## SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD: Tuesday, September 30, 2008 LOCATION: Council Chambers Scranton City Hall 340 North Washington Avenue Scranton, Pennsylvania AMELIA NICOL - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER 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 

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1	(Pledge of Allegiance)
2	MR. MCGOFF: Please stay standing
3	for a moment of silent reflection for
4	the service men and women.
5	Thank you.
6	Roll call, please.
° 7	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
8	MS. EVANS: Here.
9	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
10	MS. GATELLI: Here.
11	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
12	MS. FANUCCI: Here.
13	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
14	MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.
15	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Here.
17	Dispense with the reading of the
18	minutes.
19	Prior to third order, I would
20	like to make a motion to table Item 7D
21	and 7E from tonight's agenda.
22	MS. EVANS: Second.
23	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
24	Just an explanation. The wording
25	in them was improper. They had to do
20	in chem was improper. They had to do
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004	with lights at the corner of Moosic
1	with lights at the corner of Moosic and Front Street. The wording in the
1 2	and Front Street. The wording in the
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1	MS. GARVEY: 3C. POLICE PENSION
2	COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 27, 2008
3	WAS CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF QUORUM.
4	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any
5	comments? If not, received and filed.
6	MS. GARVEY: That's it, third
7	order.
8	MS. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
9	Garvey.
10	Mrs. Gatelli.
11	MS. GATELLI: The first thing I
12	have is Mrs. Fanucci brought it up
13	last week about people going green to
14	save energy, and they're opening
15	Scranton's first eco boutique. It's
16	called Green Bee. It's at 344 Adams
17	Avenue and it will offer
18	environmentally friendly clothing,
19	items and handmade items from
20	Pennsylvania designers. Their opening
21	is this Friday, October 3rd, from six
22	to nine. And they're going to have
23	live music and organic food and wine
24	if anyone is interested.
25	MS. FANUCCI: Thank you for

1	stealing that.
2	MS. GATELLI: I'm sorry. The
3	next thing is that I talked to Mr.
4	McGoff today and told him that I spoke
5	with the mayor and we are going to add
6	\$10,000 out of the BLIS demolition
7	money to hire someone for skunk
8	removal. I am in contact with Ken
9	Smith. He has a person that has been
10	doing it that he's aware of, and I'm
11	in contact with the person, and we're
12	going to put a request for proposals
13	out and that money will be coming out
14	of BLIS we call it blight and
15	skunks. So we will be allocating
16	money for the skunks.
17	The last thing I have is I had
18	gotten a memo from Mrs. Schumacher
19	about the streetlights. I have been
20	in touch with Brian Swanson concerning
21	why the streetlights are taking so
22	long to be retimed, et cetera. It has
23	been since 1998. I was unaware it was
24	that long ago that they were done, the
25	survey was done. But PennDOT had to
20	

1	follow new regulations for the
2	American Disabilities Act. So there
3	is a glitch there with all the street
4	lighting for those 47 streetlights
5	that were in the original study. The
6	funding will be running out in
7	December of this year, and Mr. Swanson
8	does have a meeting on October 8th
9	with PennDOT concerning getting an
10	extension on that money. The lights
11	are fully funded by PennDOT and that's
12	why PennDOT is in charge. So that's
13	what is happening with that, Mrs.
14	Schumacher.
15	MS. EVANS: Well, I spoke with
16	Mrs. Schumacher about all of this just
17	before tonight's meeting, in fact, and
18	she told me that she had spoken to
19	Swanson, herself, as well as the

21	satisfied.	
22	MS. GATELLI:	I didn't know that
23	you talked to Mr.	Swanson. All right.
24	MR. MCGOFF:	Any other?
25	MS. GATELLI:	That's all I have.

gentleman from PennDOT so she is fully

1	MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans.
2	MS. EVANS: Please remember in
3	your prayers all those have died this
4	week, particularly Robert P. VanDeusen
5	whose sisters were dear family
6	friends; Frank Fritz Locks. He was a
7	city Scranton resident. He was
8	mortality stabbed while taking his
9	morning walk, and his niece and nephew
10	are also dear family friends; and
11	Thomas Preambo, Sr., whose wife will
12	always be remembered as one of the
13	best and kindest waitresses at Glider
14	Diner and whose son has led the Plot
15	Neighborhood Association for many
16	years. Thank you.
17	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? Fourth
18	order, Andy Sbaraglia.
19	MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
20	citizen of Scranton. Fellow
21	Scrantonians, 5E, 7F, 7G, I guess
22	they're all tied to the 500-block of
23	Lackawanna Avenue. Does anybody know
24	why we have to fix the wall for the
25	federal government? Yes, they want to

2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Lackawanna Avenue when they put this mall in. Okay. They're asking for access in behind to the Department of Public No. The federal well actually the federal our Steamtown Federal Park. They're asking for access to get in there and, of course,
9	I'm not getting into the cost of the
10	exit because it's not worth
11	mentioning. Okay. But these other
12	things are. Well, F isn't too bad.
13	It's 42 thousand and fifty bucks. But
14	G, G poses a problem. How much do you
15	think that is going to cost us? And
16	you have to come to a conclusion when
17	is enough enough. Scranton is not in
18	a position to give up money for this
19	or that or whatever even though you're
20	getting it from a lot of different
21	places. As you can see, the country
22	is falling apart. And the reason it's
23	falling apart is because of all these
24	deals what they call earmarks.
25	Earmarks in some sense are good, but

1 2 3 4 5 6	in a lot of sense, they're bad. And when you're figuring on spending 29, 30 or 31 million dollars for one block of Scranton, when you consider that all of the taxes for all of real estate throughout the whole city, it
7	doesn't even come near that for about
8	two and a half years, just the money
9	you're putting in that block. That's
10	the equipment on the scale. If the
11	citizens of Scranton had that in a
12	treasury, they wouldn't have to pay
13	taxes, real estate tax, city real
14	estate tax on their homes for about
15	two and a half years. Now, we come to
16	the project. Who is going to mostly
17	benefit from this project? The
18	citizens of Scranton in about
19	100 years, they would get their money
20	back or maybe 200 years. They're not
21	going to benefit. This was what is
22	wrong with the city. The Lackawanna
23	Hilton is one of the greatest jokes
24	that ever was perpetrated by the
25	citizens of Scranton. Not only did we

1	lose millions on the deal, taxes were
2	forgiven on it and pressed on, they
3	got all kinds of tax brakes, plus they

4	got a 100 and some free spaces that
5	the people who are using the parking
6	authority has to pay. And money
7	how much money do you think we get
8	from the Hilton? It's not even worth
9	mentioning. Why is the city in
10	financial problems? That's the reason
11	why. When he runs, I won't say that,
12	I don't want to get into politics
13	here. It's not worth it. But the
14	city is collapsing. It's collapsing
15	all around you. Crime is up. It's
16	not safe to walk the streets anymore.
17	You put more policemen on, but they
18	can't cover the whole city. You know,
19	I've seen it that actually do that.
20	But you've got all kinds of equipment.
21	The cops are still buying their own
22	cars. We have much of our equipment
23	that the city uses we're paying for.
24	We don't even own them. We just rent
25	them. All these things are done and

1	still we've got a huge deficit. Where
2	are we going? You have to look at
3	that, especially if you want to stay
4	here. If you're planning to leave,
5	fine, just do what you can for
6	yourself and get out. But a lot of us
7	have family ties here for a long, long
8	time. We grew up here, we went to
9	school here, we love our
10	neighborhoods, we love our people, and
11	we do love it. There's many things
12	that we could have done when we put
13	out for grants. This city was known
14	as the All American City which is a
15	heck of a lot better than Electric
16	City. It was also called the Friendly
17	City which was a better name than
18	Electric City. This is what I mean.
19	You're all into semantics, this is
20	that, this is that, that is that. But
21	in the end we're going downhill, and I
22	thank you.
23	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.
24	Sbaraglia.
25	Ozzie Quinn.

1	MR. QUINN: Thank you. Ozzie
2	Quinn, Taypayers Association.
3	Under agenda 5F-G-H, you know,
4	it's the reappointment of five years
5	of existing members of the Scranton

6	Housing Authority board, and as you
7	all know that this year the executive
8	director fortunately was indicted by
9	the United States Government for
10	wrongfully using federal funds and
11	also for jumping over people on the
12	waiting list for his friends or
13	whatever, okay. Now, I'm on a board,
14	you know, I should know what is going
15	on, and until this really plays itself
16	out in regards to what is going to
17	happen allegedly with the executive
18	director, I think that these board
19	members should be held up until it's
20	played out because of the fact that
21	you don't know just what is going to
22	happen down the line in regards to it,
23	plus the embarrassment themselves,
24	too. I mean, the fact is that if
25	you're on the board, and if one of

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them is a lawyer, you should know when all that money being spent, you know, what the financial status is of that authority, and I can't see how you can actually approve, you know, given, again, given them another five-year term. It gave a black eye to the City of Scranton, hurt a lot of people, there's no doubt about it and it hurts the taxpayers.

Also, in regards to that 7C, again two years ago we had PEL here. They told us that if we didn't borrow the 44 million dollars, the future was grim, we would not be able to pay the tax anticipation notes, pension obligation, health insurance, salaries, you know, doomsday scenario according to Gerald Cross, best scenario, let them borrow that -- let the mayor borrow that 44 million dollars that he asked for. Asking for 44 million dollars, can you image that, without PEL says Scranton would have the best deficit in 2008 and

1	15.5 million dollars. Where does this
2	PEL come from? I mean, they're not
3	even in the ball game here. Are they
4	still with do they still have a
5	contract? Of course, they do. Of
6	course it's a distressed city. This
7	is a sham that these people can come

8	in here and Mr. Doherty brings them
9	in, of course, the 44 million dollars
10	and the executive director sat right
11	there, the chairman of the board, not
12	the executive director and she didn't
13	mention one word during that
14	44 million dollar thing. And yet we
15	want to approve the 6.1 million
16	dollars tonight when they're saying 44
17	million dollars two years ago. I just
18	don't understand it.
19	The other things I want to know
20	is there possibly you have
21	contracts for engineering for
22	Lackawanna Avenue, two separate
23	contracts. What's the cost of those
24	contracts individually. Do you know?
25	MS. FANUCCI: No, I don't know.

