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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

LOCATION:

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

MR. ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

MS. JUDY GATELLI, VICE-PRESIDENT

MS. JANET E. EVANS

MS. SHERRY FANUCCI

MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MR. AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Here.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI. Here.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here. Dispense with
14 the reading of the minutes.

15 MS. GARVEY: THIRD ORDER. NO
16 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Any announcements that
18 are to be made?

19 MS. GATELLI: Yes, I have a few.
20 This Sunday at the Everhart Museum is called
21 Sunday in the park from noon until four and
22 it's free with a library card. It's part of
23 the Everhart Museum and the library system
24 events for the summer. Also, anyone who
25 wants to have their children join the summer

1 reading program at the Albright Memorial
2 Library, you can go to the children's
3 library and have your children sign up and
4 with that they have a passport for, oh, at
5 least 40 venues for the summer that the
6 children can go to and they will all be free
7 for them, and that's at the children's
8 library you can sign up.

9 Also, the Regional Equity Area
10 Actress, Agnus Cummings, is going to be
11 running a forensic and acting coaching
12 program at the Old Brick Theatre for the
13 summer for children age 13 through adults.
14 It's hourly classes and if you would like to
15 call to sign up the number is 903-0623, and
16 that's all. Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Thomas Schroeder of West
18 Scranton High School will be a junior this
19 fall. He is the only individual from West
20 Side to be chosen and to have the Honor to
21 play for the Moosic Mets. Moosic Mets
22 baseball is a fall showcase team that will
23 allow the players chosen to showcase their
24 talents. This team will be traveling to
25 major universities where many college

1 coaches and professional scouts will be
2 attend. The cost associated to play for
3 this team is \$800. The Moosic Mets and the
4 Schroeder family are seeking sponsors for an
5 ad book to help defray the costs and ads
6 sell for \$25, \$50 and \$100. Also, donations
7 will be accept. Ads and donations may be
8 mailed to: "The Schroeder Family, 501 North
9 Lincoln Avenue, Scranton, Pa., 18504.
10 Checks can be made payable to: "Moosic Mets
11 Baseball." It's a very worthy cause, it's a
12 great honor for this young West Scranton
13 High School student and I hope that be some
14 of you will elect to help him make his
15 membership in this a reality.

16 MR. MCGOFF: That's it? Anyone
17 else?

18 MS. FANUCCI: I have one thing to
19 say, my niece graduated from Scranton and I
20 wanted to say congratulations and we are
21 very proud of her. She is a wonderful,
22 wonderful adult now I have to say, but I
23 just want to congratulate her on her
24 graduation. Thank you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: I do have two things or

1 three things, and I'll just read this, I
2 just received it. The Department of
3 Community and Economic Development will be
4 hosting a training and technical assistance
5 section to discuss the local share account
6 funds under the Pennsylvania Racehorse
7 Development and Gaming Act of 2004 as
8 amended. I believe that it says that it's
9 an opportunity to learn more about the
10 application process. The training session
11 will be held Thursday, June 19, at Brennan
12 Hall at the University of Scranton at
13 3:00 p.m., and it says the public is invited
14 to attend and to participate in the
15 discussion period following the presentation
16 by DCED. So that's Brennan Hall, Thursday
17 at 3:00 p.m. dealing with local share
18 accounts through the Resource Development
19 and Gaming Act if anyone is interested.

20 Also, we received or I received a
21 letter of thank you from Rich Brozinski from
22 Telespond, we did send a letter on their
23 behalf. They were applying for the grant,
24 we just sent a response they had applied for
25 the grant, it's been submitted and they

7

1 thank us for our letter of support.

2 And, lastly, after some negotiations
3 between the school district, the city and
4 Lackawanna County the county three-on-three,
5 Lackawanna County three-on-three basketball
6 tournament is returning to the City of
7 Scranton. It originated on the streets of
8 the City of Scranton and then moved to
9 Lackawanna County Stadium for a number of
10 years, but this year it's going to be held
11 July 19 and 20 and will be conducted at the
12 Scranton High School parking lot which will
13 give them a little bit more visibility and
14 access to the tournament. Applications and
15 all should be out shortly. Anything else?
16 Fourth Order. First speaker, Andy
17 Sbaraglia.

18 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
19 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonian,
20 want to talk about 5-M, a few minutes on
21 that, that has to do with this loan to the
22 Scranton/Lackawanna -- Lackawanna College,
23 for Lackawanna College, and this is what
24 they wanted to do with the money, they want
25 us to furnish the new dormitory for the

1 college. They want us to pay for designing

2 equipment, and various other capital
3 improvements in connection with the facility
4 and college and they want us to pay for
5 their loan that they took out in 1998 when
6 they bought the, you know -- when they were
7 given, practically given the school. It
8 could be upward of \$50 million, we have no
9 idea what it's worth, there is no dollar
10 amounts in it, so, you know, what you voted
11 on, thank God there is another public
12 hearing coming on it.

13 Okay, let's move into "J". That has
14 to deal with our favorite group of people up
15 there at the municipal authority, they are
16 coming up, they want to be -- well, their
17 authority runs out this year and they want a
18 50-year lease on their authority and I
19 believe this is the time now to put a
20 quarrelsome in this thing where the people
21 in the Hill Section, the kids in the Hill
22 Section can use that pool for free like they
23 always did. This is the only time you are
24 going to be able to do it. I don't care if
25 what they do with the rest of the park, but

9

1 the pool should be open to the kids at least
2 in the Hill Section and it's a crime that

3 they are not. Okay, that's one. Let's go
4 to "I", our favorite one. This has to do,
5 of course, with Channel -- the new Channel
6 61. I call it Mayor Doherty's TV station,
7 you call it "EC", Electric City, okay, but
8 in all probability this thing is the
9 mayor's. He setup the commission that voted
10 on it. There is a lot of things being
11 lodged against it, but this commission that
12 he set up, I don't know if it's biased or
13 not biased, but I was told that one of the
14 members got a considerable COM-D block loan
15 before he voted so last year, so I don't
16 know if that had anything to do with voting,
17 but it does bring up ethics and that thing
18 should go before the Ethics Commission.

19 As you know, we had a lot of trouble
20 with 61 and the mayor. The mayor, not that
21 61 did anything, they only showed what
22 happened, what was going on here. We were
23 -- the cameras were pulled from this
24 chambers, okay, they were put back in, but
25 we almost had to go through a strip search

10

1 to come up here to speak, that wasn't called
2 for. That was ridiculous, but this shoes

3 the animosity this mayor had against the
4 people who ran this channel only because
5 they showed the truth. Without open, honest
6 and efficient government this republic will
7 collapse. It's time now for you to stand up
8 for what is right. You must look at your
9 conscience and believe is this going to be
10 open, honest and efficient or is it just
11 another play to get more money out -- you
12 know how this thing runs, \$90,000 given
13 away, I wouldn't even say -- I would say a
14 grant even though you call it a loan, but it
15 is a grant after three years, they don't
16 have to pay it back, so you give them the
17 \$90,000 where you wouldn't give the other
18 station anything only because the other
19 station showed the truth. They showed what
20 happened here, how it happened, this is
21 democracy in action and you want somebody
22 that's going to be there and say, well, we
23 are not going to show this, this looks bad.
24 We show it once and maybe we'll have it
25 replayed at 2:00 in the morning, so people

11

1 can't watch it like they should. Government
2 is important to be watched. It can never be
3 shown to many times. Even though it makes

4 some of the people look bad, so be ti, it
5 makes everybody look bad. Some of the
6 people at the podium I think they look bad,
7 too, but at least they come to the podium.
8 They are not saying things behind your back
9 they are saying it to your face and that's
10 all you can ask for democracy, people can
11 get up and speak to you face-to-face and not
12 behind closed doors or whatever or back
13 doors or whatever. Now is your chance to
14 really do something, look into the options
15 that you have at the present time and look
16 at the legal ramifications of what you are
17 doing. I thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
19 Mr. Sbaraglia. Ozzie Quinn.

20 MR. QUINN: Good morning. Ozzie
21 Quinn, Taxpayers' Association. I spoke with
22 the county commissioners, that's what's
23 printed in the paper and the school district
24 and just using the figures now that we used
25 in the last audit, we are now, just the

12

1 principle now, city taxpayers, city
2 taxpayers out of the same pocket are one
3 half billion dollars in debt principal. The

4 school district is \$185 million in debt in
5 principal. The commissioners \$287 million
6 debt principal and we have to use the
7 figures from the old audit, that's half a
8 billion dollars. That's just principal, so
9 what we are talking about long-term
10 indebtedness of a billion dollars.

11 Now, I know government officials
12 say, you know, you don't use long-term
13 indebtedness. Well, when I buy a car I
14 don't say I'm buying my car for \$20,000, I
15 include the interest. I just want to also
16 explain why this principal and with the
17 economic conditions that exist today not
18 only in Scranton, but throughout the world
19 and oil is now at \$5 a gallon for people and
20 there is approximately \$2,000 homes in the
21 City of Scranton and it will be \$10 in
22 January and if someone has a tank of
23 250 gallons that's going to be \$500 to fill
24 up that tank in January, February, and March
25 when your taxes are coming out.

13

1 So, I see that you are going to
2 transfer project money today from one
3 project to the other, I advise you to
4 transfer some more money into situations for

5 help health and safety of those people who
6 are going to be paid and will not be able to
7 pay because of the high taxes, the high wage
8 tax and the economic conditions that exist.

9 Now, with this ECTV being transferred,
10 this project, first of all, the Northeastern
11 Pennsylvania Public Access TV on February 19
12 filed a complaint with the Ethics
13 Commission, certified letters were sent and
14 received through receipts that they received
15 they have no idea, nobody has any idea that
16 they were received.

17 Now, going ahead and without due
18 process, without any procedural justice you
19 are going ahead and going ahead and going to
20 approve \$90,000, that's wrong. Your lawyer
21 will tell you that. I hope he will. Also,
22 the fact is that there is appeal by the
23 zoning board and they are putting that
24 money, OECD money into 933 Prescott Avenue
25 which is going to be used as collateral.

14

1 It's wrong. It's terribly wrong. You
2 are -- it's common sense you don't do these
3 things.

4 Also, now, looking at this loan this

5 \$90,000 it's for 13 years. Did you ever see
6 a loan in the City of Scranton 13 years? I
7 haven't. That's a grant. And you know what
8 happens, if they pay in three years, not pay
9 off, if they hire three people in three
10 years under the low to moderate income
11 criteria of HUD that loan is no longer in
12 existence, it's a grant, okay? No longer
13 they have to pay for that.

14 Now, that low to moderate income is
15 a national objective, they have to meet that
16 in order to get that loan, so obviously
17 someone is hoodwinking somebody somewhere
18 here and we the citizens whether it federal,
19 state or local money it's taxpayers' money
20 and we can't just throw it out the window
21 like this by using deception of saying that
22 it's an ordinance, pass it to a resolution
23 that we can use this money and mind you, no
24 public hearing by OECD as of yet, no public
25 hearing. It's outrageous. How can you even

15

1 introduce it without the Ethics Commission,
2 without the due process of the Ethics
3 Commission, without the appeal and without
4 the public hearing. It's just ridiculous
5 and you cannot do it and I urge you, please,

6 do not even introduce it today without
7 that -- without these elements that I have
8 just spoke about, and just put it aside.
9 Put it aside, please. Don't let the mayor
10 just be, you know, to the symbiotic three
11 that you have to do it. Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Scott Thomas.

13 MR. THOMAS: Good morning. My name
14 is Scott Thomas and I'm the Board of
15 Directors or Scranton Today and the current
16 operators of Scranton 61 and 62. I'm sure
17 we are all aware of the circumstances that
18 brought us to a place where Scranton Today
19 will be losing control of the channels and
20 Electric City TV will be taking over. I do,
21 however, think we need to be reminded of
22 this, the three member committee that
23 reviewed the bids selected ECTV without any
24 public input and they never revealed why
25 they chose ECTV except to say that theirs

16

1 was the best proposal, whatever that means.
2 When this decision was handed down we at
3 Scranton Today were disappointed and, yes,
4 some of us were outraged. We asked for no
5 start up costs. ECTV proposed \$313,000 in

6 start up costs. We had nine years
7 experience managing the peg channel, ECTV
8 had no experience.

9 We have been criticized for the lack
10 of diversity in our programming but this is
11 a misconception. Look at our proposal which
12 is on our website, it contains a long list
13 of the programs that we have offered over
14 the last nine years, programs that reflect a
15 multitude of topics and viewpoints.

16 People complained that we repeat
17 programs. This is true. This is a due to
18 equipment limitations. Our proposed first
19 year operating budget included equipment
20 upgrades that would have addressed this
21 problem and that budget was still less than
22 what ECTV was proposing. In my opinion, our
23 proposal built upon Scranton Today's proven
24 commitment to open government and free and
25 equitable public access and looked forward

17

1 to a future with exciting possibilities.

2 Since the committee never revealed why
3 they selected ECTV we are free to speculate.
4 Perhaps, it is because one of the
5 principals, Chris Balton, has a very
6 impressive resume in video productions. If

7 this is, indeed, why the committee chose
8 ECTV it shows they had a very poor
9 understanding of what peg channels are all
10 about. While we should always strive for
11 the highest technical and esthetic
12 standards, community access is really about
13 turning on the cameras, pointing the
14 microphones and hoping against hope that you
15 can see and hear your fellow citizens. What
16 it requires is a commitment to the mission
17 and not an impressive resume.

18 It is not easy. We are viewed by
19 some as a public relations arm for the city
20 because we once aired a program produced by
21 the mayor. Any innocent technical glitch is
22 interpreted as a political statement. We
23 have been blamed for scaring away
24 perspective employers. Chris Balton, the
25 main principal behind ECTV lacked the

18

1 commitment necessary to operate a peg
2 channel. When things got tough for ECTV
3 Balton bolted. His name was removed from
4 the ECTV website and the website itself that
5 he maintained was taken down. Who is left
6 at ECTV and do we know anything about their

7 commitment to open government and free and
8 public access?

9 Items 5-G and 5-I should not pass
10 and the city should reopen the bid process
11 for Scranton's peg manager, however, if the
12 dark day does arrive and ECTV does commence
13 operation we the citizens must insist that
14 they can continue to cover all municipal
15 meetings currently covered by Scranton
16 Today, that the meetings are broadcast at
17 times when most people are awake, that the
18 meetings are not edited or censored in any
19 way and that we the citizens, regardless of
20 our means or connections, are afforded
21 access to ECTV free of charge or constraints
22 so that we are not silenced when the plug is
23 finally pulled on Scranton Today. Thank
24 you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Barb O'Malley.

19

1 MS. O'MALLEY: Good morning. My name
2 is Barbara O'Malley, I'm a board member of
3 Scranton Tomorrow and a long time volunteer
4 with the station. My remarks are about the
5 potential funding for ECTV. In 1996 a
6 gathering of concerned and committed
7 citizens was convened by the founders of

8 Scranton Tomorrow. The meeting was the
9 first step of the forging the future
10 initiative by the City of Scranton. The
11 participants, called stakeholders, came from
12 all corners of this community with the
13 common goal, a better Scranton. Scranton
14 Today, better known as Channel 61, is an
15 outcome of this civic process. The founding
16 board members of Scranton Today,
17 stakeholders who participated in this
18 undertaking remain committed to the mission
19 that grew out of the forging the future
20 action plans, plans contained in this report
21 to the community.

22 The plans called for utilizing media
23 sources to encourage citizen involvement in
24 the political and government process, in
25 other words, an engaged and informed

20

1 electorate. In spite of this long-term
2 commitment, Scranton Today was not chosen to
3 continue managing 61, the station which has
4 brought government to the public for the
5 last nine years. Electric City TV was
6 selected instead. Electric City TV was
7 formed in January 2008 by cofounders Chris

8 Balton and John Darcy. Chris Balton
9 supplied the technical knowledge while John
10 Darcy, an employee of Paul Mansure, supplied
11 the studio space. ECTV's proposal
12 identifies Chris Balton as the station's
13 executive director of programming and the
14 entity who submitted the proposal.

