal breaker, smoke stacks -- smokestacks and
6 train design that was emblematic of, you know,
7 the industry that was actually still thriving
8 at the time. In 1966 the design they came up
9 with was a fern I believe to symbolize the
10 past, concentric circles to represent
11 transportation and an atomic symbol to
12 represent the future.

13 So I think in 1966 that those things
14 maybe made sense. But I think, you know, in
15 2020 we're all looking into the future. I know
16 everybody on Council here, you know, ran on a
17 platform of looking towards the future.

18 And we're hoping that by having this
19 design contest it's something we can do to
20 unify the community around looking forward. So
21 we're taking all of those submissions, closing
22 them on March 20th. And the goal is to raise
23 the new flag on April 23rd which is the
24 anniversary of the incorporation of the City.

25 So that's the process there. We're

1 excited about it. It's meant to be something
2 fun and something that it really brings us
3 together. And it's not something that is
4 costing the taxpayers money. We're not going
5 to be putting the flag on any vehicles at DPW,
6 for example, that already have symbols.

7 We're not going to be doing that.
8 To the extent we get new vehicles we may want
9 to put the new symbol on those. But we're not
10 going to be going back and spending money
11 there. And by the same token, there are a lot
12 of things in this City -- my time's up.

13 There are a lot of things in the
14 City that do have former Mayor's names. We're
15 going to take those off. But we're not going
16 to be adding my name to the DPW trucks, for
17 example. That kind of tradition of the Mayor
18 putting their name on a lot of those things is
19 not something that I want to continue during my
20 administration.

21 So I just wanted to clarify that a
22 little bit. And I'm happy to take any
23 questions that you have.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Sure. Do any Council
25 members have any questions for the Mayor?

1 MR. DONAHUE: I just have a couple
2 quick ones. Was the contract with Barry Isett
3 and Associates for the licensing inspections
4 reviews signed yet?

5 MAYOR COGNETTI: Yeah, I believe it
6 is. I do believe it is signed. I think -- I
7 wasn't part of that piece of it. But I know
8 we met with them last week to begin the
9 engagement. So I do think that Mr. Sheridan
10 signed that and we're set to go and set to --
11 we had our initial meeting.

12 And they'll be meeting with LIPS
13 very, very soon, which I'm excited about and
14 happy to brief you guys on that. The initial
15 meeting was kind of the first one. But we can
16 be in touch with that process.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yeah, because I think
18 they wanted to go through a cycle of each
19 season to get a sense.

20 MAYOR COGNETTI: Oh, okay.

21 MR. DONAHUE: And then just, have we
22 made any progress -- the City made any progress
23 on hiring an HR Director yet?

24 MAYOR COGNETTI: We are still
25 looking for applicants. We have not been

1 successful so far. So if anyone knows of
2 anybody that would like to come and be the HR
3 Director, that is something that we are still
4 looking for.

5 I was on the phone a lot about that
6 today. We're -- it's something we really,
7 really need to get going on. We're hoping that
8 we'll get the right person very soon. It's
9 been a tough one.

10 MR. DONAHUE: Thank you.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Anyone else? I don't
12 have any questions. Thank you again, Mayor,
13 for coming --

14 MAYOR COGNETTI: Of course.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: -- and look forward to
16 working with you.

17 MAYOR COGNETTI: All right. Thanks
18 guys.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you.
20 Have a nice night. Les Spindler.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
22 Council, Les Spindler, City resident,
23 homeowner. Councilman Gaughan, last week I was
24 watching the meeting and you said about the
25 garbage fee being knocked down to \$250 by

1 previously -- by Mayor Evans.

2 You said and I quote you and you
3 said it was a half-cocked idea. Well, you're
4 partially at fault for that half-cocked idea.
5 You, Councilman Donahue, Councilman Rogan, and
6 former Councilman Perry put Mayor Evans in as
7 Mayor.

8 When I said right away if you went
9 into the interview process with an open mind,
10 which I know you didn't, then maybe we wouldn't
11 have that problem. There were more qualified
12 candidates that interviewed for the Mayor's
13 position than Wayne Evans. And that's all I'm
14 going to say on that.

15 I was going to come up here and
16 speak against the flag. But since the Mayor
17 said it's not going to cost us any money then
18 I'm all for it. If it doesn't cost us money --
19 anything that doesn't cost us money I'm all for
20 it. So I hope they have good luck. And I hope
21 it's a nice flag.

22 I do have to mention something. A
23 gentleman called Talkback 16 last Wednesday and
24 I love the idea that he had. I can't take
25 credit for this. But I wish I did. He said

1 the flashing of a hand on the taking money
2 because that's all the City ever does to the
3 citizens of this City is take money.

4 Moving on, I got my recycle schedule
5 in the mail. I think it's going to be very
6 helpful. I think it's a great idea. And it
7 was very well done. I hope everybody goes by
8 that. It's a good idea. Lastly, anybody that
9 watches these meetings know I talk about this
10 subject for many years, 14 to be exact.

