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1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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5 Held:

6 Thursday, October 19, 2006

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8 Time:

9 6:30 p.m.

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12 Location:

13 Council Chambers

14 Scranton City Hall

15 340 North Washington Avenue

16 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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22 Lisa M. Graff, RMR

23 Court Reporter

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1 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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3 MS. JUDY GATELLI, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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5 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT, VICE-PRESIDENT

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7 MS. JANET EVANS

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9 MS. SHERRY NEALON FANUCCI

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11 MR. AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

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13 MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

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15 MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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1 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Please stand for

2 the Pledge Of Allegiance. Please remain standing for a

3 moment of reflection. Roll call.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Here.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

7 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan. Mr.

9 Courtright.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

12 MS. GATELLI: Here. Mrs. Garvey.

13 Third order. 3-A, MINUTES OF THE ZONING HEARING BOARD

14 MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 2006. Are there any

15 comments? If not, received and filed.

16 MS. GARVEY: 3-B, CONTROLLER'S REPORT

17 FOR THE MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2006.

18 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. GARVEY: 3-C, RECEIPT OF \$1,000

21 DONATION FROM SANOFI PASTEUR TO THE CITY OF SCRANTON

22 POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BE DEPOSITED TO SPECIAL CITY

23 ACCOUNT #02.22950 (POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY GRANTS) TO BE

24 USED FOR CRIME PREVENTION.

25 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

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1 I'd just like to say -- to thank Sanofi Pasteur for

2 donating \$1,000 to the police department for crime

3 prevention. They are a taxpaying body, and they are

4 donating to our community, and they're to be commended.

5 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Gatelli, I wondered if

6 you were aware that in the Recovery Plan, once again,

7 that I alluded to earlier this evening, PEL projected

8 \$300,000 in payments in lieu of taxes that, you know,

9 contributions from non-profits, I believe, in the year

10 2002 and another fiscal year. So, unfortunately we

11 fell far below the goal.

12 MS. GATELLI: Yes, we certainly did.

13 Are there any other comments? If not, received and

14 filed.

15 MS. GATELLI: That's all I have. There

16 are no clerk's notes tonight.

17 MS. GATELLI: There is pierogie sale at

18 St. Nicholas Church on Jefferson Avenue tomorrow from

19 9:30 to 4:30.

20 The O'Malley family is having their

21 annual Halloween party Sunday at McDade Park from one

22 to three. You need to call for reservations at

23 346-1828. And it's for the children. It's really

24 nice. I've taken my grandchildren there. It's a nice

25 party.

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1 St. Joseph's Lithuanian Women's Society

2 on Main Avenue is having a quilt bingo Sunday from --

3 at two o'clock, the 22nd.

4 Elm Park Church is having their arts

5 and crafts show Saturday the 28th from nine to six.

6 The Sewer Authority will be paving

7 Rundle Street and Euclid Avenue soon in the next few

8 weeks where they have done some work.

9 The water company will be paving from

10 -- the side streets from Brook to Genet in South Side.

11 Cedar Avenue was paved yesterday and today, and it's
12 just a pleasure to now drive on some decent road after
13 ten months of digging in the utilities.

14 I got a phone call this week from Mr.

15 Santolli, and he was very upset about some statements
16 that a speaker made about the city tearing down trees
17 at a cemetery up on Main Avenue.

18 He said that he did, indeed, as the city

19 forester checked those trees, and they were dead. They
20 are dead trees. They were not living trees. And Mr.

21 Santolli, if you don't know, is quite an expert in his
22 forestry business, and he donates all his services.

23 And a private contractor was hired by the cemetery to
24 cut down those trees at the city's request because they
25 were dangerous.

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1 Someone said that the city was cutting

2 down good trees, so he wanted me to clarify that at the
3 meeting this week.

4 The catch basin at the corner of West

5 Locust and Acker was repaired, as was the one at 2121

6 Ash and 1100 of Swetland Street.

7 Paving was done at the 500 of Kellem

8 Court and Center Street. Numerous potholes were
9 filled.
10 Mrs. Evans, you'll be happy, because I
11 know you wrote letters and so did I for Mike Anderson,
12 so I'm very happy that his curb was fixed at last, as
13 was several others that I had requested on Darby, Fig
14 Street and Brigg Street. So, I'm happy about those.
15 An inlet was also fixed at 308 Cedar
16 Avenue, and several properties were boarded up, 521
17 East Gibson, 1421 Vine, 1221 Linden, 146 South Sherman,
18 and the one on Bromley, 114 North Bromley.
19 Many trees were removed in Kellem
20 Court, the nine of Prescott and at Connell Park.
21 We are not quite complete with the
22 project at Connell Park, but there were some
23 volunteers, and I don't have all their names yet, but I
24 will read them when I get them all, because they were
25 many neighborhood people that volunteered for all of
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1 last weekend and Friday and Monday to put the
2 playground up at Connell Park. It's not quite
3 complete, but it should be done by the beginning of
4 next week. It is a pleasure to see such a beautiful

5 playground, and I hope it stays that way. I hope I
6 don't have problems that Mr. Narsavage had, you know,
7 with his playground.
8 The only good thing about this one is
9 it's brown and dark green, so the graffiti won't stay
10 too well on it, and I think that's why they're starting
11 to make the swings in a darker color because of
12 problems all over that they have with graffiti. But
13 it's really nice to see.
14 And when they have a grand opening
15 there, I certainly will invite all of Council to come
16 up there and see what a beautiful place it is.
17 We have three low income housing
18 projects within two blocks of it, so it's certainly
19 going to serve the people that it's supposed to, the
20 children in this community that don't a swing set in
21 their yard. So, I'm really, really proud of that.
22 And I'd like to thank Fred Belardi,
23 even though Fred and I don't see eye to eye on a lot of
24 things, I really have to thank him publicly for his
25 support of Connell Park, where he grew up and where he
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1 came from. So, thank you, Fred, for the beautiful

2 playground.

3 I just have a few things I'd like Kay

4 to address. There's a terrible pothole on the 1000

5 block of River Street. And I know they've filled it

6 before. It's not your average pothole. It's square.

7 And a woman's tire just fit right in it, and she ruined

8 her tire. So, if you can ask Mr. Parker if he could

9 please fill that hole.

10 Also, there's potholes, large ones, at

11 Hertz Court and Palm Street and Hertz Court and Lands

12 Place.

13 Trimming trees in the rear of 3244

14 Pittston Avenue, that's a blighted property that was

15 boarded up several weeks ago. And I went there, and

16 the alley, the trees from this house are obstructing

17 the alley.

18 Also, I sent a letter to Mr. Fiorini

19 several weeks ago about a property on South Webster

20 Avenue that's overcrowd. If we can send that letter

21 also to Mr. Seitzinger. I'll give you the address

22 after the meeting.

23 MS. GARVEY: I think I may have sent

24 that to Mr. Seitzinger, but just check with me later.

25 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Also, I'd like a

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1 time frame when the following properties will be
2 demolished, 1013 South Webster, 527 Gordon Avenue, 614
3 River Street, and 739 Maple.

4 There also is a bid opening, I think

5 next week or the week after, for ten properties from
6 OECD. Mrs. Garvey will give us a copy of that when she
7 has the homes.

8 Mr. Santolli was to a house in the rear

9 of 810 Wheeler and has some trees marked for cutting,
10 and I would ask that the DPW get there to try to cut
11 them as soon as they can.

12 The 600 block of Neptune Place didn't
13 have their garbage picked up for several weeks because
14 of cars parking in the court. Garbage cannot be picked
15 up because the garbage truck cannot get through with
16 all the cars parked there.

17 Also, I request a letter to the
18 planning commission or the mayor's office to find out
19 when the terms are up for the members of the planning
20 commission.

21 Also, Mike Wallace to check for an
22 illegal apartment on Seymour Street and Snook Street,

23 and I'll give you those addresses after the meeting.

24 And that's all I have.

25 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Gatelli I did give

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1 the planning commission expiration dates to Angela just

2 -- I believe it was yesterday, so she does have all of

3 them.

4 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Thank you. And

5 the first speaker is Laura Santoski.

6 MS. SANTOSKI: Good evening. My name

7 is Laura Santoski, a resident of Scranton and

8 co-chairperson of this year's Scranton Reads Program.

9 For those of you who are unfamiliar

10 with Scranton Reads, it is a community wide event

11 presented each year by the City of Scranton and the

12 Albright Memorial Library.

13 The aim of the program is two fold, to

14 encourage reading --

15 MS. GATELLI: Could you excuse me? I

16 hate to interrupt you. Neil, could you please tell

17 them out there to be quiet? We can't hear her at all.

18 MS. SANTOSKI: Okay.

19 MS. GATELLI: I can't hear you at all.

20 It's the noise from the hall. But, yes, talk louder so
21 we can hear you. You can start again. Thank you so
22 much.

23 MS. SANTOSKI: Good evening. My name
24 is Laura Santoski, a resident of Scranton and a
25 co-chairperson of this year's Scranton Reads Program.

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1 For those of you who are unfamiliar with Scranton
2 Reads, it is a community wide event presented each year
3 by the City of Scranton and the Albright Memorial
4 Library. The aim of the program is two fold, to
5 encourage reading among all age groups and to bring the
6 community together by a shared experience.
7 Each year during the month of October,
8 the residents of the Scranton area are encouraged to
9 read, discuss and examine a specific work of literature
10 chosen by the Scranton Reads Committee. This year's
11 selection is David McCullough's 1776, a captivating
12 land insightful work of non-fiction.
13 1776 sets the stage for the American
14 colonies' fight against the British. It follows George
15 Washington' army through a turbulent years of battles
16 and retreats often beset by unforeseen circumstances

17 and uncertainty.

18 In addition, it presents a down to

19 earth view of the Revolutionary War and the founding

20 fathers, to which most of us have never been privy.

21 I encourage the members of Council, the

22 people here present and all watching on Channel 61 to

23 read the book, to take part in one of the many

24 children, young adults and adult programs and events

25 still to come, and to watch Channel 61 for televised

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1 lectures, book discussions and other programs

2 associated with the book.

3 I especially want to invite all of you

4 to a symposium presented by Scranton Reads and the

5 University of Scranton on Sunday, October 29 at The

6 University. The program will include a panel

7 discussion, a brunch and a presentation on Sullivan's

8 March. Tickets may be purchased at the Albright

9 Memorial Library or by contacting Tina Thomas at the

10 library.

11 On behalf of the Scranton Reads

12 committee, I want to thank the administration and the

13 members of City Council for their ongoing support of

14 this program and the opportunities it presents to the

15 community. Please visit our website at

16 www.scrantonreads.org for more information.

17 At this time I would like to present

18 each member of Council with a copy of the book and to

19 thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight.

20 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.

21 MS. EVANS: That's very kind of you.

22 MS. GATELLI: Bill Jackowitz.

23 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz, South

24 Scranton resident, taxpayer, retired United States Air

25 Force.

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1 A Democratic slogan, it's the economy,

2 stupid, if anyone in Scranton is named economy, I

3 apologize for calling you stupid. This slogan is used

4 only to emphasize the importance of the.

5 The definition of economy and political

6 economy. The economy, the management of a household or

7 private affairs and especially expenses.

8 2-A, Thrifty and efficient use of

9 material resource. Legality and expenditures. Also an

10 instance of means of economizing the savings, efficient

11 and concise use of non-material resources as effort
12 language or motion.
13 3-A, The arrangement or mode of
14 operation of something organization. A system
15 especially of interaction and exchange and economy of
16 information. The structure or conditions of economic
17 life in a country, area or period. Also an economic
18 system.
19 Political economy, economics, the
20 theory or study of the role of public policy and
21 influencing the economic and social Welfare of a
22 political unit.
23 Report, City one of weak markets.
24 Brooking Institutions says it has a five step plan to
25 help such areas. Thanks to popular television shows
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1 like Sex in the City, Friends, Grey's Anatomy, city
2 life is a lot more glamorous than it used to be,
3 according to the senior researcher from The Brookings
4 Institution Think Tank.
5 Through the environment for
6 revitalization of U.S. cities it is generally positive.
7 Jennifer Vie of the Washington, D.C. based organization

8 told economic developers on Monday that success is far
9 from guaranteed and that small and medium sized cities,
10 such as Scranton, still have great challenges ahead.

11 A report set for release next year by
12 the institution will identify weak market cities in the
13 United States and shed a light on how they could pump
14 up their economic muscle.

