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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEWS

HELD:

Friday, January 8, 2010

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:

- JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
- PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
- ROBERT MCGOFF
- FRANK JOYCE
- JOHN LOSCOMBE
- NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK
- SUE MAGNOTTA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1     SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEWEES

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Joyce.

9 MR. JOYCE: Here.

10 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

11 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the  
12 reading of the minutes.

13 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. PROCEED  
14 WITH INTERVIEWS.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. I  
16 respectfully ask that all audience members  
17 turn off their cell phones and refrain from  
18 speaking during the interviews. We are  
19 interviewing candidates for the vacant  
20 position on city council this evening and  
21 again tomorrow morning. Each candidate will  
22 be asked the same six questions. Each  
23 interview will last approximately 15  
24 minutes. Mr. Dudek.

25 (Mr. Dudek enters council chambers

1 and is interviewed as follows:)

2 MS. EVANS: Welcome.

3 MR. DUDEK: Thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: And thank you for your  
5 interest in the position and the opportunity  
6 to interview you today. Please keep your  
7 answers concise and on point so that we may  
8 adhere to the 15 minute time limit for each  
9 interview.

10 MR. DUDEK: Will do.

11 MS. EVANS: Please provide us with a  
12 brief summation of your professional  
13 background?

14 MR. DUDEK: I'm a graduate of the  
15 University of Scranton, bachelor's and  
16 master's degrees, both of them in American  
17 history. I taught history, government,  
18 economics, political science at Mid-Valley  
19 High School from 1970 to 1993.

20 While I taught there, I created what  
21 we now have as what is now called the moot  
22 court competition. In other words, the  
23 competition in which students become  
24 lawyers, it involves over 500 high schools  
25 in Pennsylvania and all 67 district

1 attorneys and the beginning of the  
2 documentation of this can be found in the  
3 May 2, 1982, edition of the Scranton Times.  
4 Pat McKenna covered that story for me, so  
5 that was my big accomplishment as an  
6 educator.

7 I think the biggest thing I have  
8 ever done as a volunteer, was to create the  
9 Flood Protection Committee of the Plot  
10 Neighborhood Association and you have a  
11 separate attachment as to what that  
12 involved, I attached that to your -- to the  
13 fax that I gave you. Passing that bill  
14 through Congress, given the fact that more  
15 than 40 percent of all Congressmen never get  
16 a bill passed in any given term, I think is  
17 really a highlight of anything that I was  
18 ever a part of.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

20 MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
21 two parts: One, why you are interested in  
22 the city council vacancy; and two, what  
23 would you hope to accomplish as a member of  
24 city council if you were appointed?

25 MR. DUDEK: Well, my interest goes

1 back to my full interest in the city, being  
2 interested in the city and trying to put the  
3 flood protection committee together and do  
4 that and having a continuing interest in the  
5 city once that work was completed, and  
6 watching what has happened to this city in  
7 the last eight to 12 years is absolutely  
8 almost like a frightening thought to me, and  
9 I had started to come here and I started  
10 raising a lot of objections and, of course,  
11 many of you know me from being a fairly  
12 frequent speaker here at city council. On  
13 occasion I have even been tagged by the  
14 Scranton Times along with some of the other  
15 speakers here in terms that are very  
16 interesting, and I have no problem with  
17 that, that goes with the territory.

18 I have a great interest in the city  
19 when I can look at the budget like we have  
20 now, 77 million dollar budget, I can open it  
21 up and read in there to find out that the  
22 mayor said that the contracts with the  
23 police and the fire department have been  
24 negotiated with the union that represents  
25 the police and firemen. The aerospace

1 engineers union, and then when I talked to  
2 the policeman and ask him if he got his  
3 raise his answer to me was a two-word  
4 answer, "Ha-ha." And the firemen told me,  
5 no. So some of this budget comes out of the  
6 land of Oz. So some things in the  
7 administration haven't changed and I think  
8 the best spot to change it is from that seat  
9 at this specific time when council will have  
10 a powerful ability to overrule Mayor --  
11 anything that the mayor wants that will not  
12 be appropriate for the city.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Dudek, what do you  
14 see is the proper role of city council and a  
15 strong mayor form of government.

16 MR. DUDEK: Two basic roles. Number  
17 one, is the legislative role, and with a  
18 strong mayor form of government if it's  
19 working properly council has to work with  
20 the mayor as best as it can to provide the  
21 legislation that the city needs and the city  
22 being in the economic situation that it's in  
23 needs something to be done to try to help  
24 either reduce taxes or cut spending or do  
25 something to make it a little bit easier for



1 people to keep their homes in the city, but  
2 there is a secondary role and it's when I  
3 was explaining to a brand new council, when  
4 you get this council seat you are sitting in  
5 a position where the rubber meets the road,  
6 and by that I mean you are dealing directly  
7 with people out here, the general public.  
8 They will come here, many times they will be  
9 angry, they will be legitimately angry,  
10 sometimes their anger is such that it seems  
11 like they are going to be taking it out on  
12 you and maybe sometimes they are, but the  
13 point is you have to be able to deal with  
14 the public and deal with them and help them  
15 as best that you can.

16 You are going to get a lot of  
17 personal requests, maybe a sewer water  
18 running by my house, how come nobody is  
19 helping me out with it? You know, whatever  
20 kinds of requests that a municipality can be  
21 dealing with, that's the second part of the  
22 job and it is a critical part of the job and  
23 you have to be able to keep your wits about  
24 you.

25 MR. JOYCE: Okay, my question has

1 two parts: One, do you support opening the  
2 mayor's annual budget to examine and make  
3 cuts, and if so, what cuts can you foresee  
4 making. Also, are you willing to raise  
5 taxes, and if so under what circumstances?

6 MR. DUDEK: This is a question  
7 that's going to be hard to answer because  
8 when I looked at the budget, the budget  
9 seems to be hiding more than it seems, you  
10 know, to show and in order to answer  
11 properly we would have to know a lot more  
12 than what is in the budget. We have to  
13 examine, for instance, to see all of the  
14 hiring that the mayor did that doesn't seem  
15 to appear in the budget that he presented.  
16 I have almost had the feeling like a -- I  
17 was looking at a smoke and mirrors budget.  
18 Very frustrating to look at it. We have to  
19 get behind those numbers and see what really  
20 goes on in the city and see where we can  
21 make appropriate cuts. Cuts are the first  
22 place we have to look because the city right  
23 now faces too much of a tax burden in a down  
24 economy. I mean, we are really hit with a  
25 -- economically we are hit with a perfect

1 storm here and we are going to have to deal  
2 with it as best as we can and it might not  
3 be dealt with in any given one or two terms.  
4 It may have to take a period of years, maybe  
5 four to six, maybe even eight years to  
6 finally grasp this thing and get ahold of  
7 it, but in order to do it, more research has  
8 to be given to a councilman or sought out by  
9 the council than what appears in the budget  
10 that has been submitted. To me it's a very  
11 frustrating document to try get information  
12 out of.

13 MR. JOYCE: Also, would you be  
14 willing to ever raise taxes, and if so,  
15 under what circumstances?

16 MR. DUDEK: Once all of the numbers  
17 are crunched, you may have no option but to  
18 raise taxes. However, if this is a  
19 situation where I see it -- where I'm going  
20 to be hanging out there four to one and I am  
21 absolutely rock solid in my thought that it  
22 would have to be raised then I'll hang out  
23 there and if my opinion after going over  
24 everything is that we need a tax increase  
25 then I will support it because I'm not

1 looking at this seat as a seat that I'm  
2 going to keep running for and running for  
3 and running for. I want to serve this seat  
4 -- in this seat with the same spirit that I  
5 served when we created the flood protection  
6 committee and got that done.

7 MR. ROGAN: What ideas for new  
8 revenue streams do you see for the annual  
9 operating budget?

10 MR. DUDEK: In terms of increasing  
11 revenue streams? A municipality doesn't  
12 have that many options in order to do that.  
13 I will make my one small contribution to it.  
14 I put into the letters that I have given you  
15 a statement that if I am appointed to this  
16 seat that I will not accept the salary for  
17 it. That's simply because I'm being  
18 appointed to it and the four of you had to  
19 work very hard as candidates to run for it,  
20 so I'll give back \$12,500 to start with, but  
21 after that we have to look and see where we  
22 can get more revenue.

23 One of the thoughts that I have had  
24 in terms of revenue, it seems to run in the  
25 opposite direction. We have businesses in

1           this city that have been here for much  
2           longer than ten years who have never gotten  
3           any kind of a break, no breaks of any kind.  
4           I would like to see if perhaps for any  
5           business that has been under the same name  
6           in this city for more than ten years if we  
7           couldn't give them say a minimal say 3 to 5  
8           percent break on the mercantile tax as a  
9           thank you for keeping their investment in  
10          the city because we have been losing  
11          businesses. The last one of to march out of  
12          here was Eddie Bauer and all they did was go  
13          to Moosic.

14                   MR. ROGAN: Would you actively  
15                   pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits, and  
16                   if so from whom?

17                   MR. DUDEK: We have to have some  
18                   input from the nonprofits in some way. The  
19                   University of Scranton certainly could  
20                   contribute more given the police -- well,  
21                   given the police and fire protection that we  
22                   give them outside of the city. Now, I know  
23                   they have their own armed police force now,  
24                   but still, they still receive services from  
25                   the City of Scranton Police Department, also

1 the fire department and ambulance, whatever,  
2 we have to see to it they we are able to  
3 provide these services and we should be able  
4 to get something back from a large  
5 institution like that of service-in-kind.

