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1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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5 Held:

6 Thursday, November 9, 2006

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9 Time:

10 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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23 Lisa M. Graff, RMR

24 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. ROBERT MCGOFF

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13 MR. AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

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15 MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

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17 MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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1 MS. GATELLI: Please stand for the

2 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. McGoff.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

13 MS. GATELLI: Here. Dispense with the

14 reading of the minutes.

15 MS. GATELLI: Third order. 3-A,

16 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING

17 DECEMBER 31, 2005.

18 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. GARVEY: That's all for third

21 order.

22 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Garvey, the only

23 thing I have is, as we discussed in caucus, to send a

24 letter about the Segal to the health committee from

25 Council.

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1 I just have a few announcements,

2 tomorrow night at The Cultural Center is the Sweet 61

3 event. It's from 5:30 to nine at The Scranton Cultural

4 Center. It's \$10. And if you need any more

5 information, you may call 207-0765. And that's to

6 raise money for Channel 61.

7 Sunday there will be a celebrity brunch

8 from nine to one at St. Mary's Center to benefit the

9 Deutsche Institute.

10 Tomorrow is Veteran's Day. There will

11 be a ceremony at 10:30 at the courthouse for anyone

12 that can make it.

13 There were numerous trees trimmed on

14 Brown Avenue, Park Street, Price Street, Olyphant
15 Avenue, Ferdinand, Los Roblas, the 18 of Prospect.
16 Inlets were repaired at Madison and
17 Myrtle, Green Ridge and Dickson. The brush hog hit
18 various areas in the Fawnwood area, on East Mountain
19 Road, Moltke Avenue, Farber Court, Parker Street, Brick
20 Avenue, and the 700 of Locust Street, and a property
21 was boarded up at 1722-1724 Washburn Street.

22 Before we start, with the list of
23 speakers for this evening, I'd like someone to make a
24 motion that we appoint Mr. McGoff to the committee for
25 public works that Mrs. Evans no longer fills. Can

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5

1 someone make that motion, please?

2 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I would like to
3 make a motion that we appoint Mr. McGoff to the
4 committee for public works.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

6 MS. GATELLI: All in favor.

7 MS. EVANS: Aye.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

11 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

12 have it and so ordered.

13 Also there is a subcommittee that is

14 vacant, and that is revenues and taxes, and I would

15 also like someone to make a motion that we put Mr.

16 McGoff in that subcommittee.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I'll make a motion

18 that we appoint Bob McGoff in charge of revenue and

19 taxes committee as our subcommittee.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

21 MS. GATELLI: All in favor.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye.

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

2 have it and so moved.

3 I would like to welcome you, Mr.

4 McGoff, as our fifth member. We have been here for

5 several weeks without someone in that seat, and we're

6 very, very happy to have you.

7 And if you have any questions, you can

8 ask anyone on Council, and I'm sure we will all be
9 amenable to help you along the way, as will Mrs. Garvey
10 and Neil and Attorney Minora.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much, and I
12 hope that I can fulfill the responsibilities that gave
13 given me.

14 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Okay. The
15 first speaker is Doug Miller.

16 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.

17 I'd just like to welcome the nominees this evening to
18 fill the three vacant seats on the Junior Council, and
19 they are Jeff Hernandez from West Scranton High School,
20 Alina Fernandez from West Scranton High School and
21 Alexandra Mozeleski from Scranton High School.

22 And that this time I'd like to ask the
23 City Council if they would please appoint these three
24 members to the Junior Council.

25 MS. GATELLI: Will someone make a

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1 motion that we appoint these three students to the
2 Junior Council?

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll make a motion

4 that we appoint the three students that were just

5 mentioned to the Scranton Junior Council.

6 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

7 MS. GATELLI: All in favor.

8 MS. EVANS: Aye.

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

12 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

13 have it and so ordered.

14 MR. MILLER: Thank you.

15 MS. GATELLI: You're very welcome, and

16 we're very happy that you're here.

17 MR. MILLER: And just lastly tonight, I

18 would just like to welcome Mr. McGoff. I wish you the

19 best of luck. Thank you.

20 MS. GATELLI: The next speaker is Ozzie

21 Quinn.

22 MR. QUINN: Thank you. Welcome. My

23 name is Bob Ozzie Quinn, and I'm the president of the

24 Scranton and Lackawanna County Taxpayers and Citizens

25 Association, Incorporated.

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1 Tonight I'm here to speak about

2 introduction of Resolution 5-B, authorizing the --
3 asking the City Council to approve \$15 million in a
4 bond issue to offset the debt that we have of over \$200
5 million right now in the City of Scranton.
6 Last night the Scranton School Board
7 proposed raising the taxes \$72, and in 2004, the county
8 -- majority county commissioners raised our taxes
9 48 percent, even though they said they gave us -- it's
10 down to 39 percent, it's still a tax increase.
11 We cannot afford to keep on going with
12 this loan. The Taxpayers Association is against any
13 borrowing whatsoever, whatsoever.
14 And what I'm really asking for tonight
15 is before -- if you introduce it, before you do
16 anything after, before you make the second or third
17 readings, I ask that you look at the budget and see if
18 the mayor is cutting the fat in that budget.
19 In the last two months, as you know,
20 with \$200 million in debt, he appointed three members
21 to his -- three persons to his administration. And one
22 of them is probably an quasi administrator, and we
23 don't appreciate it, okay? He keeps on putting people
24 on the administration, and you're going to give him \$15
25 million, which we're totally against, then something is

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1 wrong, because I don't know what's going to happen.

2 We're going to have to pay that \$15 million, which is

3 going to be \$30 million, \$29 million.

4 I don't know how many years it's going

5 to be, but it's going to add to our total accumulation

6 of debt we have now. And we just can't afford it.

7 The time is to put a moratorium on

8 these on these bond issues and just cut as you have to

9 and just decrease what you have to, because you just

10 can't keep on going borrowing, borrowing, borrowing.

11 You know, that's -- a six-year-old or a seven-year-old

12 in grade school learns that. That's basic math.

13 So, I'd appreciate it if you would

14 consider that. Don't approve this until you see if the

15 mayor is willing to cut back. Thank you.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Jane Ward.

17 MS. WARD: Hi. Good evening. My name

18 is Jane Ward, I'm a taxpayer. I don't have too much to

19 say. Last week I watched the meeting on 61. At the

20 end of the meeting, there was a lot of yelling, which

21 in my opinion, was bad taste.

22 I think a couple of people should

23 practice what they preach. Question for Mrs. Sherry

24 Fanucci, How could you tell the taxpayers to get lost

25 when they pay you to sit there? To me, that was very

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1 disrespectful. Thank you.

2 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Bob Bolus.

3 Did anyone see Bob? Mike Dudek.

4 MR. DUDEK: My name is Mike Dudek, 608

5 Depot Street, Scranton, PA. I live in The Plot. And

6 the first thing I want to do is to congratulate our

7 newest member of Scranton City Council.

8 Congratulations to you.

9 Work hard, work well. They put you on

10 the subcommittee for taxes and finance. Good luck. We

11 are going to be look toward you and praying for you

12 that you help this Council work with the mayor, if he

13 wants the help, in developing a budget for this city

14 that will be fair to all sides.

15 I think we can look at the situation

16 and say that the mayor finally blinked. \$44 mill is

17 off the table. That's good.

18 As a Council, you're finally beginning

19 to come together. The mayor is finally beginning to

20 recognize that he has to deal with you. And that's
21 good. Please make sure he does this.
22 You will work with the mayor in
23 bringing business from New York to Scranton, as he's
24 talked about. At the same time, however, he has to
25 realize that there are certain things that are going to

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1 have to be done properly.
2 We need a city budget. We have a city
3 police department and a city fire department that have
4 been living for five years in total insult. They don't
5 have a contract. That nonsense has to end, and I think
6 that has to be made part of the bargaining process.
7 My suggestion to Council is that you
8 come up with a budget of your own and incorporate the
9 needs of our firemen and policemen in this budget.
10 Don't look for the future to say, Oh, my, God, I never
11 expected this.
12 We know that Governor Rendell is
13 measuring Chris Doherty for the office of state
14 treasurer. He may get it. If he does, then Council is
15 going to get caught short if you have not made budget
16 preparations of your own. It is incumbent upon you to

17 please do this.

18 And my last words are for Mr. McGoff,

19 because I don't think you've been in these chambers

20 when I've described to you what the City Council is in

21 this city.

22 When you read the Home Rule Charter

23 carefully, as I'm sure you will read it a second time,

24 you are going to realize that we have a strong

25 mayor-strong Council form of government in this Home

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1 Rule Charter.

2 On every vote, you are one-third of a

3 mayor, because if a vote goes three to two, you're like

4 a mayor. If a vote is vetoed and you overturn it four

5 to one, you become equivalent to the mayor.

6 So, there are possibilities for this to

7 occur. You have a serious obligation to understand

8 your role in the process, and you have been placed in a

9 very critical position in this subcommittee. Please

10 work with the members, work in collegiality with the

11 other four members. They will help you. Work together

12 on this and don't be afraid to consult with them. Work

13 together. Thank you very much.

14 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Andy

15 Sbaraglia.

16 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia, citizen

17 of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I, too, would like

18 to welcome the new councilmen, Mr. McGoff. I'd hate to

19 be sitting in this chair.

20 At the beginning of year, Council in

21 their wisdom lowered the mercantile tax and the

22 business privilege tax 50 percent. That comes out to

23 be probably a million and a half dollars they gave away

24 to the businessmen of Scranton, but in the meantime,

25 they took the poor peons and passed the tax on their

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1 heads 200 percent increase. And that's what they've

2 done. They've attacked the poor citizens, the working

3 class of Scranton, pushed their tax up so they can give

4 it to the rich, and they don't even have to live in

5 Scranton.

6 This was a very, very negative thing

7 they did to the people. You can't say you love the

8 people by pushing more and more debt upon their heads.

9 You have to look at all -- I don't know

10 exactly what your thinking process is. I hope it's

11 very meticulous that you look at everything and you
12 look at all the consequences.
13 We're getting a new bus terminal in
14 Scranton, okay, put up by the county. It looks very
15 good, don't it? You all probably say it's a good
16 thing. But do you know how many millions of dollars
17 we're going to lose in tax revenue when they buy out
18 the Martz? You really don't look at that. We're going
19 to lose millions of dollars over the life of that
20 terminal.

21 Will it ever pay for itself? I doubt
22 it. I think it's going to be another white elephant,
23 but that's besides the point. For some reason in
24 Scranton, we do good into white elephants. We love
25 them things.

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1 Now you're looking at building this
2 school. And where do they want to build the school,
3 tap generating property. They don't want to put it up
4 at the hospital where it should be built.
5 Moses Taylor has adequate room for
6 that, but, no, they want to put it downtown. For some
7 reason or other, they think it's going to generate some

8 kind of businesses in town.

9 But I got news for you, people would

10 come down to Moses Taylor to town, if they wanted to.

11 They're going to have vehicles, because believe me, at

12 \$100,000 a year cost to get into one of these

13 institutions, these people are going to have money and

14 they ain't going to just walk around town. They're

15 going to be able to drive around town or drive out of

16 town, but the taxpayers in town are going to suffer

17 again.

18 And you're going to have to look at

19 that, how much money we're losing. You don't realize

20 it. A lot of buildings in Scranton are what they call

21 -- some of them are TIF, like the Connell Building's a

22 TIF, okay? No matter what they do in that building,

23 they're not going to get their raise in taxes, so their

24 taxes are fixed.

25 For the last two years, the county has

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1 been lowering tax assessments in Scranton millions and

2 millions of dollars we already lost. That's why

3 there's such a gap in this budget.

4 All the money we have lost through

5 KOZs, reduction in assessments and some of these TIF
6 projects, all these projects that they have with
7 historical values, they come in lower, too.
8 That's what is wrong with Scranton, and
9 you can't put the burden on the poor working class of
10 Scranton. That was a crime to raise their portion
11 200 percent up while giving the businessmen 50 percent
12 reduction. That was more than a crime. That was a
13 slap to every taxpayer in Scranton.
14 Most of these businessmen will not live
15 in Scranton, and the reason why is because they would
16 have to pay your wage tax, just like you paid, and they
17 didn't want to pay a wage tax.
18 I figured it out, it's like \$2 million
19 -- on a million dollars, it would cost them \$2,000, but
20 if they lived in Scranton on that same million, it
21 would have cost them \$24,000. So, they get out of
22 here, and I don't blame them. I would pick up my thing
23 and move real, real fast, too, if I had that kind of
24 income. But thank God I don't work, so I don't have to
25 pay that anymore, but I did pay it.

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16

1 But this is what's wrong. This is what

2 you stuck your head into. They didn't do you a favor
3 at all. You're probably going to be one of the most
4 hated persons on that board, because somehow or some
5 way they're going to have to come up with revenue, and
6 they're going to blame you, and they're going to blame
7 you because you're in charge of that committee, and
8 that's who you blame, the person that's in charge of
9 the committee.

10 MR. MINORA: Time is up.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. Thank you.

12 Bye-bye.

13 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Just for
14 clarification, Mrs. Evans is the chair of the finance
15 committee. I think you may have misunderstood, Mr.
16 Sbaraglia. Mr. McGoff is the head of a subcommittee,
17 which are, you know, very inactive for revenue and
18 taxes, but Mrs. Evans was appointed last week as the
19 finance chair of City Council, so that's just a point
20 of clarification.

21 The next speaker is M Aguera. Am I
22 saying that right? No? I don't know. Your name is on
23 here. Did you sign the sign-in sheet? Oh, okay.

24 That's okay. Les Spindler.

25 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening, Council.

17

1 Les Spindler, city resident. I, too, want to welcome

2 you, Mr. McGoff. I wish you luck. I hope you do

3 what's right for the people of this city.

4 In response to your parting shot as I

5 left the podium last week, Mrs. Gatelli, I'm not trying

6 to make the world a better place, just this city. And

7 with underhanded deals like the one that was done last

8 week, it's becoming very difficult.

9 Mr. McGoff, I have a couple questions

10 for you. Mrs. Gatelli said she nominated you because

11 you weren't politically connected, did you know Mrs.

12 Gatelli before this selection process started?

13 MR. MCGOFF: Should I respond?

14 MS. GATELLI: If you want to.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

16 MR. SPINDLER: Did you have a 4-by-8

17 campaign sign for Mr. Doherty in your yard last year?

18 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Spindler, let me say

19 that personal questions to me that are not concerned

20 with city business, I will respectfully not answer. I

21 don't think that has anything to do with my functioning

22 as a member of Council.

23 MR. SPINDLER: I'm just trying to make
24 a point. Mrs. Gatelli said you weren't politically
25 connected. I know for a fact you did have a sign in
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1 your yard, and I know that you worked the polls for Mr.
2 Doherty. It sounds like you are politically connected.

3 MR. MCGOFF: That is incorrect.

4 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. The next thing.

5 Mrs. Gatelli, when you were first elected to this seat,
6 people came to me and said, You better watch Judy
7 Gatelli, you can't trust her, and I backed you up. I
8 voted for you in the election. I said, No, Judy will
9 be okay.

10 But after what happened last week with

11 Gary DiBileo, I think you stabbed him in the back and I
12 think I was wrong.

13 Because on the first vote last week,

14 you abstained, and then when you came back in, you

15 voted no. Who got to you out in the hallway, Carl

16 Greco or the mayor? And why would you abstain and then

17 vote no? I guess --

18 MS. GATELLI: I'm not going to dignify

19 that with an answer.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. The next thing on
21 the list, was there any progress been made on the
22 proposed smoking ban?

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes. In fact,
24 tonight we had our solicitor bring it into Kay to
25 probably be placed on the agenda for next week, so it

19

1 will be on.

2 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you. Last
3 but not least, something I brought up a long, long time
4 ago, yesterday with the heavy rain, and then again it
5 was like a river in front of my house. I've been
6 talking about this for years.