15 Ms. Vie introduced the preliminary
16 findings of the study at the 16th annual conference on
17 the small cities, a national event held this year in
18 Wilkes-Barre.

19 The preliminary report includes
20 Scranton among 65 weak market cities. The number of
21 weak markets is likely to climb because only cities
22 with population greater than 50,000 were included in
23 the initial survey.

24 These were based on reviews of
25 indicators such as payroll, job growth, medium income,

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1 poverty levels and business activities.

2 Almost all of the weak markets

3 Brookings identified were located in rust belt states

4 and in the Northeast of the United States.

5 Though the release of the full study is
6 still months away, Ms. Vie said the researches have
7 been able to come up with five steps and action plan
8 for weak market cities.

9 They have to build on their economic
10 strength fix the basics, transform their physical
11 landscape, grow the middle class and create
12 neighborhoods of choice to succeed, Ms. Vie said.

13 Fixing the basics starts with safer
14 streets and good schools and progresses stream line
15 regulations that hinder investments, she said, and it
16 often doesn't take much to transfer the landscape, she
17 said, as well chosen catalyst projects can spur
18 economic development around.

19 Unfortunately it's tough for
20 communities to fix these problems without state and
21 federal support, said Dr. Robert Wolenski of the
22 University of Wisconsin, Stephens Point Co-organizer,
23 first conference on small cities in 1978.

24 Rather than make the health of a small
25 city a priority national policy, allow the markets to
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1 decide the big winners and big losers, he said.

2 We need small cities to be a key part
3 of the national urban policy, he said, not bridges to
4 nowhere, tree houses or \$16 million vacant buildings.
5 Federal money? Where was it spent? No
6 accountability in Scranton. No market in Scranton.
7 Distressed Scranton has been for many years, 15 years.
8 Any intelligent person knows that the
9 economy is the driving force for the success, not taxes
10 or borrowing.
11 If you have discipline in your life,
12 you will make very few mistakes. Legion of Doom, fair,
13 honest, open government.
14 Scranton City Council needed to become
15 citizen soldiers, make the tough decision, the no vote
16 leaders. Trust in leadership is badly needed. First
17 we need leaders. Scranton has none. We still haven't
18 found out -- our leader couldn't tell us today where
19 that \$18 million is.
20 Thank you for listening, Scranton
21 residents. I am sure that if City Council -- I am not
22 sure if City Council heard one word that I said, but I
23 know that Scranton residents were listening. It's the
24 economy, stupid.
25 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Andy

17

1 Sbaraglia.

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia, citizen

3 of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, you had a golden

4 opportunity when the mayor was here to reverse his

5 decision to have \$20,000 that he can spend without

6 coming before Council. You must go back to what it was

7 before he came in.

8 Before he came into office, it was

9 \$10,000, and when it come before Council for approval.

10 It's been changed. We have steadily declined.

11 He came before you and said he'd reduce

12 his staff. I assume he was talking about them clerical

13 workers for the police that he let off, and he's

14 claiming credit for that. But as you know, it's all in

15 litigation.

16 Then he came and he talked about the

17 interest rates for the money up in the bank from the

18 sale of the golf course. He said that we invested at

19 five percent, but you didn't ask him what were we

20 getting before you reinvested it? I was told of one --

21 the two percent.

22 MS. EVANS: Mr. Sbaraglia, actually

23 that information was also included in the PEL reports
24 and projections. In, I believe, 2001 or 2002, the
25 revenue was listed as \$200,000, and for one or two
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1 years following, \$200,000, if the golf course remained
2 operational. So, when you compare that to Mr.
3 Kresefski stating tonight that \$150,000 in the last two
4 years has been earned in interest, and I know, as you
5 do, in 2004, that I think \$64,000 was earned in
6 interest, we're really on the short end of the stick
7 here.

8 We all knew that, but when people want
9 certain pieces of land, they're having no trouble in
10 the city getting them. That's one of the reasons why
11 we're in trouble as we are.

12 People look at a piece of property and
13 say I want it, and then they write legislation to make
14 sure they can give it to them. And there's no question
15 about it.

16 There's not win/win situations in this
17 city. There never was a win/win situation. The
18 taxpayers have been losing for five years, and many
19 people come before you for, well, most of you weren't

20 here, but I guess, Mrs. Evans, you were here the
21 longest and Mr. Courtright were here the longest, and,
22 of course, you didn't -- weren't here when the first
23 Council took office, the one that caused most of the
24 damage that we incurred in the city.

25 They were the ones that couldn't say no

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1 to anything, and hence, we slipped and slipped and
2 slipped, and we continue to slip.

3 I mean, you have to go back to square

4 one. He's told you very little. You have to look at

5 all the litigation that's against the city that has to

6 be paid. Did he mention anything about the water

7 company? Oh, I assume we paid it then, right?

8 MS. EVANS: No.

9 MR. SBARAGLIA: So, we didn't pay it,

10 but he didn't mention it. And how many things isn't he

11 mentioning?

12 I come before you and I ask, How many

13 loans are in default? Now, the one in the paper I read

14 at Whistle's, but I asked you, is the steam heat

15 company, are they in default? Because that was

16 probably a big one, but nobody came forward. Mrs.

17 Evans, I think you asked --

18 MS. EVANS: I've been asking. In fact,

19 I've collected all of the letters that have been sent

20 to Ms. Hailstone and OECD and to the mayor directing

21 him to keep his word and order her to provide the

22 responses, and the last deadline that was provided was

23 yesterday, Wednesday, October 18, and, yet there is

24 still no answer.

25 MR. SBARAGLIA: And that's the problem.

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1 MS. EVANS: Yes, it is.

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: So, somewhere along the

3 line you've got to make this man come up, not like he

4 did now. That was very little. Because you have to

5 get to the nuts and bolts of this administration.

6 Now, him saying to reduce staff by

7 laying off all the police clerical workers was a great

8 sound, it sounded real good, except you find out it's

9 in litigation that may cost us millions of dollars more

10 if they win them. And God knows how many more we've

11 got that we don't even know about.

12 I don't know of every litigation this

13 city has on the books. I hope you do, but you may not

14 either, or the amount of awards that we could be held
15 liable for.
16 Now, that all comes into this budget.
17 I mean, this is hanging above every resident of this
18 city. And like I said before, really I can't fault
19 you, you're only part-time. Somewhere along the line
20 we've got to have some full-time members on this board
21 that can really, really get into everything and know
22 it.

23 You should not be responsible for holes
24 in the ground, you should not be responsible for
25 sidewalks. You got people that's getting good salaries
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1 for that. If they can't do their job, get them out of
2 there. I don't care what he says. If they're not
3 doing their job, they have to go. I thank you.

4 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Erik Johnson.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Good evening, City
6 Council and staff. Erik Johnson, taxpayer and resident
7 of Scranton. It was pleasant news in the paper that
8 Mayor Doherty will be meeting with City Council today
9 to answer more questions about his proposed \$44 million
10 borrowing plan, which I see being tabled again for the

11 fifth time.

12 Some of the questions of the proposals

13 are salary cuts of fat in the administration, five

14 percent cuts of administration city workers.

15 Non-profits organizations to make

16 payment in lieu of taxes, talk of compromise that would

17 allow borrowing enough to balance at least this year's

18 budget instead of the \$44 million loan from the PNC

19 Bank capital markets of Pittsburgh that will benefit

20 them.

21 Attorney Amil Minora also quoted it

22 wouldn't be in the best interest of anyone to default

23 on a tax anticipation note. All these proposals are

24 very vital to the City of Scranton future and operation

25 to balance this year's check and balances budget.

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1 I wish all the luck in the world for

2 whatever is best for the City for Scranton residents of

3 today and the future.

4 One question that bothers me is why

5 does the city need an assistant police -- assistant

6 public safety director, when the last administration

7 had a combined chief of police as a safety director

8 assistant?

9 Again, I think this City Council is

10 doing a good reasonable job in regards, also not being

11 partial to any particular issue coming -- concerning

12 the administration or union employees.

13 You must keep our Armed Service men and

14 women in our prayers, as they are having more -- they

15 are having more casualties this month of October than

16 in the past, and the war isn't looking favorable at

17 this time in Iraq for us.

18 My daughter Kristen is coming back to

19 Scranton late this weekend and helping me in an

20 important matter. She is a Marine sergeant. It was

21 told to me of her time at Iraq as a Marine. She helped

22 save her unit in a confrontation with the enemy. It

23 was a terrible incident she had to encounter. She

24 saved lives by taking down the enemy in security

25 action.

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1 I hope my daughter Marine Sergeant

2 Kristen is welcomed here in Scranton after her arrival

3 of the beginning of next week.

4 Also, Bob Bolus was mentioned to her by

5 the Marines about his mission to Iwo Jima to recover
6 the remains of Sargent Bill Genaust, who filmed the
7 flag raising, and it was shown in many, many theaters
8 in the United States.

9 Again, let's welcome a Sergeant Marine
10 Kristen Johnson from Scranton, Pennsylvania. She will
11 be coming here.

12 MS. GATELLI: That's wonderful.

13 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

14 MS. GATELLI: We're very happy for you
15 and proud of her. Giver her all of Council's regards,
16 please.

17 MR. JOHNSON: Maybe she'll be here next
18 Thursday.

19 MS. GATELLI: That will be great.

20 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you. I hope so.

21 Reverend Simmons. Bob Bolus.

22 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council, Bob
23 Bolus, Scranton. I'd like to thank your daughter.

24 What we're doing has been mentioned through the Marine
25 Corps here and abroad. I'll expand on that a little

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1 later in the meeting.

2 What I would like to do is address the
3 issue of the illegal aliens. I listened tonight with
4 great interest, and we have been following this right
5 along.
6 I think what people have to understand,
7 and I appreciate where people are coming from. You
8 know, whether you're Puerto Rican, Cuban, Black, White,
9 whatever your nationality you are Arabic, whatever how
10 do you tell who's ill legal and who's illegal standing
11 on a corner?
12 You know, it's very difficult for
13 people to comprehend that why are we all being grouped
14 into one group? And we have that unfortunately.
15 But the bottom line is, illegal is
16 illegal, and we don't change that. It's up to the
17 government, it's up to the employers, landlords and
18 people who know or should know that people are illegal.
19 And, of course, you get false papers. You can do a
20 million things in this country to become legal, even
21 though you are illegal.
22 So, it's a rough road to hoe, but I'm
23 sure with the cooperation and the input of a lot of
24 people from various nationalities, the understanding
25 will be, I think, that everybody should come together

1 to know that it's up to all of us to help the
2 authorities to weed out the illegals, and that's the
3 bottom line. So, hopefully we can get that done.
4 A question I really have that's a major
5 concern with me is Mr. McTiernan hasn't been here, I
6 understand there's personal problems, and everybody has
7 personal problems, my question is, first of all, we
8 need a finance chairman to be sitting here, especially
9 at this time in the city's restructuring of the
10 financial debt we have here.
11 I believe Council either has to have
12 McTiernan show up or reappoint a finance chairman to
13 this Council.
14 Second of all, it becomes a question of
15 residency. Now, rumor has it, and I'm going to leave
16 this up to Council to determine fact or fiction, is Mr.
17 McTiernan now still living in the City of Scranton or
18 has he moved to Dunmore? And if that's the case, Mr.
19 McTiernan, and I'm sure the solicitor would agree with
20 me, cannot hold a seat in the City of Scranton. You
21 must be a resident. The same residency is being
22 challenged right now in Throop, which we're all aware

23 of with a Councilperson up there, where the Councilmen
24 up there are trying to remove a person, who, in fact,
25 is a resident of Throop.

26

1 So, I think we need to look into this
2 and look into it quickly, because if an individual is
3 not a resident of the city who are spending every night
4 or not living in the city, under residency laws that
5 are established, then that person has to resign. And
6 if that's the case, I think it has to happen. I don't
7 think we need somebody to rubber stamp a budget and not
8 be part of this city.

9 Today when the President took off, I
10 thought it was pretty neat when Air Force went, but I
11 kept looking up for the check. I was hoping he threw
12 one out the window that landed here in the city that
13 kind of wiped out our debt for us today, but then I
14 realized we have a Democratic mayor, not a Republican,
15 so I guess we didn't get the check today.