15 The proposal states: "If you are
16 looking for someone qualified to run the
17 local peg station, Chris brings a wide range
18 of experience."

19 However, all indicators are
20 Mr. Balton is no longer associated with
21 ECTV. Today you have a loan agreement
22 between Scranton OECD and ECTV in the amount
23 of \$90,000 of taxpayer money on the agenda.
24 It appears that the remaining cofounder of
25 ECTV, Mr. John Darcy, will be the individual

21

1 responsible for signing the promissory note.
2 ECTV's proposal has no information on
3 Mr. Darcy's background or experience,
4 however, a check of public records at the
5 Lackawanna County Office of Judicial Records
6 reveals Mr. Darcy may not be suited to
7 assume fiduciary responsibility for the
8 funds. These public records cite two IRS

9 federal income tax liens against Mr. Darcy
10 totalling \$14,534.83 and a Commonwealth of
11 Pennsylvania tax lien against Mr. Darcy
12 totalling \$3,079.48 and a case from PG
13 Energy against Mr. Darcy as well as another
14 private business. Again, this is public
15 information which can be obtained at the
16 Office of Judicial Records at the corner of
17 Spruce and North Washington Avenue in
18 Scranton.

19 As council members, your
20 responsibility lies with the taxpayers of
21 the City of Scranton. Clearly, the
22 departure of Mr. Balton, who also has a tax
23 lien filed against him, and Mr. Darcy's
24 public record has made ECTV a poor choice in
25 which to invest public funds. Scranton

22

1 Today is a proven long-term entity who files
2 a legitimate 501-C-3 organization which
3 means they can raise funds which are tax
4 deductible, ECTV is not in spite of
5 television or newspaper reports.

6 Scranton Today is an organization
7 whose audit reports, financial reports, and
8 IRS 990's are on file for the public

9 inspection. Scranton Today has no debt, has
10 paid all of it's taxes, and is in compliance
11 with all local, state, and federal statutes.
12 5-I and 5-G on today's agenda funding ECTV
13 should be tabled and the bids for the
14 management of Channel 61 revisited based on
15 the information presented. I will leave a
16 copy of my findings with the city clerk.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Annette Palugis.

19 MS. PALUGIS: Good morning. I'm
20 Annette Palugis, I'm the vice-president of
21 the board of Scranton Today, Channel 61. In
22 summary, Channel 61 was denied the bid even
23 though it was a lowest responsible bidder
24 and ECTV who asked for a tremendous amount
25 of money was given the bid and this

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1 tremendous amount of money, even though it
2 was public information, was never published
3 anywhere, was never in the newspaper and it
4 was only referred to occasionally. And you
5 can imagine our surprise and our outrage
6 when we discovered that the city was going
7 to spend something like \$300,000 for a
8 station that we already had in existence,
9 that we had a start up costs and so forth,

10 but we decided we would try to walk away
11 with some dignity, which I believe sometimes
12 is an oxymoron in this town, and we accepted
13 that.

14 On May 20 I opened a paper and saw,
15 and I wrote it down so I could quote it
16 exactly, saw this headline, "ECTV not
17 seeking start up costs. Mayor Doherty said
18 ECTV must obtain it's own funding and he has
19 not agreed to provide money to the
20 organization."

21 Well, what happened to the bid? I
22 always assumed when you put in a bid and the
23 bid was accepted then the terms and
24 agreements of the bid were also going to be
25 enacted. All right. The saga goes on.

24

1 Today you have a motion before you that
2 suggests that OECD will be a vehicle for
3 \$90,000 for ECTV. Now, what happened to
4 this statement that they must seek their own
5 start-up costs? This is like working with
6 Jello. You know, first you say do, then you
7 say you don't.

8 Decisions and statements that are
9 made here are made on innuendo, rumor,

10 whatever. I can't honor that and I'm here
11 to speak the truth and the dead elephant in
12 the middle of the room here is that we did
13 not receive the bid, we did not receive the
14 bid for the TV station because the mayor had
15 personal grievances against the station.
16 This is not rumor, this is not innuendo
17 because the mayor said this to me many times
18 personally and now you are going to give a
19 \$90,000 to a group of people that our
20 evidence points to doesn't appear to be the
21 type of people that should be running the
22 station, and the man who had all of the
23 credentials for all intensive purposes seems
24 to be gone, and I guess he realized it was a
25 losing battle or whatever, but now we are

25

1 going to give this money to people that have
2 no experience in television. Is that a
3 valid use of taxpayers' dollars?

4 And there is two other things on
5 need to clear up: One, I am sick to death
6 of everybody implying that it's Channel 61's
7 fault that there is chaos at some of these
8 meetings. Channel 61 is just the camera.
9 We record what you do. We don't even edit,
10 and then in one of these articles at the

11 same time we were accused of being
12 political. If we were political we would be
13 editing what you say, but we don't have the
14 bid because we weren't political.

15 And, finally, I think it's time that
16 you took some responsibility for your
17 actions. I was a teacher for 44 years. If
18 my principal came into my room every week,
19 month after month, year after year, and my
20 room was in complete chaos and if I said to
21 him, "Oh, it's not my fault, it's these
22 terrible students you gave me."

23 And, finally, ladies and gentlemen,
24 I ask you to please today table this motion,
25 investigate the material that we gave you,

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1 put this out to bid again and return some
2 dignity and honesty to city government. We,
3 the taxpayers, we deserve better. Thank
4 you.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Spindler.

6 MR. SPINDLER: Good morning, Council,
7 Les Spindler, city resident, homeowner.
8 Council wants to transfer \$90,000 to ECTV,
9 well, many times in the past Mrs. Fanucci
10 has always stated that grant money can only

11 be used what it was originally intended for,
12 so why can you transfer this money to ECTV
13 now? Maybe because it's going to benefit
14 Chris Doherty? In the past you couldn't
15 transfer grant money, but now all of a
16 sudden you can transfer it and this is being
17 a little hypocritical. You have to vote
18 this down today and do something to get
19 Scranton Today back running Channel 61.
20 Let's do what's right for the people of the
21 city for a change.

22 Last week I was reading in the
23 Doherty newsletter that again the city is
24 going to appeal another lost arbitration and
25 in the Doherty newsletter city lawyers are

27

1 arguing that it's a violation of the revised
2 Recovery Plan.

3 Well, what the Doherty newsletter
4 doesn't say is that Mayor Doherty violates
5 his own Recovery Plan with new hires and big
6 raises he gives his friends, so it's only a
7 one-sided statement in the Doherty
8 newsletter and Mayor Doherty is just
9 throwing out more taxpayer dollars.

10 Also, a day or two later in the
11 Doherty newsletter there is a story about

12 tax law requires monthly reports because the
13 city hasn't been getting from the tax office
14 and Mayor Doherty says, and I quote, "Am I
15 supposed to know every law?"

16 Well, yeah, if you want to run the
17 city and run it the right way you are
18 supposed to know what the law is. If you
19 want to be mayor know what's going on.

20 Okay, this is really interesting.
21 Last week in the supermarket a woman came up
22 to me and stated that her son plays soccer
23 down in the South Side complex every Sunday
24 and in the beginning of this before the leak
25 started every team had to come up with \$500.

28

1 Every Sunday every person that plays has to
2 come up with \$20 and this money goes to the
3 University of Scranton. How could this
4 money go to the University when they do not
5 own this field yet? This is in litigation,
6 they do not own this field. I went down
7 there Sunday and spoke to some people and
8 they pay money. There is a sign there
9 "Property of the University of Scranton."

10 That's a lie. They do not own this
11 field. It's in litigation and your

12 solicitor can tell you that. This is just
13 another way maybe of Chris Doherty giving
14 the \$700,000 back to the "U" that the city
15 got from them, so I think there should be an
16 investigation into this. These people
17 should not be paying money to play soccer
18 there on Sunday afternoon, and then they
19 don't let people play softball there, they
20 only let people play soccer on Sunday.

21 The next thing, it was always stated
22 here by whoever was council president that
23 nobody could come back to this podium and
24 speak a second time, yet two weeks ago Doug
25 Miller was allowed to come back to the

29

1 podium and speak a second time, so is it
2 going to be one way or another, but now a
3 precedent has been set so now everybody
4 should be able to come to this podium and
5 speak twice.

6 Lastly, can somebody explain to me
7 why these meetings are 10:00 in the morning
8 and not noon like they have been every year?
9 Mr. McGoff?

10 MR. MCGOFF: We chose 10:00.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Why? Is this just
12 another way to stick it to the speakers that

13 come to these meetings because a lot of
14 people can't get here at 10:00?

15 MS. FANUCCI: It's all about you,
16 Les.

17 MR. SPINDLER: You know, some of you
18 do work. I'm talking, all right? Some of
19 us do work, I was able to switch my lunch
20 today and get here at 10:00, but it's really
21 inconvenient and it's just another way of
22 the council majority to stick it to the
23 taxpayers, and you are very ignorant,
24 Mrs. Fanucci.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me.

30

1 MS. FANUCCI: Right back at you, Les.

2 MR. SPINDLER: There is no excuse for
3 you.

4 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus. I want to
5 mention about Channel 61. The reason you
6 don't want Channel 61 here is because it
7 exposes you for what you are, Judy Gatelli,
8 Bob McGoff and Sherry Fanucci, and that's
9 the bottom line, selection here, and you
10 don't want people to see what you do, how
11 you act, how you treat people, and you don't
12 have control, you want control, that's why

13 you want to get rid of 61. Channel 61 is
14 like an x-ray machine, it exposes you, it
15 sees right through you for the people to see
16 what you really are and that's why you are
17 afraid of them, and you will do anything in
18 your power, and you don't listen to the
19 people, that means nothing. You are going
20 to go and do what you want like you do every
21 other time.

22 Now, I want to address and change
23 the subject here a minute and go back to the
24 subpoena issue since there was no meeting
25 last week conveniently. It says in the Home

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1 Rule Charter, "The council may make
2 investigations," now, Mr. Minora made a
3 statement when Judy was going to ask about a
4 subpoena and said that council may make an
5 investigation, he wanted them to make an
6 investigation first, I'm quoting, "The
7 council may make investigations into the
8 affairs of city and the conduct of any
9 department, office or agency and in aid of
10 it's legislative powers and functions they
11 may issue subpoenas for these purposes."

12 Meaning, you order the subpoena
13 first and then you do the investigations.

14 Mr. Minora says whatever he wants to make
15 people believe what he is saying is true
16 when it's not. I asked Judy, I called her
17 on the phone and I asked her if she would
18 ask for a subpoena and she promised me that
19 she would. Then she said she was going to
20 call Mr. Minora and I said, "All you have do
21 is get the reasons, you stated you had to
22 have reasons, there is plenty of reasons,
23 look at the paper, you can find ten reasons
24 why you want to subpoena him."

25 Okay, she promised me she would ask

32

1 for a subpoena. Comes to the meeting,
2 Mr. Minora says, "Oh, Mr. Rinaldi and
3 Mr. McDowell, they are going to come in."

4 Nobody said they are going to come
5 in, maybe Mr. Rinaldi did, but Kenny
6 McDowell said he would, nobody could find
7 the man, standing on the street corner, but
8 you can't get him to answer any questions.

9 Again, the Scranton Times, Stacy Brown
10 puts in, "Judy Gatelli wants the subpoena on
11 Kenny McDowell," makes her look good. She
12 looks good saying to Mr. Minora, "I want a
13 subpoena."

14 In reality she does not want a
15 subpoena. No way does she want a subpoena.
16 She, Mr. McGoff and Mrs. Fanucci are all
17 covering for Doherty to take care of
18 Mr. McDowell, so the conversation --

19 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me --

20 MS. FANUCCI: That's in accurate and
21 I won't let you say that about me.

22 MS. FRANUS: Point of order.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Wait, to say it is not
24 fact.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Point of order is that

33

1 you are making accusations.

2 MS. FRANUS: I am. It's my opinion.

3 MR. MCGOFF: No, it's not.

4 MS. FRANUS: In my opinion.

5 MR. MCGOFF: No, it's not an opinion.

6 It's not an opinion.

7 MS. FRANUS: It's my opinion that

8 you are covering up.

9 MR. MCGOFF: That's not an opinion.

10 MS. FRANUS: That's not an opinion
11 that you covering up?

12 MR. MCGOFF: That's it's improper and
13 out of order.

14 MS. FRANUS: Okay, I'm going to say

15 it again, in my opinion you are covering it
16 up. That's my opinion.

17 MR. MCGOFF: That's not an opinion.
18 Just because you use the word does not make
19 it an opinion.

20 MS. FRANUS: All right, listen to
21 me.

22 MR. MCGOFF: It's out of order.

23 MS. FRANUS: Okay, I'm out of order,
24 now, so be it, now you continue to listen,
25 it's my turn. Now, I'm saying when I spoke

34

1 to Mrs. Gatelli on the phone she said she
2 was not going to ask for a subpoena because
3 she was going to listen to her attorney.
4 Okay. Since Mr. Minora doesn't feel there
5 should be a subpoena why doesn't somebody
6 else ask for a subpoena? I said, "Okay,
7 suppose Mrs. Evans and Mr. Courtright did,
8 would you vote for it?"

9 She said, "No."

10 I rest my case.

11 She said, "There is nothing I can do
12 to satisfy you."

13 I said, "Yes, there is, you could
14 ask for a subpoena."

15 She wouldn't and it went back and
16 forth.

17 Then a couple of weeks ago when I
18 called she was busy and she didn't get back
19 to me until four days later and then she
20 said to me, "Here is my cell phone number
21 instead of my home number, call this number
22 any time you want I'll be glad to call you
23 back," which was nice. So, that day I call
24 here and about the subpoena. At the end of
25 the conversation because she didn't want to

35

1 ask for a subpoena and I was putting her
2 feet to the fire about it because I really
3 wanted her to and she wasn't going to do it,
4 but she says at council she wants to and
5 says in the paper to make herself look good,
6 she said to me, "This is a private number,
7 if you call this number again I will call
8 the police and I will have you arrested."

9 I said, "Okay."

10 She repeated it again. I said,
11 "Judy, you have to be crazy, you just gave
12 me this number and told me to call whenever
13 I wanted," but that's neither here nor
14 there.

15 I don't know what to say here. I

16 just don't want to say. I think I had a
17 right to say what I felt with her and she
18 basically is just telling them one thing to
19 try to get me off her back and she figures
20 if she says what I want to hear.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Franus.

22 MS. FRANUS: And one more thing, it
23 says there shall be a meeting, Home Rule
24 Charter says, Mr. McGoff, one question it
25 says the it says here, for the meeting that

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1 was cancelled last week, I called you, you
2 called me back.

3 MR. MCGOFF: And I responded.

4 MS. FRANUS: Yes, you did and thank
5 you. It says here in the Home Rule Charter,
6 "Council shall meet once a week in a regular
7 session in regular council chambers."

8 Shall meet, and you said to me that
9 you were busy and others were busy, you
10 should have been here. You should have
11 reschedule it for Friday night.

12 MR. MINORA: If I may, if I may just
13 so it's clear, she only gave you a half
14 dissertation of the law, we are also
15 governed by the Second Class City Municipal

16 Code which contains an in-depth requirement
17 before subpoenas are issued by council, I
18 think I have explained that to you in the
19 past, that does not mentioned to you by the
20 last speaker.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Marie Schumacher.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher.

23 I'll start off with my typical question when
24 you make transfers and may I ask how much
25 will remain in account 02-0234 if this

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1 transfer is, in fact, approved?

