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2 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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6 HELD:

7

8 Tuesday, September 25, 2007

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10 LOCATION:

11 Council Chambers

12 Scranton City Hall

13 340 North Washington Avenue

14 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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24 CATHENE S. NARDOZZI- COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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MS. JUDY GATELLI, PRESIDENT

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6 MS. JANET E. EVANS

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MS. SHERRY FANUCCI

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9 MR. ROBERT MCGOFF

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MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

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12 MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

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MS. SUE MAGNOTTA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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15 MR. AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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1 MS. GATELLI: Stand for the Pledge of

2 Allegiance.

3 (Pledge of Allegiance recited and

4 moment of silence observed.)

5 MS. GATELLI: Excuse me for one

6 moment, but Mr. McGoff brought to my

7 attention that a gentleman that was the head

8 of the taxpayers' group many years ago has

9 also passed away, I didn't see it in the

10 paper, Mr. Myron Wolcuff, so please bow your

11 heads for a moment for Mr. Wolcuff, he did a

12 lot for our community. Thank you. Roll

13 call. MS. GATELLI: I'd like to call the

14 public hearing to order. Roll call.

15 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

16 MRS. EVANS: Here.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

19 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

21 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

23 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

24 MS. GATELLI: Here. Dispense with

25 the reading of the minutes.

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1 MS. GARVEY: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

2 AGENDA FOR THE CITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

3 MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2007.

4 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

5 If not, received and filed.

6 MS. GARVEY: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE

7 VACANT PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

8 HELD ON MARCH 20, 2007.

9 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

10 If not, received and filed.

11 MS. GARVEY: 3-C. AGENDA FOR THE

12 REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VACANT

13 PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON SEPTEMBER

14 18, 2007.

15 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

16 If not, received and filed.

17 MS. GARVEY: 3-D. CONTROLLER'S

18 REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31,

19 20097.

20 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

21 If not, received and filed.

22 MS. GARVEY: That's it for third

23 order.

24 MS. GATELLI: I just have a few small

25 announcements tonight. I got an e-mail from

.

5

1 Susan Jeffrey, she is the person that was

2 recently hired by the library and she is the

3 cochair of Scranton Reads and they had an

4 affair this evening before ours for the one

5 city, one book, and the kick off is today

6 and the book is the Grapes of Wrath, and the

7 public library and the city are teaming up

8 with the National Endowment of the Arts to

9 expand the reach of this event. It's called

10 the Big Read. Scranton will be joining

11 nearly 120 other US communities that are
12 taking part in this project. The concept is
13 to have as many people as possible read the
14 same book at the same time. Our director of
15 the library, Mr. Jack Finnerty, states this
16 year is an exciting mix of media events that
17 will enhance the appreciation for this
18 classic novel, and the web site is
19 www.ScrantonReads.org and there are a whole
20 list of events that go along with this book,
21 and we would like to congratulate Susan and
22 Jack Finnerty for this program.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Might I add, I was at
24 the announcement today I was challenged by
25 Mr. Finnerty to include council in the
.

6

1 Scranton Read program and the books have
2 been provided.

3 MS. EVANS: Well, you can tell
4 Mr. Finnerty I have already read the novel
5 several times and, in fact, even taught it.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Well, he did challenge
7 me to, you know, present it to council and

8 that during the month of October there will
9 be weekly tests to see that it's being read.
10 MS. GATELLI: Oh, thank you very
11 much. The other thing was I drive the Eynon
12 Street viaduct everyday to go to work and I
13 see a girl there everyday on a scaffold
14 painting a mural, and I would just like to
15 congratulate her. She is 28 years old, her
16 picture was in the paper this week and her
17 name is Heather VanWinkle and it replaced
18 the mural that was there was there 30 years
19 ago and I would just like to congratulate
20 her and tell her that she did a marvelous
21 job on behalf of city council.

22 And the last thing I have is that I
23 have to wish my grandson a happy birthday
24 because he said -- they were going out for
25 dinner and I couldn't go, so he said, "Noni,

7

1 will you tell me happy birthday?"
2 So, I'd like to say happy birthday
3 to Jacob, who is five years old today. And
4 that's all I have. Anyone else?

5 MS. EVANS: Many more happy

6 birthdays, 100 more.

7 MS. GATELLI: I hope so. Thank you.

8 The first speaker is Marie Schumacker.

9 MS. SCHUMACKER: Marie Schumacker.

10 I would like to speak on agenda item 7-E

11 against making that area a no parking and

12 removing the parking meters. If we can put

13 parking meters around our hospitals and

14 force people who are under stress and trying

15 to find a parking place and then they have

16 to also worry about getting out to feed a

17 meter then I think certainly the University

18 of Scranton should not be exempt.

19 I would also like to speak on 7-G

20 and H where the effort is to transfer more

21 property to another nonprofit and I would

22 like to ask you, maybe you all know, what

23 the Lackawanna Institute does. The only

24 thing I have been to find out about it is it

25 owns property on Prescott Avenue that's

.

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1 unspecified, 520 Jefferson Avenue, 536, 538,

2 540 Jefferson Avenue, 629-631 Madison, 608
3 Madison, 545 and 547 Madison and Olive
4 Street. They own all of these properties,
5 they are nonprofit, but apparently they
6 don't have an office that even has a phone
7 that's answered. I have been trying to
8 reach them to find out what their
9 nonprofit -- what kind of service they are
10 providing and I can never even get an answer
11 at the number that's listed in the phone
12 book, so maybe you all can tell me who is
13 this Lackawanna Institute is and what they
14 are doing for our community or how these
15 properties are being used. Is anybody
16 familiar with the properties and how they
17 are being used? I just think that these
18 properties be auctioned off the highest
19 bidder who is willing to pay taxes.

20 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Quinn.

21 MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Taxpayers'
22 Association president. Yes, in regards to
23 item 7-A, capital improvement budget, the
24 administrative code, article six, fiscal
25 said the budget shall be prepared by the

.

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1 mayor with the assistance of the business
2 administration on or before April 1 of each
3 year. The director of the Department of
4 Community Development with assistance of the
5 Bureau of Planning shall submit a proposed
6 six year capital program for the city
7 planning commission for a study and
8 recommendation on or before June 1 of each
9 year, that would have been June 1, 2007.
10 After receipt of the report of the planning
11 commission the mayor shall submit the
12 program to the city council incorporating
13 any recommendation that the planning which
14 he sees advisable.

15 I just want to know that I spoke
16 last Tuesday, I don't know of an incident
17 where it was filed an agenda with the city
18 planning commission, other than the
19 following night after I spoke they put it on
20 the agenda, but there was nothing spoken
21 about it other than the CIP, but I also know
22 this would probably be approved before the

23 city planning commission meeting since they
24 only meet monthly, so obviously what we are
25 doing is again violating the Home Rule

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10

1 Charter.

2 The other thing I want to know is
3 what is the cost of the sale from the school
4 board for 3.7 acres of land over in Tripp's
5 Park, is there a price on that? No answer.

6 Also, I wanted to know, Mrs. Fanucci,
7 you said you were going to look into the
8 project regarding the Garden Path.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Ozzie, I'm so sorry, I
10 can't hear you.

11 MS. GATELLI: I can't hear him.

12 MS. QUINN: The Garden Path, you said
13 you were going to look into that?

14 MS. FANUCCI: Yes, and it was all up
15 to spec, there was no problem.

16 MR. QUINN: No problem? Good.

17 That's all I wanted to do.

18 MS. EVANS: Mr. Quinn, I do have one
19 answer for you, we received in our mail

20 today a letter from the city planning
21 commission dated September 25, 2007,
22 regarding the proposed capital budget, I'll
23 read it to you, it's very brief: "The city
24 planning commission members at it's
25 September 19, 2007, pursuant to the

.

11

1 Administrative Code of the City of Scranton
2 reviewed the proposed capital budget and
3 passed a motion 4 to 0 to recommend that it
4 be adopted."

5 MR. QUINN: Yeah, fine, but it's only
6 five months too late. Thank you.

7 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Sbaraglia.

8 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
9 citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian. My
10 voice may be a little raspy, I got a cold,
11 so please bear with me. We talked about
12 7-Q, one of my favorite, favorite things,
13 authorizing the sale of tax claims and the
14 penalties that go with them. When you first
15 passed this in the budget we know, of
16 course, what's in the budget you can't have

17 any kind of a petition against it because
18 it's a budget item so it can't be really
19 done, but you did not know what you were
20 voting on when you passed that budget
21 because none of this was in it. Had you
22 seen this you might have thought a little
23 more on passing this, but since I only have
24 two minutes to speak on it I just want to
25 read some of the figures again: 25 bucks,
.
12

1 160 bucks, 35, 175, 175, 30, 175, 800, 175,
2 30, 50, 25, 400, 30, 100, 50, 60, and so
3 forth and, of course, there is lot of things
4 that, of course, they don't have figures on
5 until it's actually done. Our taxes in the
6 city, mine is 400. You are planning to
7 impose if I'm one day late on taxes and
8 hence delinquent, okay, you are planning to
9 fine me over \$3,000 for being late and not
10 paying, not that it wasn't paid, but it's
11 defaulted into delinquent meaning you paid
12 it too late. I can't -- \$3,000 for
13 something like for a \$400 fee is too

14 exorbitant. Thank you.

15 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

16 Mr. Jackowitz.

17 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz, South

18 Scranton. 5-C, after I get done speaking

19 can somebody please tell me who the SECCAS,

20 LLC, and why they need \$70,000 I'm unaware

21 of who they are so I hope someone will

22 answer that after I get done speaking. 7-A,

23 tomorrow is another big day in the city of

24 Scranton when we have to pass this wish list

25 of the mayor. I just hope that each and all

.

13

1 five of you really consider the taxpayers on

2 this and really because I see loans and

3 borrowing coming later on, and I may be

4 wrong, if I'm wrong I'll admit it, but

5 really I just want you to think about it.

6 7-M, last week it was brought up that

7 this Rejuven Essence Management Service may

8 be delinquent on said taxes and we were told

9 that it was going to be looked into, I hoped

10 someone looked into it and I hope you let us

11 know about it or during your speech at the
12 end of the night, someone let's us know
13 about it. And on 7-Q, this penalties and
14 fees is this forever or is this just a
15 contract for a limited period of time? You
16 can answer that now, if you would like.

17 MS. EVANS: The sale of the
18 delinquent taxes?

19 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yes.

20 MS. EVANS: I believe the contract
21 with MRS would have a term of one year. At
22 the point of expiration it will be up for
23 renewal or cancellation and s for the fees,
24 penalties, fines, costs, that was enacted by
25 ordinance by a majority of council, I didn't
.

14

1 vote for it --

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: That's what my
3 question is.

4 MS. EVANS: I would assume that that
5 remains in effect until such time as a
6 council, for example, would repeal that.

7 MR. JACKOWITZ: So, in other words,

8 if it's -- well, it has been passed. So, in
9 other words, that's forever in eternity
10 until another council votes it down or
11 another mayor wants to do away with it;
12 correct? Thank you.

