1	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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5	HELD:
6	
7	Tuesday, October 7, 2008
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9	LOCATION:
10	Council Chambers
11	Scranton City Hall
12	340 North Washington Avenue
13	Scranton, Pennsylvania
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23	CAMBLENE C MADDOGGI DDD OFFICIAL COURT DEPOSTED
24	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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2	CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:
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4	MR. ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT
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6	MS. JUDY GATELLI, VICE-PRESIDENT
7	MS. JANET E. EVANS
9	MS. SHERRY FANUCCI
10	MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT
11	FIX. WILLIAM COOKINION
12	MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK
13	MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
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15	MR. AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR
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1	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
2	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
3	MS. EVANS: Here.
4	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
5	MS. GATELLI: Here.
6	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
7	MS. FANUCCI: Here.
8	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
9	MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.
10	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
11	MR. MCGOFF: Here. Dispense with
12	the reading of the minutes.
13	MS. GARVEY: THIRD ORDER. No
14	business at this time.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Any announcements? Mrs
16	Gatelli?
17	MS. GATELLI: Yes. Well, the first
18	thing I would like to announce is tomorrow
19	evening, Wednesday, October 8th, and
20	Thursday, October 9th, is the St. Anthony's
21	Church on Wood Street, their annual
22	spaghetti and meatball dinner.
23	The City of Scranton and the Unico
24	are sponsoring their Tram of Terror again
25	this year. It's on Friday and Saturday,

1 October 10th and 11th, Friday and Saturday, 2 October 17th and 18th, and Friday and 3 Saturday October 24th and 25th. The cost is \$5.00 and children under 12 is free. 5 And the last thing is Neighborhood Housing Services is having a foreclosure 6 counseling kick-off, Thursday, October 9th, 7 8 at 11:00 in the morning for anyone that can make it. It's at 709 East Market Street, 9 Senator Robert Casey, Junior, will join the 10 board of Neighborhood Housing Services, 11 12 staff and partners, in a major regional 13 foreclosure mitigation effort. I would 14 suggest that anyone whose mortgage is 15 falling behind or in danger of losing their 16 homes, they are a nonprofit housing counseling and lending service and they will 17 18 be available to help you with your problems. 19 Neighborhood Housing Services' phone number is 558-2490, and again, they are located at 20 709 East Market Street, and that's all I 21 22 have. Thank you, Mr. McGoff. 23 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? Mrs. Evans? 24

MS. EVANS: Geneses Wildlife Center

will conduct a Fall Fun Fair at Nay Aug Park in Scranton, Saturday, October 18 in front of the Wildlife Center from 12 to 4 p.m.

All money raised will go to the animals.

There will be games, hot dogs, coffee, hot chocolate, pony rides, so please bring your children and have a wonderful day at the Wildlife Center.

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Also, the public is cordially invited to the annual Dunmore Cemetery Tour on Sunday, October 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. Julie Espe of the Lackawanna Historical Society has put together a spectacular show of the famous and not so famous persons buried in the cemetery. Julie has researched and written all 22 scenes. Julie's actors make the deceased come to life to entertain and inform you about how they lived their lives and in the area long ago before most of us were born. What a wonderful way to spend an enjoyable Autumn afternoon. Again, it takes place on Sunday, October 12, at the Dunmore Cemetery at 2:00 p.m. The tour starts at the West Warren Street entrance. No admission, but a

1	donation	mould be	appreciated.
L	donation	would be	appreciated.

And, finally, beginning November 1,
2008, Comcast will be adjusting our prices
once again according to C. Elizabeth
Sterner, senior director of government and
community affairs for Comcast. Area cable
subscribers have endured several rate
increases from Comcast as we all know. Many
citizens are requesting that the city
consider other cable providers in it's
forthcoming selection process, and I must
say that I strongly support that suggestion.
That's it.

MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? I would just like to mention this Sunday, this coming Sunday is I believe the 13th running of the Steamtown Marathon. Unfortunately, registration closed last Sunday so that it's too late if you were thinking of running. I know that disappoints a number of people, but just for your information's sake that will mean a number of downtown streets will be closed Sunday. It may make travel through the city a little bit complicated for a short time, but it's a great event.

2	completely exhausted and ready to pass out,
3	you know, get down to Washington Avenue on
4	Sunday morning, again, it's a great event
5	and brings a lot of people to the City of
6	Scranton and an enjoyable day, and that is
7	all that I have. FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
8	PARTICIPATION. Ozzie Quinn.
9	MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Taxpayers'
10	Association. 5-D, you have a resolution
11	authorizing the mayor to enter into a
12	memorandum of agreement between the US
13	Department of Interior and OECD to undertake
14	and manage construction activities at
15	Steamtown Park. What does undertake mean?
16	Does it involve money? What are they going
17	to do there? Does anybody have any idea?
18	MR. MCGOFF: I believe it's part of
19	the park project for Lackawanna Avenue.
20	MR. QUINN: Was that in the
21	redevelopment plan that was an urban that
22	was designated as a State Urban
23	Redevelopment, under the State Urban
24	Redevelopment, and I was wondering if that's

in the boundaries or also is this something

2	the plan? I never saw a plan. Did you see
3	the plan?
4	MS. FANUCCI: I didn't see the whole
5	plan, but I do not believe that this is
6	MR. QUINN: Well, don't say yo don't
7	know unless you saw the plan.
8	MS. FANUCCI: Well, I'm telling you
9	what
10	MR. QUINN: I'll write the state.
11	I'll write the state then. Thank you.
12	MS. FANUCCI: This is why I didn't
13	want to answer him.
14	MR. QUINN: I don't want no
15	surmises, please, there is too much money
16	involved here. If nobody has saw this plan
17	or nobody knows if there is any money on it
18	how can you introduce it? This is bizarre.
19	MS. FANUCCI: We have to be a conduit
20	for anything that goes on whether it's
21	through the state or the Urban
22	Redevelopment, so even if it's already done
23	we still have to be the conduit.
24	MR. QUINN: Please, we only have a
25	few minutes to talk here

1 MS. FANUCCI: Well, then don't ask 2 questions if you don't want your answers.

3	MR. QUINN: Please. We only we
4	only have a few minutes to talk here and we
5	have a situation where nobody knows what we
6	are going to approve and it's a resolution,
7	it's read twice. Now, if you don't know
8	what's going on, I mean, what's the use of
9	citizens' participation?
10	MS. GATELLI: Ozzie, it's a piece of
11	the Steamtown National Historic site that
12	they are giving to the project.
13	MR. QUINN: Is OECD undertaking it?
14	Is money involved?
15	MS. GATELLI: No.
16	MR. QUINN: It says that.
17	MS. GATELLI: It's just flowing
18	through OECD because federal money has to
19	flow through the city.
20	MR. QUINN: So OECD is actually
21	administrating the money of the
22	Ms. GATELLI: from the federal
23	government, yes.
24	MR. QUINN: From the federal
25	government.

1 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

2 MR. QUINN: And it is has nothing to

3	do with the OECD allocation that comes to
4	CDBG?
5	MS. GATELLI: No. No. Absolutely
6	not.
7	MR. QUINN: And it's a part and
8	parcel
9	MS. GATELLI: You can have this
10	backup.
11	MR. QUINN: of the Urban Renewal
12	Plan.
13	MS. GATELLI: Do you want the backup
14	after the meeting, I'll give you a copy.
15	MR. QUINN: Yeah. The Urban Renewal
16	Plan, too; right? You know, the reason I
17	ask that is because, you know, you get
18	federal money, again, our federal money,
19	state money, local money, it's all
20	taxpayers' money. That \$700 million,
21	billion dollar plan, bailout, that's
22	taxpayers' money, and the last time we even
23	had a peek at what we owe, the principal,
24	was a 2006 audit. The 2007 audit was under
25	the Home Rule Charter, which is supposed to

be the law that runs -- the city is governed by was due in May. It's now October and we still haven't seen the 2007 audit. We don't

4	know what we owe, okay? And my guesstimate,
5	again, is about \$150 million in principal,
6	that's without the authorities, so we are
7	talking lots of money here, you know, and
8	I'm little concerned about this thing.
9	Where is this audit? What's holding this
10	audit up?
11	MS. GATELLI: The only thing I'm
12	aware of now is I think we got the parking
13	authority and we got NCC and we just
14	received the Sewer Authority.
15	MS. GARVEY: The parking authority we
16	did get.
17	MS. GATELLI: See, some of these
18	authorities their audits aren't due when
19	ours are due, so, it makes our audit be
20	late. I mean, the Sewer Authority I know
21	theirs isn't due until October, so how can
22	we do our audit if we don't have their audit
23	and theirs isn't due.
24	MR. QUINN: Well, then amend the
25	Home Rule Charter.

1 MS. GATELLI: We really should
2 because it isn't right. We can't do our
3 audit with all of those other taxing bodies.

4	MR. QUINN: Yeah. One other thing,
5	too, and you know, I don't like to pick on
6	these people they are going to be
7	reappointed to the Housing Authority and the
8	fact is that in February when the HUD said
9	that the former executive director because
10	he was indicted by the federal government
11	cannot receive HUD money, may I finish this
12	for a few seconds? Okay, and I attended the
13	Housing Authority meeting and they said that
14	he had time coming, vacation time, overtime
15	and that he was being paid with the money
16	from the city, okay, that's the taxpayers'
17	money. It's eight months and I think, you
18	know, you should look into this, I don't
19	know how you can be approving people when
20	they are spending the taxpayers' money on
21	somebody that is indicted. Thank you.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Quinn.
23	Les Spindler.
24	MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
25	Council. Les Spindler, city resident,

homeowner.	I didn't make t	the last two
meetings,	Mrs. Gatelli, I t	think it was three
weeks ago	you were reading	that ordinance
about the	outdoor burning,	and I just have a

5	question, I didn't understand some of it,
6	are those outdoor pits are they legal or
7	illegal?
8	MS. GATELLI: They're only legal if
9	they have a screen and a flue, which is like
10	a chimney, and even if they are legitimate
11	if they are causing a problem to a neighbor
12	they are to call the police or the fire
13	inspector.
14	MR. SPINDLER: Okay.
15	MS. GATELLI: And they can be asked
16	to stop burning.
17	MR. SPINDLER: Well, it won't be a
18	problem until next summer now, we're in
19	winter, they don't burn. Okay, thank you.
20	MS. GATELLI: You are welcome.
21	MR. SPINDLER: Is there a reason why
22	the caucus was cancelled tonight with CDTV?
23	MR. MCGOFF: It was cancelled by the
24	people from ECTV.
25	MR. SPINDLER: Oh, I wonder why.

Because I heard Chris Doherty ordered them not to show up, and on that subject I think it was back in July that Chris Doherty said the \$10,000 given to CDTV was to clean up

5	blight in the basement of the church and
6	then in the Doherty newsletter on
7	September 24 it stated that the \$10,000 was
8	used to buy a digital server. To me that's
9	a misuse of federal funds. They used OECD
10	funds to not to clean of blight, they bought
11	a digital server right in this paper on the
12	24th of September. I think there should be
13	an investigation into them.
14	And another thing, there was a
15	question, I think Mrs. Gatelli you said a
16	few weeks ago, why do meetings have to be
17	live? Well, I think there is a number of
18	reasons, one, is I have an announcement to
19	make tonight about a meeting this time which
20	is nobody going to hear until tomorrow
21	night. I'm leaving here right after I speak

23 Community Center to organize a crime watch

there is a meeting at the Tripp Park

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24 and now nobody is going to know about it, I

25 wasn't here last week to announce it, but we

15

L	had	one	two	weeks	ago	and	there	was	a
2	tern	rific	c tu	rnout.					

