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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, October 12, 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
(Not present.)
FRANK JOYCE

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

CATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR
(Not present.)

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff. Mr.
5 Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Here. We have a
13 wonderful proclamation to present this
14 evening to a lovely group of ladies and
15 Father Ferretti here from Sts. Peter and
16 Paul Church.

17 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
18 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "STS.
19 PETER AND PAUL CHURCH" located on the corner
20 of West Locust Street and 12th Avenue in
21 Scranton on the 100th anniversary of its
22 parish; and

23 WHEREAS, "STS. PETER AND PAUL
24 CHURCH" was founded on May 3, 1909 by Polish
25 Catholic immigrants of West Scranton who

1 walked through wooded fields to attend Mass
2 at Sacred Hearts Church in South Scranton;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, "STS. PETER AND PAUL
5 CHURCH" was organized by a group of about
6 thirty men who pioneered the formation of
7 the new parish and were granted permission
8 by the late Bishop Michael J. Hoban, D.D.
9 to begin construction. A contract was
10 signed on December 9, 2909 to build a
11 basement church at a cost of \$12,050.00; and

12 WHEREAS, "STS. PETER AND PAUL
13 CHURCH" appointed Reverend Jacob J.
14 Kowalewski, as the first pastor, and under
15 the director of the pastor, began building
16 an eight room parish school on November 6,
17 1913, and the Bernardine Sisters were
18 invited to teach the parish children.
19 Reverend Kowalewski also built the rectory
20 in 1910 at a cost of \$6,200.00; and

21 WHEREAS, "STS. PETER AND PAUL
22 CHURCH" was built on the foundation of the
23 original church at a cost of \$76,000.00.
24 The solemn dedication ceremonies were
25 performed on June 29, 1941 by the late

1 Bishop William J. Hafey, D.D.; and

2 WHEREAS, "STS. PETER AND PAUL
3 CHURCH" has performed 5,980 Baptisms, 3,645
4 First Holy Communions, 2,000 Confirmations,
5 2,400 Matrimonies over the past century; and

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that
7 on Sunday, October 17, 2010, "STS. PETER
8 AND PAUL CHURCH" will celebrate it's 100th
9 Anniversary. The anniversary celebration is
10 a time of remembering and a time of joyous
11 thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many
12 blessings throughout the past ten decades.
13 May He grant eternal light and peace to the
14 clergy and faithful who have fallen asleep
15 and many years to those who continue to
16 labor in His Vineyard.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this
18 Proclamation dated Tuesday, October 12,
19 2010, be made a permanent part of the
20 Minutes of this Council, as lasting tribute
21 to "STS. PETER AND PAUL CHURCH", and it's
22 current pastor Reverend Samuel J. Ferretti,
23 parishioners, staff, and the Diocese of
24 Scranton.

25 MS. EVANS: Father, would you like

1 to say a few words? Come up to the podium.

2 FATHER FERRETTI: I would just like
3 to say this is a great Honor for our parish.
4 The City of Scranton was built by the
5 immigrants that came here and they made the
6 coal industry what it is and was which gave
7 the City of Scranton a tremendous boost and
8 saw it through it's early years, and so this
9 is a great tribute to all of the men and
10 women of that parish that have lived and
11 worked in the City of Scranton, that have
12 served in it's departments throughout the
13 decades, so we thank you very much. This is
14 a wonderful tribute and a thank you to those
15 who are there today and those who are there
16 yesteryear. Thank you very much.

17 MS. EVANS: Dispense with the
18 reading of the minutes, please.

19 MS. KRAKE: 3-A. MINUTES OF THE
20 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
21 HELD ON AUGUST 25, 2010.

22 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
23 If not, received and filed. Clerk's notes,
24 please.

25 MS. KRAKE: We have several clerk's

1 notes this evening. We have a response from
2 Stu Renda from the Business Administration
3 Office. We requested a copy of any and all
4 permits issued to the University of Scranton
5 that would comprise the \$2 million in
6 revenue that was received by the city as per
7 the administration. Stu Renda tells us due
8 to the extensive nature of our request it
9 will take him 30 days and that he will
10 charging us 25 cents per page.

11 MR. JOYCE: Mrs. Krake, I was
12 wondering would you be able to contact the
13 BA's Office and ask if they could have an
14 electronic copy provided to us so we don't
15 incur that 25 cent per page expense.

16 MS. EVANS: Or perhaps the documents
17 could be scanned.

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

19 MS. EVANS: In order to save that
20 money.

21 MR. ROGAN: I don't see the point of
22 the 25 cent per page fee. It's intercity,
23 first floor to second floor.

24 MS. EVANS: Interdepartmental.

25 MR. ROGAN: I don't understand the

1 point of it. It's the taxpayers money any
2 ways.