13 MS. FANUCCI: Mr. Jackowitz, I can
14 answer your questions, as far as the taxes,
15 they are brought up to the amount of their
16 taxes. I have a letter there from their
17 accountant and they were paid right after
18 the lien had been imposed. But, also, as
19 far as the city is concerned, if you went to
20 get your loan at the day of your closing you
21 have to present a certificate that you are
22 up to date on all of your taxes, so no
23 matter what even if this did happen and they
24 were not up-to-date they could not get the
25 money as of the date the loan, so that's a

15

1 good thing that they have checks and
2 balances in place.

3 As far as the Seccas is a part of
4 the Wall Street West Initiative and for

5 anybody that doesn't know that is what they
6 did was especially after 9/11 tried to find
7 places in other cities and other states that
8 people can have smaller companies that are
9 associated with the larger companies out of
10 New York City and they had chosen to come
11 here, which is amazing, and this company
12 themselves are bringing high end jobs to
13 recruit other companies to locate here from
14 New York City and is all part of a huge
15 operation with Wall Street West, so that is
16 what they are doing and they are high end
17 jobs, which is wonderful. This is something
18 that we really -- I'm pretty proud that we
19 are actually getting them because we were in
20 competition with about five other cities and
21 a few other states, too, that were really
22 trying to sweep them in so I'm very happy
23 they are here and I think that's all of the
24 questions. And as far as -- well, I'll wait
25 for my motions. Okay. Sorry. Thank you.

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16

1 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on agenda

2 items only?

3 MR. LYMAN: I got a question on this

4 5-Q. I went to pay on the cable bill and

5 about this 5-Q, a lady was paid -- she has

6 a -- taxes paid, you know, for this year and

7 every year and my question is what if NCC

8 makes a mistake and says that you didn't pay

9 your taxes and they want to take your house

10 off of you and that's what's happened to

11 this lady, and I told her to watch this

12 meeting. And she was crying, and I told

13 her, "If you have all of your receipts," and

14 she does, and if they made a mistake and if

15 the City of Scranton wants to take your

16 house and if you have all your receipts and

17 you paid every year, now, my question is how

18 can they take her house off of you when you

19 pay your taxes every year and NCC and the

20 City of Scranton can take your house off of

21 you. I think that's criminal.

22 MS. FANUCCI: They can't.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: They can't do that,

24 Ray.

25 MS. FANUCCI: They can't do that,

17

1 Ray.

2 MS. LYMAN: Well, Sherry Fanucci, she
3 told me they are.

4 MS. FANUCCI: Sherry Fanucci is me.

5 MR. LYMAN: I mean, city council, but
6 that's what they are doing.

7 MS. FANUCCI: But they can't.

8 MR. LYMAN: They said they she
9 didn't pay her taxes, they have the law firm
10 going after her, and that she told me they
11 said that she didn't pay for years, for
12 three years, and she went down and there and
13 she showed them for '07, '06, you know, for
14 every year and they were fighting with her.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: Raymond, give us
16 the lady's name. If she has proof that she
17 paid her taxes -- -

18 MR. LYMAN: I don't know her name. I
19 just told her watch city council and come
20 down here.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: If she has proof
22 that she paid her taxes they are not going

23 to take her house, Raymond.

24 MR. LYMAN: Well, they said to her,

25 they are taking her house off of her.

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18

1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Well, if you are

2 watching call our office and give us your

3 name and number and we'll square it away for

4 you.

5 MR. LYMAN: Well, okay. That's why

6 I'm saying --

7 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

8 MR. LYMAN: -- Mrs. Gatelli, you have

9 to get that the people from NCC to come back

10 down here for a public hearing and have the

11 people here to do something about them.

12 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Thank you. Does

13 anyone else care to speak on agenda items?

14 MR. DOBSON: Good evening, Council.

15 I also would like to speak on 7-Q and there

16 is just a few people in this town that will

17 be totally unable to pay this and it's a

18 shame. Frank Shimkus was at the taxpayers'

19 association meeting and he mentioned cancer

20 patients and heart failure patients, a
21 couple that they owe a couple thousand
22 dollars now on their taxes and they cannot
23 pay, there is no money anywhere that -- what
24 are they going to do? Sleep under a bridge
25 or in a refrigerator box. It's really

19

1 saddens -- it should be changed. It should
2 be changed. Anything that council can do it
3 change, it please try. Thank you, and have
4 a good night. Oh, by the way, my name is
5 Dave Dobson, I forgot that.

6 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mr. Dobson.

7 MR. MORGAN: Well, I guess 7-Q is
8 quite an issue tonight and I'd like to say
9 that I agree with Mr. Shimkus, wasn't the
10 tax group and Mr. Courtright, you know,
11 there a lot of nameless people that aren't
12 going to be able to pay this tax and I think
13 it's wrong to put all of these fees on the
14 working poor that are left trapped in this
15 city and it's fairly obvious to anyone who
16 walks through these neighborhoods at the

17 amount of abandoned structures in this city.
18 We have got a homeless couple with a dog
19 living on the corner of Price and North
20 Washington. I mean, we should all know that
21 they are also nameless, that's west side,
22 okay, and the little gazebo, they were
23 living in that little gazebo.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: I know, Main
25 Avenue.

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20

1 MR. MORGAN: But you know something,
2 when government reaches the point when it
3 puts fees on top of taxes that tells you
4 something, that tells you that your
5 community is beyond it's ability to pay and
6 then to sell these debts to whoever to
7 collect them it's extortion. It's time to
8 realize the size of government in the City
9 of Scranton has to be reduced and it's the
10 obligation of this council to make this city
11 liveable taxwise for the residents. That's
12 why this city's population has dropped to
13 60,000 people. That's why so few people in

14 this city vote let alone across this whole
15 nation. And as I have said at this podium
16 once before, you know, when you have
17 Mr. Kanjorski who is afraid about the state
18 of the union and the republic, it's time for
19 the politicians and the elected officials to
20 be concerned also, and I think it's time for
21 this council to revisit this ordinance and
22 repeal it, that's what I think it's time to
23 do. And the only question is will you and
24 do you care enough about the residents of
25 this city. We are all talking about the

21

1 city as if it's going to come back, not like
2 this.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: If I could just
4 make one general comment, 7-Q is not the
5 legislation that enacts these fees, 7-Q is
6 the company that will be collecting them. I
7 mean, I don't want to go back over, no, and
8 who voted and didn't vote for the fees, but
9 7-Q is totally different legislation, and I
10 don't know if we understand that. It seemed

11 like some people had it confused there.

12 That's all I have. Thank you.

13 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on agenda

14 items only? Mrs. Garvey?

15 MS. GARVEY: 5-A. MOTIONS.

16 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Evans?

17 MS. EVANS: Good evening. I ask for

18 your prayers for Patricia Kuwalik, a

19 resident of Dickson Avenue who returned to

20 the ICU with breathing problems again.

21 Please pray for her return to good health.

22 Also, please pray for the soul of Ann

23 Parazone, the mother of my Scranton high

24 school colleague, May Ann Wobbly, who passed

25 away last Thursday.

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22

1 I first wish to clarify my position

2 on the mayor's capital improvement budget.

3 As I stated during our two prior council

4 meetings, this budget violates the Home Rule

5 Charter Section 904. It lacks justification

6 for the necessity of projects, funding

7 explanations, time lines, etcetera. Equally

8 important are the projects themselves.
9 While the mayor allocates \$10 million for
10 park improvements and \$3 million for paving,
11 curbs and bridges, I believe that those
12 figures should be reversed. The people have
13 waited too long for street paving and for
14 curbs. They are disgusted and embarrassed
15 by the condition of our city streets. I
16 haven't spoken with even one taxpayer who
17 places park improvements above paving
18 projects. I do hear you. It's a shame how
19 some other elected officials do not.
20 Further, I do not believe the Albright
21 Memorial Library, a crown jewel of Scranton,
22 should be touched or handed over to any
23 entity, perhaps it might be a college,
24 perhaps it might be a medical school in the
25 future. I believe experience has taught us
.

23

1 that when a public asset is sold such as the
2 South Side Complex that people receive
3 either no replacement or a chunk of coal in
4 place of a crown jewel and many broken

5 promises and agreements; and since the
6 capital budget includes language regarding
7 our library, it is yet further justification
8 to oppose this expendable document.

9 The Mulberry Street scape project is
10 a very nice contribution, however, most of
11 the properties on those six blocks belong to
12 the University of Scranton. The project
13 unquestionably increases the value and
14 appeal of their properties and campus.

15 Indeed, the University has expanded
16 exponentially in the Hill Section over the
17 last few decades, yet their cash payments in
18 lieu of taxes have failed miserably to keep
19 pace. In addition, the citizens of the
20 Scranton to date never received a lighted
21 replacement field for the South Side
22 Complex. It appears that the mayor, the
23 University and Senator Mellow dropped the
24 ball by ignoring the memorandum of
25 understanding, yet, my colleagues approved
.

24

1 legislation to enable U of S to renovate

2 their newest athletic facility, another of
3 our crown jewels, the South Side Complex.
4 Further, the Powell study identifies
5 the financial damage to host cities and the
6 Pennsylvania Economy League does not serve
7 the universities or colleges, in most cases
8 they are really not serving host communities
9 they are an objective source that produced
10 an award winning report on this issue.
11 In response to a recent editorial
12 stating that city council did not after the
13 Valentine's Day snow storm of 2007, I remind
14 the newspaper that I, as well as some of my
15 colleagues, advocated for the very same
16 measures as they on the evening of the
17 caucus with our city engineer even though it
18 was not my committee nor was it the
19 committee of some of the other council
20 people.
21 In addition, I will repeat one final
22 suggestion I offered at that juncture, the
23 mayor should appear on television prior to
24 snow storms and announce snow emergency
25 routes, street parking and other necessary

1 procedures. He evidently enjoys both TV
2 time to advertise Nay Aug and bill boards to
3 direct us where to recreate in the summer
4 paid for by OECD, the citizens would truly
5 appreciate a snow emergency announcement.
6 On September 20, I spoke with State
7 Representative Shimkus at a Taxpayers'
8 Association meeting regarding a separate
9 city tax bill in order to help those
10 residents who might otherwise lose their
11 homes because of tax delinquencies.
12 Mr. Shimkus offered to meet with me in order
13 to draft a proposal for the legislature. He
14 understood the plight of the elderly and the
15 low to moderate income families of Scranton.
16 I also have the most recent auditor's
17 report which I will read: "The following
18 are items that need to be completed in order
19 for us to complete our field work relative
20 to the 2006 audit:
21 Number one, need responses to
22 following memos," and, again, these are

23 appearing in each of the reports
24 continually, "A general fund bank
25 reconciliation, special city's cash
.
26

1 accounts, FEMA flood protection summer and
2 November 2006 flooding.

3 Number two, we do not have a copy of
4 the Scranton Parking Authority's 2006 audit
5 report. It is our understanding that it is
6 not completed.

7 Number three, we are awaiting
8 responses from three confirmation letters
9 from attorneys. We are in the process of
10 examining records for the capital projects
11 fund, pension fund special cities account,
12 OECD, compensated absences and interfund
13 payable receivables. Our examinations of
14 these records may result in further requests
15 for information."