MS. GATELLI: Do you have a phone number that we can give out?

5 MR. SPINDLER: No, I don't. When we

6	have a meeting again I'll come down here and
7	announce it.
8	MS. GATELLI: Yes. I was in touch
9	with people in Tripp's Park.
10	MR. SPINDLER: We had a great
11	turnout.
12	MS. GATELLI: They asked for bylaws
13	from the South Side Neighborhood.
14	MR. SPINDLER: Lieutenant Numecki
15	came and spoke and asked questions and it
16	was great. That's why if this was live
17	tonight people could have heard it tonight.
18	MS. GATELLI: Find out when the
19	meetings are and we will be sure to announce
20	them.
21	MR. SPINDLER: I will. Who is
22	responsible for enforcing the smoking ban,
23	does anybody know, because I was at
24	Whistle's Sunday watching the football game
25	and on their door it says "Smoking
	16

1	permitted."	I asked t	the bartender	when I
2	went in and s	she said,	"Les than 20	percent
3	of our sales	are food.	ıı	

I refuse to believe that. I have been there many times, and I think that more

6	than 20 percent of their sales are food.
7	MS. FANUCCI: Les, is this the first
8	time you and I can honestly say we totally
9	agree on something. There is no way that
10	that is accurate, but the good thing is that
11	after a few months you can track the sales
12	of people's food to find out actually how
13	much they are buying
14	MR. SPINDLER: I understand that,
15	but who is supposed to do that?
16	MS. FANUCCI: Actually, I believe it
17	would be the police, the police right now,
18	it is enforced by our police.
19	MS. GATELLI: And there is a hotline.
20	I know there's a hotline.
21	MS. FANUCCI: There is a hotline, but
22	eventually I think we are going to have to
23	incorporate that into our other departments,
24	I would think the Seitzinger and those guys
25	would have to be the people that do it, but
	17
1	thatle what we are working as you but I
1	that's what we are working on now, but I
2	agree with you.
3	MS. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you.
4	MS. GATELLI: We'll get you that
5	number for next week. I'm interested myself

in that hotline number where you can report

7	people that are violating the Clean Indoor
8	Air Act.
9	MR. SPINDLER: I'm sure everybody
10	either saw it or saw it on the news that the
11	skit on Saturday Night Live about Scranton,
12	they didn't speak to highly of our city, I
13	know it was all for fun, and I think they
14	over did it a little bit, but I think a lot
15	of it was true. Nobody wants to live in
16	this city anymore. Everybody is moving out.
17	I think the only one that wants to come into
18	the city is that black bear that keeps
19	showing up here. We keep finding it in the
20	tree.
21	MS. FANUCCI: Oh, the bear? I
22	thought you said mayor.
23	MR. SPINDLER: They should the bear
24	up in the treehouse, he would have a lot of

fun up there. The next thing, my last

thing, somebody asked me to make this
announcement, Sunday, at St. Stanislaus
Elementary School there is a Polish food
festival and it's 530 South Street, it's
from 12 to 6 this Sunday, October 12, that's
all I have. They just asked me to make that

7	announcement. Thank you.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Spindler.
9	MS. EVANS: Just one thing though I
10	wanted to add to that that maybe
11	Mr. Courtright can help us with, I do know
12	of other city residents who had problems
13	with neighbors burning throughout the summer
14	months in those bowls and similar situations
15	and they had called the police and the
16	police when they arrived had told the
17	individuals there is nothing that they could
18	do about it, there is actually nothing on
19	the books to prevent that, so maybe if you,
20	Mr. Courtright, could pass along the
21	information we were given so that in the
22	future, you know, in the better weather
23	months when this starts to occur again the
24	police will know that it is actually part of

an ordinance.

MR. COURTRIGHT: I think what we need
to do is see if Captain Graziano can deal
with Mark Seitzinger and there is so many
ordinances in this city that the police
can't know them all, and this is one is
relatively new. I think what they can do is
if they get called out they can make a

8	notation of it and then have Mr. Seitzinger
9	possibly cite them or maybe the police
10	themselves can cite them. I've got to be
11	perfectly honest for you, I don't think they
12	know exactly what they can do, so I'll speak
13	with Captain Graziano and see if he can't
14	talk to Mark Seitzinger and get something
15	worked out.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Barbara O'Malley.
17	MS. O'MALLEY: Good evening. For
18	most of the past decade the residents of
19	Scranton and Lackawanna County who are
20	Comcast subscribers were able to see a rich
21	offering of local government bodies in
22	action. The meetings of the Planning
23	Commission, Redevelopment Authority, Prison

Commission, County Commissioners and, of
course, the weekly meetings of this body,
Scranton City Council, were broadcast. Most
of these meetings were shown live with four
or five replays at times chosen with the
convenience of the citizens in mind. Any
citizen who wanted to know what his or her

Board, Sewer Authority, Scranton School

Board, Recreation Authority, Zoning

8 government was doing had the opportunity to 9 watch.

Things certainly have changed.

Since Scranton Today was replaced by ECTV as the operator of Channel 61, the only governmental meetings shown are Scranton

City Council, the meetings of the County

Commissioners and an occasional board meeting. No meetings are cable cast live and the replays are few and far between. In fact, city council receives only one airing in prime time.

So much for an informed electorate, so much for open government and so much for democracy. ECTV has maintained from the beginning that replays, particularly of council, would be severely limited. In fact, this approach seems to be a matter of

pride with them. Why is this? Do they have so much programming that council can only be squeezed in three times a week? This can't be the reason as any channel surfer will tell you. For the vast majority of the day there is no programming on Channel 61 and sister station Channel 62. Why the lack of replays? Perhaps the management of ECTV

believes it is preferable to have nothing on rather than additional airing of council meetings. This, of course, flies in the face of reason. The availability of frequent prime time rebroadcasts allows an additional citizens to see the meeting, citizens who might not otherwise have that opportunity and if a viewer has already viewed the meeting, they have many other program options available to them, no harm done. Perhaps the management of ECTV

Perhaps the management of ECTV

believes in only lip service to the concept

of an informed electorate. Certainly, no

sane individual would argue that limiting

replays increases a citizen's opportunity to

be informed. I think we all know that

limiting replays, in fact, limits citizens'
awareness of the workings of their
government and the crowning irony, of
course, is that this station is now fully
funded by taxpayers' dollars, my dollars and
yours.

So, this is the deal, the new deal, if you are a citizen interested in your

9	government and you are a viewer subscribing
10	to Comcast you will simply have to settle
11	for less, much less, and you will have to
12	pay for the privilege.
13	Now, at a recent council meeting Mr.
14	Courtright quoted a Comcast technician to
15	the effect that live council meetings could
16	be resumed almost immediately using the
17	infrastructure that is still in place.
18	This, of course, would require the
19	cooperation of Scranton Today. Well, I
20	can't speak for the Board of Scranton Today,
21	I can say that as one board member I would
22	be willing to consider such a proposal in
23	order for the citizens of this city to be
24	able to see their government in action
25	that's it. Thank you.
	23
1	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
2	Mrs. O'Malley. Jim Stucker.
3	MR. STUCKER: Hello, Mr. Courtright.

MR. STUCKER: Hello, Mr. Courtright.

MR. COURTRIGHT: How are doing, Jim.

MR. STUCKER: We need a policeman up

over where I live on Adams Avenue on those

four corners. We have people walking across

in the daytime, school kids, who have to

walk across and it's -- some people go too

10	fast through the light and everything.
11	MR. COURTRIGHT: What do you need,
12	Jim?
13	MR. STUCKER: We need a police
14	officer at the four corners.
15	MR. COURTRIGHT: All right, we'll
16	see what we can do.
17	MR. STUCKER: And I was up and down
18	the streets last week walking and I seen a
19	lot of garbage, couches, beds in front of
20	people's houses.
21	MS. FANUCCI: I did, too.
22	MR. COURTRIGHT: Mrs. Fanucci agrees
23	with you.
24	MS. FANUCCI: Yeah, they were
25	putting out garbage way too early and not on
	2
1	the days that they were picking up and I
2	noticed it also all over the city and it's
3	something we might need to start enforcing
4	because it is, you know, with the rodent
5	problems and other things this is not
6	something we should be doing. I agree with
7	you.

8 MR. STUCKER: I'm afraid if they
9 putting mattresses out there and I'm afraid

10	something is going to throw a match.
11	MS. FANUCCI: I never thought of
12	that.
13	MR. COURTRIGHT: Right.
14	MR. STUCKER: They should have some
15	guys drop a dumpster in front of a house and
16	throw it all in.
17	MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay, Jim.
18	MR. STUCKER: I'm feeling a little
19	better than I did.
20	MR. COURTRIGHT: That's good. You
21	made out okay at the hospital?
22	MR. STUCKER: Yeah.
23	MR. COURTRIGHT: Good.
24	MR. STUCKER: Yeah. Okay?
25	MR. MCGOFF: Okay, Jim. Thank you
	25
1	
1	very much. Take care of yourself. Joe
2	Talimini.
3	MR. TALIMINI: Joe Talimini, City of
4	Scranton. Several months ago when I brought
5	this subject up before one of our tenants of
6	Washington West was killed right across the
7	street in a wheelchair and nothing has ever
8	been done about it. I don't know what the

police department is doing, no charges were

filed or anything else, but she was struck

9

11 while she was in a crosswalk.

12	Today one of our other residents was
13	also wheelchair bound and met with the mayor
14	and they safety commissioner, he was stuck
15	on two occasions in the ruts getting out on
16	the sidewalks. Now, he was stuck there.
17	The wheel was spinning because he was in a
18	ditch and he couldn't get out of it. Now,
19	this man is totally incapacitated, he can't
20	get out of his wheelchair, so I think it's
21	incumbent upon this council to do something.
22	If it's cornering the mayor and hitting him
23	in the head with a hammer, but these things
24	have got to be repaired because these people
25	are responsible for their own chairs. And,

1	God forbid, we should lose another tenant
2	and I guarantee you there will be a
3	revolution in this town and that will
4	include you people as well as the mayor
5	because they have had it up to here with
6	this and, I mean, it's a constant thing that
7	these people cannot transit these crosswalks
8	because they are in dire need, all you have
9	to do is walk right across the street and
10	you will see what I mean.