7 I know Mr. Newcomb has a problem, also.

8 Mrs. Evans, I think you said last week 11 letters were
9 send to Mr. Newcomb?

10 MS. EVANS: Yes. But actually it's
11 come to a happy conclusion, in that Mr. Parker did go
12 to North Cameron within the last week and he did a
13 thorough inspection. He spoke with one of the
14 neighbors, or perhaps even two of the neighbors, I
15 believe, and he explained what would be necessary over
16 the long-term for solution to the problem, but he's

17 also providing a temporary solution that the neighbors
18 are very happy with, and he's conferring with the
19 Scranton Sewer Authority.

20 So, I'm very, very grateful that

21 Mr. Parker actually took time out of his schedule, went
22 over to help those people.

23 MR. SPINDLER: Well, that's good to

24 hear. I've had the problem long before Mr. Newcomb

25 did, and I have yet to have George Parker over my
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20

1 house. I don't know what you have to do to get him

2 over.

3 MS. EVANS: Maybe you need go on the

4 news.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Well, maybe, or else I

6 can fix -- in the springtime, maybe I'll just go up to

7 Lowe's and buy a bag of black top which they sell and

8 solve the problem myself, and I'll put a curb in and

9 maybe they'll come up and solve the problem then.

10 That's all I have. Thank you.

11 MS. GATELLI: Ron Elman.

12 MR. ELMAN: Well, I won't attack our --

13 you look so serious up there. I wish you every, you

14 know, all the good luck, but I consider you a temporary
15 political appointment, you know, until you prove
16 different. I hope you prove me wrong.
17 I've got all this written down, but I
18 had a young lady that happens to be present tonight, I
19 wasn't expecting her, she came over to me at Redner's
20 last Saturday or Sunday when I was up there, and she
21 got a wonderful idea, she said, why don't we try to
22 arrange something with Channel 61 and have the city,
23 the people in Scranton, phone in and give their idea of
24 the performance of the mayor and you people up there,
25 like a yes and no, not a big phone-in deal. And I
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21

1 think that's a very good idea. It would end a lot of
2 adverse remarks like me and some of the others say. It
3 might prove us wrong.
4 And next, you know, I don't know how
5 that could be done, but I don't see why it couldn't, if
6 they would allow a Channel 61.
7 And a couple weeks ago I was with a
8 friend and we parked up one of the streets -- for a
9 flea market -- not -- I mean a house sale up on the
10 hill, and some people came over and told me him he had

11 to move his truck because it's permit parking.
12 And I happened to know, I got a friend
13 that has a car in a garage in a house up there that has
14 permit parking. If these people -- if these people
15 want permit parking, let them pay \$400, \$500 a year,
16 because it seems to me that any car that's legal
17 licensed and insured should be able to park up and down
18 the streets of the city.

19 And some of these houses are renting
20 rooms out now, and like I said, have junk in garages
21 and renting garages out, because I know several garages
22 that are rented out where the people have permit
23 parking signs up and down the street. It ought to be
24 terminated.

25 I thank you. Let me -- before I go,

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22

1 I've had a bunch of people ask me about this silly cat
2 that I got last -- six, three, four months ago,
3 whatever it was. The cat -- unfortunately for me, I
4 still got the cat. You know, nobody wants cats.
5 And he has just taken over the house,
6 he's hanging on curtains and on couches. And I wake
7 up, he's in bed looking at me. It seems like the cat

8 can sense that, you know, I'm not a cat person.

9 MR. MINORA: City business, Mr. Elman.

10 MR. ELMAN: The cat's doing well.

11 MR. MINORA: City business.

12 MR. ELMAN: Nobody ever had it made

13 like this cat does.

14 MS. GATELLI: He's not even listening.

15 MR. ELMAN: Thank you.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Fay Franus.

17 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton. I

18 want to quote something from The Declaration of

19 Independence. I am only one person, but I am one. I

20 can't do everything, but I can do something. What I

21 ought to do, I will do. That's what I can do, and I'm

22 going to.

23 I'm here tonight, I'd rather be home,

24 but due to the statements that were made after we spoke

25 last week, I just wanted to address a couple of things.

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23

1 Mrs. Gatelli, again, this is my

2 opinion, and I speak for myself, let everybody else

3 form their own opinion, we elected all of you up there

4 to do your job.

5 I don't think, like I say, my opinion,
6 I don't think you should have spoke to Mrs. Evans like
7 that. I don't think you should refrain her from
8 questioning another Councilperson if she feels another
9 Councilperson should be questioned on anything that
10 they might have said.
11 The same goes for you or anybody, Mr.
12 Courtright. If one of you Councilpeople say something
13 and the other one wants to question it, I don't think
14 they should be stopped. Mrs. Evans didn't interrupt
15 her motions, Mrs. Fanucci's motion, she just questioned
16 her on it, and I don't think that you should ever do
17 that.
18 I think every person there was elected
19 by us and we had a right to know what you're thinking.
20 And if you want to address each other, I think you
21 should. How are we going to know anything if you don't
22 ask?
23 And I'd like to know when I get done
24 speaking, you can answer this, how come Mr. Courtright
25 and Mrs. Evans didn't know about the vote last week for
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24
1 the Councilperson until twenty after six when you sit

2 there and say everybody should get along and you don't
3 tell each other everything? I don't understand. Why
4 are certain people knowing and certain people don't
5 know? That, I'd like an answer to.

6 And, Mrs. Fanucci, you said at the end
7 of the meeting about hatred and poison in these walls,
8 it's not hatred and poison, I mean, you can interpret
9 it any way you want, I consider it complete disgust.

10 We're all disgusted and we're very concerned about how
11 you're spending our money.

12 Now, this JPL Financial had a
13 commercial on television today, and in their
14 commercial, and I think you should take this slogan,
15 it's your money and we work for you.

16 It is our money and you do work for us.

17 You make it sound like you're doing us favors. I'd
18 like a refund, I think.

19 I'm serious. I mean, I work every day
20 and I work hard, and so does everybody else in this
21 city that gets up every day. But all we keep on doing
22 is handing out money to you, to this administration.

23 We need answers.

24 And you keep on -- you sit there and
25 you say, Mrs. Gatelli, you showed pictures of your

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25

1 grandchildren so you don't want to put them in the
2 hole, well, by vote for this budget, this loan that Mr.
3 Doherty wants, that's exactly what you're going to
4 do.

5 So, you can sit there and say you're
6 working for the people, but how many times do I have to
7 say it? You're not working for us if you vote for this
8 loan. And I don't know how you sleep nights, like I
9 say, I'll say it all the time, we can't afford any
10 more.

11 Like Ozzie Quinn said, How much do you
12 think we have? Like, why do we even want to go to
13 work? Why should just all stay home and say, Why
14 should we even bother? We have to turn it over to the
15 school, to you. So, if you really care about us, do
16 the right thing.

17 Mr. McGoff, you should vote no. If you
18 sincerely say you said in the paper that you're going
19 to do what you think is best for the people, well,
20 that's what's best for the people. That's not my
21 opinion. That's fact. That's fact.

22 Let's see what your true colors are.

23 Let's see where you're coming from. You have a chance

24 to do something right here, let's do it.

25 And you can make all the excuses you

.

26

1 want in the world, but they're only excuses. If you

2 vote for this loan, everything you said, in my opinion,

3 is a big untruth, very much so.

4 So, that's all I'm going to say. Mrs.

5 Gatelli, I'd like an answer on why you didn't tell Mrs.

6 Evans and Mr. Courtright about this vote until twenty

7 after six and why don't they know what's going on with

8 the rest of Council when they should know it?

9 MS. GATELLI: Anyone is free to make a

10 motion at any time, Mrs. Franus.

11 MS. FRANUS: You don't think that they

12 should have known before the meeting?

13 MS. GATELLI: Everyone was ready to

14 vote Saturday after the interviews, that's when they

15 were ready to vote.

16 MS. FRANUS: No. Mrs. Evans made a

17 quote saying she didn't know until twenty after six

18 about this vote. Why was that? How did that even

19 happen? How would you like it if you weren't told

20 until twenty after six, what was going to happen at the
21 meeting?

22 MS. GATELLI: Oh, I haven't been told a
23 lot of things that happen at the meeting, Mrs. Franus.

24 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

25 MS. GATELLI: I'm not told a lot of

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1 things that happen at the meeting. People have their
2 own motions, and they're entitled to make a motion when
3 they feel like it.

4 MS. FRANUS: You don't think this was a
5 serious motion that Mrs. Evans and Mr. Courtright
6 shouldn't have know?

7 MS. GATELLI: We interviewed and we had
8 the ability to make an appointment within 30 days.

9 MS. FRANUS: Well, how is it that Mrs.
10 Fanucci knew and they didn't?

11 MR. MINORA: That's time.

12 MS. GATELLI: They don't know. That's
13 a --

14 MR. MINORA: That's five minutes.

15 MS. FRANUS: I'm just getting an answer
16 to this question. Pardon me?

17 MS. GATELLI: I don't know that anyone
18 knew. They could have been appointed Saturday,
19 Thursday, next Thursday.

20 MS. FRANUS: Did you know, Mrs.
21 Fanucci, that you were going to vote on that?

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: When the motion
23 was made.

24 MS. FRANUS: Before the motion was
25 made.

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1 MR. MINORA: It was announced the
2 Saturday before at the meeting.

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Right. We'd all
4 known.

5 MR. MINORA: To the members.

6 MS. FRANUS: No, because Mrs. Evans
7 said she did not know until twenty after six, and she
8 knows what she's talking about, I'm sorry. If Mrs.
9 Evans says it, it's true.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Actually, Attorney
11 Minora, should we be discussing any of this anyway? Is
12 this allowed to be discussed?

13 MR. MINORA: No, you shouldn't be

14 discussing it. There's a lawsuit pending.

15 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yeah, we should

16 not -- actually we are in the middle of litigation

17 right now and we cannot discuss any of this right now

18 at any time actually, anything that happened last

19 week's meeting. So, I'm sorry for that. We really

20 can't.

21 MS. FRANUS: Oh, okay. Mrs. Evans, do

22 you care to say anything on this at all?

23 MS. EVANS: Another question, we're in

24 the middle of litigation, what is the litigation?

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: We're being sued.

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1 MS. EVANS: By?

2 MS. GATELLI: For the appointment.

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: For the

4 appointment.

5 MS. GATELLI: It was in your mailbox.

6 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: It was in your

7 mailbox.

8 MS. FRANUS: Something else Mrs. Evans

9 doesn't know either.

10 MS. GATELLI: Well, she needs to look

11 in her mailbox, Mrs. Franus.

12 MS. EVANS: Well, I do look in my

13 mailbox.

14 MS. GATELLI: I looked in my mailbox

15 tonight and it was here.

16 MS. EVANS: And I do have my mail

17 picked up twice a week.

18 MS. GATELLI: Well, it's there, honest.

19 MS. EVANS: I'm looking at it right

20 now.

21 MS. GATELLI: It wasn't being hidden

22 from you.

23 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans, this piece of

24 information was just delivered to our office late this

25 afternoon approximately 3:30, so your mail was picked

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1 up, but it was prior to that, so this mail was not put

2 in anybody's box until approximately quarter to four

3 this afternoon.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you. I notice,

5 though, it says, Please be advised that I will be

6 presenting this petition in motion court on

7 November 16, 2006 at 9:00 a.m., so where does that

8 leave Council?

9 MS. GATELLI: I think Attorney Minora

10 will be representing us.

11 MR. MINORA: I'll appear at that date

12 and time, as I've been noticed to do. Suit has been

13 filed.

14 MS. EVANS: And a hearing date has been

15 set?

16 MR. MINORA: No. An injunction has to

17 be presented to motion court.

18 MS. EVANS: And so the judge will hear

19 this?

20 MR. MINORA: The judge will determine

21 -- you know, this is litigation. I'd really prefer to

22 talk about this in caucus, okay?

23 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

24 MS. FRANUS: Well, when the time comes

25 that we can find out, I hope someone would let us know,

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1 because I really want an answer to that eventually.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Wardell.

4 MS. WARDELL: Good evening, Council.

5 My name is Mary Ann Wardell. Good luck, sir. Welcome.

6 I would like to speak about this piece

7 of legislation that is on agenda, and I would like to

8 respectfully ask that you table this piece of

9 legislation until you get a chance to see the mayor's

10 budget, and you can see by his budget exactly how far

11 he's willing to go with his cuts.

12 I don't think this should be even

13 pushed any further than it is right now. I think we

14 need to see if he is really serious about making the

15 cuts and cutting expenses that he needs to.

16 And when he was here, he spoke about

17 different things about increasing revenue, and Council

18 brought up to him ways that he could increase revenue,

19 and I think before you vote on this, you owe it to us

20 to just see if he's going to be sincere in what he

21 said. I don't see a reason that this has to be done

22 now. I really think this could wait.

23 I wasn't here last week, and I have to

24 say that the meeting last week was very upsetting, but

25 I will say that I have been here and I have seen

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1 meetings that were much worse.

2 Council and the audience both said
3 things in the heat of the moment that should not have
4 been said, okay?

5 Also, I'd like to say that Mr. Doherty,
6 when he was running for election, said that he was
7 going to be the sixth councilmen, but it seems like Mr.
8 Minora is our sixth Councilman here. He seems to do
9 more talking than some of you people. And I really
10 think that he's speaking out of turn in certain
11 instances. I think it's up to, Judy, as president, to
12 do the speaking for Council, not Mr. Minora, unless
13 he's asked a question or unless he's telling us that
14 our time is up.

15 On last week's meeting, I would like to
16 say, there's just one thing that bothered me. You
17 talked about hate and poison. That is not the case in
18 this room. I doubt that there is anyone in this room
19 that would say that they hate any councilman or that
20 they detest any Councilman. What you're seeing here is
21 disappointment and frustration.

22 We have been in financial straits for
23 so long. We have heard so many people say this is the
24 way we will get out of it, we will get out of it, we
25 will get out of it, and time and time again nothing is

1 happening. We continue to borrow, we increase our
2 debt.

3 You talk about your grandchildren,
4 Judy, I have four of them, and three of them do not
5 live in the city, and it's because of the taxes that we
6 pay in this city that my children moved out of town.
7 I would like to see them in the city.

8 They were born and raised here. And I think if we
9 continue to borrow money and raise taxes and expect
10 people to pay, you will see a decrease in our tax base.
11 You will not see an increase.

12 And one more thing, Judy, you spoke a
13 few months ago about talking to the zoning board about
14 cutting back on having them agree to break up single
15 family homes into apartments, did you ever speak to
16 them about that?

17 MS. GATELLI: Yes, I did.

18 MS. WARDELL: And what was their
19 answer? Because I seem to see an awful lot of people
20 that are going before the zoning board and continue to
21 ask for these things to be done.

22 MS. GATELLI: The cases that I look at,

23 and I admit, I don't look at every one of them, but I

24 see a large decrease in apartment conversions --

25 MS. WARDELL: Okay.

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1 MS. GATELLI: -- according to previous

2 years.

3 MS. WARDELL: Okay. So, then maybe

4 what you said is doing some good. I would appreciate

5 -- I thank you for the time, Council, and I would

6 appreciate it if you would hold off on this litigation.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mrs. Wardell.

9 Marie Shumaker.

10 MS. SHUMAKER: Hi, Marie Shumaker. I

11 have a comment, two questions that I would appreciate

12 if you'd hold off until I finish answering. Both of

13 them are holdovers from when I ran out of time about a

14 month ago when I was last at the podium.

15 First of all, I am really concerned

16 that -- and shocked sort of that you are even

17 entertaining another bond issue before you see the

18 mayor's budget.

19 The mayor promised budget cuts. What

20 are they? Where are they? Will the Anglican deal be
21 paid out of this bond and the interests that's accruing
22 on that? Will that finally be put behind us? Are
23 there COLAs in that budget for the police and firemen
24 at a basic minimum?

25 The mayor stated several times that

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1 part of the bond revenue would be applied to some
2 ambiguous capital projects, and capital projects in
3 this city seem to be a large ambiguity.

4 As a matter of fact, that is one of the

5 questions I have. The mayor's capital budget was due

6 September 15th of this year. It's now close to 60 days

7 overdue. When you met at West Scranton, you said you

8 had sent a letter to the mayor asking him to respond

9 soonest with a proper capital budget, and I ask that

10 you put a date certain on that. You instructed Mr.

