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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, October 28, 2008

LOCATION:

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

MR. ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

MS. JUDY GATELLI, VICE-PRESIDENT

MS. JANET E. EVANS

MS. SHERRY FANUCCI

MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT (Not present.)

MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MR. AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Here.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI. Here.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

11 (Mr. Courtright not present.)

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here. Dispense with
14 the reading of the minutes. I'd like for
15 the record just to mention that
16 Mr. Courtright did call and say that he
17 would be on unable to attend this evening's
18 meeting.

19 MS. GARVEY: 3-A. MINUTES OF THE
20 LACKAWANNA COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE
21 AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2008.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
23 If not, received and filed.

24 MS. GARVEY: 3-B. CONTROLLER'S
25 REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30,

1 2008.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?

3 If not, received and filed.

4 MS. GARVEY: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE

5 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD ON

6 SEPTEMBER 24, 2008.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?

8 If not, received and filed.

9 MS. GARVEY: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE

10 NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION BOARD MEETING

11 HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2008.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?

13 If not, received and filed.

14 MS. GARVEY: 3-E. AGENDA FOR THE

15 NONUNIFORM PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD ON

16 OCTOBER 22, 2008.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?

18 If not, received and filed.

19 MS. GARVEY: That's it for Third

20 Order.

21 MR. MCGOFF: I would like at this

22 time, apparently last week we neglected to

23 make a formal declaration for the resolution

24 that passed, so at this time based on last

25 week's vote I'd like to declare Resolution

1 No. 76-2008 legally and lawfully adopted.

2 Any announcements?

3 MS. EVANS: Yes. First, I ask that
4 you please remember in your prayers all of
5 those who have died over the last week,
6 particularly Mrs. Nancy Krake and her dear
7 family and friends she leaves behind. Also,
8 there will be a pick your pasta dinner on
9 Wednesday, November 5, take out or eat in at
10 Waldorf Park in East Mountain from 4 to
11 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8.00 per adult and
12 \$5.00 per child ages 4 through 10 and
13 proceeds will benefit students in the
14 Scranton school district attending the
15 inauguration of the President of the United
16 States in January. Thank you.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Anything? Citizens'
18 participation. Fay Franus.

19 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.
20 Good evening, Council members. I am here to
21 make a brief presentation which does not
22 require nor doe it seek any interaction or
23 response from council. I respectfully
24 request that council not interrupt me during
25 my presentation. I assure council that the

1 contents my presentation is constitutionally
2 protected free speech, not offensive, and
3 does not in any way violate any of council's
4 existing rules. On numerous occasions in
5 the past I have questioned council regarding
6 litigation and progress. Council opted not
7 to respond. I now understand and appreciate
8 that any public official named as a
9 defendant may not want to offer any comment
10 regarding any litigation and progress
11 because it may compromise the outcome of the
12 litigation.

13 However, the attendant potential for
14 any compromise when discussing litigation
15 involving a public official rests only with
16 the public official's best interest and not
17 with the best interest of the public. The
18 public is not foreclosed upon from offering
19 it's views or opinions on any litigation
20 involving a local public official. In
21 particular, we are not bound at all to
22 withhold our opinion where litigation
23 involves the public official who maybe
24 relying upon taxpayer funded insurance to
25 cover the costs of a private claim. The

1 right to publically express an opinion

2 regarding litigation involving any public
3 official is clearly your right protected by
4 the First Amendment. Any attempt by this
5 council forecloses on my right to express my
6 opinions related to any litigation involving
7 any local public official or result in a
8 complaint being filed in the Federal Court.

9 Regarding the litigation involving
10 Mrs. Gatelli, it is my opinion that she
11 should have legal representation that the
12 city's insurance coverage provides for it
13 under the proper circumstances, however, I
14 have been provided with the standard
15 insurance coverage stipulation that relates
16 to the coverage provided to public
17 officials. There are no stipulations that
18 provide that the taxpayer funded insurance
19 company shall also bear the cost of the
20 countersuing either as public official or as
21 a private party. Mrs. Gatelli seems to be
22 countersuing as a private individual. The
23 record on file indicates that the legal
24 costs for that particular representation is
25 substantial. Due to the mountain of

1 paperwork already filed with much more to be

2 filed, if Mrs. Gatelli is advancing a
3 private claim and the taxpayer funded
4 insurance company is pay for it in my
5 opinion that is both inappropriate and
6 unethical.

7 In reviewing the Court records, in
8 my opinion Mrs. Gatelli is suing as a
9 private individual not just a public
10 official in the amount of well over
11 \$150,000. On page 39 of Mrs. Gatelli's
12 counterclaim, paragraph three, her lawyer
13 claims that she has been harmed
14 professionally and personally and he made no
15 claims of harm to her as a political
16 official, and her wherefore clauses found on
17 pages 40, 42, 43, and 44, Mrs. Gatelli is
18 not identified as public official but rather
19 as a private person.

20 It's clear to me that Mrs. Gatelli
21 is advancing a lawsuit as a private
22 individual, but are the taxpayers paying her
23 substantially legal fees because they are
24 the ones paying the premiums for the
25 insurance coverage and not Mrs. Gatelli.

1 The taxpayers should know. Mrs. Gatelli
2 should affirm or deny that the taxpayers are

3 footing the legal bill for any private
4 benefit. Thank you very much.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Franus.
6 Andy Sbaraglia.

7 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
8 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,
9 5-D amending File of Council No. 92, 1991,
10 entitled creating a special account for the
11 City of Scranton in the Office of Economic
12 and Community development to be entitled as
13 repayments of urban development action
14 grants 91-400 for the purpose of receiving,
15 disbursing, or transferring of UDAG
16 repayments. Does anybody know where the
17 original money came for this UDAG? Was it a
18 federal grant, state grant or did the city
19 borrow the money to set up this fund?

20 MS. GATELLI: It was federal funds.

21 MS. EVANS: Federal funds that were
22 provided to the city.

23 MR. SBARAGLIA: It came from the
24 federal government; correct? Okay. So, we
25 know where the money came from. Does

10

1 anybody know the amount at that time?

2 MS. EVANS: No.

3 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, it must have
4 been pretty sufficient if we gave a million
5 dollars to Boscov's from UDAG funds, so
6 apparently there was quite a few million
7 involved and I was just wondering how much
8 money actually is involved with these
9 UDAG's?

10 MS. GATELLI: They don't give UDAG's
11 out anymore.

12 MR. SBARAGLIA: But, they are out
13 there; right?

14 MS. EVANS: They are repayments.

15 MS. GATELLI: We don't fund them
16 anymore.

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Doesn't people that
18 borrow the money have to pay it back?

19 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

20 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay.

21 MS. GATELLI: There is no new grants.

22 MS. SBARAGLIA: That's what I'm
23 trying to find out. Exactly how much money
24 is out there in UDAG's. There could be five
25 million, there could be 100 million, who

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1 knows. How much money is out there in them
2 grants so we know exactly what's there,
3 what's available because many times they

4 come and they've said they are using UDAG
5 money for this, that and whatever.

6 So actually there must be a huge
7 pile of it out there, and since are you are
8 transferring from one deal to another deal
9 to another deal, there must be money that
10 can be used very easily because there
11 mustn't be very many restrictions on the use
12 of this money, so I was just wondering what
13 is the whole amount of money that is out
14 there outstanding still today? In other
15 words, are we getting our money back, did
16 Boscov's kickback his million that he got or
17 is that part of that 108 loan that you keep
18 bringing up every once in awhile that we are
19 paying, is that that million dollars? Who
20 knows.