2 If you go to the OECD page and click
3 on doing business in Scranton you will find
4 a 14-page document. On page seven, you will
5 find information on the Grow Scranton Fund
6 which I will quickly read: "Financing
7 business enterprises most often requires
8 outside assistance. The most appropriate
9 first step is to contact a private lending
10 institution. You will need to provide a
11 business plan, cash flow projections,
12 three year's company tax returns if
13 applicable, personal financial statements,
14 and personal tax returns also three years.

15 A great many public and private funding
16 sources that may offer financial support to

17 new businesses are also available. One
18 example is the Grow Scranton Fund
19 administered by Scranton's Office of
20 Economic and Community Development which
21 offers loans from \$25,000 to a \$1 million,
22 SBA guaranteed, low equity requirement,
23 flexible underwriting, community based, no
24 prepayment penalties, loans may be used to
25 purchase real estate, renovate business

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1 premises, by inventory, machinery and
2 equipment or serve as working capital."

3 So, you can see that if, if 5-I was
4 really a loan and not a grant which is in
5 essence a gift from the taxpayers a separate
6 account would not be required. The OECD
7 Grow Greener Fund could have been used.
8 There are also other funding sources
9 available such as the Lackawanna County
10 Industrial Development Authority, so the
11 real question is why the subterfuge, why the
12 slight of hand that presents something as a
13 loan but is really a grant or a gift as
14 explained by Mr. Osborne earlier?

15 When a company is being formed
16 employees are needed so setting the

17 requirement for converting this loan to a
18 gift by hiring three people. Now, how could
19 you not do that? So, is it really and truly
20 a gift, it's a grant from the get-go and I'm
21 sorry that the mayor chose this subterfuge.

22 This \$90,000 could have been used to
23 help many in the community, just today there
24 was a complaint about disabled people
25 driving their battery powered chairs in the

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1 street instead of the sidewalk. Scranton
2 Police Captain Graziano responded, "The way
3 some sidewalks are cut doesn't allow for the
4 motorized chairs to be ridden safely on
5 them."

6 And the disabled users need to be
7 accommodated by allowing the motorized
8 chairs and scooters on streets. This
9 \$90,000 could be used to make the streets
10 safe. The needs of this distressed city are
11 many and very real. This slight of hand
12 ordinance should be retitled the reverse
13 robin hood ordinance is it takes funds
14 provided for the poor/low and middle income
15 people to give to the rich.

16 Per ECTV's lawyer the documentation
17 that would allow them to be tax exempt is

18 not even filed so, in fact, they are not
19 collecting tax free donations they are
20 dependent on the city taxpayers and I think
21 that is wrong, wrong, wrong.

22 Next topic, last week I picked up
23 this brochure, it's a nice glossy brochure
24 on Nay Aug Park, the mayor is prominently
25 mentioned in the middle of the first fold

40

1 and I would like to read what it says down
2 here about pool and waterslide complex,
3 "Open Memorial Day through Labor Day."

4 Now, even the monopoly newspaper got
5 it correct last Saturday when it reported
6 the opening of the city's pools is
7 traditionally tied to the Scranton School
8 District calendar. Who is in charge of
9 disseminating this incorrect information?

10 And speaking of who is in charge, at
11 the May 6 meeting Mr. Courtright stated that
12 the civil service test wasn't given. Why
13 isn't -- I'm sorry, wasn't given fast enough
14 so there was no where to draw or police
15 officers.

16 Now, who was in charge of scheduling
17 the civil service exams? Mr. Courtright,

18 would you please answer that during motions
19 today. I'll be back with the rest next
20 week. Thank you.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
22 Schumacher. Dave Dobson.

23 MR. DOBSON: Good morning, City
24 Council, Dave Dobson, resident, member of
25 the Scranton Taxpayers' Association

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1 associate. I'd like to also speak for
2 Channel 61 today.

3 Some things I would like to point
4 out, I made a small list here, Channel 61
5 has been denied allocations and lost paid
6 employees and many of the complaints
7 recently about programming and so forth are
8 prompted by this because they just don't
9 have the ability with the small amount of
10 money that they have requested to go on and
11 it's really a shame to fault somebody after
12 when you are actually implicated in the part
13 of the problem. It's inexpensive, it's
14 unedited.

15 My involvement with them I had to
16 drop off my seat at the table on the
17 Taxpayers' Association and become
18 videographer because we lost our

19 videographer and that's why you have seen me
20 at times up there getting instructions so
21 that I don't mess up the broadcast. A few
22 weeks ago I hit the wrong button due to some
23 changes in the board and we lost video. So
24 certainly I was more than interested in
25 straightening that out.

42

1 Now, on some of these public
2 subsidiaries or public donations, when WVIA
3 lost it's tax subsidiary, their programming
4 started to change and I'm not criticizing,
5 but, for instance, there was a program to be
6 aired, the high cost of shops at Wal-Mart
7 and apparently Wal-Mart coaches it's
8 employees and advises them on how many
9 welfare benefits they will qualify for at
10 their wage level and their amount of members
11 of their family and so forth and in essence
12 you are paying, you are paying the wages so
13 somebody could show up at Wal-Mart for a job
14 and it was never aired. We got to do
15 instead a fundraiser and several months
16 later, well, I noticed that Wal-Mart had
17 donated money to WVIA or PBS, public
18 broadcasting system more or less.

19 George Seldice once -- he was a
20 newspaper man back in the earlier part of
21 the last century and he was the author of a
22 book "Tell the Truth and Run" and he pointed
23 out how many newspapers and so forth they
24 are full of commercials, they are full of
25 ads and if you crossed these people your

43

1 newspaper is finished, it's not going to be
2 -- it's not ever going to get the ads, you
3 can't call somebody a desk post and walk
4 away and expect them to run a two-page ad
5 and he actually had -- he actually had
6 cancellations of articles because the
7 people -- the news issues he was covering
8 took out a four-page ad.

9 And constantly describing citizens
10 as terrorizing in the Times that's -- people
11 can watch this and see that we are not
12 terrorists and I kind of resent any kind of
13 implication that we are harassing people or
14 terrorizing them.

15 Dave Allen was he was connected with
16 the other proposal and he has written
17 several letters to the Ethics Committee and
18 signatures have been given for this -- these
19 letter deliveries and nobody seems to know

20 anything about them. The review board,
21 well, a few weeks ago I noticed the person
22 speaking from the review board that awarded
23 that contract and she was complaining about
24 having the pay high fees for vendors and so
25 forth, well, sometimes we reap what we sow.

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1 I'll be back next week hopefully and thank
2 you and have a good day.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?

4 MR. LYMAN: Raymond Lyman. I got a
5 couple of questions, number one, about
6 Electric City TV, I think it's kind assadine
7 (ph) that Electric City should not be given
8 this \$90,000. Scranton Today should be
9 here, here and forever for, number one,
10 those cameras should be put back on the air.
11 Chris Doherty should not have a right to
12 take those cameras out. Now, I know
13 Scranton Today took them out, but for one
14 they should be put back on because there is
15 somebody else running for mayor, a poor guy
16 and it's not Gary DiBileo it is me because I
17 think Chris Doherty, now, I can't use the
18 word criminal, but he did acts that in my
19 eyes are wrong, \$12.9 million, him and Ken

20 McDowell, Andy Jarbola, Andy Jarbola said in
21 the Scranton Times no crime was committed,
22 those were his words. The FBI raided the
23 tax office. Rinaldi, the lawyer, for the
24 tax office didn't do nothing about it, right
25 there suspicious, kind of didn't do nothing.

45

1 Rinaldi owes back taxes, but yet you four
2 pass an ordinance to steal people's houses
3 away. I'm ashamed of that, and you four are
4 going to pass this ordinance because you do
5 everything with the mayor says.

6 Amil Minora, Gilhooley worked for
7 the county and he was on city council, Amil
8 Minora works for the District Attorney, he
9 is also city solicitor, I don't think he
10 should be sitting there as city solicitor.
11 I think that's criminal.

12 MR. MCGOFF: That's out of order.

13 MR. LYMAN: That's not out of order.

14 It's my opinion.

15 MR. MCGOFF: It's out of order.

16 MR. LYMAN: Well, remember Gilhooley.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me.

18 MR. LYMAN: Gilhooley was a city
19 councilman and he was a warden and there was
20 a law that says you can't have two jobs.

21 Amil Minora is a district attorney and he is
22 city solicitor and I want that investigated.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Please

24 MS. FANUCCI: Ray, he can have two
25 jobs.

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1 MR. LYMAN; don't you tried to
2 threaten me because I'm running for mayor.

3 MS. FANUCCI: I'm not threatening
4 you. Obey the rules.

5 MR. LYMAN: I am obeying the rules,
6 I'm not fighting with nobody.

7 MS. FANUCCI: Well, you are not
8 allowed to say statements that aren't
9 accurate and say things about people.

10 MR. LYMAN: I'm not threatening, I'm
11 not fighting with nobody, but it is the
12 truth.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Ray, move on to
14 something else, would you, please? Okay?
15 Go onto something else.

16 MR. LYMAN: Number two, I want -- we
17 have people here that said we fight with
18 city council, you guys fight the people.
19 You guys act like, you know, the child. I
20 went to Duryea, I wasn't to their city

21 council meetings and people come up to me
22 and they say, oh, you go to those city
23 council meetings and they said to me, it's
24 not the people that go to city council that
25 speak, it's your city council members that

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1 act like fools and I'm not putting you guys
2 down but if the shoe fits wear it.

3 MR. MINORA: I have to correct
4 another legal fallacy that the Hatch Act
5 applies to federal employees holding public
6 office not appointed --

7 MR. LYMAN: Well, Gilhooley --

8 MR. MCGOFF: Quiet, please.

9 MR. LYMAN: (Unintelligible comment.)

10 MR. MINORA: If I could just finish,
11 is that he demonstrated a very poor
12 understanding of a Hatch Act.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

14 Mr. Gervasis.

15 MR. GERVASI: Good morning, City
16 Council. My name is Dave Gervasi, I'm a
17 citizen of the City of Scranton. I have
18 just a few comments, and I'm sorry, I wasn't
19 coming, I heard some controversy and it's
20 what motivated me to come down here. Before
21 I make the comments I want to make I just

22 want to bring everybody through a brief
23 little history lesson because, you know, we
24 have been beat up in the newspaper for years
25 when the union leadership that come here to

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1 speak, fire, police, clerical, DPW and just
2 a little bit of a review because for some
3 reason you feel a little bit vindicated when
4 some very, very credible come up to speak.

5 Years ago when we started coming to
6 meetings talking to city council about
7 various issues we had with the city, before
8 the cameras were rolling, by the way, all of
9 a sudden it seemed that this administration
10 they tried everything in their power to get
11 these cameras turned off over the years and
12 I don't think we have to review details, but
13 I think everyone remembers why it may have
14 taken four months to paint this chamber and
15 how hard it was for everyone to find out
16 where the meetings were going to be next and
17 that used to be during the referendum
18 campaign or the Recovery Plan and it was
19 obvious and transparent to most of us that
20 worked for the city why the mayor was to
21 doing things like that because he didn't

22 want people to get the information.

23 As that proceeded I mean, maybe
24 Mrs. Fanucci can look, and I went back in
25 that little back room because the last time

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1 they tried to throw Channel 61 out of there
2 they were done HVAC work back there, I was
3 there the other day, we were at a meeting
4 there and I went back just to check on it
5 and they never did any HVAC work back there,
6 that was another lie by the mayor and some
7 of his cabinet members.

8 So these things happen over and over
9 and over again and, of course, the newspaper
10 and the powers that be here in city hall
11 what they would do instead of trying to
12 dissuade people from coming to council
13 meetings or trying to dissuade Channel 61
14 from taping council meetings or from showing
15 council meeting. For years what they would
16 do is attack the speakers, we all heard the
17 names, Legion of Doomers, and all of that,
18 Nelson comes here and very eloquently at
19 every meeting reminds you of the names we
20 have all been called, but I can understand
21 why some people would believe that because,
22 you know, basically we are special

23 interests, myself, you know, I'm a
24 leadership in the fire union, so I have told
25 people over and over and it's been on tape,

50

1 it's been on live TV that what I say is
2 true, I'm not coming here lying or playing
3 political games I just kind of tell it like
4 it is and counter what the newspaper or the
5 mayor has said about our department and
6 other union leaders have done that and the
7 citizens have come on behalf of their
8 neighborhood associations or on behalf of
9 themselves, and for years and years and
10 years it just seems like it was very obvious
11 to all of us that they were just trying to
12 shut us down.

13 Now, today I come and I see three
14 people, three very, very, very fine credible
15 upstanding citizens from the City of
16 Scranton who volunteer their times for
17 charitable organizations, civic
18 organizations and other things. I have been
19 acquaintances with one or two of them, and
20 they come here and they tell you, frankly,
21 right out that Mayor Doherty didn't like
22 Channel 61 and what was being at council

23 meetings. And obviously, I think, well, to
24 me, my opinion is they told the truth what
25 they said here today and I think it was very

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1 courageous for them to come up and do that
2 and tell everyone the truth. You heard it
3 here today. The mayor doesn't want council
4 playing, so it kind of vindicates every else
5 over the years that have been fighting this
6 like Mr. Courtright and Mr. DiBileo and
7 Mrs. Evans who have been fighting to keep
8 these cameras rolling and what do we have?

9 Well, I'm a firefighter, so I'm going
10 to cut to the chase and give you my
11 speculation and my opinion. This has been,
12 and we have said it here before, this is
13 nothing but a hostile takeover so that they
14 can suppress the information going to the
15 citizens of the City of Scranton and
16 especially now and my big question I have
17 now is why is Mr. Balton not there anymore?
18 I had an occasion to speak to Mr. Balton a
19 few times and he seemed like a pretty
20 upstanding reasonable guy who actually had a
21 problem with Scranton Today because they
22 weren't showing council meetings enough.

23 And I also know in talking to members

24 of the board of Scranton Today that they
25 were being pressured by this administration

52

1 to shut these cameras down and they would
2 even go so far as to drag Austin Burke out
3 of the Chamber of Commerce to say it's
4 causing businesses to not come to the City
5 of Scranton, which is ridiculous.

6 This has been the MO for this
7 administration since the beginning and now
8 you heard it today from very, very credible
9 people. Don't listen to a union head or a
10 council crazy or whatever they call us, you
11 heard it from credible people. This thing
12 needs to be tabled, this thing needs to be
13 thrown out and you need to give Scranton
14 Today people that will sit on a board who
15 also has members that are closely affiliated
16 with Mayor Doherty and they sit there and
17 they decide what's played and what's not
18 played and they do is it because they are a
19 complete group of this community and they
20 make the right decisions and they have been
21 making the right decisions from this time on
22 and they should be running this because they
23 are not going to be prejudiced, they are not

24 going to edit anything and they are going to
25 show real life democracy at work, and I

53

1 thank everybody for coming today. Thank you
2 for letting me speak.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gervasi, can I just
4 ask you one question, it has nothing to do
5 with what you said?

6 MR. GERVASI: Sure.

7 MR. MCGOFF: The torch run on
8 Friday, do you have any information?

9 MR. GERVASI: That would -- the
10 police usually run it. Talk to the police
11 department.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

13 MR. LASKE: Hi, Amil?

14 MR. MINORA: Mrs. Laske.

15 MR. LASKE: Hi, everybody. I come
16 down and I listen to these speakers and I
17 have to say I agree with them
18 wholeheartedly, they are not selling you a
19 bill of goods, somebody wants Channel 61
20 off. No, I haven't been down here for a
21 long time for the simple reason it's like
22 whipping a dead horse. To talk to you, it
23 falls on deaf ears. Now, this is why I'm
24 here today and I hope Judy comes back in

25

time to hear this, the mayor wants to borrow

54

1 \$11 million, this is just my honest opinion,
2 I think that the time has come when the
3 mayor has borrowed enough money, put the
4 city in the whole deep enough, it used to be
5 that my grandchildren had a chance to get
6 out of hock, now, I have two great
7 grandchildren and they are going to be
8 indebted with what his shenanigans. He
9 borrowed millions and millions of dollars, I
10 fail to see the city moving forward. Our
11 roads are deplorable, there is more houses
12 for sale than there have been in my lifetime
13 and I am 80 years old. My God, when is it
14 going to stop?