2 spending an awful lot of money with	<b>a</b> n
	<u></u>
3 regard to consultants and contracts	011
4 that Lackawanna Avenue, and I was ju	ıst
5 wondering because it is taxpayer's	
6 money, you know. Let's not forget,	
7 even if it's federal, state or local	
8 money. Just arguing in Congress abo	out
9 700 billion dollars. It's taxpayers	; <b>'</b>
10 money. Let's not forget that, pleas	se,
11 and let's not forget the fact that w	re
12 can go without that borrowing, tight	en
13 our belts, cut the budget, cut the	
14 administration. He's hired so many	
15 people, the mayor did, it's just got	
16 out of hand, so let's tighten the	
17 belts and forget about putting	
18 strapping the taxpayer again with	
19 another loan, borrowing, borrowing,	
20 borrowing. Thank you.	
21 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.	
22 Quinn. Faith Franus.	
23 MS. FRANUS: I know before I	
24 mention about borrowing but I'd like	2
25 to ask Mr. McGoff, could somebody	

1	possible please answer me now the
2	motions about if PNC can't loan that
3	money because of the financial crisis,
4	could the city go bankrupt. I have no
5	idea. What would happen?
6	MS. FANUCCI: I can answer that.
7	I've answered that before. The fact
8	that we're a distressed city, if we do
9	declare bankruptcy, all that is going

10	to do is put it back into court. The
11	court order will be again have
12	another, you know, entity like whose
13	doing our recovery plan now, come back
14	in, reevaluate the city and start from
15	square one again. Because we are
16	distressed that is the problem. If we
17	do not get out of distress, bankruptcy
18	will just bring us back in again.
19	Send one of their team in to
20	reevaluate. It probably won't be PEL
21	but it will someone else. But they
22	will have to reevaluate the city from
23	square one, start over with
24	everything, go through it, and we'll
25	end up back where we are. It's

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1	unfortunately we're in a vicious cycle
2	even with bankruptcy.
3	MR. MCGOFF: I think Mrs. Franus
4	was asking not if the city went
5	bankrupt but if PNC Bank
6	MS. FRANUS: If PNC didn't get
7	involved, would we go bankrupt.
8	MS. FANUCCI: Right. Well, she's
9	asking would we go bankrupt. Well,
10	bankrupt
11	MR. MCGOFF: I think she was
12	asking what would happen
13	MS. FRANUS: Now I'm confused.
14	But if PNC weren't able to give the
15	city the money that you want to
16	borrow, that's my question. Would you
17	be go bankrupt if something else
18	happened? Would you automatically go
19	bankrupt, is that it?
20	MS. EVANS: No.
21	MS. FANUCCI: Well, we default on
22	the loan. That's defaulting the loan,
23	right.
24	MS. EVANS: But for each one of
25	these issues including those obtained
	······
1	by the municipal authorities, the city
2	has backed each of these by pledging
3	its full faith and credit which means
4	its taxing power. And so I believe
4 5	
5	that any bank would state that all
0	possibilities have not been depleted

in that taxes could be raised within the city to make bill payments annually. MS. FANUCCI: Right. And that's actually what could happen right now.

12	If we default on this loan, this bank
13	has the power to come to us and say,
14	no, raise all your taxes, everybody
15	gets taxed, I want my money, you raise
16	your taxes. So that is the
17	predicament we are in at this moment.
18	MS. EVANS: But only if no cuts
19	are made
20	MS. FANUCCI: No. Only in
21	default, only in default.
22	MS. EVANS: If, in fact, if you
23	had money coming in from the Tax
24	Office and as Mrs. Schumacher stated,
25	as of August 9th I noticed that

1 2 3 4 5 6	myself, there's certainly a surplus there and, in addition, the tax anticipation note is sitting there untouched. And so there are many alternatives to raising taxes. But what I am indicating now to you is for
7	each one of these borrowings through
8	the parking authority, the
9	redevelopment authority, the sewer
10	authority, all of those bond issues
11	that were run directly for the city
12	without the circumvention through the
13	municipal authorities, the people of
14	Scranton are ultimately responsible to
15	pay that debt. If the city fails on
16	any account to pay any of the enormous
17	debt that has been amassed, the power
18	of taxation is what will be exercised.
19	MS. FRANUS: Thank you very much.
20	Now, this has nothing to do with
21	anything, but I don't think this can
22	happen. But I don't know how you go
23	about doing this. I think it's
24	impossible but it would be nice.
25	There was a woman, McGuigan, I forget

her first name. I'm sorry I don't
know it. She had that thing at Penn
Avenue about the bikes, you know,
everybody free people by saying
that use bikes instead of cars which I
thought was wonderful. Well, I've got
a bike, I went around the block and I
nearly ran the mailman over because I
can't go on the road. I mean, I wish
my question is, could we, please,
some day, please, get bike lanes. I
don't know how it works. There's not
enough room and you can't go on the

14 15 16 17 18 19	<pre>street because you get hit with a car. There's no way at all you have room. Because when I drove down the city with a bike, it's very dangerous. Why can't we get bike lanes?     MS. EVANS: Well, I think you</pre>
20	should be more worried right now about
21 22	the conditions of the roads. MS. FRANUS: That's why I'm on
22	MS. FRANUS: That's why I'm on the sidewalks.
23	MS. EVANS: They all need to be
25	paved and so you really could be
00022	
1	taking your life in your hands
2	venturing on into the street these
3	days on a bicycle.
4	MS. FRANUS: I said I went on a
5	sidewalk but if there were bike lanes,
6	I'd love it.
7	MR. MCGOFF: I know in most
8	places where you find bike lanes, it
9	takes away parking. You can't
10	MS. FRANUS: I know. Why buy
11	bikes if you can't ride it anywhere.
12	MR. MCGOFF: I understand. I'm
13	just saying that you would have to
14	give up parking in order to have bike
15	lanes.
16	MS. FRANUS: I was just hoping if
17	they build a new road, maybe they
18	would find room for a bike lane even
19	in a new development someplace. Thank
20	you.
21	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
22	Franus. Marie Schumacher.
23	MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie

1	Harken back, if you will, to
2	March 6th, 2006. It was the evening
3	the ordinance authorizing the mayor to
4	spend \$577,000 of UDAG, Urban
5	Development Action Grant loan
6	repayments. It was on the agenda for
7	final passage. Councilmen McTiernan
8	asked if the ordinance was approved
9	and there were worthy projects of
10	this, do those loans and projects have
11	to come before council for final
12	approval. Mrs. Gatelli answered,
13	"Yes, they do." Mr. Minora added,
14	"They do." Mr. McTiernan reiterated,
15	"So there's none of this money will be

taxpayer's organization.

Schumacher, citizen and member of the

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	<pre>spent without our approval down the road." Mrs. Gatelli said, "No." And Mr. Minora said, "That's correct." Now I come from the school of fool me once, shame on me; fool me twice fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me. We all know the mayor spent much of that UDAG money without the approval from council. Now, I'm hearing that Chris</pre>
00024	
1	Pisano has said he is paying for the
2	timing change for the traffic signals
3	on Moosic and Front Street. Fine.
4	That's the way it should be. So I
5 6	say, please table Item 7B until each council member has seen the signed
8 7	agreement between Mr. Pisano and the
8	city. The project isn't completed
9	MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Schumacher,
10	it's already been tabled.
11	MS. FANUCCI: We tabled it at the
12 13	beginning of the meeting. MS. SCHUMACHER: But it's till
14	applicable because what I'm asking for
15	is that you have that agreement in
16	writing before you pass that ordinance
17	or even make it part of the ordinance
18	that the Pisano brothers have to pay
19 20	for those time changes, otherwise did I mispronounce something?
20	MR. COURTRIGHT: You said 7B.
22	MS. SCHUMACHER: Pardon?
23	MR. COURTRIGHT: I thought you
24	said 7B. You said 7D or B? I thought
25	you said B. Do you need to retable?
00025	
1	MS. SCHUMACHER: No. This is D.
2	The D with traffic signals. I'm
3	sorry. I did say 7B and C. I'm
4	sorry.
5 6	But it shouldn't cause any harm
6 7	and I say no written agreement on whose paying for this timing change,
8	no ordinance.
9	Now, 7C, we've talked about the
10	borrowing, I'm against it. I think
11	the surpluses are there to pay for it.
12	It might mean tightening the belt a
13 14	little tougher next year but so be it. It's time to start paying down the
15	debt and getting physically frugal.
16	Now, let's move to OECD. OECD
17	would have been told it's one quarter

18	in the final year of their three
19	lease. It would be nice if council
20	passed a resolution prohibiting
21	renewal of the Scranton Life Building
22	lease and directing that relocation to
23	City Hall next June.
24	I would also like to register a
25	complaint on the manner in which the

1 public hearing on OECD's fifth year 2 action plan was scheduled. The plan 3 appeared on Friday, September the 4 19th, and stated a public hearing to 5 receive citizen comments on the 6 proposed plan will be conducted by 7 city council. A public notice 8 regarding the hearing will appear in 9 the near future. Well, I've been 10 looking for that notice ever since, 11 and I finally called the Clerk's 12 Office today to find out it had 13 already been held last Tuesday and the 14 legal notice ran concurrent with this 15 big article which, of course, was eye 16 catching on the 19th. So the large 17 OECD ad was misleading and I can't 18 help wonder if this wasn't intentional 19 as an early notice for -- an earlier 20 notice for a meeting relative to the 21 fifth year action plan was buried in a special employment section. 22 23 Now, I read one of Mr. Burton's 24 columns this week and learned the

empty lot at the corner of Lackawanna

00027

1	County and Washington Avenue have been
2	sold. I will have more to say on this
3	transaction at a later meeting,
4	however, I did notice both this
5	property and the Alexander Salon and
6	Spa building were behind on their
7	property taxes. As of the August 22nd
8	listing, the Alexander's building,
9	431-435 Lackawanna Avenue owed 2006
10	and 2007 taxes of fifteen hundred
11	thousand, seven hundred, eighty-eight
12	dollars and 17 cents. May I continue?
13	MR. MCGOFF: Please.
14	MS. SCHUMACHER: Now, please tell
15	me how Alexander's was able to get a
16	quarter million dollar loan with such
17	a large property tax bill outstanding.
18	I'll save the rest for next week
19	except I will respond to Mrs. Gatelli.

20	On the traffic light timing,
21	yeah, I finally got a number for Mr.
22	Swanson, the one that when you call
23	DPW and it says dial "X" for
24	engineering was incorrect and he has a
25	cell phone that he prefers to receive

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$     \begin{array}{c}       1 \\       2 \\       3 \\       4 \\       5 \\       6 \\       7 \\       8 \\       9 \\       10 \\       11 \\       12 \\       13 \\       14 \\       15 \\       16 \\       17 \\       18 \\       19 \\       20 \\       21 \\       22 \\       23 \\       24 \\       25 \\     \end{array} $	his calls on, but you can't get into that unless you call back and ask specifically. So hopefully that will get corrected. But I would also like to point out on that loan, I think that's federal money that is coming through the state DOT, and that ADA, had engineering done what they were supposed to do, that project would have been completed before the new ADA regulations went into effect. It was their lack of followup with the firm they hired. MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. MR. MCGOFF: Prior to the next speaker, I would like to just make one comment. In the public notices there is never any attempt to deceive anyone. Mrs. Garvey places those notices when appropriate and without any direction or I shouldn't say without any direction, but she places them at an appropriate time and in a space where she can where she can
1	<pre>find space if I'm not mistaken.</pre>
2	MS. SCHUMACHER: It was OECD that
3	was deceitful. They
4	MR. MCGOFF: Well, I'm just
5	saying that the notices for the public
6	hearing are placed by Mrs. Garvey in
7	an appropriate way.
8	MS. SCHUMACHER: I understand
9	that.