21 MS. GATELLI: Well, we can find out
22 for you.

23 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, and you should
24 find out exactly what's in the UDAG, how
25 much money is available, who owes money to

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1 the UDAG fund, I realize that they said it
2 was no longer, the paper pointed that out,
3 it's no longer in use, but still there is

4 money out there.

5 MS. GATELLI: There is repayments,
6 there is repayments that come back.

7 MR. SBARAGLIA: Right. That's money
8 that's out there; right?

9 MS. GATELLI: We will find out for
10 you.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay, that's really
12 all I want because I went through most of
13 your literature here and that was the most
14 important thing, this UDAG fund. I don't
15 know if that special account would make it
16 easier for you to get the information you
17 want being you are going to have a special
18 account with all of the UDAG funds, so
19 apparently they will have all of the loans,
20 I think most of them are loans and grants or
21 whatever is in there, so the city can know
22 what's available. It's nice to know those
23 things. Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
25 Mr. Sbaraglia. Ozzie Quinn.

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1 MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, President
2 of the Scranton/Lackawanna County Taxpayers'
3 Association. First of all, I'd like give a
4 status report on our food drive. The

5 Taxpayers' Association in cooperation with
6 Janet and the rest of council. United
7 States Neighborhood Center, okay, we dropped
8 off a bunch of food there so far and the ICC
9 Pantry. Tomorrow we are going to St. Joe's,
10 the Lithuanian Church, Dick Laske, as a
11 matter of fact, takes care of that, and
12 that's consolidated now with Holy Rosary,
13 St. Francis and St. Anthony's, so there is
14 quite a few pantries and we are just going
15 to be collecting food all the way until
16 Thursday and we'll be distributing it next
17 week, so we are getting some checks so
18 hopefully it will work out all right. Okay?

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

20 MR. QUINN: Thank you. Now, you
21 know, the city debt, I'm always talking
22 about the city debt and what taxpayers have
23 on their back here, okay, the taxpayers.
24 Okay, 72,000 in the city, a lot them are
25 renters, a lot of them are children and I

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1 don't know how many are property owners, but
2 the fact is the county as of the first of
3 the year jumped from \$207,000,000 in debt
4 and now it is 224.4 million dollars in debt,

5 that's a jump of \$15.4 million this year,
6 okay? Now, I am looking at a pro rata
7 figure of that about 60 percent of that
8 which is owed by the city for taxes, the
9 city property owners. You take the school
10 board \$185,00,000, this is principle only,
11 and the city the last time I know was
12 \$108,000,000 that is the independent audit,
13 all right, so we are talking about a grand
14 total of principle only of \$426 million.
15 That's a lot of money on the back of the
16 Scranton taxpayers.

17 Now, if you use what's the long-term
18 indebtedness you are talking about
19 \$700,000 -- \$700 million, that's a lot of
20 money, a lot of money. I don't know how we
21 are ever going to get out of debt.

22 Now, I want to speak a little bit
23 about the fact that on 7-A on that approval
24 for the (CDBG) (HOME) (ESG) program,
25 consolidated plan, I note that in

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1 administration 18 percent, \$600,000 of that
2 grant is going for administration. That's a
3 lot of money. I don't know how many
4 employees they have down there, but they are
5 down there and they are renting and I don't

6 know how much money these people are making,
7 \$600,000 is a lot of money to be giving out,
8 I really don't. I wish you people would
9 look into that before you approve it.

10 And the other thing is the fact that
11 I looked at the -- I'm thinking of the
12 unemployment rate this morning in the paper
13 that said we were the lowest in the state
14 now and Bill Jackowitz is always complaining
15 about that, you know, and so I went and
16 I looked at the city's website and I saw
17 where Mayor Doherty is saying that -- he is
18 taking credit for \$115,000,000 in major
19 construction projects and \$68,000,000 for
20 infrastructure. That totals \$183,000,000.
21 Now, with that much money there should be a
22 lot of jobs. All right, those two cities,
23 Hazelton and Wilkes-Barre, they are weighing
24 us down because that's a lot of money, we
25 should have a lot of jobs, you know, but I

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1 do know in 2005 the mayor spent 22 percent
2 of that budget for economic development and
3 he created ten jobs. In 2006, 36 percent of
4 that budget for economic development and he
5 created four jobs. In 2007, he has put

6 28 percent of that budget for eight jobs,
7 that's a total the last three years of 22
8 jobs out of \$4 million, I can't do the math,
9 but that's a lot of money. That's a lot of
10 money out there. I just don't know, we are
11 just spending and spending and spending and
12 now we are talking about infrastructure,
13 well, you know what, it's coming election
14 time, I guess, you know, next year and I
15 guess the roads are going to be paved and
16 you are going to see all the things done.

17 Now, the SRA is going to get over
18 \$600,000 for fixing up properties, Janet,
19 what we tried to do two years ago we met in
20 caucus in here and they said, oh, it
21 wouldn't work if you recall, you know,
22 taking the homes and fixing them up. I just
23 want to finish the fact is that 600 and some
24 odd thousand dollars and they have a staff
25 of one, so that means that there is going to

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1 be a lot of consultants that going to be--
2 it's going to be a pork barrel and I hope
3 you have oversight on that because we just
4 can't afford it here in the City of
5 Scranton. Thank you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Quinn.

7 Les Spindler.

8 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
9 Council. Les Spindler, city resident,
10 homeowner. Last Wednesday in Clinton County
11 and SUV collided with a school bus and five
12 children were injured and taken to the
13 hospital. It was reported on Channel 16 a
14 girl driving an SUV was talking on a cell
15 phone and ran a stop sign. Thank God nobody
16 was killed, but what I'm trying to get at is
17 here is I'm asking this council, and I asked
18 quite awhile ago when Carbondale passed a
19 law to ban cell phones while driving, I
20 think this council should look into doing
21 that before a tragedy happens, before this
22 happens in this city, you can't go down the
23 city street without seeing somebody driving
24 and using a cell phone.

25 Now, if this doesn't enlighten

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1 anybody to look at this legislation I don't
2 know what will because they were lucky these
3 children weren't killed and I was causing by
4 somebody talking on the cell phone and
5 driving so, hopefully, they will look into
6 this legislation because Carbondale passed

7 it many a year ago.

8 Next thing, a woman who was arrested
9 last year for cursing at her toilet she got
10 \$19,000 from the city, the city is broke.
11 Where did we come up with \$19,000 to give
12 this woman? When I go home tonight I'm
13 going to all open up all my windows and
14 doors and starts cursing my toilet and see
15 how much money I can get from this city.

16 Next thing, Mrs. Gatelli, I sent that
17 complaint to Harrisburg about the smoking,
18 but isn't there anybody local that could
19 look into this and enforce this ban? It's
20 got to be done from Harrisburg?

21 MS. GATELLI: Actually, I called the
22 woman from the Cancer Society who I worked
23 with the kids at West and she called the
24 Department of Health today and there is a
25 list of exemptions on the computer, but they

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1 were updating it and we couldn't see them,
2 and that particular restaurant that you
3 spoke of she was quite surprised that they
4 would have an exemption because of the
5 nature of their business, so we are
6 investigating that.

7 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you.