15 Now, I can't do anything about
16 making the decision about telling hem not to
17 borrow \$11 million, I come here as a
18 taxpayer and ask you to tell Mr. Doherty,
19 and it's nothing personal, Chris is a friend
20 of mine, that he has borrowed enough, we
21 have went the limit and I'm not doing it
22 anymore. If you need my house that bad,
23 1092 West Market Street, come up and take
24 the darn thing. I'm paying too many taxes

25

and I just can't afford it anymore. Thank

55

1

you. Now, let your conscience be your

2

guide. Judy?

3

MS. GATELLI: Yes.

4

MR. LASKE: Hurry up back. I got a

5

minute left. I gave a speech here for you

6

and it's -- I just come to see you, baby.

7

Okay, Judy, I'm here to ask you, I'm asking

8

the council as the five people that could

9

stop Mr. Doherty from borrowing \$11 million

10

more. Now, what you do, let your conscience

11

be your guide, but I'm going to tell you

12

one, I don't give mad often, but you are

13

going to have a mad Lithwok on your hands if

14

you give him any money at all. Thank you

15

very much.

16

MR. HUBBARD: Good evening, Council,

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Daniel Hubbard. The purpose of this

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statement today is to rescind the multiple

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accusations and negative remarks I have made

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at Scranton City Council meetings regarding

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Daron Northeast. The following statements

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which were made were misleading, malicious

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and without merit. Among the false

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statements I made about Daron Northeast

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where I stated that they were not in

1 compliance and that they exploited loopholes
2 to get the company up and running.

3 Daron Northeast followed the proper
4 variances with regard to manufacturing
5 operations in the City of Scranton and did
6 nothing to exploit the City or the zoning
7 officials. Daron submitted all proper
8 applications and received all appropriate
9 approvals to begin it's operations in 2003.

10 I also stated that Daron Northeast
11 violated local zoning ordinances 30 some
12 times. I have and still have no basis for
13 that accusation. To my knowledge there is
14 not one zoning ordinance being violated by
15 Daron Northeast at this time.

16 I have accused the city
17 administration of protecting Daron Northeast
18 and lining their pockets as a result of
19 that. I have no basis for that accusation
20 whatsoever. Daron Northeast has followed
21 all proper channels and guidelines
22 establishing it's business within the city
23 limits.

24 My statements accusing Daron
25 Northeast of long-term damage as a result of

1 their operations and operating illegally and
2 polluting the environment and killing
3 residents were made recklessly and without
4 any merit whatsoever. I have no reason to
5 believe that these statements have any truth
6 whatsoever. For these reason, I am hereby
7 retracting the above statements that I made
8 about Daron Northeast at city council
9 meetings.

10 I hope council appreciates and
11 enjoys the time with their family while they
12 have it over the summer. Thank you and have
13 a good day.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Hubbard.

15 MR. MCCLOE: My name is Brett McCloe,
16 Scranton taxpayer. I think that was
17 probably one of the saddest things I have
18 ever heard. I don't know what it is about
19 this city that makes people have to bow down
20 -- excuse me, that thing just teared me up a
21 little bit. I wanted to say something, I
22 haven't been here in a couple of -- a month
23 or so and I guess what I was writing over
24 the past couple of weeks it really comes
25 around. One of the things that always

1 passed through my mind was how overrated the
2 notions of leadership, how overrated it is.
3 How do we follow -- the traditional Scranton
4 response is what you just heard, do as you
5 are told. I'm sorry, I just got a little
6 overwhelmed because what I saw here was
7 exactly what I was writing about.

8 Mrs. Gatelli made a compelling
9 statement three weeks ago, she said she was
10 finance chairperson by default. How does
11 such a strong-willed person, a feisty person
12 such as herself get put anywhere by default?
13 What kind of message did this send to the
14 people of Scranton? How do we follow?

15 Mr. Courtright, as a marshal art's
16 instructor, a teacher of decisive thinking
17 above all, you know the mental discipline it
18 takes to hurl a man through the air, break a
19 board with your hand and endure things I
20 can't even imagine. Every scenario has a
21 carefully choreographed set of decisive
22 moments that affect the outcome of any
23 engagement. You are always thinking, but
24 somewhere between the motions and agenda
25 items you get handcuffed and blindfolded by

1 red tape and bureaucracy.

2 I think you need to ask yourself
3 what you need to do to make every issue a
4 fair fight. Don't let bureaucracy get in
5 the way of your gut instincts and your
6 decisions how do we follow. How we follow
7 says more about what and who we are as a
8 people than all of the accomplishments and
9 all of the leaders in Scranton combined.

10 Some follow out of fear. I think
11 sometimes we just might have saw that. Some
12 follow out of losing standing within the
13 community or hope for a favor or reward, the
14 city has played with those types and it
15 shows in how we vote both politically -- how
16 we vote both locally and nationally.

17 At the opposite end of the spectrum
18 are those who follow a vision that does not
19 directly benefit themselves, who bring real
20 progress and real prosperity. In World War
21 II, manufacturing and political leaders of
22 our country came up with a vision on how to
23 supply our troops with the arsenal of
24 democracy. It was the passion of the
25 followers who got the job done.

1 overwhelmed me a little bit to see what
2 happens to people in this town because of
3 the power structure and the way you guys do
4 business.

5 MS. KNIGHT: Geraldine Knight, I'm a
6 resident of Scranton and I haven't been here
7 for a long time. Two things have been
8 bothering me the most, one was what our
9 money was doing in the federal bank. That
10 startled me and Mrs. Evans offered \$20,000
11 to keep Channel 61. Now, if -- I don't know
12 how much money will it make, but I gather
13 you are in quite a bit of a -- not a \$25,000
14 a year job, and not that that makes any
15 difference, but if you were going out to buy
16 a TV and there was only two on the counter
17 would you by the one for the 20,000 or would
18 you by the one that was close to \$300,000
19 which is not going to give you nothing but
20 garbage. So, if you all -- if you have any
21 brains, which I'm -- only know a few out
22 there that do, think about it.

23 And second of all, when I think of
24 all the bank and the money I was a teller in
25 two banks, one in New York and one up here

1 in Pennsylvania, and when I opened up
2 accounts for people there were always names
3 written, signed on the bottom and you got a
4 social security card and you got their
5 driver's license and they were copied, whose
6 name is on this account that has all of this
7 money in the federal bank, can anybody tell
8 me up there? I'd like an answer now not
9 when I leave.

10 MS. FANUCCI: Are we talking about
11 the tax office?

12 MS. KNIGHT: Yeah.

13 MS. FANUCCI: Okay, so when you
14 saying about accounts --

15 MS. KNIGHT: Yeah, but do you --

16 MS. FANUCCI: -- and what name was
17 on it, what were your -- well, it was done
18 electronically. It was not -- there was not
19 someone who goes everyday and says, "Here's
20 the specific --"

21 MS. KNIGHT: No, no, no. That
22 account had a name -- when it first started
23 there had to be a name, I beg your pardon,
24 Honey, there had to be a name on the
25 account.

1 MS. FANUCCI: Well, Kenny's, but it

2 was the tax office, it's the tax office
3 account so it would be whoever was in charge
4 of the tax office at the time.

5 MS. KNIGHT: Whose name?

6 MS. FANUCCI: Actually from what I'm
7 gathering now that account actually had
8 money in before Ken, so it might have
9 actually been whoever was beforehand, so I'm
10 not sure.

11 MS. KNIGHT: We have an attorney over
12 here, so brilliantly you are, I hear.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me. Excuse me.
14 You are being given an answer and you are
15 not listening.

16 MS. KNIGHT: I didn't want. She is
17 not really knowing -- I know what she was
18 trying to say, but she is a whipping it
19 around.

20 MR. MCGOFF: No. She is a giving you
21 an answer and it would be the same answer
22 that Attorney Minora would give you or I'm
23 assuming anyone else on council. Deposits
24 were being made through the tax office by
25 the tax collector whoever it was at the time

1 that the deposits were made.

2 MS. KNIGHT: Who was that then?

3 MR. MCGOFF: At different times -- at
4 one point in time it was Ken McDowell, prior
5 to that it was Joe Doherty, I think prior to
6 that he Ed Walsh, so whoever was the tax
7 collector at the time.

8 MS. KNIGHT: So in quote, all of
9 these three quote gentlemen knew about it?
10 If you are putting the money in --

11 MR. MCGOFF: There was an account
12 that's already been added to.

13 MS. KNIGHT: If you are putting the
14 money in.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, they knew there was
16 an account, that's already been admitted to,
17 not admitted to --

18 MS. KNIGHT: But if you are putting
19 the money in every week and you are coming
20 back with a statement every month or weekly
21 or however they do it you would know that
22 you have \$100,000, 200, 300, 400 and I don't
23 how much interest on top of that. So, how
24 come these three people get away with this
25 and is allowed to do it? How do you people

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1 up there -- and you know what bothers me the
2 most, Judy, you are one of them.

3 MS. GATELLI: I figured I would be
4 one of them. That wasn't hard to figure
5 out.

6 MS. KNIGHT: And I'm not against
7 religion, but you are the first one that
8 always says, oh -- yeah, my five minutes are
9 up. Go ahead.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Knight.

11 MS. KNIGHT: But, Judy, you go to
12 church on Sunday --

13 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

14 MS. KNIGHT: Next time --

15 MS. GATELLI: That's none of your
16 business if I go to church or not.

17 MS. KNIGHT: The next time you open
18 your mouth --

19 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Knight, your time
20 is up.

21 MS. KNIGHT: The next time you open
22 your mouth to receive the Lord make sure --

23 MR. MCGOFF: Oh, excuse me --

24 MS. GATELLI: Oh, stop it. Stop it.
25 I am not going to take the Lord's name in

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1 this chamber, now stop it. Shame on you.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Knight --

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MS. KNIGHT: Shame on you.

MS. GATELLI: Shame on you. Shame on you talking about the Lord like that. Shame on you.

MS. KNIGHT: I'm not ashamed of anything.

MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Knight --

MS. KNIGHT: You should be.

MS. GATELLI: Well, I'm not.

MS. KNIGHT: You should be.

MS. GATELLI: Well, I'm not.

MS. KNIGHT: Because you're stupid, that's why.

MR. COURTRIGHT: Oh --

MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Knight, I'm going to ask you to leave these chambers.

MS. GATELLI: You know whose campaign she'll be on.

MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, I'm going to ask you to leave the chambers, please?

MS. KNIGHT: Why?

MS. FANUCCI: Why?

MR. MCGOFF: Because you were out of

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1 order, you were being incendiary and I'm not
2 going to tolerate it for the rest of the
3 meeting.

4 MS. KNIGHT: Oh, but you tolerate
5 it --

6 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, I'm asking
7 you to leave.

8 MS. KNIGHT: I'll leave, but I'm
9 coming back and I will keep coming back and
10 (unintelligible) including you, you and you.

11 (Whereupon Mr. McGoff bangs the
12 gavel.)

13 MS. KNIGHTS; keep doing it until I
14 walk out the damn door.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you for justifying
16 my request.

17 MS. GATELLI: Unbelievable.

18 MR. UNGVARSKY: Good morning, city
19 council, I'm Tom Ungvarsky and I'm a member
20 of the Scranton/Lackawanna County Taxpayers'
21 and I, too, would like to talk about 5-G.
22 As you probably think, would you please
23 answer these questions after I'm done
24 speaking, sir? As you probably know, there
25 are several actions being taken against

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1 ECTV, I wonder if any of these actions are
2 fruitful what will happen to the \$90,000
3 that ECTV receives? Also, I was of the

4 understanding that the agreement with
5 Mr. Balton and the City of Scranton. Now,
6 that Mr. Balton has left ECTV what happens
7 to the agreement? It seems like it should
8 be null and void.

9 One other point, I understand or I
10 have heard a rumor that a roof might be put
11 on the 933 building and would that be
12 covered under this \$90,000? And probably
13 the last thing I have to say is after about
14 six months of bickering over Channel 61, why
15 is it that ECTV has never appeared, has
16 never made a statement, has never clarified
17 their position, they have been strangely
18 silent about their transaction and maybe you
19 can invite them here before you pass this
20 ordinance. Thank you. Before I leave,
21 would you answer those questions for me,
22 please?

23 MR. MCGOFF: On the first question
24 what will happen to the \$90,000?

25 MR. UNGVARSKY: Yes, if they lose any

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1 of their -- the actions started against
2 them?

3 MR. MCGOFF: I would assume that
4 since it's a loan that they would be

5 required to -- well, if any of those -- that
6 I can't answer.

7 MR. UNGVARSKY: Maybe it's something
8 you should discuss before you pass this?

9 MR. MCGOFF: I would assume that if,
10 in fact, they were removed as operators of
11 the public access channel that that money
12 would be returned to the city.

13 MR. UNGVARSKY: Okay. How about if
14 they spend it?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Since it is a loan I
16 would assume that whatever costs are
17 occurred while they are operating it would
18 be --

19 MR. UNGVARSKY: Are they offering
20 any collateral to back up that loan?

21 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, the equipment and
22 the property and --

23 MR. UNGVARSKY: I thought we were
24 buying the equipment?

25 MR. MCGOFF: Well, that becomes the

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1 collateral for the purchase.

2 MR. UNGVARSKY: Well, if we bought it
3 for them I don't know how it's collateral,
4 but going on, the agreement between

5 Mr. Balton and the City of Scranton, what
6 happens with that since Mr. Balton --

7 MR. MCGOFF: The agreement is between
8 the company ECTV --

9 MR. UNGVARSKY: That was
10 Mr. Balton --

11 MR. MCGOFF: -- television, well,
12 it's more than one person.

13 MR. UNGVARSKY: Well, I think you
14 should look into that before you pass this
15 ordinance. What about the roof?

16 MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry?

17 MR. UNGVARSKY: What about if they
18 put a roof on is that covered under this
19 \$90,000?

20 MR. MCGOFF: I don't know anything
21 about that.

22 MR. UNGVARSKY: There was a rumor
23 that they would be putting on a roof for
24 that 933 Prescott Avenue.

25 MR. MCGOFF: I don't know anything

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1 about a roof, so I don't know.

2 MR. UNGVARSKY: Maybe we should check
3 on that, also, and maybe you would invite
4 channel -- well, ECTV to appear here and
5 present their case. I thank you for

6 answering the questions or trying to anyway.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.

8 Ungvarsky, and I think the invitation to
9 someone from ECTV would probably be proper.

10 MR. UNGVARSKY: Thank you.

11 MR. ELLMAN: Ronnie Ellman, homeowner
12 and member of the Taxpayers' Association.

13 Well, Mr. McGoff, I didn't vote for you, but

14 I think you are doing well up there and

15 trying to handle some

16 unacceptable exhibitions like, you know,

17 Mr. Miller, threw a temper tantrum up here

18 and then he wants to retreat to the table

19 and say, "I'm a kid, you can't criticize

20 me."

21 It can't be both ways, it's like

22 being pregnant, you are or you are not. He

23 wants to stand up here and then he can be

24 criticized like the rest of us.

25 And Stacy Brown's unacceptable

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1 article in the paper that week of an

2 interview I suppose was nothing but a bunch

3 of half truths, it was biased, it was

4 outrageous to say these people out here are

5 capable of hurting someone that comes to

6 this table. The last year or two I've
7 talked to six, eight, ten of Mr. Miller's
8 peers here and there and a couple of parents
9 and a grandmother, I even mentioned the
10 grandmother one time, and the reason he is
11 at that table alone is because he has got a
12 bad attitude problem from his peers, every
13 single one of them, he looks down at them
14 that's why he ended up sitting there by
15 himself --

16 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Ellman --

17 MR. ELLMAN: No -- no, because they
18 people out here, these good people out here
19 don't threaten anybody. These people on the
20 other side of the TV aren't threatening
21 anybody, it was an outrageous, blatant lie
22 saying that. Go on.