16 Evidently, the audit is progressing,
17 unfortunately, though much of the necessary
18 information is slow in coming.

19 I also have citizens' request for

20 the week. A memo to Chief Elliott:
21 Residents report that vehicles travel in
22 speeds over 25 miles per hour on 14th Avenue
23 running stop signs and driving the wrong way
24 on a one way street. They particularly
25 observed such occurrences at approximately
.
27

1 3:30 p.m. when school children travel 14th
2 Avenue on route to their homes.
3 A memo to Mr. Brazil: Please pave
4 Reading Place, the last court off Providence
5 Road before the light at Bulls Head.
6 Reading Place is only one half block in
7 length and it's not been paved in 60 years
8 according to a resident of the court. It's
9 in deplorable condition, please pave as soon
10 as possible. Also, for Mr. Brazil: Please
11 pave Balew Avenue, residents report that
12 streets in this direct area are being paved
13 and taxpayers are terribly disappointed to
14 have been overlooked. If this street will
15 not be paved, provide city council a written
16 explanation for the failure to pave on or

17 before October 15, 2007.

18 And in my mail this evening I
19 received two additional requests, and the
20 one in particular I know I have requested
21 twice before from Mr. Parker, and I am
22 hoping that Mr. Brazil will take care of it,
23 it's about the creation of a lip or an edge
24 of macadam material on Snook Street and
25 Seymour Avenue, so I'm going to give this to
26 .
27
28

1 Kay along with the list of requests and hope
2 that all of these problems are going to be
3 taken care of shortly, and that's it.

4 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mrs.
5 Fanucci?

6 MS. FANUCCI: There is only two
7 things I had, both like pretty cleared up,
8 but I did want to speak a little bit more on
9 the Wall Street West and the project that's
10 going on there. When this company comes in
11 they are going to hire not only technical
12 but administrative. These are very good
13 jobs. These are not your low end jobs which

14 is something that we are hoping builds and
15 builds as long as we can start getting
16 people from New York City. We are trying to
17 see if when they expand here they are going
18 to do a wireless and everything from to go
19 into the city. They are going to do
20 initiatives from Pocono Manor all the way
21 down. They are going to be with the wire
22 grants.

23 The completion of the phase was
24 first when they met with Wall Street West
25 was in New York City with they decided to
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29

1 try and do this project. This was not just
2 to help the city, it was to help outside of
3 the city. They had four, I'm not going to
4 tell you who they are, but they had five
5 other people who are bidding for this,
6 pretty much saying, "Come here and we'll do
7 this. Come here and we'll do this," and we
8 are so happy that they are coming to
9 Scranton and once they get here their job is
10 to do nothing about to recruit other cities

11 to put a satellite place here in Scranton.
12 And this is a very big initiative just to
13 say, we are close enough to the city but we
14 are far enough away also, and this is a
15 project that we could all be proud of. So,
16 yes, we are going to be giving them \$70,000,
17 but they are coming with a grant that has
18 already been obtained for 250 -- 270, I'm
19 sorry, I don't want to do that wrong,
20 \$270,000 grant that they got. All of this
21 put towards job training, purchase of the
22 place, purchase of equipment, making a
23 secure site here so that they can show a
24 secure site would be outside of the city and
25 bringing in other people. They are going to
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1 to work with everyone from the chamber to
2 obviously Wall Street West and they work
3 with the governor and everyone in the state
4 also. So, I think this is wonderful
5 project.

6 Now, on the other two that I don't
7 know if Mr. Quinn brought it up or I don't

8 know, but the Lackawanna Institute, I have
9 to say I don't know about that. I don't
10 know who owns the properties. As long as
11 their function, I really don't know that
12 either. That was not -- I don't look at
13 who is buying the property, it was pretty
14 much for \$5,000. Do you know who?

15 MR. MCGOFF: One of the name that's
16 on the back up or on one of the contracts is
17 Paul Masseur.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Right, but I'm not
19 sure -- I know that he is the primary owner,
20 I'm not sure what the function of the
21 company is that he has, but if it is then
22 what I was going to say without saying the
23 name is if it is the person I think it is
24 obviously what he does do with properties
25 are usually a good and wonderful rehab and

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1 sometimes he even knocks them down for green
2 space. I'm not sure what this is about, but
3 I will find out for next week. So, that was
4 all I had.

5 And as far as the University, I
6 definitely want to speak on that. I find it
7 hard to put a bad spin on anything that
8 people work together on and comes to be.
9 This was a huge project and I am very proud.
10 I'm proud that Mrs. Gatelli sat down with
11 them and got them to participate in
12 something that maybe wouldn't have happened
13 if she didn't reach out. Maybe sidewalks
14 aren't that big of a deal, but it's the
15 gateway to the city and it certainly is a
16 big deal when it doesn't look esthetically
17 nice and it is a big deal when you are
18 driving down and you see blight and empty
19 lots and things that are not are not
20 inviting. So, am I proud of this? It's a
21 wonderful project. Period lighting and a
22 beautiful entryway into the city, yeah, I'm
23 thrilled. Now, does it mean that I wouldn't
24 like 200,000 more things from anyone else, I
25 would, but to knock something when people
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1 have worked together, which is what we are

2 supposed to do, government, private entities
3 working together for the outcome of
4 something that is going to benefit the
5 people of the city, there is no way to knock
6 it.

7 So I am actually very proud. I was
8 proud to be there. I have to say that I am
9 very happy the University is here and
10 putting their money into us and helping us
11 because that's what we need. When you look
12 at the budget and when you look at the money
13 we have in your budget and how much it costs
14 just to run the city and pay the people who
15 work for us, when you get a project like
16 that and somebody says, "We are going to
17 help you out," nothing but a thank you. A
18 thank you and a nice smile, maybe a big hug,
19 but that's about it. And that's all I have.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. GATELLI: Mr. McGoff.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. I was
23 reminded today to wish everyone a happy new
24 year. This was on behalf of Rabbi Joe
25 Mendelson. It is the year 5768 in the

1 Jewish calendar and we would like to wish
2 everyone in the Jewish Community a Happy New
3 Year.
4 Just a little follow-up on the
5 Scranton Reads program, some of the things
6 that are being proposed for the month of
7 October, and I'll just go very quickly, a
8 food drive conducted with United
9 Neighborhood Centers that kind of piggybacks
10 off the stories of Grapes of Wrath and the
11 impoverished people of the depression era.
12 A lecture series to be conducted by Dr. John
13 McAnnering from the University of Scranton
14 that will be televised on Channel 61. A
15 performance of a play based on the Grapes of
16 the Wrath on November 4 by the University
17 players at the University of Scranton. A
18 documentary on the 1930's that's being done
19 by two local film makers, that will be
20 presented October 24. A photography exhibit
21 that will be presented at the Moses Taylor
22 Hospital Library and the Times Building, all

23 of them dealing with the events of the great
24 depression and events that are mentioned in
25 Steinbeck's great novel the Grapes of Wrath.

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1 I'd just two quick things on some items
2 that were mentioned maybe, Item 7-Q the sale
3 of the tax delinquencies, it should be noted
4 that it is the sale of tax delinquencies for
5 the Years 2004, 2005, and 2006. It does not
6 include the year 2007.

7 Also, on the capital budget, as
8 somebody was asking about funding, I don't
9 know if it was available to you in whatever
10 document you had you, there is a page that
11 was present in our backup that dealt with
12 funding for the capital budget. It gives a
13 five-year break down. For 2008 there was
14 grants and contributions, one time revenue
15 sources \$2 million, operating transfers from
16 other funds, \$1 million. Revenue from
17 long-term debt, zero, for a total for 2008
18 of three million dollars.

19 Now, in subsequent years there is

20 money listed as revenue from long-term debt,
21 but there is nothing for 2008. So I just
22 wanted to -- if that answers anyone's
23 questions as far as the funding for 2008 so
24 be it, and that is all. Thank you.

25 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

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1 Mr. Courtright.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes, there is
3 legislation I believe that's down in the
4 house right now and it's called the Employee
5 Free Choice Act, and I know that
6 Representative Smith is in favor of that, I
7 believe the county commissioners are in
8 favor of it, I'd like to make a motion that
9 this council direct that Mr. Minora to write
10 legislation for us to support the Employee
11 Free Choice Act.

12 MR. MINORA: I'm sorry, I got two
13 ears going at one time.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: I made a motion if
15 you could look into writing legislation for
16 the Employee Free Choice Act that's

17 currently in the house.

18 MR. MINORA: I will be glad to do

19 whatever it is you guys want.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll give you have

21 the information.

22 MR. MINORA: I was talking to Mrs.

23 Evans.

24 MS. GATELLI: All in favor?

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

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1 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

4 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The

5 ayes have it and so moved.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Also, I know 1909

7 Prospect, I know they went up there and

8 boarded up that house but now they've got a

9 whole bunch of animals running around up

10 there.

11 MS. GATELLI: It's on the South Side

12 resident's list.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay, got you. As

14 one speaker brought up on more than one
15 occasion, and I have brought it up on more
16 than one occasion myself, the parking lot at
17 the police station does not appear that it's
18 completed as I see it, so I guess it would
19 be Mr. Renda we need to ask what are the
20 plans? Are they going to finish that
21 parking lot or not? I hope that's not what
22 it looks like when it's finished because it
23 doesn't look right. It looks to me like
24 it's just a binder, so maybe if we can ask
25 Mr. Renda do they have plans on putting a
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1 final coat on that before it deteriorates
2 and looks like our streets.
3 Dave Elliott called me last week
4 when Mr. Neverosky was here and, obviously,
5 I couldn't answer the phone because I was
6 here and he asked if I could clarify
7 something with the police dog. He said he
8 is more than willing to accept money from
9 anybody that wants to donate it to the
10 canine fund. The Scranton Police Department

11 is not allowed to go out and solicit money
12 for that and one of the things he wanted to
13 clarify and I guess Mr. Elliott believes,
14 and Mr. Neverosky took his letter the wrong
15 way and he is saying that you cannot cross
16 train a police dog to do bomb work and drug
17 work and that's what I guess he was trying
18 to get across to Mr. Neverosky, so,
19 Mr. Neverosky, I think make if you could
20 give Dave a call maybe you guys can work
21 that out.

22 And, lastly, I believe it's 5-C,
23 it's the \$70,000 for S-E-C-C-A-S, I don't
24 know how you say that, but anyway, it
25 appears on the surface to me to be a very

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1 good project, but when I read the
2 legislation it says we are going to forgive
3 the loan then I get a little nervous and I
4 think maybe change now in three years they
5 are not going to have to pay the loan back
6 and if, in fact, they are high end jobs as
7 you are being told then to me it's a worthy

8 thing, but I would like, Kay, to ask --
9 MS. FANUCCI: I can clarify that for
10 you, I already checked into it because I,
11 myself, was a little worried about that also
12 because we usually don't forgive the loan.
13 The deal is that because they are -- the
14 other money they have is funded from the
15 state they did not have to worry about that
16 part of the loan. Now, also, what they
17 claim, and it seems to be rationale, if
18 something happens in the next few years and
19 they have to -- they have all of the
20 equipment, they have, like, they are still
21 lien, they still have to pay back like the
22 lien part of it, but they didn't have to put
23 like in the next three years if they close I
24 guess it is, it was pretty much what they
25 were saying to me is that they did not need

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1 the personal guarantee because the state is
2 the one who is doing the other funding. It
3 was not a private entity meaning that the
4 private partner was not saying this is my

5 money, so it was state funds that are -- the
6 \$270,000 of the state funds so that's why it
7 was taken out.