MS. GARVEY: I would also like to comment on that for a minute or two and just state it was on the 19th I had talked to OECD about the timeline that they had for it and we need to have a public hearing on the 23rd so that they could comply with everything. So I was in contact with Kevin Mitchell as of that time. How their ads got placed with ours, I was not even aware that it would state in their ad about our public hearing, so

22	I'm only	responsible	for what	we can
23	do.			
24	MR.	MCGOFF: Th	ank you.	Mr.
25	Dobson.			

1	MR. DOBSON: Good evening,
2	council. Dave Dobson, resident of
3	Scranton and a member of the Taxpayers
4	Association. On 5B, C and D, perhaps
5	somebody could explain that later,
6	that apparently we do cell phones in
7	businesses for the tax delinquencies
8	within the city. On 5E, F and G,
9	maybe before we start finally pass, we
10	might ask from law enforcement for a
11	reference on these people to make sure
12	that they're clean of any wrongdoings
13	or any suspected wrongdoings.
14	And now on 7C, I would like to
15	know why we couldn't potentially sue
16	the Single Tax Office to release this
17	money and not go after these loans,
18	they're minimized at the very least.
19	It seems to me that they've had enough
20	time to sit on that money and if we
21	got too much, we can pay a couple
22	dollars back and if we got too little,
23	well, we can have a party. This
24	borrowing has gone out of hand. I'd
25	like to hear some day just like World

1	War I, the war to end all wars, well,
2	a loan to end all loans. That would
3	be very nice.
4	On 7G, Ozzie did make mention of
5	constantly hiring more and more
6	consultants and engineers and so forth
7	but this is in addition to one thing
8	but hopefully at some point we'll stop
9	spending huge sums of money on
10	consultants and just get the job done.
11	It's been a long time.
12	And I'd like to mention also on
13	that project, last year four days
14	before Christmas, we finally put up
15	the fences and started the project.
16	What did that do to the mall, it made
17	it a pain in the neck to get into the
18	Scranton mall, to the Steamtown Mall.
19	This project sat on the burner for how
20	long and all of a sudden our mall is
21	beleaguered and it has all this
22	5
	competition and it is there are
23	some advantages. You don't have to
23	some advantages. You don't have to

walk	through	the weather.	You don't
have	to have	a \$150 VCR or	something

00032	
1	rained on carrying it across the lot.
2	You can park down in the parking
3	garage and it's actually a nice mall.
4	So if they could do something with
5	those fences and widen Lackawanna
6	Avenue somewhere around before
7	Christmas time, it would be just
8	great, because the people see the half
9	hour traffic jam, they're just going
10	to go up to the Commerce Boulevard.
11	That would be shame. We should
12	support our local business. I try to
13	at any rate.
	-
14	And on 7H, I'd like to recommend
15	that we pass this with flying colors.
16	It's a good idea, and possibly if you
17	need any references on that coal tax
18	and so forth, you could refer to
19	Bernie McGurl. He's like a walking
20	computer on the Lackawanna Valley
20	
	River Corridor Association, and we
22	really need the Brownfields and, who
23	knows, maybe someday we'll come up
24	with an industrial park that could
25	start to attract businesses and get
00033	
00033	trucks in and out of the situ without
1	trucks in and out of the city without
1 2	running half of us old ladies over or
1 2 3	running half of us old ladies over or whatever. Have a good night.
1 2	running half of us old ladies over or
1 2 3	running half of us old ladies over or whatever. Have a good night.
1 2 3 4	running half of us old ladies over or whatever. Have a good night. MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.
1 2 3 4 5 6	<pre>running half of us old ladies over or whatever. Have a good night. MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. DOBSON. Jim Stucker. MR. STUCKER: We need those cross</pre>
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	<pre>running half of us old ladies over or whatever. Have a good night. MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. DOBSON. Jim Stucker. MR. STUCKER: We need those cross lines right there on the corner where</pre>
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00034 guys -- what do call that -- I can't 1 2 think --3 MR. COURTRIGHT: The Veterans 4 Center? 5 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, across the 6 street right at the corner there. 7 There's a light -- that light has 8 never been fixed, that light never got 9 fixed. 10 MR. COURTRIGHT: The traffic 11 light, right, Jim. 12 MR. STUCKER: Yeah. 13 MR. COURTRIGHT: We'll tell them 14 about it. 15 MR. STUCKER: That's the only one 16 I can think of. 17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. 18 MR. STUCKER: And we need to get 19 our sewer things cleaned out, too, 20 yeah. What about Parrot Avenue? Are 21 they still going to do the holes up 22 there -- they are getting bigger and 23 bigger Pat told me, and I was up there 24 the other day, that Saturday, there's 25 a --

1	MR. COURTRIGHT: Jim, you've been
2	asking us for four years and we've
3	been asking them for three, four years
4	but we're trying our best. I don't
5	know. They didn't pave Parrot Avenue,
6	did they?
7	MR. STUCKER: No, they didn't
8	pave Parrot Avenue.
9	MR. COURTRIGHT: I didn't think
10	so. That's a little league right
11	there.
12	MR. STUCKER: Where the
13	MR. COURTRIGHT: All right.
14	That's farther down.
15	MR. STUCKER: All right.
16	MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay.
17	MR. STUCKER: And I might be back
18	in the hospital again.
19	MR. COURTRIGHT: Oh, what's
20	wrong, Jim?
21	MR. STUCKER: I have an operation
22	on my arteries.
23	MR. COURTRIGHT: I hope you're
24	okay.
25	MR. STUCKER: Yeah. I got to go

1	tomorrow.
2	MR. COURTRIGHT: Well, let's hope
3	everything is all right.
4	MR. STUCKER: Yeah. Everybody is
5	telling me about my scooter.
6	Everybody is "Where is the scooter?"
7	I said, "Courtright and Janet Evans
8	got it."
9	MR. COURTRIGHT: We're going to
10	take it for a drive.
11	MR. STUCKER: Everybody told me,
12	you know, they have it. They ride
13	around the square over here.
14	MS. FANUCCI: Tell him to get you
15	one
16	MR. COURTRIGHT: That lady stole
17	it from you, remember? That woman
18	stole it, remember?
19	MR. MCGOFF: She didn't pay you.
20	MR. MCGOFF. She didn't pay you. MR. STUCKER: We need more cops,
20	
22	too, more cops. MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Jim.
23	
23	MR. STUCKER: Bye. So long. MR. MCGOFF: Well, that's one way
25	
20	to go green is everyone to start
1	riding scooters instead of cars.
2	MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?
3	Thanks, Jim.
4	MR LASKE: Okay. I came down
5	because I heard you mentioning that
6	you have a skunk problem in the city.
7	Well, I am a licensed trapper. Now,
8	the City of Scranton had a lot of
9	traps. I don't know if they still
10	have them. I called down to DPW, I
11	spoke to a person. She was supposed
12	to get to me. She never got back to
13	me.
14	Now, what I'm saying is, I don't
15	mind trapping skunk but I'm not going
16	to do it on a volunteer basis because
17	with the price of gas, you've got to
18	grab them out of the area, everything
19	costs me. So if you people want to
20	hire me or tell Mr. Doherty to hire
20	HITE WE OF CETT HIT. DOMETCY CO HITE

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house. MS. GATELLI: We have enough over

Laske.

me, I'm in the phone book. Thank you.

MR. LASKE: I can take them over

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.

to South Side and drop them by Judy's

3	there.
4	MR. LASKE: Oh, well, I'm trying
5	to be helpful, Judy. They like to be
6	petted if you get them when they're
7	young.
	1 5
8	MR. UNGVARSKY: Good evening,
9	city council. I'm John Ungvarsky and
10	I'm also a member of the Scranton and
11	Lackawanna County taxpayers'
12	Association. Three weeks ago I went
13	online to look up city council's
14	agenda and I saw where we're
15	refinancing a loan. Now, I couldn't
16	understand too much of what was there,
17	but I do understand the old system of
18	math and I know that if you have a
19	loan for 5.5, and you're refinancing
20	it for 6.1, that's an increase of
21	\$600,000. That's \$200,000 a year
22	according to the old map system. So I
23	would call that a loan. We have to
24	pay back an additional four million
25	dollars on it, and there's no way you
00039	
1	can say it's refinancing when it's
2	really a loan.
3	Mrs. Gatelli, a couple of weeks
4	
	ago you asked about people covering
5	the school board. Well, at that
6	MS. GATELLI: That's Mrs.
7	Fanucci.
8	MR. UNGVARSKY: I thought you
9	said something that
10	MS. GATELLI: No. Mrs. Fanucci
11	did. Excuse me, Mrs. Fanucci asked
12	that question.
	-
13	MS. FANUCCI: It was me.
14	MR. UNGVARSKY: All right. Mrs.
15	Fanucci. It was on a Tuesday night
16	and we had two people covering that
17	meeting as most weeks we have people
18	here, we also have people covering the
19	county and we cover the Bureau of
20	Recreation. So we are not just coming
20	here. We are covering
	-
22	MS. FANUCCI: I just want to tell
23	you, I'm sure you're not understanding
24	what I mean. I didn't mean about
25	covering and sitting there. I meant
00040	
1	that nobody spoke about that money,
2	
	you know, that taxes were being
3	raised.
4	MR. UNGVARSKY: We cover all