6 Similar the same thing also even  
7 with a hard strapped Dioceses. We do  
8 protect every church, every convent, we  
9 protect the schools that -- well, until they  
10 had a schools here we did protect them, but  
11 nonprofits certainly should be looked at to  
12 see if something could be given back. It  
13 will be small, you are not going to be  
14 getting a lot of money out of this  
15 particular revenue source, but I think it  
16 should be looked at.

17 MS. EVANS: Mr. Dudek, why are you  
18 the best candidate for the position?

19 MR. DUDEK: I think I'm the best  
20 candidate because of what I demonstrated  
21 when we put the flood prevention committee  
22 together. At the Robert Morris School,  
23 March 12, 1996, Tom Ridge, Senator Arlen  
24 Specter and Joe McDade addressed the people  
25 of the Plot neighborhood and told us that it

1 was absolutely impossible to get any kind of  
2 federal money for flood protection in the  
3 Plot. When I took to the microphone, and if  
4 you think I'm kidding you, Gaynor Cawley  
5 will verify this, I told the three of them  
6 they were wrong. That not only were they  
7 wrong, but the people of the Plot  
8 neighborhood association if they would  
9 follow my lead in creating this committee  
10 would get that flood protection ourselves  
11 and we would work through the federal  
12 government in order to get it. The governor  
13 and the senators were all thinking of  
14 legislation that existed. There was none.  
15 They knew that and I knew that. My thought  
16 was simply get a bill run through Congress  
17 in order to get all of this work done and  
18 because I had a committee, I had somebody  
19 discover something called the Water  
20 Resources Act. They didn't find that. One  
21 of our committee people found the Water  
22 Resources Act that allowed us to use that  
23 mechanism to get the bill that we wrote, the  
24 research that we did which stands on a desk  
25 over three and a half feet high. We

1 replicated Joe McDade's office here in the  
2 Plot. Twenty-two people on the committee  
3 tied into 22 people in his Washington  
4 Office. We never dealt with Joe McDade.  
5 The people back and forth and back and forth  
6 and back and forth put together the  
7 documents that they got. The only thing we  
8 didn't have that Mr. McDade has was the  
9 attorney who took all of that information  
10 and actually wrote the wording of the bill.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do you have  
12 any questions for us?

13 MR. DUDEK: Right now the only  
14 question that I have given that you are  
15 really going to be dealing with a young  
16 council here is are you ready to face the  
17 public? We saw two people in the last city  
18 council melt down. They were totally unable  
19 to deal with the public in the area that I  
20 thought was so critically important where I  
21 said the rubber meets the road. I know you  
22 can handle the pressure because you have  
23 been handling it. I think the question will  
24 now come as to the newest members of our  
25 council whether or not you are going to be



1           able to face the pressure because the  
2           pressure will be there, and that's about the  
3           only thing that I have as far as a question  
4           for you as a council.

5                         And while I am here I would like  
6           thank Mr. McGoff for his service as  
7           president in restoring the balance of safety  
8           and order to the meetings that we had here.  
9           His steady hand was really noticeable and  
10          very wonderful. You did a very good job.

11                        MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

12                        MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Dudek.

13                        MR. DUDEK: I have nothing else to  
14          offer.

15                        MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.

16                        MR. DUDEK: You're welcome.

17                        MS. EVANS: We'll next hear from Doug  
18          Miller.

19                        (Mr. Doug Miller enters council  
20          chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

21                        MS. EVANS: Welcome.

22                        MR. MILLER: Thank you for having  
23          me.

24                        MS. EVANS: Thank you for your  
25          interest in the position and the opportunity

1 to interview you today. Please keep your  
2 answers concise and on point so that we may  
3 adhere to the 15-minute time limit for each  
4 interview. Mr. Miller, please provide us  
5 with a brief summation of your professional  
6 background.

7 MR. MILLER: Again, my name is Doug  
8 Miller. I'm a proud resident of Scranton, a  
9 graduate of West Scranton High School in  
10 2008. I have been highly involved in our  
11 community for quite some time now. At a  
12 young age I took an interest in our  
13 government and developed a passion for it  
14 and that's why I have been a frequent  
15 participant in these governing meetings and  
16 I continue to give back in many ways that I  
17 can.

18 In 2006, I formed the Scranton  
19 Junior City Council serving as it's  
20 president until 2008. That was the  
21 stepping-stone that led me to throw my hat  
22 in the ring in this recent city council race  
23 and I'm very proud of my accomplishments  
24 during that race.

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

1                   MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
2 two parts: One, why are you interested in  
3 the city council vacancy; and two, what  
4 would you hope to accomplish as a member of  
5 city council?

6                   MR. MILLER: Well, first my interest  
7 is quiet obvious. This is something I have  
8 always wanted to do. This is a job I have  
9 always had a passion for. I have always had  
10 a passion for Scranton and our people and  
11 giving back to the community is something  
12 that I feel very good about and, you know,  
13 my record shows that, my service in the  
14 community, projects that I have been  
15 involved in. I have always wanted to be a  
16 voice for the people and listen to the  
17 concerns of residents. I have been doing  
18 that for quite sometime and it's something  
19 that I'm very -- I have quite a passion for.

20                   My -- the second part, can you  
21 repeat the second part?

22                   MR. ROGAN: What would you hope to  
23 accomplish.

24                   MR. MILLER: There is many things I  
25 would like to accomplish, but most of all is

1           being a representative that the people can  
2           come to these meetings and they know that  
3           their concerns are going to be listened to.  
4           Throughout the recent months I have met with  
5           thousands of residents who have discussed  
6           their concerns with me and serious concerns  
7           that every resident in our city has today  
8           and those are concerns that if I'm given the  
9           opportunity to sit in this seat I would like  
10          to work to solve those problems and I want  
11          to see Scranton have a bright future and as  
12          we just have elected two young councilmen  
13          it's a prime example that we are moving to  
14          the future and we need to build a bright  
15          future for Scrantonians.

16                   MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Miller, what do you  
17                   see as the proper role of city council in a  
18                   strong mayor form of government?

19                   MR. MILER: The proper role for  
20                   council in a strong mayor form of government  
21                   would be working well together with the  
22                   mayor. Obviously, the job of a councilman  
23                   is to serve the people and to review  
24                   legislation that affects the residents. I  
25                   believe it's council's job to work

1 hand-in-hand with the mayor because the  
2 decisions that we make here in this chamber  
3 effect the lives of thousands of people, so  
4 my job as a councilman would be to work with  
5 the mayor and make wise choices so that we  
6 can provide for a bright future for the  
7 city.

8 MR. JOYCE: Okay, my question has  
9 two parts: One, do you support opening the  
10 mayor's annual budget to examine and make  
11 cuts, and if so what cuts could you foresee  
12 making; and the second part of that question  
13 is are you willing to raise taxes and if so  
14 under what circumstances?

15 MR. MILLER: The first part  
16 regarding opening the budget, I would  
17 certainly consider opening the budget. When  
18 it comes to make being cuts. I feel as a  
19 city we need to look into making cuts, but  
20 also we need to look into ways to generate  
21 revenue. I have always said at this podium  
22 that it's about being creative and together  
23 as a team putting forth our -- bringing  
24 forth our creativity and bringing solutions  
25 to the table and sharing those solutions

1 together and make smart choices. So I would  
2 definitely consider opening the budget and  
3 after doing so looking at what would be  
4 appropriate to cut, but also looking in ways  
5 to generate revenue for the city.

6 The second part raising taxes. No,  
7 I do not support raises taxes. I think  
8 there are many steps to take before raising  
9 taxes. Thankfully, we didn't see our taxes  
10 raised this year, but before I would even  
11 ever consider that the first step would be  
12 to look at alternative ways to generate  
13 revenue so that we don't have to put that  
14 burden on our taxpayers.

15 MR. ROGAN: What ideas did you have  
16 for new revenue streams for the annual  
17 operating budget?

18 MR. MILLER: Today standing here I  
19 can honestly say that I do certainly need to  
20 review all of the options. I can't today  
21 bring forth any exact plan that I have.  
22 Again, as I said, we need to be creative I  
23 think as a team working as a body we can  
24 bring forth solutions and hopefully agree on  
25 what's best for the city. Again, creativity

1           that's the key word and that's -- we need to  
2           think of ways to generate revenue.

3                       MR. ROGAN:   Would you actively  
4           pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits, and  
5           if so from whom?

6                       MR. MILLER:   I certainly feel when  
7           you look around in other communities in the  
8           area they have begun to go after seeking  
9           nonprofits to give back to the community  
10          financially.  That is certainly something I  
11          would definitely support and look into.  I  
12          feel we are very fortunate to have great  
13          universities and colleges in our community  
14          and we certainly to do a lot in the  
15          community, but if we can work together with  
16          them and if they are willing to help us with  
17          getting revenue from that it would certainly  
18          be a huge plus for the city and more  
19          importantly for the taxpayers.  So, yes,  
20          that's definitely something I would want to  
21          look at.