11 Minora or Mrs. Garvey, I don't remember or recall

12 which, so I would like to know tonight the date of that

13 date certain that you gave the mayor and if that has

14 been met or when it is, if it has not expired yet.

15 So, that's my first question. The

16 second question I have is, I need to know what I'm

17 doing wrong in requesting an ordinance.

18 I have submitted several times

19 ordinances dealing with pool maintenance. We've

20 discussed this before. There is currently no ordinance

21 on the books dealing with swimming pool maintenance,

22 only construction and fences and those kinds of things.

23 And I have submitted twice, once before

24 you broke in the -- for your summer recess, one since

25 you came back, I have handed proposed ordinance. I

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1 have seen nothing. I have heard nothing.

2 So, those are my two questions, capital

3 budget status, and what do I have to do to get a

4 swimming pool maintenance ordinance brought before this

5 board for action even if it's rejected?

6 MS. GATELLI: The capital budget items,

7 I'm not sure if we got an answer, Mrs. Garvey.

8 MS. EVANS: No. But I can --

9 MS. SHUMAKER: What was the date

10 certain?

11 MS. EVANS: The last letter, this was

12 actually the second letter I had sent to the mayor,

13 asks that the revised capital budget be submitted to

14 Council by November 6, 2006 to guarantee compliance
15 with Section 906 of the Home Rule Charter. There has
16 been no response, just as there was no response last
17 year.

18 MS. SHUMAKER: You know, and I don't
19 know why you're not calling these department heads in
20 and at least asking them what they've asked for in
21 their capital budget. I mean, there's not been a
22 decent capital budget in -- I've gone back in Mrs.
23 Garvey's office, and they're criminal. I mean, they
24 really are.

25 You people don't know what's in them,

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1 you don't know if the work gets done, you don't know
2 how they're being paid for. I mean, that's your job,
3 and you're not doing it.

4 How do we know that we need more
5 capital items when you don't even know what's in the
6 capital budget for next year? I mean, that, to me, is
7 sort of ludicrous.

8 MS. GATELLI: I don't think he asked
9 for more money in the capital budget.

10 MS. SHUMAKER: He said he was going to

11 spend, if he got the bond, he had capital -- and based

12 on ambiguous --

13 MS. GATELLI: That was in the \$44

14 million, but that's off the table.

15 MS. SHUMAKER: Well --

16 MS. GATELLI: And your second question

17 with the pool ordinance?

18 MS. SHUMAKER: What am I doing with the

19 swimming pool maintenance ordinance?

20 MS. GATELLI: I'll talk to Mr. Fiorini,

21 but that can be done without an ordinance. We have

22 ordinances, we have health ordinances, and stagnant

23 water in a pool is certainly a health issue.

24 MS. SHUMAKER: He will not allow the

25 inspector to go out unless it meets a minimum depth.

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1 And water can be stagnant and not meet his requirements

2 for depth. It needs to be specified so that the

3 inspector is allowed to go out.

4 And speaking of inspectors, that does

5 bring up another item, it's my understanding that next

6 April all inspectors have to be certified by the state,

7 how do we stand on that as far as -- last time I read

8 in the monopoly newspaper, there were only four of the
9 inspectors that were certified. Are we going to meet
10 that?

11 MS. GATELLI: I believe there's testing
12 scheduled for the other inspectors before that time and
13 a class for them to take to prepare.

14 MS. SHUMAKER: Thank you. Well, I
15 would appreciate if you would bring a --

16 MR. MINORA: That's your five minutes,
17 Mrs. Shumaker.

18 MS. SHUMAKER: Thank you.

19 MS. EVANS: If I might add, Ms.
20 Shumaker, I don't think the blame belongs at the feet
21 of Council for the capital budget. Council can call in
22 department heads, as it has before, and they do not
23 appear.

24 And the department heads take their
25 orders from the mayor, and if the mayor permits them to

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1 come here or the mayor permits them to speak to some of
2 us or the Mayor permits them to give information, then
3 it will be done.

4 But Council, because it holds no power

5 of hiring or firing over these individuals, has no
6 power, other than through subpoena to question these
7 department heads.

8 So, in effect, they are -- they are
9 taking orders from the mayor, and the mayor choses not
10 to respond to the request for a legal and appropriate
11 capital budget in compliance with the Home Rule
12 Charter.

13 MS. GATELLI: Charlie Newcomb.

14 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Good evening,
15 Council. I two like to -- Mrs. Evans, you spoke about
16 it before, I would like to thank yourself, Mr.
17 Courtright, Mrs. Gatelli for -- especially for all the
18 letters you sent out, and, Mrs. Gatelli, the phone
19 calls that you made or whatever you had to do, Mr.
20 Courtright.

21 As you said, they were finally over
22 there, DPW. It is going to be a major job. As you can
23 see on the news report, those people suffered a lot of
24 water. And for somebody from the city to make a
25 comment, do you have flood insurance, you know, was a

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1 little bit ridiculous because you're not in a flood

2 zone, so you should never need flood insurance.

3 So, on behalf of my son and the

4 neighbors over there, I really would like to say thank

5 very much, because now they can, you know, they bought

6 a property in Scranton and they can do some work on it

7 and hopefully not have to worry about every time it

8 rains, drag something up from the basement because it's

9 going to take on some water. So, again, we really do

10 appreciate anything that anybody did.

11 Again on -- we're here tonight about

12 the borrowing. As we read this morning's paper, I

13 believe the school wants to raise everybody's property

14 taxes \$72. Just take into consideration there's a

15 reassessment coming, so that's 72 could be 52, or that

16 72 could be 106. It all depends on what the assessment

17 of your property is going to be for the next tax round

18 that we go through.

19 I have a question for you, Mr.

20 Courtright, but I'm just -- maybe you can answer it at

21 the end so you don't take up -- and, Mr. McGoff, I

22 would like to welcome you here, and I appreciate in the

23 paper you did say that, you know, you won't be a rubber

24 stamp, and I take you for your word. I give everybody,

25 you know, a chance, and welcome to Council.

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1 My question for you, Mr. Courtright,
2 was, Did you ever get over to the corner of North Grant
3 and Jackson to look at that grade that I told you about
4 that was sticking up in the air, because it's still
5 there? If you --

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll wait until you're
7 done.

8 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: And I just have one
9 more to say, and then you can answer that, if you
10 could, please.

11 About the borrowing, I know in the
12 paper this morning it said that now, I guess, we're
13 looking for \$15 million. I know, Mrs. Gatelli, you
14 held up the pictures of your grandchildren, and I also
15 have a lovely ten-month old granddaughter, and I do
16 hope that when she grows up, she could live in the city
17 and I don't have to go visit her in, you know, two or
18 three hours away just to see her.

19 But I want you to take into
20 consideration that with all these taxes coming in, and
21 fortunately, you know, myself, and I'm sure there's
22 others, you know, we have the means to pay our taxes

23 and it really doesn't take a big burden like it does
24 on, you know, on a lost people that are on fixed
25 incomes and everything else, but someday we're going to
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1 be in that position and then we're going to be on fixed
2 incomes.

3 And remember when you -- what I really
4 appreciated that you said the one evening was, I think
5 tonight will be that evening, I believe it was in your
6 motions a few weeks ago, and all these figures were
7 coming across the table, and you looked into the camera
8 and you said, The buck stops here. Remember that?

9 Well, that's where I think it should
10 stop tonight and everybody should be held accountable
11 from the mayor on. If we do reduce -- just remember
12 the salary that I said last week about our business
13 administrator, if we cut those salaries back like you
14 were talking, Mr. Courtright, about Mr. Connors' days,
15 just alone in that office, we'd be reducing from
16 \$85,000 to \$76,000, because that's what it paid, I
17 believe, Mr. Nixon. So, that's just one office of
18 \$9,000 a year. There's many, many, many more.

19 So, please, when you do, you know, vote

20 on this, think of the people that are really struggling

21 to pay their taxes and their bills, because

22 unfortunately there is a lot of them in the city.

23 And, Mr. Courtright, did you check out

24 that?

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes. And we had asked

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1 Mr. Parker in the past, remember, it was over a year

2 ago, and he responded, and I don't recall his response

3 now, but I will call him rather than send him a letter.

4 I think if I call him, maybe I'll get a quicker answer.

5 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: I mean, did you look

6 at it? Did you see what I was talking about?

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: I've seen it several

8 times.

9 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: It sticks up pretty

10 bad. Now with the snow coming, what's going to happen

11 is what happened last year. That gets covered with the

12 snow, so when a car comes down that hill, they don't

13 know it's there.

14 They sliced a tire last winter, and the

15 kids, you know, they ride those, you know, like the

16 toboggan-type-of-things and they hit it and, you know

17 --

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: My worry was a
19 motorcycle or a bike or something hitting that.

20 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: It happened last
21 summer. A motorcycle hit that and he went right across
22 the intersection.

23 What I was told was by Mr. Pocius when
24 he sat here was, he looked at it, and he believes it's
25 something that the Army Corps. Of Engineers used.

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1 They used to use that to fill the mines or something.

2 And the proper way to do it was, I believe, was
3 supposed to cut it off and --

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: But it was their
5 responsibility, correct, it wasn't the city's, and
6 that's why it hadn't gotten done, I believe.

7 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: I don't know who,
8 yeah, who left it or whose responsibility it is.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Do you have the exact
10 address so --

11 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: It's in the
12 intersection of North Grant and Jackson. That's the
13 intersection.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. There's no

15 -- you don't have an address of a home near there?

16 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Not right off hand.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll ask Mr. Parker.

18 Maybe he can meet me out there.

19 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: It's definitely on

20 the -- well, see North Grant, you come off South Grant,

21 so you're in the intersection of South Grant there,

22 too, but I don't really know if that would be

23 considered in the city as Jackson Street or Grant, but

24 --

25 MR. MINORA: That's your five minutes,

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1 Mr. Newcomb.

2 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Okay. Thank you.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah. I believe what

4 Mr. Pocius had told you was because it was surface

5 mining or whatever, it wasn't the city's

6 responsibility, but maybe if it isn't, Mr. Parker can

7 tell me who I can speak to or maybe he can speak to

8 them and try to get it corrected.

9 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Try to get it fixed.

10 Okay. Thank you.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll do my best.

12 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Is there

13 anyone else that cares to address Council?

14 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council. My

15 name is Nancy Krake. I'd like to start out saying that

16 I'm a very big fan of free speech. I'm a fan of

17 Channel 61, The Union News, and Doherty website, and

18 any other website, for that matter, that allows people

19 to get out their point of view. So, unfortunately we

20 live in a town with a newspaper that only allows one

21 point of view.

22 And I would like everyone to know that

23 I've been coming here for five years, and anything I

24 have to say about Council or to Council, I say at this

25 podium.

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1 You can ask Mr. Murphy, you can ask Mr.

2 McCormick, and you can ask Mr. Pocius. That's the only

3 way we can get our truth out.

4 Because of this, some of those

5 Councilpersons in the past have been re-elected and

6 some have been unelected. There is not negativity

7 here, there is hope, hope that what we have to say will

8 be heard. And apparently most of the time it is, not
9 necessarily by our elected officials, but by the
10 people.

11 That being said, I have a few questions
12 about the agenda. I'd like to know, and I guess I will
13 address you, Mrs. Gatelli, but whoever would like to
14 answer is fine. What exactly is 5-B?

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: \$15 million bond.

16 MS. KRAKE: What exactly is it for?

17 MS. EVANS: I --

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Go right ahead.

19 MS. EVANS: If I may jump in.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Sure. Go right ahead.

21 MS. EVANS: I have that same question

22 for what intended uses is this \$15 million. And, so,

23 because I work during the day, I'm unable to make all

24 of these phone calls during office hours, and I asked

25 Mrs. Garvey if she would contact the B.A. for an answer

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1 to that question. And, Mrs. Garvey, what was the

2 response you had -- not today, but earlier in the week

3 that you had received from the B.A.?

4 MS. GARVEY: I didn't receive any

5 response on the \$15 million was for.

6 MS. EVANS: Uh-huh.

7 MS. GARVEY: I didn't receive a

8 response on that.

9 MS. EVANS: What did he tell you,

10 though?

11 MS. GARVEY: I'm not -- I'm drawing a

12 blank right now. I know the information that I found

13 out today, and that's what I was thinking of. On the

14 \$15 million? I don't remember. I'm sorry. I can't

15 recall it right now.

16 MS. EVANS: Okay. Well, I recall, and

17 the answer was that Mr. Kresefski could not give that

18 information until he had spoken to the mayor.

19 MS. GARVEY: You're right. You just

20 jogged my memory. I do remember that response now,

21 sorry.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And in the

23 meantime, I read an article from the paper today, and I

24 found the information to be quite puzzling, a

25 conundrum, in fact, and as a result, I, again, asked

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1 Mrs. Garvey to contact the B.A. for an explanation or

2 clarification of the statements made in the newspaper,
3 and the BA's response was, which I, well, actually, I
4 guess, I might as well elaborate a bit on it now, the
5 \$6.5 million is actually for a 2006 budget deficit, not
6 a 2007.

7 The \$1.3 million, the B.A. really does
8 not know what that figure applies to, however, it might
9 have been a misprint, and perhaps it was the \$13
10 million figure in 2006, fiscal year 2006, for health
11 care costs.

12 I did ask about the TANS, and the B.A.
13 replied that the \$5 million that was borrowed on TAN
14 Series A was paid this summer. The \$9.5 borrowed
15 through TAN B, it has not been paid and is due by
16 December 31, 2006.

17 Now, as for the \$300,000 that was also,
18 I think, connected to a pension fund in the newspaper,
19 Mr. Kresefski guesses that perhaps that is the
20 anticipated increase of the MMO in 2007, that \$300,000.

21 MR. MINORA: That's five minutes.

22 MS. EVANS: In effect, he said he had
23 not spoken with a Times reporter, but that basically he
24 was confused by the article, as confused as was I.

25 And so, I did ask the reporter earlier

1 this evening then with whom had he spoken, and his
2 response was, The mayor.

3 And, so, it's -- it's even more

4 quizzical, if I may, to hear that the B.A. is in

5 complete disagreement with the mayor, and I'm really

6 not certain what the \$15 million is for, but I think

7 maybe if we wanted to take an educated guess, it might

8 be a \$6.5 million deficit in 2006, and then the

9 remaining monies, it appears, at least according to the

10 article, would be used for the deficits of 2007 and

11 2008, which, of course, means then the mayor has no

12 intention of cutting, and the mayor wishes to continue

13 deficit spending for the next two years.

14 MS. KRAKE: The last sentence here,

15 Declaring said project desirable for the health, safety

16 and welfare for the residents of the city. From what

17 you just said, that's laughable.

18 MR. MINORA: I'm sorry. We're way over

19 the five minutes.

20 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Charge it to me, Mr.

22 Minora.

23 MS. KRAKE: I really don't have too
24 much more, and that, I think, should paint a very clear
25 picture, Mrs. Evans, what you just said of exactly what
. . .
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1 this mayor is expecting from this Council.
2 He's expecting a repeat of the last
3 Council that sat here, where he did not have to explain
4 himself. He simply expected them to vote yes.
5 And I just would be extremely saddened
6 to see that happen again. I know the citizens of
7 Scranton were not at all pleased with that.
8 I do have one more question about the
9 agenda. On 7-I, I would ask that Council verify this
10 person's address before it's voted on.

11 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Murray?

12 MS. KRAKE: Yes.

13 MS. GATELLI: She lives on Clay Avenue.

14 MS. KRAKE: That's -- I'm just asking
15 that you're comfortable with that address, is what I'm
16 saying, that everyone --

17 MS. GATELLI: That's where I always
18 knew that she resided. I don't know if she moved.

19 MS. KRAKE: Okay. And lastly, and I

20 thank you for the extra time, by the way, honestly I do
21 hate some things here, never any people. I do not hate
22 people at all or persons, I just hate their actions,
23 the actions of abusing power, which is something this
24 mayor is very good at. Thank you.