3 MS. EVANS: Yes.

4 MR. ROGAN: We should get all of the
5 information we request.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.

7 MS. KRAKE: You are welcome. Next,
8 we received a response which we sent to
9 several departments, but the city
10 controller's office did answer the response
11 and they did it quite well actually. We had
12 requested a list of all accounts that
13 Attorney Carl Greco is being paid from and
14 they copied all of the vouchers, except for
15 the one year which was from OECD, so we
16 pretty know the value of that anyway, the
17 records from difficult to reach. A quick
18 breakdown of that was there is approximately
19 \$2 million better that we have paid out to
20 Carl Greco since 2002.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.

22 MS. KRAKE: And they are available
23 in our office if anyone would like to review
24 them.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

1 MS. KRAKE: Also, we received a
2 response today from Don King, city planner,
3 concerning a cost for the stand alone
4 comprehensive plan and revised zoning
5 ordinance. His opinion is that it would be
6 range from 100 to \$150,000.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

8 MS. KRAKE: Next, we had a call late
9 this afternoon from Linda Aebli, Director of
10 OECD, we were surprised actually in our
11 office that there were several requests from
12 her that have gone unanswered, and so told
13 us that she would be answering them
14 tomorrow.

15 MS. EVANS: Very good.

16 MS. KRAKE: We have unanswered from
17 the mayor's office concerning suspicious
18 activities in the Nativity Church parking
19 lot.

20 Also, we have unanswered from
21 Attorney Kelly the request I believe was
22 Mrs. Schumacher concerning the lease period
23 for the Ice Box.

24 MS. EVANS: Can we send a
25 Right-to-Know on that, please?

1 MS. KRAKE: Yes.

2 MS. EVANS: I think it's important
3 that we get to the bottom of this so that
4 the city hopefully sooner than later can
5 receive it's \$600,000 that it was due.

6 MS. KRAKE: Thank you. We received
7 one response from License and Inspections.
8 Actually, last week's meeting the director
9 was listening and they apparently went right
10 out and replaced the condemned property sign
11 on 403 North Decker Court.

12 MS. EVANS: Very good.

13 MS. KRAKE: But we also have six
14 letters that have gone unanswered from that
15 department.

16 MS. EVANS: We'll put those in the
17 file.

18 MS. KRAKE: I'm sorry?

19 MS. EVANS: Make sure these go into
20 the file.

21 MS. KRAKE: Yes. From Director
22 Brazil we have seven requests, some are
23 second and third and fourth requests that
24 have gone unanswered.

25 We have a second request to Gene

1 Barrett concerning the catch basins and
2 asking them to be cleared of debris to
3 prevent additional flooding during the fall
4 that has gone unanswered, and another second
5 request concerning the intersection of
6 Spruce and Adams Avenue that has gone
7 unanswered.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Krake, just this
9 afternoon I received an e-mail from Mr.
10 Skeleton from the Sewer Authority and he
11 does have a list of catch basins here that
12 they had taken care of prior to the last
13 rain. September 30 and October 1 there have
14 been crews out from 5:30 a.m to 6:30 p.m.,
15 and there is quite a list here, so we will
16 check it out and make sure the ones that you
17 had on the list were taken care of, so I
18 just wanted to let you know. Thank you.

19 MS. KRAKE: Thank you. And I
20 believe Councilman Joyce will be reporting
21 on the 888 money?

22 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I will.

23 MS. KRAKE: And that's all we have
24 for this meaning.

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any

1 council members have announcements at this
2 time?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: I have a couple quick
4 ones. There will be a "Make a Difference
5 Day Breakfast" pancake and sausage, which is
6 donated by Friendly's in Dunmore, benefits
7 the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen. This
8 will be held October 23rd from 8 a.m. to 12
9 noon. It will held at St. Peter's Lutheran
10 Church Social Hall on Ash Street and Taylor
11 Avenue. It's handicap accessible. Tickets
12 are \$5 for adults and children under 12 \$3.
13 For more information you can phone 346-9294
14 or 344-2701.

15 I'm going to reminder you of West
16 Side Falcons raffle, the gun raffle, also,
17 if anybody needs their guns for hunting
18 season. The raffle will be on the November
19 5 from 5 to 9 at the Jones' building on Main
20 Avenue, South Main and West Side. A
21 donation of \$25 for the raffle only or \$40
22 for the raffle and dinner. There will be
23 only a limited number of tickets available
24 for the dinner, so get your reservations in
25 early and you can stop at Big Rich's

1 American Sports Shop or see someone from the
2 Falcons organization or log onto
3 www.westsidefalcons.com.

4 And I have started, I'm sure my
5 colleagues have received some e-mail from a
6 young man at Scranton High School, Tim
7 Wolff, and I just happened to -- he sent us
8 a few things, I just grabbed this one, but
9 teacher Diane Amari is planning an alumni
10 band night for homecoming October 15, the
11 North Pocono game. All marching band alumni
12 from Scranton High or from Central, Central
13 Scranton are welcome to back and play with
14 us for that night, so all band alumni go to
15 the band homecoming at the game with North
16 Pocono, and that's all I have to say. Thank
17 you.