8 MS. EVANS: Mr. Courtright, if you
9 read the cover letter it states that the
10 company received a \$270,000 state grant and
11 then as you continue through paragraph three
12 it states, "Therefore, I am preparing
13 legislation to follow through with the
14 city's commitment of a \$70,000 grant."

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right.

16 MS. EVANS: So a grant is not
17 repaid.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right, and when we
20 are giving money away I would like to see
21 what type of salaries are going to be
22 involved here, that's my only concern. If
23 we are only going to be paying people eight,
24 nine dollars an hour, I think if it's going
25 to be what we call high end jobs, eight or
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1 nine dollars an hour to me is not a high end

2 job, so I will make a call down, I don't
3 know if they are able to release that
4 information to me, I would hope they would
5 be.

6 MS. FANUCCI: I would think.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: I would will call
8 down and speak with Lori Reed, barring that I
9 would certainly be in favor of that. It
10 sounds great, but when we are giving money
11 away, I'm not in favor of taking stuff if we
12 don't have to, but when we are giving it
13 away as opposed to being repaid back I'd
14 like to look at it a little closer.

15 MS. FANUCCI: And supposedly the job
16 commitment normally with \$70,000 would be
17 three jobs and they are going to bring ten.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'd like to see ten
19 \$70,000 a year jobs instead of ten \$10,000 a
20 year job is my point.

21 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: But, barring that,
23 I think it's just wonderful, I'm thrilled to
24 have them and that's all I have. Thank you.

25 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Garvey.

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1 MS. GARVEY: FOURTH ORDER. 5-B. FOR
2 INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING
3 THE TRANSFER OF CITY-OWNED LAND TO THE
4 SCRANTON SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE
5 CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW WEST ELEMENTARY
6 SCHOOL; SAID PARCEL LOCATED AT THE WESTERLY
7 END OF BULWER STREET AND CONSISTING OF 3.7
8 ACRES OF LAND MORE OR LESS.

9 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll
10 entertain a motion that 5-B be introduced.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

12 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All
14 in favor?

15 MS. EVANS: Aye.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

19 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The
20 ayes have it and so moved.

21 MS. GARVEY: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
22 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

23 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE

24 CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN

25 AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN FROM THE

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1 COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN

2 PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 150.14 IN AN AMOUNT NOT

3 TO EXCEED \$70,000 TO SECCAS LLC TO ASSIST AN

4 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

5 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

6 entertain a motion that 5-C be introduced.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

9 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

10 MS. EVANS: I agree with

11 Mr. Courtright, I think this is a wonderful

12 opportunity. On the other hand, I think we

13 should be very prudent when dispersing this

14 amount of money without receiving any type

15 of repayment, so I'll be anxiously awaiting

16 your answers.

17 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else? I just

18 echo Mrs. Evans and Mr. Courtright, we don't

19 like to give money when we are not going to

20 get repayment of any kind, so we will

21 investigate that this week and have the

22 answers for next week. All those in favor?

23 MS. EVANS: Aye.

24 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

2 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The

3 ayes have it and so moved.

4 MS. GARVEY: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A

5 READING BY TITLE -- FILE OF COUNCIL NO.

6 123, 2007 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE

7 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE

8 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY

9 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED

10 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND

11 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE

12 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

13 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)

14 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)

15 PROGRAM.

16 MS. GATELLI: You have heard reading

17 by title of 6-A, what is your pleasure?

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-A

19 pass reading by title.

20 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

21 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. I spoke with

23 Mr. Neverosky about the Hill Neighborhood

24 Association and he indicated that that

25 organization never received their allocation

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1 through CDBG and I also spoke with the

2 officials of Sloan Little League Association

3 who indicated that the despite two years

4 worth of allocations from the city that were

5 actually provided by the administration and

6 put before us for a vote, in other words,

7 they were not forthcoming from any council

8 member, but yet from the administration,

9 they have returned been turned down for that

10 money as a recently as a month ago. So, I

11 am very concerned about the fact that we

12 have two fine organizations who are

13 allocated funds and then do not receive the

14 funds and, of course, you know, the
15 administration could well say, well, they
16 don't qualify, however, when the application
17 was submitted, then reviewed, then
18 recommended and finally approved,
19 apparently, they had to have qualified. I
20 don't know what changes from one year to
21 another. I understand this is a low to
22 moderate income area requirement, but I do
23 know that, for example, other fields in the
24 area of West Scranton serve the same
25 children basically, the same low to moderate
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1 income children. I'm sure Mr. Courtright
2 could attest to that, whether it's, you
3 know, West Scranton Little League, Hyde Park
4 Little League, these are not affluent
5 wealthy areas and all are desperately in
6 need of assistance.
7 So, you know, I'm hoping, because I
8 really, I can't come up with a plausible
9 explanation, you know, I hope there is no
10 Tom foolery involved and I hate to see that

11 if it's the case and it makes one wonder can
12 anyone count their allocation there, so I
13 really would like to see those funds that
14 had been appropriated released to the
15 organizations to whom they were promised.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question,
17 Mrs. Gatelli? We are going to be making
18 changes, we discussed them in caucus this
19 evening, for the funding and I asked when we
20 send out whatever changes we want that we
21 ask, well, let's ask specifically why these
22 two people that were approved and now
23 getting the money and maybe we can get some
24 specific answers. If it's a legitimate
25 answer then if it's a legitimate answer. If
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1 they are not getting it for what Mrs. Evans
2 calls Tom foolery then that's not a good
3 thing, so maybe we just ask, Kay, when we
4 present our -- if we are going to send them
5 through you are changes, but if they can
6 specifically tell us why those two
7 organizations have not received their

8 monies.

9 MS. EVANS: And, I might add, if we
10 can include the background as I presented it
11 to all of you that, indeed, it was the
12 administration who reviewed and approved
13 what has changed.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Absolutely.

15 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
16 question? All in favor?

17 MS. EVANS: Aye.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

21 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The
22 ayes have it and so moved.

23 MS. GARVEY: Just for the record,
24 I'll just let you know we won't be passing
25 this to Seventh Order next week because we

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1 have to wait 30 days for OECD's compliance.

2 6-B. READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO.

3 124, 2007 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF

4 COUNCIL NO. 33 OF 2000, ENTITLED, "AN

5 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
6 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
7 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO
8 IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR
9 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
10 (AS AMENDED) TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
11 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
12 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)
13 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)
14 PROGRAM BY TRANSFERRING \$239,156.45, FROM
15 PROJECT NO. 95-33 CLEARING OF BANKS AND
16 STREAMS AND \$10,843.55 FROM PROJECT NO.
17 00-212 COMPUTERIZED MAPPING FOR A TOTAL OF
18 \$250,000 TO PROJECT NO. 07-150.13 COMMERCIAL
19 INDUSTRIAL LOAN PROGRAM.

20 MS. GATELLI: You have heard reading

21 by title of 6-B, what is your pleasure?

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

23 pass reading by title.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

25 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

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1 those in favor?

2 MS. EVANS: Aye.

3 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

6 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The

7 ayes have it and so moved.

8 MS. GARVEY: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR

9 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -

10 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 108, 2007

11 - APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE CITY OF

12 SCRANTON CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2008

13 PURSUANT TO SECTION 904 OF THE CITY'S HOME

14 RULE CHARTER.

15 MS. GATELLI: What is the

16 recommendation of the chair on finance?

17 MS. EVANS: As chair for the

18 committee on finance, I do not recommend

19 final passage of Item 7-A.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

21 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. We also received a

23 copy of a letter sent from Lackawanna County

24 Commissioner A.J. Munchak to Mayor Chris

25 Doherty dated today, September 25, regarding

1 the library system and it states: "Dear
2 Mayor Doherty, in today's paper as well as
3 in previous editions of the Scranton Times
4 you had submitted a capital wish list for
5 the Scranton City Council to consider in
6 2008. One item that concerns me as county
7 commissioner is the construction of a new
8 Scranton public library. I am not sure who
9 owns the Albright memorial building or the
10 children's library building, however, they
11 are part of our Lackawanna County library
12 system. Our annual budget by which the
13 county taxpayers support this system is in
14 excess of \$3 million per year. Therefore, I
15 am requesting that the county be involved in
16 the planning stages should council decide to
17 approve your capital wish list."
18 I had asked at last week's meeting
19 for a copy of the deeds to both of those
20 buildings and though I have not read them
21 completely, from what I perused I was able
22 to ascertain that the children's library was

23 sold, if you will, for a dollar in the
24 1980's by the Christian Scientist to the
25 County of Lackawanna, and as for the
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1 Albright Memorial Library that was deeded to
2 the City of Scranton and the people of
3 Scranton over 100 years ago and that
4 agreement is very specific even in terms of
5 the numbers that may sit on the board, what
6 the composition of the board members must
7 be, what the length of terms must be,
8 etcetera, so let's put it this way, it's
9 very early on but already it doesn't pass
10 the smell test.

11 MR. MINORA: Just so you know, a no
12 is a yes, it means not recommended, so we
13 don't have any confusion on the vote. A no
14 is voting in favor of passage. A yes is
15 voting against passage.

16 MS. GATELLI: And it has to be
17 updated every year?

18 MR. MINORA: The capital budget?

19 MS. GATELLI: The capital budget.

20 MR. MINORA: Every years.

21 MS. GATELLI: So it can be revised on

22 a yearly basis.

23 MS. EVANS: Well, it has been. It's

24 presented each year prior to November 15 and

25 it must be passed by council I believe by

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1 December 15 or so. However, it has been

2 sorely lacking in the requirements just as

3 this document is and as a result it wasn't

4 passed by us last year, it wasn't passed the

5 year prior to that or I believe the year

6 prior to that and it automatically becomes

7 effective even without council's approval.

8 MS. FANUCCI: What had happened in

9 the years prior when there wasn't one

10 submitted:

11 MS. EVANS: No, it was --

12 MS. FANUCCI: No, but years prior I

13 know that there was -- there were times when

14 council did not receive one from the mayor.

15 MS. EVANS: Well, that, I'm only

16 speaking of my term and --

17 MS. FANUCCI: Yeah, but do you know
18 whatever happened in that case where there
19 is not a capital budget at all?

20 MS. EVANS: No, because I have never
21 heard of that.

22 MS. FANUCCI: Yeah. It did happen,
23 that's why I was trying to figure out.

24 MS. GATELLI: Oh, yeah, there were
25 times when was one not submitted at all.

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1 MS. FANUCCI: I didn't know if that
2 was --

3 MS. GATELLI: And if you don't fund
4 it, you know, you are not committed.

5 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

6 MS. GATELLI: It's an unfunded -- it
7 doesn't say in the Home Rule Charter
8 anywhere that you have to fund it. Anyone
9 else on the question?