22                      MS. EVANS:   Mr. Miller, why are you  
23           the best candidate for the position?

24                      MR. MILLER:   Mrs. Evans, I feel I'm  
25           the best candidate for this position because

1 I feel that my passion, my service to the  
2 community puts me and separates myself from  
3 anyone that will be here today. I'm someone  
4 who at a very young age, 11 years old, came  
5 here with concerns that I had regarding my  
6 city because I developed that passion and I  
7 developed that sense of wanting to give back  
8 to my community and for someone that young  
9 certainly I guess you would say strange  
10 because not typically do you have someone  
11 that young get involved and ever since then  
12 my dedication and passion has just continued  
13 to grow for the city, the love I have for  
14 the city and our people, and so I believe  
15 with my experience on junior council,  
16 working one-on-one with members of the  
17 council and working with members of the  
18 administration, knowing firsthand how the  
19 budget process works, how we look over the  
20 legislation on our agenda, I believe that's  
21 an asset to me because I have had those  
22 experiences and I want to continue to give  
23 back to my city and hopefully in the  
24 capacity as of the sitting in this seat, and  
25 even if I'm not selected I will continue to



1 do what I feel is best to provide us with a  
2 bright future.

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do you have  
4 any questions for us?

5 MR. MILLER: No, I just again want  
6 to thank you for you the opportunity to  
7 speak before you this afternoon. Any time  
8 you have the opportunity to come and discuss  
9 issues of the city is certainly an  
10 opportunity you don't want to pass up and I  
11 wish you all the best of luck in your  
12 decision making and thank you.

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

14 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

15 MR. MILLER: Have a good night.

16 MS. EVANS: The next interview will  
17 be Joseph Ruggiero. Mr. Ruggiero is not  
18 present and so we will move to David Clark.

19 (Mr. David Clark enters council  
20 chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

21 MS. EVANS: Welcome.

22 MR. CLARK: Hi.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you for your  
24 interest in the position and the opportunity  
25 to interview you today.

1 MR. CLARK: Thank you for the  
2 opportunity of being interviewed.

3 MS. EVANS: Certainly. Please keep  
4 your answers concise and on point so that we  
5 may adhere to the 15 minute time limit for  
6 each interview.

7 MR. CLARK: Certainly.

8 MS. EVANS: Mr. Clark, please  
9 provide us with a brief summation of your  
10 professional background.

11 MR. CLARK: After -- in the early  
12 70's I got out of the Army and took an  
13 apprenticeship with the Plumber's Local 90  
14 so I was a union plumber for the next 12  
15 years, worked all over Northeastern  
16 Pennsylvania. In 1985, I took a job with  
17 what was then Pennsylvania Gas and Water  
18 Company as a foreman. Within a year, I was  
19 promoted to superintendent of customer  
20 services and at the same time I went back to  
21 school because basically because they were  
22 providing tuition reimbursements. I  
23 finished my bachelor's degree and went on  
24 towards a master's degree, which I didn't  
25 finish in human resource management. I have

1           been in that same position, although, the  
2           companies have changed around me several  
3           times for PG Energy and PG Energy a division  
4           of Southern Union and after that now I work  
5           for UGI and Penn Natural Gas pretty much in  
6           the same capacity. I supervise 34 union  
7           people and I have a couple of supervisors  
8           and clerical people work for me and right  
9           now our offices are in Archbald.

10           MS. EVANS: Thank you.

11           MR. CLARK: You're welcome.

12           MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
13           two parts: One, why are you interested in  
14           the city council position; and two, what  
15           would you hope to accomplish on city  
16           council?

17           MR. CLARK: What I'd like to --  
18           well, first why am I interested. Well, I  
19           have always been interested in public  
20           service, and I have to admit to be perfectly  
21           candid, the fact that I didn't have to run  
22           for it is mighty appealing, as you probably  
23           can appreciate.

24           MS. EVANS: Yes.

25           MR. CLARK: I'm a life-long

1           Scrantonian. I raised my family here and I  
2           think I'd like to pay something back for all  
3           that Scranton has given me. As far as what  
4           I hope to accomplish, well, I'm also a  
5           taxpayer and that's important to me, the  
6           people of Scranton are hardworking, I know  
7           that. I am one of them I'd like to think,  
8           and I'd to accomplish that the City of  
9           Scranton gets better, okay, in a lot of  
10          different ways. And to be honest with you,  
11          I would like to see all of the employee of  
12          the City of Scranton buy into the same  
13          direction.

14                   MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Clark, what do you  
15          see as the proper role of city council in  
16          the strong mayor form of government?

17                   MR. CLARK: Well, I see that the  
18          council is the watchdog basically. I see  
19          that working in consort with the mayor and  
20          working towards goals, but they also become  
21          the watchdog certainly of the budget to make  
22          sure that the budget money is spent wisely  
23          and make sure that the taxpayers are getting  
24          a good bang for their buck and I want to --  
25          I think that they are to make sure that the

1           mayor is going in the direction of the  
2           citizens, I'm pretty sure, pretty much.  
3           It's a checks and balances kind of a thing.  
4           I know that the contention with this year's  
5           budget certainly and when you lose positions  
6           you lose services.

7                        I read in the paper what's happening  
8           in Dunmore and that is certainly a horror  
9           story when taxes increase and services are  
10          decreased, and I think that the city council  
11          certainly is responsible for to make sure  
12          that doesn't happen. I don't know if it's  
13          always going to be possible.

14                      MR. JOYCE: Okay. My question has  
15          several parts: Number one, do you support  
16          opening the mayor's annual budgets to  
17          examine them and make cuts, if so, what cuts  
18          could you foresee making; and number two,  
19          are you willing to raise taxes and if so  
20          under what circumstances?

21                      MR. CLARK: Okay, the first part of  
22          the question would I support opening the  
23          budget? Yes, I think that that's a  
24          necessary part. We, obviously, there is  
25          going to be another person here, but this is

1 brand new faces here and brand new ideas and  
2 certainly budget cuts were talked about and  
3 done in this year's budget and that means  
4 jobs were lost and that's scary because  
5 that's services lost to the people, and I  
6 think that that's worth investigating.

7 I'm not saying huge cuts can be  
8 made, I'm not sure that any cuts could be  
9 made or any changes could be made, but  
10 certainly taking a hard look at it and  
11 changes where they can, it seems to me that  
12 everybody keeps concentrating on two things,  
13 either personnel losing people and then  
14 losing services or increasing taxes. There  
15 are some other things maybe could be looked  
16 at maybe increasing some revenue streams  
17 that the city doesn't seem to take advantage  
18 of sometimes. I see some potential revenues  
19 that could be gained in the city that  
20 sometimes aren't paid attention to.

21 I have a son-in-law whose -- my  
22 daughter and son-in-law live in Tawn,  
23 Massachusetts and he is on city council and  
24 I go up there and visit and I noticed that  
25 every time there was a contractor working in

1 the street there was also a policeman and I  
2 asked him, "Why is there a policeman?"

3 And my son-in-law says, "Well, that  
4 basically started about 10 years ago for  
5 public safety," but he said, "We charge by  
6 the hour for that policeman to be there to  
7 direct traffic."

8 And he said, "You know, after ten  
9 years that became a revenue stream for the  
10 police department."

11 We don't think of the police  
12 department as potential revenue streams, but  
13 they can be and those policemen were also  
14 available for emergencies, obviously, if  
15 something happened and it was a high  
16 priority they would pull those policemen  
17 out, the were police that were already on  
18 duty. That is thinking outside of the box  
19 and it might be necessary to prevent the two  
20 things we talked about, that's layoffs and  
21 raising taxes.

22 MR. JOYCE: Okay, about the second  
23 part of that question are you willing to  
24 raise taxes and under what circumstances if  
25 necessary.

1                   MR. CLARK: Let's see, how long is  
2 this term going to last two more years?

3                   MR. JOYCE: Yes.

4                   MR. CLARK: You know, that's --  
5 surely that's a possibility. I mean, the  
6 city has an obligation to provide a certain  
7 minimum amount of services and certainly  
8 public safety is one of them. Being a  
9 utility guy, I mean, I see what public  
10 safety is for the community and, yes,  
11 certainly if it's necessary that's -- it's a  
12 tough pill to swallow for people who have to  
13 do it the people who would have to pay those  
14 taxes. I'm a taxpayer, too. That's a tough  
15 pill. You better be conscious of that if  
16 you are going do to that. It's certainly a  
17 last resort.

18                   MR. ROGAN: You touched on this in  
19 previous question a little bit, but what  
20 ideas do you have for new revenue streams  
21 for the annual operating budget?

22                   MR. CLARK: Well, I certainly talked  
23 about that. I mean, I know that the present  
24 budget had called to increase the parking  
25 fees and I think that's a pretty good idea.



1 I'm one of those guys that probably had to  
2 pay my \$5 mor than once downstairs so that's  
3 going to be 10, but those kind of things,  
4 thinking outside of the box. I mean, I  
5 don't really have any other ideas. I  
6 thought of that one this week as I prepared  
7 for tonight, but that kind of looking at all  
8 of the services that are provided and what  
9 doesn't have to be provided and what could  
10 be possibly charged for to provide those  
11 services.

12 MR. ROGAN: Would you actively  
13 pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits.

14 MR. CLARK: I'm sorry?

15 MR. ROGAN: Would you actively  
16 pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits.

17 MR. CLARK: Meaning the schools and  
18 like the University of Scranton, etcetera,  
19 that kind of thing?

20 MR. ROGAN: Uh-hum.

21 MR. CLARK: I'm a big supporter of  
22 the University of Scranton and Lackawanna  
23 College and Johnson's School. They are  
24 assets to our community, big time assets to  
25 our community. I would certainly have a

1 beginning dialogue with them on what  
2 services are provided by the city and at  
3 what cost and look for something in lieu of  
4 taxes, but I kind of have to admit I agree  
5 that they somewhat deserve their tax exempt  
6 status to be honest with you.