5	these meetings and we try to inform
6	the people of what is going on.
7	MS. FANUCCI: But you didn't mind
8	the raising of the taxes.
9	MR. UNGVARSKY: About a year ago
10	a company by the name of Secoast was
11	given a grant of \$270,000 by the state
12	and \$70,000 by the city. Six months
13	ago I asked what their position was
14	and they didn't get a reply. Three
15	months ago I asked what their position
16	was and I didn't get a reply. Now I'm
17	not even interested, because I don't
18	believe they're coming. But what I am
19	interested in is the \$70,000 that was
20	allocated to them by the city, do we
21	have that in a special fund or has
22	that been spent or is it in a bank
23	somewhere collecting interest? Can
24	someone tell me that?
25	MR. MCGOFF: I don't know that
0.0.0.4.1	
00041	
1	anyone has an answer for you at this
2	time but
3	MR. UNGVARSKY: I mean,
4	\$70,000 I mean that's
5	MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Ungvarsky, I
6	will look into it and find out for
7	you.
8	MR. UNGVARSKY: I would
9	appreciate that.
10	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Yes, I
11	will.
12	MR. UNGVARSKY: Although I
13	inquired twice about it and I never
14	got an answer. Thank you.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.
16	Ungvarsky.
17	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?
18	MS. HUBBARD: Good evening,
19	council. Liz Hubbard, Scranton
20	resident. I missed the very beginning
21	of the meeting. Judy, would you
22	please restate what you said about the
23	skunks?
24	MS. GATELLI: I said that I spoke
25	with the mayor and he agreed that we
00042	
1	would appropriate \$10,000 out of
2	demolition money that's going to
3	licensing and inspection, and I'm
4	working with Kenny Smith, I told you
5	last week, with the man that they use
6	to trap skunks. Now that I noticed
0	to stap shame. Now chat I notteda

7	Mr. Laske does them, maybe we can talk
8	to him about it. But we are going to
9	do a program.
10	MS. HUBBARD: When will that be
11	because pretty soon they're going to
12	be hibernating. Can't we do it in the
13	spring?
14	MS. GATELLI: I hope so. I mean,
15	maybe we can use old money until the
16	new money block grant money comes.
17	MS. HUBBARD: Well, how much is
18	left out of that \$177,000?
19	MS. GATELLI: That's UDAG. I'm
20	talking about the regular block grant.
21	But we can investigate the UDAG, too.
22	We can.
23	MS. HUBBARD: Yeah
24	MS. GATELLI: But I wanted to
25	make sure that we appropriate

1 2	something so that the program could be started.
3	MR. HUBBARD: Okay. Maybe we can
4	get some money for a flood siren, too,
5	out of some of this money. But like I
6	said, I'm sorry, I wasn't here for the
7	beginning and I didn't hear what you
8	said. And how much are they going
9	to
10	MS. GATELLI: I said we could
11	start with \$10,000. We can always
12	fund it if it runs out.
13	MS. HUBBARD: Well, I think it's
14	going to cost you more than a dollar a
15	skunk because I think there's probably
16	a 1,000 of skunks in the city. I
17	mean, I'm sure they're everywhere and
18	they're still out there. Pretty soon
19	I'm not sure when they go into
20	hibernation but they will certainly do
21	that. It would be nice to be able to
22	find the nests and try to eradicate
23	them but we'll see. Thanks anyway.
24	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
25	Hubbard.

1	MS. GATELLI: Hi, Chris.
2	MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hi, Judge.
3	MR. GATELLI: I'm crying. We
4	lost the bell.
5	MR. SLEDENZSKI: Where did it go?
6	Judy, where did it go? Once again
7	I'm proud of you now, I really am.
8	Thank you.

9	MS. GATELLI: Thanks, Chris, so
10	much.
11	MR. JACOWITZ: Good evening, city
12	council, Bill Jacowitz, South Scranton
13	resident.
14	Again, I don't want to change
15	anybody's mind. I know the votes are
16	three to two for the borrowing or the
17	refinancing or whatever you want to
18	call it. Again all you decided. If
19	you want to call it and save Scranton
20	6.7 percent and rising and it will be
21	seven percent in my opinion by the end
22	of the year. Again, the citizens of
23	the taxpayers of United States and
24	which Scranton is part of United
25	States, we're bailing everybody out.

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We've bailed out Fannie Mac, we bailed out Enron, we bailed out Freddie, we bailed AIG Insurance, we're bailing out Wall Street. Now we're being asked to bail out Christopher Doherty. And, you know, we bailed him out three years ago. We had a banker who came to this meeting every week prior to the election, the last election and told us how important it was for us to borrow the money. He came every single week and guess what happened, here we are three years later, now we have to borrow more money for this money that we borrowed three years ago that this banker told us don't worry about it. Last week Councilwoman Gatelli said she spoke with bankers, she spoke with accountants, she spoke with

financial experts. Well, guess who
got the country in the mess that
they're in right now, the bankers, the
financial experts, the people who have
all those letters after their names.

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1 They are the ones who continually 2 borrow and gave away the money and 3 gave away the money and gave away the 4 money now. Now, the citizens of the 5 United States have to bail them out 6 for 700 million dollars or possibly a 7 trillion dollars. It's called Wall 8 Street, bankers, accountants, experts, 9 financial experts. They're the ones 10 who buried this country. The same

11	thing happened in the City of
12	Scranton. It's borrowing. If you're
13	paying back more money than you have
14	to or than you're paying back
15	presently, that's called borrowing.
16	If you want to call it refinancing, go
17	right ahead, you call it anything you
18	want. But the bottom line is the
19	citizens have to pay for it. We're
20	paying for the 500-block of Lackawanna
21	Avenue. I saw in the paper where it
22	said that Mr. Rinaldi paid 14 million
23	dollars according to the numbers. The
24	federal and state, 13.5, the city
25	500,000, Mr. Rinaldi paid the rest.

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I'm asking you, please, during motions, was that his personal money or was that the grant money that he was given? If it was the grant money which he thanks Mayor Doherty for in that same article, then that is not his personal money. That is public money. That is taxpayers' money. We're all taxpayers. I hope the five of you up there are paying taxes. I don't know if you are or if you are not. I am paying taxes and I am sick and tired of bailing everybody out. I'm sick and tired and listening to financial experts telling me borrow the money, borrow the money. Of course, they're going to tell you that, Councilwoman Gatelli because they get a commission. They're going to make money off our city borrowing money from there. That's the reason why they're going to tell you that. That's the reason why they go to Congress and they go to senate and they go to every courthouse, they go

1	to Harrisburg, borrow, borrow, borrow.
2	Well, guess what, if you don't have
3	the money to pay it back, sooner or
4	later it's going to catch up with you.
5	And, you know, Mrs. Fanucci, you
6	did an excellent job of not answering
7	the question that Faith Franus asked.
8	You spun it perfectly. You were
9	prepared. The question that she asked
10	was, "What if PNC went bankrupt?" Not
11	what the city was going to do. So you
12	answered it perfectly, Fanucci, you we

13	were planned, you were planned. The
14	spin was perfect. Just like the
15	police officers and the firemen are
16	responsible for a triple B bond
17	rating. The Triple B bond rating
18	MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Jacowitz?
19	MR. JACOWITZ: Yes, Mr.
20	President.
21	MR. MCGOFF: We asked Mrs. Franus
22	for a clarification of the question
23	and Mrs. Fanucci asked for the
24	clarification
25	MR. JACOWITZ: After she had been

1	gone to give us a two-minute response
2	
	for something that wasn't even asked.
3	MS. FANUCCI: That was very
4	correct. Listen.
5	MR. JACOWITZ: Watch the tape.
6	MS. FANUCCI: A lot of the
7	problem is you don't listen.
8	MR. JACOWITZ: Watch the tape.
9	I'm not perfect like you are like you
10	told us last week. You've never been
11	wrong. That's why we don't have any
12	empty store fronts in the City of
13	Scranton, do we? But, anyway, I
14	didn't come here to argue with you. I
15	didn't come here to argue, I really
16	didn't.
17	MS. FANUCCI: What else did you
18	come here for?
19	MR. JACOWITZ: Maybe getting a
20	vote for once instead a vote for Mayor
21	Chris Doherty. It's really funny,
22	Councilwoman Fanucci.
23	MS. FANUCCI: It is very funny.
24	MR. MCGOFF: All right. Thank
25	you.

1	Mrs. Evans.
2	MS. EVANS: Good evening. First,
3	in response to a citizen's request
4	made earlier this evening, I move to
5	draft legislation to return the Office
6	of Economic and Community Development
7	to City Hall at the time of renewal
8	and/or termination of their current
9	lease.
10	MS. GATELLI: I'll second that.
11	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
12	MR. COURTRIGHT: Can she repeat?
13	I didn't hear the first part. I'm
14	sorry.

15	MS. EVANS: I move to draft
16	legislation to return the Office of
17	Economic and Community Development to
18	City Hall at the time renewal and/or
19	termination of their current lease.
20	MR. MCGOFF: And it was seconded.
21	On the question.
22	MS. GATELLI: I can only say on
23	the question, when I was here in City
24	Hall working with Mike Washo, we set
25	up a plan with HUD and measured square

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footage of the office space that we took up in City Hall, and we did pay the city per square foot the going rate in rent, and I do believe that that will help the city. I believe that OECD does belong in City Hall where everyone would have access.

It is very inconvenient to go to the Scranton Life Building. I know because I attended some SRA meetings over there and it's hard to get up to the 8th floor, I think. That's where it's located. And the meeting room is very cramped with not much room for any visitors when they have a meeting. So I do believe that they belong in City Hall and that the city certainly can use the rent. So that is why I'm approving the motion.

MS. EVANS: In the past, I know, city council members had wished for the relocation of OECD to City Hall but it was hampered by the leases entered into by OECD and those leases basically -- or rather the lease was

00052

1 renewed without the knowledge or 2 consent of city council. However, I 3 have reviewed the lease, oh, probably 4 a year ago and that would be my most 5 recent review of it. But the renewal 6 of the original lease included a rent 7 increase, a monthly rent increase for 8 OECD. So I believe it will be very 9 cost effective and far more efficient 10 to relocate this integral part of 11 government right into City Hall. 12 MR. MCGOFF: What specifically 13 will your motion do? I guess I'm a 14 little confused at this point in time. 15 Will it -- I know you said to draft 16 legislation. That legislation would

17	then come before us again to
18	MS. EVANS: I'm making a motion
19	to draft legislation so the
20	legislation will come before council.
21	I do know at this time but it was just
22	mentioned just tonight whether it
23	would require a resolution or an
24	ordinance or whatever would be
25	appropriate. That can come before
20	appropriate. That can come before
00053	
1	city council for a vote well in
2	advance of their renewal date so the
3	office can be prepared to relocate
4	here.
5	MR. MCGOFF: I understand that.
6	I guess what my hesitation would be,
7	I'd be willing to vote for the motion
8	to draft the legislation. And in the
9	meantime, I think what we would need
10	to do is once again to look into the
11	feasibility of moving OECD, move to
12	this building where if it's possible
13	and just do it again as Mrs. Gatelli
14	indicated may be a bit of a
15	feasibility study for office space and
16	then that could in the meantime
17	legislation could be drafted and then
18	we could vote on it appropriately.
19	Anyone else on the question?
20	All those in favor signify by
21	saying aye.
22	MS. EVANS: Aye.
23	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
24	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
25	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved.
MS. EVANS: I only have three
issues tonight. First is the TV. The
caucus with Mr. Darcey and Mr.
Migliore was cancelled and will be
rescheduled hopefully next Tuesday at
5:45 p.m. I believe that this caucus
should be conducted in Council
Chambers and televised. Great
controversy has surrounded the funding
of this channel operator for the last
several months. The latest issue once
again involves a \$10,000 which was
funneled through the East Scranton
Business Association to ECTV by the
mayor. The mayor, himself, stated
that the money was urgently needed for
chat the money was digently needed for