11 When my dog was attacked by two pit
12 bulls 14 years ago. I've been coming to
13 this -- to every Council asking for dangerous
14 dog legislation and nothing has been done. I
15 presented paperwork that I've researched. I
16 printed out things and I presented to the last
17 Council, nothing's been done.

18 Other cities do it. I don't know
19 why we can't. For example, I was told by one
20 Council Solicitor years ago that you can't be
21 breed specific. Well, in St. George's County
22 Maryland, they are breed specific. Pit bulls
23 are banned in St. George's County, Maryland.

24 So they're breed specific. That's a
25 precedent being set right there. In

1 Pittsburgh, our own state if you own a dog
2 that's found to be dangerous you have to have a
3 10 foot high fence and insurance against that
4 dog.

5 And I brought these before other
6 Councils and I brought it before the last
7 Council. And nothing is ever done. And I'll
8 repeat myself again. Maybe something will be
9 done when some young child is ripped apart by a
10 dangerous dog like has been done in other
11 areas. See it on the news all the time.

12 And as I stated, I forget what it
13 was, a few years ago where it's a fact where
14 pit bulls were responsible for 25 deaths in the
15 United States. It was the most by any breed of
16 dog. People say, oh, it's not the dog. It's
17 the way they're brought up. I refuse to
18 believe that because I researched it.

19 Pit bulls is not a name it's --
20 known by the American Kennel Club. It's called
21 an American Staffordshire Terrier. The reason
22 they're called pit bulls is because they were
23 bred to fight in pits in England.

24 And they still have that fight in
25 them. It's in their blood. I don't care how

1 nice and people say -- my daughters argue with
2 me. They say, oh, we have friends and they're
3 so nice. But I would never trust one. I told
4 a story here a couple years ago about -- it
5 wasn't in this area.

6 It was in another state where a
7 family had a pit bull and went upstairs to a
8 crib and killed her baby right in the crib. So
9 that's all I'm going to say on that subject
10 now. My time is running out. I hope maybe
11 this Council will look into a better dangerous
12 dog legislation if -- I don't think we even
13 have any. Thank you for your time.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you,
15 Mr. Spindler. Next speaker is Joan Hodowanitz.

16 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
17 City resident and taxpayer. Have you had any
18 response from Rainey and Rainey about attending
19 a public caucus?

20 MR. GAUGHAN: We have not. When we
21 do get a response I will make that --

22 MS. HODOWANITZ: Yeah, my only
23 suggestion is don't pay them another cent until
24 they respond. Also, don't forget you have to
25 publish, in the lieu of notices, a summary of

1 the revenues and expenditures for that audit.

2 With regard to the budget for
3 Stevens and Lee, I don't know whether you
4 discussed this in your caucus, but you are
5 aware that in January according to Controller's
6 report, they were paid \$20,850 that -- they
7 have invoiced that -- and explained the
8 services they provided because I don't know
9 what the upper limit on budget is going to be
10 but almost \$21,000 are already gone.

11 I saw in the paper a story that a
12 group of police retirees are going to sue to
13 bring back the reinstatement of their COLA
14 increases which basically the story broke just
15 before the stockmarket broke. Yesterday it was
16 over a thousand points. I think the last I
17 heard just before 4 p.m. was, was down another
18 842 points.

19 And obviously the driving factor is
20 fear that the Coronavirus may become a global
21 epidemic. It's starting to spread in Europe
22 and in Asia and also in Africa apparently. So
23 my point being is I think that the Pension
24 Board should be very conservative and see
25 what's going to happen within the stockmarket

1 and this Coronavirus because if anything could
2 push us into another recession, I think that
3 would.

4 Speaking of the Coronavirus, has --
5 who in the City is responsible for overseeing
6 emergency plans in case we have a health
7 emergency like that? Is it the Chief of Police
8 as the Safety Director?

9 MR. GAUGHAN: No, it's the Fire
10 Chief. Under the Courtright administration,
11 they deemed the Fire Chief to be the Emergency
12 Management Coordinator. And that's held over
13 to this new administration. So and it is Al
14 Lucas.

15 MS. HODOWANITZ: Yeah, I hope that
16 there's some thought given to that in the
17 eventuality that that might happen. I asked
18 the County Commissioners and they are already
19 coordinating with PEMA, the Pennsylvania
20 Emergency Management Agency just in case it
21 affects the Commonwealth.

22 But if it happens, it could happen
23 very quickly and the City would need to be
24 prepared as well. With regard to the flag, I
25 too at first was nonplussed when I heard about,

1 you know, the contest for a flag.

2 But now that the Mayor has explained
3 what her intentions are and it will not cost
4 the City any money, I think it may be a very
5 good idea in that we have so many problems the
6 City is trying to address both as City
7 government and the school district and county
8 that sometimes you got to have something
9 positive to look at every day.