23 MR. MCGOFF: I would just like to say
24 Mr. Miller had something to say, there was
25 an article written about him, I think we

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1 have belabored this enough.

2 MR. ELLMAN: Well, but I sat back
3 there and talked to Mr. Miller after his
4 statement, as far as I was concerned it was
5 a childish --

6 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

7 MR. ELLMAN: -- statement, but he is
8 the one that brought it up again, not me and
9 I have a right to say this tonight. He has
10 a hit and run idea. For someone that gloats
11 in front of the TV set he can't even sit and
12 say thank you, he had to jump up here every
13 opportunity and show his pearly whites. I
14 can't understand why he wanted to take it
15 off, all I did was criticize his judgment
16 which I didn't think was very good. Well,
17 I'll get off the subject.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

19 MR. ELLMAN: Almost off of it. I
20 got one thing else to say, the article said
21 that Mr. Miller said that where were we to
22 help him when he was raking yards and so
23 forth? Personally, I imagine most of people
24 people and the people in front of that
25 camera were working when he was raking yards

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1 and school grounds and doing his thing with
2 his group, but everybody here does something
3 he has never done and won't do for years to
4 come they sign an income tax, they sign the
5 tax check so he can go to school every year,
6 mine is \$800 or \$900 for the school taxes

7 and my taxes are over \$1,200. I haven't had
8 no one in school for 30 years. There is
9 people out here that haven't had a child in
10 school for 50 years and they still pay and
11 look at the product we are getting. Now, I
12 won't say no more.

13 Mr. Spindler mentioned that the
14 people are paying, I was told this, too, and
15 I just don't see how -- the school does not
16 own that property why are they collecting
17 money? They want both things. Let them
18 either pay for it and put us in a park like
19 they were supposed to a couple of years ago
20 or let them get out of it. You know, this
21 is just more corruption than this city reaks
22 of. I know you don't like it, but that's
23 what's going on right under your noses.

24 I went to the car show Sunday at the
25 park and the park looks good, it does, you

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1 know, right there when I was leaving one of
2 the gentlemen with a staff thing, a shirt on
3 that knows me, says, "Look at the tree."

4 Right there, big healthy tree with a
5 big red dot on it. I was in Wilkes-Barre
6 last week for a car show, you go through the
7 whole town there is no trees missing, you

8 phone the police in Dunmore, anywhere,
9 Taylor, ask them how many trees they have
10 cut down in 10 or 15 years and they say
11 occasionally there is a tree. We are
12 cutting hundreds of trees down and they
13 costing a fortune and most of them are
14 healthy, they are not diseased trees, you
15 can go look at them and go talk to the
16 people cutting them down. Thank you.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.

18 MR. DAVIS: Salaam aleikum. Six
19 years ago I walked into this building and I
20 spoke to the person who I thought was in
21 charge of Channel 61, and I had watched, I
22 had listened for about two or three weeks
23 what was happening here in the council room
24 and I asked him, I said, "Could I become a
25 volunteer. I want to be a volunteer to just

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1 run the cameras."

2 Now, this was six years ago and I
3 got behind the camera up in the and loft and
4 eventually we moved the camera down from the
5 back, but it gave me an education, you know,
6 and right now I'm very happy because I have
7 seen people come, I have seen people go, I

8 have seen people who are on this side of the
9 board and those who are not, and I realize
10 that as I sit there and make comments about
11 people who are here on this side it's very
12 easy to do because you are protected, you're
13 at a podium. We thought enough of you to
14 elect you and put you on a podium, but the
15 respect that you are giving to those who
16 come here with questions, with answers, with
17 arguments, is not really what I would call a
18 very human equation.

19 I kind of find that it's
20 disrespectful, and not because you want to
21 be disrespectful because it's a defense
22 mechanism. As you present yourselves we are
23 listening to you. All of these voices out
24 here hear you, they hear you very plain
25 clearly, and it scarce me because I don't

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1 see where we are going from here. I don't
2 see the road, I don't see the solution to
3 the problems. We are talking about billions
4 and billions of dollars in debt, and I can't
5 imagine our children being able to pay it
6 off because we are not able to pay it off,
7 we are accumulating more debt than we have
8 reason to, I think, but I'm not sure, I'm

9 not -- I'm not a treasurer, I'm not a -- I'm
10 not the collector of dues or things like
11 that, but at the same time I do pay my
12 wages, I pay my -- I pay just as I go along,
13 buy my food, pay my rent, but this is
14 something that you are not listening to.

15 You are not listening to us as we speak
16 to you about the same thing everybody in the
17 United States is talking about, the little
18 man as far as status is concerned is being
19 washed away. He is being pushed down too
20 the point where he won't be able to blame
21 you for it, he won't blame anything but
22 themselves which is self-degradation and
23 that we don't need. We don't need you to
24 sit there and tell us that we are not worthy
25 of you. We are tired of that, also. We are

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1 tired of the snickering, we are tired of the
2 bombast and words and actions and deeds and
3 worst of all in this bell. When a person is
4 standing here trying to tell you something
5 of worth you have not -- it's just sort of
6 very ignorant to pound the bell or you hear
7 the bell saying, all right, that's enough.
8 That's enough of your time, the person may

9 not be finished, but that's respect. That's
10 what I was taught as respect. I was taught
11 respect in the Pine Street Baptist Church
12 how to speak orally, how to have respect for
13 other people and that has carried me all of
14 the way through my life, and treat people
15 with respect and I may not have -- I may
16 have insulted you, but I have reason to
17 insult you I think because I think I'm
18 taking it for those who have not insulted
19 you, those who have sat there and were told
20 of themselves and told of their problems
21 being minor, and I thank you for your bell.
22 I think it's very, very apprapoe.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Davis.

24 MR. SCHMIDT: My name is Bobby
25 Schmidt and I'm from Scranton here, I just

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1 have a few comments. One thing I find very
2 troubling is the use of OECD funds towards
3 the city advertising and boosters. I find
4 it to be very not just wasteful, but
5 extremely ineffective, I mean, since the
6 40's really, Scranton Chamber, Scranton
7 Times, the City of Scranton, they have
8 gotten together to have these projects to
9 keep people here. In the 40's, you know, it

10 was, you know, all of these industrialized
11 strategies and the Chamber of Commerce,
12 excuse me, the Chamber of Commerce engaged
13 in all of these adverting to keep workers
14 here because the area was completely
15 depleted.

16 Now, OECD funding typically should
17 go towards, you know, poor folks, housing,
18 things of that point. Increasingly it's the
19 case that OECD funding is going towards
20 advertising and one example of this is ECTV.
21 If you read in the newspaper they said they
22 would play city council meetings once a week
23 perhaps, but the rest of that is going to go
24 towards enlightening the people who already
25 live here of all of the assets that are in

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1 the city. I know of one program that was
2 very beneficial to me was a program through
3 OECD where they give you \$10,000, \$15,000 to
4 put into your house. If your house is going
5 into, you know, disrepair, they would give
6 you some money, that way you could keep your
7 house up to code and live there, 10, 15
8 dollars is really water off a duck's rearend
9 because it would cost them more than that

10 for the city to knock it down.

11 So anyway, this ECTV, this
12 boosterism is very infective. If you talk
13 to people, people are very upset, you know,
14 from a few years ago the summer in the city.
15 The summer in the city campaign, all of this
16 money from OECD going towards these banners
17 to advertise to people who already live here
18 trying to convince us of all of the
19 amenities, and you if you talk to people, I
20 mean, look, this area is in decline, there
21 is no doubt about it. It's not our fault
22 that this area is in decline, this is
23 throughout the northeast, it's not just
24 Scranton, Pennsylvania, I mean, there is --
25 most mining, no -- you know, there are some

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1 suburbs, you know, like Upper Darby, but
2 even Upper Darby it's really filled up with
3 white folks that have just moved in.

4 You know, this area is in the
5 decline, this region is in decline. The
6 areas of growth or in the sunbelt. So,
7 again it's not our fault and that's the
8 problem, people that are living in this area
9 go for greener pastures, that's not our
10 fault.

11 Another problem with this area is,
12 you know, you really have to know somebody
13 to get a job. It is -- I mean, this area is
14 in decline, it's Scranton, and it's put all
15 of this pressure on these jobs and most
16 areas, right, in most school districts, for
17 instance, in the big cities, you know, you
18 have to beg people to go there and teach,
19 but in the City of Scranton because there is
20 just no jobs here, you know, you have to
21 know somebody to get a job.

22 Another issue is corruption and
23 which, I mean, I'm not going to, you know,
24 everybody reads the Scranton Times and they
25 are very familiar, if you live in the city

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1 you understand. Now, rather than changing
2 the material, the reality of this city,
3 Doherty -- and not just Doherty, but mayors
4 all across the northeast really are trying
5 to change the image of this city, trying to
6 make us feel better about this city and it
7 gets very wasteful. You know, Doherty's
8 strategy has been to knock down homes. I'm
9 not really, you know, not a whole lot of
10 emphasis has been towards rehabbing homes,

11 keeping poor people here and everything has
12 been toward keeping poor people out of here.

13 Now, Sherry Fanucci, I'm not looking to
14 attack you, I just have an honest question,
15 the rumor is that your house is for sale.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Does this have to do
17 with anything?

18 MR. SCHMIDT: Yes.

19 MS. FANUCCI: Are you getting your
20 information off one little website?

21 MR. SCHMIDT: No, somebody brought it
22 up back here.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Would you like to buy
24 it? It is for sale. I would be thrilled if
25 you did buy it because I'm looking for an

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1 anxious buyer.

2 MR. SCHMIDT: I tell you what, there
3 is a fool born every minute, I'll look at
4 it, how's that.

5 MS. FANUCCI: You should. You
6 should.

7 MR. SCHMIDT: Here's the question I
8 have, are so -- okay, you are selling your
9 house, are you going to look to buy a house
10 in the city? Because here's what I find
11 troubling, here's the point I'm getting at,

12 you are going to vote on this legislation
13 for ECTV booster --

14 MS. FANUCCI: Yes, I am.

15 MR. SCHMIDT: And you are all for
16 boosting this area, fine, fabulous, are you
17 going to still live in this city?

18 MS. FANUCCI: I have to live in this
19 city because I'm a city councilwoman.

20 MR. SCHMIDT: Well, after your house
21 is sold.

22 MS. FANUCCI: You are not going to
23 let me address the question, let me clarify
24 something, you would have to be crazy to
25 come here every week and put up with this

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1 kind of tactics where people worry about
2 whether you are selling your home or not and
3 not want to believe in the city and love
4 this city and do what you can for the city.
5 Of course I'm going to live in the city, why
6 would I leave this city if I'm a city
7 councilwoman representing the --

8 MR. SCHMIDT: No, after your house is
9 sold which that could take a year.

10 MS. FANUCCI: That's -- I just
11 answered your question, would you like me to

12 answer it again?

13 MR. SCHMIDT: Okay, so you are going
14 to buy another house in the city.

15 MS. FANUCCI: Well, what would I be
16 doing as a city council person?

17 MR. SCHMIDT: It was just a
18 question, so you are, thanks.

19 MS. FANUCCI: This is personal
20 information that I'm giving to you to be
21 gracious because you are a first time
22 speaker, but to be honest with you this is
23 personal information and really you have no
24 right to be asking this in public, is my
25 house for sale, it's my personal life, but I

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1 am being nice to you because you, obviously,
2 are new and trying to make your way, so
3 that's --

4 MR. SCHMIDT: I'm not trying to --
5 thank you very much. Just please consider
6 this ECTV, it's very wasteful, and none of
7 this boosterism has worked. The population
8 has declined for decades, so just consider
9 that.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. How are you,
11 Chris?

12 MR. SLEDENZSKI: How are you, Bob?

13 Is this thing on? I can't hear myself talk
14 into it.

15 MR. MCGOFF: It should be.

16 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hey, Billy, I can't
17 hear myself in this thing?

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: What's that?

19 MR. SLEDENZSKI: It ain't working.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: It's not working?
21 Talk loud.

22 MR. MCGOFF: We'll hear you.

23 MR. SLEDENZSKI: How's that, Bill?

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: That's good.

25 MR. SLEDENZSKI: I can't hear myself.

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1 These firemen in the City of Scranton are
2 doing a good job in the city, all of them,
3 even Dave Gervasi, he is doing a good job.
4 Let's keep it up down there, boys.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Even Dave Gervasi.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

7 MS. EVANS: Good morning. First, a
8 brief update on the 2007 independent audit.
9 The status remains basically unchanged since
10 my last report a few weeks ago. According
11 to the response from Shawn Grassi, CPA,
12 received on June 4 by the Office of City

13 Council and I quote, "We have enclosed
14 copies of our April 15, 2008, letter and
15 it's attachment dated February 11 and the
16 May 21 letter to Frank S. Renda, copies of
17 which were sent to city council and the
18 mayor.

19 However, unless the client provides
20 us with the necessary data to perform the
21 audit it impedes our ability to complete the
22 audit and issue the audit report on a timely
23 basis. As you can see from our
24 correspondence, the original which dates
25 back to February 11, 2008, our desire to

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1 complete the audit as quickly as possible is
2 evident. A delay in receiving requested
3 information and resulting any technical
4 issues will control when the audit report
5 will be issued."

6 Thus, two pages of requests from
7 Robert Rossi and Company or information
8 from, mainly, from the city administration
9 as well as three municipal authorities and
10 the Single Tax Office and NCC remain
11 unanswered.

12 Council also received a response
13 from police chief Elliott regarding an

14 investigation by the D.A.'s Office of the
15 arson fire at Coney Island located on Cedar
16 Avenue. He states that the fire department
17 fire inspector ruled on the cause of origin
18 of fire. Once the fire is ruled arson is
19 turned over the police fire marshal who
20 investigates and makes an arrest when
21 warranted. The D.A.'s Office does not have
22 an arson investigator, however, their
23 prosecutors who are trained in I believe the
24 proper strategies and methods of prosecuting
25 such cases are members of the arson task

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1 force and as such are already involved in
2 this case.

3 Further, the chief objects to any
4 transfer of in case or any other unless it
5 involves a conflict of interest. Therefore,
6 council might want to reconsider it's
7 request to the D.A.'s Office moved by
8 Mrs. Fanucci.

9 Next, there are numerous pieces of
10 legislation on today's agenda, one of which
11 is the \$90,000 loan to ECTV through OECD for
12 the purchase of equipment. I have numerous
13 serious concerns about such a loan. First

14 of all, the payment of the loan is deferred
15 for three years.

16 Second, if three full-time
17 employment positions are created within
18 three years of the date of closing on the
19 loan then there shall be no repayment of the
20 loan and it becomes a gift from the
21 taxpayers, if you will. Also, I recall in
22 2006 perhaps Scranton Today requested a
23 \$7,000 grant from OECD which was not given
24 to them.

25 Third, the \$90,000 will be used to

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1 purchase equipment. This equipment will be
2 used as collateral for this loan/grant, not
3 property. Also, it appears that these
4 monies according to the loan contract cannot
5 be utilized for roofing.

6 Number four, as soon as three
7 positions are created the equipment is no
8 longer collateral. It appears to be owned
9 by ECTV, thus, OECD through the taxpayers is
10 purchasing equipment for ECTV and that's a
11 very nice government gift I would say.

12 Fifth, Chris Balton, executive
13 director of ECTV, and if I may say in my
14 opinion a true talent and expertise of this

15 organization is no longer affiliated with
16 ECTV.