I don't know what the state is
doing, what the Department of Transportation
is doing. I talked to one of our
representatives that was on the
transportation committee about North
Washington Avenue, he was going to get back
to me, but I don't think he will be getting
back to me for quite awhile, hopefully, he
won't get back to me at all, but these
streets are in dire need of repairs and this
is one of the major factors we have here.
Secondly, with regard to ECTV, I am
dead set against renewing the contract with
Comcast. Now, I lived in an area which was

just below Atlanta where we got 110

1	stations, including HBO and Showtime and our
2	total bill was \$29.50 a month. This was a
3	franchise which was run by the city and I
4	don't know why there is a disparity of about
5	\$50 a month extra for me to live in Scranton
6	watching TV as opposed to living down there
7	which is a much more metropolitan area, so I
8	think we should really investigate the
9	renewal of the franchise with Comcast. I
10	think we can get a much better deal.
11	Mr. Courtright, as you well know, the

police department is overtaxed. I don't
know what the hell is going on, but I listen
to that scanner 24 hours a day and when they
have more than two or three calls they have
to try to break somebody away to go
someplace else and, I mean, the situation is
ridiculous now. The crime is increasing in
this community even though some people would
like to sweep it under the rug and say we
don't have any crime. We had a man that
just died, we had a man who was stabbed down
by the Gino Merli Center at 7:30 in the
morning. We had a stabbing, I believe it
was the same evening, right around the

1	corner from the United Neighborhood Center.
2	We had shots fired over Midtown apartments.
3	We had a man with a gun at Coopers. We have
4	had all kinds of people roaming the streets
5	up there. We are working with the Housing
6	Authority now to get the security hours
7	changed, hopefully, they will go through
8	with it, but if not they will hearing from
9	us again. But, it's a situation in this
10	town which really needs looking into it.
11	It's beyond the point of just an occasional

12 happening, it's a daily happening.

another problem. Now, first of all, I know they can't teach a course in common sense 101, but having those hot dogs stands up on Mulberry Street and having those kids walk back and forth across the street when they crosswalks there, they walk right out in front of the car especially at night with dark clothing on. We have our police department up there breaking up fights going all over the Hill section and it's all involving parties — the University of Scranton has their own security force I

believe, I don't know what they do, but they have it. We are still questioning what they do. It's a definite need up there. I mean, far more police action is needed.

As for ECTV, I recall Commissioner

Munchak coming down here as a private

citizen on his own, nobody asked him to come

down, he came on his own, and he pointed out

very clearly, and this man incidentally is

an accountant, that the entire proposal was

flawed, that none of the figures matched. I

find it hard to believe that astute

13 businessmen would come into this town and live here, that's the funny part, try to get 14 15 a business started without putting a dime out of their own pocket. They want the city 16 17 to fund them. 18 Now, this would be very nice. I would love if it I could come in here and 19 20 say I want to open a business and I need \$10,000 to buy equipment and I need 21 22 another \$90,000 later on plus another 23 \$125,000 for payroll. I mean, I'm missing out someplace. Maybe OECD is hiding 24 25 something from me. If there is that kind of 30 1 money available for people who can afford to 2 get into the business then I sure as hell 3 would like to have some of it, too, because 4 I can't afford it. 5 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Talimini.

MR. TALIMINI: Incidentally, one other thing, I would like you to declare either the black bear or the skunk as the national animal for the City of Scranton, because we have an abundance of both.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

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12 MS. HUBBARD: We have more skunks

14	MR. DOBSON: Good evening, Council.
15	Dave Dobson, resident of Scranton and member
16	of the Taxpayers' Association. I'm glad to
17	see on 5-B and C that we are finally trying
18	to get someone on our Ethics Commission.
19	One of our members have been unable to get a
20	hearing for months now and hopefully that
21	will change before things gets ugly for all
22	parties concerned.
23	On 5-D I have a question, will it be
24	open to all, this park? It will definitely
25	be open to all.
	31
1	MS. GATELLI: Yes.
2	MR. DOBSON: Like Nay Aug or
3	MS. GATELLI: Yes.
4	MR. DOBSON: Well, that's wonderful
5	and I know where it is, it's the old
6	computer train track behind the 500 block of
7	Lackawanna Avenue and it is it need of
8	renovations, but hopefully the federal
9	government will help us out there a little
10	bit even though they can't seem to help

than bears.

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On 6-A, 6-B and 6-C, can anybody explain to me what that's all about? I

themselves lately, anything but your money.

14	thought we didn't sell properties of people
15	that were tax delinquent.
16	MS. GATELLI: Yes, we do.
17	MR. DOBSON: We do?
18	MS. GATELLI: Oh, absolutely we do.
19	We always sell tax delinquent property.
20	It's a quite lengthy process and it takes a
21	long time and some people aren't patient,
22	but, yes, we do sell tax delinquent
23	property.
24	MR. DOBSON: Because we have on here
25	for \$2,000, one for \$8,000 an done for
	32
1	\$5,000. I hope these people are given an
1	73,000. I hope these people are given an
2	opportunity to make amends on these taxes
3	where if they come up with and it cancels
4	the deal.
5	MS. GATELLI: You mean the original
6	owner?
7	MR. DOBSON: Yes.

MR. DOBSON: Yes.

MS. GATELLI: Well, during the process the original owner is given the option to pay it and nine out of ten times they don't because they owe so much.

Sometimes they are 20, 30, 40 years old, so the original owners that's why they are tax

delinquent they don't want the property anymore. But, yes, they are given the opportunity in Court.

MR. DOBSON: All right. And then
7-A, of course, related to the other, the
park. And that's about it, other than on
7-B, C and D, hopefully once again these
people will have a clean situation coming
into there -- or staying on there and we
won't have anymore alarming situations where
records are being hauled out, indictments
are being handled out or whatever, we don't

need that anymore.

There is one other thing that came
to my attention at Nay Aug Park, I see the
workers working away and they seem to do
their jobs pretty well and they should be
commended for that, but the concession stand
on Wednesday nights, now, I was up there
during the Wednesday night concerts last
year and you would stand approximately
15 minutes in line just to be waited on, and
that's okay. This year they weren't open.
I can't imagine why somebody would be handed
a concession stand like that when they don't
plan to stay open especially when there is

15	money to be made there. You can't tell me
16	if I have to wait 15 minutes in line and
17	spend \$20 because we skipped our dinner and
18	went up to the concert and decided to buy
19	hamburgers and hotdogs and pizza or
20	whatever, why this man can't stay open. So,
21	this year has gone by, but next year I would
22	really love to see the concession stand open
23	on Wednesday nights. It would help keep it
24	more live as far as I'm concerned and people
25	should be able to purchase things and get up

1	there without or worrying about getting in
2	there and getting dishes thrown away and all
3	of that baloney, you know, to rush up there,
4	because like I said, with everybody standing
5	in line for 15 or 20 minutes, you know, it's
6	kind of hard to tell me they make money.
7	Thank you and have a great night.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Dobson.
9	Other speakers?
10	MS. DOLAN: Good evening, Council.
11	Good evening, citizens of Scranton. Donna
12	Dolan, homeowner, resident of the Plot. I
13	was pleased to see on the repeat of last

week's council meeting that progress is

15	being made in addressing our skunk problem.
16	I first of all would like to thank
17	Mrs. Evans for initiating the proposal to
18	send a letter to the mayor. I'd like to
19	thank all of council members for unanimously
20	supporting that and, of course, I thank the
21	mayor for listening to you. It just goes to
22	show what can happen when there is agreement
23	among council members and agreement between
24	council administration. Ever the optimists
25	that I am, I would hope the concerns of

other citizens may have the same positive cooperation and results. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much.

MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

The first thing I have here is I think

Mrs. Fanucci said something that may have

been important today she talked about

accountability, and I really think that's

something that's seriously lacking here in

the city for a very long time. I think the

president of the tax group brought up

something else that's pretty important and

that seems to be the audits, and for the

life of me I can't understand how these

things could be out of sync. All of the

audits should be done at the same time
because it would help to let the residents
be informed of that actual fiscal situation
of the city instead of waiting and waiting
and waiting and never really having any
answers.

I can understand why ECTV didn't come here tonight. How can you defend the service we are receiving and how can you defend the mayor's move to do the things he

has done here? There is no open government in Scranton, there is closed government.

There is government that benefits the few at the expense of the many.

I took a little time today driving through the city and I have to say that there are some very beautiful homes for sale which people have put a ton of money into.

What would ever induce somebody to move out of a city when they have sunk as much money into some of these homes as they obviously have? I mean, there is homes tucked in this city that are just breathtaking when you look at them. All of the money that's been spent and they want to leave and then, of

course, there is droves of other homes for sale where there has actually been quite possibly a lack of maintenance possibly because the owner is either economically underemployed or they are just too old to maintain the property.

But I think the underlying problem

But I think the underlying problem is as Mrs. Fanucci brought up accountability, and that accountability is a total lack of accountability by the elected

officials of this city, and that seems to be in my opinion the reason why ECTV is here.

Now, when Mrs. Gatelli was president of council, I remember being locked outside when I was the first person on the speaker's list. I can't understand that? Don't we want the residents to come here and present their arguments to council? Don't the citizens have a right to speak to their government? Haven't the residents of this city spoke to their government for an extremely long time and hasn't the government itself came forward with many promises? We are going to revitalize this city. We are going to create jobs. We haven't revitalized this city. We have

taken money and given it to connected people
and it's really injured the people that
aren't connected.

The infrastructure in this city is a complete mess. The decisions that need to be made need to be made by this council and the mayor. How can this chief executive of this city who rammed the ballram through the Scranton Sewer Authority with American

Anglican defend that? How can this mayor possibly defend all of the borrowing he has done? That's my question. Maybe the mayor would care to come here and answer those questions. I remember he stood at this podium once and I questioned him because I came up and spoke before him, he had nothing to say and this is the chief executive officer?

So, I think that for once, not for once, on other occasions Mrs. Fanucci has said things that were very relevant, but tonight she probably said the most relevant statement that I have heard in this council chamber for a very long time. It all comes to accountability and my question is when

17 are the people who make the decisions in 18 this city going to be accountable, and I 19 think that it may never happen or it will 20 happen like what's happened here at Wall 21 Street. Because to be honest with you, this 22 city is in worse shape than Wall Street and 23 my question is, is the federal government 24 going to come in here and bail us out or 25 should we just renig on our bonds and force

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1 the government to pay for them because bluntly the residents are sucked dry. So, 2 remember, accountability is important and as 3 4 a governing body please give it a try. 5 Thank you. 6 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Morgan. 7 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz, South Scranton resident. Toast Master's 8 International, which is a very 9 well-respected worldwide public speaking 10 11 organization states that the person at the 12 podium is the speaker and everybody else are 13 the listeners, and I really would hope that that would be applied here at city council. 14 15 The person at the podium is the speaker, 16 that's why that person has the podium.

Everyone else are the listeners. We all

_8	have our time to speak. Some people get
.9	more than others. Council can speak for as
20	long as they want whenever they want, so,
21	please, try not to interrupt speakers
22	anymore. It would go a long way to make
23	these meetings a lot more sociable and
2.4	friendly.

I am curious, who is at fault?

Christopher A. Doherty, city council,
Taxpayers' Association, someone must accept
the responsibility for the City of Scranton
being distressed for 17 years and the
Recovery Plan not being implemented. We
know that Mr. Austin Burke placed the blame
on speakers that attend city council
meetings for businesses not moving into the
city. So, maybe the speakers are
responsible for the Recovery Plan not being
implemented and contracts not being
approved. Possibly the Legion of Doom.
They should never have spent \$6 for these
t-shirts.
ECTV, where are on Mr. Darcy, Mr.
Migliore and Mayor Doherty? It seems that
no one shows up when they are invited or

subpoenaed before Scranton City Council. I

guess council members know how Rodney

Dangerfield felt. Don't you just love it

when a plan comes together?