10 And I think this could be a positive
11 thing. It's not going to cost us any money.
12 It would be a great thing to get high schools
13 and elementary schools and, you know, involved
14 in a contest. And maybe we can get some
15 business, you know, to offer a \$100 savings
16 bond or something, you know, to the winner.
17 But I think this could be a good thing. So,
18 you know, I'll support her.

19 Have you as President of Council
20 received from the BA's office the adjusted
21 political contribution limits?

22 MR. GAUGHAN: No, I have not yet.
23 But when we do --

24 MS. HODOWANITZ: Kick their butts.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: We have made them

1 aware of it. We just have not received it yet.

2 MS. HODOWANITZ: Yep. Okay, put
3 some teeth into that ordinance. And finally, I
4 think a lot of people are very interested now
5 that elections are over and the dust is
6 starting to settle on a lot of issues, where
7 are we going to go with stormwater?

8 You know, I mean, I don't know about
9 you but I got my real estate bill and all my
10 federal and state taxes are paid and, you know,
11 Thursday afternoon my real estate will be paid.
12 And I was wondering what will happen with the
13 stormwater thing. I mean, that's a big shoe
14 that's going to drop sooner or later. You
15 could only kick that can down the road so long
16 before you're going to have to address it.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. That's it
19 for the sign-in sheet. Would anyone else like
20 to address City Council?

21 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council,
22 Dave Dobrzyn. With that, I almost feel like
23 I'm being impeached here.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, we're going to
25 install the trap door next week, Mr. Dobrzyn.

1 MR. DOBRZYN: All right. Last week
2 we mentioned once again about adding the trash
3 fee to the land and tax bill. Well, I just got
4 my tax bill in the mail for my separate
5 property which is unoccupied by a structure.

6 And it's \$700 for 40 by 140 feet
7 thanks to all the former increases. And
8 another 250 will probably push it to somewhere
9 around a thousand dollars a year. So I'm
10 asking for your consideration on that. And
11 it's probably not possible to tax one property
12 and not the other irregardless of if it's a
13 property you probably have to be taxed.

14 And by the way, I am still for
15 universal removal. I don't need somebody
16 else's trash on my lawn, especially if I have
17 to pay to throw some day.

18 Paid my Comcast bill Sunday. And
19 it's been raised from about \$196 somewhere
20 around in autumn to \$260 a month for Xfinity.
21 Now, I could call China. I could call India.
22 I could call all over. But all I'm doing right
23 now I don't have anybody to talk to there.

24 So I presumably I'm paying someone
25 else's bill. And I think it's time that the

1 City steps in and starts regulating Comcast and
2 telling them it's time to cut with the
3 increases. It's totally ridiculous. If I
4 bought more of something or another I had a
5 restaurant and I bought two cases of tomatoes
6 on Monday and they were really good tomatoes
7 and everybody loved them and you sold me 10
8 cases the next Monday, you know, I'd probably
9 get a better -- but the longer you are with
10 Comcast the worst price you get.

11 I mentioned with school lunches.
12 Here's my idea. Every child should have an
13 offer of an orange juice and maybe a granola
14 bar on the way in. And they should also have
15 free lunches because you cannot learn on an
16 empty stomach. I know that myself because I
17 teach myself constantly out of all kinds of
18 books.

19 And once again, we're 20 million
20 short on the state funding for schools, 36
21 percent tax exempt, and 10 percent do not pay.
22 So that's already 54 percent of the people are
23 paying for the whole enchilada.

24 And on walkability downtown, yes, we
25 need walkability. If you turn onto Lackawanna

1 Avenue at a certain time of day from Wyoming
2 Avenue, the sun is right above the mall and you
3 cannot see people crossing the street. And
4 that's unacceptable.

5 But what we don't need is bicycles
6 in the middle at 3:30 or 4:30 or 5 in the
7 afternoon. That's impossible. It can be --
8 it could land you in a world of hurt if you hit
9 somebody. And I have a short time to call
10 attention to this.

11 But our Chamber of Commerce has been
12 building all kinds of workplaces out along the
13 industrial highway above Throop and Jessup.
14 And we moved pretty much all the mall traffic
15 up to Montage. And I'm sorry to say that
16 that's environmentally unsound because we have
17 no place to work in Scranton and no place to
18 buy anything significantly.

19 And if you hop in your car you're
20 degrading the environment. And you have to
21 have a car at low wages. So \$8 an hour don't
22 cut it to keep a roof over your head and pay
23 for a car and everything else. And that's some
24 of what's being paid. Thank you. Have a good
25 evening.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Have a
2 good evening. Anyone else like to address
3 Council?