16 On the CMC issue, the \$40,000, Judy,
17 you and I have addressed it with the commissioners.

18 Well, Mr. Hartman is leaving now. They're now taking
19 his salary and they're throwing it into the pot.

20 They're not replacing him. Are we going to get our
21 \$40,000 back now? Because now we're talking over
22 \$400,000 they now have available, so I think in that
23 case they should return the money back to the county to
24 be used, whether we need a detective in Dunmore or
25 somewhere else and use it where it needs to be put.

27

1 One of the issues that is really out
2 there is all this money from that landfill fund, and I
3 think the city needs to look into it with the
4 commissioners.
5 Either it goes to the municipalities
6 that it's earmarked for or was earmarked for, or it's
7 spread around through the City of Scranton where we
8 need it, and I think we need to move on that, move on
9 it quickly before all of a sudden it's all dispersed.
10 The issue I was talking about earlier
11 that Mr. Johnson spoke about his daughter, I have been
12 involved in a mission to recover the remains of
13 Sergeant William Genaust, who is the Marine Sergeant
14 that did the filming of -- the film of the flag raising
15 on Mount Suribachi, along with Joe Rosenthal, who took
16 the snapshot.

17 In the film, the tenth frame of the
18 film is famed as Mr. Rosenthal's snapshot. Sergeant
19 Genaust was abandoned after he was killed by the
20 Japanese in a cave by our country and he's been there
21 for 61 years.

22 I have now taken this mission on, I've
23 been to Iwo Jima, and very shortly I will be returning
24 now to recover his remains.

25 But on Friday there's a movie opening
.

28

1 with Clint Eastwood that's kind of going to bring back
2 to life what really happened on Iwo Jima and what our
3 Marines and our American servicemen did and sacrificed
4 to give us this freedom we have here today. And I
5 think people should go look at it and really look back
6 at history. Thank you.

7 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mary Ann

8 Wardell.

9 MS. WARDELL: Good evening, Council.

10 My name is Mary Ann Wardell, and I'm a resident of the
11 City of Scranton.

12 I came here tonight hoping that I was
13 going to hear about a lot of budget cuts and a lot of

14 measures that were going to be taken to reduce the debt
15 debt in this city and to get us back on track.

16 Unfortunately I was disappointed. I have not heard
17 anything tonight any different, but what the mayor has
18 been saying for the past five years, which is spend,
19 spend, spend.

20 We are at a point now where we cannot
21 borrow money, even if it means we default on something,
22 because the more you borrow, the more you have to pay
23 back. The citizens in this city cannot afford to pay
24 back any more than we are already paying.

25 And people don't understand, the first

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1 couple years that you pay on these loans that you
2 borrow might be a million or \$2 million, but these
3 payments balloon over time, and where you're paying a
4 million or \$2 million for the first couple years, you
5 might be paying five or \$6 million for the next couple
6 years.

7 We just don't have the tax base. We
8 don't have enough people and enough property in this
9 city to pay for these loans. I think this Council
10 needs to leave this in the mayor's lap and let him

11 realize he dug this hole and he has to dig us out of

12 it.

13 You, and when I say you, I mean

14 Council, cannot keep covering for him and keep enabling

15 him to spend money. It has to stop someplace.

16 On another matter, Judy, you mentioned

17 this earlier, and I have a question for you, you

18 mentioned overcrowding in homes, is there an ordinance

19 or is there some type of code that says you only can

20 have x-amount of people living in a home?

21 MS. GATELLI: Yes, but it's very, very

22 difficult to prove. Mr. Fiorini is here upstairs,

23 maybe he'll come down and explain it, but if you have

24 an overcrowded apartment or a home, it's difficult to

25 prove who lives in there. That is one of the most

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1 difficult things to prove.

2 MS. WARDELL: And has anything or is

3 anything being done about the fact that everyone's

4 personal information was spread all over that alley out

5 there? Has there been any action taken or any

6 discipline been done to someone that would just throw

7 away personnel information that way?

8 MS. GATELLI: I'm not sure if anything
9 was done, but I did express my concern to Attorney
10 Minora, and I felt as though the cards should maybe be
11 put with the District Attorney's Office or somewhere
12 where they would be safe.

13 I'm not saying Mrs. Stulgis' house
14 isn't safe, but, you know, someone could rob her and
15 take all those cards. And I thought they should --

16 MS. WARDELL: That's true.

17 MS. GATELLI: -- go to the District
18 Attorney's Office and, you know, be locked in a safe.
19 I don't know what can be done about -- how could we
20 prove who left them there or, you know, whatever.

21 MS. WARDELL: If someone in an HR
22 department did that in private businesses, they'd be
23 fired. That is the most ridiculous thing I've ever
24 heard. That's not even common sense. There's no logic
25 to that.

31

1 MS. GATELLI: I wasn't real happy with
2 it --

3 MS. WARDELL: No, I guess not,
4 especially when it had your birthday on it.

5 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I never like anyone

6 to know that, Mary Ann.

7 MS. WARDELL: I know. I know the

8 feeling. That's all I have, Council. Thank you.

9 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much. Les

10 Spindler.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening, Council,

12 Les Spindler. I wasn't going to say anything on this

13 subject, but I want to echo what Mary Ann just said

14 about those cards that were dumped in the alley.

15 I stated last week I think someone

16 should lose their job over that, and it shouldn't be

17 that difficult to find out where they came from. They

18 must be records of human resources, so it shouldn't be

19 that difficult.

20 The next thing, I was here two weeks

21 ago and I spoke about a gentleman said his dog was

22 attacked by two dogs, and, Mrs. Fanucci, you asked me

23 for the address where they came from, I got the

24 address. I will give it to Neil.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Thank you.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Spindler, just in

2 case you're interested, Tom Preambo from The Planning
3 Commission is doing an ordinance for dangerous dogs, so
4 maybe if you want to contact him, Kay can get you in
5 touch with him, and maybe you can work with him on it,
6 because he is working on it. That's why we're not very
7 active here on that, because it's being done by someone
8 at the planning commission.

9 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you. Next
10 thing, this is bothering me for a long time. No turn
11 on red signs, I was told by a policeman from another
12 city and a retired Scranton Policeman that if they're
13 not up posted up by the traffic light, they're illegal.
14 Mr. Courtright, do you know anything about that?

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'm not sure. I'll
16 ask.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Could you find out?

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Surely.

19 MR. SPINDLER: Because I know there's
20 three places, the corner of Franklin and Spruce, North
21 Main and Luzerne, Wyoming and Linden. They're on a
22 pole on the side.

23 If you drive up to the light, you're
24 looking up at the light, you're not looking at that
25 pole. These policemen told me if you get a ticket for

1 doing that, you can go to a magistrate and you will win
2 that.

3 MS. GATELLI: If you get a ticket, I'll
4 pay it. I don't know anybody that was ever stopped for
5 doing that.

6 MR. SPINDLER: I do.

7 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: How about my
8 ticket? Would you pay my ticket?

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll find out, Les.

10 MR. SPINDLER: Will you check on that?

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Sure. I think you're
12 correct.

13 MR. SPINDLER: That's important.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think you're right,
15 but I don't want to say for sure until I check into it.

16 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. The next thing,
17 did anyone see the CBS Evening News Tuesday night,
18 Mayor Barletta was on. Well, I have some statistics
19 that he brought up.

20 He started by saying every 60 seconds
21 six illegals enter our country. That's 316 an hour,
22 8,640 a day, 60,408 a week, and that comes out, I don't

23 have the total figure, it's over \$3 million people a
24 year.

25 Now, if this city doesn't do something

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1 about that, then you don't realize how many -- Mrs.

2 Gatelli, you said there's other communities making an

3 immigration ordinance, so if we don't do something, do

4 you know how many are going to end up here? So, I

5 think we should definitely do something.

6 And where Mr. Cornell got the idea that

7 we were speaking about Hispanics, nobody ever said the

8 word Hispanic. We said illegal immigrants, that's all

9 we ever said. And I think something has got to be

10 done.

11 MS. GATELLI: That's that Scranton

12 Times again.

13 MR. SPINDLER: Well, they're all going

14 to be right here in our city. Like I said, the keyword

15 is illegal.

16 MS. GATELLI: No offense, Stacy, but --

17 where's Stacy? We're talking about your boss again.

18 MR. SPINDLER: You're using my time,

19 Mrs. Gatelli.

20 MS. GATELLI: Not you. We know it's

21 not you.

22 MR. SPINDLER: The next thing, you

23 know, I don't often agree with the editor of The

24 Scranton Times, but there was an editorial in Monday's

25 paper maybe you saw about the smoking ban, has there

35

1 been any momentum on that? Has anything been done on

2 that?

3 MR. MINORA: It's on tonight's agenda.

4 Oh, no, no, no. It's in typing for next week.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Anyway, The Scranton

6 Times is urging City Council and Mayor Doherty to do

7 something to entertain the smoking ban. And it says

8 the City of Louisville, Kentucky, which one of their

9 major industries is the tobacco industry, and they have

10 a smoking ban in Louisville, Kentucky. So, if they can

11 do that and not have any fallout over it, I don't see

12 why this city cannot do it.

13 Like I said, their economy is thriving,

14 and the tobacco industry is a big part of their

15 economy. And it's not a big part of our economy, so I

16 don't see why we can't do it.

17 Lastly, I brought this up a long time
18 ago, the Lackawanna Avenue Bridge, and it was being
19 held up because of historic preservation, has anything
20 heard about that?

21 MS. GATELLI: No, but, Mrs. Garvey,
22 maybe you can find out the status of that.

23 MR. SPINDLER: That bridge is falling
24 apart, as we all know.

25 MS. GATELLI: Yes, it's really bad.

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1 MR. SPINDLER: What's historic about
2 that is beyond me. I go over it every single day 0and
3 I look at it, it's the ugliest thing I've ever seen,
4 and it's unsafe.

5 MS. GATELLI: Don't tell that to the
6 preservation society.

7 MR. SPINDLER: Well, if we're taking
8 historic preservation over public safety, that's
9 ridiculous, because there's a big metal plate blocking
10 a hole on one side. Who's to say someone is not going
11 to walk over that bridge and fall through?

12 MS. GATELLI: We'll find out for you.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you very
15 much.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Before we get
17 to the next speaker, and Stacy's back in the room, we'd
18 like to congratulate him, he had a new baby girl. And,
19 Stacy, she'll be 33 when the loan is paid off. Lee
20 Morgan. I'll be in the Italian American Cemetery on
21 Kane Street.

22 MR. MORGAN: Well, you know, there's an
23 alternative to that, don't borrow any money and we
24 won't have to worry about it.

25 My first question is for each
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1 councilmen and they can either answer it or not answer
2 it, and my first question is, Mr. Courtright, are you a
3 resident of the City of Scranton?

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes, I am. Mrs.
5 Gatelli.

6 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

7 MR. MORGAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MR. MORGAN: Mrs. Evans.

10 MS. EVANS: Yes.

11 MR. MORGAN: Okay. I thought I'd ask
12 that question, since, you know, Mr. Bolus thought it
13 was a pertinent question to ask Mr. McTiernan, I
14 thought it'd only be fair to ask the other four Council
15 members.

16 MS. GATELLI: If you're not aware, Mrs.
17 Novembrino is doing a residency study with every
18 employee in the city currently, so --

19 MR. MORGAN: Okay. I've come here to
20 ask a question for the Scranton-Lackawanna Taxpayers
21 and Citizens Association, Ozzie asked me to ask this
22 question, and, you know, I've got a Purden's book here,
23 and we're trying to figure out some of this stuff, and
24 we asked Mr. Minora last wee, but we really didn't get
25 an answer to the question we asked, and we would like
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1 to know in the Distressed Municipality Statutes, when
2 can the city file for bankruptcy under that statute?

3 We would like to know that.

4 And the other question we'd like to

5 know is, What qualifications does Mark Seitzinger have,

6 okay, to be assistant public safety director? And when

7 he worked in the department under --

8 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Fiorini.

9 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Fiorini, what

10 qualifications did this man have? And some of the --

11 some of these -- some of the questions I have for this

12 gentleman have to do with the condemnations of my

13 properties, because they've all been lifted at this

14 point.

15 This gentleman came to my property and

16 told me that irregardless of what the properties were

17 inside, they were going to condemn them because the

18 mayor said to kick the doors down and shut them down.

19 And, you know, I just find it to be so

20 utterly troubling that an elected official feels so

21 threatened by one person coming to speak under, I guess

22 you'd have to say, our Constitutional right that he'd

23 have to go to that level.

24 And the other thing I have is the

25 zoning officer, Mr. --

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1 MS. GATELLI: Wallace.