17 Six, the transfer of CDBG funds from
18 the Grow Scranton Fund deserves scrutiny.
19 OECD states that the money came from a
20 consultant, NDC, a consultant to OECD whose
21 contract was terminated by city council I
22 believe in an approximately late 2004. The
23 annual cost of that consultant was \$60,000.
24 OECD claims this is the source of the
25 funding for ECTV since the Grow Scranton

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1 Fund no longer exists. Thus, \$60,000 has
2 been unused for three and a half years in an
3 account. Since OECD added \$30,000 to that
4 \$60,000 figure from the same account
5 apparently, what is the total dollar amount
6 of monies in the Grow Scranton account?

7 Seven, whose is signed on the OECD
8 applications and if it is Mr. Balton's name
9 then I believe those applications become
10 void.

11 Eight, if Mr. Balton was an officer
12 of the corporation what is ECTV's corporate
13 status currently since he is no longer
14 affiliated.

15 Nine, how will ECTV provide salaries
16 for three permanent employees. The \$90,000
17 is only for equipment.

18 Ten, I would like to see a list by
19 the donors and business sponsors who have
20 contributed or pledged financial support to
21 ECTV and the amount of each pledge and
22 donation and this way I believe council
23 could ascertain how quickly ECTV may come
24 before council with it's hand out once
25 again.

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1 Eleven, I would also like to see a
2 copy of their 501-C-3 status. I do realize
3 that they have applied to the state for
4 nonprofit status, but I would like to see a
5 copy, a written copy, granting that 501-C-E
6 status and I notice that as I am speaking
7 one of the officers of Scranton Today is
8 shaking her head. I assume that means this
9 does not exist.

10 Twelve, what if any, is the ruling
11 of the Ethics Commission regarding the
12 complaint filed by Northeastern Pennsylvania
13 Public Access Project? Five months after
14 the complaint was registered there has still
15 been no response.

16 many years. In fact, those individuals who
17 are older than I remind me of the days when
18 council meetings were broadcast by radio and
19 they were according to these listeners
20 highly contentious meetings often involving
21 I believe the mayor's father who was a city
22 council member at that time, and so you see,
23 the atmosphere and conflict evidently is one
24 that accompanies the process of democracy
25 and it is not something new that has

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1 developed in the last two, four or
2 five years, it's long been with us.
3 But more so, I hear your concerns
4 for again this providing a very poor image,
5 yet, I believe it was part of Scranton -- or
6 not Scranton Today, but ECTV's proposal to
7 place council meetings on united streaming
8 and so if the concern is that Scranton is
9 receiving a poor image to our neighboring
10 community, my goodness, now you are going to
11 be broadcasting these meetings worldwide, so
12 not only our neighbors in Northeastern
13 Pennsylvania will be viewing it, but our
14 neighbors across the country, California,
15 perhaps our friends over in England, so be
16 careful what you ask for because evidently

17 you just might receive it.

18 Now, based on the 16 concerns, very
19 serious concerns that I have outlined, I
20 move to reopen the RFP process for operation
21 of peg channels 61 and 62.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll second that.

23 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question,
25 Mr. McGoff, I will speak in motions more on

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1 it, but I've had some concerns throughout
2 this thing and in light of Mr. Balton
3 possibly exited from ECTV and some of the
4 things were brought to light from the podium
5 this evening -- or this morning that I did
6 not know, I have even more concerns.

7 MS. EVANS: And I might add, I think
8 this is the most fair manner in which to
9 address what seems to have been a very
10 unfair process, so let's going to back to
11 square one and allow this to take the proper
12 direction.

13 MS. FANUCCI: I'd like to speak on --
14 my issue when this started and 61 got it
15 there actually wasn't a bid process, I think
16 Jimmy decided, Mayor Connors just decided

17 that they were going to do this, so the fact
18 at that there even was a process is better
19 off than it was before. It was just another
20 mayor deciding this is what they wanted to
21 do, it just so happens not to be this mayor,
22 it was the last one.

23 I'm going to tell you my concern is
24 regardless of who, what, where and when as
25 long as 61 or whoever is showing the council

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1 meetings I am personally -- that's the issue
2 I have, that's the only thing that has to do
3 with my method of the TV broadcast.

4 And, also, it's the mayor's call
5 like it or not, you know, it's his deal just
6 like a lot of legislation that comes before
7 us his deal, so really considering all of
8 that it has nothing to do with what we want,
9 think or feel, quite frankly. So, you know,
10 that is something that, real reality. It's
11 real reality, but it's the truth. I mean,
12 it's his call just like it was Jimmy's call
13 and when the next mayor come around and it
14 will be there call and the next mayor after
15 that.

16 As far as what happens to the
17 channel, as long as we are on we are on.

18 That's what's important here as far as my
19 concern. Whether or not there are or
20 channel. Now, I was going to see I was a
21 big proponent of 61, started off with 61, I
22 loved 61, started off with it, the intent of
23 the channel when it started and what it
24 ended up to be were two separates issues.
25 They wanted to do more programming. They

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1 wanted -- they did do a lot of programming
2 in the beginning and it ended up that for
3 some reason it just didn't -- they wanted to
4 do outdoor programming, everything. They
5 wanted to show everything in the city. It
6 wasn't, you know, the last speaker come up
7 and say it was a PR thing. That's not
8 exactly -- that's exactly what the intent
9 was last time to go out and show what they
10 would show, it happens in the City of
11 Scranton and our community. I believe that
12 the new channel just came to the graduation
13 of the Scranton High School and our taping
14 --

15 MS. EVANS: But, that was Scranton.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Okay, well, but that's
17 what the intent is to show what happens in

18 the community. It is a PR things, so you
19 can say, okay, well, okay, look happened, I
20 believe there was one thing on the railroads
21 years ago, but as far as to sit here week
22 after week and fight over who is showing
23 what. I mean, it's not -- I really don't --
24 as long as it's on it's on. That's as far
25 as I know we are on, so --

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1 MR. MCGOFF: I, too, believe that the
2 selection process that was conducted was
3 from my perspective a fair and equitable
4 process. The people that were chosen to be
5 on the committee I find to be honest,
6 reliable citizens who made a decision and
7 whether we like that decision or not I don't
8 think that reopening it is necessarily going
9 to change things.

10 MS. EVANS: Well, I'm just thinking,
11 you know, based on the information that was
12 presented this morning, for example,
13 concerning Mr. Darcy I think they might want
14 to reconsider their decisions. I don't know
15 that that information was available to them
16 at the time they made the selection. In
17 addition to the fact that some may say the
18 programming on Channel 61 was not as diverse

19 as it would have been desired, we do have to
20 remember they weren't given any money. In
21 nine years they received a grand total of
22 \$13,000 from the City of Scranton.

23 I do agree with Mrs. Fanucci that
24 absolutely selection of the peg channel
25 operator is the decision of the mayor,

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1 however, it is the decision of city council
2 whether or not to provide that \$90,000 gift.
3 That cannot be given by the mayor and I'm
4 not sure that the mayor himself is even
5 quite sure what he wants because on one hand
6 in the newspaper he states unequivocally
7 that there will be no funding of ECTV and
8 then approximately two weeks later he is
9 saying, well, yes, we are funding ECTV,
10 Channel 61, through OECD with \$90,000. So
11 I'm not quite sure if the one hand knows
12 what the other is doing.

13 You know, I do feel though that, as
14 I say, the bottom line is council does
15 control the purse strings here. Council,
16 just like the mayor has the ability to
17 select, council has the ability to provide
18 or withhold this money.

19 MS. FANUCCI: I'm happy with the
20 decision, so let's just vote.

21 MR. MCGOFF: I was going to say,
22 there is a motion and it's been seconded.
23 Motion to vote.

24 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

25 MR. MCGOFF: All those on the motion,

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1 to restate, to reopen the selection process
2 for the operation of Channel 61.

3 MS. EVANS: Yes.

4 MR. MCGOFF: All in favor.

5 MS. EVANS: Aye.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Opposed? No.

8 MS. FANUCCI: No.

9 MS. GATELLI: No.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Motion is defeated.

11 MS. EVANS: I also have requests for
12 the week, actually for the last two weeks:
13 A letter to Mr. Luciani, contact Lorraine
14 Craig, and I do have a phone number listed,
15 but on the intersection of the 100 block of
16 Morgan Court and 800 block of Hemlock
17 Street. She has contacted you 11 times, and
18 he has failed to respond.

19 MS. GATELLI: I just want to

20 interrupt, he is not there anymore, maybe
21 that's why he keeps not answering here, for
22 a year he's not there.

23 MS. EVANS: There has not been a city
24 engineer --

25 MS. FANUCCI: For a year.

100

1 MS. GATELLI: No.

2 MS. EVANS: But, we have had
3 absolutely no engineering expertise for a
4 year?

5 MS. GATELLI: No, I think Mr. Parker
6 was volunteering for that. That phone
7 number probably doesn't work, you know, he
8 is not there.

9 MS. EVANS: Then, we'll send it to --

10 MS. GATELLI: Brazil.

11 MS. EVANS: Mr. Brazil. Although, I
12 think Mr. Brazil may want to contact the
13 current engineer because it's a situation
14 that does require the review and
15 intervention of a professional engineer.

16 2935-37 Pittston Avenue, the property
17 was condemned over a year ago. It is city
18 owned. The grass is over four feet high and
19 the property is an eyesore. Please address

20 as soon as possible.

21 A letter to Mr. McMullen, residents
22 of the area report that there is increasing
23 traffic through Morgan Court and Rosen
24 Place. At the same time, there are children
25 riding their bikes and playing basketball in

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1 those locations. With a closing of school
2 for the summer months, more children are
3 playing for longer time periods. Because
4 residents fear for the safety of these
5 children they request the placement of signs
6 to alert drivers to drive slowly and to be
7 aware of children playing at the Willow and
8 Alder Street entrances to these courts.

9 612 Moosic Street, grass and hedges
10 need to be cut. The garage door is open and
11 has been broken into. Neighbors report that
12 the property is blighted and I have included
13 the name of the out-of-town property owner
14 to be contacted as soon as possible.

15 Are city residents, this is a
16 question that I have been asked numerous
17 amount of times lately, are city residents
18 allowed to have bonfires and fire bowls
19 burning in their back yards on a regular
20 basis?

21 Also, a letter to Mr. Brazil: Please
22 direct DPW employees who collect garbage
23 cans on lawns, pick up debris that that they
24 drop while emptying cans, and avoid damaging
25 tree lawns when cutting the corners too

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1 short when driving. Residents of South Side
2 that they just clean up the streets
3 following garbage collections and that trash
4 cans are thrown, often landing in the street
5 and damaging the cans themselves.

6 Now, the DPW has a tremendous
7 workload, and frankly, I think one of the
8 hallmarks of a strong city is a powerful
9 well-funded Department of Public Works and I
10 know in my neighborhood DPW does an
11 exemplary job on trash pickup days. Even as
12 I travel to work throughout the Greenridge,
13 lower Greenridge and North Scranton area, I
14 noticed that those crews are doing their job
15 and doing it quite well.

16 So, I'm just asking that everyone
17 make the same attempts to respect the
18 property of the city residents and respect
19 the environment of our city who don't want
20 to add to the litter and the dirty

21 conditions of our streets that seem to be so
22 often a problem in our communities.

23 Also, to Mr. Brazil, in the 200
24 block of North Garfield Avenue please send
25 the street sweeper to clean this block.

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1 And to Mr. Seitzinger, please send
2 an inspector to the 200 of North Garfield.
3 Neighbors report garbage cans remain in
4 front of th properties and a front porch is
5 littered with debris.

6 321 South 9th Avenue. This
7 uninhabited house was condemned several
8 months ago. The second door is open and the
9 grass is overgrown. Neighbors worry that
10 birds will enter the structure and that
11 teens will trespass as well and this
12 building is a for sale with Century 21
13 through Jack Ruddy, so perhaps LIPS can
14 ascertain the ownership through the realtor.

15 A letter to Mr. Brazil: Please trim
16 trees that are blocking the huge stop signs
17 at the intersection of Shawnee Avenue and
18 Depot Street. Residents report that
19 vehicles drive at excessive speeds failing
20 to stop for traffic signs, and I am also
21 going to ask that the e-mail about those

22 vehicles driving in excessive speeds be
23 forwarded to Chief Elliott.

24 And in the 1000 block of Mohan Court
25 residents of the 1000 block of North Webster

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1 report that residents of apartments in the
2 1000 block of Clay Avenue are parking their
3 vehicles in this Court. Numerous calls to
4 the police department were made and police
5 officers asked residents to move their
6 vehicles. After the departure of the
7 officer, however, the residents again parked
8 their cars in the alley.

9 Further, firetrucks would be unable
10 to travel Mohan Court in the event of an
11 emergency. Finally, residents of North
12 Webster Avenue with driveway access through
13 the alley often find access blocked by
14 parked cars. Please take appropriate
15 measures to address this violation,
16 particularly in light of the failure of
17 warnings that have been issued, and that's.

18 I do want to say though particularly
19 to the members of the board of Scranton
20 Today, I thank you for ten years of tireless
21 dedication to the people of the City of

22 Scranton. Your volunteerism is unparalleled
23 and the quality of your objective coverage I
24 feel is going to be sorely missed and I am
25 concerned that it will not be equal and on

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1 behalf of the countless city residents,
2 because as a council member I cannot tell
3 you that I have been contacted both by
4 calling and e-mail by many, many individuals
5 residing not only within our city, but
6 outside of our city as well who support you,
7 who feel that loss already of your presence,
8 so please know that you always have been
9 appreciated, you always will be appreciated,
10 and I do personally apologize for what has
11 happened to Scranton Today. I tried very
12 hard to prevent that, but I do apologize for
13 the process, the lack of the process with
14 the Ethics Commission, it does seem that the
15 deck is stacked and for reasons we can only
16 conjecture up here, but it is apparent that
17 it has been stacked. But, again, I thank
18 you so very much for ten wonderful,
19 wonderful years of service and I think we
20 all do. And that's it.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Evans.
22 Mrs. Gatelli.

23 MS. GATELLI: Well, I just have one
24 thing, this Thursday and several of the
25 issues that Mrs. Evans spoke about and her

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1 complaints are being addressed by the South
2 Side Community Justice Program. As I stated
3 last week, we have reinstated our
4 program. We had more people at our meeting
5 last week than we had at the neighborhood
6 meeting, so it was very fulfilling to see
7 that many people from the neighborhood.

8 We will be meeting at 10 a.m. on
9 Thursday morning and we will start our
10 walks, we will have the police and the
11 district attorney and an inspector and
12 anyone who has any complaints please forward
13 to them our e-mail or to Mrs. Garvey and we
14 will address them on our walk this Thursday.
15 Thank you. That's it.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.
17 Mrs. Fanucci.

18 MS. FANUCCI: I also will be pretty
19 brief. On the Coney Island fire, I was glad
20 that Mrs. Evans read that letter, we had
21 already received it, but I was doing
22 requests on a motion, I think people said

23 nothing was done, a statement was made that
24 nothing was being done to help about the
25 fire cause, so I'm glad to see that.

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1 Obviously, we know that our firemen are
2 working very hard to try and investigate
3 what goes on in the city. So, I will
4 retract that motion, obviously, to send a
5 letter to the D.A.'s Office since they are
6 already involved.

7 Also, again, on the statements and
8 words and what goes on here and whatever
9 else, I don't know how many different ways I
10 can say this, but if someone gets up and
11 they accuse me of something or say something
12 that is inaccurate I am going to defend
13 myself and I am going to set them straight
14 and I will continue to do so as long as I
15 sit here. You can say I'm rude. You can
16 say whatever, but I think it's rude to get
17 up here and make statements that are
18 inaccurate, to put our own spin on what goes
19 on so that you can, you know, act like you
20 know what goes on and I'm the one who can
21 tell you and I will continue to tell you
22 when people get up here and accuse me of
23 saying or doing things with motives aren't

24 accurate I'm going to set them straight.