4 MR. COYNE: Tom Coyne, just a quick
5 question for you. With the 904 performance
6 grants for the trash, I just have a quick
7 question on whether or not the City recycling
8 centers, there are a number of different places
9 that recycle metal and/or different products in
10 the City whether or not the City has reached
11 out to them and whether or not any of these
12 organizations are cooperating in giving the
13 City information on tonnage of recyclables that
14 they've collected from City residents so that
15 the City can comingle them with the 904 grant
16 to receive money -- more money back from the
17 state since anything recycling including from
18 not just the recycling center, but say the
19 scrap yards over in West Side, any of the
20 tonnage from there that has been recycled if we
21 get receipt of they recycle X number, the City
22 could therefore get grant money from that. Are
23 any of them cooperating? Do we know any --

24 MR. GAUGHAN: You know, off the top
25 of my head I'm not sure. But we can certainly

1 reach out to our recycling coordinator and
2 Joyce Hatala who is in charge of our recycling
3 program. They would probably be able to
4 provide an answer fairly quickly. So we can
5 have that for you next week.

6 MR. COYNE: That's fantastic. That
7 was part of the trash -- I guess there was a
8 trash audit done about eight or ten years ago
9 on how to streamline the City's trash
10 operations. And part of it was the grant money
11 of going out and trying to solicit these
12 independent recyclers just to get figures,
13 nothing else but figures from them so that
14 money could be recuperated. I was wondering if
15 it was ever followed through. That's it.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Would
18 anyone else like to address Council?

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher,
20 speaking of the landfill, I want to know do we
21 have a durable forever contract with Keystone
22 Landfill which that always gets me saying
23 landfill when they're building a mountain is
24 just --

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, I believe we

1 have a lifetime contract that was signed under
2 Mayor Connors for the tipping fee, correct,
3 Mrs. Reed, because we looked into this when Mr.
4 Coyne had asked us about the tipping fee. So I
5 would say yes. I believe that we do have a
6 lifetime contract setting the tipping fee at a
7 certain rate.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: I remember when we
9 were talking a couple years ago about whether
10 or not Alliance could take our trash if
11 something happened to Keystone Landfill and the
12 answer was yes. So I don't know why we don't
13 seek a bid from Alliance to see if we could get
14 a better deal.

15 Also, Joan brought up the audit.
16 And is there no way that we could possibly have
17 a master calendar of when the City is supposed
18 to dump data to Kohanski so they could be
19 watched throughout the year as it progresses
20 instead of waiting to the end and asking and
21 asking and asking?

22 MR. GAUGHAN: So that's one of the
23 issues that came up in the meetings that we've
24 had with Kohanski. And we're going to be
25 provided monthly updates as the process moves

1 along. And we'll certainly share that with the
2 public.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Wonderful. Okay, I
4 would like to know if you would be willing to
5 ask I guess it would be the Pension Board --
6 the Composite Board whether or not they could
7 give at least a quarterly report on what level
8 our pension is at because it's so closely tied
9 to the 511 -- well, not 511 actually but to
10 our -- just the amount we have to pay.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: I don't know -- what
12 did you say quarterly or monthly?

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: I don't know if they
15 do it quarterly. I think they do it annually.
16 They provide a report and sometimes you'll see
17 it in the backup here of what the funding
18 percentage is. Is that what you're looking
19 for?

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Essentially, I
21 would like a better definition really of the
22 levels two and three. And it's again, how much
23 or how long we can continue to even petition
24 for that tripling of the LST tax. It should
25 have ended before the -- was it Act 55 a couple

1 years ago that if we are -- because to me it's
2 got a negative impact.

3 We can control whether or not we can
4 keep taking money from outsiders just by not
5 funding the pension the way we should. So I
6 would really like to see that on a more steady
7 basis.

8 Also, a while back I had requested
9 the ordinance or resolution that was passed by
10 the Scranton City Council authorizing the award
11 for the demolition and fill in of the two pools
12 at Novembrino pool. The answer that I got back
13 was they could not -- that it was a right to
14 know.

15 They could not provide an answer to
16 that because there is no -- nothing in the City
17 to support that. So why did that happen?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: I don't know the
19 answer to that question because obviously we're
20 not overseeing that project. That would be a
21 combination of the administration. And I
22 believe there's OECD funds in there as well.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: Was that not in our
24 capital budget?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: That's what I just

1 said. It was City funds and OECD funds, I
2 believe. But, I mean, I don't know the answer
3 to that question. I would assume they would
4 bid it out. But I don't know the answer to
5 that question.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, it would be
7 nice to know. Also on 5-B tonight I looked
8 through it rather quickly. Can you tell me
9 what the period of performance is? When will
10 that end?

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, you mean in
12 terms of the remediation?

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, that was a
15 question that actually came up. And we're
16 going to inquire about that before final
17 passage.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And I am
19 somewhat disappointed that an emergency bill is
20 still not settled and it's being billed even
21 which I think is pretty cheeky but when you
22 don't have a contract but -- thank you.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Would anyone else like
24 to address the Council? Mrs. Reed?

25 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.

1 MOTIONS.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Councilman McAndrew,
3 any motions or comments tonight?

4 MR. MCANDREW: Yes, thank you.
5 Firstly -- let me give you a copy. Here's a
6 copy, Lori. I'm sorry. So I didn't have my
7 mic on. So a concerned citizen came to me with
8 regards to Griffin Pond and how we give them
9 money and they gave this to me in bullet form.