8 Next thing, quite a few months ago it was
9 said that the fire department was going to
10 receive equipment to test for live
11 electrical lines and I have heard they have
12 yet to receive that equipment, does anybody
13 know if that's true or not? I think that's
14 Mr. Courtright's department. Could we check
15 on that, please? And I think that's very
16 important. If they haven't received that
17 yet that's a crime.

18 Next thing, at our crime watch
19 meeting in Tripp Park last week someone
20 brought up that the corner of North Rebecca
21 and Hawthorne they asked for a stop sign
22 quite a few years ago and have yet to
23 receive it, I think they said that PennDOT
24 said they didn't need it. Does PennDOT have
25 authority over a city street like that? I

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1 thought PennDOT just did the state roads?

2 MS. FANUCCI: I can't imagine that.

3 MR. SPINDLER: Can we look into that
4 and get a stop sign either at the corner of
5 Rebecca and Hawthorne or Rebecca and Bulwer.

6 MS. FANUCCI: What's the other one,
7 Bulwer?

8 MS. SPINDLER: Bulwer, yeah, because
9 that will slow down the traffic because
10 people fly down North Rebecca and there is
11 no stop signs until I forget what street you
12 get to, because the stop signs are real far
13 apart.

14 Lastly, did anyone watch Channel 61
15 Saturday evening about 7:00? Well I put on
16 Channel 61 about ten after seven, and there
17 were interviewing people in Chicago about
18 the Chicago White Sox's winning the World
19 Series in 2005? Now, what kind of
20 programming is this? Who the hell cares
21 about the Chicago White Sox's winning the
22 World Series? This is supposed to be local
23 public access television. What are we doing
24 listening to people being interviewed in
25 Chicago about the White Sox's winning the

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1 World Series? This station should be taken
2 off the air right now and should be given
3 back to Scranton Today. CDTV is just a
4 joke. These meetings will not be live until
5 next year's election and I would bet anybody
6 on that. Chris Doherty wants the station to
7 air so he has total control of it, the
8 programming was terrible, the sounds on it

9 is terrible. I don't know what more to say.
10 What kind of program is that we are watching
11 people from Chicago talk about the White
12 Sox. That's ludicrous and something has got
13 to be done with this station. I don't know,
14 we should give Mr. Darcy and Mr. Migliore in
15 here and ask them why they program it like
16 that. And Scranton Today ran a much better
17 program with a shoe string budget. These
18 people got \$100,000 and they are not doing a
19 damn thing so let's make a change, all
20 right? Get off your butts, go down to the
21 mayor and tell him to do something or maybe
22 you are afraid because he tells you what to
23 do, you don't tell him what to do. Thank
24 you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Spindler.

22

1 Marie Schumacher.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening. Marie
3 Schumacher, resident and member of the
4 Taxpayers' Association. First, I hope Mrs.
5 Gatelli will give us a status report on the
6 parking authority audit tonight. I noticed
7 it wasn't in the reports received, so the
8 two weeks are up.

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MS. EVANS: Mrs. Schumacher --

MS. SCHUMACHER: May I continue?

What I would like to do is to read the letter I submitted because as you will recall the day that the OECD funding was-- public notice was puts in the paper it said that city council would have a hearing at a later day, but in the legal section that same paper announced it and, so I missed it because I was looking for a later date. So you could comment in writing until the 24th and this is what I responded: "First of all, Connell Park: Why does a little league field require lighting? Aren't all games played when it's light? I recommend that the funds for dollars be removed and transferred to an account to buy safe space

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heaters for residents too poor to afford oil and gas bills during the winter months.

Friends of the Poor: In the current economy I believe stocking the food kitchens to be more important. This annual allocation has become automatic and perhaps the Friends of the Poor could seek grants elsewhere to bear part of the burden. No one group should be regularly dependent on

10 CDBG funds.

11 Street paving: I would prefer to
12 see the pave cut and curb cuts broken out
13 separately as our disabled citizens are
14 forced to the street where it is dangerous
15 and I would like to know that the curb cuts
16 are getting their fair share.

17 Bridge reconstruction: I believe
18 this contingency fund belongs more
19 appropriately in the city's capital budget.
20 Our low and moderate income residents are
21 numerous and food, shelter and heat should
22 be addressed before a slush fund is
23 established for other items such as the
24 contingency.

25 Healthy Northeast Pennsylvania

24

1 Initiative: \$20,000 seems excessive for a
2 program development that appears if
3 successful will be used outside of the city.
4 I believe such programs exist elsewhere and
5 CDBG funds would not be spent on
6 experimental nonrecurring assets to the
7 socially isolated.

8 Friendship House: It is just a few
9 months since the monies provided/allocated

10 to the Friendship House were deemed not
11 necessary and transferred to other projects.

12 The Deutsch Institute: It seems
13 worthwhile and could probably be expanded to
14 include the socially isolated and a better
15 investment than five above, which was the
16 start up of the Healthy Northeast
17 Pennsylvania Initiative.

18 City of Scranton Parks and
19 Recreation: Funds allocated seem
20 unrealistically low for all of the projects
21 listed. Only those capable of being funded
22 should be listed.

23 City of Scranton Licensing,
24 Inspections and Permits: While I have no
25 problem directly with definition of blighted

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1 properties, we are creating blighted
2 properties faster than they can be torn
3 down. We need a program, a revolving
4 account, to help our low and moderate income
5 homeowners maintain the properties before
6 they become blighted.

7 Community Concert Association.
8 Scranton: Homeowners are already taxed by
9 the county for arts and culture and they
10 should be able to fund this program.

11 Scranton Redevelopment Authority: I
12 believe this authority has already borrowed
13 funds for this purpose. This blight problem
14 needs to be addressed before it happens.
15 Lackawanna Neighbors already deals with
16 vacant properties so this seems redundant.

17 Commonwealth Medical Education
18 Corporation: I didn't bring it, but what
19 they are saying that they are going to do, I
20 believe this corporation is currently unable
21 to perform the services listed. They are a
22 start up and they will not be functional
23 until late next year.

24 The City of Scranton: OECD for
25 replacement of sidewalks. Why aren't the

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1 property owners in downtown required to
2 repair and replace their sidewalks just as
3 we in neighborhoods must? If we have
4 sidewalk money, it should be used to put in
5 sidewalks in neighborhoods where there are
6 none that currently exist and pedestrians,
7 including those in wheelchairs are forced to
8 take to the streets. Thank you.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs.
10 Schumacher. Frank Hartman.

11 MR. HARTMAN: Good evening, Council.
12 My name is Frank Hartman, I live in the
13 Tripp Park area of Scranton. We have just
14 started a neighborhood crime watch. We are
15 a group of 35 to 40 members so far. Our
16 goal is to keep our neighborhoods safe and a
17 good place to live. We have had some recent
18 problems over the summer and we want to put
19 a stop to it. We are already excited to
20 help the police department in any way we
21 can.

22 I would like to thank Mr. Courtright
23 for leading me in the right direction to get
24 the program started and Lieutenant Lenny
25 Namiotka for coming to our meetings to

27

1 educate us and get us started. We would
2 also like to thank the police officers for
3 checking around the area at night including
4 the community center, the ballpark and the
5 ballfields.

6 There is a building up in the woods
7 behind the community center, and it is, as
8 we have been told, a party spot for kids to
9 drink in the woods, do drugs, so forth, it's
10 a safety hazard. I talked to Mark Dougher
11 from Parks and Recreation at our

12 neighborhood meeting and he said he was
13 checking in to see what he could do, what
14 can be done, and Lieutenant Namiotka has
15 asked other people, too, to checking into
16 this matter.