7 MS. EVANS: Mr. Clark, why are you  
8 the best candidate for this position?

9 MR. CLARK: I think my advantage is  
10 what I talked about in the beginning. I  
11 worked for 12 years as a union plumber, so I  
12 work on the executive board of the union, so  
13 I'm familiar with that side and then I went  
14 to work for the gas company and became a  
15 supervisor of union people. I worked my  
16 whole career in the union environment on  
17 both sides. I think understanding the  
18 culture, unions because most of the  
19 employees of the city are unions I think is  
20 a really advantage for me, okay? I am a  
21 businessman. I have to prepare a budget  
22 every year for my department. This year  
23 it's a well over 3 million dollars for my  
24 particular department. I'm accountable for  
25 that, I have to take ownership of that

1 budget. Every month I have to answer  
2 variance if I'm up or down. I think that  
3 fiscal responsibility is obviously something  
4 that you have to bear also as city council.  
5 I think that's an advantage I have, having  
6 that business experience. I believe I have  
7 decent people skills. I don't think I fly  
8 off the handle all that much, and I'm tall,  
9 dark and handsome, how is that?

10 MS. EVANS: That's wonderful. Do  
11 you have any questions for us?

12 MR. CLARK: None at all. I was --  
13 you know, this week I did prepare and try to  
14 prepare a little bit and try to find  
15 information about the budget especially  
16 because I knew that was going to be some of  
17 the stuff that was going to be discussed  
18 here. I think you guys, you knew guys here  
19 are entering into -- this is going to be a  
20 tough time to be on city council the next  
21 couple of years. I think the economy the  
22 way it is and some of the contentious part  
23 of the relationship the city has with it's  
24 unions I think are something that has to be  
25 settled because any time you have employees

1           that think they are not being treated fairly  
2           or not being respected, I think that that's  
3           -- something has to being fixed and I  
4           certainly don't think you can fix it by  
5           throwing money at them, but you are  
6           certainly can fix it by respecting them and  
7           you can certainly fix it by talking to them  
8           and having communications with them. I  
9           think that's some of the things that you are  
10          going to have deal with over the next couple  
11          of years.

12                        As far as what to expect, I don't  
13          know what to expect really. Should I be the  
14          candidate? I'm not sure what I have to know  
15          and to expect, but I'm willing to try and  
16          I'm willing to learn and I certainly have  
17          been learning my whole life. Being an adult  
18          student at the University with a bunch of 20  
19          years old, I was in my 40's and had my  
20          daughter graduate with me from the  
21          University of Scranton, so that was a nice  
22          opportunity. Kept me young. Kept me young  
23          to do that.

24                        MS. EVANS: Thank you very much,  
25          Mr. Clark.

1 MR. CLARK: Thank you for your time.

2 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

3 MR. CLARK: Good luck.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

5 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Will you see if Mr.

7 Ruggiero has arrived, if not then Mr.

8 Tonkin's interview will take place.

9 (Mr. Joseph Ruggiero enters council  
10 chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

11 MS. EVANS: Welcome.

12 MR. RUGGIERO: Thank you.

13 MS. EVANS: And thank you for  
14 interest in the position and the opportunity  
15 to interview you today. Please keep your  
16 answers precise and on point so that we may  
17 adhere to the 15-minute time limit for each  
18 interview. Now, Mr. Ruggiero, please  
19 provide us with a brief summation of your  
20 professional background.

21 MR. RUGGIERO: Well, my name is  
22 Joseph Ruggiero. My professional background  
23 I'm currently employed by the Lackawanna  
24 County Library system, Scranton Public  
25 Library I am the facility manager or

1 supervisor of buildings and grounds. I have  
2 a 15-year history in public service dating  
3 back to 1995. I started out in my public  
4 career working for the State of New York  
5 Department of Environmental Conservation. I  
6 then went over to the City of New York  
7 Department of Housing and Preservation and  
8 Development. I moved to Scranton,  
9 Pennsylvania in 2005.

10 I reside here with my wife,  
11 Jennifer, and Jessica, who my daughter, and  
12 Jason is my son. They both attend Scranton  
13 Schools and Jessica is, by the way, the only  
14 student in her school that is gifted, so I'm  
15 very proud of that.

16 MS. EVANS: Certainly.

17 MR. RUGGIERO: And it's Charles  
18 Sumner, and Jason attends West Scranton High  
19 School. I attended DeVry University in New  
20 Jersey and also I had two diplomas from your  
21 Penn Foster School up here in Scranton. If  
22 there is anything further you would like to  
23 ask me I'd be happy to answer.

24 MR. ROGAN: The next question is two  
25 parts: One, why you are interested in the

1 city council vacancy; and two, what would  
2 you hope to accomplish on city council?

3 MR. RUGGIERO: I'm interested  
4 because I have a very strong desire to serve  
5 the public and to make Scranton a better  
6 community.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Ruggiero, what do  
8 you think is the proper role of city council  
9 in a strong mayor form of government?

10 MR. RUGGIERO: It's the  
11 legislation -- legislative arm of city  
12 government and it's important that it always  
13 responds to public opinion and I believe  
14 that government is for the people and by the  
15 people.

16 MR. JOYCE: Okay, my question has  
17 several parts. The first part is do you  
18 support opening the mayor's annual budgets  
19 to examine them and make cuts; if so, what  
20 cuts could you foresee making; and number  
21 two, are you willing to raise taxes and if  
22 so under what circumstances?

23 MR. RUGGIERO: I believe that all  
24 public documents should be made public, all  
25 city documents should be made public if the

1 public desires and the public has a right to  
2 review that information. As far as the  
3 mayor, can you please ask that question  
4 again?

5 MR. JOYCE: Okay. Do you support  
6 opening the mayor's annual budgets to  
7 examine and make cuts? If so, under what  
8 circumstances.

9 MR. RUGGIERO: Okay. If cuts need  
10 to be made, of course they would have to  
11 be reviewed, and I wouldn't know what that is  
12 until I would see it and council actually  
13 reviewed it and a consensus was made and  
14 then at that point if it's necessary and,  
15 yes, cuts could be made.

16 As far as raising taxes, that always  
17 is the last thing government should be  
18 doing. We should always look for ways to  
19 save money and work within the budget that  
20 we were given and if possible avoid raising  
21 taxes.

22 MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
23 for any revenue streams for the annual  
24 budget?

25 MR. RUGGIERO: Well, it's always



1 good to have a community invited to --  
2 towards and when you scare tourists away you  
3 scare money away from a city and I believe  
4 that Scranton has a lot of potential, it's a  
5 great city. There is so much we can do to  
6 bring people here to enjoy the city and  
7 spend their money and I believe if we focus  
8 on that we may be able to avoid taxes and  
9 tax increases by bringing in tourism  
10 dollars.

11 MR. ROGAN: Would you actively  
12 pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits, and  
13 if so from whom.

14 MR. RUGGIERO: That I would not be  
15 able to answer because I don't really  
16 understand what that means right now. I  
17 would have to -- that would be have to be  
18 looked at as, you know, with council to  
19 decide something like that. If it benefits  
20 the city and the taxpayers, I would be for  
21 it. If it hurts the taxpayers and the city,  
22 I would be against it.

23 MS. EVANS: Well, if I might just  
24 extend that a little bit, a PILOT is payment  
25 in lieu of taxes, and as you might know

1           nonprofits enjoy tax free status, and so are  
2           you interested in pursuing contributions  
3           from nonprofits?

4                       MR. RUGGIERO: Personally, I would  
5           not for the -- you mean for the city?

6                       MS. EVANS: For the city, yes.

7                       MR. RUGGIERO: If people are willing  
8           to donate to the city that's a god thing,  
9           however, that can never be politically  
10          motivated as far as a lobby-type of thing.  
11          That I would be against, but the people --  
12          if they are people out there that would give  
13          the city money then without expecting  
14          anything in return then that's a great  
15          thing.

16                      MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,  
17          Mr. Ruggiero, why are you the best candidate  
18          for the position?

19                      MR. RUGGIERO: Well, I believe that  
20          as an independent and with no affiliation to  
21          any local political parties, I believe that  
22          I can bring an outside view of things that  
23          is not motivated politically as not part of  
24          any kind of, let's say, lobbying group of  
25          some kind, but with an independent view open

1 to any good idea that any individual has  
2 regardless of whether they will a Democrat  
3 or Republican, and a good idea is a good  
4 idea and that's the way I look at it, so I  
5 am -- I would like to say that I can bring a  
6 sense of honesty and integrity back to the  
7 city, and I'm sure that's what you are  
8 looking for.

9 MS. EVANS: Do you have any  
10 questions for us?

11 MR. RUGGIERO: Not at this time.

12 MS. EVANS: Well, Thank you very  
13 much.

14 MR. RUGGIERO: Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Mr. William Tonkin.

16 (Mr. William Tonkin enters council  
17 chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

18 MS. EVANS: Welcome.

19 MR. TONKIN: Welcome. How are you?  
20 Thank you.

21 MR. EVANS: Very well. And thank  
22 you for your interest in the position and  
23 the opportunity to interview you today.

24 MR. TONKIN: Very good. Thank you.

25 MS. EVANS: Please keep your answers

1           concise and on point so that we may adhere  
2           to the 15-minute time limit for each  
3           interview.