10 I would like to just actually read
11 the bullets that I was obvious -- and maybe you
12 could seek clarification for me and the rest of
13 the City.

14 So my understanding is and, you
15 know, and I do know that we voted on this. So
16 Griffin Pond receives a monetary payment from
17 the City of Scranton annually. Last payment
18 made was late January, early February. The
19 payment was \$63,000, okay?

20 The City of Scranton is the only
21 municipality that pays Griffin Pond on an
22 annual basis. Scranton Animal Control was told
23 on multiple occasions by Griffin Pond that they
24 will not accept cats from them or will they
25 them that they can only accept one or two.

1 This leaves animal control with no
2 option but to leave friendly stays on the
3 streets or to put abandoned family pets,
4 meaning cats on the street unless a local
5 rescue steps up and takes them.

6 Last July, animal control removed 57
7 cats from a hoarding situation in Scranton.
8 Griffin Pond only took 20. Local rescues took
9 the rest. Street Cats is located in the Nay
10 Aug Zoo, took the majority with 34. Griffin
11 Pond gets money from the City of Scranton over
12 \$102,000 last year. Street Cats, which I just
13 mentioned operates out of Nay Aug receives no
14 funding.

15 It's 100 percent volunteer and runs
16 on donations, fundraising and grants. Another
17 bullet point, is Griffin Pond will not accept
18 feral cats. So these cats are TNRed, which
19 means trapped, neutered and returned which
20 costs the City additional money. Griffin Pond
21 will accept friendly dogs but not aggressive
22 ones.

23 This leaves animal control with very
24 few options in these instances. So my -- once
25 again, if you could just please put this in the

1 form of a letter and just to get clarification
2 or justification of, you know, the whys or the
3 why nots or rationale as to the money we give
4 them. Thank you.

5 Secondly, I would like to
6 congratulate the Lady Invaders of West Scranton
7 High School on their District 2 Class 5
8 semifinal win this last week against North
9 Pocono and wish them luck this Saturday for the
10 division championship game against Abington.

11 I would also like to congratulate
12 the Scranton High Night Boys on their District
13 2 class five semifinal win last week and wish
14 them luck this Saturday against the
15 Wilkes-Barre Wolfpack for the District 2
16 championship. I hope both of them bring it
17 home. And also to answer Mr. Thompson, you
18 referred twice last week and this week with
19 regards to free meals for students in the
20 Scranton School District.

21 I just want to clarify that every
22 child in the Scranton School District receives
23 a free breakfast and a free lunch, okay? Thank
24 you. That is all I have.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Dr.

1 Rothchild, any motions or comments?

2 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, I have a few
3 comments. First, I would like to provide an
4 update on my work with regards to the complaint
5 about the pool on Capouse Avenue. I did meet
6 with the OECD Director yesterday. And we had a
7 great conversation about the different
8 possibilities of what we could do with that
9 space.

10 And it appears that there may be
11 some grant possibilities that would be
12 appropriate for it. But first in order --
13 prior to applying for any of the applicable
14 grants we would need to have better sense of
15 what we would like to do with it and what the
16 community needs are in that neighborhood.

17 So I will be working with them to
18 either put together a survey or canvas of that
19 neighborhood, neighbors who are close to the
20 pool. And then we can make a better
21 determination on the best use for that space.

22 And I did receive a couple e-mails
23 about it with some suggestions from residents
24 already. And I think they're great, but we do
25 need to hear back from more people to have a

1 better general sense. And I've mentioned in a
2 few meetings that I've been really interested
3 in working together with our local colleges and
4 universities.

5 On Friday I did have a tour over at
6 Lackawanna College. And I really received a
7 lot of great information about the school, the
8 different programs that they've added over the
9 years, how they've really made progress there
10 and ways that they are giving back to the
11 community and that they are -- many of their
12 graduates are staying here in Scranton.

13 And so I was very pleased to hear
14 that and to have the opportunity to visit their
15 different buildings and hear about the work
16 that they're doing over there and I plan on
17 visiting all of our local colleges because I
18 think it's been very useful so far. I believe
19 that's all I have. Thank you.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Councilman
21 Donahue, any motions or comments?

22 MR. DONAHUE: Yeah, just quickly.
23 Miss Reed, would we be able to send a request
24 for -- I got a complaint about a light being
25 out on a poll on Nay Aug Place. It's a little

1 walkway. But there actually are houses off
2 Linden Street. So I will pass along the --
3 they gave me the poll number. So I'll give you
4 that information.