18 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

19 MR. JOYCE: Yes. On Saturday,
20 October 16, at Nay Aug Park at 9 a.m. there
21 will be a race to benefit Scranton police
22 canine units. The cost, the entry fee for
23 this event is \$20 and that will be awards
24 for the top three male and female overall
25 finishes, the top three law

1 enforcement/emergency service finishers, and
2 the top male and female finishers in each
3 age division which range from 18 to 70 they
4 are broken up into increments of about ten
5 years, I won't read them all off. If you
6 would like to participate you can contact
7 the Scranton Police at 348-4130, and that is
8 all.

9 MS. EVANS: Mr. Rogan, any
10 announcements?

11 MR. ROGAN: Not tonight.

12 MS. EVANS: Mr. McGoff was feeling
13 ill and had to leave early this evening,
14 however, we are very glad that he was able
15 to attend the PEL caucus earlier this
16 evening.

17 The Scranton/Lackawanna County
18 Taxpayers' Association will host a 112th
19 legislative district candidates' forum this
20 Thursday, October 14, in Scranton City
21 Council chambers at 6:00 p.m. Democratic
22 incumbent representative Ken Smith and
23 Republican Lee Morgan will be interviewed.
24 Tune into Channels 19 and 21 to view the
25 broadcast of this forum at future dates.

1 Sts. Peter and Paul Church West
2 Locust Street, Scranton, will celebrate it's
3 100th anniversary this Sunday, October 17,
4 2010. The choir will perform at 3:30 p.m.,
5 and the centennial mass will be celebrated
6 by the most Reverend Joseph Bambera, Bishop
7 of Scranton, at 4 p.m. All are welcome to
8 attend.

9 Following the mass, a dinner will be
10 held at St. Mary's Center, 320 Mifflin
11 Avenue in Scranton. Dinner tickets are \$40
12 for adults, \$10 for children under 11 years
13 of age and are available at weekend masses.
14 Tickets may also be purchased by calling the
15 rectory between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at
16 343-7015.

17 Fetching Grooming Salon Pet Boutique
18 928 Boulevard Avenue in Scranton, will
19 sponsor a photo fundraiser to benefit the
20 Red Cross of Scranton's pet safety program
21 this weekend, October 16 and 17. Pet's
22 photos will be taken with your choice of
23 Halloween or winter holiday backgrounds and
24 costumes may be borrowed from the grooming
25 salon. Get a photo of your pet for \$5 and

1 help the Red Cross pet safety program.

2 Finally, a local band is organizing
3 a fundraiser to help a North Scranton family
4 stave off foreclosure. The Forgiven Band
5 will perform Saturday, October 23, at
6 Community Worship Bible Church, 1019 Wood
7 Street to benefit the Babarski-Stark family.
8 Lois Stark's brother, Jerry Babarski, died
9 and their elderly mother was left without a
10 caregiver in a mortgaged home, according to
11 organizers. The monthly payments are not
12 fiscally manageable for Ms. Stark, so the
13 show's proceeds will help her to refinance.

14 Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m.
15 Donations can also be sent to the
16 Babarski-Stark fund, PNC Bank, 533 Main
17 Street in Peckville, and that's it.

18 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
19 PARTICIPATION.

20 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker this
21 evening is Les Spindler.

22 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
23 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
24 homeowner and taxpayer.

25 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

1 MR. SPINDLER: After hearing that
2 presentation from PEL, Mrs. Evans, I feel a
3 little ill myself. I didn't hear the whole
4 presentation, but I saw most of it, and
5 according to what I saw it's just going to
6 hurt a lot of the taxpayers in this city,
7 the elderly, people such as myself that live
8 paycheck to paycheck. I don't know how we
9 are going to make it. They want to raise
10 taxes, they want to cut public services
11 unions, we can't afford it, as you said.
12 Violent crime is going up in this city, you
13 know, our firefighters are doing the best
14 they can. We can't afford to lose anymore
15 of them, and then they want to raise the
16 refuse from \$178 to \$215. They want to
17 raise the parking fees. As someone who
18 works in town I see from last year's budget
19 the fees that were raised, not as many
20 people park in town. If they raise it
21 anymore nobody is going to come to this city
22 to shop.

23 It's safe to say these two people
24 that were here tonight don't live in the
25 city because I don't think they care about

1 the residents of this city.

2 Moving on, I'm happy to report that
3 after the last meeting I attended two weeks
4 ago Brian Swanson called me the next day and
5 after work we met at the Lackawanna Avenue
6 Bridge and he also brought an engineer from
7 PennDOT.

8 MS. EVANS: Oh.

9 MR. SPINDLER: And they explained
10 everything to me they said the cracks in the
11 bridge are called expansion cracks and he
12 says that happens in concrete, so I was glad
13 they explained that to me, and he said so
14 that doesn't happen sometimes they will
15 actually put -- cut cracks in the concrete
16 themselves, so I thought that was great that
17 he met me the next day.