25 MS. COURTRIGHT: Mrs. Gatelli, if I

51

1 could. I just want to say briefly that I looked
2 through the backup, and all I really could see in the
3 backup is makes reference to a sinking fund and
4 sublease, but I -- no reference to exactly what it's
5 for in the backup.

6 MS. GATELLI: And I also requested
7 tonight that Attorney Minora get figures for the TAN
8 that's owed, the pension that's owed, and any
9 obligations not for the future, you know.

10 MS. KRAKE: Right. And I do know I'm
11 on the pension board --

12 MS. GATELLI: That would affect us
13 right now.

14 MS. KRAKE: The MMOs are out, so I
15 don't know.

16 MS. EVANS: I can answer that actually.

17 The city's portion of the pension fund payment is \$2
18 million. As of December 31, 2006, the State's portion
19 of that payment is \$2.5 million, for a total of \$4.5
20 million.

21 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

22 MR. PORTER: Good evening, citizens of
23 Scranton. My name is Andrew. I'm a citizen of this
24 country, Veteran, and a resident of Scranton. Why
25 can't we just all get along? I don't know what's going

52

1 on here.

2 This city can never be as great as the
3 people, all right? And it must be inclusive of all
4 people. I keep saying the same thing when I come back
5 here.

6 I had no intent on standing up and
7 speaking tonight, but I'm compelled to do so. You go
8 to church, you go to church, you should be compelled to
9 testify if you do, if you can, because you help other
10 people that can't.

11 But in any event, we're in this city to
12 help one another so that we can have a good quality of
13 life for everyone. I'm trying to build a business.

14 I did speak to Sherry, and she said
15 that she would get back to me. For some reason, that
16 hasn't happened, but I'm sure it will. Janet Evans,
17 beautiful people.
18 And I say that, because I know her from
19 the last administration, and I know people's hearts.
20 Not to say that Judy doesn't have a good heart. Let me
21 see you smile, Judy. All right.
22 I'm sure Mr. Courtright was around,
23 too, he looks familiar, because I notice that smile he
24 has there, and, McGoff, I wish you luck, Mr. McGoff, I
25 wish you luck. We need to come together as a city.

53

1 The city needs to be inclusive of all.
2 I see you have a Junior Council here,
3 you know, and it kind of reminds me of something. When
4 I was a kid, I used to go back home to Birmingham,
5 Alabama, I was probably showing my age a little bit
6 here, but they had signs.
7 I remember when I was a little kid,
8 they had bathroom -- they had a separate bathrooms for
9 whites, fountains. It says, This is for negros and
10 dogs. We don't need to be sending backwards messages

11 to the people here in the city. We need to be
12 inclusive of all people.
13 Again, I need your help in trying to
14 ascertain funds to put this business together. I'm
15 sure that this government has grants that were intended
16 for people like myself that have never seen these
17 grants.
18 I may be talking myself out of speaking
19 to Council after this is over, but I'm going to try to
20 speak to them anyway. There's just too much bickering
21 here.
22 This Council is a governing body for
23 the benefit of the citizens here. I think that you
24 should encourage the mayor. From what I understand, he
25 was here again last week. I wasn't here last week.
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54

1 But for whatever reasons, not why are
2 you here. I mean, he's a resident of the city. Bring
3 him in, ask him questions. He'll be happy to answer
4 the questions, but don't discourage him by saying, Why
5 are you here? No, ut-uh. We need him here. We need
6 everybody here. We need to support everybody here.
7 This is God's city. This is a city of

8 everyone, inclusive of everyone. When we leave this
9 earth, he's not going to ask you what color you are,
10 he's not going to ask you how old you are, he's not
11 going to ask you whether you're a male or a female, but
12 have you done the work? Have you reigned in this city?
13 The Council does have a different
14 make-up to it. I see an attorney here, and he's a
15 citizen, also. There's Kay Carey, Garvey, I'm sorry,
16 ma'am, I don't know what you do, but I do know that
17 Janet has a good heart, and I really appreciate Sherry
18 coming out and making me feel pretty good about, you
19 know, the support, but I haven't -- I'd like to speak
20 to you, I would like to speak to all of you, you know.
21 And we need to really, really come
22 together and make this city as great as what we say
23 this city should be.
24 And it has to be inclusive of your
25 mayor, because the people elected him, so we got to
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1 work it out, just got to work it out.
2 Council shouldn't be bickering. You
3 guys are a team. We're a team. I mean, we have a
4 government here that -- I mean, our government is

5 somewhat falling apart, the House is -- we got a shift
6 from the Republicans to the Democrats. We don't have
7 to deal with that.

8 We got a small city, God's city. We
9 can set an example. All these people are fine people
10 here, but you must do what you must do.

11 If you don't do anything about it,
12 you're a party to it. So, you have to do whatever you
13 can do to make this city great. If it means listening
14 to the residents of this city, then do so.

15 And there's other people that want to
16 speak, so I heard the five-minute clock there, Attorney
17 Minora.

18 MR. MINORA: Actually you got another
19 25 seconds.

20 MR. PORTER: That's okay. You guys
21 have a good evening, have a blessed evening.

22 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Also, sir, I
23 didn't get your last name, but have you been to the
24 small business development center at the University of
25 Scranton?

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1 MR. PORTER: Yes, ma'am, and I don't

2 want to say cross your T's and dot your I's, but, yes,

3 I would like to talk to you guys about it.

4 MS. GATELLI: Okay.

5 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council. I

6 think -- I have some tough questions, and I'm sure that

7 some people on Council aren't going to appreciate them,

8 but I would like to ask them anyhow.

9 And I would like to ask Mr. McGoff a

10 question first, if I may. And by all means, you may

11 refuse to answer. Are you a personal friend with the

12 mayor?

13 MR. MCGOFF: I have known the Doherty

14 family for many years.

15 MR. MORGAN: Okay. Thank you. Mrs.

16 Gatelli --

17 MR. MCGOFF: As I have known many other

18 families in the City of Scranton.

19 MR. MORGAN: That's fine. I mean no

20 disrespect by that in any means whatsoever, but there's

21 just so many rumors that are floating around that I

22 think it's time to put the rumors on the table and

23 let's find out whether they're real or false and let's

24 stop talking things that aren't true. If they're true,

25 let's own up to them and see the reality of the things

1 that are in play here at this Council.

2 And my next question is for Mrs.

3 Gatelli, with all due respect. Mrs. Gatelli, does your

4 son-in-law work for the Scranton Sewer Authority?

5 MS. GATELLI: Yes, he does.

6 MR. MORGAN: Was he demoted after the

7 \$44 million budget -- loan was voted down by the mayor?

8 MS. GATELLI: No, he wasn't.

9 MR. MORGAN: Was he -- well, it's come

10 to me that he was demoted and then he was reinstated

11 and given a raise, but you probably wouldn't know

12 anything about that, would that be true?

13 MS. GATELLI: I think you're very

14 incorrect, Mr. Morgan.

15 MR. MORGAN: Well, I think I'm --

16 MS. GATELLI: He hasn't been given a

17 raise. No, he hasn't been given a raise.

18 MR. MORGAN: Okay. My next question is

19 for Mrs. Fanucci, Mrs. Fanucci, do you work in the

20 office of Governor Rendell?

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: We've been down

22 this road, Mr. Morgan.

23 MR. MORGAN: I'm not talking about --

24 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: You know what, I'm

25 not going to play games. Could we please stick to the

.

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1 rules of Council for once? You know, this is personal.

2 This has nothing to do with our city business.

3 MR. MORGAN: This isn't personal in any

4 way whatsoever.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I'm not going to

6 entertain your discussion.

7 MR. MORGAN: Well, you may not

8 entertain the question --

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I've already

10 answered this three times.

11 MR. MORGAN: Before election, could you

12 tell the people in this city what profession you were

13 in?

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Lee, you know

15 what, I feel bad that you didn't get the job --

16 MR. MORGAN: No, we're not talking

17 about that.

18 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: But you know what,

19 I feel bad for you, and I am so sorry you're resentful

20 against it, but I refuse to go back and forth over this
21 and make this place worse than it was.
22 You are just bringing it back. We
23 actually had a very nice meeting tonight. You have
24 brought us back, back to the bottom. I'm not going to
25 do it.

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1 Talk about city business, talk about
2 making this place a better place. Come up decisions
3 that are good, that we can listen to and work together.
4 Until then, I don't want to hear it. I'm not going to
5 answer your questions. I'm finished.

6 MR. MORGAN: Okay. Well, what I think
7 is, I think it's time for the residents in this city to
8 see the politics that's at play here, and I think it's
9 very deceiving to sit where you sit and try to put a
10 spin on things as if, and I'm not talking to you
11 personally.

12 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: You are putting
13 the spin on things, sir. I worked my face off to get
14 here, I worked very hard, just like everyone else --

15 MR. MORGAN: I'm not criticizing that.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: -- and you are

17 trying to implying otherwise.

18 MR. MORGAN: No, not at all. I am not

19 criticizing you in any way. I asked one question --

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: This has nothing

21 to do with city business. Can we stick to our rules?

22 Attorney Minora, what are our rules?

23 MR. MINORA: I don't know what point

24 you're trying to make. And if it doesn't have to do

25 with city business, you really shouldn't be doing that.

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1 MR. MORGAN: This most certainly does

2 have to do with city business. And the thing this has

3 to do with city businesses is, there are so many things

4 in play behind the scenes to influence votes that have

5 led this city to the gates of destruction.

6 And you know what, it's time to put all

7 these things aside and it's time to make some smart

8 decisions here.

9 And if anybody is just enraged by the

10 questions I've asked, I didn't go on the internet to

11 ask them, I came here. I asked you personally face to

12 face and gave you the opportunity to respond. Whether

13 you responded or not, is your prerogative, okay? You

14 make your own choices, okay? But I did not infer
15 anything. I merely asked a question.
16 And I think there's too many things
17 here in play. And I think that it's totally ludicrous
18 to even consider borrowing \$15 million. And what I'm
19 saying to the people on this Council is, if pressure is
20 being applied to anybody on this Council, you need to
21 put that pressure aside and take this city in a new
22 direction.

23 I don't agree with what the mayor wants
24 to do. I don't see any reason to borrow \$15 million.
25 I think some creative things need to be done here. I

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1 think we need to start talking about cuts in the budget
2 by the mayor. I think we need to get rid of personnel
3 that the mayor has hired.

4 There's just a lot of hiring. And take
5 a look at this city. And that's why I go back to this.

6 There's too many things in play.

7 MR. MINORA: That's your five minutes,

8 Mr. Morgan.

9 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

10 MS. GATELLI: Next.

11 MR. SLEDZINSKI: Hi, Jud. Bring it

12 down?

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Go ahead, Chris, bring

14 it down.

15 MR. SLEDZINSKI: Jud, what happened

16 last week?

17 MS. GATELLI: I don't know, Chris.

18 MR. SLEDZINSKI: Well, we'll do well

19 this week, Judy, so --

20 MS. GATELLI: We're off the mark.

21 MR. SLEDZINSKI: We'll win tomorrow.

22 Saturday we're playing, so -- Janet, good luck Friday,

23 tomorrow night, Janet. Good luck, you guys down there.

24 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

25 MS. GATELLI: Thanks, Chris.

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1 MR. TORRES: Hi. My name is William

2 Torres, West Side resident, and I just want to update

3 the City Council and everyone else on what the LCDC is

4 doing here in the city and are trying to accomplish

5 here.

6 You may know me as Pedro Gonzales'

7 shorter half, but unfortunately he couldn't be here,

8 he's working teaching the kids theatre arts, one of the
9 programs we're trying to put into the city now.
10 But I'm here to let everyone know that
11 we're having a Latin festival at the Scranton Cultural
12 Center November 19. And it's a family thing. Everyone
13 could come with their family. We're having
14 performances, we're having food, Latin food, that is,
15 Flamenco Le will be there, of course, we're going to be
16 there performing with the kids that we're teaching now.
17 And also, I wanted to say that we're
18 happy to announce that we're having dance classes at
19 the neighborhood center, and this is so nerve wracking,
20 but --

21 MS. GATELLI: Take your time.

22 MR. TORRES: And we're just welcoming
23 anyone to come down and take these classes, dance
24 theater art classes for the youth, and we're welcoming
25 kids from ten and up to come and take these classes.

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1 We're teaching them the best that we can for the
2 future.

3 And, again, I want to thank Mr.

4 Handley, and I believe her name is Christian, I hope

5 I'm saying this name correctly, Dryfubat (phonetic),
6 and if I'm not, I'm sorry, Christian, but they helped
7 us get all this together, and I just want to thank
8 everyone and welcome everyone to the November 19 event.

9 And, again, if they need any
10 information on the programs at the neighborhood center,
11 the number is 604-7884 and 504-4455. If you need any
12 more information on how to get involved, volunteers, if
13 anyone wants to come down and help us out teaching the
14 kids, please do so. Give us a call, and we will give
15 you any information that you want.

16 Thank you for listening. I'm sorry.

17 It's nerve wracking. This is my first time. I love
18 City Council. I love everybody. I love the City of
19 Scranton. Let's all get together. Let's make this
20 thing happen.

21 I don't know too much about the budget
22 or anything, but I'm confident that City Council, the
23 mayor, and all of us can come together as one. That's
24 the main reason why I'm here in Scranton from New York.

25 I love this city. I've grown to love this city. My

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1 kids are here, and I know you guys could come together

2 and make it happen, please. Thank you.

3 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, sir. What time

5 is the festival?

6 MR. TORRES: The festival is

7 November 19. It's from one to eight. It's family

8 oriented. The first part, we're going to be teaching

9 the kids dance and theater, Flamenco Le, we'll have

10 storytelling and all kinds of stuff for the kids.

11 Then the second half will be for the

12 adults to come down and enjoy -- come down. We'll

13 teach you guys how to do a little salsa here and there.

14 MS. EVANS: Dancing With the Stars.

15 MR. TORRES: Dancing With the Stars,

16 Scranton way. Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Mr. Torres, just quickly,

18 was that phone number of the alliance 604-7484?

19 MR. TORRES: That number is for the

20 LCDC, the Latin Cultural Diversity Center. We're doing

21 the theatre arts with them. The Scranton Latin

22 Alliance is still there, and we also have

23 (UNTRANSCRIBABLE), who did the Puerto Rican Parade and

24 the Latin Festival up at Nay Aug with the help of City

25 Council, I believe, the mayor, the governor came down,

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1 we all had a great time, and we're trying to make this
2 one the same way to succeed and getting together and
3 having a good time. And see, we all need to come down
4 and have a good time and leave our troubles at home for
5 a little while, and come back, and maybe we can get
6 together and maybe start working better. Thank you.

7 Any other questions?

8 MS. GATELLI: Is it at the Renaissance

9 Center?

10 MR. TORRES: Excuse me?

11 MS. GATELLI: Is it at the South Side

12 Renaissance Center?

13 MR. TORRES: The event? The Scranton

14 Cultural Center here at the -- right here downtown. We

15 will be having our classes once again at The United

16 Neighborhood Centers for the kids age ten and up to

17 come down and learn a little dance, salsa, a little

18 arts, and, you know, therefore, therefore. Wow, this

19 is wrecking, wow.

20 MR. MINORA: Five minutes, Mr. Torres.

21 MR. TORRES: I didn't hear not bell.

22 I'm just kidding.

23 MR. MINORA: Ding.

24 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz, South

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1 Scranton resident and taxpayer, retired United States

2 Air Force. I would like to welcome Mr. McGoff to the

3 Council and good luck to you, Bob.

4 I'm an American citizen, Veteran, and I

5 have a voice that I will continue to use either for

6 three minutes or for five minutes.

7 Performance is what really matters,

8 solutions to real problems. Put the problems on the

9 table and find the real solution. Gridlock must

10 disappear from Scranton, Pennsylvania government.

11 Three to two votes equals gridlock and lack of

12 leadership and discipline. This must stop.

13 In my opinion, the 2006 City Council

14 has proven that they are not prepared to make crucial

15 and important decisions on their own.