2 MR. MORGAN: -- Mr. Wallace, when he

3 came out to my properties, he asked me what he should

4 write when he condemned my properties as to what he

5 should write on the condemnations.

6 He said, Well, what should I write on

7 these? And I said, Well, you're the zoning officer.

8 Why would I have to? And then I had to tell him, Well,

9 didn't you say you were going to condemn them under

10 File of Council 2001, No. 88, 2001?

11 And now it's coming to the point where

12 the property that I own on Stafford Avenue has been a

13 double since the day it was built, and now they're

14 trying to question whether it meets the zoning

15 requirements.

16 And I would just like to say that that

17 proves just how petty the mayor is and how he misuses

18 his authority.

19 And I think Mrs. Evans talked about how

20 dedicated the employees of the city are that work under

21 him, and you know what, I'd have to agree that they

22 really are dedicated to him, because our rights don't

23 mean anything.

24 And if there was really any eminent

25 danger to anyone, Mr. Fiorini never would have lifted

.

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1 the condemnations.

2 And the other question I have is, this
3 gentleman told Mr. Seitzinger, told me he was going to
4 condemn my properties, and I thought that it had to go
5 through Mr. Fiorini.

6 And the other thing is, the zoning
7 officer said that it didn't matter what anybody who
8 came into those properties found, that that property
9 was down, he was condemning it no matter what. And
10 that's exactly what he did, okay?

11 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Morgan, are you aware
12 that there's an appeals board where you could have
13 appealed?

14 MR. MORGAN: Yes, but my question is
15 this, why should a citizen have to go to an appeals
16 board, when there's such an abuse of discretion on the
17 mayor's part and his departments?

18 Because I shouldn't have to appeal
19 anything. If I haven't done anything and my properties
20 haven't violated any zoning laws or any codes, I mean,
21 how can you tell me that my property isn't up to code
22 if you haven't been in it?

23 MS. GATELLI: Oh, I can't tell you
24 that.

25 MR. MORGAN: Well, nobody can. But

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1 when they tell you they're going to condemn it anyhow,

2 I mean, I find that troubling.

3 MS. GATELLI: Well, they should have

4 given you a list of the violations.

5 MR. MORGAN: There were no violations

6 when they closed that property.

7 MS. GATELLI: Well, then you need to

8 file an appeal.

9 MR. MORGAN: The question I have is,

10 how does the city come to this point where a mayor can

11 abuse his powers and tell people to do things that are

12 illegal in complete violation of the constitution of

13 this nation?

14 You know, we've got an Army standing in

15 Iraq, and we're all standing here saying how important

16 it is that our rights be upheld, when we've got a man

17 that won't even come to Council and acknowledge where

18 the city sits even financially.

19 And what I'd like to say is that I hope

20 --

21 MS. GATELLI: Finish up your --

22 MR. MORGAN: I will. I'm going to

23 leave the podium. I hope that this Council would spend
24 enough time to go to the law library, spend your own
25 time, and use your solicitor here, and start going

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1 through the law books and see exactly where we are.
2 And don't rely on anybody else's
3 opinion, and this isn't a personal thing, all lawyers
4 have an opinion, okay, but the courts, the law -- the
5 rulings they make has standing. And anybody can have
6 any opinion they want, but I think we need a smart
7 decision here, and it wouldn't hurt to go on the
8 internet down at the law library and get some real
9 answers to our problems and use the power of subpoena
10 to get the answers you want. Quit begging the mayor,
11 because, you know what, you're going to need knee pads
12 soon. I mean, it's ridiculous. Thank you.

13 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Is there
14 anyone else that cares to speak? Mr. Ancherani, are
15 you with us tonight or --

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: He's last.

17 MS. GATELLI: Oh, I'm sorry.

18 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: There's a fight
19 for last. He's last usually.

20 MS. GATELLI: Do you get a prize for

21 being last?

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yeah, there is.

23 There's some big bonus at the end of the night you get.

24 MS. GATELLI: Hello, Mr. Newcomb.

25 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Hello, Mrs. Gatelli,

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1 and the rest of Council members, good evening. Just a

2 few thoughts about what we heard here last week. I'm

3 not going to stand up here and say that I know more

4 than that attorney that spoke last week, because I'm

5 sure I don't, especially on immigration, but I will

6 tell you some common sense things that I do know and

7 some remarks she made I think that were ridiculous.

8 I think she used the quote of all we

9 look at it as is brown and white, that was her quote.

10 As far as I was concerned, that was like calling people

11 racist, like another speaker that comes up here every

12 week and talks about the same thing.

13 I think that that was definitely not

14 what I look at. I look at the magic word illegal.

15 That's it. And I'd just like you to keep in thought,

16 if there's seven -- if they pay \$7 billion in taxes,

17 check and see how much they're paying in Scranton,
18 like, where they work. You know, see how much we're
19 getting taxes, and we will see what, you know, see what
20 they're paying, if they're paying 3.4 percent wage tax.

21 And I can bet that they're not for what's out there.

22 And she also mentioned about, Well,

23 they get fake Social Security numbers. Well, why

24 didn't you just say that they broke the law? That's

25 fraud. For somebody that's supposed to be, I think she

44

1 used the word of a scholar, I really wasn't impressed

2 with her presentation at all.

3 So, my point behind this is don't let

4 any of that talk intimidate you. We do need some kind

5 of act. And take into consideration -- my question to

6 her was out in the hall, but I couldn't get through

7 because there was too many people talking was, if we

8 can't tell the difference between illegal and legal, a

9 court of law has to do it, why don't we just put them

10 in front of a court of law? My question is is, Why

11 can't they get driver's licenses if they're legal?

12 I just want to make it aware, there was

13 an accident out on 80 last week, I believe there were

14 two people killed. Did you see the cause for the
15 accident? Two illegals got the wrong way on 81 driving
16 a vehicle, didn't have no driver's license, no clue
17 what they were doing, and two people were killed.
18 Magic word, no insurance, no driver's license, no
19 nothing. So, those are just things to take.

20 We're talking about a smoking ban, if
21 anybody's ever been at the restaurant over on Keyser
22 Avenue, it's completely smoke free, The Harbor House,
23 completely smoke free. I'll tell you what, they have a
24 great dinner crowd, great lunch crowd. They're not
25 suffering in no way, no shape, no form on smoking.

45

1 I mentioned last week about we were
2 owed \$5 million in garbage fees and somebody came up
3 here and brought it to your attention. It was more
4 like \$5.7.
5 Well, if you investigate, we're owed
6 over \$8 million between all of our property -- between
7 our property taxes, our garbage fees, and we're up here
8 trying to borrow \$7 million and we're owed \$8 million.
9 So, if these people are behind that
10 much and we're owed \$8 million, what makes you think if

11 you get a tax increase that, you know, that they're
12 going to pay more? We definitely have to get diligent
13 on these collections.
14 And, Mr. Courtright, Mrs. Evans, I know
15 this is like a dead horse, and I know you've sent
16 letters, but it's to the point now where it's
17 ridiculous about the 230 block on North Cameron Avenue.
18 You both did it.

19 Well, the next question I have is, you
20 know, who do we have to contribute to, like, whose
21 campaign, because it seems to me that that's the way
22 that it gets done around here, and that's getting
23 ridiculous. Let us know so we can send them a check
24 and maybe we can get this situation straightened out.

25 Another one I brought up when Mr.

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46

1 Pocius was here and he drove over and seen the
2 situation, but nothing was done, on the corner of North
3 Grant and Jackson I talked about a grade that's
4 sticking up in the ground. That grade is from -- I
5 believe, the Army Corps of Engineers use it to check
6 the mines, like when the water goes down there, and Mr.
7 Pocius, I believe he said his mother lives over there

8 somewhere and he took a ride over and looked at it.

9 Somebody hit that on a motorcycle in

10 the summer. They got thrown. Kids come down there at

11 night with skate boards. And I'll tell you what, it

12 sticks up about (indicating) --

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Charlie, I went there

14 and I thought they fixed it. They never fixed it?

15 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: It's still sticking

16 up. It might even be higher now because over the

17 course of -- the way it drops down. So, just -- I

18 don't know who you can send a letter to. I think

19 somebody said it was the Army Corps of Engineers was

20 responsible for that, because they did that when they

21 flushed the mines over there.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. I'll check

23 it out tomorrow.

24 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Okay. And that's

25 about it. Oh, one more thing, Mrs. Evans, do you know

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47

1 if, this goes back a long way, but I was just curious,

2 I was thinking about it the other day, that unfortunate

3 -- remember Mrs. Malone, we had her in her about -- was

4 she ever paid for what she was owed?

5 MS. EVANS: I believe, yes, she was
6 paid, however, there were certain fees deducted from
7 her payment, and that was very unfair, very wrong,
8 because it was the city's office who made the error,
9 not Mrs. Malone, but Mrs. Malone continues to pay the
10 price for that error.

11 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: And just for one
12 more speaker that comes up here, and I'm going to close
13 with this one, every week we keep hearing about
14 minority, minority, minority, I just want to make it
15 very clear, we're all equal. Poverty, poor, whatever
16 the case may be, we all have a choice to make our lives
17 better.

18 I believe if you're in that situation,
19 unfortunately it's a choice that you make, not
20 everybody else. And, again. Good evening. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

22 MR. PORTER: Good evening, City of
23 Scranton. My name is Andrew. The last time I spoke
24 was a little over a year ago. There was only one woman
25 up there, that was Janet Evans, she speaks very well.

48

1 I think she's doing a fine job. There's two other

2 women here now. I'm looking forward to the day when I
3 can see somebody up on that Council that looks like me.
4 All right. This city will never be, I
5 have to repeat, this city is God's city. This city
6 will never be great -- this city will never be great
7 unless it includes everyone.
8 Our forefathers helped build this
9 country, in case some people didn't know. The larger
10 population of this city was one time people that looked
11 like myself.
12 All people that look like myself don't
13 sell drugs, they don't murder people, they don't kill
14 people and so on and so forth, all right?
15 I've lived in this city for seven
16 years. I'm pretty frustrated. The last time I was
17 here, there were questions and there were concerns
18 regarding kids swimming in Nay Aug Park.
19 I made what I thought and others was an
20 excellent suggestion to get those kids in there free.
21 I haven't heard anything to date as far as the
22 suggestion that I made. If you would like, after the
23 meeting I'll tell you again about it.
24 I also talked about employment. I have
25 a wealth of experience in security. I could not

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1 ascertain a job commensurable with my experience and

2 also the money, all right?

3 I don't condone drug dealers, I don't

4 condone people that do bad, but I do understand some of

5 the reasons, because I talk to them as to why they do

6 what they do. There is no excuse for drugs, there is

7 no excuse for people hurting people and so on and so

8 forth.

9 And what we need to do is look at

10 people like myself. I went back to school, all right,

11 right here at McCann's Business School, and I graduated

12 with 3.8 -- 3.95 GPA, and I'm not a young man, all

13 right? I have six kids. I spent seven years in the

14 city.

15 I want to say that I love this city and

16 I don't want to walk away from this city not

17 contributing to this city, so I would like to have the

18 opportunity to contribute to this city.

19 I did not want to speak tonight. I was

20 compelled to speak tonight. I know that you people,

21 it's late and everybody wants to go home, so on and so

22 forth.

23 I don't want to have to go to
24 Washington, I don't want to have to go to Congress to
25 ask Congress where's the money that was slated for
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50

1 people that look like myself for years and years and
2 years in Scranton. Where is it?

3 I have an idea for a business, a
4 business that is inclusive of everyone. I'd like to
5 open up a soul food restaurant. I'd like to bring
6 people together.

7 I'd like people to understand who I am
8 and what I'm about and share - share my food with me.

9 This is what this city should be about. This is God's
10 city. It's the city for everyone.

11 I'm not talking about racism, I'm not
12 talking about bigotry. We all know what it is. The
13 best qualified people should be in the best positions
14 regardless.

15 When that bell rings and it's time for
16 us to answer to the higher power, he's not going to
17 take us in because we're white, because we're black,
18 because we're rich, because we're poor, he's going to
19 take us in for the content of whatever we did during

20 the course of our life.

21 All I want to do is make an inheritance

22 for my children, and all I want to do after that is go

23 to heaven, and I want to make this city great.

24 So, there will be a point in time when

25 I will come to Council. I've tried to gain an audience

.

51

1 with the mayor recently. For some reason he won't talk

2 to me, all right?