10 MS. FANUCCI: No.

11 MS. EVANS: Well, it just seems
12 thought like two wrongs don't make a right.
13 I think --

14 MS. GATELLI: But two Wrights made

15 an airplane.

16 MS. EVANS: That's true, but I --

17 MS. FANUCCI: Wow.

18 MS. EVANS: I do believe it's --

19 MS. FANUCCI: I'm a giggler and that

20 one --

21 MS. EVANS: That was a good one, but

22 I do believe in the letter of the law and I

23 do believe when a Home Rule Charter is

24 drafted and passed that, you know, it's not

25 a frivolous document and those who are

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1 elected should abide by it.

2 MS. GATELLI: Oh, I agree.

3 MS. EVANS: Nevertheless, many choose

4 not to or to selectively abide and I think

5 that's mos inappropriate.

6 MS. GATELLI: I agree with you there,

7 Mrs. Evans, and there are many places in the

8 Home Rule Charter that are violated every

9 single week by this council. Anyone else?

10 Roll call.

11 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Yes.

13 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

14 MS. FANUCCI: No.

15 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

16 MR. MCGOFF: No.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

19 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

20 MS. GATELLI: No. I hereby declare

21 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

22 MS. GARVEY: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION

23 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -

24 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 109, 2007

25 - AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF A PARCEL OF

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1 LAND ACQUIRED BY THE CITY THROUGH THE FLOOD

2 CONTROL PROJECT TO JEROME AND SUSAN M.

3 GENOVESE, D/B/A THE GARDEN PATH, INC., AS

4 PARTIAL COMPENSATION FOR A PROPERTY

5 ACQUISITION FOR THE LACKAWANNA RIVER FLOOD

6 CONTROL PROJECT.

7 MS. GATELLI: What is the

8 recommendation of the Chair on Community

9 Development?

10 MS. FANUCCI: As Chairperson for the

11 Committee on Community Development, I

12 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

14 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

15 call.

16 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

17 MS. EVANS: Yes.

18 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

19 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

20 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

22 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

24 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

25 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

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1 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

2 MS. GARVEY: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION

3 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR

4 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 110, 2007 -

5 ESTABLISHING PERMIT PARKING ON THE NORTH
6 SIDE OF THE 700 BLOCK OF EAST GIBSON STREET
7 FROM MOIR COURT EAST FOR NINETY SEVEN (97)
8 FEET.

9 MS. GATELLI: What is the
10 recommendation of the Chair on Public
11 Safety?

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: As Chairperson for
13 the Committee on Public Safety I recommend
14 final passage of Item 7-C.

15 MS. EVANS: Second.

16 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
17 call.

18 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

19 MS. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

21 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

22 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

24 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

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1 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

2 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

3 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

4 MS. GARVEY: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION

5 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR

6 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 111, 2007 -

7 ESTABLISHING A "NO PARKING" ZONE ALONG THE

8 SOUTHERLY SIDE OF MULBERRY STREET (S.R.

9 3027) FROM THE NOW VACATED HITCHCOCK COURT

10 TO MCKENNA COURT, THE SAME DISTANCE AS MOR

11 PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON THE MAP/PLAN

12 ATTACHED HERETO, TO ALLOW FOR SIGHT DISTANCE

13 FOR THE DRIVEWAY OF THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF

14 SCRANTON CAMPUS CENTER.

15 MS. GATELLI: What is the

16 recommendation what is the recommendation of

17 the Chair on Public Safety?

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: As Chairperson for

19 the Committee on Public Safety, I recommend

20 final passage of Item 7-D.

21 MS. EVANS: Second.

22 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

23 call.

24 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

1 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

2 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

3 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

5 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

7 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

8 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

9 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

10 MS. GARVEY: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION

11 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR

12 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO 112, 2007 -

13 REMOVING PARKING METERS ON THE SOUTHERLY

14 SIDE OF MULBERRY STREET (S.R. 3027) FROM THE

15 NOW VACATED HITCHCOCK COURT TO MCKENNA

16 COURT, THE SAME DISTANCE AS MORE

17 PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON THE SITE PLAN

18 ATTACHED HERETO, IN THE "NO PARKING" ZONE

19 ESTABLISHED TO ALLOW FOR SIGHT DISTANCE FOR

20 THE DRIVEWAY OF THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF

21 SCRANTON CAMPUS CENTER.

22 MS. GATELLI: What the recommendation

23 of the Chair on Public Safety?

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: As Chair for the

25 Committee on Public Safety, I recommend

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1 final passage of Item 7-E.

2 MS. EVANS: Second.

3 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

4 call.

5 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

6 MS. EVANS: Yes.

7 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

8 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

13 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

14 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

15 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

16 MS. GARVEY: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION

17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -

18 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 115, 2007

19 - REGULATING THE USE OF OUTDOOR FURNACES, AS

20 DEFINED HEREIN, ESTABLISHING ZONES FOR THEIR
21 AUTHORIZED USE, PROVIDING REGULATIONS FOR
22 EXISTING OUTDOOR FURNACES, AND PROVIDING
23 FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE.

24 MS. GATELLI: What is the
25 recommendation of the Chair on Community

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1 Development?

2 MS. FANUCCI: As Chairperson for the
3 Committee on Community Development, I
4 recommend final passage of Item 7-F.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

6 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
7 call.

8 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

9 MS. EVANS: Yes.

10 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

11 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

12 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

14 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

16 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

17 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

18 7-F legally and lawfully adopted. .

19 MS. GARVEY: 7-G. FOR CONSIDERATION

20 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

21 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 116, 2007 - SALE OF TAX

22 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 815 ADAMS AVENUE,

23 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO LACKAWANNA

24 INSTITUTE, 544 JEFFERSON AVENUE, SCRANTON,

25 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, FOR THE SUM OF

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1 \$4,500.00.

2 MS. GATELLI: What is the

3 recommendation of the Chair on Finance?

4 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the

5 Committee on Finance, I recommend final

6 passage of Item 7-G.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

8 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

9 MS. EVANS: Yes. As this was being

10 discussed this evening by council speakers

11 with regard to the identity or purpose of

12 Lackawanna Institute, I believe, I'm not

13 100 percent sure because this is going back

14 a few weeks now, but I believe the major

15 partner or perhaps sole owner would be

16 Mr. Paul Mansseur.

17 MS. FANUCCI: Yes, I had said that

18 earlier.

19 MS. EVANS: Oh, I didn't hear, I'm

20 sorry.

21 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the

22 question? Roll call.

23 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

24 MS. EVANS: Yes.

25 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

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1 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

2 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

4 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

6 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

8 7-G legally and lawfully adopted.

9 MS. GARVEY: 7-H. FOR CONSIDERATION

10 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

11 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 117, 2007 - SALE OF TAX
12 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 817 ADAMS AVENUE,
13 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO LACKAWANNA
14 INSTITUTE, 544 JEFFERSON AVENUE, SCRANTON,
15 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, FOR THE SUM OF
16 \$7,000.00.

17 MS. GATELLI: What is the
18 recommendation of the Committee on Finance?

19 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
20 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
21 passage of Item 7-H.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

23 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
24 call.

25 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

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1 MS. EVANS: Yes.

2 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

3 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

4 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

6 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

8 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

9 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

10 7-H legally and lawfully adopted.

11 MS. GARVEY: 7-I. FOR CONSIDERATION

12 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

13 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 118, 2007 - SALE OF TAX

14 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT THE CORNER OF LINDEN

15 STREET AND TAYLOR AVENUE, SCRANTON,

16 PENNSYLVANIA, TO LINDE TAYLOR L.L.C., 56

17 LEDGE DRIVE, LAKEVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA, 18438,

18 FOR THE SUM OF \$2,000.00.

19 MS. GATELLI: What is the

20 recommendation of the Chair on Finance?

21 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the

22 Committee on Finance, I recommend final

23 passage of Item 7-I.

24 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

25 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

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1 call.

2 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

3 MS. EVANS: Yes.

4 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

5 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

6 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

8 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

10 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

11 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

12 7-I legally and lawfully adopted.

13 MS. GARVEY: 7-J. FOR CONSIDERATION

14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

15 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 119, 2007 - SALE OF TAX

16 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 1736 PERRY AVENUE,

17 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO JAMES HOWELLS,

18 1740 PERRY AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,

19 18508, FOR THE SUM OF \$3,100.00.

20 MS. GATELLI: What is the

21 recommendation of the Chair on Finance?

22 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the

23 Committee on Finance, I recommend final

24 passage of Item 7-J.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

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1 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

2 MS. EVANS: Yes. I'm particularly
3 pleased to see 7-J in that the purchaser
4 apparently resides in a home adjacent to the
5 property that he is purchasing and I so
6 often hear from city residents who wish to
7 do just that and are finding great
8 difficulty cutting through the red tape, so
9 I'm very, very pleased to see that someone
10 has been able to do so.

11 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else? Roll
12 call.

13 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

14 MS. EVANS: Yes.

15 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

19 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

21 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

22 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

23 7-J legally and lawfully adopted.

24

25 MS. GARVEY: 7-K. FOR CONSIDERATION

1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -
2 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 120, 2007 - SALE OF TAX
3 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 2415 HERMANS AVENUE,
4 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO CLEMENT SKIRPAN,
5 2416 N. MAIN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
6 18508, FOR THE SUM OF \$4,000.000.

7 MS. GATELLI: What is the
8 recommendation of the Chair on Finance?

9 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
10 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
11 passage of Item 7-K.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
14 call.

15 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

19 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

21 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

23 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

24 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

25 7-K legally and lawfully adopted.

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1 MS. GARVEY: 7-L. FOR CONSIDERATION

2 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

3 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 1212, 2007 - SALE OF TAX

4 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 3 HERTZ COURT,

5 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO ROBERT F.

6 RIVIELLO, P.O. BOX 13, GOULDSBORO,

7 PENNSYLVANIA, 18424, FOR THE SUM OF

8 \$1,500.00.

9 MS. GATELLI: What is the

10 recommendation of the Chair on Finance?

11 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the

12 Committee on Finance, I recommend final

13 passage of Item 7-L.

14 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

15 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

16 call.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

18 MS. EVANS: Yes.

19 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

20 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

21 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

23 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

25 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

2 7-L legally and lawfully adopted.

3 MS. GARVEY: 7-M. FOR CONSIDERATION

4 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -

5 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 170, 2007 -

6 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

7 CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO

8 ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN

9 FROM THE COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING

10 LOAN PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 07-150.13 IN AN

11 AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000.00 TO REJUVEN

12 ESSENCE MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC TO ASSIST AN

13 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

14 MS. GATELLI: What is the

15 recommendation of the Chair on Community

16 Development?

17 MS. FANUCCI: As chairperson for the
18 Committee on Community Development, I
19 recommend Item 7-M pass.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

21 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. You might have
23 mentioned this before, I may not have heard
24 you because of my conversation with Kay and
25 our solicitor, but did you answer as to the
.

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1 use --

2 MS. FANUCCI: Yes. Oh, as to the use
3 of --

4 MS. EVANS: Of these funds.

5 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

6 MS. EVANS: In other words, can it be
7 loaned to --

8 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MS. EVANS: -- someone other than
10 Rejuven Essence or can be it used for --

11 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

12 MS. EVANS: -- a different project?

13 Yes.

14 MS. FANUCCI: Yes, they are going to

15 use it for different projects.