5 And also too that the South Side
6 Neighborhood meeting last week I got a
7 complaint about 725 Pittston Ave. I believe we
8 put in a request to Licensing and Inspections
9 about that I think in April or May last year.
10 So would we be able to follow up on that and I
11 do have photos too of what it currently looks
12 like if we can figure out a way to pass those
13 along. And that's all I have. Thank you.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Councilman
15 Donahue. Just a few things. Number one, in
16 terms of Mrs. Hodowanitz brought up the
17 Coronavirus. We did actually -- one speaker
18 Mr. Coyne brought this up a couple weeks ago.
19 And the Emergency Management Coordinator who is
20 the Acting Fire Chief, Al Lucas, he actually
21 did respond to us with some information.

22 And he does coordinate with the
23 different governmental bodies, the county, you
24 know. So they are aware of it. And if
25 anything comes down from the World Health

1 Organization, you know, the City is aware and
2 they're going to be prepared for that. So that
3 takes care of that.

4 In terms of Mr. Spindler's comments
5 about the dangerous dog legislation, I don't
6 necessarily disagree with what you said. I
7 don't know in terms of banning a specific breed
8 of dog in the City, I don't know if that's
9 possible. But, Solicitor Hayes, when you have
10 time, can you research maybe what other cities
11 do and if that is feasible for the City to look
12 into? I would appreciate that.

13 In terms of the GPS -- putting GPS
14 on City vehicles, I had asked about that last
15 week. And we were informed by the
16 administration that they are still exploring
17 that option. And when there is an update to be
18 provided, they will provide Council and the
19 public that update.

20 Mrs. Reed, this is one thing that I
21 was actually thinking about earlier today. I
22 think last year Council had passed a contract
23 with the firm to conduct an audit of all City
24 utilities and the rationale at that time was it
25 was supposed to save -- potentially save the

1 City some money. So if you can get together
2 with the administration and see if we can get
3 an update on that contract and where they are
4 with that, I would appreciate it.

5 Also, you know, I failed to bring
6 this up when the Mayor was here. It just
7 totally slipped my mind. But one of the things
8 that I do plan on bringing up with the Mayor
9 and I don't know if it will be able to be
10 accomplished this year, but it's something I
11 brought up the last few years.

12 And I don't want to say it's fallen
13 on deaf ears but it just never got off the
14 ground is our Street Sweeping Program. We did
15 acquire, I believe, one new street sweeper. I
16 think we have a total of maybe two or three now
17 that sweep the streets in the City.

18 We do usually receive a schedule of
19 where the sweepers are going to be throughout
20 the City. My only gripe the past few years has
21 been there should be a plan in place of
22 alternate side of the street parking because it
23 defeats the purpose of cleaning the streets if
24 you have cars lined up on each side of the
25 block.

1 I was told in the past by previous
2 administrations that it can't be done and it
3 would be labor intensive. I disagree with
4 that. Other cities do it and do it
5 successfully. If we're going to be, you know,
6 make a commitment to make sure our
7 neighborhoods are clean, then we're going to
8 want to put a program in place to let people
9 know when the sweeper is coming around so that
10 they could move their car.

11 So I would like to -- I am going to
12 talk to the Mayor about that and make sure it's
13 on her radar and maybe, you know, that could be
14 something that could be done this spring or
15 hopefully next spring. Mrs. Reed, I'd like you
16 to send a letter on my behalf to the
17 administration about the disclosures by
18 current contractors and vendors.

19 This is something that we're going
20 to talk about in a minute with the Ufberg labor
21 contract. And they did reply to our
22 request -- the issue that I raised that that
23 was not filled out. But it was not in -- the
24 reason they didn't fill it out was, it was not
25 in the bid package. It was not in the RFQ or

1 RFP. So what I would like to request from the
2 administration is that moving forward that
3 disclosure, I believe it was Attachment E, is
4 attached to every bid package. It just makes
5 it fair for everyone.

6 And then Council's not going back
7 and asking these firms to fill something out
8 that was not originally in the bid package.
9 And I think in terms of transparency, it is
10 good to know that information and to be out in
11 the open about it.

12 Also, Mrs. Reed, if you could get in
13 contact with the DPW or might be better served
14 going to the Business Administrator, the Sign
15 Program contract with KS Engineers, I was --
16 Mrs. Jeffries had a question about that. I was
17 looking through the contract in the memo that
18 was provided by the former Business
19 Administrator. He had explained that we were
20 going for a multimodal transportation grant.

21 We found out within the last week
22 that we did not receive that multimodal
23 transportation grant. So my question is, how
24 did the City end up paying for that -- for the
25 KS Engineering contract. So I would like to

1 find that out, if possible. And that is all I
2 have this week. Thank you.

3 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
4 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
5 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND
6 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMO ENVIRONMENTAL
7 DECISIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF THE
8 FUTURE SITE OF THE DOWNTOWN POCKET PARK, 248
9 WYOMING AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
11 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced
12 into its proper committee.

13 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

14 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? On
16 the question, I just want to take a minute to
17 go through kind of where we have been over the
18 last few years with this pocket park on Wyoming
19 Avenue.