18 MS. EVANS: Yes.

19 MR. SPINDLER: And too bad not all
20 of the department heads in this city weren't
21 at cooperative as Mr. Swanson was.

22 Moving on, three articles in last
23 week's Dougherty newsletter caught my
24 interest. The one was firefighters' safety
25 focus of city move. It's about buying these

1 things that they can detect high voltage
2 lines, but it says, "The National Institute
3 of Occupational Safety and Health conducted
4 a study and recommended in March of 2009
5 that these devices be purchased."

6 That's approximately a year and a
7 half ago and now we are just looking into
8 purchasing these things? What took so long?
9 And they said they probably won't have them
10 until the end of in year. I can't believe
11 it took that long and it was recommended in
12 March of 2009 and now they are just getting
13 to do this.

14 MS. EVANS: I agree.

15 MR. SPINDLER: They said they didn't
16 have the money, maybe if they took the money
17 they are throwing out on putting the
18 visitors center up out zoo they could have
19 bought these a long time ago.

20 Next thing, "Arbitrator rulings
21 upheld with the city police unions," and as
22 I heard before that the city is going to
23 appeal that again and as you took the words
24 right out of my mouth, Mrs. Evans, what I
25 was going to say that the only people

1 getting rich are the high priced attorneys
2 and the taxpayers of this city are
3 suffering.

4 Lastly, I think that was in Sunday's
5 paper, "Blocks sitting empty. The 500 block
6 of Lackawanna."

7 I don't know how many millions of
8 dollars they put into that and it's sitting
9 empty and the only two businesses that are
10 thriving in that block they are two of the
11 longest standing businesses in the city and
12 they were excluded from this project, Buona
13 Pizza and --

14 MS. EVANS: Coney Island.

15 MR. SPINDLER: Coney Island, thank
16 you. I had a memory lapse that for a
17 minute. It's very sad for all of the money
18 that went into that block and it's sitting
19 empty, and I commented about this before,
20 what they did to that street is ridiculous.
21 Taking away a lane and putting whatever they
22 call that in the middle to put light posts
23 there and I said if it comes rush hour and
24 an emergency vehicle has to get up that
25 street they won't be able to.

1 Lastly, Mr. Loscombe mentioned about
2 the catch basins, historically when we get
3 heavy rain where Luzerne Street meets
4 Meridian Avenue where Burger King is that
5 floods all of the time and, unfortunately,
6 last time my daughter fell victim to that.
7 She was driving out in a storm and she
8 didn't see the water there and her car got
9 stuck and I think it's totaled, had to get
10 towed away.

11 MR. JOYCE: That's ashame.

12 MR. SPINDLER: So maybe -- I don't
13 know what can be done, but it seems that
14 nothing has been done about that area there.
15 As I said, it floods all of the time. Maybe
16 something could be tried to get done about
17 that. That's all I have tonight. Thank you
18 for your time.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Spindler.
20 Dave Dobrzyn.

21 MR. DOBRZYN: Dave Dobrzyn, resident
22 of Scranton and member of the Taxpayers'.
23 I'd also like to comment, I didn't see the
24 whole thing, I'll have to record it, it's
25 very interesting what some of these people

1 think, PEL thinks people are going to pay.
2 I put my money where my mouth is. This
3 shirt was bought at the mall. These jeans
4 were bought at Tuck's. Sneakers were bought
5 at the mall. The jacket I wore, it's out in
6 the hall, that was bought at Tuck's. So,
7 you know, ten cents or 25 cents per ten
8 minutes, I'm surprised that the local
9 merchants weren't down here with a lynching
10 party for them. I mean, that's just crazy
11 considering that you can drive anywhere else
12 and just park for free and spend whatever
13 time you wanted down there.

14 And I saw something in the Times
15 that's of some concern, this charter school
16 issue, if anybody read the article or if you
17 have the ability to look it up on the
18 computer you should because it's atrocious.
19 I, myself, I don't support private school
20 and I think that the citizens and parents
21 should start to make public school work and
22 if somebody wants to teach something else
23 they -- they could go to religion classes or
24 whatever, we used to go for two hours a day
25 or whatever or two hours a week to a class

1 with our parents' approval, but these
2 charter schools are going to cost way more
3 than the public school system and the study
4 was out last week 37 percent of them or
5 something like that are worse and 15 percent
6 are better, so where is the beat?

7 I mean, it's just -- I don't -- I
8 absolutely do not support any further
9 deviation from the public school system. I
10 think it's time that we make the public
11 school system work and get parents involved
12 and call them in on it and they should start
13 to -- because it's their kid's future, but
14 what will happen is, you know, that some of
15 these schools are tracking \$20,000 a year
16 for students. That's a lot of money.
17 That's double what the average is. It's
18 \$670 billion dollars annually our spent on
19 grades kindergarten through 12th grade.