16 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else? Roll

17 call.

18 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

19 MS. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

21 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

22 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

24 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

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1 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

2 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

3 7-M legally and lawfully adopted.

4 MS. GARVEY: 7-N. FOR CONSIDERATION

5 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

6 RESOLUTION NO. 171, 2007 - AUTHORIZING THE

7 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS

8 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF

9 UNDERSTANDING WIT THE COMMONWEALTH OF

10 PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

11 BUREAU OF RIDE AND MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

12 REGARDING THE SEALING OF WEIGHTS AND

13 MEASURES IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON?

14 MS. GATELLI: As Chairperson for the

15 Committee on Rules, I recommend final

16 passage of Item 7-N.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

19 call.

20 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

21 MS. EVANS: Yes.

22 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

24 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

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1 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

3 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

5 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

6 MS. GATELLI: I hereby declare 7-N

7 legally and lawfully adopted.

8 MS. GARVEY: 7-O. FOR CONSIDERATION
9 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
10 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 172, 2007 -
11 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
12 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN
13 INVENTORY AND INSPECTION REIMBURSEMENT
14 AGREEMENT NO. 049013 WITH THE COMMONWEALTH
15 OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
16 TRANSPORTATION (PENNDOT) TO RE-INSPECT THE
17 LOCAL BRIDGES IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

18 MS. GATELLI: What is the
19 recommendation of the Chair on Public Works?

20 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
21 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
22 passage of item 7-O.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

24 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

25 call.

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1 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

2 MS. EVANS: Yes.

3 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

4 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

5 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

7 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

9 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

10 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

11 7-O legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MS. GARVEY: 7-P. FOR CONSIDERATION

13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -

14 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 173, 2007 -

15 ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE

16 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD

17 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OR

18 APPROPRIATENESS FOR PROJECT DESIGN ON THE

19 COLONNADE, LOCATED AT 401 JEFFERSON AVENUE.

20 MS. GATELLI: What is the

21 recommendation of the Chair on Community

22 Development?

23 MS. FANUCCI: As chairperson fr the

24 Committee on Community Development, I

25 recommend final passage of Item 7-P.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

2 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

3 call.

4 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

7 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

8 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

10 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

12 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

13 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

14 7-P legally and lawfully adopted.

15 MS. GARVEY: 7-Q. FOR CONSIDERATION

16 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

17 RESOLUTION NO. 174, 2007 - AUTHORIZING THE

18 SALE OF TAX CLAIMS TO THE REDEVELOPMENT

19 AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, AND

20 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PURCHASE AND

21 SALES AGREEMENT RELATING THERETO;

22 AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF MUNICIPAL REVENUE

23 SERVICES, INC. AND THE LAW FIRM OF ELLIOTT,

24 GREENLEAF, SIEDZIKOWSKI AND BALABAN RELATING

25 TO THE TRANSACTION.

1 MS. GATELLI: What is the
2 recommendation of the Chair on Finance?

3 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
4 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
5 passage of Item 7-Q.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

7 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
8 call.

9 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

10 MS. EVANS: Yes.

11 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Fanucci.

12 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

13 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

18 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

19 7-Q legally and lawfully adopted.

20 MS. GARVEY: EIGHTH ORDER. CITIZENS

21 PARTICIPATION II.

22 MS. GATELLI: Douglas Miller.

23 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council,

24 Doug Miller, President of Junior City

25 Council. I'd like to begin by announcing

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1 that the deadline for applications for the

2 vacancies on junior council has been

3 extended to next Monday, October 1, and,

4 again, applications are available at

5 Scranton High School and West Scranton High

6 School.

7 Last Thursday I had the privilege to

8 join members of city council and the mayor

9 as they joined University of Scranton to

10 unveil a project that will beautify six

11 blocks of Mulberry Street. The project

12 includes new sidewalks, street lighting,

13 landscaping and street improvements. This

14 1.2 million dollar project will be funded by

15 the University of Scranton as part of their

16 contributions to the city. I commend

17 Mrs. Gatelli for working hard to reach an

18 agreement on such a wonderful project not

19 only for the University, but for the Hill

20 Section. Mrs. Gatelli has been working hard
21 for a year to get nonprofits to contribute
22 to the city. This contribution is wonderful
23 and means more than a monetary contribution.

24 Improving our Hill Section will increase
25 property values and, therefore, attract

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1 people into our city. I want to thank the
2 University of Scranton president Reverend
3 Pilarz for caring about our city and wanting
4 to help improve our Hill Section.

5 Personally, I am very proud to have the
6 University as part of our community and I
7 believe they are a tremendous asset to this
8 city and the University of Scranton need to
9 continue to work together to make our city
10 better. City government can't survive
11 without nonprofits and nonprofits cannot
12 survive without city government. We need to
13 work closely and continue to invest in our
14 city. This project is the first step in
15 making our Hill Section better. The mayor
16 said it best, this project will have a

17 lasting effect on our city and he is
18 correct. So, again, I commend Mrs. Gatelli
19 and council for working with the University
20 and coming together. We are now restoring
21 pride, so congratulations, Mrs. Gatelli.
22 Tonight I am pleased to announce
23 another Scranton Junior City Council
24 project. Our project is titled, "Light up
25 the Park." The Scranton Junior City Council
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1 is raising funds to purchase Christmas
2 lights to decorate Connell Park in South
3 Scranton for the holiday season.
4 MS. GATELLI: Excuse me, could the
5 people in the audience please refrain from
6 talking, we can't hear the speakers. Thank
7 you. Sorry, Douglas.
8 MR. MILLER: That's okay. We are
9 working with the City of Scranton to add
10 more holiday spirit to our city. Connell
11 Park is the jewel of south Scranton and it
12 will lit up for residents and visitors
13 driving through the neighborhood. The

14 Junior City Council is also planning a
15 holiday celebration at Connell Park for
16 children in the city. Details will be
17 announced at a later time.

18 We are thrilled to be working on
19 such a wonderful project, however, it can't
20 be successful without the support of
21 businesses and residents all across the
22 city. We are asking residents and
23 businesses to consider making a donation
24 towards this project and you can send your
25 donations here to city hall, 340 N.

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1 Washington Avenue, 18503. For more
2 information you can visit us at
3 Scrantonpa.gov and also you can find us on
4 city council's webpage. Thank you.

5 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Sbaraglia.

6 MR. MORGAN: He went home sick.

7 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Spindler.

8 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,

9 Council, Les Spindler, city resident.

10 Mr. McGoff, it was a nice gesture to wish

11 the Jewish people Happy New Year, too bad

12 you were 12 days late.

13 Mrs. Fanucci, last week you said you

14 were elected by the taxpayers, well, I'd

15 like to beg to differ. Your election was

16 bought and paid for. Chris Doherty spent

17 a million dollars to win his election you

18 just road his coattails, nobody even knew

19 who you were, that's how you won.

20 Mr. McGoff --

21 MS. FANUCCI: Okay, Les.

22 MR. SPINDLER: -- you voted not to

23 support any legislation for the 500 block of

24 Lackawanna Avenue project that didn't

25 include Buono Pizza, how do you justify last

.

78

1 week voting in favor of that project? Are

2 you going to answer the question?

3 MR. MCGOFF: Did you want me to

4 answer --

5 MR. SPINDLER: Yes.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Or did you want me to

7 wait?

8 MR. SPINDLER: No, you can answer.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Because I felt it was a
10 good project.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Well, what then why
12 did you vote in favor before of not
13 accepting any legislation that
14 didn't involve Buono Pizza?

15 MR. MGOFF: I believe I explained
16 that last week or the week before.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Well, what was it,
18 that there was an offer made? What was the
19 offer, Mr. McGoff?

20 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, but we are
21 not going to engage in this repertoire.

22 MR. SPINDLER: Well, I guess you
23 don't want the truth to get out. You don't
24 even know what the offer was, do you,
25 Mr. McGoff? They were never offered to stay

.

79

1 in the project. They were offered to have
2 the building bought and you voted not to
3 have them excluded from the project so you
4 lied when you voted for that. Your

5 credibility is down the tubes.

6 Sundays newspaper there's a pictures

7 of the mayor's birthday party he had for his

8 mother, I bet there is more city business

9 done at that birthday party than there is at

10 these council meetings.

11 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Spindler, I suggest

12 you read today's paper.

13 MS. FANUCCI: How about something

14 productive, Les. How about something else

15 about the city.

16 MR. SPINDLER: Productive would be

17 if you left, Mrs. Fanucci.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Oh, come on. You can

19 come up with something. Come on, Les.

20 MR. SPINDLER: I went and paid my

21 sewer bill this week and it was -- it's a

22 disgrace. The sewer bill is almost double

23 what it used to be. I know it probably

24 won't happen, but I'm going to ask all of

25 the people of this city to boycott paying

.

80

1 their sewer bill and maybe they will lower

2 it because things are just getting out of
3 control in this city. People can't afford
4 to pay sewer bills that are almost double.
5 It's ridiculous.
6 Next thing, Mr. Fanucci, you said
7 Mulberry Street will look esthetically nice,
8 how esthetically nice is the 500 of
9 Lackawanna going to look with old sidewalks
10 on either side of the block which you voted
11 for? Another thing, I hope the high end job
12 with the Wall Street West project don't end
13 up the like the high end jobs with Southern
14 Union, we are still waiting for those.
15 Thank you.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mr. Quinn.

17 MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Taxpayers'
18 Association. Councilwoman Evans, I want to
19 thank you for coming to our Taxpayers'
20 meeting last week and meeting with
21 Representative Shimkus and discussing that
22 -- Shimkus Andrews and discussing the
23 extraction of the city tax from the total
24 tax in the City of Scranton. That is really
25 something positive and it goes along with

1 the theme of the Grapes of Wrath. I hope
2 Mr. Doherty follows that theme, but so far
3 he hasn't been following it.
4 I want to point out to and I want to
5 read a letter that was received, sent to
6 Mayor Doherty and to Attorney Amil Minora,
7 you must have received it this week, and I
8 hope city council received a copy, and a
9 carbon copy went to Gene Barrett, and it's
10 from the law firm of Walsh, Gold and Siegle,
11 Attorney Kenneth Randall, Esquire. "Dear
12 Mayor Doherty and Attorney Minora, our firm
13 has been contacted by Robert Quinn
14 concerning the preprocedures utilized by
15 your office and city council to impose an
16 increase in sewer rates for citizens such as
17 Mr. Quinn in contravention of the Home Rule
18 Charter and other applicable municipal laws
19 and regulations for the City of Scranton.
20 Specifically, Section 502 of the Home Rule
21 Charter requires an ordinance by city
22 council whenever charges for services

23 provided by municipal owned public utilities

24 are to be changed. This obviously was not

25 followed. As a result, Mr. Quinn and

.

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1 similar citizens stand to be substantially

2 prejudiced by your office's apparent

3 dereliction of duty. It is imperative that

4 you take whatever measures within your power

5 to rescind a prior increase in the sewer

6 rate for citizens such as Mr. Quinn.