16 I understand that the majority rules

17 and everyone up there, with the exception of Mr. McGoff

18 who was elected by a majority vote, but also the

19 minority voters of this city who did not vote for you

20 people also have a say in this government, and I hope

21 you all will listen to us.

22 Whether we voted for you or did not

23 vote for you, it really doesn't matter. We're all

24 citizens. In my case, I'm a 20-year Veteran and I will

25 speak when I want to be heard. Simple as that.

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1 Scranton City government is in distress

2 along with the city financial situation. The only

3 people who can be blamed for these situations are the

4 elected officials, politicians. They control the power

5 and the money.

6 Scranton City government is broken and

7 also broke. I do not see the connection between the

8 website and the speakers at City Council.

9 Speaking for myself, I have never

10 posted a message on the website and never will. When I

11 have something to say, I will exercise my First

12 Amendment Right, state it publicly and direct my

13 statement to the person that I am speaking to and

14 about. This way there is no confusion.

15 The President of City Council has

16 complete and absolute control of all meetings. The

17 rules have been written, a judge has ruled on citizens
18 speaking at the meeting. These rules should be adhered
19 to by all speakers, but more importantly, by all five
20 Council members.

21 If a speaker is out of line, they
22 should be stopped immediately and corrected. The same
23 rules should apply to Councilpersons.

24 If speakers are not allowed to
25 interrupt Council members, then Council members should
.

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1 not interrupt speakers. If speakers are not allowed to
2 make personal or verbal attacks against Councilpersons,
3 then Councilpersons should not make personal or verbal
4 attacks directed towards the speakers, especially when
5 the speaker has walked away from the microphone and the
6 podium.

7 City Council is governed by Roberts
8 Rules of Order. All five Councilpersons should be
9 knowledgeable of Roberts Rules, especially Council
10 President. This would greatly enhance the flow of the
11 meeting and the quality of all meetings.
12 Councilpersons should be instructed to
13 pay absolute attention to the speakers, whether they

14 agree or disagree with the speakers' comments. This is
15 called courtesy. Remember, it is the economy, City
16 Council.
17 National economy is strong. Scranton's
18 economy is weak. For over 75 years, Northeastern
19 Pennsylvania's unemployment rate has been higher than
20 the national rate, and it still is, since 1930, The
21 Great Depression. It is time for that to change, I
22 believe, anyway.
23 Good paying jobs, very few. We don't
24 need more borrowing and we don't need taxes being
25 raised. That is not going to solve the economy, trust
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1 me. It won't.
2 Politicians will be crucified, nailed
3 to the cross, called names, Mr. Bush, Mr. Rumsfeld, Mr.
4 Sherwood, Mr. Doherty.
5 I respect Mr. Doherty. I talk a lot
6 about Mr. Doherty, but, you know something, he has
7 never complained when I have said something bad him,
8 never. And that's part of politics. I'm sorry. It
9 might not be right, it might be wrong, but it's
10 politics.

11 If you want to play the game of
12 politics, then you have to play by the rules. You're
13 going to be called names, people are going to disagree
14 with you. That doesn't mean they don't like you. It
15 just means they disagree with you.

16 I spent 20 years in the military
17 fighting for this Constitution, and I stand firmly
18 behind it.

19 Tomorrow's Veteran Day, and I hope each
20 and every one in the city will thank a Veteran when
21 they see them. I was surprised nothing was mentioned
22 at the beginning of the meeting about tomorrow being
23 Veteran's Day. I was very disappointed.

24 MS. GATELLI: I did.

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: Did you?
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1 MS. GATELLI: I did. You mustn't have
2 been here.

3 MR. JACKOWITZ: I apologize. I was up
4 in the balcony.

5 MS. GATELLI: 10:30 tomorrow at the
6 courthouse.

7 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. I apologize,

8 Mrs. Gatelli, because I missed it. I hope you accept
9 my apology.

10 MS. GATELLI: Oh, fine. No problem.

11 MR. MINORA: Five minutes.

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: One last thing,
13 websites and speakers cannot hurt you, reputation and
14 attitude can. So, good luck to all of us.

15 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening, Council.

16 Nelson Ancherani, resident, taxpayer, city employee,
17 financial secretary of the FOP. I'm here exercising my
18 First Amendment Rights. I echo Mrs. Krake's
19 statements, so I say ditto.

20 Again, our only tabloid, the roid,
21 leveled more criticism at Council speakers this time in
22 an editorial titled, Council Mania.

23 Scranton -- quote, Scranton City

24 Council surprised even itself last week as it stunned
25 The Legion of Doom, that collection of dedicated nay

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1 sayers who treat weekly Council meetings more like a
2 Wrestle Mania event than a government proceeding.

3 Surprised us? Stunned The Legion of

4 Doom? How? A tie-breaking vote was expected by The

5 Legion and a lot of the people I talked to, and also by
6 myself.

7 If I was a betting person, I would have
8 bet that the mayor would be casting a tie-breaking
9 vote. And sure enough, he did.

10 What is so surprisingly and stunning
11 about that? The mayor shows up at a Council meeting
12 after being MIA for four years and 11 months, and we
13 wouldn't know that he was there, what he was there for.

14 Come on, you faceless editorialists. I
15 might have been born at night, but it wasn't last
16 night. Not only was the mayor here, but so was
17 Attorney Greco, two for the price of one.

18 Quote, Although the regular meeting
19 attendees soak up an inordinate amount of face time on
20 television during the meetings, they represent a tiny
21 faction of public sentiment regarding the welfare of
22 the city or the performance of the administration.

23 But then what to their wondering eyes
24 should appear, but Mr. Doherty himself. The Legion was
25 not just shocked, but shocked.

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1 If the small group of Council speakers

2 that come here week after week are in a minority,
3 where's the large group that doesn't show up to speak?
4 What I can't understand if The Legion
5 of doom is a tiny faction worrying about the \$240
6 million plus 28-year-long-term debt, where is the
7 majority worrying about that?
8 And, yes, what that tiny Legion of Doom
9 group is complaining about is the BS, borrowing and
10 spending of this city administration that put us in
11 that \$240-million-plus-28-year-long-term debt. That's
12 what we should be shocked about.
13 Stunned and shocked used in the same
14 story. I think I can answer for the doomers and say
15 how wrong the roid is.
16 We expected it. Nothing this mayor
17 does stuns and shocks us. To us, it is business as
18 usual. We would have been stunned and shocked if he
19 didn't show up.
20 What I would like to do is to thank the
21 roid for the priceless publicity that they have given
22 The Legion of Doom. The Legion could never afford to
23 pay for that amount of time, print and space that the
24 roid gives to us.
25 The roid has resorted to name calling

1 to pick on this tiny faction. So far they have called
2 the legion seven different names. And in this
3 editorial they added name sayers. So, thank you, roid,
4 for the publicity.

5 Now, by next Thursday, a 2007 Scranton

6 City budget will be presented to City Council by Mayor

7 Doherty. I said a few weeks ago that the combined 2002

8 through 2006 budget and the combined loans from the

9 same period, and the \$3 million surplus left from Mayor

10 Connors totalled \$408 million plus.

11 That is \$408 million on the revenue

12 side of the budget, money coming in. We are told by

13 the administration that we have an approximate \$8

14 million deficit.

15 So, if we spent \$8 million more than

16 the \$408 million, that's \$416 million, plus that the

17 mayor spent.

18 I'm willing to bet, and I'm say it now,

19 I bet the 2007 Scranton City budget the mayor presents

20 to Council is the same as 2006 or more.

21 Last year's budget was \$74,695,545.

22 And Council will be voting on a \$15 million loan. I

23 predict it will be past by three members of the
24 Council.

25 So, total the \$416 million from the

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1 2002 through 2006, add the \$75 million 2007 budget, and
2 the \$15 million new loan, and we have \$506 million on
3 the revenue side of the budgets from 2002 through 2007.

4 Over a half a billion dollars. And what do we have to
5 show for it?

6 Just remember, that \$506 million does

7 not include the OECD federal money that comes out of
8 the OECD budget. I don't know what OECD spent in this
9 city since 2002, but if we knew the total, it could be
10 added to the \$506 million.

11 A minute ago I asked what we have to

12 show for it. I'll answer that question myself, a

13 \$240-million-plus-28-year-long-term-debt, and starting

14 next year, budget increases that could be totalling

15 90 percent.

16 If there are any entities in this city

17 looking for land in this city, all they have to do is

18 be patient. People will be losing their homes left and

19 right when they won't be able to pay the tax increases.

20 I said it before, bend over, folks,
21 grab your ankles and kiss your donkeys goodbye. Thank
22 you.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Are there any other
24 speakers?

25 MR. KOHUT: Michael Kohut, longtime
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1 city resident. There's three ways that I've actually
2 determined that the city can actually make money and
3 actually try to get out of debt.
4 Number one is not give away the KOZ to
5 every damn company that comes in here and wants to
6 build a building. Case in point, Southern Union. They
7 left the empty building there and now are actually
8 touting the KOZ for ten years free to every company
9 that they actually offer the building to. That is not
10 right. They should actually -- you and the mayor
11 should actually yank that KOZ away from them and let
12 them actually try and sell that building on their own
13 after they abandoned it in this city.
14 Also, the non-profits, every year the
15 city and the mayor should challenge them in court under
16 whatever ordinances, laws, whatever you can actually

17 challenge them under to actually try and get even more
18 in lieu of taxes or something, basically just more
19 services that would actually benefit this city.
20 Case in point, CMC. The city billed
21 CMC, I believe, for Mt. View Care Home up on Montage
22 Mountain almost on Stafford Avenue. CMC went and
23 actually said that they are a non-profit entity and
24 they tried to actually get that negated. That is
25 wrong.

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1 If they are actually taking in money,
2 in my opinion, basically I'm talking out of my, you
3 know where, but seriously, I mean --
4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Take your time.
5 MR. KOHUT: Seriously, I mean, to me,
6 what they're paying in lieu of taxes for what they
7 actually take up in land that could be on the tax rolls
8 in this city is ridiculous.
9 Take a look at the University of
10 Scranton. They own, what, a quarter of the Hill
11 Section, if not more. Huh.
12 Another revenue source that I actually
13 think might work -- now, I was actually thinking about

14 this before, the Bell monopoly with all the phone
15 companies back in the, what was it, seventies or
16 eighties, they actually got broke up because they were
17 -- they had no competition.

18 Right now due to Former Mayor Connors,
19 there is only one provider of multimedia in this city
20 that is a big name, that being Comcast, which was
21 formerly Adelphia, which was formerly Verio.
22 You need to actually find a way to
23 break that deal that Connors signed and actually bring
24 in competition that would bring in more revenue from
25 multiple sources. That's it.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you.

2 MS. GARVEY: 5-A motions.

3 MS. GATELLI: Is there anyone else?

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I make a motion

5 that we take a five-minute break and wait for Mrs.

6 Evans to come back.

7 MS. GATELLI: We'll take a five-minute

8 recess.

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Two, three minutes

10 until she comes back.

11 (RECESS WAS TAKEN.)

12 MS. GARVEY: 5-A, motions.

13 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Evans, this is time

14 for motions, and Mrs. Evans is first.

15 MS. EVANS: Good evening. On behalf of

16 Council, I'd like to thank Veterans of all wars who

17 have fought to preserve our rights and freedoms that we

18 exercise in these Council chambers weekly, and I'd also

19 like to thank their families who so generously shared

20 their loved ones with our nation.

21 Just a few announcements, according to

22 the DPW, garbage will be collected tomorrow, Friday,

23 despite the celebration of Veterans Day, however, there

24 will be no garbage pickup on Monday, November 13.

25 The DPW also vacuumed the sewer drain

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1 on the corner of North Washington and Fisk Street in

2 the last week, and I am very pleased that Nextel

3 dropped their case to install cell phone towers near

4 the historic Tripp House.

5 Now just a few citizen requests. A

6 letter to Mrs. Novembrino, Was a voucher submitted for

7 Attorney Greco's services at last week's Council

8 meeting of November 2? If any paperwork is submitted
9 for November 2, or that specific Council meeting, or if
10 any other voucher or invoice contains this information,
11 please forward a copy of such to Council's office.

12 If the mayor requires legal
13 representation, the taxpayers would be better served if
14 Attorney Farrell, city solicitor, and a salaried
15 employee, served that need, rather than Attorney Greco,
16 who charges hourly rates.

17 Whim's Place, please plow and cinder
18 after snowstorms. Residents complain there are no
19 streetlights from Dickens to Clearview Street, and I'd
20 like a response on that problem from Mr. Parker.

21 Also, I would like a copy of the backup
22 on legislation for the OECD consultant that was voted
23 upon during the meeting of September 21, 2006.

24 I welcome Mr. McGoff to this
25 legislative body and wish him the very best during his

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1 stay on Council. He is a fine gentleman, and he's also
2 a former colleague of mine.

3 I notice that there is perhaps a
4 coincidental intersection between last week's meeting

5 and tonight's agenda which includes legislation that
6 provides the mayor with \$15 million in additional
7 borrowing.

8 As of last Thursday, I believe,
9 November 2, the amount was \$6.9 million. Within two
10 working days of last week's City Council meeting, the
11 dollar amount was more than double.

12 Now, had that been placed on last
13 week's agenda, certainly Council would have voted
14 merely on, well, I shouldn't say merely, but let us say
15 simply on \$6.9 million, and there might have been the
16 possibility that that legislation would have been
17 defeated; hence, no additional borrowing at all.

18 The \$15 million appears to be intended
19 to cover the 2006 deficit which equals approximately
20 \$6.5 million. And I am assuming from what I have read
21 in the paper, although I did note earlier that there's
22 quite a discrepancy between the comments and
23 explanation of the business administrator versus those
24 of the mayor, but I'm going to assume that the
25 additional \$8.5 would be for future deficits, those of
.

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1 2007 and 2008.

2 And, again, I can only say that when
3 one looks into the future and sees two forthcoming
4 deficits, it bespeaks deficit spending without any
5 cuts.

6 And as of December 2005, the Doherty
7 long-term debt is over \$208 million. And tonight
8 Council entertains legislation to add an additional \$15
9 million plus interest to that \$208, yet I continue to
10 hear nothing, zero, about the over \$5.5 million owed to
11 American Water Services.

12 Although I have discussed this issue
13 numerous times publicly, the mayor has never updated
14 Council on this pressing matter.

15 So, Kay, please send a letter to
16 American Water Services requesting a status report.
17 What does the City of Scranton owe to American Water
18 Services to date?

19 Perhaps Council should turn its concern
20 toward paying this debt, rather than providing a
21 license to borrow, spend and squander through December
22 31, 2008.

23 Finally, I have also learned about
24 another article in this week's newspaper that concerned
25 me equally as much as the one from today's edition.

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1 And I want to go on record as saying

2 that I oppose the curtailment of time from five to

3 three minutes during citizens participation.

4 I enjoy representing the people of this

5 city, and I enjoy listening to your concerns and your

6 suggestions each week.

7 The taxpayers who financially support

8 this city have the right to a mere five minutes to

9 petition Council for redress of their grievances.

10 I also oppose personal attacks, whether

11 they are aimed at City Council or aimed at citizens in

12 the audience by City Council members.

13 I did have comments this evening

14 concerning the procedure that was followed at last

15 week's Council meeting. Attorney Minora, am I legally

16 prohibited from commenting?

17 MR. MINORA: You're not legally

18 prohibited from speaking, I just feel that in the midst

19 of litigation, while I'm representing Council, I would

20 prefer that my clients not make public statements.

21 I tell that to all my private clients,

22 as well, don't talk to the other side until we're in a

23 court of law. So, my request would be that you do not.

24 MS. EVANS: Well, I will comply with

25 the solicitor's request, but I will also be more than

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1 happy to offer my testimony at a hearing. And that's

2 it.

3 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mrs. Fanucci.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: We had already

5 addressed the no smoking issue that's going to go on

6 the books for next week and start our ruling on that.

7 I hope that we can get some support up

8 here. I think this is an important issue. I was very

9 touched that the West Scranton students put together

10 such amazing -- amazing presentation. And sometimes,

11 you know, out of the mouth of babes. This was

12 something that was truly well thought out and is very

13 progressive for our city.