17 Friday night at 6:30 there will be a
18 Halloween party sponsored by the Tripp Park
19 Neighborhood Association, all are welcome to
20 attend. There is going to be a DJ, food and
21 games.

22 I was talking to the acting
23 neighborhood association president and that
24 building belongs to a lawyer he told me by
25 the name of Mr. Kelleher. It's supposed to

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1 be part of the new school that's going up in
2 the back of the community center. It was
3 lit on fire I'd say like last year, maybe a
4 year and a half ago. There is a lot of
5 four-wheelers, there is a lot of quads going
6 back there, drinking, partying and we are
7 just trying to stop that, so if anybody
8 could help me get that torn down we would
9 appreciate it.

10 Also, another thing is who would I
11 talk about getting a stop sign on Dorothy

12 Street? If you are going up Dorothy Street
13 the only stop sign on Dorothy Street is at
14 North Garfield and it goes all the way up to
15 the baseball park, there is no stop signs
16 in-between, and living on the street there
17 is people that take off from that stop sign
18 and they just fly up the street and somebody
19 is going to get hurt. The girls are there
20 playing softball, and I was just wondering
21 if something could check into that for me,
22 too? Okay. Thank you for your time.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Thank very much,
24 Mr. Hartman. Anyone else?

25 MR. HUBBARD: Good evening, Council.

29

1 Daniel Hubbard, Lower Greenridge
2 Neighborhood Association. It's obvious over
3 the last several years that, excuse me, I'm
4 a little winded from walking up, that the
5 city has ignored the needs for a temporary
6 flood protection and warning systems in
7 Lower Greenridge and basically anything that
8 has to do with flooding in our neighborhoods
9 has been ignored by this city's
10 administration and any other body that would
11 be involved with it, but now we have to deal
12 with Barbara Maranuchi and the Bullshead

13 Neighborhood Association holding meetings
14 with Congressman Kanjorski, Paul O'Horo from
15 the Scranton flood office, Representative
16 Shimkus, who is not even our representative
17 in lower Greenridge, and the Army Corp of
18 Engineers, and this meeting was held in
19 record to the East Side flood project, which
20 is the lower Greenridge side of the river.
21 So since the Bullshead Neighborhood
22 Association has had their levy in place for
23 I think going on six years now, maybe seven,
24 my question is why is Barbara Maranuchi and
25 the Bullshead Neighborhood Association

30

1 having flood meetings were Congressman
2 Kanjorski, the Army Corp of Engineers and
3 the City of Scranton Flood Office about the
4 flood project on our side of the
5 neighborhood? Now, she set this meeting up
6 herself, she contacted Congressman
7 Kanjorski's office stating that some of her
8 members owned property in our neighborhood
9 and that's why she did it, which is not
10 true. We have one neighbor who is a member
11 of her association because he doesn't want
12 to be a member of ours.

13 Not one resident in Lower Greenridge
14 was contacted in regards to this flood
15 meeting. Now, this was an important
16 meeting. This meeting brought us all up to
17 speed on the schedule, the projected finish
18 date, where they stand currently, what
19 they're going to start doing next, when the
20 contracts are going out to bid, it's a
21 pretty important meeting for the people that
22 have to constantly live under the threat of
23 flooding. And yet none of us were notified
24 that this meeting was going on, and when she
25 was questioned as to why we were not

31

1 notified she had the gaul to say to my
2 mother in front of the rest of us that if
3 wasn't for her we wouldn't be getting a levy
4 at all.

5 Now, mind you, I understand when you
6 are anointed by Mayor Doherty as one of his
7 few included cronies in the city you must
8 have some sort of super powers that you
9 single-handedly can get a levy for us in
10 Lower Greenridge, considered the project was
11 started long before Mayor Doherty was in
12 office and it was started by Congressman
13 McDade, so that's how long ago this project

14 was started.

15 So my question again is can the city
16 give me an answer as to why the Bullshead
17 Neighborhood Association is involving
18 themselves in the East Side flood project in
19 lower Greenridge? I mean, does anybody have
20 -- doesn't it sound kind of odd that Barbara
21 Maranuchi would be holding a flood meeting
22 in regard to a levy in my backyard when she
23 lives in Bullshead and they have their
24 protected levy since tell in place for seven
25 years or so? Yet we weren't notified? I'm

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1 in the book, I'm not really that hard to
2 find. I'm pretty available to anybody that
3 wants to talk to me. So, I mean, picking up
4 the phone and saying, "You know,
5 Mr. Hubbard, we are going to hold this
6 meetings," and not to mention when we showed
7 we were made to feel very unwelcome. When
8 the Army Corp was finished with their
9 presentation we were hurried out and ushered
10 out of the room at Weston Field and then the
11 door was barricaded with bodies so that we
12 are unable to go back in the meeting while
13 she was in the there with the Army Corp, Tom

14 Williams and Paul O'Horo and Representative
15 Shimkus with here members of her
16 association.

17 I mean, let's face it, at this point
18 we are okay with the fact that nobody really
19 cares, but to start cutting out of these
20 meetings is ridiculous. It's ridiculous.
21 Yet again another clear indicator of how
22 Lower Greenridge is basically ignored, the
23 forgotten neighborhood. I mean, I would
24 like an answer from the flood control office
25 or from somebody on this council as to why

33

1 nobody in our neighborhood was notified to
2 the project in our neighborhood and that
3 goes for the businesses that are being
4 affected as far as the Garden Path and some
5 of other businesses that had to be relocated
6 and have had the properties changed and when
7 their are going to get their levy behind
8 their businesses and things like that. So,
9 again, this is an important meeting for
10 Lower Greendrige and we were left out of it
11 even though it was about our levy.

12 And, you know, I want to touch on
13 this levy project. My mother had brought it
14 up before, the realignment of Ross and

15 Marian Street which now it turns out is
16 unnecessary because the loading dock for Roe
17 Door is not going to be placed where it was
18 going be replaced and required a realignment
19 of the streets, we fought to have these
20 streets not realigned and dead-ended if you
21 remember we bringing this up about a year
22 ago and that realignment now has already
23 cost the neighborhood one family pet and our
24 kids are dodging cars left and right for
25 people flying around that blind turn where

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1 there is no speed limit signs, no stop
2 signs. So, I mean, my mother asked for
3 "Children at Play" signs, I would like to
4 try to get Marian Street for the 100 and 200
5 block turned into one-way in the direction
6 that Colts bus goes, so it won't
7 inconvenience the bus system, they can keep
8 their route, and the one-way street going
9 the opposite direction of the blind turn
10 will provide safety for the children in the
11 neighborhood because they have to go through
12 an intersection with a four-way stop sign
13 first. So, I would like to try to have the
14 100 and 200 blocks of Marian turned into a

15 one-way and I would like an answer as to why
16 Barbara Maranuchi is holding flood meetings
17 in regard to Lower Greenridge. Thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Hubbard.
19 Anyone else?

20 MR. DOBSON: Good evening, Council.
21 Dave Dobson, resident of Scranton. On 5-G,
22 is that the original Coney Island that's
23 going to be taken into this Lackawanna
24 Avenue project?