19 20 21 22 23 24	blight elimination in basement of 933 Prescott Avenue where the ECTV is located. However, on September 24th the Scranton Times reported that the money was mostly spent on a digital server for TV signals. Because there
25	is a pressing need for a public
00055	
1	discussion of these and other matters
2	related to ECTV, with my colleagues
3	agreement, I request that Mayor
4	Doherty attend this caucus as well.
5	Do you agree?
6	MS. GATELLI: Why not.
7	MS. EVANS: Now, Kay, can we send
8	the mayor a letter tomorrow requesting
9 10	his attendance at this public caucus
10	next Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. Second, at last week's meeting I
12	requested an explanation for a
13	\$300,000 CDBG allocation proceeds for
14	downtown sidewalks. I wish to know
15	the locations and owners of these
16	downtown sidewalks. Mr. DeAngelo of
17	the OCD Community Planning Director,
18	since responded that the funds were
19	not approved yet. Thus, no
20	determination of the streets had been
21	made. I, therefore, find this
22	allocation inappropriate and
23	unacceptable, and I recommended that
24	this \$300,000 be allocated to street
25	pavement before the final vote on the
00056	
1	2009 CDBG allocations. In a
2	compromise with my colleagues tonight,
3	I agree to an additional \$200,000 for
4	paving and \$100,000 for downtown
5 6	sidewalks. I'm making this recommendation in addition to other
7	cuts and subsequent increased funding
8	that Mrs. Gatelli and I developed and
9	recommended the last week, one of
10	which was to increase neighborhood
11	police patrol funding to its maximum
12	limit.
13	Third, the 2008 borrowing arises
14	at its final vote this evening. I've
15	spoken against this borrowing during
16	council's two meetings. I have
17	explained the financial background and
18	current terms of the new agreement.
19	Mr. Doherty made no effort to cut the
20	fat from a morbidly obese

21	administration in operating budget for
22	the past seven years. Rather, he
23	continued to feed his insatiable
24	pay-to-play appetite and loosed his
25	belt to the very last notch.

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Also I find it utterly incredible
that in the current economic crises
and volatile condition of the stock
and bond market, PNC Bank would extend
yet another financial agreement to
this mayor based on a vision of the
future.
Finally, I have a few citizens'
requests for the week. A letter to
Mr. Oleski and Mr. Seitzinger, was the

demolition program in West Scranton fully and successfully completed during the Summer of 2008? Please provide city council with a written update of the properties that have been demolished and those that have not on/or before October 20th, 2008.

Attorney Minora has made progress on the council resolution in support of House Bill 1768, and I understand that it will be included on next week's agenda.

Also, I would ask Attorney Minora what is your progress on an ordinance to change the zoning at the area of

00058

1 Daron Northeast. 2 MR. MINORA: My concern with that 3 is it may be considered spot zoning 4 when you take one piece of property 5 and try and rezone it. It can be 6 considered regulatory taking which 7 would trigger compensation under the 8 Eminent Domain Act. So I've got a 9 real concern about that and it may be 10 something we would like to talk about in caucus because there's alternatives 11 12 in doing that that don't expose the 13 city to liability under the Eminent 14 Domain Act. 15 MS. EVANS: I'm certainly open to 16 discussion. My concern is that I 17 understand they're in the moving 18 process and that relocation is dated 19 for completion in December, and as I 20 stated last week, we were advised by 21 DEP to change the zoning in that area 22 before any other business of that

23	particular toxic nature would be able
24	to purchase and locate themselves
25	50 feet from a residence home.

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1	MR. MINORA: Yeah. You know,
2	I've sat here through the issues. I
3	understand the issue. What you've
4	asked me with is another concern and
5	that's what I was looking at, I think,
6	rather talk and caucus about some of
7	the alternatives.
8	MS. EVANS: That's fine. And as
9	I said, I'm open to discussion. I
10	just want to insure that there will be
11	firm movement as soon as possible in
12	order to protect the residents of that
13	neighborhood.
14	MR. MINORA: Is there someone
15	prepared to go in there after Daron
16	vacates?
17	MS. EVANS: Not to my knowledge.
18	MR. MINORA: I thought maybe I'm
19	missing something. Okay. Thank you.
20	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Also 1543
21	Von Storch Avenue, the property is
22	condemned and vandals are stripping
23	the aluminium from the house. Two
24	weeks ago the house was broken into
25	through a window in the rear. The
00060	
1	open window continues to provide
2	access to this condemned structure.
3	The neighbors report it's a safety
4	hazard and requests that Mr. Oleski
5	arrange to board up this window as
6	soon as possible.
7	Also please pave Cooper Avenue.
8	I've requested this on behalf of
9	residents for four years, and I'm
10	certainly hoping that this may be the
11	lucky year, particularly since we were
12	able to increase the allocation for

street paving and still minimal in my opinion, we need millions to pave streets but hopefully streets that haven't been addressed in four years are going to see some tar.

18Anyway, there's one more. If we19could send a memo, Kay, please, to20Robert Rossi and Sons. What is the21date that the exit conference for the222007 audit will be conducted? My23concern is that this audit is taking24as much time as the 2006 audit which

1	independent auditor by city council
2	and so I would want to know from Mr.
3	Rossi or his representatives
4	specifically who is responsible for
5	this delay. And that's it.
6	MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans, the last
7	time I spoke to Mr. Shawn Rossi, he
8	was in to give some information to me.
9	He was waiting at that time for the
10	Scranton Parking Authority's audit to
11	be completed before he can go any
12	further. So at that time he had no
13	clue as to when they would be able to
14	set up an exit conference. That was
15	just about a week ago I spoke with
16	him.
17	MS. EVANS: Okay. Thank you very
18	much for that update. Maybe you could
19	indicate in the memo that it would be
20	much appreciated if he would contact
21	you as soon as that date has been
22	scheduled.
23	MS. GARVEY: Okay.
24	MS. EVANS: Thank you.
25	MS. GATELLI: I would first like

1	to thank Mr. Matthews from DPW for
2	boarding up a property at 1220 Rock
3	Street across from West Scranton High
4	School. It was opened and it was
5	condemned and students were going in
6	and out of there, and I wanted to
7	thank him publicly for doing that in
8	such an expeditious manner.
9	Someone talked tonight about I
10	think it was Alexander's that we had
11	given a loan to, and I would like to
12	update our list, Mrs. Garvey, if you
13	could send OECD a letter and have them
14	send us a list of anyone who is
15	delinquent on their loan payments. I
16	know they talked about taxes, but I
17	want to know if these businesses are
18	doing good on their loans. The last
19	time we got them, the only one was
20	Whistles and, please, ask for the
21	status of the Whistles loan payments.
22	MS. EVANS: I can say to my
23	knowledge but this, of course, would
24	have been a few months ago that that
25	particular loan was in very good

1	shape.
2	MS. GATELLI: Oh, good. That's
3	good news.
4	The next thing is I had sent a
5	letter sometime ago to Mike Wallace
6	asking him to notify city council when
7	zoning matters were appealed to court.
8	They, indeed, sent them to us, but I
9	would ask that we please tell Mr.
10	Wallace that when he states the
11	applicant's name that is appealing,
12	that he also put a description of the
13	zoning variance, because I have two of
14	them here for this month from
15	August 13th, and it says DR Realty and
16	GAR, and I don't know what issues they
17	involved. So if he can include what
18	they were here representing, it would
19	help us. Also, if he could notify at
20	least council members when the appeal
21	hearing is to be held, the date and
22	time it is to be heard in court,
23	because many of these people want to
24	go to those hearings and they're never
25	notified of the date. So if we can

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app	precia	te tha	at.			
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1101 Cedar Avenue, someone called the office to state that the property was opened. I have called the realtor, and he is going to inspect the property and make sure that it is not accessible. He did have someone looking at the property, and he was going to keep me informed of the progress. It is a very unsightly building on a main street and near a school and we're very concerned about that.

There's also another property at 521 Maple that I'm getting some complaints on. I did go by and it is condemned and boarded up, but I will try to get an answer on that. And that's all I have. Thank you. MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Gatelli. Mrs. Fanucci. MS. FANUCCI: I have two things tonight, maybe three. Last week I spoke to you about going green and I

2	thank everyone for all the e-mails and
3	all the input that people have about
4	this. I believe that we are on a very
5	good track here, and one of the
6	wonderful ideas was to talk about
7	to send a letter I would like to
8	make this motion I want to send a
9	letter to DPW about recycling
10	cardboard and that. I mean, how would
11	we go about that, what we would do, if
12	refuse would actually help us increase
13	some revenue which I believe that we
14	can do that in that department. Do we
15	need special containers, special
16	trucks? How would we go about that?
17	How fast can we implement? So if we
18	can send them a letter out, I will
19	also make some phone calls on this,
20	and I just want to see if I have the
21	support of my council on that.
22	MS. GATELLI: Yes.
23	MS. EVANS: Yes.
24	MS. FANUCCI: Thank you. Also I
25	want to speak on the Scranton Housing

appointments and the investigation.
The investigation was already in
existence actually before even the
—
last administration. But you cannot
blame the board members. It would
be you know, Ozzie, you had your
taxpayers' association but if someone
there who is actually not paying their
taxes I'm not saying they're not.
I'm saying that someone there, you
would not be held responsible for
that. You know, that is not your job
as a leader. So I think that would be
the same thing. I think as a holding
board member and almost in contempt of
not knowing would be good idea not to
reappointment because it's something
that was going on actually, you know,
in a long period of time. So that's
my feeling on that.
I also want to make statements
and, Mr. Jacowitz, you got me good
tonight. You knew I was going to say
something. The recovery plan, I never
stated that the fire and police were

to	blame	. What	I said	was	they	were
par	rt of t	the reas	son for	the	recov	very
pla	an. Wl	hat they	y were	doing		