20 This week in the paper, I'd like to
21 thank Wal-Mart for the \$100,000
22 contribution, but I'd also like to note,
23 this is older information, but Bill
24 Jackowitz and I discussed it, he used to
25 work for them and they actually used to

1 counsel their employees as to how much
2 public welfare they could receive, free
3 medical coverage for their kids and so
4 forth, and how many programs if they went to
5 work for Wal-Mart because their wages were
6 so low they would -- they could apply for
7 certain state subsidies and receive them.
8 That to me is shameful.

9 So once again, it's like I said,
10 they donated \$100,000 for improvements at
11 Nay Aug Park, and that's wonderful, but the
12 bottom line is people have to be able to
13 learn a living and they shouldn't have to be
14 supported by the taxpayer if they are
15 working a 40 or 50 hour work week.

16 And once again, at the risk of
17 boring, the US Chamber of Commerce it's out
18 now, they are accepting foreign funds and
19 paying their bills with that and donating
20 lots of money to attack ads and so forth. I
21 would like to give the three bawk, bawk,
22 bawk this week for their activities. It's
23 ashame why should somebody even be
24 potentially accepting money from the
25 Republic of China to influence American

1 elections.

2 And finally, I mentioned last week I
3 got involved with the radio station that is
4 trying to be constructed WFTE and I have
5 tickets available for October 22, 9 p.m.,
6 it's Stone Elephant, and 415 Lackawanna
7 Avenue, and the tickets are \$10. It's going
8 to be five band concert, so hopefully we
9 will be able to raise enough money to get an
10 antenna up some day and we only have a few
11 months, so if it works, great. If it don't,
12 well that's the way it is, but they only
13 have a few months left on the license to get
14 enacted and get on the air, so thank you and
15 have a good night.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Dobrzyn.
17 Fay Franus.

18 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.
19 I'd like to ask who has the responsibility
20 of keeping PEL here? Is that the state?

21 MS. EVANS: I'm not quite sure. I'm
22 sure the state has some involvement in it
23 and the city as well.

24 MS. FRANUS: Does somebody in the
25 city? Do they have the right to get rid of

1 these people because I think they should be
2 gone. They were here to get rid of the
3 distressed status, I believe. I'd like to
4 know what they have done for the city other
5 than taking money from taxpayers to pay
6 them. I don't get it.

7 And if you noticed up on that screen
8 how they said quickly how to get rid of the
9 deficit, real estate tax 22 percent
10 increase, a garbage fee, that's preposterous
11 because why should we take care of the
12 mayor's hiring of all of his friends, big
13 pay raises for jobs that were created. I
14 mean, we have to pay all of the things that
15 he did wrong. This makes no sense at all.

16 MS. EVANS: Well, I think, if I
17 may--

18 MS. FRANUS: Sure.

19 MS. EVANS: -- just interrupt. One
20 point among several with which I do not
21 agree with PEL on is the fact that the past
22 18 years do have a bearing on this
23 situation. The last eight years they do
24 have a bearing on this situation. As you
25 know, PEL was insisting that we focus on

1 where we are today, but an 18-year history
2 of distressed status bespeaks failed
3 leadership, failed leadership that is
4 well-paid to enable the city to remove a
5 distressed status, yet after 18 years here
6 we are and from what I have heard this
7 evening, I think we could say we are
8 probably looking at another 18 years.

9 So I don't know that I can say that
10 the Pennsylvania Economy League has
11 accomplished anything in the City of
12 Scranton other than, you know, the obvious
13 which is a continued structural deficit and
14 their blessings on the amassing of
15 monumental debt.

16 MS. FRANUS: Well, you notice where
17 they were approving of the police and
18 firemen board, how they sided with the city,
19 go figure? I mean, I think these people
20 should be absolutely gone and I hope to gosh
21 that you don't oppose any of these fees.

22 You know, years ago, and not that
23 many years ago, our taxes paid for the
24 garbage. Now, my garbage men and the
25 garbage they are wonderful, they are the

1 best guys in the world and I love them and
2 they do a great job, but our taxes used to
3 pay for that. So then all of a sudden I
4 think it was that we got a firemen
5 arbitration or policemen arbitration from
6 years back that the city couldn't afford to
7 pay, so they decided to create this fee,
8 garbage fee. I think we should get rid of
9 the garbage fee because what are we paying
10 our taxes for?

11 I mean, we could sit here all day
12 long and talk about this but nothing ever
13 happens for the taxpayers and we have to
14 swallow all of this stuff. Like you said,
15 Mrs. Evans, senior citizens aren't getting a
16 tax increase with their social security this
17 year, myself being one much them. I'm not
18 struggling like many people are, but I know
19 many people will be. They can't do this.

20 I just hope that you can do
21 something for us now with this PEL Recovery
22 Plan and, if you can, not approve it,
23 absolutely do not give them what they ask
24 for. And, like you said, where were they
25 all of these years? They were shaking Mayor

1 Doherty's hand saying, "Great job. Let's
2 keep it this way. Keep us here as long as
3 we can because we are getting paid to do
4 this. We are getting paid to keep you
5 distressed. We won't have a job if you
6 don't."