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

35

1 MR. DOBSON: That's good because that
2 has been cut out for the longest time, if we
3 are going to spend all that money on
4 everybody else we should help him out a
5 little bit, it's a long-standing business
6 and it would be nice if we heard something
7 for Buona Pizza some day. They have been
8 here for about 42 years and they are still
9 out in the cold. From what I currently
10 heard or my understanding, the lot next door
11 went for more than what their business was
12 offered, so that doesn't strike me as fair
13 or reasonable, an opening bid is one thing,
14 but when we buy a vacant lot for more than a
15 long-time established taxpaying business I

16 would say that's not necessarily proper and
17 we can always make amends and everybody
18 could be made happy.

19 The only other thing I would like to
20 make a comment nonpartisan, get out and
21 vote. I guess next Tuesday we don't have a
22 meeting; correct? And I don't want to slam
23 any other country with their trade packs or
24 whatever, but that gets to the root of it,
25 pick your candidates carefully and try, try,

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1 try to understand that if the people of this
2 town don't have insurance or decent medical
3 insurance and medical coverage, well, then,
4 the mentality eventually becomes, "I don't
5 have it or I'm paying for it, why should
6 they have it," and that's a message for any
7 public employees that have good benefits and
8 are potentially fighting to keep them. I
9 think everybody should have decent benefits,
10 but that's besides the point, but the
11 lynchpin is these trade packs, they are no
12 longer have an economy able to support a
13 consumer economy and that's what we based it
14 on. My wife has lost thousands of dollars
15 of month -- in the last couple of months on

16 her 401-K, and the other night I was
17 watching Bill Moyers on Channel 44 and the
18 claim was that the five investment houses
19 like Bear Stearns and Lehman Brothers lost
20 \$84 billion dollars and that started the
21 downward spiral. Well, in the meantime
22 their executive compensation was nearly \$240
23 billion, so if those people would kindly pay
24 that money back maybe we could start an
25 upward spiral someday, but keep in mind that

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1 we can't go on like this forever and vote to
2 take care of your brother American. Have a
3 good night.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Dobson.
5 Anyone else? Mrs. Evans?

6 MS. EVANS: Good evening. The
7 Scranton/Lackawanna Taxpayers' Association
8 and I are working together on a food drive
9 to stock our local food pantries. Working
10 families, senior citizens and the poor need
11 food desperately at this time. We cannot
12 expect a Thanksgiving donation to solve the
13 food shortage crisis. Drop boxes were
14 placed throughout city hall, at the fire
15 stations throughout the city, police
16 headquarters, and the Scranton Single Tax

17 Office. I hope all city employees will
18 donate nonperishable food items and city
19 residents are invited to drop off donations
20 at these locations as well. Boxes will be
21 collected this Friday, October 31, and
22 delivered to Scranton food pantries early
23 next week. Please give generously to help
24 our less fortunate neighbors.

25 In addition, I spoke with Mayor

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1 Doherty last week regarding the UDAG
2 allocation for the purchase of canned food
3 items for Scranton food pantries. He said
4 he would speak to Kevin Mitchell, OECD
5 Director of Finance, to check whether funds
6 were available and could be used in this
7 manner. I thank the mayor for his
8 cooperation and attention to this worthy
9 cause.

10 I also spoke to Lackawanna County
11 Commissioner Corey O'Brien twice last week
12 asking for his assistance with a county
13 donation to food pantries. He has forwarded
14 our request to Mrs. Osborne for her review.
15 I thank Commissioner O'Brien for his
16 immediate attention to this request as well.

17 I hope that both the mayor and the
18 commissioners will have good news for our
19 community's hungry and poor in the near
20 future to help them survive throughout the
21 winter months.

22 In the mean time, however, each of
23 us can help with a modest monetary donation
24 made payable to the Scranton/Lackawanna
25 Taxpayers' Association or with a few cans of

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1 food.

2 On a related topic, 2009 CDBG
3 allocations appear on tonight's agenda for a
4 final vote by council. I am pleased to see
5 that many of the agencies I supported have
6 received funding for 2009 such as Meals on
7 Wheels, the Salvation Army's Emergency
8 Services Assistance Program, the Christmas
9 Holiday Bureau and, of course, the little
10 leagues throughout the city.

11 I also pressed for increased funding
12 to pave our city streets. Originally,
13 paving had received only \$75,000 in the
14 funding. I am pleased to have that
15 increased to \$300,000 for street paving with
16 the help of my fellow council members, of
17 course.

18 believe the neighborhood police patrols are
19 a far greater need and importance to the
20 people than a contingency and downtown
21 sidewalks.

22 At last week's council meeting I
23 provided an update on the 2007 independent
24 audit of council in which Mr. Grassi, CPA,
25 indicated questions that required responses

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1 from NCC and the Single Tax Office. As a
2 further update, only the Single Tax Office
3 responded immediately last week on several
4 occasions and again this week.

5 And just as an update for one of our
6 speakers this evening, the Scranton Parking
7 Authority audit, according to Mr.
8 Scopelliti, Director of the Scranton Parking
9 Authority, will be ready by Wednesday and,
10 Kay, does that mean Wednesday the 29th or
11 Wednesday, November 5?

12 MS. GARVEY: He didn't specify on
13 that so I took it as this Wednesday and when
14 I repeated I said, "You mean tomorrow?"

15 And he said, "That's what they tell
16 me."

17 MS. EVANS: Well, that's certainly
18 good news. Next, I have requested an update

19 and a time line for the Parker Street bridge
20 more than once in the last few months from
21 Mr. Brazil and from the city engineer.
22 Neither has responded. Residents continue
23 to note that no work has been performed in
24 many months, yet, the single lane of traffic
25 remains. Can the city engineer and/or

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1 Mr. Brazil please send a written response or
2 come to council to update the citizens and
3 offer a time line?

4 Also, the streets in the Plot were
5 never paved as was promised to occur
6 following completion of the flood project.
7 I'd also like an update and time line for
8 this particular paving project.

9 And, in addition, some of the
10 requests made this evening, I'd like a
11 letter to the flood control office, Kay, why
12 were residents of Lower Greenridge, that is,
13 specifically those residing in the east side
14 of the flood levy never notified about a
15 flood control meeting conducted at Weston
16 Field by the Bullshead Neighborhood
17 Association?

18 Also, if we can have the proper

19 department, I think it might have been the
20 traffic or highway division that used to
21 look into the stop signs for us, but because
22 of the recovery plan I don't believe those
23 departments exist any longer, so if we can
24 send this, as I said, to the appropriate
25 party if they would look into a stop sign

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1 placement on Dorothy Street.

2 Also, last week I reported some
3 problems in the East Mountain area and I did
4 receive a copy of a response of sorts,
5 perhaps an order from Chief Elliott to
6 Lieutenant Glenn Thomas: "I have received
7 complaints from city council regarding
8 illegal parking near the entrance to
9 Mountain Lake Estates alongside of the fire
10 house Engine 10. Could you have your
11 officers address this problem and get back
12 to me with the results? The officer should
13 check on this several times a day throughout
14 their shifts. Also, address illegal parking
15 near Lake Scranton Road and Route 307."