3 I talked to him last year about an

4 agency that I felt, and I'm not going to mention names

5 right now, I still there live there, but I felt I

6 didn't get a good opportunity because I have a wealth

7 of experience. And, again, I felt that the best

8 qualified person should have that position, and it did

9 not happen, you know.

10 All I'm saying is that, and you can

11 ring the bell now because I'm finished, but all I'm

12 saying is --

13 MR. MINORA: I'm the lower power, I'm

14 not the higher power.

15 MR. PORTER: Because he might hold you

16 up. This city is no greater than its residents, and

17 all people in this city are good.
18 You know, again, I don't have a problem
19 with having to be identified as legal in this country.
20 My people were brought over here through slavery, you
21 know.
22 And I'm not here to pull the race card
23 or anything like here. I'm here because I am who I am,
24 and I want you to know that. You guys have a good
25 evening. God bless you.
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52

1 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.
2 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council. My
3 name is Nancy Krake. I'd like to speak on some of the
4 things the mayor said to us this evening.
5 One of his big things this evening was
6 that he's using the debt he created as an excuse to cut
7 35 firefighters. This cut directly affects the quality
8 of life for every citizen in Scranton.
9 And I know the word savings is a lie,
10 and I can use that strong word, since there were no
11 savings realized to the citizens when there were
12 clerical cuts.
13 He's borrowed and spent over \$78

14 million dollars. Even a savings in his own words of

15 \$2.4 million in the reduction of the fire safety is

16 only a drop in the bucket.

17 What he's really going to do is blast

18 every person in this city with a huge tax increases.

19 He told us that tonight. In fact, he's been telling

20 us.

21 He's going to increase real estate and

22 transfer taxes, which will slam all property owners and

23 anyone who tries to buy or sell a home in Scranton.

24 Good job, Mr. Businessman, which is

25 what he likes to call himself, you just cut the life

.

53

1 blood of every property owner or potential property

2 owner in Scranton, however, you just helped all of your

3 campaign contributors in Clarks Summit by making their

4 property a whole lot more attractive.

5 The mayor says he's going to make up

6 the \$77,000 he needs to show for that five percent cut,

7 instead of cutting his administrative raises. I don't

8 know how he's going to do that, but I suggest a

9 rollback like Wal-Mart.

10 Let's roll back to before the Doherty

11 Administration came in the door, because, in fact,
12 that's when they walked in with their huge raises and
13 their huge job increases. They ranged from 20 to
14 40 percent. Now, that's real savings.
15 As was also stated before Council many
16 times, let's not do anything until we see an
17 independent audit. Everything else is conjecture, no
18 matter who stands here or who has anything to say.
19 It's basically what the mayor said to
20 Mrs. Evans, with a smirk, I might add, is you have to
21 give me the money because the people in the state like
22 me.
23 Well, let's just see how much they like
24 him and how much they didn't like Mayor Connors. This
25 is PEL's own chart that was handed to you a few weeks
.
54

1 ago. The largest deficit that Jimmy Connors had was \$3
2 million.

3 Well, Mayor Doherty started off with a
4 miserly \$2 million, quickly went to \$4.9, right up to
5 \$5.5, and now a blistering eight, even though he's
6 standing here telling you he needs seven.

7 What about the smoke and mirrors? What

8 are the real numbers? Is this -- this is a disaster to
9 have to stand here week after week and argue numbers
10 after numbers when there's nothing is based on fact.
11 There's facts that we borrowed and
12 spent a lot of money, but that's about it. We can see
13 the increases from year to year.
14 And I'd like to ask Mrs. Evans first,
15 the \$4 million deficit, \$4.9 million in 2004, was that
16 the year the firefighters got a tax increase, or excuse
17 me, got a pay increase?

18 MS. EVANS: None of the firefighters or
19 the police have ever received a wage increase, which is
20 what I was trying to point out to the mayor this
21 evening, that his revenues are truly inflated beyond
22 not only PEL's projections, but I believe by and large
23 the administration exercises voodoo economics and
24 budgets here.

25 On the other hand, his expenditures

.

55

1 have grown by leaps and bounds beyond any that have
2 been witnessed under the administration of any prior
3 mayor.

4 MS. KRAKE: I would like to say Jimmy

5 Connors was --

6 MS. EVANS: And that's without any pay

7 increases.

8 MS. KRAKE: Right.

9 MS. EVANS: But the problem was rather

10 than trying to save money and pay down our debt, well,

11 it's his debt, he continued to hire more people, spend

12 more money.

13 And when you, let us say, collect a

14 million dollars in campaign contributions for a \$50,000

15 job, you have an awful lot of people to pay back, and I

16 think that's where our money is going, on the pay backs

17 to these people.

18 But the sad, sad part of all of this is

19 that you and I and this young man, who is my student,

20 and all of the people in this audience, we're all going

21 to pay for all of those contributions and all of those

22 favors, because there's no other explanation for this.

23 None of the figures jive.

24 When you look at PEL's figures,

25 Recovery Plan figures, budgets, nothing coordinates

.

56

1 here, and there's no explanation for it. The mayor

2 himself can't explain it.

3 MS. KRAKE: And, Mrs. Evans, by the
4 way, this is the Recovery Plan you were referring to
5 earlier?

6 MS. EVANS: Yes.

7 MS. KRAKE: Everything you were saying
8 is in here. This is an actual original copy. I got
9 one at my desk. I was following along as you were
10 reading it.

11 MS. EVANS: Yes.

12 MS. KRAKE: So, apparently Mayor
13 Doherty has yet to read his over Recovery Plan, even
14 though he insists it was mandated by the public, he
15 apparently has never read it himself.

16 MS. EVANS: He felt I fabricated it or
17 it was my opinion.

18 MS. KRAKE: Maybe we can drop a copy
19 off to him.

20 MS. EVANS: I think that might be a
21 good idea.

22 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

23 MS. KRAKE: I have one more comment,
24 because I -- just really quick. All the people before
25 Council that were brought here by the mayor, bondsmen,

1 banks, the Pennsylvania Economy League, are making
2 money on our misery. They're deepening our tremendous
3 debt and they're making money from it.

4 These people are not part of the
5 solution, but they're finding a way to make money on
6 the problem, and that's very, very sad.

7 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much. Mr.
8 Ancherani. Would you like to speak? Yes? Well, get
9 up.

10 MS. HUBBARD: Anyway, my name is
11 Elizabeth Hubbard, city resident, and I have a
12 question, On tonight's agenda, Item 7-B and 7-C, for
13 consideration by the committee on community development
14 for adoption, yada yada, for replacement of windows at
15 St. Peter's Rectory, why is the city replacing windows
16 --

17 MS. GATELLI: The city is not paying.
18 This is the architectural review board and they have to
19 authorize things on historical buildings.

20 MS. HUBBARD: Where do they get their
21 money?

22 MS. GATELLI: It's not money. It's

23 just an approval that they approve the windows they

24 picked. Historical buildings have to use certain

25 windows, certain paint, et cetera.

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1 We are not giving them any money. The

2 church is paying for that, but the windows must be

3 approved by the architectural heritage board, and that

4 goes through us, also. The same thing. They're just

5 reviews that they said, yes, you can use the window,

6 yes, you can use that color paint, because historical

7 buildings have certain requirements.

8 MS. HUBBARD: All right. I understand

9 that. Another thing, I was watching the History

10 Channel a few weeks ago and they did a program on the

11 early Christian Church and the travels of St. Paul, and

12 when they went to the different cities where he

13 preached, they showed the ruins, certain different

14 places, and they had a Roman road that was built 2,000

15 years ago, and that road looked to be in a lot better

16 shape than some of our city streets.

17 I drove down Washington Avenue

18 yesterday to make a right turn onto Spruce Street, and

19 I thought the bottom fell out of my car. When are they

20 going to start fixing these roads in this town?

21 They're disgusting.

22 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, Washington Avenue

23 is very bad. It's like a wash board.

24 MS. HUBBARD: It's all this money.

25 We're all this money in debt, you'd think we would have

.

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1 beautifully brand new paved roads like Washington

2 Avenue from Green Ridge Street up to Woodlawn or

3 better.

4 MS. EVANS: And you know what else,

5 though, really concerns me where the city did pave,

6 I've seen utilities come in, tear up something that was

7 paved maybe within the last six months, and then their

8 idea of returning it to the original condition is just

9 to patch it, you know, it's like a big square or

10 rectangle of blacktop.

11 MS. HUBBARD: That's everywhere.

12 That's utilities.

13 MS. EVANS's: Oh, I think they have to

14 -- in my opinion, when I read the rules and regulations

15 and procedures about such matters, I understood that

16 they had to return it to its original condition, and I

17 don't consider that the original condition. They

18 should repave the entire block then.

19 MS. HUBBARD: They should.

20 MS. GATELLI: No, that's not what the

21 rule says, though.

22 MS. HUBBARD: But they don't even put

23 it back to the --

24 MS. GATELLI: They're allowed so many

25 cuts before they have to pave the street.

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60

1 MS. HUBBARD: Yeah, but isn't there

2 something where they have to -- if the city said we're

3 going to pave the 200 block of Washington Avenue, that

4 the --

5 MS. GATELLI: The utilities are

6 supposed to go in and do their work, but sometimes

7 there's emergencies. You can't predict when a pipe is

8 going to break.

9 MS. HUBBARD: Well, I don't know.

10 MS. GATELLI: And if it was heating

11 your house, you would want the pipe fixed.

12 MS. HUBBARD: That's true.

13 MS. GATELLI: It's an unnecessary evil.

14 MS. HUBBARD: Now, Mr. McTiernan, is he
15 coming back or is he permanently on leave or, because
16 I'll --

17 MS. HUBBARD: I think that you really
18 need to have a finance chair.

19 MS. GATELLI: I will address that in
20 motions this evening.

21 MS. HUBBARD: Okay.

22 MS. GATELLI: Is there anyone else that
23 wants to speak?

24 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening, Council.

25 I'm Nelson Ancherani, taxpayer, city employee, and
.

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1 member of the FOP, financial secretary. I'm excising
2 my First Amendment Rights.
3 I watched the caucus, I wasn't able to
4 get down here in time, and I believe the mayor said
5 that it's \$50,000 less in salaries now being paid.
6 If you take the standard salaries from
7 the 2006 budget and the other salary and you total them
8 and then you total the 2001 budget, standard and other,
9 you come out with \$797,993.49 more that they're
10 spending now for salaries, total salaries, that's the

11 city. That is not police department, anything, total.
12 It was said that each fireman cost the
13 city \$75,000 to \$80,000. I'd like to see where. I
14 believe I challenged Mr. Kresefski to show us that,
15 where it cost \$75,000 to \$80,000 per man. I say never.
16 And maybe they're including the rent,
17 the gas on the cars, the fire trucks, whatever, but
18 they can't do that, wages, maybe their health care.
19 I figure an average \$50,000 per man
20 average. He said there was no forced retirement.
21 Wrong. The mayor can say what he wants. Men left --
22 men and women left because they had to have their
23 medical when they left.
24 They got hurt on the jobs many of them,
25 and if they left without medical after the 2002
.
62

1 December 31 date, they'd have no medical. They were
2 forced out. Ask them. Don't ask one, ask them all
3 with an independent person asking the questions and
4 you'll see.
5 Another question, why do we need so
6 many flood relocation specialists in the 2006 budget?
7 A question was asked by Mrs. Fanucci to

8 the mayor, Do we have a way to recovery? And the
9 mayor's answer was they didn't recover because we're in
10 arbitration.

11 Mrs. Fanucci further went on to say
12 that there are certain people who come here week after
13 week and talk about PEL. Well, I'm going to talk about
14 PEL, I'm going to come here week after week and I'm
15 going say it, because they've done nothing.

16 I haven't seen anything about them
17 coming here and going after him for his violation of
18 the Recovery Plan, nothing. It's okay. You meet with
19 them regularly, what's their answer? Do they have an
20 answer? Do they care? I don't think they care.

21 It's said that \$2.4 million will be
22 saved if we implemented the plan. I'll use Mrs. Evans'
23 \$208 million 28 year long-term debt. \$2.4 million
24 doesn't dent it.

25 I'm asking again, why did the mayor

.

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1 violate the plan? Why did the mayor fire the health
2 care consultant that saved \$5 million? That \$5 million
3 is the increase between 2001 and 2006 health care
4 insurance. Go to the budgets. It's there.