7 So please, please do not reward
8 these people or do anything they want you to
9 do. I don't even know why they are asking
10 you to do. They are asking you to put the
11 burden on the taxpayers and not holding the
12 mayor responsible for anything that he has
13 done to cause this deficit. All of the
14 borrowing, all of the raises in his friend's
15 pockets, yet he wants the taxpayers to pay
16 for that with real estate tax and the
17 garbage fee.

18 Please put your foot down and say no
19 to these people and please if you can't get
20 rid of them. How do we get rid of them?

21 MS. EVANS: Well --

22 MS. FRANUS: They are not doing
23 anything for us. They didn't speak up when
24 they should have.

25 MS. EVANS: What I can tell you

1 right now is that council will not be
2 introducing, considering or adopting a
3 revised Recovery Plan in this current fiscal
4 year because there are too many
5 circumstances that are unsettled that would
6 have a tremendous financial impact on the
7 plan, and so council prefers to wait until
8 such time as we have a far more accurate
9 financial picture of the city, but even at
10 this time you can be sure that this council
11 is going to do it's level best to protect
12 and to help the taxpayers of the Scranton.

13 What was said tonight is PEL's
14 proposal, it is not city council's proposal
15 and it does not mean in any way city council
16 agrees with everything that was proposed
17 this evening. I know that I, myself,
18 certainly do not.

19 MS. FRANUS: Considering that they
20 have never done one thing for the city in
21 all of these years I don't know why you even
22 have them here. Why would you even
23 entertain their words?

24 I read in the paper that if you
25 didn't go along with this there would be

1 sanctions, so I hope you are not pushed into
2 the position that you don't have a choice
3 but to approve this Recovery Plan because as
4 far as I'm concerned this last Recovery Plan
5 it wasn't good. Why do we need one? What
6 kind of sanctions were they speaking of when
7 they said sanctions, do you know?

8 MS. EVANS: It would be -- I believe
9 sanctions would involve withholding of some
10 state grants, perhaps state monies. I don't
11 know in what amount or in what category,
12 but, you know, the sad fact of life is the
13 city went distressed 18 years ago, I don't
14 believe that ever should have occurred, and
15 as a result we, among numerous other
16 municipalities throughout the Commonwealth
17 of Pennsylvania, are weighed down by an
18 albatross called the Pennsylvania Economy
19 League, and my advice to any other city
20 entertaining or Borough or Township
21 entertaining entry into Act 47 would be to
22 think very long and very carefully because
23 you are going to take a step that can effect
24 decades --

25 MS. FRANUS: Here we are.

1 MS. EVANS: -- into the future the
2 population of your city and the future
3 populations of your city and, you know, the
4 point of that is once you get in it's nearly
5 impossible to get out. Very few cities have
6 been released by DCED and Pennsylvania
7 Economy league or an organization that is
8 similar to them, very few have been released
9 and have got their distressed status lifted.

10 MS. FRANUS: Do you see any hope for
11 the citizens, I mean, considering that we
12 are so far in debt? Do you see the light at
13 the end of the tunnel?

14 MS. EVANS: I do, frankly, it's not
15 going to come swiftly, but I do see a light.

16 MS. FRANUS: Would I be alive?

17 MS. EVANS: I do see it though in
18 actions that are different from what is
19 being proposed by the Pennsylvania Economy
20 League.

21 MR. JOYCE: And I just want to
22 comment, too, I agree with the comment that
23 Councilwoman Evans made, you do have to
24 focus on the past in some regards in order
25 to know where you want to go in the future

1 which is to eventually -- to have Scranton
2 not become a distressed city you have look
3 at the past, you have to look at what we
4 have done that wasn't right and to me
5 personally I -- personally, I don't see
6 raising the garbage fee, raising the parking
7 meter fees and raising taxes as the end all
8 be all answer and it's certainly not a very
9 friendly act on the taxpayers and the
10 taxpayers of this city simply cannot afford
11 those types of increases, just to share my
12 opinion on that.

13 MS. FRANUS: Thank you very much. I
14 appreciate your help.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Anyone else?
16 Hi, Chrissy.

17 MR. JOYCE: Hi, Chrissy. I bet
18 you're excited about West Side.

19 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Oh, oh, oh.

20 MS. EVANS: He's got his t-shirt.

21 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Hey, Jack, what's
22 it now, jack? Who is it now, Jackie?

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: You are right.

24 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Right there, right
25 where it belongs.

1 MS. EVANS: You had to get that, in,
2 Chris.

3 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Well, West Side
4 won, Jack. These kids in West Side I'm
5 proud of them all down there. Every one of
6 them. Thank you.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Chris.
8 Anyone else?

9 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening.
10 Nelson Ancherani, resident and taxpayer.
11 First Amendment Rights.