4	demanding the insurance everything
5	was part of the recovery plan. This
6	is not anything new. This is fact.
7	I'm not blaming anyone. Quite frankly
8	it takes two to tango. I'm very aware
9	of that. And if I'm going to blame
10	anyone, it will be both sides, because
11	as sitting up here as we've stated on
12	numerous cases, we want them to come
13	to an agreement. Sit down, come to an
14	agreement. That's the only way to
15	move forward. And I am sorry that for
16	some reason you're not understanding
17	that. Sometimes when you state facts,
18	you don't have to like them. I don't
19	have to like them. Most of the time I
20	don't like facts to be honest with
21	you. But that is not what I stated.
22	I certainly wasn't blaming the fire
23	and police or anything.
24	Also I just want to state that
25	you and I have to start to very much

agree to disagree because that is
something that has been going on here
and probably will continue. And I
have to say at the end of the day,
your sarcasm will always, always make
me laugh. And that's all I have.
Thank you.
MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
Fanucci.
MR. COURTRIGHT: I lost my train
of thought after that. Give me a
second.
MS. FANUCCI: I'm sorry.
MR. COURTRIGHT: I wanted to talk
about ECTV. You know, I think it's an
important issue, and every so often an
issue will come up that that's what
you called about the most, so most
recently this is one of the biggest
things that I've been getting calls
about. I thought it was so important,
I actually made arrangements to take
off work today so that I could be here
for the caucus. I didn't want to miss
the caucus and that didn't happen so I

1	have to make arrangements next week so
2	I can be here. I think it's important
3	not just to the City of Scranton but
4	to the residents of Lackawanna County.
5	The county does, you know, pitch in

6	financially to help out. I'm
7	disappointed the way things went. You
8	know, the mayor appointed a board to
9	pick someone to run Channel 61, and
10	that board chose ECTV which was their
11	right to do. But I believe they chose
12	them after Mr. Balton came in and
13	presented a plan. They get the
14	agreement, Mr. Balton leaves, and I
15	still don't know to this day why he
16	left. But I don't think they followed
17	through on what they said they were
18	going to do. Whose fault it is, I
19	don't know. But we're once down the
20	road here, and we're not any better.
21	Mr. Darcy has taken over, I've never
22	met him. I don't know what his skills
23	are or qualification are as far as
24	running the TV station. I know Mr.
25	Migliore, you know, worked for Channel

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61 or Scranton Today when they were running Channel 61. But my thought is this. If Mr. Darcey comes in next week and Mr. Minora and we have questions to be asked and answered, and they don't answer satisfactorily as far as when we're going to be able to be up and running the way they said they were going to be up and running when they originally gave their plan to this panel that chose them and I think at that time, we should just turn it back to Scranton Today temporarily. I'm not saying taking it away from them. I'm saying temporarily until what time they could be up and running the way they're supposed be. Because I'm telling you, people aren't happy with the way things are going, not just Scranton, in Lackawanna County. And if, in fact, it's a week, it's two weeks, a month, you know, that they're up and running, then certainly, you know, they have the -- Scranton Today would

1	have to forfeit it back over to them.
2	But what is going on now isn't
3	satisfactory to anybody. I'm going to
4	ask them when they come next week,
5	that they do play council more than
6	what they do And here's what I'm
7	going more than one person told me

8	this. They work two people
9	actually told me they work from seven
10	to 3:30 so they missed two of the
11	times that its aired. If they happen
12	to miss the time at 6:30 when it's
13	aired, then they don't get to see it.
14	I had a guy yell out the window to me,
15	I was on Main Avenue, he said, "When
16	are going to go back on TV?" I said,
17	"Well, we're back on TV." All right.
18	But they're not seeing it. So that's
19	just my thought. Maybe they'll come
20	next week and we'll have all the
21	answers, and we'll all be happy. But
22	if they're not, I think we need to do
23	something. Moving on.
24	You know, Mrs. Gatelli spoke last
25	week about when we were talking about

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the loan or the borrowing or 1 2 refinancing, whatever name you want to 3 give it, that the Tax Office 4 didn't -- I'm trying to be nice --5 proceed ahead with the audit as 6 expeditiously as they should have. 7 And if they had, then possibly we 8 would be getting the money or when we 9 most certainly needed it and then that 10 might have changed the way she should 11 be voting. So it got me thinking. 12 And I spoke to two different 13 individuals that are in the financial 14 word. I know Mr. Jacowitz was just 15 stating that he doesn't care for those 16 people. But anyway, I spoke to two 17 different individuals in the financial 18 world that deal in taxes on a daily 19 basis, and I asked him a question, I 20 asked him out of this 12 million 21 dollars that is supposedly in this 22 account, how much do they think would 23 be coming to the City of Scranton. 24 And they told me about the data, about 25 the data that they couldn't give me,

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you know, an exact answer. I said with information you have, what do you think? And they both were around the same they said that they believed six to eight million dollars is coming to the City of Scranton. Now, that's a lot of money, a lot of money. And
a lot of money, a lot of money. And
even if they're wrong, even if it's
three or four million, it's still a

10	lot of money. And I can't help but
11	think that the mayor has some type of
12	plans for whatever the dollar amount
13	is that we're getting what he's
14	going to do with this money, whether
15	he's going to use it to plug up a hole
16	in next year's budget or pay down the
17	debt or maybe buy the fire trucks or
18	police cars we need, the vehicles,
19	whatever, I'm sure he has some kind of
20	idea. They're all I would like to
21	make a motion that we send a letter to
22	the mayor asking him to respond in
23	writing by next week's meeting what
24	plans he has for the money that is
25	going to be coming to the Tax Office,

1	whatever the dollar amount is, and I
2	do have a form of a motion.
3	MS. FANUCCI: I'll second that.
4	
	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
5	MS. EVANS: Mr. Courtright, I
6	invited the mayor to attend the caucus
7	concerning ECTV next week, so it's
8	very possible that you can ask him
9	that question in person.
10	MR. COURTRIGHT: Maybe if we send
11	him a letter, he'll have a handwritten
12	thing he'll hand it to me if we're
13	lucky.
14	MS. EVANS: We'll do that.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else on the
16	question. All those in favor signify
17	by saying aye.
18	MS. EVANS: Aye.
19	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
20	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
21	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
23	ayes have it and so moved.
23	_
	MR. COURTRIGHT: And lastly on a
25	good note, I'd like to send a

1	congratulations on and thanks to
2	Officer Connelly. I got two phone
3	calls. Evidently he removed vehicles
4	in a neighbor, three of them had been
5	there for a long time, and people were
6	so happy about it, they actually
7	called me and wanted me to thank him.
8	So, Officer Connelly, thank you very
9	much. And that's all I have.
10	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. First
11	thing I would like to again reiterate

12	that Mrs. Garvey is most diligent in
13	doing the work of advertising the
14	meetings and all of the hearings and
15	whatever, and it seemed by implication
16	there was some question as to how she
17	had done that, and I would just like
18	to say that I think that we are all
19	grateful for the diligence that she
20	puts in her job, and I would hate to
21	think that anyone would question that.
22	So I just wanted to make sure that we
23	were clear.
24	In speaking on the Single Tax
25	Office, I would like to formally again

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1send something to the Single Tax2Office asking the progress of the3forensic audit, and I would also make4a phone call to the Single Tax Office5to see if we can receive an answer as6to what the status of that is.7Also, I questioned Attorney

Also, I questioned Attorney Minora prior to our meeting about the subpoena of Mr. McDowell. Attorney Minora, would you just update the status of that?

MR. MINORA: Yes. The court upheld our petition enforcing the subpoena, so that was a favorable decision for the city.

In response to that, counsel for Mr. McDowell asked the court to clarify the order by making it a final order, and I'll explain that in a minute and issue an opinion. By asking for a final order, he is essentially saying we want to take an appeal, because you can only take an appeal from a final order. So it's not speculation to say that they

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intend to appeal Judge Thomson's
order. Judge Thomson hasn't written
an opinion yet, nor has he made it a
final order but there's no reason why
he wouldn't. The decision essentially
answers all the questions that were
raised by all the litigation.
MR. MCGOFF: So there is nothing
that council needs to do at this time
to

MR. MINORA: I think anything that we do would just be a waste of our time. I mean, we can issue

14	another subpoena but there's still a
15	motion pending before the court and
16	that would make that moot. I think we
17	just need to let it play out the way
18	it's supposed to.
19	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Two
20	things I'd like also if we could
21	contact I don't know if at this
22	point in time Mr. Oleski or DPW
23	concerning the O'Connell Place which
24	had been demolished this past year.
25	Residents in that area have asked that

1	if some of the much of the debris
2	has been removed but they're claiming
3	there is some debris there and there
4	is still a need to level part of it
5	and I'd like to send a letter I
6	guess it would be going to Mr. Oleski
7	first concerning the you know,
8	removal of the debris and the
9	levelling of O'Connell's Place.
10	MS. GATELLI: I'm just going to
11	interrupt for one minute. I know
12	you're retired and you have the time.
13	Thursday there will be a community
14	justice meeting. Mr. Oleski will be
15	there and, if you can, stop in and
16	maybe you can just take him right over
17	there.
18	MR. MCGOFF: I remind you, I did
19	get a part-time job, so.
20	MS. GATELLI: Oh, dear, I didn't
21	know that. I'll remind him.
22	MR. MCGOFF: And also to end on a
23	favorable note, while O'Connell Place
24	has maybe been neglected a little bit,
25	progress is being made at what I guess

1 2	is going to be Connor's Park, the old post office, the progress on the park
3	is moving forward. It's actually
4	starting to look like a park, a
5	defined area, the curbs and trees and
6	some landscaping. Hopefully that will
7	be completed soon and I know for many
8	of the residents of that area that
9	they are quite pleased with what has
10	been done and what will continue to be
11	done. And also the areas that were
12	once hidden by the post office, the
13	homes in the back of it, those people
14	are now able to see out onto Orchard
15	Street and it is a much better. It

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	just looks much better, and I'm sure the future will be a valuable asset to the MS. FANUCCI: I know one person who is really happy with that park. MR. MCGOFF: What's that? MS. FANUCCI: I think I know one person who is really happy with the park.
2.3	MR. COURTRIGHT: And that will be
$     \begin{array}{c}       1 \\       2 \\       3 \\       4 \\       5 \\       6 \\       7 \\       8 \\       9 \\       10 \\       11 \\       12 \\       13 \\       14 \\       15 \\       16 \\       17 \\       18 \\       19 \\       20 \\       21 \\       22 \\       23 \\       24 \\       25 \\     \end{array} $	all that I have. MR. GATELLI: I just have one more announcement, if I may. MR. MCGOFF: Go right ahead. MS. GATELLI: There are several voting districts in Scranton that are going to be relocated for the upcoming election. It was in the paper, but it was just in the briefs and I know a lot of people didn't see it. A lot of people have been calling me about the Kennedy School. They are renovating the school, so we can't vote there. And 20-3 Kennedy School will be voting at St. John the Evangelist Hall, 517 Fig Street; Scranton 12-1, 12-2 which voted at Possibilities Bookstore at 231 Pittston Avenue will now be voting at the Clarion Hotel, 300 Meadow Avenue; 10-1 East Scranton Little League will be voting at the Myrtle Street Methodist Church, 840 Harrison Avenue; and 10-2, Immaculate Conception Church will be voting at the Myrtle Street Methodist Church,
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	840 Harrison Avenue. We can see if we can ask ECTV to run these on their screen. I'll give these to Kay and maybe she can give them to the camera man and he can tell Mr. Migliore if they could run these on the television. It is a very important election and we wouldn't want people to be going to the wrong polling

place. I've been there when that's happened, and they get frustrated and

they just go home. So I think it's

incumbent upon us as public officials

MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry. One last

to make sure people know where to go

thing I did want to mention. Last

to vote. Thank you.