25 It's pretty easy to teel you, you

108

1 don't have to ask me, I'm going to tell you.
2 There is no motive that isn't mine. There
3 is no motive that I don't decide on. I am a
4 very freewilled person and do as I choose
5 and do it with the best intent what I feel
6 goes on. When I vote I vote with my
7 conscience and I vote what I think is best
8 for the city. We get people here who
9 totally disagree with me and I totally
10 disagree with me and that will go in these
11 chambers forever, that is part of the
12 democracy that happens here and that is why
13 we live in a place that is wonderful. I
14 think we all say what we have to say, but I
15 do believe in the lot of the ways that we
16 say it that words are very powerful and we
17 need to know when we come into these
18 chambers that you cannot just say what you
19 need to say about people and accuse them of
20 actions that are not true and to stand
21 behind that as if it is true and expect to
22 no consequences, that's life. Just like you
23 can't go in and yell "Fire" in a movie

24 theatre, you can't come in here and say
25 inaccurate things.

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1 I will say in part, my family is a
2 very, very good family and I work hard, my
3 family works hard and I'm not certainly not
4 going to let these chambers come to take
5 away any of that.

6 Also, I want to thank the last
7 speaker for the free advertising on my house
8 being for sale. I'm sure my realtor will be
9 very happy for that. Yes, my home is for
10 sale, I did answer a question that I do
11 believe it was probably none of the business
12 of the residents, but, yes, I a selling my
13 home, and I can guarantee you that I will be
14 living in the City of Scranton as long as I
15 sit on this council, and I love my job and I
16 certainly am not planning on leaving the
17 residents here quite so quickly, and that's
18 all I have. Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Fanucci.
20 Mr. Courtright.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes. I am just
22 going to briefly speak on 61, a lot of the
23 speakers brought out questions that I had.
24 One thing I wasn't aware of was when Mrs.

25

Palugis spoke at the podium explaining about

110

1

the comment that the mayor said why the

2

channel was chosen the way it was, that

3

really bothers me. I wasn't aware of that.

4

Most of the things I was aware of, but that

5

I wasn't aware of. I just think that's

6

wrong.

7

The thing I'd like to say is this

8

about Channel 61, some people say that the

9

airing of city council meetings makes the

10

city look bad and stops businesses from

11

coming into the city, that is not Scranton

12

Today's fault, that is not Channel 61's

13

fault. If these meetings get out of control

14

that is our fault of the people that sit up

15

here, that is the fault of the speakers at

16

the podium, not Channel 61, they are just

17

broadcasting what's going on here, so to lay

18

the blame on them is just totally wrong in

19

my opinion.

20

Kay, I don't know if we could send

21

notice to Mr. Brazil on this again, maybe

22

Mrs. Gatelli may have an answer to this, I'm

23

getting calls again about that restaurant on

24

Cedar Avenue, whether there's an update on

25

that, when it's going to be done.

111

1

MS. GATELLI: It's for sale.

2

MR. COURTRIGHT: It's for sale. I

3

thought we were tearing that down. No?

4

MS. GATELLI: No, it's supposed to be

5

apartments. It was supposed to be

6

apartments in there and they went to zoning

7

and got approvals to put apartments in there

8

and they just never did it, so it's for sale

9

again. We are going to go there on

10

Thursday.

11

MR. COURTRIGHT: All right.

12

MS. GATELLI: I wish it could be torn

13

down today.

14

MR. COURTRIGHT: It's terrible over

15

there and I don't know how it's gone on this

16

long. Kay, if we can ask Mr. Brazil again,

17

on the Spruce Street complex I'm being told

18

the lights aren't on there at night right

19

now? I don't know why. If you can maybe

20

check that out for he.

21

And I don't know, I believe Mr.

22

Doherty told someone he didn't like me send

23

him letters on this, so I'll ask you to send

24

him a letter on this, if he doesn't, I'll

25

call him, I got stopped by a long, long time

1 business friend on Main Avenue in West
2 Scranton and he asked me is there any
3 progress on the project to do the streets
4 and lighting and whatnot on Main Avenue in
5 West Scranton, and I told him that, you
6 know, Congressman Kanjorski I believe it was
7 about two years ago he offered to help us
8 and the last time I did speak with the mayor
9 he said weren't going to go that route, he
10 was going to be getting money from the
11 state, but I haven't heard anything since,
12 so I will ask you to send him a letter what
13 the status of that is and if he doesn't want
14 to answer my letter then I guess you can
15 give me a phone number and I'll call him.
16 He didn't want to answer my letter last time
17 he told someone.

18 But, \$500 a team, \$25 a person to
19 play down at that field doesn't sound right
20 to me. I don't know --

21 MS. EVANS: That's through a letter
22 to the University of Scranton --

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah, if you want to
24 send it to the University of Scranton I
25 can't imagine that that's going on. Again,

1 \$20 a player, boy, if you go down and watch
2 that soccer league.

3 Somebody asked me about this, I
4 don't know if it was Ms. Schumacher, I think
5 what happens, and this is my opinion, I'm
6 pretty sure this is what happens, I sat on
7 the Civil Service Commission for awhile and
8 what would happen was Mr. Klee, Chief Klee
9 would tell us, we would inform them that the
10 list was getting down low, you know, but
11 back in those days there was a lot of people
12 on these Scranton police officers, we really
13 never exhausted the list, very much seldom.
14 What would happen is there was a list, you
15 were eligible for two years on this list and
16 the civil service commission had the
17 authority to extend it out 30 and sometimes
18 we did that, but there was only so many
19 names on the list. There doesn't seem to be
20 as many people interested in being a police
21 officer in the City of Scranton now. The
22 list expired without the Civil Service
23 person giving the test what I believe in a
24 timely fashion and now we don't have anyone,
25 we don't have anybody to draw from, so when

1 I was on the commission it came from the
2 administration the request and from the
3 administration before for us to give the
4 test, but we would inform the administration
5 that was list was getting down to the point
6 where there weren't any candidates. I don't
7 know if that answers your question or not,
8 if not stop me afterwards and I'll try to
9 expand on it further.

10 I've been asked again about the
11 cameras on the poles that I believe we spent
12 about \$300,000 for, there still seems to be
13 a communication problem where they can't
14 communicate from the camera to I guess
15 because it's mostly only done in the police
16 department, so some of them are up and
17 running but they are not actually up and
18 running, some of them can't communicate and
19 I know when they will all be up and running,
20 some of them can't communicate and I don't
21 know the status on when they will all be up
22 and running. Some days if you take a look
23 at the police department they will be
24 testing the camera and seeing it on the
25 screen behind the desk, but there seems to

1 be a problem with the communication so they
2 are not running.

3 And one last thing, the captain was
4 walking through the hall just now so I
5 grabbed him and the torch run will be on
6 20th, it will go from Carbondale to Scranton
7 so it will be 8:30 on Friday, the torch run,
8 if anybody is interested in that. That's
9 all I have today. Thank you.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
11 Mr. Courtright. Another thing to mention, I
12 mentioned it before, the Relay for Life will
13 take place this weekend at Memorial Stadium
14 June 21 through the 22nd sponsored by the
15 American Cancer Society. Donations can be
16 made, visitors can attend, I would imagine
17 that if you wanted to be part of a team you
18 could still find someone that would allow
19 you to. Again, a worthy cause and an
20 activity that is well received throughout
21 the country as a matter of fact, so that's
22 this weekend, June 21 and 22.

23 I was at the opening of the dog park
24 on this past Saturday at Connell Park, a
25 rather wet experience, but there were, you

1 know, attended by both human and canine
2 visitors. It was a very nice program, would
3 have been better without the rain. The
4 Spruce Street lights, I had somebody ask me
5 about that as well, that there was a certain
6 number of lights that were on and then the
7 next day the person came and said, "Thanks
8 for taking care of the lights."

9 Well, it doesn't stop there, about
10 two days later it was, "Oh, the lights were
11 out again, who do we contact?"

12 So I don't know what the problem
13 was, why they were out one time and on the
14 next day or what was happening, but I was
15 actually unsure is that --

16 MS. GATELLI: PennDOT does it?

17 MR. MCGOFF: PennDOT? But, we will
18 try to find out about the Spruce Street
19 lights, but they were working since there
20 was a complaint that they were not working.

21 And the last thing, again, I guess a
22 lot is being said about ECTV, I firmly
23 believe that broadcasting of government
24 meetings is an important thing to do which
25 is why, you know, last year sometime I voted

1 to have Channel 61 back in council chambers.
2 I believe it's necessary and I believe that
3 it's for some people the only way in which
4 they have participation in the government
5 around them and also firmly believe that
6 Channel 61 will continue to operate. I
7 firmly believe that it will continue to
8 broadcast government meetings. I don't
9 think that there is any attempt to cover up
10 anything, to silence anybody, to hide any--
11 one of the speakers said, "It's just a
12 camera."

13 I think that was the most telling
14 statement that was made and as
15 Mr. Courtright said, the camera doesn't
16 change anybody's behavior. It is we who are
17 responsible for what happens here not a
18 camera, and I guess what I'm getting to is
19 that I guess I do feel badly that Scranton
20 Today is no longer operating or will no
21 longer operate Channel 61, but I do believe
22 that it will continue to operate. A
23 decision was made, I still believe that
24 decision was made in a fair and equitable
25 way. I knew some of the people that were on

1 the committee that made the choice, I
2 trusted their judgment. I believe them to
3 be honest reliable citizens and I don't know
4 that it was a flawed process, I know that
5 there are people are upset at the fact that
6 Scranton Today will not longer be operating
7 Channel 61, but I'm believe that we have to
8 do what we can to continue to see that there
9 is a continued operation of Channel 61, and
10 that is all. Mrs. Garvey.

11 MS. GARVEY: FIFTH ORDER. 5-B. FOR
12 INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - ESTABLISHING A
13 "NO PARKING" ZONE ALONG THE SOUTHERLY SIDE
14 OF MULBERRY STREET (S.R. 3027) FROM THE NOW
15 VACATED HITCHCOCK COURT EAST TO A POINT
16 SEVENTY FIVE FEET (75') EAST OF THE CENTER
17 LINE OF ROYAL WAY (QUINCY AVENUE VACATED)
18 THE SAME DISTANCE AS MOR PARTICULARLY
19 DESCRIBED ON THE MAP/PLAN ATTACHED HERETO,
20 TO ALLOW FOR SITE DISTANCE FOR THE DRIVEWAY
21 TO ROYAL WAY.

22 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
23 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
24 introduced into it's proper committee.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

1 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

2

3

MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

4

5

MS. EVANS: Aye.

6

MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

7

MS. GATELLI: Aye.

8

MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

9

MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved.

10

11

MS. GARVEY: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - REMOVING PARKING METERS ON THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF MULBERRY STREET (S.R. 3027) FROM THE NOW VACATED HITCHCOCK COURT TO MCKENNA COURT, THE SAME DISTANCE AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON THE SITE AND ATTACHED HERETO, IN THE "NO PARKING" ZONE ESTABLISHED TO ALLOW FOR SIGHT DISTANCE FOR THE DRIVEWAY OF THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON CAMPUS CENTER.

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MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll entertain a motion that Item 5-C be introduced into it's proper committee.

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23

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MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

25

MS. FANUCCI: Second.

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MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All

2 those in favor signify by saying aye.

3 MS. EVANS: Aye.

4 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

5 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
8 ayes have it and so moved.

9 MS. GARVEY: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
10 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
11 123, 2007, ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE
12 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
13 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE
14 ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE
15 CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY
16 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (AS
17 AMENDED) TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY
18 DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME
19 INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND
20 EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG) PROGRAM", BY
21 TRANSFERRING \$216,628.42 FROM PROJECT 05-154
22 FRIENDSHIP HOUSE AND \$24,371.58 FROM PROJECT
23 05-154.1 FRIENDSHIP HOUSE TO PROJECT 07-04
24 PAVING OF CITY STREETS TO INCLUDE
25 HANDICAPPED CURB CUTS.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
2 entertain a motion that 5-D be introduced

3 into it's proper committee.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

5 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

6 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

7 MS. EVANS: Yes, I'd like to know how
8 many streets can be paved with this total
9 amount of money and I would like a
10 comprehensive list of those streets that are
11 designated for paving.

12 MR. MCGOFF: And I think that should
13 be done on behalf of council, that would be
14 a fair question. Anyone else? All those in
15 favor signify by saying aye.

16 MS. EVANS: Aye.

17 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

18 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
21 ayes have it and so moved.

22 MS. GARVEY: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
23 AN ORDINANCE - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF
24 SCRANTON PROVIDING FOR AN AGREEMENT OF
25 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION FOR THE

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1 PURPOSE OF MULTI-MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE
2 PLANNING BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND THE

3 ADJACENT MUNICIPALITIES OF; ABINGTON
4 TOWNSHIP, CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH, CLARKS
5 SUMMIT BOROUGH, DALTON BOROUGH, DUNMORE
6 BOROUGH, GLENBURN TOWNSHIP, NEWTON TOWNSHIP,
7 NORTH ABINGTON TOWNSHIP, SOUTH ABINGTON
8 TOWNSHIP AND WEST ABINGTON TOWNSHIP.

9 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
10 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
11 introduced into it's proper committee.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

13 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

14 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

15 MS. EVANS: I do you recall from
16 today's caucus that a SAPPa representative
17 would like to speak with council, having
18 been given an update provided last week with
19 regard to a meeting that would have been
20 conducted in our city. Obviously, the first
21 full length draft has not yet been presented
22 to any of the entities, and so I would
23 encourage my honorable colleagues to perhaps
24 enable this piece of legislation until such
25 time as either we are able to speak with the

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1 SAPPa representative about the full-length
2 draft or be in possession of that draft.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

4 MS. GATELLI: When are they coming?

5 MR. MCGOFF: I believe the date was
6 not until July --

7 MS. GARVEY: Fifteenth. I believe
8 it's July 15 is what you agreed on in the
9 back.

10 MS. GATELLI: And then we have three
11 weeks.

12 MS. EVANS: Well, we can always make
13 it --

14 MS. GATELLI: Well, why don't we move
15 it until the final one so we'll be ready for
16 it once they come.

17 MS. EVANS: That's fine.

18 MS. GATELLI: Or we could vote it
19 down, you know what I mean?

20 MS. EVANS: Yes. I'd just like to be
21 able to actually see it--

22 MS. GATELLI: Yes, I agree with you.

23 MS. EVANS: -- and read it prior to.

24 MS. GATELLI: Let's move it to the
25 last and then we'll table it.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: So you're withdrawing
2 the motion?

3 MS. EVANS: Well, I didn't make a

4 motion, I just asked about it.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Okay, I'm sorry.

6 MS. GATELLI: It was on the question.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? All those
8 in favor of introduction signify by saying
9 aye.

10 MS. EVANS: Aye.

11 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

12 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
15 ayes have it and so moved.

16 MS. GARVEY: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
17 AN ORDINANCE - APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A
18 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE CURRENTLY OWNED BY
19 ANN MARIE KULICK T/A/ ANN'S BAR, 160
20 BOULEVARD AVENUE, THROOP, PA 18512, LICENSE
21 NO. R-15082 TO KENDRA A. RICCIO ENTERPRISES,
22 LLC T/A/ "BALLINA" FOR USE AT 2934 BIRNEY
23 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PA. AS REQUIRED BY THE
24 PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

25 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll

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1 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
2 introduced into it's proper committee.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

4 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

5 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
6 those in favor signify by saying aye.

7 MS. EVANS: Aye.

8 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

9 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

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

13 MS. GARVEY: We need a motion for a
14 public hearing.

15 MR. MCGOFF: I ask for a motion for a
16 public hearing.

17 MS. GATELLI: I'll make a motion we
18 have a public hearing on this.

19 MS. GARVEY: June 24 at 6:50, is that
20 what you want? We're at daytime now, 9:50.

21 MR. MCGOFF: All in favor?

22 MS. EVANS: Aye.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

24 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
2 ayes have it and so moved.