20 So just to take everybody back for a
21 moment, since I had been on Council and
22 Councilman Donahue was also involved in this
23 back in 2017 and 2018. This property was
24 previously owned by RSM Properties, LLC. The
25 City was involved in a lawsuit with them.

1 September of 2017, the previous administration
2 sought approval for the City to buy that
3 property from RSM for \$375,000 to settle the
4 lawsuit and for the City to use grants to pay
5 for remediation and turn that property into a
6 pocket park.

7 Council at the time tabled the
8 legislation. There was a lot of back and forth
9 about whether it was a better idea to buy the
10 lot and to turn it into a pocket park or to
11 market it so that somebody could put a building
12 there and put it back on the tax rolls.

13 Eventually in December of 2017 we
14 passed that legislation to buy the property
15 back. We completed the purchase in January of
16 2018 with the recording of the deed. Scranton
17 Tomorrow at that time received a 400,000 state
18 grant to help convert the site into a pocket
19 park.

20 Throughout 2017, we passed more
21 legislation in terms of getting grant money to
22 remediate the property. And then in 2019 the
23 State Department of Community and Economic
24 Development announced the awarding of the
25 \$352,500 grant from the Industrial Sites Reuse

1 Program to City for remediation of the lot.

2 This is a joint venture between the
3 City and the County and Scranton Tomorrow. And
4 all this legislation is doing finally after all
5 of these years is awarding a contract to AMO to
6 remediate this property. So I just wanted to
7 give everybody a little bit of background
8 because it has been a few years since this has
9 come up.

10 So we're finally at the point where
11 they're going to remediate the property. In
12 terms of the timeline, Miss Schumacher has
13 asked, that's a question I also had and my
14 colleagues had. So we asked Mrs. Reed to find
15 out what the timeline is of the remediation.
16 That's all I have. Anyone else on the
17 question? All those in favor of introduction
18 signify by saying aye.

19 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

20 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

21 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
23 ayes have it and so moved.

24 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
25 RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING A FIVE HUNDRED

1 (\$500.00) DOLLAR DONATION FROM MS. MARIE C.
2 BANICKY OF SCRANTON PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF
3 SCRANTON POLICE K-9 UNIT.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
5 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be introduced
6 into its proper committee.

7 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

8 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question?

10 MR. MCANDREW: Yeah, I would like to
11 say something on the question. As Chairman of
12 Public Safety, I think this is wonderful that
13 Mrs. Banicky has donated \$500 to the Canine
14 Unit.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Anyone
16 else on the question? All those in favor of
17 introduction signify by saying aye.

18 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

19 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

20 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
22 ayes have it and so moved.

23 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
24 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF KAREN A.
25 DESANDIS, 1105 SUMMIT POINT, SCRANTON,

1 PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, TO THE CIVIL SERVICE
2 COMMISSION EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 14, 2020. MISS
3 DESANDIS' TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH THE TERM OF
4 MAYOR PAIGE G. COGNETTI.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
6 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be introduced
7 into its proper committee.

8 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All
11 those in favor of introduction signify by
12 saying aye.

13 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

15 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
17 ayes have it and so moved.

18 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
19 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF ELIZABETH M.
20 GARCIA, ESQUIRE, 1135 OLIVE STREET, SCRANTON,
21 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, TO THE CIVIL SERVICE
22 COMMISSION EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 14, 2020.
23 ATTORNEY GARCIA'S TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH THE
24 TERM OF MAYOR PAIGE G. COGNETTI.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll

1 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be introduced
2 into its proper committee.

3 DR. ROTHCHILD: So moved.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: 5-E, I'm sorry. On
6 the question? All those in favor of
7 introduction signify by saying aye.

8 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

9 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

10 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
12 ayes have it and so moved.

13 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
14 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF KEVIN MORGAN,
15 213 NORTH VAN BUREN AVENUE, SCRANTON,
16 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, TO THE CIVIL SERVICE
17 COMMISSION EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 14, 2020. MR.
18 MORGAN'S TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH THE TERM OF
19 MAYOR PAIGE G. COGNETTI.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
21 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be introduced
22 into its proper committee.

23 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

24 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All

1 those in favor of introduction signify by
2 saying aye.

3 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

5 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
7 ayes have it and so moved.

8 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. No
9 business at this time.

10 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
11 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES – FOR
12 ADOPTION – RESOLUTION NO. 20, 2020– AUTHORIZING
13 THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
14 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL
15 SERVICES CONTRACT WITH UFBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLP
16 FOR LABOR COUNSEL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
18 Committee on Rules, I recommend final passage
19 of Item 7-A.

20 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Yes,
22 on the question, last week I had raised two
23 issues regarding this contract. So I'd like to
24 ask Solicitor Hayes now to just run through
25 those two issues. And I know you were in

1 contact with Mr. Ufberg about them. So if you
2 could give us an update.