The majority three did not let me

down. They didn't let the community down by

The majority three did not let me down. They didn't let the community down by voting three to two bail out mayor countries Doherty out again. We were he told that the

city has to be saved, just like the country
has to be saved by the bailout. Also, we
were informed that in order not to raise
Scranton taxes, the borrowing/refinancing
had to be approved. Now that this
borrowing/refinancing has been approved I
hope that the streets will plowed this
winter, contracts are signed, fire stations
are not closed, firefighters are not
terminated, beat officers are on the streets
year round, new police cruisers are on the
street, distressed status is removed,
unemployment reduced from 6.7 percent, new
jobs that pay more than minimum wage are
created. Scranton's wage tax is reduced
from 3.4, the third highest in the state.
If council members would not interrupt
speakers it would surely cut down on

19	unemployment rates.	
20	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,	
21	Mr. Jackowitz. Anyone else?	
22	MS. HUBBARD: Good evening, Council	•
23	Liz Hubbard, Scranton resident, taxpayer.	A
24	couple of few months back Jean Suetta came	
25	to council and asked for "Children at Play"	17
		42

signs on Gardner Avenue. They were there in a week. Well, we really need some on the 100 and 200 block of Marian and where Ross Avenue comes in because when they redid the road for the flood project, the Ross Avenue turns into a blind curve. One of my neighbor's dogs got run over and killed and a car almost hit a kid. They fly around there. They don't stop for the stop signs and there is a four-way stop sign and Marian and Gardner and they just ignore it, and they have a "No Outlet" sign on the 1400 block of Gardner Avenue because they have the end blocked off for the levy project.

And I sit on my porch and I count cars, how many idiots either can't read or can't see because the cars go down to the end of Gardner where the barricades are and

19	they turn around and come back. They can't
20	see the sign or maybe we need a bigger sign
21	or maybe we need two signs, but it's insane.
22	So, Bill, if you could do something about
23	those "Children at Play" signs.
24	MR. COURTRIGHT: 100 and 200 block
25	of Marian, right?
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1	MS. HUBBARD: Yeah, and on the blind
2	curve that Ross Avenue turns into Marian
3	there.
4	MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay, I'll see what
5	I can do.
6	MS. HUBBARD: Big ones, not little
7	ones.
8	MR. COURTRIGHT: What's that?
9	MS. HUBBARD: Big signs.
10	MR. COURTRIGHT: Now you are going to
11	be picky and tell me what signs?
12	MR. HUBBARD: Yes. There is always
13	the people can't see the signs this big.
14	MR. COURTRIGHT: I'm only kidding
15	you. I'll do the best I could.
16	MS. HUBBARD: Okay. Another thing I
17	just want to say, for 14 months I hammered
18	on council about skunks, pretty much weekly,

I'm glad it took only 14 months before you

guess I wasn't strong enough in my persecution of the little darlings, but, anyway, I appreciate what you did, but let' get out there and get them before they go into their little nests for the winter and	20	did something about it, okay? Maybe I
anyway, I appreciate what you did, but let' get out there and get them before they go	21	guess I wasn't strong enough in my
get out there and get them before they go	22	persecution of the little darlings, but,
	23	anyway, I appreciate what you did, but let's
into their little nests for the winter and	24	get out there and get them before they go
	25	into their little nests for the winter and

make babies to born in the spring. Anyway, 1 have a good evening. 2 3 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Hubbard. 4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher, city resident and member of the Taxpayers' 5 6 Association. In the concluding moments of the July 29 meeting, the last meeting prior 7 to your five-week summer recess you, 8 9 Mr. President, said, "I have asked council members if they would resubmit the 10 11 appointments that they made to the oversight committee for ECTV and we will have that on 12 the agenda in September so that that 13 14 committee can be formalized and the members 15 or the members appointed formerly to that committee should then become active in 16 17 September." I have checked all September agendas 18

without finding this item. Perhaps you

20	could update us during motions this evening
21	Mr. McGoff.
22	That same evening Mrs. Evans made a
23	second request for the guidelines that are
24	given to homeowners by LIPS inspectors.
25	Have these guidelines been received as yet?

With the onset of cold weather, I'm concerned we may a repeat of what happened to Mr. Meile last February in that he reported a LIPS representative had the power to his home cut off causing the home's waterpipes to freeze and burst causing considerably more damage. I don't believe anyone wants that. The policy should be if you cut one utility you cut them all.

Mrs. Fanucci, on July 22 you responded to my costmatch question requirement of the type of loan being granted to Fratelli's as follows: The total project cost for Fratelli's Pizza is \$500,000. That's how much it is for the acquisition of the building. They are actually buying the building in which they are now so they are only borrowing \$120,000, so that does qualify for the two for one and the benefits will be four full-time equivalent positions.

21	Now I have been reading the Court notes
22	and have been checking the county's database
23	and there is no record of that property
24	having been conveyed. Mrs. Fanucci, could
25	you please provide the anticipated sale date
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1	dundan matikan 2
1	during motions?
2	MS. FANUCCI: No, I don't have it.
3	MS. SCHUMACHER: And, Mrs. Gatelli
4	MS. GATELLI: This is like school.
5	We are all getting an assignment. Lucky to
6	be retired so you can do all this research.
7	MS. SCHUMACHER: The first meeting
8	following council five-week summer break you
9	stated the Scranton Parking Authority audit
10	report would be ready in two weeks. Four
11	weeks have passed and as of yesterday the
12	Parking Authority's 2007 audit had not been
13	received in the Clerk's Office. Mrs.
14	Gatelli, would you please update us on the
15	Parking Authority audit during motions?
16	Also, back on July 22, Mrs. Gatelli,
17	you provided the months the independent
18	audit has been received. The earliest was
19	August and the latest was February of the

year following the year it was due. The

21	poorest performance was for last year for	
22	which an audit is available for 2006.	
23	Perhaps I'm taking a simplistic approach,	
24	but it seems clearly logical that if you	
25	want the out put on time and in accordance	
		47
1	with the Home Rule Charter the required	

with the Home Rule Charter the required inputs to an independent auditor must be scheduled to be available in February following the year to be audited. So my question to you, Mrs. Gatelli, is what steps have you taken or will you take to ensure that all required documentation will be available to the auditor in February 2009 for this calendar year?

Also, I would like any council member who knows the answer to the question of how the televised ads featuring the mayor are being funded.

And I would also like to point out there is graffiti on a wall coming into the city when you walk from South Side across the Spruce Street bridge on the wall along the Roaring Brook and that needs to be cleaned up.

And I would also like to note that ECTV doesn't doesn't seem to return phone

22	calls nor are they able to provide citizen's
23	guidance on producing programs as PEG
24	channels are supposed to do. I called back
25	in I believe it was July and was told they
	48
1	would be able to do that in mid to late
2	September and now I can't even get anybody
3	to talk to.
4	And then I would like to know if
5	there is any feedback yet on the cause of
6	the Feinstermacher fire and if not how will
7	that information be shared with the public
8	when it is available? Thank you.
9	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
10	Schumacher.
11	MS. GATELLI: I'd just like to make
12	one comment about the graffiti, I don't know
13	if any of you have watched the District
14	Attorney's Office, they had a special on
15	about graffiti. They are very proactive,
16	they are working with the state to get it
17	off the highways and underneath the bridges
18	and if anyone sees any graffiti please call
19	963-6717 and report it to the District
20	Attorney. They are working with the city

and PennDOT to remove all graffiti as soon

22	as possible. That's very important that it
23	be removed as soon as possible. Did you get
24	that number, Mrs. Schumacher, 963-6717.
25	MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?
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1	
1	Mr. Ancherani, just in time.
2	MR. ANCHERANI: I'm not prepared, but
3	I do have some things to say. Two weeks ago
4	when we are here, Mrs. Gatelli, you were
5	mentioning about everyone going to or
6	coming to this council meeting and the
7	council meetings and why don't we go to the
8	county meetings, why don't we go to the
9	school board. Well
10	MS. GATELLI: Excuse me, everyone is
11	saying that I said that, it was Mrs. Fanucci
12	that said that.
13	MS. FANUCCI: I was the one that
14	said that.
15	MR. ANCHERANI: Didn't you also say
16	it?
17	MS. GATELLI: No. I work in the
18	school district so I tried to abstain from
19	making any comments to that.
20	MR. ANCHERANI: Why don't we attend
21	these meetings, the other meetings, didn't
22	you say that at one time?

23		MS.	GATELLI:	Maybe I	did,	out
24		MR.	ANCHERANI	: Right,	that'	s where
25	I'm goi	ng.				

1	MS. GATELLI: I didn't specify.
2	MR. ANCHERANI: The other meetings,
3	all of these meetings, why don't we ever
4	attend them, but anyway, in our population
5	in the City of Scranton in 2006 it was
6	76,000; 2007 it's down to 72 estimated, our
7	budget for this year is \$87 million. The
8	county has a population of over 200,000.
9	Their budget is something like \$105 million.
10	So, yeah, we do have the we might have
11	the lowest taxes, but our population also is
12	lower than the county, but yet their budget
13	isn't that much more than ours.
14	We have taken in with budgets, with
15	loans, 600 million this year, up to this
16	year from 2002. I know you voted on passing
17	that 5.5 million last week because if you
18	didn't we'd default. How could we default
19	when we take in \$600 million on a
20	\$5.5 million loan? I can't understand that,
21	5.5 that was supposed to be paid by
22	December 17 of this year. I guess I can't

24	care of that.
25	We have 12.2 million plus in that
	5.
1	account with the tax office and we are going
2	to default. You know, I don't know maybe
3	you should all work together and come up
4	with a budget that's not going to be a
5	record budget this year, you know, something
6	like 85 for last year. I mean, the three of
7	you voted on you it, the three of you gave
8	us a 25 percent tax increase, maybe you
9	could work on something. Help us all out
10	here, you know, and especially with this
11	crisis that we are having now with the
12	federal government, mortgages, everything,
13	please give us a break this time. Thank
14	you.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
16	Mr. Ancherani. Anyone else? If not,
17	Mrs. Evans.
18	MS. EVANS: Good evening. First, in
19	response to one speaker's question regarding
20	the trash commercials, I guess throwing away
21	your trash is fun commercials. I believe
22	that would have been funded through refunds

received for the purchase of recycling bins

comprehend why 600 million couldn't take

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Now, do I believe that that is the most
beneficial use of those monies? No, I
don't, but that is as much as I can tell you
about the source of it.
I wish tonight to focus on one

important issue, ECTV. Despite the need for a public meeting with ECTV board president, John Darcy, station manager, Mark Migliore, and Mayor Doherty, the meeting once again was cancelled by Mark Migliore. Council members can call him in place of a public meeting. This is unacceptable and insulting to the public who demand accountability and better services of this public access TV operator. Rather than comply with the request of the governing body, Scranton City Council, who provided ECTV with \$90,000 in funding, ECTV chooses to ignore accountability and transparency by refusing to answer questions publically and prefers to follow the example set by others, such as former tax collector Ken McDowell, former DPW director, George Parker, and, of course,

	53
1	ECTV that I had expected to ask their
2	representatives publically tonight with my
3	colleagues, and I am just going to read a
4	few of them for you. Again, I'm not going
5	to read all 15, but maybe four or five.
6	"Provide copies of updated financials to
7	include a revised budget sheet and equity.
8	Include a complete accounting of how
9	the \$10,000 grant was spent, how you intend
10	to spend the \$90,000 and the name of the
11	individual who serve as a financial or
12	business manager of ECTV.
13	Why didn't ECTV explore the costs of
14	a live feed from Comcast before selecting
15	the Prescott Avenue studio location?
16	Have the renovations to your studio
17	location at 933 Prescott Avenue been
18	completed? Have all renovation costs been
19	paid?
20	Provide a complete list of the
21	renovations, costs and licensed contractors
22	or individuals who have been paid.
23	If there remain outstanding bills,
24	list the renovation work, the cost and the

the mayor himself.