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18	week, I think it was last week or
19	maybe the week before someone read the
20	CDBG proposals from the podium. I
21	would just like people know that
22	council, as Mrs. Evans has indicated,
23	council has worked on amending those
24	and we are now in the process of
25	taking these back to OECD for possible

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further revision pending upon some of the regulations that are needed and the 30 -- once the 30-day period is over, we'll have a final listing of the grants and many of them have been changed from what was read last week. Just so people know that. Thank you. MS. EVANS: Can I add one last thing I forgot. The old Atlas Glass building on Providence Road, I know I had requested last year that that property be cleaned up, and it was, and it was brought to my attention again this summer by residents of the area, and I've spoken with a city inspector about this. The owner of the property can't be located, however, the property is for sale. The realtor was contacted and asked to clear the property, however, that never occurred. So that's where we stand on the old Atlas Glass property. We're at a stalemate with the realtor. MS. GARVEY: 5B. FOR INTRODUCTION AN ORDINANCE SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT

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$\bot$	PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
2	902-908 NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE,
3	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO ALFRED D.
4	PANTUSO, SR., RD #2, BOX 2165, MOSCOW,
5	PENNSYLVANIA, 18444, FOR THE
6	CONSIDERATION OF \$8,000.00.
7	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
8	entertain a motion that Item 5B be
9	introduced into its proper committee.
10	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
11	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
12	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
13	All those in favor signify by saying
14	aye.
15	MS. EVANS: Aye.
16	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
17	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
19	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The

20	ayes have it and so moved.
21	MS. GARVEY: 5C. FOR INTRODUCTION
22	AN ORDINANCE SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT
23	PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 2110
24	CAPOUSE AVENUE, SCRANTON,
25	PENNSYLVANIA, TO MARK F. AND CHRISTINE

•	
1	L. FRYER, 902 WOODLAWN STREET,
2	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18444, FOR THE
3	CONSIDERATION OF \$2,000.00.
4	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
5	entertain a motion that Item 5C be
6	introduced into its proper committee.
7	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
8	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
9	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
10	All those in favor signify by saying
11	aye.
12	MS. EVANS: Aye.
13	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
14	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
15	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
17	ayes have it and so moved.
18	MS. GARVEY: 5D. FOR INTRODUCTION
19	AN ORDINANCE SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT
20	PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
21	902-904 MADISON AVENUE, SCRANTON,
22	PENNSYLVANIA, TO STEVEN ANDERS AND
23	WILIM NG, RR 2, BOX 2051, STROUDSBURG,
24	PENNSYLVANIA, 18360, FOR THE
25	CONSIDERATION OF \$5,000.00.

1 2	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll entertain a motion that Item 5D be
3	introduced into its proper committee.
4	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
5	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
6	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
7	All those in favor signify by saying
8	aye.
9	MS. EVANS: Aye.
10	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
11	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
12	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
14	ayes have it and so moved.
15	MS. GARVEY: 5E. FOR INTRODUCTION
16	A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
17	OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO
18	EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A RIGHT OF
19	ENTRY-GENERAL RELEASE AGREEMENT WITH
20	THE PENNSYLVANIA NORTHEAST REGIONAL
21	RAILROAD AUTHORITY DELAWARE-LACKAWANNA

22	RAILROAD COMPANY, INC. ("PNRRA/DL")
23	CONCERNING THE 500 BLOCK OF LACKAWANNA
24	AVENUE PROJECT ENTITLED "PARK, PLAZA
25	AND PEDESTRIAN COURT".

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1	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
2	entertain a motion that Item 5E be
3	introduced into its proper committee.
4	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
5	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
6	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
7	MS. EVANS: Again, this project
8	does not include two anchor
9	businesses, Coney Island and Buona
10	Pizza, so I will be voting no for
11	that.
12	MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
13	signify by saying aye.
14	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
15	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
16	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
17	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?
18	MS. EVAN: No.
19	MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and
20	so moved.
21	MS. GARVEY: 5F. FOR INTRODUCTION
22	A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTMENT OF
23	WILLIAM J. EGAN, JR., 901 ELECTRIC
24	STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509,
25	AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE
23	AS A MEMBER OF THE DOARD OF THE
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00087	CONNECNI HOHCING MIEHODIEV FOD A FEDM
1 2	SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR A TERM
3	OF FIVE (5) YEARS. MR. EGAN'S NEW TERM
	WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2011.
4	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
5	entertain a motion that Item 5F be
6 7	introduced into its proper committee.
	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
8	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
9	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
10	All those in favor signify by saying
11	aye.

10	AII CHOSE IN IAVOI SIGNILY by Saying
11	aye.
12	MS. EVANS: Aye.
13	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
14	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
15	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
17	ayes have it and so moved.
18	MS. GARVEY: 5G. FOR INTRODUCTION
19	- A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF
20	JANE MCCARTHY, 537 NORTH WASHINGTON
21	AVENUE APARTMENT 303, SCRANTON,
22	PENNSYLVANIA, 18503, AS A MEMBER OF
23	THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON HOUSING

25	YEARS. MS. MCCARTHY'S CURRENT TERM
00088	
1	EXPIRED ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2008, AND HER
2	NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 27,
3	2013.
4	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
5	entertain a motion that Item 5G be
6	introduced into its proper committee.
7	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
8	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
9	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
10	All those in favor signify by saying
11	aye.
12	MS. EVANS: Aye.
13	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
14	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
15	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
17	ayes have it and so moved.
18	MS. GARVEY: 5H. FOR INTRODUCTION
19	A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTMENT OF
20	TERRENCE V. GALLAGHER, ESQUIRE, 1320
21	ORAM STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
22	18504, AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE
23	SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR A TERM
24	OF FIVE (5) YEARS. MR. GALLAGHER'S
25	CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON SEPTEMBER 27,
00089	2008 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON
2 3	SEPTEMBER 27, 2013. MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
4	entertain a motion that Item 5H be
5	introduced into its proper committee.
6	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
7	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
8	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
9	All those in favor signify by saying
10	aye.
11	MS. EVANS: Aye.
12	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
13	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
14	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
15 16	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved.
17 18	MS. GARVEY: Sixth order, no business at this time.
19	Seventh order, 7A. FOR
20	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
21	FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF
22	COUNCIL NO. 37, 2008 - APPROVING AND
23	ACCEPTING THE UPDATED CITY OF SCRANTON
24	CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2009 THE
25	FIRST-YEAR REVISION AND EXTENSION OF

00090	THE 2008 FIVE-YEAR PLAN.
2	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
3	recommendation of the Chairperson for
4	the Committee on Finance.
4 5	MS. GATELLI: As Chair for
6	
6 7	Finance, I would recommend final
8	passage of 7A.
8 9	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
10	MS. EVANS: The document is not
11	in compliance with the requirements of
12	the Home Rule Charter, therefore, I
13	will be voting no.
14	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
15	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
16	MS. EVANS: No.
17	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
18	MS. GATELLI: Yes.
19	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
20	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
21	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
22	MR. COURTRIGHT: No.
23	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
24	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
25	declare Item 7A legally and lawfully
00091	
1	adopted.
2	MS. GARVEY: 7B. FOR
3	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
4	FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF
4 5	COUNCIL NO. 39, 2008 - AUTHORIZING THE
J	COUNCIL NO. 39, 2008 - AUTHORIZING THE

1	adopted.
2	MS. GARVEY: 7B. FOR
3	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
4	FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF
5	COUNCIL NO. 39, 2008 - AUTHORIZING THE
6	MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY
7	OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN
8	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON
9	AND OCWEN LOAN SERVICING, LLC FOR THE
10	TRANSFER OF TITLE TO A PARCEL OF LAND
11	COMMONLY KNOWN AS 810 HERTZ COURT TO
12	THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND FOR
13	ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENT IN FULL FOR THE
14	DEMOLITION LIEN ON SAID PROPERTY AND
15	SATISFACTION OF THE DEMOLITION LIEN.
16	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
17	recommendation for the Chairperson for
18	the Committee on Finance.
19	MS. GATELLI: As Chair for the
20	Committee of Finance, I recommended
21	final passage of 7B.
22	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
23	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
24	Roll call, please.
25	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

1	MS. EVANS: Yes.
2	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
3	MS. GATELLI: Yes.
4	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
5	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
6	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
7	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
8	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
9	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
10	MR. MCGOFF: I hereby declare
11	Item 7B legally and lawfully adopted.
12	MS. GARVEY: 7C. FOR
13	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
14	FINANCE FOR ADOPTION FILE OF COUNCIL
15	NO. 40, 2008 AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF
16	CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO THE
17	REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF
18	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA (THE
19	"AUTHORITY") PURSUANT TO A LEASE
20	AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING
21	THE INCURRENCE OF LEASE RENTAL DEBT IN
22	THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SIX
23	MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS
24	(\$6,100,000), PURSUANT TO THE ACT OF
25	THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

1	COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, 53
2	PA.C.S, CHAPTERS 80-82, AS AMENDED,
3	KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT
4	DEBT ACT; DETERMINING THAT SUCH DEBT
5	SHALL BE INCURRED UNDER THE DEBT ACT
6	AS LEASE RENTAL DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED
7	BY A CERTAIN SUBLEASE AND GUARANTY
8	AGREEMENT OF THE CITY SECURING A
9	GUARANTEED LEASE REVENUE BOND TO BE
10	EXECUTED BY THE AUTHORITY TO FINANCE A
11	PROJECT FOR THE AUTHORITY CONSISTING
12	OF ALL OR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: (1)
13	ACQUIRING THE AUTHORITY'S LEASEHOLD
14	INTEREST IN SUCH REAL PROPERTY SUBJECT
15	TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT FROM THE CITY
16	AND IN CONNECTION THEREWITH CURRENTLY
17	REFUNDING THE SEWER AUTHORITY OF THE
18	CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA'S
19	GUARANTEED LEASE REVENUE NOTES, SERIES
20	OF 2005; AND (2) PAYING THE COSTS AND
21	EXPENSES OF FINANCING SUCH PROJECT;
22	BRIEFLY DESCRIBING SUCH PROJECT FOR
23	WHICH SUCH DEBT IS TO BE INCURRED;
24	DECLARING THE GUARANTY OF SAID
25	AUTHORITY'S GUARANTEED LEASE REVENUE