7 Mr. Quinn has been informed of the

8 potential for a Writ of Mandamus to be filed

9 challenging the action undertaken by your

10 office. I anticipate that no such action

11 will be necessary and that your cooperation

12 in revisiting the matter of the sewer

13 authority can achieve the desired result for

14 individuals such as Mr. Quinn who are on

15 limited fixed incomes and cannot afford to

16 continue to be subject for increasing costs

17 for municipal services without a voice in

18 the matter. I trust you will respond

19 favorably. Thank you for your cooperation,

20 Attorney Kenneth R. Randall."

21 Also, last week I sent a letter to

22 Robert Rossi, who is doing the 2006 audit

23 and I asked him, me as the Taxpayers'

24 Association that they surcharge -- let me

25 finish this please, surcharge all elected

.

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1 officials and all employees that have

2 mismanaged any type of the programs, any

3 type of the ordinances or any funds during

4 the Year 2006, and these surcharges be

5 written in to the audit. Thank you very

6 much.

7 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

8 Mr. Jackowitz.

9 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz, South

10 Scranton resident, member of the Scranton

11 Lackawanna County Taxpayers' Association.

12 Mr. McGoff, next week, if you would, please,

13 can you give me an answer onto where the

14 asphalt machine is? Two years ago we spent

15 \$18,000 in conjunction with the Lackawanna

16 County to purchase this piece of equipment,

17 I would like to know where it is and how
18 many times the City of Scranton has used
19 this machine in the last two years, please.
20 And, also, I'd like it find out where the
21 pothole machine is. We have been looking
22 for that for many, many years and if you can
23 give me a location on the pothole machine I
24 would greatly appreciate that.

25 Mrs. Gatelli left, but I wanted to

.

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1 remind Mrs. Gatelli that airplanes crash and
2 people die and burn in them so I just wanted
3 her to know that.

4 Legion of Doom, fair, honest and
5 open government which in my opinion is not
6 exist in Scranton, Pennsylvania. I think I
7 witnessed that this afternoon or this
8 evening, but I'm not absolutely sure. 5-C,
9 Mrs. Fanucci gave us an explanation and I
10 was actually going to speak in favor of
11 this, Seccas, LLC, because I thought her
12 explanation was good, I felt good about it,
13 I felt we're finally getting some good jobs

14 and then Mr. Courtright spoke. If this
15 company is so good why do they need to
16 borrow three -- or get a grant, excuse me,
17 \$320,000 of public money? Please do not
18 answer until I'm done. \$270,000 of state
19 money and then another \$70,000 of city
20 money, taxpayers' money, public money. If
21 this company is so good why do they need
22 that?

23 Furthermore, the way this
24 legislation is written it says loan, does it
25 or does it not? It says right here it says
.
85

1 loan. That was the way you read it, Mrs.
2 Fanucci, loan.

3 MS. FANUCCI: But in the backup --

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: And it's a grant.

5 Again, fair, honest and open government.

6 This is a grant not a loan which means it's

7 not going to get repaid. Again, misleading

8 to citizens. This should have been in this

9 legislation and when it was read. If you

10 were up on it you would have known it was a

11 grant, Mrs. Fanucci.

12 MS. FANUCCI: I did.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Courtright knew it
14 was a grant.

15 MS. FANUCCI: So did I.

16 MR. JACKOWITZ: But when you gave
17 your recitation you did not say grant. You
18 did not mention the word grant. You
19 mentioned the loan. It's a grant. There is
20 a big difference. You do not pay grants
21 back, simple as that. Misleading in my
22 opinion and that's only my opinion.

23 Okay. According to the University
24 of Scranton, you know, I think the sign
25 speaks for itself, "Welcome to the
.

86

1 University of Scranton, a Jesuit University,
2 Gateway," Gateway, "to the University."
3 This is being done by the University
4 for the University. I appreciate the fact
5 that they are going to do six blocks in the
6 city but there is only four or five
7 properties on that block that belong to the

8 residents. They will bought by them, the
9 University of Scranton. Gateway to the
10 University of Scranton, a Jesuit University.
11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Brett McCloe.
12 MS. FANUCCI: I do want to say
13 something before you speak that was not
14 misleading. I knew it was a grant, we knew
15 the whole time it was a grant. In fact,
16 when Mr. Courtright said that I gave the
17 explanation of why because I had already
18 called to find out why. I don't try to
19 mislead people in this city and I don't
20 appreciate people coming up there and trying
21 to act like I do. You don't have to agree
22 with what I agree with. I do think this
23 company is worth it. I do believe that we
24 want people to come to the City of Scranton.
25 I want to bring in big business and as far

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1 as I'm concerned the harder we have to work,
2 and we have to put in some money to do it, I
3 think it's worth it. It's the only way we
4 are going to be able to survive later on is

5 to bring more people to this city. But
6 don't get up and accuse me of misleading.
7 Maybe you weren't on the same wave length I
8 was on, I read the back up, I knew exactly
9 where I was, that's okay, but please don't
10 try to act like I'm trying to mislead you in
11 any way. That's all I have.

12 MR. MCCLOE: Good evening. My name
13 is Brett McCloe, Scranton Taxpayer,
14 homeowner. I have a few questions and
15 comments I'm sure that it's crossed
16 everyone's mind at some point in time and it
17 has to do with the University of Scranton.
18 I was wondering why the city allows property
19 to be taken off the tax rolls that could
20 possibly have been used as a source of
21 income for the city? Couldn't the City of
22 Scranton created it's own student-type
23 housing authority and built, bought the
24 property on Mulberry Street and built it's
25 own dorms for the students and had them rent

.

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1 off of what is essentially a city owned

2 building? I believe that would have created
3 a positive cash flow for the city and yet
4 the city would be able to hold onto it's
5 land. I mean, Taylor has a landfill that
6 generates money for the people, what do we
7 have that generates money for the people
8 what we are hoping on is a whole bunch of
9 coffee shops and other things to just for --
10 those high paying jobs that you say are
11 coming here for every one of them it takes
12 eight \$7.00 an hour jobs to support one of
13 those high paying jobs and we have to look
14 at that and that is a big problem, a problem
15 that's created in class cities, I don't
16 think that's being looked at.
17 The University of Scranton is not
18 just a school, it's a multi-million dollar
19 business that does not have to pay property
20 tax. They have far too much invested to
21 just pick up and go. The schools prestige
22 and image is far to important for anyone to
23 use the threat of them leaving. I'm not
24 trying to be critical, but the \$300 million
25 impact on the City it's not because of the

1 University is somehow being charitable by
2 the shopping in our stores, buying our food
3 and working in our places of employment,
4 it's cause and effect. The students need
5 jobs, the students need food, entertainment
6 and shopping. It's a symbiotic
7 relationship. So, at this point in my
8 opinion we are even. They are not doing
9 anything extra for us.

10 The property that could possibly be
11 used as a revenue generator should never be
12 turned into tax free property that the
13 people of the city have to pay for and make
14 up the difference. Every tax free property
15 becomes in a sense a publically funded
16 project. If tax dollars are not coming into
17 the city it's coming out of our pockets.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Talimini? He left,
20 too. I don't have anyone else on the list.

21 Jimmy, come on up.

22 MR. STUCKER: I want to know why, I'd

23 like to know why people in Carbondale,
24 right, the cops in Carbondale took the pay
25 phone -- took the cell phones off people,
.
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1 the cops in Carbondale took the phones off
2 the people on Madison Avenue, the cell
3 phones. Now, I'd like to know why can't
4 that be done in Scranton and stop a lot of
5 people --

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: That's Carbondale,
7 Jim, we can't control what they do up there.

8 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, they should do
9 that in Scranton, and people are driving,
10 there is too many wrecks on the highway with
11 the cell phones they won't pull on the side
12 and I want to know why they can't do it? I
13 saw cops up there on the highways in
14 Scranton and the today they work today and
15 coming here they were on the cell phone. I
16 was at Mrs. Stulgis' party last night and
17 she told me to tell you to say hello, I
18 don't know her name so she told me tell you
19 all hello. And the Brass, the New Penny he

20 told me to tell you the same thing.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay, Jim.

22 MR. STUCKER: What about that barber

23 shop and the Murphy's Bar, that grass is

24 growing again, that grass has never been

25 cut.

.

91

1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Don't cut it. Last

2 time you got in trouble for cutting the

3 tree, don't go up there again.

4 MR. STUCKER: Yeah. What about that

5 house on Greenridge, are they going to tear

6 that down?

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: What house, Jim?

8 MR. STUCKER: By McGinty's, next door

9 to McGinty's on the other side of the alley?

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: We were looking on

11 the porch, we are checking into that one,

12 Jim. They had a bunch of junk on the porch,

13 right?

14 MR. STUCKER: Yeah. Yeah. Please,

15 and I live in John Doherty's building so I'm

16 happy where I'm at.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Good.

18 MR. STUCKER: And I'm getting

19 another scooter I hope next month I hope.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Don't ride it on the

21 street.

22 MS. GATELLI: Thanks, Jim.

23 MR. STUCKER: Before I leave I got to

24 raise my hand for that Brass Penny they're

25 looking. I told one of the girls told me at

92

1 the bar last night she said raise my hand.

2 Okay?

3 MS. GATELLI: Okay, thanks.

4 MS. HUMPHREY: Well, city council,

5 I'm glad to be back. I have a special

6 surprise for you. First, I want to extend a

7 special hello and good evening to Bishop

8 Timlin, Bishop Doherty, Bishop Timlin, and

9 all my women priests and extend to all of

10 the ambassadors of the United States,

11 President Bush I hope he hears this, my

12 mission is for peace. In order to get peace

13 you are to offer peace. In order to give

14 love, you are to offer love. This is a
15 teaching we are to love one another as God
16 has loved us and now I'm going to tell you,
17 first, I'm going to get on with city
18 business, and I'm going to say it and I want
19 you to think about everything what I have to
20 say. We need a museum, a lot of things are
21 boxed up and we should have our own big
22 museum here for the City of Scranton, not a
23 little one that has everything boxed up, I
24 was a Centennial Bell of Lackawanna County
25 and I was at Dolly Pardon twice when I was a
.

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1 thin little girl and now I'm a big Italian
2 momma. Nonna has arrived.
3 MS. GATELLI: There is nothing wrong
4 were that Phyllis.
5 MS. FANUCCI: Second.
6 MS. HUMPHREY: These are the things
7 that we need, the police department has a
8 beautiful place I thought a half of the run
9 of the place and they need interpreters
10 here, because in our time and what's

11 happening in this world and extending peace
12 and with the word that's going on we need
13 interpreters. It's imperative that we get
14 interpreters here because I want to invite
15 all nations, all presidents, all kings,
16 empresses to come to the City of Scranton
17 and pay homage to St. Ann and to our people
18 here. We have some doozies, but we have
19 more -- most of it is like 95 percent good.
20 I'm going to read you off something and I
21 hope you will give me some time for this
22 because this is something that's historical.
23 It's what we do for Christ in the hear and
24 now that will make a difference in the then
25 and there. His Excellency, secretary
.
94

1 general of the United Nations, Ben Camone,
2 New York Plaza. I need my helper here.
3 Come up here. I need you to help me with
4 this. You, come up here. You.
5 MS. GATELLI: Okay, thank you,
6 Phyllis.
7 MS. HUMPHREY: Okay, I'll just end.