I am sharing a list of questions for

24

1	are owed.
2	If renovations are not complete what
3	is your plan to complete the work and pay
4	for these services?
5	How does ECTV pay it's employees
6	since none of the \$90,000 can be used for
7	salaries?
8	Has the hard wire work between
9	Scranton City Hall and the ECTV studio been
10	completed by Comcast? If not, what is the
11	date of completion of this work?"
12	Now, in order to receive written
13	responses to these questions, which I will
14	reword to the public, I move to send these
15	questions to John Darcy and require a
16	written response to each question on or
17	before October 14, 2008.
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
19	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All in
20	favor signify by saying aye.
21	MS. EVANS: Aye.
22	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
23	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
24	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

1	ayes have it and so moved.
2	MS. EVANS: Thank you. It is also
3	essential that since council awarded \$90,000
4	in funding to ECTV and since ECTV has failed
5	to provide promised services since July 1,
6	2008, council should set a deadline for
7	delivery of programming services promised in
8	the ECTV proposal. Therefore, I move that
9	ECTV must provide live coverage of all of
10	local government meetings and all program
11	circuses listed in their original proposal
12	which was awarded PEG channel management in
13	February 2008 on or before October 23, 2008.
14	That is one month from the disbursement date
15	of funding. If ECTV fails to meet this
16	deadline, new proposals for a PEG channel
17	management will be sought.
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll second that.
19	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
20	MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question, I'm
21	going to make a motion myself when it's my
22	turn to speak that's probably going to be a
23	little bit more harsh to some people than
24	what Mrs. Evans said, but I think it's time
25	that we do something about what's going on

here and stop going back and forth.

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2	MS. FANUCCI: On the question, we can
3	motion all we want, we can say anything that
4	we want, we can send anything want, but in
5	the long run it has nothing to do with us,
6	so we are sitting here spinning other
7	wheels. You can put 24 motions down like
8	this and it's not our call, so I think it's
9	voting on something that in the long run
10	it's just falling on deaf ears because it
11	doesn't matter what we have to say in this
12	situation.
13	MS. EVANS: And I agree with you and
14	I'm troubled by that. As the speaker
15	mentioned earlier tonight, it does seem
16	council doesn't get any respect. It does
17	seem council has no power. Council can
18	issue subpoenas which can be ignored and
19	toyed with in Court month after month after
20	month. Council, however, has the ability to
21	supply the needed monies to everyone

25 And those cameras, before and

requesting it through the mayor. He could

a vote of this council approving it.

not simply hand over \$90,000 to ECTV without

2	and I do believe council has a
3	responsibility here and if the mayor for
4	whatever his reasons wants to shirk his
5	responsibility so be it. I think council
6	needs to step up to the plate and do so with
7	that extraordinary majority power we possess
8	and right a wrong in this situation.
9	MS. FANUCCI: The majority power has
10	nothing to do with it. We did vote to give
11	the money, but in this situation we all know
12	what the rules were before we got here.
13	This is not something we weren't aware of
14	what our powers were as a council. So, as
15	far as your motion is concerned, I'm just
16	saying I won't be voting for it because it
17	means nothing. It is a nonissue as far as
18	council is concerned. We do not have the
19	power to do that. We never did have the
20	power to do that or we wouldn't have had any
21	of this discussion in the first place;
22	correct?
23	We have the power and the money,
24	yes, I passed it and I'm standing behind
25	that powers, but I certainly have no power

currently, they sit here in council chambers

1	to decide who is going to have this station
2	and who is not going to have this station
3	and to sit here and go back and forth over
4	something in the long run that we have no
5	control over is just pretty much, you know,
6	getting the public all riled up for
7	something that, you know, in the long run
8	has nothing to do with any of us.
9	MS. EVANS: I agree, but I don't
10	think I'm getting the public riled up, they
11	are riled up because they have been waiting
12	for services now for months and months and
13	months and nothing has been happened and
14	I'm
15	MS. FANUCCI: I agree. I agree with
16	that.
17	MS. EVANS: I'm going to give them a
18	month's leeway time now that they have their
19	\$100,000 to get everything up and moving the
20	way they promised.
21	MS. FANUCCI: You can give them six
22	months, you can give them 12 months, you can
23	give them an hour, what I'm saying in the
24	long run it doesn't matter, so I'll be
25	voting, no, because to me it's a waste of a

1 vote. That's all. MR. MCGOFF: I'd just like to 2 3 comment, also. I'm going to vote, no, on the motion only because I don't think that 4 5 we can require live broadcasts within that time. 6 7 MS. FANUCCI: We can't require 8 anything. 9 MR. MCGOFF: I don't think that we 10 can require them to have live broadcasts. I, too, am becoming -- I have been a 11 12 defender of ECTV and in the process and the 13 way, you know, the events of not being at 14 our caucus this evening is perplexing and 15 it's starting to erode my support and I, 16 too, want to get some answers, and I think 17 sending the letter with the questions is good. I would go a step further and I would 18 19 invite Mr. Darcy and whoever from ECTV to a 20 caucus next week and if at that time they 21 don't appear then I think it would be in our interest and I know, Mrs. Fanucci, you 22 23 saying that we don't have any control, but I 24 think it's -- I think that we have to do

something. If they are going to refuse to

1 respond to council after we have gone out of 2 our way to aid ECTV, I think that if they 3 don't respond by coming to a caucus next week then I think we do have to take 5 measures to somehow work toward two things, rescinding the funding --6 MS. FANUCCI: That would be --7 8 MR. MCGOFF: -- and also rescinding 9 the, I'll say contract for want of a better word. 10 11 MS. FANUCCI: Right. 12 MS. EVANS: There is none. 13 MR. MCGOFF: But, I think your motion just the fact that you want to require --14 15 the motion wants to require them to provide 16 live broadcasting, I don't know that that is technically possible within that month, I 17 don't know, so without knowing that I'm 18 19 going to vote, no, on the motion, but not 20 without the qualification that I think we in 21 the future do need to do something to 22 rectify the situation. 23 MS. EVANS: The only other thing I 24 want to add to that though, and I can 25 appreciate your sentiments, but I have run

1	out of patience and I do not feel inclined
2	to offer them yet the third invitation.
3	It's not a baseball game, three strikes you
4	are out, they have already had two
5	invitations that they declined and I do
6	believe it's possible for them to provide a
7	live feed. I think Mr. Courtright spoke
8	about that, it was a matter of the money.
9	It may be a matter of some permission from
10	the board of Scranton Today, but I'm sure
11	the board members would meet within that
12	time frame and decide whether that's
13	agreeable or not to them, and I am asking
14	for live programming because that is exactly
15	what was promised in their proposal, the
16	proposal that was to the committee far
17	superior to any other.
18	So, I'm just asking them now that
19	they have everything and more that they
20	requested, that they keep there and now by
21	delivering what was promised in proposals.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else on the
23	motion? All in favor signify by saying aye.
24	MS. EVANS: Aye.
25	MC CATELLI. Avo

1	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
2	MR. MCGOFF: Opposed?
3	MS. FANUCCI: No.
4	MR. MCGOFF: No. The ayes have it and
5	so moved.
6	MS. EVANS: In addition, I believe an
7	emergency meeting of the oversight committee
8	should be conducted as soon as possible and
9	I hope to see the legislation appointing the
10	committee members on next week's agenda.
11	This committee will serve not only as
12	advisor to city council, but also as a watch
13	dog of any and all public access channel
14	management.
15	Because of the questionable
16	circumstances surrounding ECTV, public
17	funding and failure to provide services well
18	beyond the promised 120 day startup
19	contained in the ECTV proposal, the public
20	deserves such oversight and accountability,
21	sooner rather than later.
22	The people of the Channel 61 viewing
23	area have been more than patient, as I have
24	already said, and the lack of transparency
25	and accountability that has been amassed by

2 transactions has to stop.

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On a different topic, I think it might have been mentioned earlier as well, city council received the independent audit of the Scranton Sewer Authority on Monday, October 6, but I do recall that in prior years during my service on council audits have been presented to us in September regardless of the dates, the scheduled dates for the audits of the municipal authorities, and last year, of course, we ran into a time delay because council was trying to obtain the most cost effective contract with an independent auditor and that pushed back excessively the time line, but we had no such excuse this year and it is my hope that before we are presented with the mayor's proposed budget on November 15 we are going to have an independent audit of the City of Scranton for the Year 2007.

I also have some requests for the week: 217-219-221 North Garfield, please send an inspector to speak with the property owner. Neighbors report that nothing has

2	garbage cans now sit near a gasoline can.
3	Please provide an update to council, and
4	again, second request.
5	Potholes on the top and bottom of
6	the 500 block of 12th Avenue were reported
7	to the DPW. We asked that they be filled as
8	son as possible.
9	1023 Bunker Hill Street, there was a
10	fire at this address in February of 2007.
11	The house has been vacant for a long time
12	period. There are bags of garbage and old
13	lumber in front of the house since June
14	because a door and window are open kids have
15	often gained entrance to this house. Please
16	provide an update to counsel on or before
17	October 21, 2008. And that's it.
18	MR. MCGOFF: May I just say one
19	thing
20	MS. EVANS: Certainly.
21	MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Gatelli?
22	MS. GATELLI: Sure.
23	MR. MCGOFF: I will go to the law
24	department tomorrow and make sure that the
25	committee proposal is on for next week.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

2 MR. MCGOFF: That was all.

3	MS. EVANS: Okay. Mr. McGoff is
4	going to take care of that legislation and
5	we are insured that we will be voting on
6	that next week and I might ask, too, that if
7	possible we can under emergency
8	circumstances move that into it's second
9	reading? I'm sure it's only a resolution
10	and not an ordinance.
11	MS. GARVEY: The only way we could do
12	that in the same evening would be an
13	emergency certificate would have to be
14	attached from the mayor and from the
15	controller as far as I know. I have never
16	had that happen since I have been here, but
17	that's the only way you can move legislation
18	on the same night that it has been
19	introduced.
20	MS. EVANS: Well, then if you would
21	contact please the office of the controller
22	and the mayor and make that request. Thank
23	you, Kay.
24	MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Gatelli?
25	MS. GATELLI: Yes. I asked last

week, and I don't turn it on very often, but

and I don't turn it on very often, but

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and I don't turn it on very often,

3	places be put on Channel 61. Are they on
4	there?
5	MS. GARVEY: I haven't seen them, but
6	I did give it to them last week and they
7	said they would put them on, but I haven't
8	noticed.
9	MS. GATELLI: Will you please double
10	check for me because does anyone here
11	know if they are on that watch the channel?
12	MR. COURTRIGHT: I haven't seen them.
13	I've watched them, but, I haven't seen them.
14	MS. GATELLI: I think it's important
15	you know, with the polling places having
16	been changed, people will go there and they
17	won't be able to get in and they will just
18	go home and I think the election for the
19	president of the United States is too
20	important at this time for that not to be on
21	there, so please call again. And also see
22	if we can get the hotline number for the
23	smoking ban put on there for people that are
24	disgruntled about smoking in a restaurant,
25	we can put the hotline to the state on

there, too. I think we should be using the channel for those kinds of purposes.