5 MS. EVANS: Mr. Ancherani, while you're
6 on that subject, we have legislation before us this
7 evening to pay approximately \$95,000 to Segal
8 consultants for the human resources department, and we
9 have been led -- could you -- let's take this off the
10 clock, because I think Council needs this answer,
11 please.

12 Segal has served as the health care
13 consultant, have there been meetings conducted with the
14 unions and Segal in compliance with the court's
15 rulings?

16 MR. ANCHERANI: I don't meet with them,
17 but I believe there was a meeting recently and they
18 weren't supplied with the information that they need
19 from the city.

20 MS. EVANS: Segal wasn't?

21 MR. ANCHERANI: Segal wasn't.

22 MS. EVANS: So, there has been one
23 meeting in one year?

24 MR. ANCHERANI: I'm not -- there may
25 have been one or two.

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64

1 MS. KRAKE: I'm on the health care

2 committee, and we have them throughout this year since

3 --

4 MS. GATELLI: Excuse me. I really

5 don't -- I think it's inappropriate for people to talk

6 from the audience. I don't let other people talk

7 longer, and I don't want people to be offended. I

8 mean, I respect your opinion, but, you know, give us --

9 give me the information tomorrow. I don't want to

10 insult the other speakers.

11 MS. EVANS: Then maybe could we table

12 that this evening until I'm able to get that

13 information?

14 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, sure.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

16 MR. ANCHERANI: Okay. One fast thing,

17 from The Union News, Scranton Councilwoman calls for

18 support of unions, and in here it says, According to

19 Chris Doherty, the two labor contracts could be

20 settled, that's the police and fire, with the borrowed

21 \$44 million. He told the newspaper the main issue in

22 reaching a contract with Local 60 is the number of

23 firefighters. Currently there are 150 members of the

24 department, while he feels only 112 are needed. That's

25 38 gone.

1 Mr. Doherty stated the main issue with
2 the FOP is health insurance and believes a settlement
3 could be reached, but union solidarity between Local 60
4 and Lodge Number Two gets in the way.

5 When that Recovery Plan came out, if we
6 didn't stand together, he would have us on our knees
7 like he wanted. He would have our tail ends nailed to
8 the wall like he wanted. But that's union solidarity,
9 and that's going to stick. We're going to stay with
10 union solidarity.

11 He could have negotiated with us, he
12 could have sat down with us. We're willing. Where was
13 he? He filed for arbitration, not the unions. Thank
14 you.

15 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mr. Ancherani.

16 MR. FIORINI: Good evening.

17 MS. GATELLI: Good evening.

18 MR. FIORINI: I'm Bill Fiorini, I'm
19 director of LIPS, license, inspections and permis. I
20 was just sitting upstairs minding my own business, but
21 Mary Ann, there is a code for -- it's a property
22 maintenance code, and it does address how many

23 occupants you can have in a dwelling unit.

24 The zoning ordinance says you can have

25 four unrelated. We amended the property maintenance

.

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1 code to say the same thing. The property maintenance

2 code had five unrelated in it.

3 The problem that we have is, I

4 think there's 37,000 rental units out there, and we

5 don't get to all these rental units. The only way we

6 get to them is if Judy -- somebody complains to Judy or

7 one of the Councilpeople or they call the office and we

8 go out.

9 But, again, we have an influx of a lot

10 of immigrants here, and a lot of them don't speak

11 English. So, you get in there and you're talking --

12 trying to talk to them and you're trying to say, well,

13 are you related? Who's this one and who's that one?

14 And we can't ask them to see their

15 cards, that's illegal, we can't do that. So, our hands

16 are tired in that respect. So, we cannot really tell

17 who is who.

18 So, Judy, myself, Rob Farrell, and

19 Wayne Evans, we had a meeting last week, and we're

20 going to try to resolve this overcrowding with the

21 rental units. I don't want to --

22 MS. GATELLI: We're redoing the rental

23 ordinance to make it a little more stringent like it is

24 in Bethlehem.

25 MR. FIORINI: Wilkes-Barre has done it

.

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1 and they have three employees. That's all they do.

2 They go to each rental unit and inspect every one of

3 them, and they see how many occupants are in there.

4 But right now we do the best that we

5 can through phone calls. And, again, there's The

6 Constitution, and they all have rights, and if they

7 don't want to let us in, we can't get in unless we get

8 a court order.

9 MS. GATELLI: But if they live next to

10 you and there's a house with 40 people in it, it's very

11 disruptive. They play the music, you're up all night,

12 there's cars back and forth. I mean, it is very, very

13 disruptive.

14 MS. HUBBARD: If they're not citizens,

15 they have no rights.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mr. Fiorini.

17 MR. FIORINI: Yeah, but how can I prove

18 it? I can't --

19 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Fiorini, is there

20 anything else we can do in the interim?

21 MR. FIORINI: Well, in the interim if

22 they call my office and give us the address, we will go

23 out and check it out.

24 I mean, Mike Wallace, we're working on

25 it all the time. What we're doing right now on new

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1 rental units, before we register them, Mike Wallace,

2 the zoning officer, he goes out with all the inspectors

3 and they check the square footage and how many

4 occupants are in there before we even register.

5 And there's been several of them that

6 we won't allow them to use the apartments. Some of

7 them, the ceiling heights are only six-foot, which they

8 have to be seven-foot, so they can't use them as

9 apartments. I mean, we're getting a handle on it, and

10 it's slow. Mike does a good job. I mean --

11 MS. GATELLI: Some of the ones I gave

12 to you and Mr. Seitzinger, they were converting attics

13 into living space, you know, to put more people in, and

14 they're putting them in the attic. So, it's really a
15 problem.

16 MR. FIORINI: It's not an easy task. I
17 mean, again, everybody is talking about the budget, you
18 know, we've got to watch what we're doing, but we also
19 have to put some more inspectors on for this renter
20 ordinance, which will pay for itself in the end, but we
21 do need more people to do this to get really control of
22 it. So, I mean, is there anything else I can answer
23 for you?

24 MS. GATELLI: No, Bill, don't answer
25 from the audience, please.

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1 MR. FIORINI: Okay.

2 MS. EVANS: Mr. Fiorini, can I ask you
3 to comment on a piece of legislation for this evening,
4 6-A, or not A, 6-B, amending five Council to change the
5 requirements for taking the master electrical
6 contractor license exam and to change the requirements
7 from taking the master plumber's license exam, is that
8 -- was that a recommendation from you? Is this coming
9 down from the state? I just wanted to know if, you
10 know, this meets with your approval.

11 MR. FIORINI: Yes. What it is is that
12 they get continuing education. And being that all
13 inspectors have to have continuing education, we feel
14 that our contractors should have some continuing
15 education so they know the codes.
16 Right now they do work. You know,
17 they'll come in to us and ask us what do we have to do.
18 I mean, basically they should know the same thing as we
19 know.

20 MS. EVANS: I see. And just one last
21 question, I would imagine, perhaps you can answer for
22 me, that you would hold certainly a number of
23 certifications and the director of this office, would
24 you hold more certifications than Mr. Seitzinger?

25 MR. FIORINI: Mr. Seitzinger has none.

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1 I have 26, and I hold one. There's only, I think, now
2 189 in the whole United States holds, a master code
3 official.

4 MS. EVANS: And I frankly can't
5 understand why if the promotion were necessary and in
6 order, why the most qualified individual, and as you
7 say, you're one of 189 throughout the United States,

8 and Mr. Seitzinger has no certifications, why that
9 position would not have been yours.

10 MR. FIORINI: I can't answer why. I'm
11 not the boss. I do what I'm told to do and --

12 MS. GATELLI: Bill knows all the
13 contracting and the plumbing and the electrical. We
14 couldn't take him out of there.

15 MR. FIORINI: No.

16 MS. EVANS: It doesn't seem to make
17 sense that we don't want the best qualified person. I
18 know the mayor has said, you know, that he wants the
19 best qualified people in all positions, and they're
20 worth every penny, but I do have to question the latest
21 appointment.

22 MR. FIORINI: But I do know Mark has
23 applied to take a certification exam, I think he's
24 taking it before the end of the month.

25 MS. EVANS: Oh, that's wonderful, so he

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1 will have one and you have how?

2 MR. FIORINI: Twenty-six.

3 MS. EVANS: Okay. Thank you.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, but I think you're

5 mixing apples and oranges.

6 MR. FIORINI: Right.

7 MS. GATELLI: Bill has a much more

8 responsible job than Seitzinger, as far as I'm

9 concerned.

10 MR. FIORINI: All right. Well, Judy

11 and I started together.

12 MS. GATELLI: I mean, I was there, I

13 had no qualifications.

14 MR. FIORINI: But we used to be called

15 the condemners, remember?

16 MS. GATELLI: And they didn't get away

17 with anything when I was there, and I wasn't certified

18 at all.

19 MR. FIORINI: No. But, again, the law

20 has changed.

21 MS. GATELLI: But I had Bill there

22 behind me.

23 MS. EVANS: You do, you have to have

24 someone that does know the law, who knows the codes.

25 MS. GATELLI: You have to have the

.

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1 motivation and you have to love the town and want to

2 make it better.

3 MS. EVANS: But you can't proceed

4 blindly where you're going to be breaking the law and

5 causing unnecessary lawsuits for the City of Scranton.

6 MR. FIORINI: Right.

7 MS. GATELLI: Well, out of 200 houses,

8 I only had two lawsuits.

9 MS. EVANS: Oh, I'm not -- I'm really

10 not -- I wasn't pointing that in your direction.

11 MS. GATELLI: No, I know, I know. But

12 sometimes I don't think you can believe everything you

13 hear. You have to take it at face value, because there

14 are avenues if you feel that your house is condemned,

15 you know, and it's not right, you have The Housing

16 Appeals Board.

17 MR. FIORINI: Right.

18 MS. GATELLI: I mean, you have an

19 appeal procedure, if you feel like you've been

20 violated. So, that's what you have to do. You know,

21 coming here and making accusations, I don't know. I

22 wasn't in anyone's house, so I can't tell you if it was

23 or wasn't. But there are avenues if you think that

24 it's wrong, that you file an appeal.

25 MR. FIORINI: Right. Any decision.

1 MR. FIORINI: Any decision by any of

2 the inspectors --

3 MS. GATELLI: I mean, we're not up here

4 to judge whether you should condemn a house or not.

5 That's your expertise. And if they feel as though you

6 didn't, then they have an appeals board.

7 MR. FIORINI: Right. But today people

8 -- I mean, when we first started this, people were

9 ignorant of the laws and et cetera. Today they're all

10 pretty up on them, so you've got to be careful of what

11 you're doing.

12 MS. GATELLI: Well, thank you, Bill,

13 for coming. Is there anyone else that would like to

14 speak before Council?

15 MS. GARVEY: 5-A, Motions.

16 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Evans.

17 MS. EVANS: Good evening. A bit of

18 housekeeping to begin. Since last week's meeting,

19 Council received a letter from OECD regarding the

20 placement of a billboard at 428 Lackawanna Avenue and

21 advocating for such.

22 They can't answer a Council question

23 posed in July 2006, but in two business days,
24 October 13 and October 16, they can present an argument
25 for a billboard.

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1 The vote was taken to table this
2 legislation until such time as the covered bus shelters
3 in Downtown Scranton for the particular benefit of
4 senior citizens are installed by Lamar, who agreed to
5 do so in February 2006.

6 Kay, if you could please send a letter
7 to OECD explaining the situation and advocating the
8 installation of the bus shelters as soon as possible.

9 MS. GATELLI: I just want to interrupt
10 you. I don't like to do that to you, to disrupt your
11 train of thought --

12 MS. EVANS: No that's fine.

13 MS. GATELLI: -- but Mary Ellen Coleman
14 will be here next Thursday for caucus.

15 MS. EVANS: Oh, that's swell. Good.

16 Recently OECD advertised for the demolition of ten city
17 structures. Numerous houses have been demolished in
18 the last few years, which is a good thing in many
19 instances, however, it leaves behind vacant overgrown

20 parcels of land on which no taxes are paid throughout
21 our neighborhoods.
22 The Lackawanna Taxpayers Association
23 cites Act 137 and asks if these homes might be
24 purchased and rehabilitated for first time home buyers,
25 whereby the money spent for demolition would be used
. .
75

1 instead of for renovation. A purchase would place the
2 property back on the tax rolls.
3 Another example, one property at
4 913-915 Green Ridge Street could be purchased by a
5 resident of the same block and completely renovated by
6 the new owners who have stated their firm desire to do
7 just that.
8 If the city can demolish the property,
9 certainly the city can find its way to work out a sale
10 between the current owner and a potential purchaser.
11 So, I would ask that Mr. Fiorini and
12 Ms. Hailstone and Mr. Seitzinger attend a public caucus
13 meeting, as soon as we can schedule this, to discuss
14 these alternatives to demolition for some of these
15 structures, and I would request that this occur prior
16 to a demolition certainly of these buildings.