3 ATTY. HAYES: And, Councilman
4 Gaughan, the two issues, the first raised was
5 disclosures, correct? Well, the disclosures
6 have been requested by -- Ufberg and
7 Associates. They were not included as a
8 requirement as part of that bid package.

9 But they did provide us with that
10 information. That information has been posted
11 as part of this agenda. So that issue has been
12 addressed.

13 The second issue that I believe you
14 raised was the application of Section 307 of
15 the Home Rule Charter as it pertains to this
16 resolution and this appointment of Ufberg and
17 Associates.

18 It is my opinion that Section 307 of
19 Scranton's Home Rule Charter does not prohibit
20 Ufberg and Associates from being appointed as
21 City's Labor Solicitor due to Attorney Mary
22 Walsh Dempsey's employment with that law firm
23 and her prior service as a member of City
24 Council.

25 Attorney Dempsey was appointed to

1 Council in August of 2019 and served in that
2 position for approximately five months until
3 her term expired on January 6th, 2020.

4 Attorney Dempsey was not elected to Council.

5 And as part of Resolution No. 20,
6 Attorney Dempsey is not being appointed to act
7 as a paid consultant or employee of the City.
8 To the contrary, Ufberg and Associates
9 primarily through Attorney Robert Ufberg will
10 provide professional legal services to the City
11 as a contractor.

12 Attorney Dempsey is an employee of
13 Ufberg and Associates. Accordingly, it is my
14 opinion that there is no violation of Section
15 307 of the Home Rule Charter with regard to
16 this resolution appointing Ufberg and
17 Associates as the City's Labor Solicitor.

18 With that said, in order to address
19 any potential concerns with regard to this
20 appointment, Ufberg and Associates has
21 voluntarily agreed to the following conditions:

22 First, Attorney Dempsey will not
23 share with Attorney Ufberg or other members of
24 his firm any confidential nonpublic information
25 related to the City that she obtained through

1 the course of her appointment to City Council.

2 Second, Attorney Dempsey will not
3 appear on behalf of the City on any labor or
4 employment matter or supervise or otherwise
5 have responsibility for the overall
6 implementation and administration of Ufberg and
7 Associates contract with the City for one year
8 after the expiration of her appointment to City
9 Council.

10 And lastly, Attorney Dempsey's
11 compensation will not be altered as a direct
12 result of Ufberg Associates engagement by the
13 City of Scranton. So I believe that was the
14 second issue which you raised, Councilman
15 Gaughan, relating to this resolution.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. And the --
17 there was a letter sent by Attorney Ufberg to
18 solicitor -- the City Solicitor Jessica Eskra
19 and our Council Solicitor Kevin Hayes. I am
20 going to ask that this be made a part of the --
21 we did just receive this earlier today.

22 So I'm going to ask that this be
23 made part of the record in Third Order next
24 week, Mrs. Reed. And in terms of the issues
25 that I brought up, both the disclosures that

1 were provided in Third Order tonight that's on
2 our agenda and this letter with the assurances
3 given by Attorney Ufberg, I am comfortable with
4 those so I'll be voting yes. Anyone else on
5 the question? Roll call, please.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McAndrew.

7 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Dr. Rothchild.

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Donahue.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
14 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

15 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
16 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
17 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 21, 2020 -
18 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
19 CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
20 TO ENTER INTO A LOAN TO GRANT AGREEMENT AND
21 MAKE A LOAN/GRANT FROM THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S
22 BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY LOAN TO GRANT PROGRAM,
23 PROJECT NO. 150.46 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
24 \$70,000.00 TO FANCY PARSLEY, LLC TO ASSIST AN
25 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
2 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
3 Committee on Community Development?

4 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, as Chairperson
5 for the Committee on Community Development, I
6 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
9 call, please.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McAndrew.

11 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Dr. Rothchild.

13 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Donahue.

15 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
18 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

19 Before we adjourn the meeting
20 tonight, I failed to mention -- this was at the
21 end of my notes here and I missed it. We did
22 receive another update on the gas card audit.

23 Two weeks ago Mrs. Reed had sent a
24 request on my behalf to Mr. Moretti that when
25 the gas card audit was complete that we

1 schedule a public caucus where he would present
2 his findings.

3 Mr. Moretti did reply to Mrs. Reed
4 on Wednesday, February 19th that he would be
5 available to meet anytime at the Council's
6 convenience. The data has been analyzed. And
7 he does have some questions before he finalizes
8 his report. He anticipates meeting John Murray
9 and the administration at their earliest
10 convenience.

11 He'll be able to give Council a more
12 specific timeframe as soon as he is confident
13 that he has all the information that he needs.
14 And he will be in touch with us at some point
15 next week. So I just want to make sure that I
16 got that on the record. If there is no further
17 business, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

18 MR. DONAHUE: Motion to adjourn.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: This meeting's
20 adjourned. Thank you. Have a good night.

21

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25

C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
5 notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy
6 is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my
7 ability.

8
9
10 _____
11 Maria McCool, RPR
12 Official Court Reporter
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