One thing I would like to talk

1

4	about, and I'm not too sure about it, but I
5	have noticed that there are numerous boats
6	parked on streets. They are parked on
7	Pittston Avenue, I got a complaint on Alder
8	Street, they moved the boat then to Crown
9	Avenue, I believe that it's legal because
10	they are on a trailer and the trailer has a
11	license on it, but I would like maybe Amil
12	to investigate the Motor Vehicle Code for us
13	to see if there is anything we can do about
14	parking large boats on city streets.
15	MR. MINORA: I'll look into it.
16	MS. GATELLI: It seems to be quite a
17	problem. I talked to one of my friends last
18	night that has a boat and he said that it
19	cost too much for him to store it. He used
20	to store his bath, you know, right at the
21	lake, but the rent went up and now he has
22	got it on a trailer sitting on his street.
23	MR. MINORA: On public streets.
24	MS. GATELLI: Yeah, they are right
25	on the city streets.

1	MR.	MINORA:	I'11	look	into	it.

2 MS. GATELLI: They take up a lot of 3 parking spaces and they are very large and

4	you really can't see around them and to me
5	it's a safety hazard, but from what I
6	understand it's legal, but if you could find
7	that out for me.
8	MR. MINORA: I will look into it.
9	MS. GATELLI: Or maybe through
10	zoning we can do something about it, I'm not
11	sure, but I have gotten quite a few
12	complaints about it.
13	We wrote a letter to the Single Tax
14	Office and they faxed a letter today saying
15	that the auditors are beginning the
16	preparation of the report and the audit is
17	expected within 60 days, and that was from
18	Mr. McGovern.
19	The next thing I have is that I
20	would like to send a letter to Mr. Wallace.
21	I spoke with Dan Penetar today, the
22	solicitor for the zoning board, and the
23	Oasis Bar on the corner of Pittston and West
24	Locust was denied a variance at last month's
25	meeting and they are continuing to operate

at that location, so I would like you to
send a letter to Mr. Wallace to please go
over there and stop them from operating
until they have their hearing.

Mr. Talimini brought up something about the roads and I wish he would make a list for me. There is an organization called the Center for Independent Living, Keith Williams is the chairman of the board that meets monthly in city hall for people that are physically challenged, and they have a lot of say about curb cuts and things like that and whenever I reported any to him they were taken care of immediately, so if you could either make a list for me or tell me what the exact problem is I'll call Keith and have him work on that immediately.

A little update on the skunks, I have been working, as you know, with Ken Smith, the state representative in my area, and there is -- there are problems with the skunks, with the game commission and I mentioned that at a previous meeting and that was part of the problem that the city was having, however, I am working with

Mr. Smith, they have one in Dunmore and once
we get all of the details worked out then
I'm going to give it all to the mayor and
have him put a request for proposals out for

5	the skunks issue.
6	Let's see, what else. Audits. I
7	need to again ask Attorney Minora if he
8	would help me with that and see why we can't
9	get these audits all at an earlier time if
-0	we notify the authorities, you know, that we
.1	have a Home Rule Charter that we have to
.2	follow and they need to maybe change their
.3	audits to coincide with ours because it
_4	seems to be quite a problem that they don't
.5	have the same time line as we do, and if we
. 6	can't get them on different time line.
.7	MR. MINORA: I don't know that we can
.8	compel them to do that. They are
. 9	independent authorities, they are creatures
20	of the state and not the city, but certainly
21	in the spirit of cooperation it could be
22	asked and I don't know why they wouldn't
23	comply with that.
24	MS. GATELLI: Maybe we can get
>5	together and send them a letter

L	MR. MINORA: That would be fine.
2	MS. GATELLI: And maybe they could
3	take that into consideration next year.
1	MR. MINORA: I don't know why they

wouldn't want to help the city out.

6	MS. GATELLI: I don't know
7	understand why we are not on the same fiscal
8	year when it's, you know, for our benefit.
9	One other thing that I had and, you
10	know, I brought this up before and I didn't
11	seem to get too far with it expect that I
12	requested that every month we get a list
13	from the Tax Assessor's Office in the county
14	of people that are having re assessments on
15	their property. If seems that there are
16	approximately 60 or 70 of these a month.
17	Any of you can take look at this later, and
18	I'll leave it with Neil, maybe the
19	Taxpayers' Association would be interested
20	in this, but twice a month they have
21	hearings and at least 30 to 35 people are
22	having their taxes altered in some way.
23	When you read them, out of the 35 or 36 at
24	least 30 are getting them reduced.

of all of the county and I don't unde	rstand
why they are still doing this in ligh	t of a
reassessment. Why aren't all of thes	е
people waiting for the reassessment t	o get
their property reassessed? It seems	like

We are in a reassessment right now

they are getting them lowered so that when
the reassessment happens maybe they will be
taken back up to normal or they will have an
edge over the rest of us that aren't having
them reduced, but it really troubles me that
people are getting their taxes reduced on
their property and I would like to, I don't
know what we can do about it, except send a
letter, if the rest of council agrees with
me, that they need to take a look at this
and ask themselves why are they doing this
every month, Seventy properties a month for
years, for all of the years that I'm sitting
here, that's a lot of properties. So, you
know, I would like to send a letter to the
tax assessor.
MS. FANUCCI: Fine.
MS. GATELLI: If everyone agrees and

MR. MINORA: Can I give you an
explanation of what usually occurs with
this?

MS. GATELLI: Yes.

MR. MINORA: For a long period of

MR. MINORA: For a long period of time in our private office we did a lot of

find out why we are doing this in light of

doing a total reassessment of everyone.

real estate work, for a number of reasons we
don't do that much anymore, but what
occurred and the usual basis, so I can't
talk about an individual matter, but on a
usual basis was after sale from one party to
another the Assessor's Office would issue a
reassessment of a higher amount and often
times there would be in the neighborhood
other homes with lower assessments and that
would trigger somebody saying, "Why am I
being treated differently simply because I
bought my house this year and somebody
bought their house ten years ago?"
And so how you would actually do

And so how you would actually do
this as a lawyer is you would get
comparables in the neighborhood of other
homes similarly situated, similar price
range and have it reduced, and it was really
on the basis of fairness, not unfairness to

1 be honest with you.

What's going on at this moment I'm not prepared to tell you, but I can tell you that that's how it usually went and we often found people coming back to us and saying I want to appeal my assessment, you know, six

months, nine months after they purchased it because they just got their reassessment or they just got their first bill which is double the bill that they were told the fee was in their HUD statement at the time of purchase. So, that was generally the reason just as an explanation.

MS. GATELLI: Well, I do agree with that. I know that that does happen when you buy a house they jack up the assessment, but the ones that I read on here and the people that I recognize have been in those homes for years, so what I'm seeing from my end is people that didn't just buy the house so maybe we will have to find out how many of these are new homes, you know, and how many are people that have lived there that, you know, that will tell us the tale, because I don't think there is 70 houses a month being

sold, you know, I find that hard to believe, but, anyway, I would like to investigate that a little bit.

And the only other thing I have is in response to Mr. Ancherani about the county and the city. I don't like to knock another governmental body because Mike Washo

happens to be a good friend of mine, but
when you say that the city budget is higher
than the county, I can't think of a thing
that the county does for me as a homeowner
in the City of Scranton. I pay a library
fee to go to the library, so I pay that
extra, they don't clean my roads, they don't
fill my potholes, they don't pick up my
garbage, they don't come and inspect my
house or my neighbor's house if I have a
complaint about it, so I know it's sounds
like a lot of money, but the city doesn't
provide the bulk of the services to me as a
resident of the City of Scranton.

I do hope the budget is in line and

I do hope and pray that it includes

contracts for the firemen and the police

officers and in my opinion you can't put any

price on that public safety and I hope that it's in the budget.

I know that the negotiations from what I hear are going well and every chance I get to talk to the mayor I encourage him and tell him that this council is very concerned about that and we all agree up

8	here, I'm speaking for all of us, because we
9	all agree, this is one thing we all agree or
10	that we want to see contracts and we want to
11	see this issue settled. So, I do hope
12	that's in our budget. I hope that it's
13	settled by then and I will be very, very
14	happy to vote on that and that's all I have.
15	Thank you.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Fanucci?
17	MS. FANUCCI: I really don't have
18	anything, I just want to tell Mrs.
19	Schumacher that I will find out when that
20	sale date is closing, I don't know that
21	offhand, but I will find that information
22	out for you, and that is all I have. Thank
23	you.
24	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.
25	Mr. Courtright?

1	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes. Let me say
2	this first before I go any further, I do not
3	know Mr. Darcy, I don't believe I ever laid
4	eyes on the guy. Mark Migliore has never
5	been anything but kind to me, I like him as
6	a person, so what I'm going to say, I hope
7	everybody understands, it's not personal. I
8	too have run out of patience. Somebody had

pointed out an editorial to me for the Times that said, I believe, there needs to be a timeline, and I agree with that, but it's my opinion that they can't live up to the proposal that they made, I do not believe that they are going to be able to live up to the proposal they made for quite sometime.

I read Mrs. Evans' questions and many of the questions that -- all of the questions basically that I would ask are in hers and so I agree with sending that to them.

And I understand what Mrs. Fanucci

And I understand what Mrs. Fanucci says that we are powerless, but my hope is I'm going to make a motion that maybe some people are going to think is harsh, all right, and the mayor doesn't have to listen to it, but if the motion passes and the

mayor doesn't listen to us then it's on him,
not on us, we did what we could do.
Unfortunately, Mrs. Gatelli has stepped out.
What I'm going to do is I'm going to move
onto a different subject and I will come
back to a motion that I'm going to make.

Someone spoke about the crime up in the Hill Section and the University of Scranton,

I believe that in the past the University of Scranton did have two of their public safety officers that are Act 120 certified and I believe they have arrest powers. I don't know if they still have to or if they had more. It's a college, you know, and when you have a college you have certain problems that come with it. This council had voted to put the cops back on the street, and I'm happy to say that more and more of guys and girls, or officers I should say, are signing up to work the overtime shifts, so that the manning is becoming more than was originally.

My understanding is that the

My understanding is that the

Scranton Police Department is now on extra

duty working out of Valley View and Hilltop

again, which I don't believe they have for
sometime now, so that is going to spread us
a little thin, so I'm hoping to get as many
guys back on the job as we could so that we
have enough people to cover the overtime
shifts, we have enough people to cover the
extra duty shifts.