17 I also have a list of citizens'
18 requests for the week. 1065 Hollow Avenue, please pick
19 up a chair and cushion which has remained at curb side
20 for two weeks, despite several calls to the DPW for
21 removal. Only a piece of the chair was taken by the
22 DPW.

23 Simultaneously, however, large wood
24 piles have been collected twice from the Hollow Avenue
25 property that received the free clearing of the right
76

1 of way.

2 A letter to Sam Vitras, did the union
3 members approve the placement of the name of Jerome
4 Lasessi on the plaque honoring deceased employees? I
5 wish to know when this name will formally be included
6 so that Mr. Lasessi's family can be notified.

7 A letter to Mr. Gene Barrett, executive
8 director of The Scranton Sewer Authority, please check
9 and repair a drain at 1427 Birch Street.

10 A letter to the police department,
11 request a copy of the traffic study conducted at the
12 corner of division street and 16th Avenue within the
13 last year, specifically the number of vehicles that

14 proceed through the stop sign at the corner at the
15 police department's earliest convenience.
16 A letter to the county tax assessor's
17 office regarding 27 Snook Street and 501 Seymour
18 Avenue, both properties are owned by a single homeowner
19 despite the two addresses, and it appears that 501
20 would never have been built.
21 So, when they are conducting property
22 reassessments of the area, if they could please be
23 certain to examine that situation.

24 Pave the 1000 block of River Street,
25 and Mrs. Gatelli mentioned that earlier, as soon as
.

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1 possible before another city resident loses another
2 tire. And having consulted PennDOT, I'm aware that the
3 city is responsible for this street, not the state.
4 Taxpayers are fed up and have the right to seek
5 financial reimbursement through the city's insurance
6 department.
7 Finally, I'm very troubled that the
8 mayor's borrowing plan was unveiled in August,
9 delivered to Council in September, and as we fast
10 approach the end of October, still no vote has

11 occurred.

12 There has been minimal movement

13 meanwhile. A mere \$77,000 in cuts was proposed this

14 evening, and, now, certainly every little bit counts.

15 There is much, much more fat to be cut from that

16 budget, and a five percent rollback doesn't begin to

17 even address just those raises.

18 Now, I say, again, that Council's

19 indecision demonstrates its weakness. Will it continue

20 to stall this legislation until a fifth vote returns or

21 comes aboard?

22 Council can halt the Doherty debt for

23 the first time in five years overnight with just one

24 vote, and this, no matter what excuses are made, this

25 doesn't pass the smell test. That's it.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Just before Mrs. Fanucci

2 talks, I'd just like to say that it has been tabled,

3 and there were several union leaders that asked that it

4 be tabled until November. So, I didn't table it

5 without some consulting with some union members. It

6 will be on the agenda next week. So, I'd just like to

7 say that. Mrs. Fanucci.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: This week I want
9 to discuss the consultants for OECD last week that was
10 shot down. I want to ask my fellow colleagues if they
11 know what the consultants were for, if anyone knows
12 what their intent was and what we actually voted down
13 last week.

14 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, they were -- they
15 review all the financials for the first time home
16 buyers to see if they're eligible.

17 MS. EVANS: That's what my response
18 was. I'm sure that's part of their responsibility.

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: That's part of
20 their responsibility. I have to say that I feel that
21 we have made a grave mistake in not letting them do
22 their job. The reason that we had these consultants on
23 board -- oh, I love this. You know what --

24 MS. GATELLI: Yes, please, don't
25 respond.

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1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Really, if you --

2 MS. GATELLI: Everybody has the right
3 to their --

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: -- respond that

5 way, then I know I'm doing a good job, so that's -- if
6 you guys say you don't like it, I feel like I'm doing a
7 great job.

8 So, here's how I feel, and this is what
9 has happened, these people are here to comply with the
10 state regulations. They know more, and that's what
11 they do. They are CPAs, they are accountants, that is
12 what their job was.

13 I feel, and being the fact that this is
14 my committee, that we made a very big mistake. They've
15 been doing a really good job in compliance with what
16 they were doing. We have stopped some progress now,
17 and I don't like that.

18 I don't like when you have a guy like
19 Mr. Porter come in tonight and say that he wants to
20 open a business in this city. I am taking him to OECD
21 to say, this is what we need to do to help you, but now
22 we are not giving any of the tools to help.

23 It was a problem of mine. You don't
24 have to like it, you don't have to agree with it, but
25 it was going to be stated anyway.

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1 I also know that as far as we're

2 concerned, we have been sitting down with CPAs all the
3 time trying to figure out this budget and figuring out
4 the best ways.

5 So, it's funny, we need this for
6 ourselves, but yet we're taking it away from a
7 department that is excessively busy right now, probably
8 the busiest that they've ever been.

9 And the compliances are stronger than
10 they've ever been in the city. I'm sorry.

11 MS. EVANS: What CPAs did we sit down
12 with?

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Could I just --

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I'm sorry if you
15 don't like it.

16 MS. GATELLI: Let her finish.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: That's what we --

18 MS. EVANS: Is it Mr. Kresefski?

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: No, no, no. This
20 was the OECD people we shot down last week.

21 MS. EVANS: No, I understand, but you
22 said Council sits with CPAs to figure out a budget.

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I said we've been
24 consulting to talk about -- I know that you have.

25 MS. GATELLI: I consulted with them.

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1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I've consulted

2 with them.

3 MS. EVANS: Did you pay them?

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: No, I didn't pay

5 them.

6 MS. GATELLI: No, mine were free.

7 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: But I don't have

8 to comply with state regulations.

9 MS. GATELLI: They're my friends and

10 they do it --

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: They were talking

12 to me about the budget.

13 MS. EVANS: But you're also responsible

14 for 70,000 people, which is probably just as weighty as

15 the legal responsibilities.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Listen, I don't

17 have to argue.

18 MS. GATELLI: Finish. Finish.

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Let me talk about

20 my motions. I didn't interrupt anybody else's motion.

21 Here's the deal, I understand you don't

22 like it. I feel that this to me is how we build our

23 tax base. That is my passion. You don't have to like
24 it, but it is how I feel we build our tax base. The
25 more businesses we have, the more we can bring in.

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1 That is my deal. Whether you agree or not agree, that
2 is how I feel.

3 I also know that I don't want to go
4 back. I don't want to go backward. I don't want to
5 tie people's hands enough and start doing a clean
6 sweep, that we don't realize what we're doing or who
7 we're hurting. That is my problem with an overall stop
8 in, you know, say five percent or ten percent of a
9 budget. That bothers me because I'm not sure in the
10 end who we're actually going to be hurting.

11 I know that the school board raised
12 their money 2.4 mills, I believe, and I know for sure
13 that the teachers didn't run and say, You know what,
14 let me go take a pay cut so we don't have to to raise
15 our taxes. It is not something that is done.

16 We need to find alternate solutions.

17 And it does bother me. And it is something -- this
18 committee is near and dear to my heart. I'm not going
19 to claim it's not. I understand that there's problems

20 and everybody has their grudges, but it is something I
21 believe in. I believe the city should give opportunity
22 where we can, and I believe that we are tying the hands
23 of people that we can give opportunity to, and that was
24 something that really aggravated me.

25 But on the other hand, I mean, I'm just

83

1 here to talk about how I feel. So, that's all I have.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Could I speak? I just

4 want to apologize for my voice. I have an appointment

5 this coming week. Hopefully I'll get it corrected.

6 I don't disagree that they need

7 somebody down in OECD, but what I would like to see is

8 several years ago we seem to be doing all right and we

9 had an employee that would be paid maybe \$26,000, and

10 they were there eight hours a day five days a week. I

11 wouldn't be opposed to bringing that individual back,

12 as opposed to the \$60,000 person. I'm not quite sure

13 how many hours a day they spend there, but I don't

14 think they're there eight hours a day, are they?

15 MS. GATELLI: No.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: No, but Bill I can

17 tell you the laws have doubled in compliance with what
18 they had to go toward this year. They said that they
19 have so much more to get the money and regulate the
20 money, they've had to do more work. That is what has
21 been past on. So, that's all I know.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. I just
23 think that -- I think if we got somebody in there,
24 there might be a learning curve, but I think they can
25 learn to do it. They did it for many years.

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1 And, again, you're certainly entitled
2 to your opinion. I'm not criticizing you, I'm just
3 stating must opinion.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, I was going to make
5 a comment, too, if you don't mind.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Go ahead.

7 MS. GATELLI: I just want to say that
8 there are plenty of people in that department that are
9 certainly capable. They've been there many, many
10 years, they've done that job. When I was there, they
11 did the job.

12 So, I can't believe that we'd have to
13 hire an outside person who goes there once a week to

14 pick up papers to look at and we can't do it in-house.
15 There are plenty of people there.
16 When we were there, we built a \$52
17 million mall, so nobody was busier than Mike Washo and
18 Judy Gatelli and Jimmy Connors, and we did it with a
19 person on the staff.
20 And if they're going to use this
21 against this Council, and I know they've already told
22 one person, Oh, your name's on the top, but Judy
23 Gatelli voted against this, there will be a big
24 problem, because I'll have Attorney Minora go to court
25 and demand that somebody over there do the job. I

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1 resent that, and I won't tolerate it. I'm not tolerant
2 like Mayor Doherty is. Thank you.
3 MS. EVANS: I'm just going to piggyback
4 on that. I don't that Mayor Doherty is tolerant. It
5 appears to me from the information I received, OECD is
6 merely following his orders.
7 Now, in the Office of Economic and
8 Community Development, we have an executive director
9 and administration, do you know what her duties are?
10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I know what

11 everybody's duties are.

12 MS. EVANS: Well, can you outline those

13 for the public?

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Well, no, I'm not

15 going to sit here and go through -- I mean, I'm not on

16 trial here. This is my opinion, and I think I'm

17 entitled to it.

18 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Evans, I requested

19 that from OECD.

20 MS. EVANS: An executive director, a

21 deputy director, a director of finance and compliance,

22 a financial analyst, a labor standard officer, a

23 construction coordinator ADA compliance officer, a

24 project coordinator, an economic development

25 specialist, a real estate coordinator, a KOZ

.

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1 coordinator loan assistant, a housing rehab management

2 super ADA compliance officer, a program manager, a city

3 planner, okay? Now, obviously we have the people to do

4 the job. Do your job.

5 And I, as a teacher, I'm not

6 management. I'm part of a union, too. And, no, I

7 don't go and say, I'll take cuts, because I don't see

8 that management does, they're paid several tens of

9 thousands of dollars more than I.

10 Also, my health care costs are such

11 that, and for all of the teachers in the Scranton

12 School District and nurses, the health care costs are

13 such that they completely erase any wage increases we

14 received.

15 We earn less now than we did years ago,

16 but we accept that because we know what condition the

17 city is in.

18 And when the school district comes to

19 the citizens for tax increases, I can assure you as a

20 former school director, it's not because of the

21 teachers' wages. They have some spending problems over

22 there, as well, granted not to the extent of this city.

23 And then the last thing, and I'm very

24 sorry for interrupting you, Bill, because I know your

25 voice is weak, but I just wanted to also make a comment

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1 on Mrs. Gatelli's comment about having to check with

2 the union heads before you would table something.

3 Admittedly I didn't check with the

4 union heads, but I feel when I'm speaking here, I'm

5 representing all the people of the city, unions

6 included.

7 MS. GATELLI: I'm sorry. I didn't mean

8 that -- I didn't ask them, they encouraged me. I

9 certainly -- well, I do ask everyone's opinion.

10 MS. EVANS: Well, even when I don't ask

11 --

12 MS. GATELLI: I don't want that

13 misconstrued.

14 MS. EVANS: -- I get people's opinions.

15 The people of Scranton are very passionate and they're

16 very --

17 MS. GATELLI: You'll be happy that I

18 tabled it in the end. You'll be very happy.

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Well, I'm so glad

20 I gave my opinion. But one more thing -- Bill, save

21 your voice, we don't want to hurt your voice.