4                       MR. TONKIN: Very good. Thank you.  
5           No problem. My name is a Bill Tonkin. I'm  
6           a life-long resident of the City of  
7           Scranton. I'm a graduate of Scranton  
8           Technical High School. I have a bachelor's  
9           degree in education and a master's degree in  
10          administration from the University of  
11          Scranton. I spent 30 years teaching and  
12          coaching at Scranton Technical/Scranton High  
13          School. I am retired. I have been retired  
14          for 11 years. My wife, Barbara, and I live  
15          on Mt. Laurel Drive in the East Mountain  
16          Section of Scranton. I have two sons.  
17          Billy, my oldest lives in the city, and my  
18          youngest, TJ, is a captain in the United  
19          States Army. He is a stationed at Ft. Dix,  
20          Texas.

21                      MS. EVANS: Thank you.

22                      MR. ROGAN: This question has two  
23          parts: Why are you interested in the city  
24          council vacancy and what would you hope to  
25          accomplish on city council?

1                   MR. TONKIN: One of the reasons that  
2 I'm interested is the fact that I think  
3 every since the decline of both the  
4 anthracite and the textile industries in the  
5 northeast I think Scranton is still  
6 struggling for an identity, I really do. We  
7 seem to go one way and then we seem to go  
8 another way, and I really think that in  
9 order to you progress in life you have to  
10 have a set goal, you know, and I would like  
11 to get involved with the opportunity of  
12 establishing that identity and moving the  
13 city forward. I'm sorry, what was Part B?

14                   MR. ROGAN: What would you hope to  
15 accomplish?

16                   MR. TONKIN: What I would hope to  
17 accomplish is, I don't know, perhaps  
18 continue, and I have noticed that it's  
19 happening, you know, the professionalism and  
20 good decorum of council meetings,  
21 cooperation of the neighborhood groups, you  
22 know, because that's such a very important  
23 thing to get out in the field actually and  
24 find out what the people of the city want.  
25 You know, sometimes if we stay, and I don't

1 mean this in a derogatory way, you stay in  
2 the gilded tower, you don't get out on the  
3 streets, you just don't know what's going  
4 on.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Tonkin, what did  
6 you feel is the proper role of city council  
7 in a strong mayor form of government?

8 MR. TONKIN: I would say that the  
9 proper role, you know, I'm going to use  
10 analogy it's kind of like when I was  
11 coaching football, you know, you would have  
12 a staff meeting and not everyone agreed on  
13 the things we were going to do, but by the  
14 end of the Sunday evening we had to have a  
15 game plan to implement on Monday morning,  
16 and a give and take. The consideration has  
17 to be that it's not about us, okay, it's  
18 about the people in the city and find a  
19 common ground there has to be give and take.  
20 Agreeing on something that will benefit the  
21 citizens and the progression of the city I  
22 would say is probably the most important  
23 role. If it becomes too adversarial, the  
24 only people that suffer are the citizens.

25 MR. JOYCE: My question has two

1 parts: First part is do you support opening  
2 the mayor's annual budgets to examine them  
3 and make cuts and if so what cuts could you  
4 foresee making; and number two, are you  
5 willing to raise taxes and if so under what  
6 circumstances?

7 MR. TONKIN: Okay, well, in  
8 reference to part one I have actually spent  
9 the last two days looking at the budgets.  
10 And when you are not here with the every day  
11 data, all right, to me they are just  
12 figures, you know, you have to be much more  
13 familiar with the people involved, the  
14 processes within each department. Reopening  
15 a budget I think is a healthy thing. I do.  
16 I just think it's a healthy thing. Going  
17 back to what I said to Mr. McGoff, you know,  
18 I think heads have to get together and take  
19 a good hard look at things, you know. We  
20 certainly are not immune to the economic  
21 problems that the entire country is having.  
22 Raising taxes, that's a very, very difficult  
23 thing to do particularly during this time  
24 period, you know, and it would have to be  
25 something very dire, I mean, for me to vote

1 for a sizeable tax increase.

2 MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
3 for new revenue streams for the annual  
4 budget?

5 MR. TONKIN: What was that?

6 MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
7 for new revenue streams for the budget?

8 MR. TONKIN: New revenue streams are  
9 very interesting, you know, not having the  
10 advantage of, you know, being in a  
11 conversation with a solicitor, you know, and  
12 wondering about what type of things you can  
13 tax, I mean, we can go all the way back to  
14 the old concept of the commuter tax which I  
15 guess died because I guess of political  
16 suicide, you know, but looking for new  
17 revenue is something that I think has to be  
18 done on a consistent basis.

19 Off the top of my head, to come up  
20 with one specific thing to give you right  
21 now, I would have to have more time to take  
22 at look at, you know, what is sitting in  
23 front of us.

24 MR. ROGAN: Would you actively  
25 pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits, and



1 if so from whom?

2 MR. TONKIN: That's a funny line  
3 that you walk because, you know, obviously  
4 I'm not immune. Being a graduate of the  
5 University of Scranton I realize that, you  
6 know, what the University has done for the  
7 city just using them as an example, and I  
8 see the pressure all the time should the  
9 University, you know, contribute more, you  
10 know, just using them as an example  
11 certainly not in a derogatory light. You  
12 have to look at the point how much do they  
13 contribute, you know, in salaries, you know,  
14 like how much do the students spend within  
15 the community itself. I think everybody  
16 probably could be asked to pony up a bit  
17 more, yes.

18 MS. EVANS: And, Mr. Tonkin, why are  
19 you best candidate for this position?

20 MR. TONKIN: Basically because of  
21 the fact that, first of all, having been  
22 retired for 11 years, and it's almost  
23 amazing that I say that. I have the time to  
24 be literally a full-time councilman. You  
25 know, I mean, there is absolutely no doubt

1           about that. I have never taken any job that  
2           I didn't do to the fullest of my  
3           capabilities ever, you know, and I would  
4           never do that. You know, I'm not looking  
5           for the quote/unquote the famous 15 minutes  
6           of fame, I have thankfully enough  
7           recognition in my life. I have no other  
8           political aspirations. I'm not trying to  
9           take this and use it as a springboard to go  
10          somewhere else or do something else or, you  
11          know, get my name in the newspaper or on  
12          television. I just I think referring back  
13          to what I said before, I think I have a real  
14          strong sense of the fact that we are still  
15          searching for an identity and this is a  
16          tough time to be involved in government. It  
17          really is. It's an extremely tough time,  
18          but I feel that -- and I'm very easily in a  
19          situation where I have made and can make  
20          difficult decisions. You know, I mean,  
21          sometimes I don't want to throw out the  
22          whole cliché, the coaching cliché about  
23          broad shoulders, but yet sometimes you have  
24          to make difficult decisions, and when you do  
25          then you just have to listen to the fans

1 more.

2 MS. EVANS: Do you have any  
3 questions for us?

4 MR. TONKIN: No, not at all.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.

6 MR. TONKIN: Thank you for the  
7 opportunity.

8 MR. JOYCE: Thank you very much.

9 MS. KRAKE: Mrs. Evans?

10 MS. EVANS: Yes.

11 MS. KRAKE: At this time we do not  
12 have our next applicants, they haven't  
13 arrived yet, so if it's your pleasure to  
14 take a short break?

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Yes, we  
16 will. We'll recess for five minutes and  
17 return as soon as our next candidate  
18 arrives.

19 (Recess taken.)

20 (Mr. Francis Rainey enters council  
21 chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

22 MS. EVANS: At this time we will  
23 resume our interviews, and the next  
24 interviewee is Francis Rainey. Welcome.

25 MR. RAINEY: Thank you.

1 MS. EVANS: And thank you for your  
2 interest in the position and the opportunity  
3 to interview you today. Please keep your  
4 answers concise and on point so that we may  
5 adhere to the 15-minute time limit for each  
6 interview. Now, Mr. Rainey, please provide  
7 us with a brief summation of your  
8 professional background.

9 MR. RAINEY: Okay. By the way, you  
10 can call me Frank Rainey. I have a BS in  
11 mechanical engineering from the Winsler  
12 Polytech where I specialized in energy  
13 utilization. I have an MBA from the  
14 University of Scranton in marketing and  
15 finance and I was an outstanding graduate in  
16 finance. I originally started out as a  
17 field engineer for Slummer's Aid Well  
18 Services out in Ohio, Michigan. From there,  
19 I taught school and then I came back to the  
20 area and started working for what was then  
21 Pennsylvania Gas and Water. From there I  
22 was a residential rep and I then became a  
23 commercial industrial representative,  
24 utilization engineer, director of -- well,  
25 manager of energy utilization, director of

1 energy utilization and my current position  
2 is now with PI Power which was part of the  
3 PI family when Southern Union had sold PG  
4 Energy, PI Power still has a presence in the  
5 area and we are a power plant up in Archbald  
6 and I stayed with PI Power and I am their  
7 direct for commercial services.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

9 MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
10 two parts: Why are you interested in the  
11 city council vacancy, and what would you  
12 hope to accomplish as a member of city  
13 council?

14 MR. RAINEY: Okay. The reason I  
15 applied for the position was I thought that  
16 I could provide value to the position. I  
17 have extensive experience in financial  
18 matters. Also, in the deregulated markets I  
19 have worked on electric and gas deregulation  
20 for PG Energy helping them setup a program,  
21 so I think I can provide a value to the  
22 council in such matters.

23 MR. ROGAN: What you would hope to  
24 accomplish as a member?

25 MR. RAINEY: Basically as a member

1           one of my goals would be to provide in site  
2           into what would be value to the city. I  
3           think that this is a great city that we live  
4           in and what we need to do is try to  
5           stabilize our expenses and matching them  
6           with our revenue sources and so ideally  
7           provide, you know, a value in that manner.