12 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

13 MR. ANCHERANI: I just want to make
14 a few comments about the PEL caucus. They
15 are saying that they want a 15 percent cut
16 in non city collective bargaining agreement
17 workers. Why? Or they want five police
18 officers they said at \$325,000 savings.
19 That's \$65,000 a policeman with their
20 figures. If I had the 65 instead of what I
21 have I could pay for my own benefits. I
22 don't know where they get the figures.

23 I thought it was a lot of spin by
24 Mr. Cross. Six firemen at \$400,000. That
25 \$67,000 per firemen, four DPW that's 56. I

1 never hear anyone saying about the 25
2 million that they spent in raises and new
3 hires. That's 25 million in nine years.
4 Police and fire got nothing, but yet they
5 want to cut the police and fire.

6 The business administrator not too
7 long ago said that it's \$87,000 per fire
8 employee a year. Mr. Cross is saying
9 \$67,000. Who is right? And when they cut
10 the firemen whose fire houses are going to
11 be closed? I can hear everyone saying "Not
12 mine."

13 Talking about the tip fee from \$178
14 to \$215 a year, we paid twice for garbage,
15 we are already paying twice. We are paying
16 our real estate taxes.

17 The Parking Authority or the parking
18 meters to 25 cents for ten minutes instead
19 of 15. 2007 there was a \$35 million loan or
20 bond and the payback on that 35 million is
21 94 million. 59 million in interest, 59
22 million interest.

23 The institutions, the PILOTS, enrich
24 the city. Yes, they do in a way, but what
25 about when they take tax rolls off the -- or

1 properties off the tax roles. Taxpayers
2 have to make it up. We are the ones making
3 it up.

4 The real estate tax increase, 21
5 percent. 21 percent. They never recalled
6 that 25 percent that we had a few years ago.
7 They never brought that back, so that's
8 going to be 21 percent on top of that 25
9 percent. Nine, almost ten and a nine.

10 MS. EVANS: Mr. Ancherani, if you
11 remember a few years back when PEL was
12 before council in a public caucus they
13 proposed a 75 percent tax increase, 25
14 percent basically over a three-year period,
15 now, we have already had a 25.6 percent tax
16 increase and Mr. Rogan said to me during the
17 break tonight that the percentages proposed
18 for 2011, 12, 13 and 14, approximate 50
19 percent. There is your 75 percent, so it's
20 exactly the story that we heard several
21 years ago. You know, we have already handed
22 over the first third and now we are looking
23 at the remaining two-thirds.

24 MR. ANCHERANI: And it seems like
25 they keep bringing up that it's tax increase

1 that's needed. What about cutting costs and
2 spending in the expenditures? What about
3 how much money we paid professional services
4 for attorneys with Right-to-Know letters we
5 would know and there has been a lot of money
6 spent on outside attorneys. I believe one
7 of them that was fighting us, fighting the
8 police or fire, got over a million already.
9 That's a lot of money. That's a lot of
10 money.

11 Mr. McGoff left, but he was
12 wondering last week if we were going to have
13 our annual coffee bet. There were three
14 things that I would predict, tax increase,
15 loans or borrowing, they also brought that
16 up, PEL, and a record budget. I'd love to
17 lose, I'd love to have to buy him three
18 coffees, that would be nice, that would be
19 good for us taxpayers.

20 Mr. Cross answered the question to
21 me after -- at the end of the caucus where
22 in the 2002 Recovery Plan did it authorize
23 the Office of the Director of Public Safety
24 in the plan, what particular page? There is
25 no particular page. What it is, is that it

1 was put in the budget in 2002 or '03, and
2 that's what brought it in, so whatever you
3 want to put in the budget, evidently, the
4 budget makes it right, so you can think
5 about that.

6 MS. EVANS: And as you just said
7 though, by placing it in the budget at that
8 time that was done in violation of the plan.

9 MR. ANCHERANI: Right. Right.

10 MS. EVANS: And it stood.

11 MR. ANCHERANI: Right.

12 MS. EVANS: For many years up until
13 2010.

14 MR. ANCHERANI: And on page 64 there
15 is also more violations of the plan, that
16 Recovery Plan. There was only supposed to
17 so much spent for raises for all of the
18 departments and they spent over. And each
19 of the next two years they spent over, so
20 there was three violations right there of
21 that plan.

22 Everybody keeps saying 18 years that
23 we have had a Recover Plan. This is the
24 19th year, so -- and two other fast things.
25 Just a reminder with the leaves falling

1 neighbors living around the storm drains if
2 you can please clear them away and any news
3 on the audit yet?

4 MS. EVANS: Well, we did receive an
5 update in the last week I believe that there
6 is still some -- some final paperwork that
7 has to be done and then an exit conference
8 that has to be conducted before it will come
9 to city council, but again, here we are
10 October, and it will probably be November
11 once again, and I just want to make clear as
12 I have so much times in the past, this is
13 not fault of the auditor, rather, it is the
14 fault of the city authorities and the city
15 administration.