That's really all I have, but I really don't care to make my motion without

10	Mrs. Gatelli being here, I don't want to
11	exclude her. Is it possible that we can go
12	to you, Mr. McGoff, and then you can come
13	back to me or you don't have much?
14	MR. MCGOFF: I wasn't
15	MR. COURTRIGHT: You don't have much.
16	MR. MCGOFF: I had very no, I have
17	nothing. The only thing I was go to do is
18	respond to Mrs. Schumacher about the ECTV,
19	but I have already done that about the
20	committee.
21	MS. EVANS: Well, I have a time
22	filler, if each one of you would consider a
23	dollar threshold with regard to UDAG funding
24	that would have to come before council for
25	it's vote before it could be dispersed to

1	anyone. I know that Attorney Minora has
2	been waiting to draft that legislation for
3	us. I had asked for that quite awhile back
4	and if you can decide on what each of you
5	feels is appropriate, in other words, what
6	allocation should be brought before council
7	for a vote before it can be given to any
8	organization or individual.

MR. COURTRIGHT: I have one thing I

10 could ask Mr. Minora, am I correct in that 11 ECTV doesn't have a contract, but what we are calling it is an agreement, is that 12 13 correct, they have an agreement with the 14 city, is that the term we are using? MR. MINORA: It really would be more 15 in the way of appointment. You know, we 16 17 solicitors are accustom to being appointed 18 and we serve at the pleasure of who it is that appoints us, so I serve at the pleasure 19 20 of this council. You can get rid of me 21 tomorrow if you wanted to, so do I have an

22 agreement, no, I have an appointment. And I

23 think without a firm definition of anything

24 more than that it appears to be an

1

7

9

10

25 appointment process more than an agreement.

No provider of video services has a right

81

2 to, that I can see, I mean, there is no --

3 theoretically they could be in a contract,

4 but there isn't one. It's traditionally

5 been done as an appointment and it appears

6 to me that the way it's been done without a

contract is similar to what a solicitor has,

8 and that is merely an appointment.

MR. COURTRIGHT: So I think what I will do to be on the safe side I'll use the

term agreement and appointment so maybe that will cover me. Mrs. Gatelli, I just didn't want to exclude you from this. I'm going to make a motion that deals with ECTV and I said that I understand what Mrs. Fanucci says that basically we are powerless as far as who operates the channel, but my thought is this, if the motion passes and the mayor chooses not to go along with it then the onus would be on him and not on us and we would have done due diligence to the citizens of the City of Scranton.

I just believe it was disrespectful for them two weeks in a row not to come here to this council, but I believe it was more

disrespectful to the citizens of this city
that are paying for their station to just
simply not come here, and I'm being told
certain reasons why they come here, I have
not been told personally on that, so I'm not
going to say why I heard they didn't come
here, but to me the first reason was that
possibly Mr. Darcy the first was sick, and I
can understand that. The second reason,
which I won't say which I heard is only

11	hearsay, I don't agree with, but with all
12	that said I make a motion that Scranton City
13	Council send a letter to Mayor Doherty
14	asking him to terminate the agreement or the
15	appointment with ECTV immediately and to
16	turn over the operation of Channel 61 and 62
17	to Scranton Today until what time that ECTV
18	could live up to all the claims and
19	programming that they made in their proposal
20	in order to receive this agreement or
21	appointment, and I make that in the form of
22	a motion.
23	MS. EVANS: Second.
24	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
25	MS. EVANS: I think your motion is

basically the same motion I made maybe two
weeks ago. Yes? And then I withdrew my
motion because you suggested we have a
meeting and then that meeting didn't occur,
and then we waited for the rescheduled
meeting which didn't occur, but if I am
hearing you correctly I think that's pretty
much what you are saying that you would like
Scranton Today to step in until such time as
ECTV

MR. COURTRIGHT: Right, I'm not

mayor had the right to appoint a board and the board picked them and I understand that, that's what we have to live with, but I think it's painfully clear they cannot operate this channel and they are not going to be able to for quite sometime. If the time comes they had are able to live up to the proposal they made then absolutely give it back to them, but in the mean time if we are all saying we're in favor of open and fair government and we are not trying to hide anything, well, then let's let them take over until they can do it. If it's a

1	month from now then, fine, let them take
2	over, but I don't see that happening. I
3	think there is costs that they have that we
4	are not even aware of and I think one of the
5	costs is, and I'm sorry to take up so much
6	time, but one of the main concerns I had
7	that I read in the questions that you had
8	was have the renovations for the building
9	been paid for, and I believe for the parking
10	lot have they been paid for and if they
11	haven't where is that money going to come

from? I just think -- I think they got in over their head, I really do, and Mr. Balton made all of these proposals and he skated and now these two gentlemen are left holding the bag. I just don't see it working out for quite sometime. Maybe it's a harsh move, maybe some people are going to say it's unfair, but I think it's time to be fair to the people, the people that are paying the bills, the people that are wanting to see this.

I was the one that suggested that

I was the one that suggested that they try to show Scranton City Council on one of each shifts that people would be

1	working and evidently that's not working
2	out, many people are telling me that they
3	are missing the meeting. And I think, and
4	for whatever reason watch city council, some
5	people say it's for the entertainment value,
6	which I don't know doubt. Some people say
7	it's to be informed, which I don't doubt,
8	but whatever the case may be I know the
9	reason that I watch, I can't remember that
10	gentleman's name with the beard and the gray
11	hair

MR. GATELLI: Puglesi.

13	MR. COURTRIGHT: Right. The only
14	reason I ever saw him or I ever started
15	watching him, I like him, I like listening
16	to him was because I was watching Scranton
17	City Council and I'm clicking waiting for
18	council to come on and I saw him, the same
19	with the other shows. I used to like
20	watching Tom Munley when he was on there,
21	but I would have never turned into any of
22	those shows if I wasn't first looking for
23	city council. This mand I hate to call this
24	a show, but this popular for whatever the
25	reason is, whether it's for the

1	entertainment value or the informational
2	value this is popular, and I think it's
3	hurting the channel that we are not on
4	enough.
5	So again, nothing personal against
6	either one of those gentleman, but I truly
7	believe this needs to be done.
8	MR. MCGOFF: I
9	MS. EVANS: Do you want to say and
10	then I'll
11	MR. MCGOFF: On the question, I agree
12	somewhat with what you are saying, perhaps I

am showing too much patience, I would prefer to again offer the opportunity for ECTV to be here for a caucus and an opportunity to answer the questions that are being posed in the letter that Mrs. Evans has drawn up and if those two things don't occur next week, if we do not have answers to those questions, if we do not see them at caucus I would be more than happy to vote in favor of the motion, but I think at this time I personally would like to see one last opportunity for ECTV to answer our questions.

1	MS. EVANS: I just wanted to add that
2	I have an additional concern involving the
3	cable franchise fee and that is that ECTV
4	had requested 25 percent of that fee
5	annually for their funding and I know that
6	almost a year ago when council spoke to
7	representatives of Scranton Today in our
8	office, they were visiting us regarding the
9	\$13,000 that they were requesting at the
10	time. I had mentioned then that I thought
11	it was a very sagacious idea to fund public
12	access channels through the cable franchise
13	fees rather than through the City of

14	Scranton, the county, the school board,
15	etcetera, because it would provide a greater
16	or let's say an unquestionable level of
17	objectivity and independence.
18	However, we're approaching a
19	contract renewal perhaps with Comcast and I
20	think matters with the manager of the PEG
21	channel has to be satisfied unequivocally
22	before that type of percentage would be
23	allocated to any channel. I don't think we
24	should be up in the air or, you know, and as

have no further interest in that.

I have submitted my questions and I would like the them answered in writing. My intent was not to provide them well in advance so that answers can be prepared by others. We have already had too many confusing answers, for example, regarding the \$10,000.

I said before, I'm out of chances now. I

 $\label{eq:MS.FANUCCI: Are we on the question} \\ \text{still?}$

MS. EVANS: Yes. One entity says it was to buy a digital server. Another entity says it was to eliminate blight, and still a

14	third entity says it was for job creation
15	and which of the three is the truth? So, I
16	prefer they just send along those answers.
17	And, you know, I'm giving them the time
18	to get up and running because they've got
19	the cash now and if they don't then I don't
20	see any alternative to their out and the
21	money is rescinded.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else on the
23	question?
24	MS. GATELLI: Yes, I would just like
25	to say I agree with Mrs. Evans and I think

1	that that motion was sufficient. I'm not
2	quite ready to go with Mr. Courtright's at
3	this time, so, I'll be voting, no, on this
4	motion, but I obviously voted, yes, for Mrs.
5	Evans' motion. I would like to give them
6	that little bit of time that her motion
7	suggests and then I also would be ready to
8	seek new proposals or encourage the mayor to
9	do so, apparently we don't have the ability
10	to do that.
11	MS. EVANS: Yes, and I think if we
12	are sending both of these to the mayor even
13	the mayor is going to get confused by this.

MS. GATELLI: Well, he'll know, he'll

15	get the message.
16	MR. MCGOFF: All in favor signify by
17	saying aye.
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
19	MR. MCGOFF: Opposed? No.
20	MS. EVANS: No.
21	MS. GATELLI: No.
22	MS. FANUCCI: No.
23	MR. MCGOFF: Motion defeated.
24	Anything else, Mr. Courtright?
25	MR. COURTRIGHT: That's it.
	90
1	
1	MR. MCGOFF: And I have nothing else.
2	Mrs. Garvey?
3	MS. GARVEY: FIFTH ORDER. 5-B. FOR
4	INTRODUCTION - A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF

5 ELMER J. NALEVANKO, 1000 RICHMONT STREET, 6 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE JULY 13, 2007. MR. NALEVANKO WILL BE REPLACING 8 9 LORAYNE TALLO WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON JULY 12, 2007. MR. NALEVANKO'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON 10 JULY 12, 2012. 11 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll 12 entertain a motion that Item 5-B introduced 13

in it's proper committee.