16 And so it appears that the police
17 department will be looking into this area on
18 East Mountain.

19 With regard to the CDBG allocations

20 that were mentioned by a speaker earlier
21 this evening, when council examines this
22 particular piece of legislation for a final
23 vote an amendment will be read that will
24 specifically include changes that would be
25 additions and deletions to the original CDBG

44

1 list, for example -- I recall perhaps
2 Community Concert Association having been
3 mentioned, and that amount has gone to zero.
4 There was I believe also mention made of
5 Health Northeast Pension Initiative for
6 \$20,000, that has been decreased to zero
7 dollars and so for those of you who have
8 concerns about CDBG allocations from the
9 original format please listen carefully this
10 evening to obtain the correct and final
11 amounts, and that's it.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Evans.
13 Mrs. Gatelli.

14 MS. GATELLI: I just have a few
15 things, I would like to remind the people
16 that are going to vote next Tuesday the
17 Scranton Times had an editorial about voting
18 on the state borrowing of \$400 million for
19 sewer and municipal governments to fix the

20 water and sewer system. I would encourage
21 everyone to vote in favor of this as it
22 would behoove the state to help the
23 municipalities, the sewer system goes all
24 the way to the Chesapeake Bay and that's
25 what they are interested in and I think it

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1 would help us very much if the whole state
2 was contributing rather than just the
3 municipalities. It's supposed to cost the
4 Scranton Sewer Authority approximately
5 \$150 million to make these improvements to
6 be in compliance with the federal
7 government, so if we can borrow this money
8 through the whole state and have everyone
9 help the city will be much better off, so I
10 would encourage everyone to vote, yes, on
11 that referendum and it will be on the ballot on
12 Tuesday, and it's very important that to go
13 and vote. This presidential election is
14 probably the most important in the history
15 of the United States, I would say no matter
16 matter who you are voting for please make
17 you are go out and vote.

18 Also, I had asked someone at the
19 Scranton Times and Channel 61, and I don't
20 really watch it so I don't know if it's been

21 running, but I know that there has been some
22 changes for voting places in the City of
23 Scranton and I'd ask, Jeremy, maybe if you
24 could see if you can get them in before
25 Tuesday. They were in once when I saw them

46

1 and they had the ward and the district and
2 what it was changed to, but many people
3 don't know the ward and the district they
4 vote in, they only know the place they vote
5 at, so I ask that maybe they could get it in
6 the paper and please on Channel 61 for the
7 next few days.

8 The only one that I remember off the
9 top of my head is where I vote and that's
10 Kennedy School and it's remodeled and that
11 will be closed and those people will be
12 voting at St. John's Hall of Fig Street, the
13 500 Of Fig Street. There were two in the
14 Hill Section I know, and I think one down in
15 Greenridge, I'm not sure about that. I had
16 given them to Kay, so if we could please get
17 them in the paper it's very important if
18 people go there and they can't vote they
19 will just go home, so it's important to get
20 that out there.

21 The other thing we got a notice in
22 the mail from the Pennsylvania League of
23 Cities and as you know I have gone there are
24 for the past two years with the mayor, and
25 the Mayor of Bethlehem, Mayor John Callahan,

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1 has been appointed to the position of
2 President of the League of Cities. He is
3 there are because he is replacing the
4 president, Bob Anspah, who has taken a job
5 in the Rendell administration as executive
6 assistant to the Director of PEMA. So I
7 would ask my colleagues if we could please a
8 letter to both congratulating them on their
9 new positions, if that's okay.

10 The block grants. The block grant
11 funding for the police department is
12 \$553,000. It looks like it was reduced, but
13 they have money to the tune of \$338,000 left
14 from this allocation that will be added to
15 that one, so there will be \$553,000 in new
16 funding.

17 There was also a few other little
18 leagues and neighborhood associations that
19 looked like they are getting zero. It looks
20 that way because North Scranton Little
21 League already has \$75,000 that they haven't

22 used, so the policy is if they haven't used
23 the money not to give them anymore money
24 until they use up what they currently have.
25 So this is the reason that some of the them

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1 look like they are getting zero. It's not
2 true that they are getting zero, they just
3 haven't used what they have gotten from
4 previous years.

5 West Scranton Neighborhood
6 Association has a balance of 9858.
7 Neighborhood police patrol has a balance of
8 \$338,000. Hyde Park Baseball has a balance
9 of \$40,000, and I said the West Scranton is
10 9858. So it may look like they got zero in
11 this allocation, but in fact they still have
12 money that they haven't spent and that's why
13 they haven't received any new funding.

14 This was a joint effort by all of
15 the council members. We all had input into
16 the block grant funding, and I am extremely
17 pleased about the paving. It's really
18 needed and it's unfortunate that it can only
19 be done in low to moderate income areas and
20 I believe it's only every ten years it can
21 be done so if it was done ten years ago it

22 can't be done again and sometimes those
23 streets are hard to find in the low areas,
24 but it will be a help anyway and it will
25 give us some relief from the streets that we

49

1 have to pave with regular money. And that's
2 all I have. Thank you.

3 MS. EVANS: Mr. President, before
4 Mrs. Fanucci begins can I add a request for
5 a stop sign to the other requests for the
6 stop sign on Dorothy Street. I believe
7 another speaker mentioned the placement of a
8 stop sign in the area of North Rebecca and
9 Hawthorne or North Rebecca and Bulwer, so,
10 Kay, if we could combine those two requests.

11 And there was just one more item that I
12 forgot, and I think it's very important, we
13 all received this today from ECTV and I will
14 read quickly for you the announcement that
15 they have made: "Comcast and Electric City
16 Television have developed a plan that allow
17 the live broadcasting of meetings from
18 council chambers. This new plan will take
19 advantage of the already existing
20 infrastructure and new equipment that has
21 recently become available from Comcast. No
22 expense will be incurred by either ECTV or

23 the City of Scranton. Comcast has estimated
24 that the live capabilities will be
25 operational by the end of November. We at

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1 Electric City Television want to thank
2 Scranton Today for their generous offer."

3 So, I'm sure that is very good news
4 for all of the viewing audience that
5 hopefully within a month you will watching
6 government meetings live and uncensored once
7 again. I'm sorry. Thank you, Mr. McGoff
8 and thank you, Mrs. Fanucci.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

10 MS. FANUCCI: No problem. I actually
11 was going to read that, so I'm glad you did.
12 There is only one thing I want to add if we
13 can send a letter for Mr. Hartman regarding
14 the building in Tripp Park and maybe finding
15 out what we can do about speeding up that
16 demolition and making sure, especially with
17 this weather breaking, I have a feeling that
18 that is going to be used and we certainly
19 don't want to become more of a hang out than
20 it is already is, so if we can find out what
21 we can do and how we can speed up the
22 progress of that then I would be very

23 thankful if my colleagues agree, and that is
24 really I all I have. Thank you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Fanucci.

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1 MR. GATELLI: Mr. McGoff, I'm going
2 to be Mrs. Evans and interrupt you, just for
3 a minute.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Feel free.

5 MS. GATELLI: I forgot to mention if
6 we could look into the cell phone deal the
7 Carbondale has, the law prohibiting cell
8 phone use while you are driving and if you
9 could have that for council to review next
10 week? I agree with --

11 MR. MINORA: How about the week
12 after?

13 MS. GATELLI: -- with Mr. Spindler.
14 I see them at 7:30 in the morning, I'm going
15 thinking, "Who are you talking to at 7:30,
16 you must have just left the house?"