1	BONDS	TO BE	A PROJE	ECT OF	THE	CITY FOR
2	WHICH	LEASE	RENTAL	DEBT	IS TO	) BE

3	INCURRED; AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CITY
4	OFFICERS TO PREPARE, CERTIFY AND FILE
5	WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
6	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THE DEBT
7	STATEMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 8110 OF
8	THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT AND
9	AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF A DEBT
10	STATEMENT AND BORROWING BASE
11	CERTIFICATE; APPROVING THE FORM OF,
12	AND AUTHORIZING, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN
13	CONDITIONS, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF
14	THE AFORESAID LEASE AGREEMENT AND
15	SUBLEASE AND GUARANTY AGREEMENT;
16	SPECIFYING THE AMOUNT OF THE GUARANTY
17	OBLIGATION OF THE CITY PURSUANT TO
18	SUCH SUBLEASE AND GUARANTY AGREEMENT
19	AND THE SOURCES OF PAYMENT OF SUCH
20	GUARANTY OBLIGATION; REPEALING
21	INCONSISTENT PRIOR ORDINANCES; SETTING
22	FORTH CERTAIN CONDITIONS TO THE
23	EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE
	AFORESAID LEASE AGREEMENT AND SUBLEASE
25	AND GUARANTY AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING

1	THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO
2	TAKE ALL REQUIRED, NECESSARY OR
3	DESIRABLE RELATED ACTION IN
4	CONNECTION WITH SUCH PROJECT AND THE
5	EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE LEASE
6	AGREEMENT AND SUBLEASE AND GUARANTY
7	AGREEMENT; APPROVING THE FORM AND
8	DISTRIBUTION OF A PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL
9	STATEMENT AND AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT
10	WITH REGARD TO THE GUARANTEED LEASE
11	REVENUE BONDS; APPOINTING VARIOUS
12	PROFESSIONALS; PROVIDING FOR THE
13	EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND
14	DECLARING SAID PROJECT DESIRABLE FOR
15	THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE
16	RESIDENTS OF THE CITY.
17	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
18	recommendation for the Chairperson for
19	the Committee on Finance.
20	MS. GATELLI: As Chair for the
21	Committee of Finance, I recommended
22	final passage of 7C.
23	MS. FANUCCI: I'll second it.
24	MR. MCGOFF: On the question. I
25	think I would like to say two things

or two reasons for voting for this.
No. 1, I do not see anything
gained by defaulting on the loan.
And No. 2, that by refinancing

5	and extending the payments over the
6	course of time, it reduces the yearly
7	amount that the city pays in
8	indebtedness and hopefully prevents or
9	at least contributes to no tax
10	increase for the coming year budget.
11	MS. FANUCCI: I'd like to say
12	something, too. This is not something
13	5.
	as I said this last week that we are
14	happy to have to do. It is the lesser
15	of the two evils. Defaulting is not
16	an option which should never be an
17	option. We would actually just create
18	more and more problems with the
19	default. It is the responsible thing
20	to do. It is not the easy thing to
21	do. That is what I believe and did
22	know that this was coming. This was
23	not a surprise to any of us. When we
24	passed our budget, we knew that this
25	day would be coming. Anyone who had a
00097	
1	balloon mortgage or any circumstance
2	on a loan payment knows that it is a
3	better thing to at least try to
4	refinance. So I am going to say that
5	I'm happy that at least we are
6	refinancing and not defaulting.
7	Unfortunately as you know being out
8	there, we were all in the same
9	situation. It's the whole country is
10	in the same situation. Your city is
11	not any different. It is sad. It is
12	not a case that we want to be in but
	it is a situation that we are faced
13	
14	with and I will be voting yes
15	obviously.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?
17	MS. EVANS: Yes. I just want to
18	add, we're in this situation because
19	members of council and not just this
20	council, prior members of council
21	could never say no to more borrowing.
22	And I see no end in sight. I ask why
23	is there never any cutting. Why is
24	there only continual growth within the
25	administration? And so I am saying as
00098	
1	I have said for four years and for the
2	fifth year, enough, no more BS
3	policies.
4	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call.
5	MS. GATELLI: I guess I'm going
6	to have to say something since

7	everyone else did. Well, you know, as
8	much as everyone calls it borrowing
9	and I'm still going to call it
10	refinancing. We don't have a payment
11	to make in December. I am going to
12	say that we don't have it because of
13	the Tax Office. That is going to be
14	my reason, and I will always believe
15	it's the reason. We couldn't get the
16	information from Mr. McDowell and the
17	audit was not started until well, well
18	past the time when we knew the money
19	was up there. I don't know the reason
20	for that. I'd like to know the reason
21	for that. And I believe that is the
22	reason why we don't have the money to
23	pay for this. I would like to follow
24	Mr. Ungvarsky's idea of suing them but
25	I don't know that that would get us

the money in a timely fashion. I think maybe we can try to do it at another time. I don't know to what benefit it would be. But he had the right idea to sue him for the money. Our money is up there. It's been up there, and I don't know what took so long for us to get the money. But I will not see the city default on a loan. It would put the city in a very precarious position. There were people here. This borrowing was not a borrowing that I approved of. Some council members have approved of several borrowings. So to point fingers at any one particular person is unfair because other people have borrowed also. Sometimes you feel like that's the only way you can help the city. It's not being done because we want to do it, because I have to pay, too. I have to pay the taxes, too, and so do my kids or my one daughter. She has a home. But no one
wants to do it, and that's the way

1	everyone feels. But sometimes I think
2	you're doing the right thing and you
3	are merely trying to help your city
4	instead of hurting them and find a way
5	out of it. So I hope we get the Tax
6	Office money, and I'll be interested
7	to see how the mayor is going to spend
8	that for next year. But for right

now, I don't want to see the city
default on the loan and that's why I'm
voting yes.
MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
MS. EVANS: No.
MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
MS. GATELLI: Yes.
MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
MR. COURTRIGHT: No.
MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
declare Item 7C legally and lawfully
adopted.
MS. GARVEY: 7D and E have been

1	tabled.
2	7F. FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE
3	COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
4	FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 64, 2008
5	- AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
6	APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
7	AND ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
8	AGREEMENT WITH CLOUGH HARBOUR &
9	ASSOCIATES LLP FOR ADDITIONAL
10	PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR
11	THE LACKAWANNA AVENUE STREETSCAPE
12	PROJECT.
13	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
14	recommendation with the Chairperson
15	for the Committee on Community
16	Development.
17	MS. FANUCCI: As Chair for the
18	Committee of Community Development, I
19	recommended final passage of Item 7F.
20	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
21	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
22	MS. EVANS: I'll be voting no on
23	this for the same reasons I have on
24	related pieces of legislation. The
25	two anchor businesses of Lackawanna
20	
1	Avenue who have been paying taxes to
2	this city for 40 years, Coney Island,
3	
	Buona Pizza, they're not included in
4	streetscape project, and I think it's

5	Buona Fizza, chey le not included in
4	streetscape project, and I think it's
5	most unfair to them, and I think it's
6	esthetically not an appealing vision.
7	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
8	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
9	MS. EVANS: No.
10	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

11	MS. GATELLI: Yes.
12	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
13	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
14	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
15	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
16	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
17	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
18	MR. MCGOFF: I hereby declare
19	Item 7F legally and lawfully adopted.
20	MS. GARVEY: 7G. FOR
21	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
22	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR ADOPTION
23	RESOLUTION NO. 65, 2008 -
24	AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
25	APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE

1	AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MICHAEL
2	J. PASONICK, JR., INC., CONSULTING
3	ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS, 165 NORTH
4	WILKES BARRE BOULEVARD, WILKES BARRE,
5	PENNSYLVANIA 18702 TO INSPECT THE
6	ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR
7	THE 500 BLOCK OF LACKAWANNA AVENUE
8	PROJECT ENTITLED PARK PLAZA AND
9	PEDESTRIAN COURT.
10	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
11	recommendation with the Chairperson
12	for the Committee on Community
13	development.
14	MS. FANUCCI: As Chair for
15	Committee on Community Development, I
16	recommend final passage of Item 7G.
17	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
18	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
19	MS. EVANS: Again I'll be voting
20	no because the Lackawanna Avenue
21	project omits two prime city
22	businesses.
23	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
24	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
25	MS. EVANS: No.

1	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.						
2	MS. GATELLI: Yes.						
3	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.						
4	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.						
5	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.						
6	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.						
7	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.						
8	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.						
9	MR. MCGOFF: I hereby declare						
10	Item 7G legally and lawfully adopted.						
11	MS. GARVEY: 7H. FOR						
12	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON						

13	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR ADOPTION
14	RESOLUTION NO. 66, 2008 -
15	AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
16	APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT,
17	EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A BROWNFIELD
18	ASSESSMENT AND CLEANUP COOPERATIVE
19	AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
20	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)
21	IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000.00. THE
22	"PROJECT" WILL BE CALLED THE
23	BROWNFIELDS COMMUNITY-WIDE HAZARDOUS
24	ASSESSMENT GRANT FOR THE CITY OF
25	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

1	MR. MCGOFF: What is the						
2	recommendation with the Chairperson						
3	for the Committee on Community						
4	Development.						
5	MS. FANUCCI: As Chair for the						
6	Committee on Community Development, I						
7	recommended final passage of 7H.						
8	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.						
9	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.						
10	Roll call, please.						
11	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.						
12	MS. EVANS: Yes.						
13	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.						
14	MS. GATELLI: Yes.						
15	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.						
16	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.						
17	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.						
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.						
19	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.						
20	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby						
21	declare Item 7H legally and lawfully						
22	adopted.						
23	Thank you for your patience and						
24	your cooperation.						
25	Motion to adjourn.						

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	p.m.)		Motion. concluded	at.	8:34

	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	
	25	
00107	1 2 3	CERTIFICATION
	4	I HERBY CERTIFY that the proceedings and
	5	evidence are contained fully and accurately in
	6	the notes taken by me at the hearing of the
	7	above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is
	8	a true and correct transcript to the best of my
	9	ability.
	10	
	11	
	12	Amelia Nicol
		Official Court Reporter
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