15	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
16	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
17	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
18	in favor signify by saying aye.
19	MS. EVANS: Aye.
20	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
21	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
22	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
23	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
24	ayes have it and so moved.
25	MS. GARVEY: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
	91
1	A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF KEVIN A.
2	ICKER, 108 ABBY WAY, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
3	18504, AS A MEMBER OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION.
4	MR. ICKER'S TERM EXPIRED ON JULY 12, 2006.
5	MR. ICKER'S NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 12,
6	2011.
7	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
8	entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
9	introduced into it's proper committee.
10	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
11	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
12	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
13	MS. EVANS: These are apparently
14	five-year terms, and I voted for
15	Mr. Nalevanko because it's my assumption

16	here that he is a new appointee. Mr. Icker
17	is receiving a term renewal and it would
18	seem than often times with regard to these
19	commissions and boards and committees,
20	members continue to serve beyond the
21	expiration date of their terms and then
22	sometimes the mayor chooses to renew their
23	participation and other times he does not,
24	but I am concerned about an issue involving
25	once again, ECTV where one of the entities

1	who had applied for operation of that
2	channel had submitted a complaint to the
3	Ethic's Committee and that complaint was
4	also submitted to Scranton City Council by
5	certified mail, I have a copy of that.
6	MS. FANUCCI: Was that Mr. Quinn's,
7	that one?
8	MS. EVANS: I don't whose it was.
9	MS. FANUCCI: I think it was Ozzie
10	and Lee Morgan's, they were the ones who
11	sent this in?
12	MS. EVANS: NEPA
13	MS. FANUCCI: Is that yours?
14	MS. EVANS: a public access
15	MS. FANUCCI: Yeah, I believe that

16	was theirs; yeah, right.
17	MS. EVANS: But the point is, there
18	was no response ever by the Ethic's
19	Commission. No hearing ever conducted, and
20	so I cannot vote to reappoint someone to the
21	Ethic's Commission who has ignored issues
22	that have come to them.
23	MS. FANUCCI: Did you speak to them
24	on this? Did you call the Ethics people and
25	find out what happened with the filing and
	93
1	why nothing had been done?
2	MS. EVANS: No, do you know?
3	MS. FANUCCI: Actually, I do. We can
4	talk about that in caucus next week. Yeah,
5	we'll talk about it next week. I do know
6	there is a procedural problem from what I
7	was told.
8	MS. EVANS: A procedural problem?
9	MS. FANUCCI: The way it was filed,
10	that's all I heard in the beginning. That's
11	true. That's exactly what it is. It was
12	not filed properly for the investigation
13	to
14	MS. EVANS: But, why did then they
15	never even inform the complainant?

MS. FANUCCI: I have no idea.

17	MS. EVANS: Nothing. In fact, the
18	answer he received was they felt they never
19	received the complaint.
20	MS. FANUCCI: Well, maybe that was
21	the procedural I think that was the
22	procedural problem, and that's what's
23	MS. EVANS: But that's difficult
24	because they were both delivered to the
25	Treasurer's Office and there is a receipt
	94
1	for those, so
2	MS. FANUCCI: We should talk to
3	Mr. Quinn when he comes in next week and see
4	what exactly he did
5	MR. DOBSON: And I have problem with
6	that
7	MR. MCGOFF: Please, Mr. Dobson.
8	MR. DOBSON: Somebody took
9	MR. MCGOFF: Please.
10	MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question if I
11	could real briefly, and if I can recall
12	MS. GATELLI: The presidential
12	MS. GATELLI: The presidential debate is on at 9:00.
	-

appoint people within a 30-day period --

17	MS. GATELLI: We can appoint them.
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: we can appoint
19	them as a council, council could appoint
20	them, so maybe if we keep our eyes on it.
21	MS. GATELLI: We missed the boat
22	there.
23	MR. COURTRIGHT: Exactly. Shame on
24	us.
25	MS. GATELLI: We missed the boat.
	95
1	That was two years ago.
2	MR. MCGOFF: All in favor of
3	introduction signify by saying aye. Aye.
4	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
5	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
6	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
7	MR. MCGOFF: Opposed?
8	MS. EVANS: No.
9	MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
10	moved.
11	MS. GARVEY: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
12	A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
13	OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
14	AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
15	BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE
16	INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND THE CITY

OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF ECONOMIC

18	AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
19	AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO UNDERTAKE AND MANAGE
20	CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AT THE STEAMTOWN
21	NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE (THE "PARK") THAT IS
22	INCLUDED IN THE 500 BLOCK OF LACKAWANNA
23	AVENUE PROJECT ENTITLED "PARK, PLAZA AND
24	PEDESTRIAN COURT".
25	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
	96
1	entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
2	introduced into it's proper committee.
3	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
4	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
5	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
6	MS. EVANS: Again, I love the idea of
7	this project, I'm sure it's going to be
8	fabulous, but it's included in the 500 block
9	of Lackawanna Avenue project which fails to
10	include the two anchor city businesses,
11	Coney Island and Buono Pizza, so I am going
12	to be voting, no.
13	MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
14	signify by saying aye. Aye.
15	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
16	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
17	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

18	MR. MCGOFF: Opposed?
19	MS. EVANS: No.
20	MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
21	moved.
22	MS. GARVEY: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION
23	- A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
24	OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
25	AND ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO THE MASTER
	97
1	EQUIPMENT LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT LEASE NO.
2	6293000 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND
3	FORD MOTOR CREDIT COMPANY FOR THE
4	LEASE-PURCHASE OF SEVEN (7) NEW 2008 POLICE
5	VEHICLES.
6	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
7	entertain a motion that I tem 5-E be
8	introduced into it's proper committee.
9	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
10	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
11	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
12	those in favor signify by saying aye.
13	MS. EVANS: Aye.
14	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
15	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
16	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
17	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
18	ayes have it and so moved.

19	MS. GARVEY: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
20	A RESOLUTION - A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
21	HOUSE BILL 1768.
22	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
23	entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
24	introduced into it's proper committee.
25	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
	98
1	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
2	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
3	in favor signify by saying aye.
4	MS. EVANS: Aye.
5	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
6	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
7	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
9	ayes have it and so moved.
10	MS. GARVEY: SIXTH ORDER. READING BY
11	TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 42, 2008 - AN
12	ORDINANCE SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY
13	MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 902-908 NORTH
14	WASHINGTON AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
15	TO ALFRED D. PANTUSO, SR., RD #2, BOX 2165,
16	MOSCOW, PENNSYLVANIA, 18444, FOR THE
17	CONSIDERATION OF \$8,000.00.
18	MR. MCGOFF: You have heard Reading

19	by Title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure.
20	MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item
21	6-A pass Reading by Title.
22	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
23	MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
24	MS. EVANS: I believe this would be
25	the property, Lyman's Deli, and everyone who
	99
1	has passed that knows that's been not only
2	an eyesore, but a safety hazard for quite
3	awhile and it's my understanding that
4	Mr. Pantuso is going to tear that down, it's
5	long overdue and I'll be thrilled to see
6	that happen.
7	MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
8	signify by saying 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. Prior to reading
15	6-B there was an inaccurate zip code placed
16	in the original reading. At this time I
17	would like to make a motion to change the
18	zip code from 18444 to 18509.
19	MS. EVANS: Second.

20	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
21	in favor signify by saying aye.
22	MS. EVANS: Aye.
23	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
24	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
25	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
	100
1	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
2	ayes have it and so moved.
3	MS. GARVEY: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
4	FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 43, 2008 - AN ORDINANCE-
5	SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE
6	COMMONLY KNOWN AS 2110 CAPOUSE AVENUE,
7	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO MARK F. AND
8	CHRISTINE L. FRYER, 902 WOODLAWN STREET,
9	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18444, FOR THE
10	CONSIDERATION OF \$2,000.00.
11	MR. MCGOFF: You have Reading by
12	Title of Item 6-B what is your pleasure.
13	MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-B
14	pass Reading by Title.
15	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
16	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
17	in favor signify 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.
24	MS. GARVEY: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -
25	FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 44, 2008 - AN ORDINANCE-
	101
1	CALE OF MAY DELINOUSHIE DRODERMY MORE
1	SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE
2	COMMONLY KNOWN AS 902-904 MADISON AVENUE,
3	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO STEVEN ANDERS AND
4	WILIM NG, RR 2, BOX 2051, STROUDSBURG,
5	PENNSYLVANIA, 18360, FOR THE CONSIDERATION
6	OF \$5,000.00.
7	MR. MCGOFF: You have heard Reading
8	by Title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure.
9	MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item
10	6-C pass Reading by Title.
11	MS. FANUCCI: Second.
12	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
13	in favor signify by saying aye.
14	MS. EVANS: Aye.
15	MS. FANUCCI: Aye.
16	MS. GATELLI: Aye.
17	MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
18	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
19	ayes have it and so moved.
20	MS. GARVEY: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.

21	FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
22	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -
23	RESOLUTION NO. 67, 2008 AUTHORIZING THE
24	MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
25	TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A RIGHT OF
	102
1	ENTRY-GENERAL RELEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE
2	PENNSYLVANIA NORTHEAST REGIONAL RAILROAD
3	AUTHORITY DELAWARE-LACKAWANNA RAILROAD
4	COMPANY, INC. ("PNRRA/DL") CONCERNING THE
5	500 BLOCK OF LACKAWANNA AVENUE PROJECT
6	ENTITLED "PARK, PLAZA AND PEDESTRIAN COURT".
7	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
8	recommendation of the Chairperson for the
9	Committee on Community Development?
10	MS. FANUCCI: As Chairperson for the
11	Committee on Community Development, I
12	recommend final passage of Item 7-A.
13	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
14	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
15	MS. EVANS: Again, because this 500
16	block of Lackawanna Avenue project does not
17	include two anchor city businesses, I'll be
18	voting, no.
19	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
20	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

21	MS. EVANS: No.
22	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
23	MS. GATELLI. Yes.
24	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
25	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
	103
1	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
2	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
3	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
4	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
5	Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
6	MS. GARVEY: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION-
7	BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
8	RESOLUTION NO. 68 , 2008 RE-APPOINTMENT OF
9	WILLIAM J. EGAN, JR., 901 ELECTRIC STREET,
10	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER
11	OF THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON HOUSING
12	AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS. MR.
13	EGAN'S NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 27,
14	2011.
15	MR. MCGOFF: As Chairperson for the
16	Committee on Rules, I recommend final
17	passage of Item 7-B.
18	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
19	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
20	call, please.
21	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

22	MS. EVANS: Yes.
23	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
24	MS. GATELLI. Yes.
25	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
	104
1	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
2	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
3	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
4	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
5	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
6	Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.
7	MS. GARVEY: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION-
8	BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
9	RESOLUTION NO. 69, 2008 RE-APPOINTMENT OF
10	JANE MCCARTHY, 537 NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE
11	APARTMENT 303, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
12	18503, AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE
13	SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF
14	FIVE (5) YEARS. MS. MCCARTHY'S CURRENT TERM
15	EXPIRED ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2008, AND HER NEW
16	TERM WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2013.
17	MR. MCGOFF: As Chairperson for the
18	Committee on Rules, I recommend final
19	passage of Item 7-C.
20	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
21	MR. MCGOFF: On the quetstion Roll

22	call, please.
23	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
24	MS. EVANS: Yes.
25	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.
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1	MS. GATELLI. Yes.
2	MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.
3	MS. FANUCCI: Yes.
4	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.
5	MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
6	MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.
7	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
8	Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.
9	MS. GARVEY: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION -
10	BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
11	RESOLUTION NO. 70, 2008 RE-APPOINTMENT OF
12	TERRENCE V. GALLAGHER, ESQUIRE 1320 ORAM
13	STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, AS A
14	MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON HOUSING
15	AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS. MR.
16	GALLAGHER'S CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON
17	SEPTEMBER 27, 2008 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL
18	EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2013.
19	MR. MCGOFF: As Chairperson for the
20	Committee on Rules, I recommend final
21	passage of Item 7-D.
22	MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

24	call, please.
25	MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.
	106
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. I hereby declare
10	Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.
11	Motion to adjourn?
12	MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
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MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll

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2	CERTIFICATE
3	
4	I hereby certify that the proceedings and
5	evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
6	notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
7	above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
8	and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
9	ability.
10	
11	
12	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
13	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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