17 But everybody is on the phone.
18 Nobody is -- and they are texting in the
19 car, so, you know, I know it's hard to
20 enforce it, but if we get it on the books
21 maybe it will help. Sorry, Mr. McGoff.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Very
23 quickly, a couple of things, on the grants,

24 again, responding to the one speaker, on the
25 lighting at Connell Park, it is not for the

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1 little league field, it is for the park
2 itself if I'm not mistaken where the dog
3 park is and that area --

4 MS. GATELLI: The little league
5 already has lights.

6 MR. MCGOFF: The Commonwealth College
7 requests was deemed unacceptable for funding
8 by HUD and it was removed completely from
9 the list that will be read tonight.

10 Also, just an announcement that I
11 believe it's November 10, and I'm missing
12 the time, of the dedication of the Connor
13 Playground 1:00. The playground on Orchard
14 Street which if you haven't driven by it
15 looks very nice and I know many of the
16 people in the neighborhood are quite pleased
17 with the way it's turned out. There is,
18 more work that needs to be done there, but
19 it a vast improvement over what was there.

20 Also, on the food collection I know
21 that a number of churches are also
22 collecting food so that if you can't bring
23 nonperishable to the sites that were already

24 mentioned by Mrs. Evans I know a number of
25 churches are also collecting and you may be

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1 able to, you know, better access it there,
2 but by all means if you are able to donate
3 food to this cause it would be greatly
4 appreciated no matter where it was placed.

5 And I would like to mention, I forgot
6 to do it, I don't know if I had it two weeks
7 ago, but I would like to thank Lutherwood
8 for a check for \$6,000 that was given to the
9 city in lieu of taxes. That was received
10 recently and, as I said, I'm not sure if it
11 was last week or the week before, but again,
12 thank you to Lutherwood. And that will be
13 all.

14 MS. GARVEY: FIFTH ORDER. 5-B. FOR
15 INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING
16 THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY
17 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ACCEPT
18 AND DISBURSE GRANT FUNDS FROM THE
19 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
20 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ("DCED") THROUGH THE
21 ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM.

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

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MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

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MS. EVANS: Second.

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MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All

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those in favor signify by saying aye.

4

MS. EVANS: Aye.

5

MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

6

MS. GATELLI: Aye.

7

MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The

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ayes have it and so moved.

9

MS. GARVEY: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -

10

AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

11

OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY

12

OF SCRANTON TO ACCEPT AND DISBURSE GRANT

13

FUNDS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF

14

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ("DCED")

15

THROUGH THE ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM.

16

MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll

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entertain a motion that Item 5-C be

18

introduced into it's proper committee.

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MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

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MS. EVANS: Second.

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MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All

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those in favor signify by saying aye.

23

MS. EVANS: Aye.

24

MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

25

MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The

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eyes have it and so moved.

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MS. GARVEY: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -

4

AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO.

5

92, 1991, ENTITLED "CREATING A SPECIAL

6

ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON IN THE

7

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

8

TO BE ENTITLED AS "REPAYMENTS OF URBAN

9

DEVELOPMENT ACTION GRANTS (UDAGS) #91-400"

10

FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING, DISBURSING, OR

11

TRANSFERRING OF UDAG REPAYMENTS."

12

MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll

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entertain a motion at that Item 5-D be

14

introduced into it's proper committee.

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MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

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MS. EVANS: Second.

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MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All

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those in favor signify by saying aye.

19

MS. EVANS: Aye.

20

MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

21

MS. GATELLI: Aye.

22

MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The

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eyes have it and so moved.

24

MS. GARVEY: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -

25

A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF FRANK J.

1 TUNIS, JR., 101 KELLY WAY, SCRANTON,
2 PENNSYLVANIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF
3 THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF
4 FIVE (5) YEARS. MR. TUNIS' TERM EXPIRED ON
5 JUNE 1, 2007 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON
6 JUNE 1, 2012.

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

10 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

11 MS. EVANS: Second.

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

14 MS. EVANS: Aye.

15 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

16 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

19 MS. GARVEY: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -A
20 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
21 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF
22 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND
23 MAKE A LOAN FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
24 BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 150.19 IN
25 AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$86,000.00 TO JAY'S

1 COMMONS, LP TO ASSIST AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

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

5 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

6 MS. EVANS: Second.

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

9 MS. EVANS: Aye.

10 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

11 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

14 MS. GARVEY: 5-G. FOR INTRODUCTION -
15 A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION
16 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
17 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
18 APPROPRIATENESS FOR SDA ARCHITECTS, 321
19 SPRUCE STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA FOR
20 SCOPE OF WORK AT 534-536 LACKAWANNA AVENUE,
21 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA TO INCLUDE: PARTY
22 WALL TO RECEIVE RESTRUCTURED STEPPED PARAPET
23 WITH ALUMINUM CAP AND STUCCO FINISH TO BE
24 PAINTED TO MATCH ADJACENT BUILDING;
25 LACKAWANNA AVENUE FAÇADE TO RECEIVE STUCCO

1 TREATMENT, NEW ALUMINUM WINDOWS, DOORS AND
2 MOLDINGS; THE ADAMS AVENUE FAÇADE BASE AND
3 HISTORIC CONEY ISLAND SIGN TO BE REPAINTED
4 AS ORIGINAL; UPPER WALL TO RECEIVE NEW
5 ALUMINUM FRAMES, WINDOWS AND MOLDINGS AND
6 STUCCO FINISH; NEWLY STRUCTURED ROOF TO
7 RECEIVE EPDM SURFACE AND NEW ROOF DRAINS;
8 BOGART COURT ELEVATION TO BE STABILIZED WITH
9 FILLED-IN WINDOW AREAS AND NEW PAINT.
10 STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

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

14 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

15 MS. EVANS: Second.

16 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

17 MS. EVANS: I'm very pleased about
18 this particular piece of legislation. I'm
19 pleased by the recommendation of the
20 Historical Architecture Review Board. I
21 believe this may enable Coney Island to
22 reopen within the next several months and it
23 certainly does seem that we are on our way
24 to maybe including at least that one city
25 anchor. There is still another problem on

1 the other end, but I think we can say in
2 this regard good things are happening in
3 Scranton.

4 MR. MCGOFF: I would like to just
5 mention that this was done in agreement with
6 the owners of Coney Island with HARB and
7 also with the developers of the rest of the
8 project so that the side of the building
9 that was left from the demolition of the
10 upper floors would be redone and painted or
11 to coordinate with the rest of the project.
12 Also, a roof that would be placed on what's
13 left of the Coney Island building and then
14 finally a repainting of the Coney Island
15 building to reflect it's historic nature.
16 These promises were made by the owners of
17 Coney Island and that they are working, I'm
18 told working in agreement with the
19 architects of the Lackawanna project, so
20 that everything is coordinated and hopefully
21 it will allow for the reopening of Coney
22 Island and the movement toward a completed
23 project all over across Lackawanna Avenue.
24 Anyone else? All those in favor signify by
25 saying aye.

1 MS. EVANS: Aye.

2 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

3 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

6 MS. GARVEY: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION -
7 A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION
8 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
9 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
10 APPROPRIATENESS FOR JOHN ANDREJACK
11 CONTRACTORS, 802 NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE,
12 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA FOR INSTALLATION OF A
13 NEW ROOF WITH ARCHITECTURAL SHINGLES,
14 POINTING OF BRICKS, REPLACEMENT OF WINDOW
15 OPENING FILLERS AND REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING
16 SIGNS AT 225 VINE STREET, SCRANTON,
17 PENNSYLVANIA.