22 I just don't want to hurt the people

23 that these programs are in place for. That is my only

24 intent here. And if it bothers me that it is. It is

25 affecting them, it is affecting the way the business is

.

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1 being conducted. That is a problem to me, and that was

2 my main goal for tonight, but obviously it fell on deaf
3 ears.

4 MS. EVANS: No, I agree with you, but I
5 think OECD employees need to do their jobs.

6 MS. GATELLI: Go ahead, Bill.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. I know Mrs.

8 Gatelli brought this up last week, and they asked me if
9 I could mention it again, Holy Cross, they still have
10 their sign-ups on Sundays and Mondays through the
11 entire month of October from six to 8 p.m.

12 I should have asked Mr. Fiorini when he
13 was here, there's a building on Linden Street, it's a
14 large building, it's called Emcore, and it's been
15 vacant for a long, long time, and I've asked many times
16 to see if we can do something with it.

17 I think possibly Mr. Fiorini had told
18 me it was tied up in an estate, but it's an eyesore,
19 the neighbors can't stand it, and now it's caught on
20 fire. The other day it was on fire. It's caught on
21 fire several times.

22 We have homeless people living in
23 there. I don't even want to tell you what's inside of
24 there. It's just really disgusting. So, I don't know
25 whatever it is we need to do, if we need to enact some

1 legislation, but I think we need to get that either
2 torn down or something done with it. So, I'll pursue
3 that with Mr. Fiorini further tomorrow, if I could.
4 I had a letter mailed to me about the
5 police that the governor has given a lot of money to
6 areas for police, and I'll just read it and I'll
7 explain to you why I'm reading it, and it says, State
8 gives \$5 million to add 100 cops, that's in
9 Philadelphia.
10 With PA Grant, Wilkes-Barre adding 10
11 to 11 cops. Beefing up security, city get grant to pay
12 for three more cops. That's in Williamsport.
13 Erie to get more cops. Allentown gets more money to
14 hire more police officers. Grants will add five cops
15 in Reading. State gives Pottstown \$200,000 to put more
16 police on the streets.
17 So, it was asked to me, you know, why
18 haven't we gotten anything? And I had something
19 mentioned to me quite awhile ago about the fact that I
20 believe they told me we didn't have enough murders in
21 this city.
22 And I don't know if that's the

23 criteria, and so I know Mrs. Fanucci works in that
24 office, so I would ask maybe you could bring forward
25 next week what the criteria is and explain to us why we
. .
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1 didn't get it, and if there's something we can do to
2 get it.

3 I know the Governor has been very
4 generous to this area, and maybe he can be a little
5 more generous if we can somehow meet the criteria. We
6 don't want to go and have two murders, but I don't
7 think we should be penalized because we didn't. And if
8 you can get that information, I would really appreciate
9 that.

10 To stay with a little bit with the
11 crime, I hate to be the bearer of bad news here, but I
12 guess there has been several break-ins over in the
13 Green Ridge section and Columbia Street and Richmond
14 Street specifically. That's one of the calls I've been
15 receiving, and they asked about getting a beat officer
16 there, a CommD officer.

17 And I'm sorry to say, I said to them, I
18 don't think they qualify over there, because it's not a
19 low to moderate income area.

20 So, I think unless we get more police
21 officers, the best case scenario is that we can ask the
22 police department to try to beef up the patrols over
23 there.

24 I don't know the exact amount, and I
25 was yelled at this morning by a retired cop, he said to

91

1 me, why don't you go and get exactly how many break-ins
2 there were there?

3 But I do know there has been more than
4 three or four, because I've gotten more than that many
5 calls, and so I'll ask the department if there's
6 somehow they can beef up the patrols over there.

7 I think the bottom line is I think it's
8 come to a point in this city that sooner or later we're
9 going to have to look at hiring more police officers.

10 I just think there's no way out, other than hiring
11 more.

12 Kay, I don't know to ask you to send
13 another letter won't do any good, I guess I'm going to
14 try to call Mr. Parker personally. I've been asking
15 for months, many months, about 33 Forrest Glen Drive,
16 there's a depression that goes across the entire road,

17 and here we are now, we're getting freezing weather and
18 their answer is going to be to me now, well, the
19 weather won't allow us to do this.
20 And maybe I'm a little selfish because
21 I ride up and down that street every day, but my wife
22 doesn't like me to mention that I have a motorcycle,
23 but when I go over with my motorcycle, my teeth rattle,
24 so I would like for them to fix that. And I guess I'm
25 going to have to try to ask him that personally.

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1 You know, the \$44 million, I agree to
2 table it because of the fact that, you know, we were
3 waiting for them on it to come, and so now we've gotten
4 information that, you know, we haven't gotten the
5 entire independent audit, but we've gotten information
6 that the preliminary audit isn't going to change much
7 from the audit, so Mrs. Gatelli said she'll put it on
8 next week, and I, for one, am happy for that. I think
9 it's time we vote on it. You're either for the \$44
10 million or you're not. And we'll all stand up and be
11 counted here next week hopefully, right?
12 And one last thing, I, again, I
13 apologize for missing the caucus with the mayor. I had

14 to work. It was unavoidable for me, but I'm assuming
15 they talked about cutting back jobs and raises, and I
16 don't think it's unfair, and nothing against the people
17 that came in and got these ten and \$5,000 raises, I'm
18 not against anybody making a living, but I don't think
19 it's unfair to ask to cut the salaries back to when the
20 Connors Administration was here, because that's exactly
21 what we've asked the fire department and the police
22 department to do.

23 They haven't gotten any money in the
24 last five years, so I think it's fair. I think, and,
25 again, you might have gone over this when I wasn't here

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1 earlier today, I don't know, but I think we all need to
2 share the pain, okay, we all need to feel the same
3 pains.

4 And five years without a raise is a
5 long time for anyone. So, I think that they've endured
6 their share of the pain, and I think it's time these
7 people that came in with the higher salaries do.

8 I would like to see them salaries
9 rolled back to what they were when the Connors
10 Administration was here. I would also like to see some

11 of the jobs that were created done away with. You
12 know, it's just simple as that.
13 I don't want to see anybody out on the
14 street without a job, but I worked, I'm looking at Mary
15 Ann Wardell, her and I worked at a place, and I worked
16 there 15 years, and I'm sure they were sorry they
17 closed the place down that I worked at, but they closed
18 it down. So, these are tough times, and I think we
19 need to share the pain all the way around. I don't
20 think it's fair to ask one group and let the other
21 group sit back and enjoy, you know, a nice raise.
22 And so, hopefully next week by this
23 time I will be able to speak better. I apologize for
24 my voice. That's all I have. Thank you, Ms. Gatelli.

25 MS. GATELLI: Thanks, and good luck

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1 with your voice for next week, Bill.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you.

3 MS. GATELLI: We'll all be thinking

4 about you. I only have one thing in motions. I'd like

5 to read a letter that was faxed.

6 Please be advised that I am resigning

7 my position on City Council. This resignation is

8 effective immediately. Thank you, Kay, Neil and Sue

9 for your efforts on my behalf over the last few years.

10 Sincerely, Robert McTiernan.

11 I'd like to wish Bob the best and thank

12 him for his service to the City of Scranton. And

13 that's all I have. Mrs. Garvey.

14 MS. GARVEY: 5-B, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN

15 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 162, 2005 - AN

16 ORDINANCE ENTITLED GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2006

17 BY TRANSFERRING A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$94,990.00 FROM

18 VARIOUS CITY ACCOUNTS LISTED BELOW TO ACCOUNT NO.

19 01.040.00041.4201 (DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

20 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES) TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO COVER TWO

21 (2) OUTSTANDING INVOICES PAYABLE TO SEGAL CONSULTING.

22 MS. EVANS: Before you read that, I

23 would like to make a motion to table Item 5-B.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

25 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All in

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1 favor.

2 MS. EVANS: Aye.

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

5 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

6 have it and so moved. Unanimous.

7 MS. GARVEY: 5-C, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN

8 ORDINANCE - ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON,

9 LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING

10 RESIDENTIAL RESTRICTIONS FOR REGISTERED ADULT SEXUAL

11 VIOLENT OFFENDERS WITHIN THE CITY, PROVIDING FOR

12 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF SUCH RESIDENTIAL

13 RESTRICTIONS AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

14 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

15 entertain a motion that 5-C be introduced.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

19 those in favor.

20 MS. EVANS: Aye.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

23 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

24 have it and so moved. Unanimous.

25 MS. GARVEY: Sixth order. 6-A, READING

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1 BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 51, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE

2 - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 977 UNION AVENUE,
3 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA TO RUSSELL AND DEBORAH PRENO,
4 983 UNION AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, FOR
5 THE SUM OF \$2,600.00.

6 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by
7 title of Item 6-A, what's your pleasure?

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-A
9 pass reading by title.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

11 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All
12 those in favor.

13 MS. EVANS: Aye.

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

16 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
17 have it and so moved. Unanimous.

18 MS. GARVEY: 6-B, READING BY TITLE -

19 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 52, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING

20 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 155, 1999 TO CHANGE THE

21 REQUIREMENTS FOR TAKING THE MASTER ELECTRICAL

22 CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE EXAM AND TO CHANGE THE

23 REQUIREMENTS FOR TAKING THE MASTER PLUMBERS LICENSE

24 EXAM.

25 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

97

1 title, what is your pleasure?

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-B

3 pass reading by title.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

5 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

6 those in favor.

7 MS. EVANS: Aye.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

10 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

11 have it and so moved. Unanimous.

12 MS. GARVEY: Seventh order. 7-A, FOR

13 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION

14 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 46, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE -

15 VACATING THE RIGHT OF WAY KNOWN AS THE 300 BLOCK OF

16 MAHON COURT BETWEEN MULBERRY AND LINDEN STREETS AND

17 PARALLEL TO CLAY AND NORTH WEBSTER AVENUES.

18 MS. GATELLI: As chairman for the

19 committee on rules, I recommend final passage of Item

20 7-A.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

22 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

23 call.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

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1 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

2 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan. Mr.

4 Courtright.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI: No. I hereby declare

8 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

9 MS. GARVEY: 7-B, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

10 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -

11 RESOLUTION NO. 105, 2006 - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION

12 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD (HARB) AND

13 APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR PELLA

14 PRODUCTS, INC., 4 KEYSTONE INDUSTRIAL PARK, DUNMORE,

15 FOR REPLACEMENT OF WINDOWS AT ST. PETER'S RECTORY, 315

16 WYOMING AVENUE.

17 MS. GATELLI: What is the

18 recommendation of the chairperson on community

19 development?

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for
21 the committee on community development, I recommend
22 final passage of Item 7-B.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

24 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
25 call, please.

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1 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

2 MS. EVANS: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan. Mr.

6 Courtright.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

9 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

10 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

11 MS. GARVEY: 7-C, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

12 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -

13 RESOLUTION NO. 106, 2006 - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION

14 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD (HARB) AND

15 APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR

16 HIGHLAND ASSOCIATES, LTD, 102 HIGHLAND AVENUE, CLARKS

17 SUMMIT FOR REPLACEMENT OF EXTERIOR WINDOWS AND DOORS AT
18 GOODWILL NORTH, NORTH MAIN AVENUE AND THEODORE STREET.

19 MS. GATELLI: What is the
20 recommendation of the chair on community development?

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As the chairperson
22 for the committee on community development, I recommend
23 final passage of Item 7-C.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

25 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

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1 call.

2 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

3 MS. EVANS: Yes.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan. Mr.

7 Courtright.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

10 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

11 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

12 Before we adjourn, I'd like to make a

13 motion that we accept letters of interest from anyone

14 interested in applying for the position of City

15 Council.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

17 MS. GATELLI: I'd like to put a time

18 limit on that of next Thursday and possibly we can have

19 some interviews next Saturday. I think everyone should

20 have an interview.

21 So, we'll take the letters of interest,

22 have to be into City Council office by four o'clock

23 next Thursday, and then we will conduct interviews next

24 Saturday. Now someone can second it.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

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1 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

2 All in favor.

3 MS. EVANS: Aye.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

6 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

7 have it and so moved. That was unanimous. Motion to

8 adjourn.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

11 MS. GATELLI: All in favor.

12 MS. EVANS: Aye.

13 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

15 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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17 (MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and

4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the

5 notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and

6 that this copy is a correct transcript of the same

7 to the best of my ability.

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LISA M. GRAFF, RMR
11 Official Court Reporter

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