14 I've already seen a lot of support

15 downtown with restaurants already deciding to do this

16 and go no smoking already. So, I just wanted to

17 comment on that a little bit.

18 As for the borrowing, I am definitely

19 for borrowing, I said that from day one. I said I was

20 not for \$44 million. Amazing that such a rubber
21 stamper couldn't pull off the \$44, which I definitely
22 could have, if I wanted to.
23 I did not want \$44 million. I thought
24 it was an extraordinary amount of money. I do believe
25 in cutbacks. I believe that when the budget comes, we
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1 need to see cuts.
2 I don't believe that we need to borrow
3 in the light of not knowing that we need to cut. It is
4 something that has to be done.
5 I also know that we can work together
6 and find a solution. I don't think it's physically
7 possible. And I'm going to say this on the record, I
8 don't think it's physically possible to cut, you know,
9 \$8 million out of our budget and still perform all of
10 our services the way that we do.
11 I wish that we could. But, to me, it's
12 not -- it just is not reasonable right now. I do want
13 to save the TAN. I said that from day one. I think
14 that is -- hanging our hat on that is something that we
15 will need in the future. That is why that is
16 available.

17 So, I definitely want to save the TAN.

18 I want our bond rating to stay. It might not be

19 perfect, but I still want it to stay where it is,

20 because development is very important for the future of

21 our city.

22 Economic development is my belief, and

23 I said that from day one. The more we do and the more

24 we help with development, hopefully we'll build our tax

25 base. That is my hope. That is something that I ran

.

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1 on. That is not changed in my sitting here.

2 A lot of our problem that I see, we

3 cannot tax -- we cannot cut our health care costs.

4 This is very sad. I don't want to cut the health care

5 cost, but we can't cap it, we can't do anything.

6 When we have \$1.2, \$1.4 million, next

7 year that's going to increase. So, to cut our budget

8 by \$6 million would have to be \$8 million next year to

9 cover our health care costs.

10 We are not sure about how much the

11 money we would have to put into pensions. This is a

12 problem. And I know -- I know, Mr. Ancherani, I know

13 it bothers you, but it's how I feel, and I'm very

14 sorry. I am. I'm sorry that this is a reality.

15 I mean, I wish we could say that we

16 didn't have to pay health care costs and that it

17 wouldn't go up, but it does. It goes up for everybody

18 at home. We're all going through it.

19 We need to prepare for the future. The

20 only way we can prepare for the future is by taking the

21 bull by the horns and hoping that we can cut some fat

22 out of this budget.

23 I definitely committed to helping do

24 that. It is something that I believe that we do need

25 to do, and I would like all of us to make that

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1 commitment.

2 I don't think that's something that --

3 there isn't one of us up here that doesn't -- that

4 doesn't agree with.

5 I do believe that saying no is not a

6 solution. Actively working as a team for the people,

7 it is our job, and we need to do that.

8 I have another suggestion for our place

9 here, our fun -- our fun Council meetings with the

10 hopes of restoring this forum to the intended use.

11 It is my belief, I had said this
12 before, economic development will build our tax base.
13 I'm going to ask that we start hearing from the public
14 on specific issues.

15 First I'd like to hear from downtown
16 business owners. I would like them to come here in the
17 next few weeks and talk about what is important to
18 them.

19 The reason I'm starting with downtown,
20 and not to shun the neighborhoods or anything, the
21 holidays are coming. I believe they have a lot of
22 specific issues that we can act on quickly for them.

23 I want them to come here and discuss
24 what they feel we should be doing, how we should be
25 going about it. Then, if we go into the neighborhoods,

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1 I'm going to ask some of the neighborhood people to
2 come, just the renters, the regular homeowners,
3 whatever.

4 But let's use this forum for the way
5 that it's supposed to be and work together to try to
6 come to some solutions. It's the only way. This tug
7 of war has not worked, so we need to stop.

8 You're going to be welcome, even if you
9 have positive things to say. That has not been going
10 on here. And I know, this is -- Mrs. Fidati can't even
11 keep it together for the speech, God bless her, but
12 this -- this is something that is important. We need
13 to be able to respect other people.
14 It seems that our forum here has turned
15 if you don't agree with the people, they get -- they
16 almost get harassed out of here. That can't be
17 anymore. It not the way.
18 This is not just certain people's
19 forum. And everyone up here has said it tonight. This
20 is not just certain people's forum. It's everyone's
21 forum.
22 So, I'm grateful for these owners that
23 invested in our city, and I want to make Scranton
24 better, and I know they do, too, so I would like for
25 them to show up at the next few meetings with anything

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1 that they would like addressed from us as a Council.

2 And that is all I have. Thank you.

3 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: I would like to thank all

5 of the well wishers from the gallery and also from
6 Council. I'd also like to comment or say that I
7 believe a person should be judged by actions and not by
8 rumor and innuendo.

9 As a resident of Scranton for the
10 better part of my 58 years, I have had the opportunity
11 to make many friends in this city both Democrat and
12 Republican, both in and out of office.

13 I will take advice from both. I will
14 make decisions that I feel are best advised for the
15 City of Scranton.

16 I would also like to reserve comment on
17 fundamental issues facing the city until I've had an
18 opportunity to counsel with my fellow members and with
19 those whose judgment I trust.

20 I can only hope that I can do my best
21 to serve the City of Scranton and to justify the trust
22 that has been placed in me as a member of this Council.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Courtright.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you. And

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1 welcome again, Mr. McGoff. Mr. Minora, I understand we

2 can't talk about the lawsuit and exactly what had
3 happened, that's why I called you this week. I
4 anticipated that we would be facing a lawsuit, but --
5 and I won't ask you to answer this question on the air,
6 because you probably can't, if by some chance this, and
7 I would assume we're all named in the suit, if City
8 Council loses the lawsuit and the procedure was done
9 incorrectly, my only concern would be this, what
10 becomes of the votes that we take?
11 If they said we did it incorrectly,
12 what would become of the votes? And I -- I know you
13 can't answer me.

14 MR. MINORA: I really would prefer not
15 to get into that.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right. That's just a
17 question -- you can let me know next week or whatever.
18 But as I'm sitting here and they're talking about that,
19 that's what's running through my head, and that scares
20 me a little bit. And I won't go on any further with
21 that.

22 We did legislation last week on
23 residential restrictions for sex offenders, and it was
24 brought to my attention that there were some areas in
25 the North Scranton area that weren't included, and I

1 don't know, Mr. Minora, if we need to make an amendment
2 or if we even quoted and if they qualify, but not that
3 you don't have enough to do, but there was -- the area
4 near the Vo-Tech up in North Scranton, that area wasn't
5 included. There's an area they're really concerned
6 near the Marvin Dutch Gap Little League. That wasn't
7 included in the map, and then near Johnson College,
8 that area. So, I don't know could we amend it to
9 included those areas or --

10 MR. MINORA: I don't understand how it
11 wouldn't have been included, because the inclusion was
12 done by description, not by map.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Oh. Didn't they have
14 a map attached to --

15 MR. MINORA: No. It was done by
16 description, so if it was in a particular distance from
17 schools or areas where people -- young people would
18 congregate, such as little leagues, it would definitely
19 be covered. So, I'm not --

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Would you check that
21 for me, please?

22 MR. MINORA: I know I didn't do a map,

23 and I know I just did a description, but I will be

24 happy to look at it again for you.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. All right. I

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1 just want to be safe than sorry there. There was a

2 picture in the paper that was pointed out to me,

3 several police officers, Jeff Mackey, Paul Duffy, Joe

4 Harris, Mr. Romanchick and Officer Schauffler, they

5 saved a young, I believe it was one-month-old child.

6 In talking to some of them, they said

7 it was just a coordinated effort that made this all

8 happen, and they wanted to see credit given also to the

9 ambulance service, which they said worked very hard,

10 and the emergency room of the Moses Taylor Hospital.

11 So, we'd just like to thank them for a job well done

12 and give credit also to the Moses Taylor and the

13 ambulance service.

14 The Schmidt Plaque, which we've been

15 talking about for quite a while at the South Side

16 Sports Complex, a member of Mr. Schmidt's family came

17 to my school the other day and had a whole bunch of

18 information, and it was a lot of old pictures and

19 whatnot, and I didn't want to take them and possibly

20 lose them on him, so I sent a letter to Mr. Brazil with
21 the woman's phone number and hopefully we'll get that
22 plaque squared away soon.

23 People asked me about do I have any
24 family members that work for the city or the county
25 this week. My dad never worked for the city or the

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1 county or any political job, neither did my mother, my
2 sons don't, my daughter doesn't, I never have, and
3 neither has my mother. So, if anybody's wondering, I
4 have no relatives. We weren't fortunate enough to be
5 connected, I guess.

6 One last thing, and I mean this from
7 the bottom of my heart, I hope that no one here on
8 Council takes offense, it's just an observation on my
9 part. And I'm not pointing the finger at any one
10 individual, certainly you have nothing to do with this,
11 you weren't here, thank God for you, but, you know,
12 this is about three years that I've been sitting on
13 Council, and this last year things were much different
14 than they were my first two years.

15 And I hesitated to say anything in the
16 first couple of months because it was a new Council and

17 I thought things would you work out, but after last
18 week's meeting, the people that have come to me and
19 called me, and then I worked the polls and talked to me
20 about last week's meeting, I just think I need to say
21 this, and this is just my observation.

22 The first two years, I don't think
23 anybody will deny we were in a really heated election,
24 emotions were running really, really high, but each
25 week we could come into the back room, and

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1 approximately 20 minutes before the meetings Mr.
2 Saunders would read notes of interest and if anybody
3 had any questions, we would go over them. Mr. Walsh
4 would ask any questions on any of the legislation that
5 was coming down, if there was, you know, we would
6 discuss it.
7 Some motions, not all, I'll grant you
8 that, not all motions, but some were discussed in the
9 back room, and many were run through Mr. Walsh, so that
10 when we presented them out here, we looked
11 professional. And we all knew which side we stood on
12 in the election, but I never once in that back room saw
13 us get into a fight, nobody yelling at anybody, no

14 names, nothing like that.

15 Even out here on the floor, Mr. Pocius,

16 for lack of a better word, he used to take a pretty

17 good pounding every week for the speakers, and for the

18 most part, I think he handled it fairly well, and never

19 once when we left here did he ever hold anything

20 against me, we almost never voted the same way on

21 certain issues, but he left it here, and I learned that

22 from him. You know, 14 years, he had a lot of

23 experience. Never saw him lash out literally that

24 badly on anybody in the audience.

25 We had people coming to the podium

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1 every week for Mr. Doherty and for Mr. DiBileo.

2 Several people pounding -- I use the word pounding, I

3 know, I guess I can use a better word -- pounding on

4 Mr. DiBileo, and he, too, pretty much held his cool. I

5 never really heard him lash out.

6 Some discussions between Mrs. Evans and

7 Mr. Pocius here and there, but never any yelling, never

8 any name calling and screaming.

9 And not a lot of people, but two or

10 three people asked me about it, and I didn't see the

11 article in the paper, someone said we might go to three
12 minutes, and so that was the other thing that prompted
13 me to say this.

14 I think what we need to do is before we
15 impose any more rules on the public, I think we need to
16 get our own house in order.

17 Whether we like our personalities --
18 thank you. You know, if we don't get along outside of
19 here, I don't think we can bring that here, you know?

20 Obviously you people feel strongly on
21 certain issues, and I think they used to, what did they
22 call us, the voting block, I think, in the last two
23 years, you know, and that's going to happen. There's
24 going to be people -- and I've been fortunate, I

25 haven't ben attacked that much, but I'm sure my time is
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1 coming.

2 I'm, you know, if I'm going to try to
3 sit on this Council again, I have to run in May, and
4 I'm sure there's going to be people coming there
5 telling me how rotten I am. But, you know, I guess
6 that's part of the game.

7 But I think we've got to set aside

8 whatever differences we have, because we aren't -- we
9 aren't ever going to move this city forward if we keep
10 this up.

11 So, I hope, you know, we got a new
12 member on here now, and I hope we can put everything
13 back behind us now and try to move forward and never
14 have another episode like we had last week.

15 Because I've got to be quite honest
16 with you, I was embarrassed to be sitting here last
17 week. And, again, I include myself in all of this.
18 I'm not pointing the finger at anybody, and I'm not
19 pointing it at all at you, you weren't here. And I
20 guess that's enough of my speech for tonight. Thank
21 you.

22 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mr.

23 Courtright. I just have a few things. I agree with
24 Mr. Courtright, that we all need to get along. We all
25 need to work on solutions. Some people work on the

95

1 divide and conquer theory, and I think that's what

2 they're trying to do here is divide and conquer us.

3 And they're winning, because it's working.

4 When someone knocks you in a corner,

5 your back is going to go up. So, I think that we all

6 need to sit together. If anyone has any ideas,

7 absolutely we would welcome them.

8 This is a really --

9 MR. PORTER: But how can --

10 MS. GATELLI: Excuse me. You can't

11 talk. I know. I understand that, but we can't have

12 you talk from the audience.

13 So, I think that we do need to all try

14 to work together to make this a better place for all of

15 us to live.

16 The entertainment tax, Amil, will that

17 be ready to role in the first meeting in January?

18 MR. MINORA: It was my understanding

19 that Mr. Farrell is going to be working on that.

20 Actually I understood that to be part of the budget

21 that was to come down, but I have a form, if need be,

22 to prepare one.

23 MS. GATELLI: Well, if it doesn't, then

24 we need to have one prepared for us.

25 MR. MINORA: I'm ready to do that if it

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1 doesn't, but I understood that to be --

2 MS. GATELLI: Because that's part of
3 our revenue stream for next year. I also would like to
4 write a letter to, now it's official, Kenny Smith,
5 Frank Shimkus and Bobby Mellow and tell them that we
6 would like the commuter tax reinstated and what we
7 need to do to get that done ASAP.
8 Someone E-mailed me quite some time ago
9 about setting up a task force, and I know sometimes
10 those are corny, but we had a lot of good ideas from
11 the non-profit meetings that we had, and the people
12 that worked on that stuff worked real hard, and it's
13 going to come to fruition, because the mayor is going
14 to go to the non-profits. He has said that he will do
15 that. And I will be with him, I will go with him. So,
16 we will see how that works out.
17 But this person that E-mailed me
18 thought that we should have a task force in place to
19 study the financial situation of the city.
20 I didn't even think about this until
21 August, when the loan came up. When you just get here,
22 it's very overwhelming. It's not a neighborhood
23 association anymore, it's the whole city, and it does
24 become overwhelming, and you don't realize the amount
25 of work that you have to do.

1 And I have met with union members and
2 they have told me different ideas, which I thought was
3 great, but I think if we do a formal task force of
4 volunteers, possibly a CPA that would sit on there, a
5 retired worker, a tenant, a lawyer, whoever would
6 request to be on there, and we can form this task force
7 and they can work all year investigating other
8 communities, telling us what they think would be a good
9 idea for the business community in Scranton.

10 And, you know, I would like to make
11 that in the form of a motion that we put out there a
12 request from people that would like to serve on the
13 task force to submit letters to City Council with
14 resumes, and we need you to be really sincere about
15 this, because you're going to be doing a lot of work.

16 We can't do it all. We all work. As,
17 I think it's Andy Sbaraglia says all the time, there
18 should be one or two full-time Council members. Well,
19 he's not kidding, because you can't even scratch the
20 surface when you work all day, and, you know, the
21 offices are closed by the time you get home.

22 So, I'd like to make a motion that we

23 look into forming a task force to study the financial

24 status of the city for the next year.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I'll second that.

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1 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All in

2 favor.

3 MS. EVANS: Aye.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

7 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: I guess I should have

9 said on the question.

10 MS. GATELLI: Well, go ahead. I guess

11 we can't.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't want to be a

13 troublemaker here, but I thought last week Mrs. Evans

14 brought up that you can't make a motion because you're

15 the president. Somebody else would have to make it.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes. I'm the troublemaker.