8 Hillary Clinton, President Bush, Afamazon,
9 my letter of the Virgin Mary for Peace went
10 a few weeks in the middle east and I have
11 numerous people calling. In order to show
12 love be loved. We are to extend love and
13 peace and I do and people would not like
14 this, I do a welcome the Iranian person here
15 to the United States. We even are to love
16 our enemies, but we are to pray for them.
17 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Phyllis.

18 Anyone else care to speak?

19 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
20 About earlier in the meeting somebody asked
21 about some positive things we could do at
22 council, and I just think maybe there are
23 two positive things that we can do here at
24 council, one would be either to do a letter
25 of appreciation or some kind of notice from

95

1 the city for that lady that's painting the
2 viaduct over in south side, that's, you
3 know, I guess people look at art in their
4 own way and see what they want to see, but

5 this lady has been over there for the whole
6 summer really slugging away at that thing
7 and I really think it really shows a real, I
8 don't know, love for the city maybe, you
9 know, it's hard to really put it all into
10 words because, you know, the only one who
11 can really tell you why she was doing it
12 would be herself and I think it would be
13 good for the city to recognize that and for
14 a proclamation, whatever the council would
15 like to do, and the other thing is junior
16 council is holding an election and I would
17 personally like to say that I'd like to see
18 somebody who quit school who might be 16 or
19 17 years old to be placed on junior council
20 because they are just as much an asset to
21 the city as the students in school and they
22 also have something to contribute to this
23 city and I think that would be an important
24 signal to be sent to the community that
25 everybody is important and I think they

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96

1 should be able to serve on council until

2 their class would graduate and maybe that
3 would be some kind of incentive maybe for
4 them to go back to school, maybe they would
5 learn something here that they maybe would
6 be able to contribute something.

7 The last thing I have is we
8 previously discussed 7-A and I'd like to say
9 that if we are going to do a capital budget
10 and we have a population decline and it's
11 somewhere around 60,000 people maybe we
12 should invest in four or five industrial
13 parks inside of the city type and mass
14 transit and hopefully try to get light
15 industry into the city. I mean, we are
16 looking for corporations to open satellites
17 from New York City and I just had have to
18 say that you have to look at the people who
19 reside in the city and what their abilities
20 are in general. Yes, there are many college
21 educated people in the city, but there are
22 also many people looking for jobs at
23 McDonald's or light industry and they don't
24 have a conduit to those jobs and if we are
25 going to lift people out of poverty and

1 empower them maybe we have to give them
2 stepping stones to reach, I don't know,
3 financial security. So maybe council should
4 really consider that. I mean, it would help
5 the city. Thank you.

6 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mr. Dobson.

7 MR. DOBSON: Just when you thought
8 you heard enough. Dave Dobson, Scranton
9 Taxpayers' Association, resident of the
10 Scranton. One of the things that happened
11 here, and I don't really want to argue on
12 the loan or grant, it says on our paper a
13 loan, so that's the only thing I have to say
14 on that matter.

15 On the Industrial Park we have a
16 huge chunk of land down in South Scranton
17 and what I was trying to impress last week
18 was that say up in Covington Township the
19 neighbors are complaining because you have
20 wetlands and they are being besmirched and
21 lakes are being polluted and so forth, we
22 have coal land, old cola land, brown fields

23 that just hang around year in and year out
24 and nothing is being done with them and it'd
25 really be great and maybe if we built it
. . .
98

1 they would come, you know, just like the
2 movie.
3 And on this tax collection business,
4 it's very disappointing that somehow
5 something couldn't be worked out the people
6 with catastrophic situations. If somebody
7 wants to go to Atlantic City or one of the
8 casinos and tinkle their money away month
9 after month or run off and buy 100 lottery
10 tickets and complain because they are broke
11 that's one thing, but I really feel that at
12 least if somebody could substantiate through
13 a doctor or doctors or some type of
14 situation this was a catastrophe then they
15 shouldn't have to pay 2 or 3,000 back ten
16 times the amount of what they owe. It's
17 just ungodly to ask people to be able to do
18 this and nobody, the first bill I pay is my
19 property tax, very first bill. There is

20 nothing but trouble from there if you don't
21 pay it. I forgot to pay my trash bill,
22 well, what happened I forgot, I left it go
23 the last day, and came down town and
24 realized I forgot the bill itself, so I
25 couldn't pay it so it cost me ten bucks so
.
99

1 right there I should have paid three or
2 four months before that and then I wouldn't
3 have to worry about that, so I feel it's
4 really important that we treat people
5 decently and, I mean, we could pile leaves
6 up against the house or whatever and they
7 wouldn't inherit the money.
8 One other thing, Mr. McGoff, if you
9 ever want to talk to me or two or
10 three minutes on budget issue outside I'd be
11 willing to do it with you. Thank you.
12 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else? Chrissy,
13 you can't come up until you bring your
14 pom-poms.
15 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Jude, I know it's
16 the guy on the broom. What do you think

17 now, Judy? There it is, Baby, right in

18 front of you right now, Billy.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: West side, that's

20 it.

21 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hey, Bill, whose the

22 new guy tonight?

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: No, he is not

24 working tonight, we got a different officer.

25 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Ah, oh, better watch

100

1 myself. I want to say one thing, Janet,

2 good luck this weekend. I hope you guys win

3 all of your games, good luck, guys, thanks.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

5 MS. GATELLI: Except the bell. Next?

6 MR. LYMAN: I just got one thing,

7 Mrs. Gatelli. Mrs. Gatelli, I just got one

8 thing. Hold the time for a second, Amil, I

9 got to find it, wait until I find it, I

10 circled it, 7-A about the -- it's not a wish

11 list, but when you guys said about closing

12 the library, you know, people depend on the

13 library. I mean, the people of Lackawanna

14 County, I depend on the library, I got a
15 neighbor, Warren, across the Street who is
16 crippled, I got a one next to my house who
17 is deaf and go to the library. Now, Mayor
18 Doherty he will close that library, sell it
19 to Louis DeNaples just like he sold the
20 South Side Complex. If we remember the
21 South Side Complex that was on a wish list
22 and that went to sold to the University. If
23 we remember who is on that board and who is
24 president on that board of the University
25 it's Louis DeNaples. He is the president on
.

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1 the University of Scranton. Yes, he is.

2 Louis DeNaples is also president on the
3 board --

4 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Lyman, please don't
5 bring other people's names up here, okay?

6 MR. LYMAN: But it's the truth.

7 MS. GATELLI: I don't care what you
8 are saying. We don't talk about other
9 people here when they can't defend
10 themselves, all right?

11 MR. LYMAN: But it's the truth, but,
12 Mrs. Gatelli, and I'm asking the people of
13 Scranton and Lackawanna County to send
14 petitions to stop this because Mr. Doherty
15 will sell the library and we cannot let that
16 happen because he is selling the whole house
17 away, I mean, why don't we just open up the
18 bank rolls and give him that because that's
19 what's going to happen. We sold everything
20 else. We sold the golf course that should
21 have never been sold, we could have fixed
22 that up and we could have been making
23 millions out of that but, no, Mayor Doherty
24 gave that away and he had no right. That
25 should have went up to referendum and the
.

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1 people should have made that decision, not
2 this mayor who is never honest and in my
3 opinion he is cooked, and that's just my
4 opinion alone. Mrs. Evans and a lot of
5 people asked him for papers and he never
6 gave it and that might be my opinion only,
7 but he will sell this library and he will --

8 he said in the paper that he'd build a new
9 one, that never happened. He said about a
10 new ball field and that never happened and
11 it's going for now three years. You were
12 there, Mr. Courtright, when that agreement
13 occurred, do you remember, Mr. Courtright?

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes, I do, Ray.

15 MR. LYMAN: And a hundred thousand,
16 was it \$300,000 or \$100,000 the University
17 was supposed to give us for that new ball
18 field and that never happened and who is on
19 that board? Mr. DeNaples. Louis DeNaples,
20 not Dominic, Louis.

21 MS. GATELLI: You do have a good hat
22 on though, Ray.

23 MR. LYMAN: Thank you.

24 MS. GATELLI: Is this the caboose
25 already?

.

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1 MR. ANCHERANI: Yeah, all the time.

2 I know it's early.

3 MS. GATELLI: It's too early.

4 MR. ANCHERANI: I know.

5 MS. GATELLI: I'm not tired yet.

6 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening, Nelson

7 Ancherani, resident, taxpayer, city

8 employee, financial secretary of the FOP,

9 First Amendment Rights. Two weeks ago when

10 my three minutes were up I was speaking

11 about the \$35 million Scranton parking

12 authority bond that the city will be

13 responsible for or should I say the

14 taxpayers will be responsible to pay back it

15 the SPA defaults on it's payments. It

16 clearly says in Section 14 of the ordinance,

17 "This city hereby unconditionally guarantees

18 the full payment of the principal of

19 interest on the 2007 bonds the Authority

20 issued. That if the Authority or it's

21 trustee as paying agent of the authority

22 shall fail to pay the full amount of the

23 principal of and interest on such 2007 bonds

24 when the same becomes due and payable this

25 city will pay the full amount of such

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1 principal and interest for the registered

2 owners of such 2007 bonds."
3 That's in the legislation. Don't
4 forget, the city is already giving the
5 parking authority \$725,000 a year for the
6 SPA citation issuers, that's \$253,000 more
7 than 2006. Just think, the bond is for a 35
8 million principal for 33 years, the interest
9 for these 33 years is 59 million and the
10 total payments for those 33 years is 94
11 million. Now, when we add this 94 million
12 to the 300 long-term debt we are close to
13 400 million. Not bad for a city of 70,000
14 people, but not to worry, though, the mayor
15 will blame the unions.
16 And, Mrs. Fanucci, don't let the
17 chamber know of those high paying jobs
18 coming to Scranton. The police building,
19 Mr. Courtright, the parking lot isn't
20 finished. Also, the cracks in the walls and
21 the floor separation on the tile they
22 weren't repaired. Mrs. Fanucci, you like to
23 laugh, laughter is the best medicine, but
24 you sounded so happy when I saw you on TV
25 before, the cooperation with the University

1 and the city you almost got me so happy that
2 I was going to jump in my car and drive to
3 Guam. Thank you.

4 MS. FANUCCI: I heard that the mayor
5 bought a bridge to Guam and built it, but
6 I'm not sure if that's true. He might have
7 paid for it out of the money that he had
8 from last year's budget.

9 MR. ANCHERANI: I wouldn't doubt it.

10 MS. EVANS: Nelson, just one thing
11 that occurred to me as you were speaking
12 tonight about the parking authority, it does
13 seem a bit puzzling how the parking
14 authority was able to obtain a \$35 million
15 bond issue without the presence of the 2006
16 audit of the Scranton Parking Authority.
17 That still has never been produced.

18 MS. GATELLI: A motion to adjourn?

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

20 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

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2 C E R T I F I C A T E

3

4 I hereby certify that the proceedings and

5 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the

6 notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the

7 above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true

8 and correct transcript of the same to the best of my

9 ability.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI

13 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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