8                   MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rainey, what do you  
9           think is the proper role of city council in  
10          a strong mayor form of government?

11                   MR. RAINEY: Okay. The role of  
12          council is to provide support in that they  
13          can look and act as a backstop to the mayor.  
14          The mayor as a single person cannot possibly  
15          know all of the angles. By having a council  
16          to approve or disprove of his measures, they  
17          are there to provide insight that may or may  
18          not -- may have been overlooked or overseen  
19          by the mayor. So council really can provide  
20          oversight and provide backstop to the mayor.

21                   MR. JOYCE: Okay, my question has  
22          several parts. The first part is do you  
23          support opening the mayor's annual budgets  
24          to examine them and make cuts? If so, what  
25          cuts could you foresee making. And two, are

1           you willing to raise taxes and if so under  
2           what circumstances?

3                       MR. RAINEY:  Okay, obviously, I  
4           think council needs to look at the budget.  
5           Budgets are very important in that they  
6           represent the blueprint for where the city  
7           is going to go forward as you go on.  
8           Without a proper budget all you are looking  
9           for is disaster.  You are going to end up  
10          with monetary shortfalls or whatnot, so it  
11          gives -- it also provides you discipline in  
12          that items that are not budgeted you then --  
13          you provide -- you are looking at  
14          possible -- well, basically what I'm trying  
15          to say is that the budget it gives you the  
16          blueprint, it gives you a plan really for  
17          going forward.  Council needs to be able to  
18          look at that and say, look at, we don't  
19          think that maybe this is an appropriate  
20          expenditure or maybe this number isn't  
21          right, maybe you are not allocating, for  
22          example, you know, you have electricity at  
23          50,000 when it really should be 75,000  
24          because of rate increase or what's happening  
25          in the energy markets, so the council does

1           have to look at raising taxes, okay? That's  
2           always going to be a very difficult  
3           situation. I mean, people here -- we -- the  
4           citizens of Scranton has the greatest wage  
5           tax in the area. It puts us at a  
6           disadvantage to every other municipality in  
7           the area.

8                         With the -- with raising of the  
9           taxes it's a very difficult situation. I  
10          would not like to see it, however, you do  
11          have expenses and they do have to be met.  
12          Money has to be paid. You cannot keep  
13          looking for one-time revenue sources and  
14          just robbing Peter to pay Paul when you are  
15          going to have to eventually pay the piper.  
16          You've got to pay it, so if need be you have  
17          to raise taxes then it's going to be an item  
18          that you have to really look hard at, where  
19          is all of the expenditures then if there is  
20          no other way you are going to have to look  
21          at it and then do it and then look down the  
22          road at when you can pull those taxes back  
23          because one of the problems you have as a  
24          government body is once you raise taxes you  
25          have a revenue source and convenient thing



1 is to look back and say, oh, I've already  
2 got that money, I'm going to keep that  
3 coming in when really maybe you should be  
4 able to cut that back.

5 MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
6 for new revenue streams for the annual  
7 budget?

8 MR. RAINEY: Okay, that's a very  
9 difficult question to answer because right  
10 now I don't have the city budget in front of  
11 me. I would have to really sit and look and  
12 analyze that. I would like to tell you  
13 that, yeah, we can go and get \$800,000 here.  
14 We'll start drilling for Marcellus Shale  
15 right here in the Keyser section, but that's  
16 not going to happen. I would have to sit  
17 and look. I do not like to just jump into  
18 and say, yeah, this is what I'm going to do,  
19 I would rather prefer to deliberate over  
20 that and say, look it, okay, maybe there are  
21 areas. Then what I'd also like to do is see  
22 what are other cities doing, similar  
23 situated cities in the state and possibly in  
24 the country. What are they doing to enhance  
25 the revenue sources, you know? And, you

1 know, even like let's -- let's look at our  
2 nonprofits. Yes, they are nonprofit, but  
3 they also have parts of them that compete  
4 with the for-profit sector. For example, we  
5 look at the University of Scranton, they  
6 have a book store, that's is a function that  
7 can be performed by for-profit individuals,  
8 so maybe is that really a part of the  
9 nonprofit. Are we getting revenues from  
10 them that maybe we are not.

11 Again, I would have to really look  
12 and see what's there and also you have to  
13 consult with the Pennsylvania Code because  
14 you have to determine what can you do. You  
15 cannot just say that, yeah, we are going to  
16 tax this if you do not have authority.  
17 Also, we have to look it what the city  
18 charter says, what can we and can't we do,  
19 quite honestly.

20 MR. ROGAN: You also touched on the  
21 second part of my question a little bit, but  
22 would you actively pursue increased PILOTS  
23 from nonprofits, and if so, from who?

24 MS. RAINEY: I mean, what you have  
25 to do is look and see because I know

1           especially now this is going to be a very  
2           difficult time to go to a nonprofit and say,  
3           look it, we really need more money because  
4           quite frankly many of them are struggling,  
5           everyone has lower revenues at this present  
6           time, but saying that we have to look and  
7           see. Now, the revenue doesn't necessarily  
8           have to be cash. We look at the University  
9           of Scranton, they do have a brain pool  
10          that's sitting there that may be able to be  
11          utilized by the city to help reduce  
12          expenses. Similarly, you know, we have the  
13          hospitals and they have expertise in certain  
14          areas that may or may not be of value. Can  
15          we look to them for revenue? Certainly we  
16          would like to get cash that's ideal because  
17          then you can expend it as you need it, but  
18          are there other opportunities that they can  
19          provide us, services that they can provide  
20          us that will help us reduce our expenditures  
21          and thus be a negative -- I mean, a negative  
22          expense the same as accomplishing with a  
23          positive revenue.

24                           MS. EVANS: And, Mr. Rainey, why are  
25          you the best candidate for the position?

1                   MR. RAINEY: Why I feel I'm best,  
2                   and this is a question I have really kind of  
3                   tossed around with a lot, you know,  
4                   obviously I knew it was going to come up,  
5                   and the way I look at is the four of you ran  
6                   as a block, all right, and you were  
7                   successful coming through. I mean, I saw  
8                   the signs and, therefore, you are a more or  
9                   less like-minded thinking people, so  
10                  basically on majority issues you are going  
11                  to expect to get four votes at least, all  
12                  right? You know, so you've got the majority  
13                  vote to get through what you think are  
14                  philosophical areas. Where you might have a  
15                  certain area where you may not all agree on  
16                  certain spots, all right, obviously, and  
17                  then this way you have an independent person  
18                  that maybe can come in providing a different  
19                  insight.

20                  I have never run for political  
21                  office, I have never had the ambition, quite  
22                  honestly. You know, I have invested 45  
23                  cents in this run here, and the reason being  
24                  is I think I can add value to you. You  
25                  know, do you want to -- do you want to use

1 my expertise? Fine. If you don't, if you  
2 have a better candidate, great. What the  
3 bottom line is to get the best people in  
4 council that we can so that we can help all  
5 of the people of Scranton and make Scranton  
6 a much more vibrant community.

7 MS. EVANS: Just one final question,  
8 are you an owner of or related to any of the  
9 owners of a business on Olive Street?

10 MR. RAINEY: Yes. The Ice Box  
11 Complex, that's owned by BRT and two of my  
12 brothers are partners on that and also they  
13 have the business -- the Bonita and Rainey  
14 and also they have -- we pay -- the payroll  
15 business is at the Ice Box Complex.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.  
17 Oh, before I forget, do you have any  
18 questions for us?

19 MR. RAINEY: Really quite honestly  
20 not at this time, no. You know, I just want  
21 to thank you for the opportunity. I wish  
22 you the best of luck in finding the best  
23 candidate for the position.

24 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

25 (Mr. Lee Morgan enters council

1 chambers and is interviewed is followed:)

2 MS. EVANS: Our next candidate is  
3 Lee Morgan, and welcome.

4 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you for your  
6 interest in the position and the opportunity  
7 to interview you today.

8 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

9 MS. EVANS: Please keep your answers  
10 concise and on point so that we may adhere  
11 to the 15-minute time limit for each  
12 interview.

13 MR. MORGAN: Absolutely.

14 MS. EVANS: Mr. Morgan, please  
15 provide us with a brief summation of your  
16 professional background.

17 MR. MORGAN: My professional  
18 background is that I was basically -- my  
19 background is I was born and raised in  
20 Scranton. I'm a city resident. I attended  
21 Central High School and basically all of my  
22 life experience that I have obtained to this  
23 point has been being involved in public  
24 issues in the city, so that's basically, you  
25 know, like the school board or the

1 construction of the school or, of course,  
2 council, and that's it.

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

4 MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
5 two parts: Why are you interested in the  
6 city council vacancy and what would you hope  
7 to accomplish as a member of city council?

8 MR. MORGAN: The reason I'm  
9 interested is because I have attended  
10 council and other meetings probably for  
11 close to 15 years and the things that I  
12 would like to accomplish are really very  
13 broad ranged. I would like to have the  
14 budget opened, I would like to reinstate  
15 some of the cut positions. I would also  
16 like to be involved in the creation of a  
17 small business incubator, possibly in the  
18 Scranton Lace where I think other councils  
19 has had short visions because they keep  
20 trying to simulate the downtown when what we  
21 really need here is an economic engine led  
22 by employment and I think that the federal  
23 government and the state government would  
24 quite possibly fund the creation of an  
25 incubator in the Scranton Lace building and

1           it could also be tied to rail, and it's in  
2           proximity close enough to the interstate and  
3           the land there was at one time most of it  
4           was industrial and I think it has a lot of  
5           room for expansion.