17 MS. GATELLI: Well, I don't know,

18 because when I read the Roberts Rules, it says that the

19 chairman can make a motion, that have just the same

20 rights as everyone else. Could you look that up,
21 please?

22 MR. MINORA: I'll be happy to. Well,
23 someone else will make it anyway, if I don't.

24 MS. EVANS: But, yes, I had made that,
25 too, that the President's role is one as a facilitator

.

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1 to make sure a meeting runs as smoothly and
2 expeditiously as possible with a, let us say, very
3 strong knowledge of Roberts Rules, and it was my
4 understanding from my reading, that the President or
5 chair does not make motions, has the ability to second
6 motions, must remain, let us say, fair at all times,
7 must maintain an aura of neutrality at all times, to
8 the point that the chair is not even permitted to
9 debate the issues.

10 And if such debate is to occur, which
11 can only happen in rare circumstances, then the chair
12 must vacate the chair and --

13 MS. GATELLI: Well, Attorney Minora is
14 looking that up, so I'll go to him.

15 MS. EVANS: How did that get turned
16 off?

17 MS. GATELLI: If we -- if we really
18 follow Roberts Rules, then, you know, you can't address
19 anyone without addressing the chair first. So, you
20 know, if we really want to go to Roberts Rules, I can
21 follow Robert Rules, too, but I like to make it a
22 little more lenient and friendly.

23 You know, we're here together. I'm not
24 here to stifle anybody. If you want to talk, everybody
25 talks. I don't say, well, I'm the President and you

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1 can't talk, which I have the right to do that.

2 So, I'll cancel my motion and ask if
3 someone will make a motion that we do a task force.

4 MS. EVANS: I just wanted to follow up
5 on one thing, though. I learned this week, and maybe,
6 Kay, you can verify this or someone, that there is a
7 control for these microphones on your -- underneath the
8 president's --

9 MS. GATELLI: No, there isn't.

10 MS. EVANS: No?

11 MS. GATELLI: No.

12 MS. EVANS: Then who is turning these
13 microphones on and off?

14 MS. GATELLI: You are.

15 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: You are.

16 MS. EVANS: No. The microphone went
17 off, and then I turned it on. No, there's nothing
18 wrong with the connection.

19 MS. GATELLI: I think the only place is
20 out there, in there.

21 MR. MINORA: Incidentally what it says
22 is, the chairman can speak in discussion without rising
23 or leaving the chair, and subject to rule or custom
24 within the particular board which should be uniformly
25 followed, regardless of how many members are present,
.

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1 he usually can make motions and usually votes on all
2 questions.

3 MS. EVANS: I'll bring my book next
4 week and we'll check out my citations. But --

5 MS. GATELLI: Well, regardless, if you
6 don't want me to make a motion, then I'll ask someone
7 to please make a motion.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: All right. In the
9 form of a motion, I'd like to make a motion that we
10 have people send in their resumes in order to create a

11 task force for the city.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

14 All in favor.

15 MS. EVANS: Aye.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

19 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

20 have it and so ordered. And it was unanimous, Lisa.

21 That's what happens here, you get off the track and

22 then you don't know what you're talking about.

23 I talked about reinstating the commuter

24 tax, send the letter. I don't think we can increase

25 the wage tax. I'm afraid of what the property tax is

.

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1 going to be raised to. I am not for \$15 million, but I

2 am seriously considering getting rid of this year's

3 debt, which is really last year's debt that was voted

4 on, a budget with a hole in it.

5 But I won't even do that, unless there

6 are cuts made to the budget. I mean, I am adamant

7 about cuts being made.

8 And I am so adamant, and I'm going to
9 put my money where my mouth is. They all say I have a
10 big mouth, and, yeah, I do have a big mouth, but I'm
11 going to put my money where my mouth is, and there will
12 be a check here next week to the City of Scranton for
13 five percent of my salary, and I hope that the rest of
14 the administration can do the same, and I also said
15 that we will be going to the non-profits. I believe
16 we're starting with the colleges and The Housing
17 Authority. So, we will be doing that.

18 It's a very, very difficult decision,
19 very hard. Attorney Minora had advised us that it's a
20 serious matter when you don't pay the TAN, when you
21 don't pay the pension.

22 If someone can convince me otherwise, I
23 won't vote for anything, but I will not vote for
24 anything past this year. And we need to see some
25 serious action of revenue raising and cutting for next

.

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1 year.

2 The health care, I don't know what's
3 going to happen there, because everybody's all over the
4 country is just going out of the sky. And I know with

5 the school district, we pay twice as much, more than
6 that, four times as much as we paid last time. \$400 a
7 month, we pay, just for husband and wife.

8 So, you know, the health care is a
9 serious matter, and probably the largest amount of our
10 budget, and we need to curtail the health care.

11 So, we need someone on that task force
12 from the unions, someone that knows something about
13 health care, and let's see if we all can't work
14 together to get the city going in the right direction.

15 We all want to stay here. I want to
16 live here, my grandchildren, who I always talk about,
17 you're sick of hearing about them. But it's true. We
18 all need to work together.

19 And if we come up with some solutions
20 instead of criticisms all the time, we're going to be
21 that farther ahead of the game.

22 So, don't hesitate to call. Don't
23 hesitate to call our homes. We all take phone calls.

24 If you think of an idea, if you think of the ambulance,
25 the QRS response, I mean, we got to go for it all,

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1 because we all want to stay here. Thank you. Mrs.

2 Garvey.

3 MS. GARVEY: 5-B, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN
4 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF CERTAIN REAL
5 PROPERTY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF
6 SCRANTON, PURSUANT TO A LEASE AGREEMENT; DECLARING THE
7 GUARANTY OF SAID AUTHORITY'S GUARANTEED LEASE REVENUE
8 BONDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
9 LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A PROJECT OF THE
10 CITY FOR WHICH LEASE RENTAL DEBT IS TO BE INCURRED;
11 STATING THE REALISTIC ESTIMATED USEFUL LIFE OF THE
12 FACILITIES RELATING TO THE BONDS; DETERMINING TO INCUR
13 LEASE RENTAL DEBT IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT
14 TO EXCEED \$15,000,000 IN RESPECT OF SAID PROJECT, SUCH
15 DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED BY THE CITY'S SUBLEASE AND
16 GUARANTY AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO SAID BONDS;
17 AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CITY OFFICERS TO PREPARE, CERTIFY
18 AND FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
19 DEVELOPMENT THE DEBT STATEMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 8110
20 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT AND AUTHORIZING
21 THE PREPARATION OF A DEBT STATEMENT AND BORROWING BASE
22 CERTIFICATE; APPROVING THE FORM OF, AND AUTHORIZING,
23 SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY
24 OF THE AFORESAID LEASE AGREEMENT AND SUBLEASE AND
25 GUARANTY AGREEMENT; REPEALING INCONSISTENT PRIOR

1 ORDINANCES; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CONDITIONS TO THE
2 EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE AFORESAID LEASE AGREEMENT
3 AND SUBLEASE AND GUARANTY AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING THE
4 PROPER OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO TAKE ALL REQUIRED,
5 NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE RELATED ACTION IN CONNECTION
6 WITH SUCH PROJECT AND THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE
7 LEASE AGREEMENT AND SUBLEASE AND GUARANTY AGREEMENT;
8 DECLARING SAID PROJECT DESIRABLE FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY
9 AND WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I would like to
11 make a motion to suspend the rules to introduce 5-B.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

14 MS. EVANS: Yes. What are you
15 suspending? What rules are you suspending?

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: It's --

17 MS. EVANS: It's on the agenda as 5-B,
18 so you're just going to --

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Well, to introduce
20 it, we have to reintroduce it, and because it has
21 already been introduced as the \$44 million, so to be
22 able to reintroduce the same type of loan, we still

23 have to suspend our rules.

24 MS. EVANS: Oh, I was looking at it as

25 a new one because they changed the dollar amount.

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1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: And now we have to

2 suspend the rules to reintroduce the same.

3 MS. GATELLI: Attorney Minora, is that

4 true? Do we have to?

5 MR. MINORA: If it's the same or

6 similar, you're not supposed to bring it up during the

7 same legislative year. To be honest, I don't know what

8 the last one was for exactly, and I don't know what

9 this one is for exactly.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Oh, for what the

11 intent is? Is it for the intent? It's not the number?

12 MR. MINORA: Well, yeah. It may be

13 what it was used for, but I don't see any harm in the

14 motion, because if it is, in fact, the same, then the

15 motion cures that problem and then you can just look at

16 it in substance for its, you know, up or down on the

17 question of whether it's a good idea or a bad idea

18 later on.

19 MS. GATELLI: And I just have a

20 question, too. Are you done? My question is that if
21 and when we do vote on this, we don't have to do the
22 \$15 million, we can amend the amount of money; am I
23 correct?

24 MR. MINORA: Yeah.

25 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Anyone else on the
.

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1 question?

2 MS. EVANS: I don't think we -- are we

3 on the question?

4 MR. MINORA: I think you're on the

5 motion. You're on --

6 MS. EVANS: The motion to suspend.

7 MR. MINORA: -- Mrs. Fanucci's motion

8 to suspend --

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: And second.

10 MS. EVANS: And now we can speak on the

11 motion when we introduce it.

12 MR. MINORA: Yes.

13 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: So, take the

14 motion. Roll call.

15 MS. GATELLI: Roll call.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: On the motion --

17 MS. GATELLI: Now, let's get this

18 clear. What are we voting on?

19 MR. MINORA: This is to vote on --

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: On the motion to

21 suspend.

22 MR. MINORA: This is the motion to

23 suspend.

24 MS. GATELLI: To put it on the agenda.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Right.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Okay.

2 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

3 MS. EVANS: No.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: No.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

11 MS. GATELLI: Yes. At this time I'll

12 entertain a motion that 5-B be introduced into its

13 proper committee.

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: So moved.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

16 MS. GATELLI On the question? It's your

17 committee, Mrs. Evans.

18 MS. EVANS: Well, as the chair of this

19 committee once again, I would not recommended such

20 borrowing. Borrowing has been the pattern for the last

21 four years, and it solved nothing.

22 To the contrary, it's created a massive

23 debt, and each year other Council members, myself not

24 included, gave the mayor the amount of money that he

25 requested for borrowing to address his deficits.

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1 Nevertheless, nothing changed. No, I'm

2 sorry. I retract that statement. Much has changed.

3 Our debt has grown to an unmanageable, unreasonable

4 level for a city this size with a population, the

5 demographics of this city.

6 When you look at a 23 percent

7 population who's living below the poverty level, a

8 higher than average senior citizen population, God

9 forgive anyone who's been involved in all of this

10 borrowing all of these years, because it has solved

11 nothing.

12 The only thing that's happened, as I

13 said, is the debt grows and the mayor walks out of his

14 office and continues to spend more and more and more

15 each year.

16 So, nothing has been solved in all

17 these years by permitting him to borrow. And the time

18 has arrived. It's do or die. Now or never. Stop the

19 debt increase. Begin to pay down the Doherty debt.

20 And as far as the mayor is concerned,

21 well, this situation should be handled by the mayor

22 because he is in charge of this city, not City Council.

23 We are not responsible to fix this. He is the

24 responsible party, because he created this.

25 Now, if I were mayor, I would have sat

.

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1 down, negotiated and settled contracts. Had I been

2 mayor, there would have been far less spending. There

3 would have been far less borrowing.

4 Yes, a refinancing of old debt, but

5 there would not have been this constant pattern of

6 borrow, spend, squander, borrow, spend, squander, more

7 and more job creations, raises, new departments.

8 It has to end somewhere and at some
9 time, otherwise I fear there really will be nothing
10 left of the city. You'll have wonderful buildings, and
11 I admire that, but for me, I've listen to so many
12 people say I love Scranton, this is where I'm born and
13 raised, and I share that sentiment, too, but Scranton
14 is not its buildings, Scranton is its people, its
15 resilient hardworking people.
16 It is not a city of wealth, it is a
17 city of the average, the elderly and the poor by and
18 large. And what they're being asked to accept, the
19 burden that seems to be put on oxen year after year, is
20 you keep taking that, you keep paying that.
21 Well, I won't approve of that, and I'm
22 hoping that there will be some members on Council who
23 will stand firm and stand up to administration and say,
24 Get your house in order. It is your job, not ours.
25 MS. GATELLI: Is there anyone else on

.

111

1 the question?

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, might I? I don't
3 think that we can address an issue unless we have
4 something to discuss. This is merely a vote to discuss

5 a possible solution. It's not a commitment to
6 anything. There's no other, as I see it, and I realize
7 I'm new here, but I don't see any other proposal that's
8 been presented to us.

9 Until there is, as a legislative body,
10 I would think that we have a duty to discuss the
11 efficacy of the proposal that's been presented.

12 MS. EVANS: Well, Mr. McGoff, though I
13 would agree with you in theory, I might say I have
14 heard that you don't receive Council meetings at home,
15 so, and I know that you haven't attended any Council
16 meetings, so I could inform you that there have been
17 many, many suggestions proposed over the last three
18 years, in fact, Council created a budget in 2004 that
19 was rejected by the mayor.

20 So, to say that this is, you know, the
21 only solution, you know of no others, I can accept
22 that, because you are so new to these chambers, but
23 that is not accurate.

24 MS. GATELLI: By the way, Bob, they
25 voted for a budget last year that had a \$6 million

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1 deficit in it.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mrs. Gatelli, I

3 thought I explained that last week.

4 MS. GATELLI: All I know is there was

5 an unfunded budget.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: It would have been \$12

7 million if I didn't --

8 MS. EVANS: And that was because the

9 mayor took the money he was given, he used it, he went

10 out and spent more, and then he comes back and says, I

11 need more.

12 And everyone likes to comply with the

13 mayor's vision and his wishes, and what we need is more

14 people who are going to comply with the wishes of the

15 people who elected them.

16 MS. GATELLI: And what are we going to

17 do to raise the money to pay this?

18 MS. EVANS: I've given a number of

19 suggestions, and I haven't seen the mayor move on one

20 thing. He himself said that he would collect \$2.5

21 million from the sale of delinquent taxes. Well, what

22 has he been doing all year? Why has that not happened?

23 He has \$3 million sitting in an account

24 in The First National Bank of Dunmore, yet he will not

25 touch that.

1 He could have looked into the
2 privatization of the Sewer Authority. And in so doing,
3 also helped offset The Court ruling that declares the
4 city owes \$5.5 million.
5 But you see, none of these things ever
6 happened. And he's had four opportunities to
7 straighten this out, and there's never been a cut,
8 there's never been a new revenue item come from him,
9 and yet he comes back year after year with his hand out
10 to these poor people.

11 MS. GATELLI: Oh, well, I agree with
12 you there, but I wasn't here for that. I'm only here
13 for this, and I know that health care goes up \$3
14 million every year, and somebody has got to pay for it.
15 I don't have all the answers, they're
16 not pie in the sky, but if he doesn't borrow a little
17 until we get all this revenue and cuts in place, then
18 the property taxes are going to be five times what they
19 are. So, you're going to pay somehow. Some way you
20 are going to pay, and that scares me more than
21 borrowing to get us through this year.
22 And I'm still saying that I agree with

23 you, the cuts have to be made, we all have to be on the
24 same page, we need to get revenue, we need to settle
25 the contracts and we need to move forward.

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1 So, I agree with you, but I'm not ready
2 to say I'm not going to borrow any. I'll do it once.
3 Other people that are sitting up here did it once when
4 they first got here. I don't think you can knock
5 somebody that just got here for trying.
6 If I'm wrong in the end, I'm wrong.
7 People make mistakes, but I want to get together, try
8 to come up with some ideas that we can work on.
9 We had several up here on Council. If
10 we can think of any more, and you at home and you in
11 the audience, I know Dave Gervasi always brings up the
12 quick response, I mean, let's look at it. Let's do it.
13 Let's make money. We have to.
14 There's not many people paying the
15 taxes any more. Look around your neighborhood, and
16 what do you see? So, we need to get together and try
17 to do what is best for the city. And that's all I
18 have.
19 MS. EVANS: And I agree with every

20 point made by Mrs. Gatelli, it's indisputable; however,

21 here's the bottom line, and the mayor himself has said

22 this, there will be tax increases.