3 MS. GARVEY: 5-G. FOR INTRODUCTION -
4 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO.

5 123 OF 2007, ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE
6 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
7 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE
8 ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE
9 CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY
10 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (AS
11 AMENDED) TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY
12 DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME
13 INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND
14 EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG) PROGRAM", BY
15 TRANSFERRING \$90,000.00 FROM PROJECT 02-234
16 INVESTMENT IN GROW SCRANTON FUND TO PROJECT
17 NO. 08-248 ELECTRIC CITY TELEVISION.

18 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
19 entertain a motion that Item 5-G be
20 introduced into it's proper committee.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

22 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

23 MR. MCGOFF: On the question.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question, I'm
25 going to be voting, no, to this ECTV thing

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1 and not to beat a dead horse here I just
2 think there is too much questions and I fear
3 for what's going to happen in the future. I
4 totally disagree with the playing of -- I
5 don't know you say that city council maybe

6 played three times a day everyday for the
7 entire week, but I believe city council and
8 other governmental agencies should be played
9 more than one time just for the people to
10 see their government, and by saying you are
11 only going to play it one time I think that,
12 and I'm not saying that you are trying to
13 hid something, but I think it's gives the
14 impression that you are trying to hide
15 something. And I sincerely hope that they
16 do not edit any of the meetings either for
17 good or bad, let people see the government
18 the way it happens and sometimes, you know,
19 it's ugly, but that's the way it is, it's
20 ugly sometimes, but that's all I have.

21 MS. EVANS: I think it's also very
22 prudent to weigh the pros and cons of this
23 situation and we have on the one hand a new
24 organization with little to no experience
25 where one of the cofounders has

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1 disassociated himself with the organization
2 and another cofounder according to some of
3 the testimony presented today has very
4 evident financial problems and this is the
5 gentleman who will be signing on the dotted

6 line for this \$90,000, and in addition to
7 that we have an operation that isn't costing
8 everyone nearly as much. I mean, one-tenth
9 as much for operation as what is being
10 requested for startup costs for ECTV.

11 And, finally, I think what concerns
12 me and it was mentioned Mr. Courtright
13 earlier I believe would be the fact that
14 granted the mayor makes the ultimate
15 decision, but for a mayor to say, "I don't
16 like this" or "I don't want this" or to
17 suggest to the Board of Directors such
18 directions or programming and presentation
19 of government meetings that should raise a
20 red flag for everyone who lives in the City
21 of Scranton and that's government control of
22 the media, or at least attempted government
23 control of the media and that's a
24 frightening concept, and so I think, as I
25 said, when you weigh the pros and cons of

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1 this situation the scales are tipped very
2 definitely in one direction and it's a
3 matter of simply doing the right thing.

4 MR. MCGOFF: I'd like to just
5 comment briefly, we have been here, you
6 know, on numerous occasions when money has

7 people may have some reservations about the
8 number of times that it will been shown I
9 think that that's something that we can deal
10 with in the future, I believe that we should
11 move forward and, yes, look into some of the
12 questions that are being raised, but that
13 the continued operation of Channel 61 is
14 essentially and is funded and supported.

15 MS. EVANS: I just wanted to clarify
16 some of my statements in the event that they
17 might become somewhat confused based on what
18 Mr. McGoff's comments. First of all, my
19 decision is not personal. My decision a
20 based on cold hard facts and it certainly is
21 not specifically, let us say, a matter as
22 was suggested not funding, but who receives
23 the funding because actually it greatly
24 involves the funding. Scranton Today was to
25 be provided with \$20,000 and that would have

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1 covered a six-month period, now we are
2 looking at \$90,000 for a six-month period
3 July through December.

4 Scranton Today would have liked a
5 percentage of the cable franchise fee which
6 would be enacted when a new contract with
7 the cable carrier will be negotiated by the

8 city. Now, what that asked for was a
9 percentage of what Scranton Today asked for
10 pales in comparison to the percentage asked
11 for by Electric City TV and those are
12 monies, the cable franchise fee, is money
13 that comes into the city's operating budget,
14 so the comparison of the percentages is also
15 going to effect our budget, so it's not, as
16 I said, it's not a personal issue of "I like
17 you, I dislike you", this is a factual end,
18 this is dollars and cents, and this is
19 experience and this is credentials. And I
20 think, you know, it's very self-evident on
21 what this council should base it's decisions
22 and I think basically it's basing it's
23 decision on something personal and that is
24 the personal wish of the mayor of the City
25 of Scranton.

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1 MS. FANUCCI: I can't believe you say
2 that. I mean, you can't decide what I'm
3 going to say or what I feel, just like I
4 would say that yours is personal because you
5 don't want it because you want it to be
6 here, it would be the same exact thing.

7 MS. EVANS: But I do --

8 MS. FANUCCI: But I want to say
9 don't put words in my mouth, Mrs. Evans.
10 You decide what you decide, I decide what I
11 decide, and please do not make accusations
12 on my behalf. Thank you. Thank you.

13 MS. EVANS: Which is why you should
14 not be making any statement that I wished to
15 be mayor. I have not made that statement.

16 MS. FANUCCI: You told us last week.
17 I don't think that was -- I'm sorry -- -

18 MS. EVANS: I'm sorry, I never made
19 any public announcement --

20 MS. FANUCCI: I'm sorry, I --

21 MS. EVANS: Eat your own words, just
22 cover your eyes.

23 MS. FANUCCI: But certainly I'm not
24 going to sit here and let someone say why I
25 decide to and to do what I'm doing. I do

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1 what I want to do when I'm doing it because
2 of reasons that I have. Your factual
3 information is your factual information, my
4 information is based on the fact that I
5 believe we will be getting more for the
6 money, that's all it is. The programming, I
7 liked the proposal, I don't know if you read
8 it, but I liked it a lot. I though it was

9 great for the city, I thought it was great
10 for the residents and I thought people would
11 actually get a better amount of programming,
12 that is why I base my decision on my
13 decision. And if did use -- and, don't say
14 it's personal because if it was personal I
15 certainly would have done it six years ago,
16 I would have done it the day I got here and
17 had the problem, but I talked to Jack many
18 times. I have been advocate of 61, so if it
19 was something personal it certainly was very
20 personal from day and it certainly has not
21 been, so I just wanted to clarify that for
22 the public and also for you.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

24 MS. EVANS: Well, thank you, but I
25 believe I was saying that it's personal for

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1 the bidding, it's not that personal for me.

2 MS. FANUCCI: It's really what --
3 well, play it back, that's not what you
4 said.

5 MR. MCGOFF: All right. Anyone else
6 on the 5-G? All those in favor of
7 introduction signify by saying aye.

8 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

9 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

11 MS. EVANS: No.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: No.

13 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
14 moved.

15 MS. GARVEY: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION -
16 AN ORDINANCE - ACCEPTING AND ORDAINING A
17 FOUR (4) FOOT PORTION OF LAND TO WIDEN A
18 PORTION OF LAVELLE COURT IN THE VICINITY OF
19 THE FIVE HUNDRED BLOCK OF MOOSIC STREET TO
20 CREATE A RIGHT OF WAY TO TWENTY (20) FEET.

21 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
22 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
23 introduced into it's proper committee.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

25 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
2 those in favor of introduction signify by
3 saying aye.

4 MS. EVANS: Aye.

5 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

6 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
9 ayes have it and so moved.

10 MS. GARVEY: 5-I.FOR INTRODUCTION - A
11 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
12 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF
13 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND
14 MAKE A LOAN FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
15 BLOCK GRANT LOAN PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 08-248
16 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000.00 TO
17 ELECTRIC CITY TELEVISION TO ASSIST AN
18 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

19 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
20 entertain a motion that Item 5-I be
21 introduced into it's proper committee.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

24 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
25 those in favor of introduction signify by

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1 saying aye.

2 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

3 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

5 MS. EVANS: No.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: No.

7 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
8 moved.

9 MS. GARVEY: 5-J.

10 FOR INTRODUCTION - A RESOLUTION -
11 APPROVING FOR ADOPTION THE PROPOSED
12 AMENDMENT OF THE ARTICLES ON INCORPORATION
13 OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION
14 AUTHORITY TO INCREASE THE TERM OF EXISTENCE
15 OF SAID AUTHORITY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
16 THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2001.

17 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
18 entertain a motion that Item 5-J be
19 introduced into it's proper committee.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

21 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

22 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

23 MS. EVANS: Yes. This particular
24 piece of legislation as was noted earlier
25 but the speaker enables the Recreation

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1 Authority to increase the term of it's
2 existence for another 50 years. Now, that
3 authority basically oversees Nay Aug, sets
4 the fees at the Nay Aug Park pool yet
5 council is left through the budget with the
6 bills for that department and the pool
7 system, so I believe the council should be
8 making decisions, council should be setting
9 those fees and though I might consider an
10 extension of the their term, a extension of

11 50 years appears quite excessive in my
12 opinion, so I will be voting, no.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question, Mr.
14 McGoff, I will be voting, yes, to move it
15 forward. I don't know if it's possible to
16 ask this administration if they could change
17 the elected time, 50 years is a little
18 excessive, I was thinking ten years or
19 something to that effect if they were
20 willing to do that then maybe some people
21 would probably vote, yes, if they could drop
22 it down to ten years or somewhere more
23 reasonable.

24 MS. GATELLI: Make a motion.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll vote, yes,

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1 then.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Can't we make a motion
3 to amend it at this time?

4 MR. MINORA: Well, I think you have
5 to go back to the authority. They are the
6 corporate body, they've got to make the
7 submission and they submit it to us for
8 approval. I think we can either vote it up
9 or down or open it and tell them you want it
10 reduced to a particular term and then if

11 they are agreeable to that to either
12 resubmit it or agree to our motion and then
13 amend it that way.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Would you make that
15 request on our behalf?

16 MR. MINORA: I will. I'm not sure I
17 know who the solicitor is for the Recreation
18 Authority. Kay just told me it's Paul
19 Kelly.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. All those
21 in favor of introduction signify by saying
22 aye.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

24 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

2 MS. EVANS: No.

3 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
4 moved.

5 MS. GARVEY: 5-K. FOR INTRODUCTION -
6 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
7 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
8 AND ENTER INTO A REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO.
9 04R007 WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF
10 PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
11 ("PENNDOT") FOR THE 500 BLOCK OF LACKAWANNA

12 AVENUE PROJECT ENTITLED: PARK, PLAZA AND
13 PEDESTRIAN COURT.

14 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
15 entertain a motion that 5-K be introduced
16 into it's proper committee.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

19 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

20 MS. EVANS: I have also approved
21 economic projects during my term as city
22 council and I was very supportive of this
23 project in particular from it's inception in
24 2004, however, it was approximately a year
25 ago that I learned this particular economic

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1 development project didn't include two city
2 anchors, two tax paying businesses, Coney
3 Island and Buona Pizza. They have been
4 treated most unfairly and until these
5 longstanding businesses are respected and
6 satisfied I will not be satisfied.

7 A true win-win situation,
8 progressive economic development includes
9 the entire 500 block of Lackawanna Avenue
10 because, after all, you can't make a
11 sandwich without the two pieces of bread.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else on 5-K? All
13 those in favor of introduction signify by
14 saying aye.

15 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

16 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

19 MS. EVANS: No.

20 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
21 moved.

22 MS. GARVEY: 5-L.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, could we just
24 take a two-minute recess?

25 (Recess taken.)

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1 MS. GARVEY: 5-L. FOR INTRODUCTION
2 - A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE
3 RECOMMENDATION OF THE HISTORICAL
4 ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD ("HARB") AND
5 APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
6 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON, 800 LINDEN
7 STREET, SCRANTON, PA FOR MINOR ALTERATION OF
8 EXTERIOR TO FIT EXISTING MASONRY OPENING TO
9 ACCOMMODATE INSTALLATION OF ELEVATOR AT THE
10 UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON, HOULIHAN-MCLEAN
11 CENTER, 342-348 JEFFERSON AVENUE.

12 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll

13 entertain a motion that 5-L be introduced
14 into it's proper committee.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

17 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
18 those in favor signify by saying aye.

19 MS. EVANS: Aye.

20 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

21 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
24 ayes have it and so moved.

25 MS. GARVEY: 5-M. FOR INTRODUCTION--

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Wait, Mrs. Garvey,
2 before you go on, I'm going to abstain and I
3 would ask Mr. Minora why the fact --

4 MS. GARVEY: Bill, he stepped out.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll talk to him
6 afterwards, but awhile back I voted on
7 legislation from the Lackawanna College and
8 I teach the police academy there and an
9 attorney had made a comment that maybe it
10 wasn't appropriate for me to vote on
11 legislation giving Lackawanna College and I
12 think they sent something to the Ethics

13 Commission and they said it was all right
14 for me to do that, but I would ask
15 Mr. Minora to check again, so I'll abstain
16 today until I find out.

17 MR. GARVEY: 5-M. FOR INTRODUCTION -
18 A RESOLUTION - APPROVING THE FINANCING BY
19 THE SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND WELFARE
20 AUTHORITY OF CERTAIN CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR
21 THE BENEFIT OF LACKAWANNA COLLEGE, A
22 PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION SERVING THE PUBLIC;
23 DECLARING THAT IT IS DESIRABLE FOR THE
24 HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF
25 THE CITY OF SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY,

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1 PENNSYLVANIA AND THE AREA SERVED BY
2 LACKAWANNA COLLEGE, TO HAVE PROJECTS
3 PROVIDED BY AND FINANCED THROUGH THE
4 AUTHORITY; DESIGNATING THE MAYOR OF THE
5 CITY, OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, THE PRESIDENT OF
6 VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY,
7 AS THE PERSON TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY
8 COUNCIL, AS THE "APPLICABLE ELECTED REVENUE
9 CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; AUTHORIZING SUCH
10 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF THE PRESIDENT OR VICE
11 PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO TAKE
12 CERTAIN ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY
13 COUNCIL AS SUCH "APPLICABLE ELECTED

14 REPRESENTATIVE"; AND AUTHORIZING OTHER
15 NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE ACTION.

16 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
17 entertain a motion that Item 5-M be
18 introduced into it's proper committee.

19 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

20 MS. EVANS: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. Having read the
23 background or supporting materials for this
24 particular piece of legislation I can assure
25 the taxpayers that according to the language

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1 the full, faith and credit of the City of
2 Scranton is not part of this agreement,
3 hence, the taxpayers are not responsible in
4 the event of failure of payment.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anyone else
6 on 5-M? All those in favor signify by
7 saying aye.

8 MS. EVANS: Aye.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

10 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Abstain.

13 MR. MCGOFF: One abstention. The

14 ayes have it and so moved.

15 MS. GARVEY: 5-N. FOR INTRODUCTION -
16 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR THE
17 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
18 SCRANTON TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
19 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE
20 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS AND
21 AEROSPACE WORKERS LOCAL NO. 2462 (CLERICAL
22 UNION).

23 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
24 entertain a motion that Item 5-N be
25 introduced into it's proper committee.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

2 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

3 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

4 MS. EVANS: Yes, I had asked how the
5 city intends to pay for any increases that a
6 result from this particular contract. I can
7 state that any funds necessary to meet these
8 additional costs most likely will be taken
9 from an contingency, although, some funds
10 are already budgeted in the other salary
11 funds category.

12 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor of
13 introduction signify by saying aye.

14 MS. EVANS: Aye.

15 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
16 MS. GATELLI: Aye.
17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
19 ayes have it and so moved.
20 MS. GARVEY: SIXTH ORDER. NO
21 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. SEVENTH ORDER. NO
22 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.
23 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you for your
24 participation. Motion to adjourn.
25 MS. EVANS: So moved.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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