6                     MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Morgan, what do you  
7           think is the proper role of city council in  
8           a strong mayor form of government?

9                     MR. MORGAN: I think that council  
10          should be more involved in, and I'll give  
11          you an example in the council meeting before  
12          this council took their seats. I think that  
13          this council needs to break the budget into  
14          five pieces or have all five councilmen work  
15          from now until it's time to create a new  
16          budget to look at the budget, break it down,  
17          find out where the money is going with an  
18          eye to cut the city budget by at least 15  
19          percent, and I also think that the city  
20          council would do it's -- the city a major  
21          favor by either reducing or eliminating the  
22          mercantile tax and cutting the wage tax to 1  
23          percent, so I really think that the city  
24          council needs to be more involved in the  
25          financial aspects of the city. I think it



1 needs to if necessary issue subpoenas to  
2 find out what the situations are with the  
3 authority, and I would also like to see the  
4 library authority not become a reality.

5 MR. JOYCE: Okay, my question has  
6 several parts. First part, do you support  
7 opening the mayor's annual budgets to  
8 examine them and make cuts?

9 MR. MORGAN: Yes.

10 MR. JOYCE: If so, what cuts do you  
11 foresee making, and the second part is are  
12 you willing to raise taxes and if so under  
13 what circumstances?

14 MR. MORGAN: What cuts would be  
15 necessary, I think that it's -- I think it's  
16 going to take time to really look at a  
17 budget. It's not something you are going to  
18 do very quickly and you have to be very  
19 careful what you do and how you do it. So  
20 what I could say is that all I do at this  
21 point is I open the budget and try to  
22 restore the chief mechanic, the traffic  
23 department, the sign writer, because they  
24 are necessary to this city as far as putting  
25 signs up and, you know, maintaining traffic

1           and I also believe that we need master  
2           mechanics to maintain the equipment and if  
3           necessary I think we need to send the master  
4           mechanic to school to learn how to repair  
5           pumps on fire trucks and really give them a  
6           really thorough knowledge of all of that  
7           because that's important equipment. It's  
8           expensive and we should have qualified  
9           people, and is there another part to your  
10          question?

11                       MR. JOYCE: Yes. Are you willing to  
12          raise taxes, and if so under what  
13          circumstances?

14                       MR. MORGAN: I have to say that, no,  
15          I'm not willing to raise taxes and I really  
16          think what needs to be done is I think we  
17          need to go to the Court of Common Pleas and  
18          ask for Court intervention to reorganize  
19          this city's debt and look for solutions that  
20          way. I think the people are overtaxed and  
21          they can't support anymore taxation.

22                       MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
23          for new streams of revenue for the annual  
24          budget?

25                       MR. MORGAN: I think that for too

1 long we have looked for new streams of  
2 revenue, and really what I think we have  
3 seen is if you look at the downtown mall,  
4 the mall is dying, that's my opinion. The  
5 stores are closing, people don't have  
6 disposal income. The solutions to this  
7 city's problems lie in the budget. It's  
8 necessary for all five council members to  
9 open that budget, go through it over a  
10 course of a year line by line, find out  
11 where that money is going, bring Mrs.  
12 Novembrino into the discussion, bring the  
13 mayor into the discussion, bring the heads  
14 of the various city government agencies and  
15 departments into these discussions and the  
16 savings have to come from a major cut in the  
17 size of the budget.

18 MR. ROGAN: Would you actively  
19 pursue increased PILOTS from nonprofits, and  
20 if so from whom?

21 MR. MORGAN: My opinion on  
22 nonprofits is that we have to be careful  
23 when we look at nonprofits. I think what we  
24 should be doing is we should be looking at  
25 the university of Scranton and I

1 institutions of higher learning and get them  
2 to the table with us and negotiate where  
3 students who attend Scranton schools who  
4 graduate get to attend those colleges for  
5 free as a requirement for their exemptions.

6 Other nonprofits would have to be  
7 taken on a case-by-case basis, and I do  
8 believe that some of them should pay some  
9 stipend to the city, but that would all  
10 depend on the nonprofit, what their function  
11 is, what they do in the city, their income,  
12 whether they have a paid staff or if they  
13 are all volunteer. So it's really a  
14 complicated question and they'd have to be  
15 looked at case by case. Next?

16 MS. EVANS: And, Mr. Morgan,  
17 finally, why are you the best candidate for  
18 the position?

19 MR. MORGAN: I honestly and  
20 truthfully do believe I am the best  
21 candidate for this position, and it's not  
22 only because the Scranton Times endorsed me,  
23 it's because I have sat in these chambers  
24 over a very long extended period of time. I  
25 have watched legislation crafted, I have

1 watched mistakes made. The American  
2 Anglican. There is just a -- there is ton  
3 of them that have been made that were  
4 incorrect. I think that legislation has  
5 been introduced by the council president  
6 without the necessary backup legislation --  
7 documents to that legislation. I think we  
8 have rushed too much through. I think we  
9 have done too much borrowing. I think we  
10 haven't looked for alternatives to a lot of  
11 the things we do and I think there is more  
12 answers to the city's problems than  
13 borrowing and to be honest with you we don't  
14 have many assets left, so I really think  
15 that it's time for the council to step up as  
16 five independent people that come together  
17 not for themselves, but for the residents of  
18 this city. And even though they are only  
19 small numbers of people who come here and  
20 attend, the residents of this city want to  
21 be successful and if you look at the  
22 population drain of this city over a long  
23 course of time they have left for  
24 overtaxation. You can look at real estate  
25 or anything else you want to look at and in

1 my opinion they don't want to come here,  
2 they don't want to develop here, they know  
3 they are going to be overtaxed, and I think  
4 that the council looks for the wrong  
5 solutions to the problems because they are  
6 easy. And now it's time for five council  
7 members to sit together, independently  
8 think, be willing to accept everybody else's  
9 ideas and work together as a team for the  
10 people with -- I think it's time to try to  
11 bring the mayor and even though he hasn't  
12 been the easiest person to get along with, I  
13 think that the mayor needs to forget about  
14 his run for higher office and help to clean  
15 the mess up that's here and I think that we  
16 have to reach out for everybody. That's  
17 all.

18 MS. EVANS: Mr. Morgan, do have you  
19 any questions for us?

20 MR. MORGAN: No, I have no  
21 questions.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much for  
23 coming today.

24 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

25 (Mr. Steven Bartnicki enters council

1 chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

2 MS. EVANS: Our next candidate is  
3 Steven Bartnicki. Welcome.

4 MR. BARTNICKI: Good evening,  
5 Council, thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: And thank you for your  
7 interest in the position and the opportunity  
8 to interview you today. Please keep your  
9 answers concise and on point so that we may  
10 adhere to the 15-minute time limit for each  
11 interview. Mr. Bartnicki, please provide us  
12 with a brief summation of your professional  
13 background?

14 MR. BARTNICKI: I'd be happy to. I  
15 graduated from the Scranton Preparatory  
16 School in 1996. After that, I attended the  
17 Pennsylvania State University at University  
18 Park where I graduated in 2001 with a  
19 bachelor of arts degree in history and a  
20 bachelor of science degree in secondary  
21 education social studies with a minor in  
22 geography.

23 Upon graduation, I decided to  
24 return to Scranton and for two and a half  
25 years I substitute taught in all of the

1 districts up and down the valley and I also  
2 taught at the Shiva High School in South  
3 Scranton. In 2004, I was appointed as a  
4 social studies teacher in Scranton School  
5 District, a position that I currently hold,  
6 and I also am an assistant soccer coach for  
7 Scranton High School.

8 MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
9 two parts. Why are you interested in the  
10 city council vacancy and what would you hope  
11 to accomplish as a member of city council?

12 MR. BARTNICKI: Okay. Upon  
13 graduating from Penn State I returned to  
14 Scranton and I was genuinely impressed with  
15 some of the improvements that I saw made to  
16 the city. Then the Recovery Act was passed  
17 and I realized at what costs these  
18 improvements would be made. This sparked  
19 interest in local government, so I began  
20 watching council meetings and I became  
21 really infuriated by the way that certain  
22 speakers were treated who came to this  
23 podium with legitimate complaints and  
24 problems. Speakers being denigrated,  
25 laughed at, made fun of and even arrested.



1                   MR. ROGAN: What would you hope to  
2 accomplish as member of council?

3                   MR. BARTNICKI: As a member of  
4 council, I would hope to accomplishment a  
5 reduction in the city wage tax which  
6 currently is the third highest in the  
7 nation. Also, a reduction in the mercantile  
8 tax. I would home to accomplish increased  
9 police and fire protection for our residents  
10 and also free swimming for all children in  
11 our city pools.

12                  MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Bartnicki, what do  
13 you see as the proper role of city council  
14 in a strong mayor form of government?

15                  MR. BARTNICKI: Well, I view city  
16 council as the legislative branch of the  
17 government so it is the responsibility of  
18 council to make and pass the legislation and  
19 I see that the mayor has the executive  
20 branch of the government who is in charge of  
21 enforcing legislation passed by council. I  
22 would definitely be willing to work with the  
23 mayor, however, I would not be willing to  
24 work for the mayor. A strong mayor form of  
25 government in my opinion is not a

1 dictatorship.