23 Why, you knew that all along, and those

24 are not my words, those are his.

25 Now, here's the choice. Do you want

.

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1 the tax increase now because your debt is at \$208

2 million, or would you like to put it off for two years,

3 throw it on the shoulders of the next administration

4 and just keep riding with those tax increases for a

5 long time?

6 Because honestly, they're coming. They

7 have to come when you have \$208 million in long-term

8 debt. So, do you want larger tax increases that will

9 be created by additional borrowing, or would you like

10 smaller tax increases so that you can pay down what you

11 currently owe? It's a very ugly choice, isn't it?

12 MS. GATELLI: Yes, it is.

13 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes, it is.

14 MS. EVANS: But it's a choice that the

15 mayor forced on us. And by us, I don't mean just this

16 Council, I'm talking about all of the people of the

17 City of Scranton. He created that single handedly, and

18 now we have to pay for it, and that is the decision,

19 how do you intend, how do you wish to pay for it?

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: We can do what the

21 school district does and just keep raising our millage

22 every other day.

23 MS. EVANS: They have.

24 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: They're receiving

25 56 percent of the pie now. You know, that would be

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1 great. If we received 56 percent of the pie, we

2 wouldn't be having this discussion.

3 So, you know, maybe we have to start

4 taking interest in the other taxing bodies and figure

5 out what they're doing, because it seems to be working

6 for them for some reason. I don't get it. That's all

7 I have.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think what happens

9 is the school district raises it a little bit every

10 year, and we haven't raised it in five years because,

11 you know, whoever's sitting in the mayor, and I'm not

12 just this mayor, figures they won't get re-elected.

13 He should have raised the taxes a

14 little bit for the last five years. Now we're getting
15 whacked and we're getting whacked hard.
16 MS. EVANS: Well, but the point is
17 being made that if you borrow the money, you're not
18 going to get whacked this year. But you are going to
19 get whacked. So, I guess you just have to decide do
20 you want the slap on the arm now or do you want the
21 slap on the head for the next 20 some years?

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: That's all I have.

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I think we're all
24 talked out.

25 MR. MINORA: Pending a vote for
.

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1 introduction.

2 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Take a vote.

3 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
4 question? Roll call, Neil. Do a roll call.

5 MS. GARVEY: 5-B, I guess, we're doing
6 a roll call on.

7 MS. GATELLI: We have to do it, because
8 it's --

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

10 MS. EVANS: No.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

12 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: No.

17 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

18 MS. GATELLI: Yes. 5-C.

19 MS. GARVEY: 5-C, FOR INTRODUCTION - A

20 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

21 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A GRANT

22 APPLICATION TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

23 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR A

24 GROWING GREENER GRANT FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE

25 CONNELL BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000 AND

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1 ACCEPTING SAID FUNDS IF SUCCESSFUL.

2 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

3 entertain a motion that 5-C be introduced.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

6 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

7 those in favor.

8 MS. EVANS: Aye.

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

12 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

13 have it and so moved. Unanimous.

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

15 BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 60, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE

16 - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 1361 WYOMING

17 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO DONNA G. MEYERS 1045

18 COLUMBIA STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, FOR THE

19 SUM OF \$3,300.00.

20 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

21 entertain a motion that 5-C be -- oh, sorry. You've

22 heard reading by title of Item 6-A, what is your

23 pleasure?

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-A

25 pass reading by title.

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1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

2 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

3 those in favor.

4 MS. EVANS: Aye.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

8 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

9 have it and so moved. Unanimous.

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

11 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 61, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE -

12 TRANSFERRING BOTH PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS FOR

13 A PARCEL OF PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF

14 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVENUE WHERE THE STAFFORD MEADOW BROOK

15 FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT INTERSECTS THENCE TO A POINT

16 IN THE EDGE OF THE WATER LINE OF THE LACKAWANNA RIVER

17 TO THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF

18 A COMBINED SEWER OUTFLOW TO GAUGE OUT FALLS ON THE LINE

19 AND AS A PREVENTATIVE DEVICE IN STORM EVENTS.

20 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

21 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

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

23 pass reading by title.

24 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

25 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

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1 those in favor.

2 MS. EVANS: Aye.

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

6 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

7 have it and so moved.

8 MS. GARVEY: 6-C, READING BY TITLE -

9 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 62, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE -

10 TRANSFERRING BOTH PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS FOR

11 A PARCEL OF PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF

12 WEST ELM STREET WHERE IT INTERSECTS THE LACKAWANNA

13 RIVER TO THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY FOR THE

14 CONSTRUCTION OF A COMBINED SEWER OUTFLOW TO GAUGE OUT

15 FALLS ON THE LINE AND AS A PREVENTATIVE DEVICE IN STORM

16 EVENTS.

17 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

18 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-C

20 pass reading by title.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

22 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

23 those in favor.

24 MS. EVANS: Aye.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

3 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

4 have it and so moved.

5 MS. GARVEY: Seventh order. Before

6 reading 7-A, I understand there may be some changes to

7 this piece of legislation.

8 MR. MINORA: I have a list of changes.

9 I would like to read those and put those in a motion

10 and we can take it from there.

11 MS. GATELLI: Attorney Minora, would

12 you read the changes?

13 MR. MINORA: Amending 7-A so that the

14 applicant, Northeast Theater, is reduced from \$12,500

15 to zero; increasing the Scranton Police Department's

16 OECD block grant from \$180,000 to \$300,000; decreasing

17 the OECD's office from \$706,000 to \$606,000; decreasing

18 CDBG to The Friends of the Poor from \$20,000 to

19 \$10,000; reducing the CDBG for the Ben Franklin

20 Memorial from \$100,000 to \$50,000; the Deutsche

21 Institute from \$50,000 to \$25,000; Catholic Social

22 Services from \$6,000 to zero; Community Intervention

23 Center from \$20,000 to \$10,000; Cornell Management

24 Group from \$40,000 to \$10,000; Downtown Senior from

25 zero to \$45,000; Meals On Wheels of Northeastern

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1 Pennsylvania, zero to \$10,000; Hyde Park Baseball, zero

2 to \$25,000; Connell Little League Park, zero to

3 \$50,000; North Scranton Neighborhood Association, zero

4 to \$50,000; West Scranton Neighborhood Association,

5 zero to \$70,000; South Scranton Junior Football, zero

6 to \$7,000; North Scranton Little League, zero to

7 \$10,000, Weston Park Senior Little League, zero to

8 \$17,000; the Arc of Lackawanna County, zero to \$25,500;

9 A Healthy Northeastern Pennsylvania Initiative, \$40,000

10 to \$10,000; Dress For Success Lackawanna, \$5,000 to

11 \$10,000; Tripps Park Girls Softball League, \$75,000 to

12 \$25,000.

13 What I need is a motion adopting those

14 or amending 7-A to include those changes.

15 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I would like to

16 make a motion that we adopt 7-A to include the changes

17 that were just stated.

18 MS. EVANS: Second.

19 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

20 MS. EVANS: I would just like to say
21 they're wonderful amendments. I do agree with the
22 allocations, the cuts that have occurred and the
23 increases that have occurred, because I see that
24 neighborhoods throughout the city are being addressed,
25 and equally as important, the neighborhoods will

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1 benefit from an increased police presence, as well.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: I would just like to
3 say, Mrs. President, that it's real difficult doing
4 this each year, because, you know, every cause is a
5 worthy cause, and it's very, very difficult, and you
6 don't like to take from one to give to the other, but
7 basically we have no choice, because you only have a
8 certain amount of money. So, I think these are really
9 good changes, and I'm happy to vote for this.

10 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
11 question? What is the recommendation of the
12 chairperson --

13 MS. GATELLI: Wait. That's just on the
14 motion to do that and then I will read it for the
15 record before you take a vote.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Make a motion on

17 the -- I made the motion.

18 MS. EVANS: And I second it.

19 MS. GATELLI: All in favor.

20 MS. EVANS: Aye.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

24 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

25 have it and so moved.

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1 MS. GARVEY: Okay. Now I will read

2 7-A. FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY

3 DEVELOPMENT, FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 49,

4 2006 - AS AMENDED - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

5 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE

6 ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED

7 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

8 PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

9 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

10 (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)

11 PROGRAM.

12 MS. GATELLI: What's the recommendation

13 of the chair on community development?

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for
15 the committee on community development, I recommend
16 final passage of Item 7-A.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
19 call.

20 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

21 MS. EVANS: Yes.

22 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

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1 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

5 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

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

7 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

8 COUNCIL NO. 54, 2006 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO.

9 210, 2003 ENTITLED CREATING AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL

10 CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229544 FIRE DEPARTMENT DONATIONS TO

11 ACCEPT DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE CITIZENS AND/OR ENTITIES
12 IN MEMORY OF FALLEN/DECEASED FIREFIGHTERS TO BE USED
13 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ITEMS NOT NORMALLY APPROPRIATED FOR
14 IN THE OPERATING BUDGET TO EXPAND THE SOURCE OF FUNDS
15 FOR SAID ACCOUNT TO INCLUDE ANY OTHER DONATIONS TO THE
16 SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT MADE BY PRIVATE CITIZENS
17 AND/OR ENTITIES, TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR USE IN THIS
18 DEPARTMENT.

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

21 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee
22 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

24 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

25 call.

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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. McGoff.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

10 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

11 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

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

13 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

14 COUNCIL NO. 55, 2006 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING

15 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229583 ENTITLED POLICE

16 DEPARTMENTAL SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (SID)

17 ASSET FORFEITURES ACCOUNT FOR RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT

18 OF EQUITABLE SHARING OF ASSET FORFEITURES FROM VARIOUS

19 AGENCIES WORKING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SID TO BE USED

20 FOR DRUG INVESTIGATION PURPOSES ONLY.

21 MS. GATELLI: What is the

22 recommendation of the chair on finance?

23 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

24 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-C.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

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1 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

2 call.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

4 MS. EVANS: Yes.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

6 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

12 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

13 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. GARVEY: 7-D, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

15 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

16 COUNCIL NO. 56, 2006 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING AN

17 INTEREST BEARING SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229499

18 ENTITLED EDWARD J. BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

19 GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM.

20 MS. GATELLI: What is the

21 recommendation of the chair on finance?

22 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

23 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-D.

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. McGoff.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

11 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

12 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

13 MS. GARVEY: 7-E, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

14 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

15 COUNCIL NO. 57, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

16 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT AND DISBURSE FUNDS

17 FOR THE EDWARD J. BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)

18 FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT

19 (LLEBG).

20 MS. GATELLI: What is the

21 recommendation for the committee on finance?

22 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

23 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-E.

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. McGoff.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

11 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

12 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

13 MS. GARVEY: 7-F, FOR CONSIDERATION -

14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

15 COUNCIL NO. 58, 2006 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING

16 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229582 ENTITLED SECURE OUR

17 SCHOOLS FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDING

18 UNDER THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF

19 COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES (COPS) SECURE OUR

20 SCHOOLS (SOS) 2006 GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST WITH THE

21 DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCES AND PROVIDE

22 IMPROVED SECURITY AT SCHOOLS AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

23 MS. GATELLI: What is the
24 recommendation of the chair on finance?

25 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

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1 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-F

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

3 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

4 call.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

6 MS. EVANS: Yes.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

14 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

15 Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted.

16 MS. GARVEY: 7-G, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

17 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

18 COUNCIL NO. 59, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

19 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT AND DISBURSE FUNDS

20 FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY
21 ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES (COPS) SECURE OUR SCHOOLS
22 (SOS) 2006 GRANT PROGRAM.

23 MS. GATELLI: What is the
24 recommendation of the chair on finance?

25 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

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1 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-G.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

3 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

4 call.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

6 MS. EVANS: Yes.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

14 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

15 Item 7-G legally and lawfully adopted.

16 MS. GARVEY: 7-H, FOR CONSIDERATION -

17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION
18 NO. 109, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
19 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
20 GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF
21 CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DCNR), BUREAU OF
22 RECREATION AND CONSERVATION IN ORDER TO ACCEPT THE
23 GRANT OF \$10,000.00 FROM THE HERITAGE AND OTHER PARKS
24 APPROPRIATION FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO CROWLEY PARK.

25 MS. GATELLI: What is the

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1 recommendation of the chair on finance?

2 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

3 on finance, I recommend final passage of Item 7-H.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

5 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

6 call.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

8 MS. EVANS: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

15 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

16 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

17 Item 7-H legally and lawfully adopted.

18 MS. GARVEY: 7-I, FOR CONSIDERATION -

19 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION

20 NO. 110, 2006 - APPOINTMENT OF DIANE MURRAY, 911 CLAY

21 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, AS A MEMBER OF

22 THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD, EFFECTIVE

23 OCTOBER 11, 2006. MRS. MURRAY WILL BE REPLACING NELIDA

24 AMADOR WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON OCTOBER 11, 2006. MRS.

25 MURRAY'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 11, 2011.

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1 MS. GATELLI: As chair for the

2 committee on rules, I recommend final passage of 7-I.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

4 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

5 call.

6 MS. EVANS: Just one second. I'm

7 sorry. There seems to have been a question about the

8 residency of the individual, and I know that certainly

9 I have no way of verifying residencies, but I know that

10 I had received some notification about an address

11 elsewhere, and so I would ask that Council table the
12 final vote until some clarification can be provided.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Do we need to make a
14 motion to table it?

15 MS. EVANS: Yes. I move to table Item
16 7-I.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll second it.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't know this
20 woman. I'm assuming that she lives in the city or she
21 wouldn't be putting in for this position, but just for
22 the sake of accuracy, I'll vote for it.

23 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
24 question? Well, as long as I've known them, they've
25 lived at 911 Clay Avenue.

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1 MS. EVANS: Well, I don't even know
2 them.

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yeah, me either.

4 MS. GATELLI: I know them very well.

5 She's always been into that architectural heritage.

6 She's always been on the board, but, you know, we'll

7 check it.

8 They may have another home somewhere
9 else at a lake or something, you know, a country home,
10 but I've never known her not to live on Clay Avenue.

11 She's a member. You know, she's a member of the
12 Architectural Heritage Association, but we'll check.

13 All in favor.

14 MS. EVANS: Aye.

15 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

18 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19 have it and so moved. We will table that until next
20 week.

21 MS. GARVEY: 7-J, FOR CONSIDERATION BY
22 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -
23 RESOLUTION NO. 111, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
24 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF
25 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN

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1 FROM THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION GRANT REPAYMENT LOAN
2 PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 400.26 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
3 \$85,000.00 TO MICHAEL'S LUXURY EYEWEAR TO ASSIST AN
4 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

5 MS. GATELLI: What is the

6 recommendation of the chair on community development?

7 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for

8 the committee on community development, I recommend

9 final passage of Item 7-J.

10 MS. EVANS: Second.

11 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

12 call.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

14 MS. EVANS: Yes.

15 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

17 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

19 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

21 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

22 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

23 Item 7-J legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. GARVEY: 7-K, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

25 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -

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1 RESOLUTION NO. 112, 2006 - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION

2 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD (HARB) AND
3 APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR LAMAR
4 ADVERTISING, 700 JAMES AVENUE, SCRANTON FOR THE
5 INSTALLATION OF A WALL MOUNTED SIGN AT 428 LACKAWANNA
6 AVENUE.

7 MS. GATELLI: What is the
8 recommendation of the chair on community development?

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for
10 the committee on community development, I recommend
11 final passage of Item 7-K.

12 MS. EVANS: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
14 call.

15 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

18 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

19 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

21 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

23 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

24 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

25 Item 7-K legally and lawfully adopted. And how about

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1 that? We were unanimous on everything. And they say

2 we don't get along. What's wrong?

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: It's a rumor.

4 MS. GATELLI: Of course we do.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: It's a nasty

6 rumor.

7 MS. GATELLI: I'll make a motion for

8 adjournment.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

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12 (MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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24 C E R T I F I C A T E

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

6

7

8

LISA M. GRAFF, RMR
9 Official Court Reporter

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