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

21 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

22 MS. EVANS: Second.

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

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

1 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

2 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

5 MS. GARVEY: 5-I. FOR INTRODUCTION -
6 A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION
7 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
8 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
9 APPROPRIATENESS FOR ELECTRIC CITY SIGNS, RR
10 2, BOX 2069 NICHOLSON, PENNSYLVANIA FOR
11 INSTALLATION OF A SINGLE-FACED, NON-LIT
12 2X5X1 SIGN MOUNTED TO BRICK FAÇADE AND A
13 1X2½ TWO-SIDED ALUMINUM SIGN ATTACHED TO
14 ENTRANCE GATE AT 302 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON,
15 PENNSYLVANIA.

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

19 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

20 MS. EVANS: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

22 MS. GARVEY: I have a comment, it's
23 not really a question, I have noticed that
24 the HARB, and I used to work very closely
25 will them, and I'm finding that they are

1 putting a lots of signs downtown. Some are
2 billboards and some are signs such as this
3 on what appears to be historical buildings.
4 I know that at one time they were very, very
5 strict about what they did with buildings in
6 the downtown area. I happen to be very fond
7 of the historic buildings, not that I'm an
8 artists of any means, but I do like the
9 nature of the old buildings and I'm not
10 really fond of the sign that they have
11 picked to put on this building. It's on the
12 corner of Linden and I believe that's Penn.
13 It just does not look right on the building
14 to me, it's very gaudy and I would just like
15 to make that comment.

16 I will call someone from HARB myself
17 and tell them of my displeasure, but I think
18 if they made it a different color to blend
19 in more with the building, I don't know if
20 you guys saw it, you know, I just don't
21 think it looks proper on a historic building
22 and I will make my feelings known to them,
23 but I have noticed that they been a little
24 more free with their approvals of signs in
25 the downtown and that's all. I just wanted

1 to make a comment.

2 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
3 signify by saying aye.

4 MS. EVANS: Aye.

5 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

6 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

9 MS. GARVEY: 5-J. FOR INTRODUCTION -
10 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
11 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
12 AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
13 BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY AT
14 CANAAN ("USP CANAAN") AND THE POLICE
15 DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
16 PENNSYLVANIA ("SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT")
17 FOR USE OF ITS FIRING RANGE.

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

21 MS. FANUCCI: So moved.

22 MS. EVANS: Second.

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

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

1 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

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MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

MS. GARVEY: SIXTH ORDER. NO BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. SEVENTH ORDER.

MR. MCGOFF: At time I would like to make a motion to approve amendments to the CDBG grants as read.

MS. EVANS: Second.

MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All in favor?

MS. EVANS: Aye.

MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

MS. GATELLI: Aye.

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

MR. MINORA: You would like me to read the changes?

MR. MCGOFF: Yes. Attorney Minora, would you please read the changes.

MR. MINORA: These are the Final Amendments in the Action Plan of 2009 for Community Development Block Grants, the applicants:

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Connell Park Little League:
Project, little league field restoration in

3 the amount originally requested is \$5,000
4 and it has been amended to \$10,000.

5 City of Scranton Parks and
6 Recreation: Project for Connell Park Cameras
7 and Pavilion, the original amount \$5,000 and
8 amended to \$10,000.

9 West Scranton Neighborhood
10 Association for West Scranton Improvements
11 from \$5,000 to zero.

12 West Side Falcons Youth
13 Organization: Moso Lighting for Football
14 Field from zero to \$100,000.

15 Weston Park Senior Little League:
16 Field and Infrastructure improvements from
17 \$5,000 to \$10,000.

18 City of Scranton, DPW: Street
19 paving, from \$75,000 to \$300,000.

20 West Scranton Little League: Field
21 and Grounds Improvements from \$5,000 to
22 \$10,000.

23 Healthy Northeast Pennsylvania
24 Initiative: Project for the Healthy
25 Northeast Pennsylvania Initiative from

1 \$20,000 to zero.

2 City of Scranton, OECD:

3 Contingency/Project Delivery Costs from zero
4 to \$250,000.

5 Friendship House: Northeast
6 Regional Center for Autism Spectrum
7 Disorders Renovation/Expansion Project, from
8 \$25,000 to zero.

9 Friendship House: Northeast
10 Regional Center for Autism Spectrum
11 Disorders Renovation/Expansion Projects from
12 \$125,000 to \$100,000.

13 Deutsch Institute Adaptive Community
14 Recreation: Inclusion Activities at the City
15 sponsored recreation programs for persons
16 with disabilities and elderly, from \$50,000
17 to \$40,000.

18 Hyde Park Baseball: Hyde Park
19 baseball field improvements, from \$5,000 to
20 zero.

21 City of Scranton, Department of
22 Parks and Recreation: Orchard Street
23 Playground, from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

24 The Scranton Police Department:
25 Neighborhood Police Patrols, from \$350,000

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1 to \$215,000.

2 Commonwealth Medical Education
3 Corporation: Commonwealth Medical College,

4 from \$100,000 to zero.

5 City of Scranton, Office of Economic
6 and Community Development: Condemnation
7 project, from zero to \$100,000. North
8 Scranton Little League: Pavilion and
9 building and equipment improvements, from
10 \$5,000 to zero.

11 Community Concert Association of
12 Scranton, Incorporated: For Big Brothers
13 and Sisters in the arts, from \$5,000 to
14 zero.

15 Employment Opportunity and Training
16 Center: For the employment and opportunity
17 training center Seventh Avenue Center
18 renovation, from zero to \$31,500.

19 Salvation Army: For emergency
20 utility services from zero to \$15,000.

21 United Neighborhood Centers:
22 Bellevue Community Center from zero to
23 \$15,000.

24 Meals on Wheels of Northeastern
25 Pennsylvania, Incorporated: For home

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1 delivered meal production, from zero to
2 \$55,000.

3 Voluntary Action Center/Christmas

4 Holiday Bureau: For the Christmas holiday
5 bureau project from zero to \$15,000.

6 Catholic Social Services of
7 Lackawanna County: Project for St. Anthony's
8 Haven/Men's and Women's shelters, homeless
9 veterans supportive housing, permanent
10 supportive housing program, nativity place
11 family shelter and St. James Manor
12 supportive housing program to provide
13 essential and nonessential services to
14 clients of the listed programs, from \$40,000
15 to \$71,500.

16 MS. GARVEY: 7-A. FOR CONSIDERATION
17 - BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
18 - FOR ADOPTION -FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 41,
19 2008 -AS AMENDED - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
20 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
21 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO
22 IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR
23 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
24 TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
25 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT

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1 PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY
2 SHELTER GRANT(ESG) PROGRAM.

3 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
4 recommendation of the Chairperson for the

5 Committee on Community Development?

6 MS. FANUCCI: As Chairperson for the
7 Committee on Community Development, I
8 recommend final passage of Item 7-A.

9 MS. EVANS: Second.

10 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
11 call, please?

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

13 MS. EVANS: Yes.

14 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

15 MS. GATELLI. Yes.

16 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

17 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

18 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

19 (Mr. Courtright not present.)

20 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
22 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted. I'd
23 just like to mention that next Tuesday there
24 will not be a meeting due to Election Day.
25 It has been reschedule for November 6, I

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1 believe. So the next meeting will be
2 November 6 at regular time. Motion to
3 adjourn?

4 MS. EVANS: So moved.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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I hereby certify that the proceedings and

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evidence are contained fully and accurately in the

6 notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
7 above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
8 and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
9 ability.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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