2 MR. JOYCE: Okay, my question has  
3 several parts. Do you support opening the  
4 mayor's annual budgets to examine them and  
5 make cuts? If so, what cuts could be  
6 foresee making. And number two, are you  
7 willing to raise taxes, and if so under what  
8 circumstances.

9 MR. BARTNICKI: I'm absolutely  
10 willing to open up the mayor's budget and to  
11 make cuts to it. In particular, I would cut  
12 many of the consultant positions that I have  
13 been created. In my opinion, if someone was  
14 appointed to a job that individual should be  
15 able to perform the job, however I would not  
16 be willing to make any cuts concerning  
17 police or fire protection.

18 And to answer your second question,  
19 under no circumstance would I ever be  
20 willing to raise taxes on city residents.

21 MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
22 for new streams of revenue for the annual  
23 operating budget?

24 MR. BARTNICKI: First of all, I  
25 would like to see the Scranton Sewer

1 Authority put under council's control if at  
2 all possible and then have it sold. Also, I  
3 would like to see the Scranton Parking  
4 Authority put under council's control and  
5 then sell the city-owned parking garages.  
6 Also, I would privatize the entire DPW.  
7 Also, I believe that the Keystone Landfill  
8 should return to paying a fee for the  
9 lechate that runs through the sewer systems  
10 as they did under the Connors'  
11 administration. In addition, I would  
12 support the institution of an amusement tax  
13 in this city and I would actively pursue, if  
14 necessary through litigation, increased  
15 revenue from the so-called nonprofits.

16 MR. ROGAN: Well, that's pretty much  
17 the second question, would you actively  
18 increased PILOTS from nonprofits, and if so  
19 from whom?

20 MR. BARTNICKI: From all of them,  
21 but just off the top of my head the  
22 University of Scranton, Lackawanna College.

23 MS. EVANS: And, Mr. Bartnicki, why  
24 are you the best candidate for the position?

25 MR. BARTNICKI: As a teacher and

1 coach I'm already a member of the helping  
2 professions, and I see the role of council  
3 person as being an extension of my role as a  
4 helper. I have already spent countless  
5 hours voluntarily helping students work  
6 through various problems and difficulties  
7 and I see that as being the main role of  
8 council person to help residents who for a  
9 long time have been ignored. Coming from a  
10 working class background myself, I have a  
11 genuine understanding of what's it's like  
12 for these people to struggle and to be  
13 ignored. And lastly, I love Scranton and I  
14 want to see what is best for our city and  
15 it's residents.

16 MS. EVANS: Have you any questions  
17 for us?

18 MR. BARTNICKI: I don't believe so.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much for  
20 your participation.

21 MR. BARTNICKI: Thank you very much.

22 (Ms. Mary Ann Wardell enters council  
23 chambers and is interviewed as follows:)

24 MS. WARDELL: I guess I'm to stand  
25 here?

1 MS. EVANS: Yes, please. Our next  
2 candidate is Mary Ann Wardell. Welcome.

3 MS. WARDELL: Thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: And thank you for your  
5 interest in the position and the opportunity  
6 to interview you today. Please keep your  
7 answers concise and on point so that we may  
8 adhere to the 15-minute time limit for each  
9 interview. And, Mrs. Wardell, please  
10 provide us with a brief summation of your  
11 professional background.

12 MS. WARDELL: My professional  
13 background. Well, I have been in business  
14 most of my life. I have worked as a human  
15 resource manager and human resource  
16 director. I have also been a production  
17 supervisor at Trane Company until they  
18 closed. That pretty well -- I was at Trane  
19 for 15 years, so that pretty -- I was over  
20 at the Hilton for five years until my  
21 accident, so that pretty well sums up my  
22 career.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

24 MS. WARDELL: This will be very  
25 short. I'm very stringy with my answers.

1                   MR. ROGAN: The next question has  
2 two parts. Why are you interested in the  
3 city council vacancy and what would you hope  
4 to accomplish as a member of city council?

5                   MS. WARDELL: I'm interested in the  
6 city council vacancy because I believe there  
7 is a need in this city for people who are  
8 sincerely interested in bringing out the  
9 best in the city. I think based on the past  
10 several years we have had a government that  
11 is, shall we say, not very thrifty and I  
12 think we are going -- in a deep financial  
13 hole. I think based on experience, my  
14 experience with budgets that I have had that  
15 I could maybe contribute somewhat to maybe  
16 bringing it out more. I'm a team player.  
17 I'm willing to work with anybody as long as  
18 their ideas are sound. As a matter of fact,  
19 I think years ago if we had listened to some  
20 people that used to speak at this podium we  
21 would not be in the shape we are now. And  
22 what was the second part of that question?

23                   MR. ROGAN: What would you hope to  
24 see accomplished?

25                   MS. WARDELL: I would like to see

1           this city become financially stable, shall  
2           we say. I would like to see this as a city  
3           that served the taxpayers and not that the  
4           taxpayers serve the city.

5                       MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Wardell, what do  
6           you think is the proper role of city council  
7           in a strong mayor form of government?

8                       MS. WARDELL: I think city council's  
9           job is to legislate, and that not only means  
10          legislate whatever the mayor sends down, I  
11          think that they have to be proactive in  
12          legislating and making their own legislation  
13          pass.

14                      MR. JOYCE: My question has several  
15          parts. One, do you support opening the  
16          mayor's annual budgets to examine them and  
17          make cuts? If so, what cuts could you  
18          foresee making. And number two, are you  
19          willing to raise taxes, and if so under what  
20          circumstances?

21                      MS. WARDELL: I definitely think  
22          that one of the first priorities of this  
23          council is to open that budget. My  
24          experience in business has been such that  
25          when things get tough cuts have be made.

1           They are usually made with management first.  
2           You know, you never get rid -- you don't get  
3           rid of the workers because they are the ones  
4           that do the work. You get rid of the  
5           managers first. I think that should be a  
6           priority. And what was the next question?

7                     MR. JOYCE: Are you willing to raise  
8           taxes and if so under what circumstances?

9                     MS. WARDELL: Well, that's a tough  
10          question. We are in financial straights  
11          right now and truthfully I don't think how  
12          you are going to get around not raising  
13          taxes, but I would think that if everyone  
14          worked together, you know, you got some good  
15          minds up here and these new guys, you know,  
16          probably have a lot of new ideas and I  
17          personally think that if enough people got  
18          together and listened to what a lot of  
19          people come up here and say there are a lot  
20          of things that can be done that maybe you  
21          wouldn't have to raise taxes.

22                     If my back was against the wall, I  
23          don't know. I don't know what I would say.  
24          I can't really answer that. I'd have to  
25          have a specific instance where you would say



1 if we don't do this we have to raise taxes.  
2 I think we raised them already 25 percent  
3 and that was quite a stab at the taxpayers  
4 in the city and my interest is in the  
5 taxpayers of the city. I'm not interested  
6 in the administration, I'm not interested in  
7 the honchos, I'm interested in the taxpayers  
8 because you know what, I'm one of them.

9 MR. ROGAN: What ideas do you have  
10 for new revenue streams for the annual  
11 budget?

12 MS. WARDELL: Well, I guess there is  
13 couple of new revenue streams in that budget  
14 now, I don't know if they are good or bad  
15 but they are there and they were voted on  
16 and passed. I'm talking about the revenue  
17 from the meters. I would personally, I  
18 think something has to be done drastically  
19 about the nonprofits and I can't believe  
20 that there is no way that you cannot levy  
21 some type of fee or service charge on these  
22 nonprofits.

23 MR. ROGAN: The second part of the  
24 question was, would you actively pursue  
25 increased PILOTS from nonprofits, which you

1                   answered, and the second part of that was if  
2                   so from whom?

3                   MS. WARDELL: Well, I don't think  
4                   you can let anybody out. I think a  
5                   nonprofit is a nonprofit. Some are more  
6                   profitable nonprofits than others, let's  
7                   face it. I mean, you know, but we have a  
8                   lot -- we have the colleges, we have  
9                   universities, we have hospitals. You have  
10                  smaller nonprofits, you have churches. I  
11                  think everybody should contribute. They all  
12                  take our services. They call get the fire  
13                  services, the police services. We pave --  
14                  well, sometimes we pave their roads and  
15                  sometimes we clean them when the snow is out  
16                  there. I mean, they all use the services,  
17                  so why shouldn't they pay some type of a  
18                  fee?

19                  MS. EVANS: And, Mrs. Wardell,  
20                  finally, why are you the best candidate for  
21                  this position?

22                  MS. WARDELL: I'm the best candidate  
23                  because I have the time, I have the desire,  
24                  and I have the inclination to do whatever I  
25                  can to help this city get back on it's feet.

1 I was born and raised in this city and it  
2 pains me to see the condition the city is in  
3 compared to the way it used to be, and I  
4 just -- I just feel that I'm the best  
5 candidate because I have been around a long  
6 time, too. I mean, I'm no spring chicken  
7 here, you know, so I kind of know the ins  
8 and outs. I have been a student of city  
9 government for a long, long time and I can  
10 kind of know the ins and outs. I don't know  
11 all of the backroom deals that have been  
12 made over the years, but I have been around  
13 a long time. I know the ropes.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do you have  
15 any questions for us?

16 MS. WARDELL: No, I don't.

17 MS. EVANS: Thank you so much for  
18 your participation.

19 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Motion to adjourn.

21 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

22 MS. EVANS: This meeting is  
23 adjourned. We will continue our interviews  
24 tomorrow morning in council chambers at 9  
25 a.m.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
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