16 MR. ANCHERANI: Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Anyone else?

18 MS. HUMPHRIES: Is beyond these
19 doors heaven? I have a question to ask
20 everyone, Mr. McGoff I should have sat in
21 his place up there. I think he was leaving
22 it there for me. I was told by her that
23 there is complaints that I shouldn't talk
24 because I'm not being a City of Scranton. I
25 have PO box number. I was ran out of the

1 City of Scranton and I have questions to ask
2 every one of yous.

3 One question first, I'll ask you
4 altogether and you can say yes or no. When
5 you were running for the political reason to
6 help us and protecting us and making the
7 betterment of the city and all cities, all
8 of the little towns do come here and I'm
9 sure every one of yous spoke in a podium in
10 Eynon, in Jermy, in Mayfield, in Carbondale
11 and in Olyphant, all of the way up the line.
12 Tell me, when you were speaking did they run
13 you off the podium, I would like to know or
14 did you have your freedom of speech?

15 MS. EVANS: I can answer that,
16 Phyllis.

17 MS. HUMPHRIES: Yes.

18 MS. EVANS: When I was seeking
19 office I spoke at events, for example, like
20 a debate or an interview that were
21 prearranged and I was invited to, but I
22 never -- I never spoke at a council meeting
23 or a school board meeting, you know --

24 MS. HUMPHRIES: You should be being
25 you're a teacher. That's sad because you're

1 a teacher.

2 MS. EVANS: Well, often times
3 government bodies have rules, for example,
4 city council has Rules of Council which
5 state that in order to address city council
6 at a council meeting you must be a city
7 resident.

8 MS. HUMPHRIES: Okay. With a city
9 address are you allowed to speak?

10 MS. EVANS: Yes. If you have a city
11 address and you --

12 MS. HUMPHRIES: Yes, I do. PO Box
13 465 Scranton. I cover everything, God
14 covered everything. I'm going to come back
15 and bring you something up, and I want to
16 bring it to the City of Scranton, it's a
17 gift. We are all gifts. I promised visual
18 arts would be shown and the people that says
19 they don't like religion, well, guess what,
20 this is religion here, honey. Damaged
21 flags. Don't tread on me. This is here.
22 This is for the mayor. This represents our
23 Vietnam war veterans. They says they put it
24 in water, got a little pizza thing going.
25 This is for them. There is a statute, but

1 it represents something. The flowers are
2 for the unborn. I hope we do become -- this
3 child, this is lit up, this lights up, this
4 lights up in the dark, but there something I
5 do want to show you.

6 This little child, I got my diabetic
7 things in here, oh, my God. This little
8 child came to my house and then I can see
9 him, I wanted to be, and I didn't see him
10 yet, two weeks ago. He is mentally
11 challenged so there was a scale and I was
12 reading religious articles and this was in
13 front of his house. You can run your hands
14 across it, and what I pointed and what you
15 are seeing it's in here.

16 It lights up. We are to be the
17 light of Jesus Christ in the City of
18 Scranton and every place. I want you to
19 look at this, contemplate. To some it will
20 be a statute, some it will be an idol, but
21 more it's the symbol of the word of God
22 because there is things in the inside of
23 here, and I want you to examine it, and I
24 ask you, Mr. Joyce, if you hold the rosary
25 up would you please see that it's taken to

1 the Bishop to be seen in obedience. If you
2 don't want to, I will do it myself.

3 MR. JOYCE: I'm not exactly sure
4 what you are referring to.

5 MS. HUMPHRIES: A scientific study.
6 I would like scientists to come here to the
7 City of Scranton. How are you going to be
8 blessed when you got rain in the life and
9 heart of God and love. We got to bring the
10 scientists here. We got to show what's
11 really happening. People are killing and
12 chopping off heads and beating and
13 battering. What is it going to be when
14 Jesus Christ comes?

15 Now, I'm asking yous and I'm
16 pleading with yous, and as far as being a
17 City of Scranton I'm an honorary deputy
18 sheriff, that makes me a -- twice to say to
19 defend my police and my fire, yes. There
20 are some that got to get straightened out,
21 but we are going to move on. Now, you look
22 at that and think about it because I belong
23 to Jesus and we all do. I haven't abandoned
24 the City of Scranton nor will I ever, ever
25 ever. God bless yas and I'll see you next

1 week.

2 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else
3 that would like to address council?

4 MR. ELLMAN: My pants are falling
5 down, boy, that would be -- Council, last
6 week a friend of mine told me that I was out
7 of order talking about the Steve Corbett and
8 so forth. I think what was out of order was
9 the way his show spews forth all of this
10 filth on those that oppose him and certainly
11 Mr. DeNaples and Mr. Marino don't need
12 anyone to defend them, certainly not Ronnie
13 Ellman, but these two men probably do more
14 the first couple of minutes after they wake
15 up every morning than Steve Corbett has ever
16 done for this city and this county and this
17 state the rest of his life, and there won't
18 be no more said about that.

19 Now, I guess I'll get back to these
20 greedy deadbeat parasites that are eating up
21 our tax base. The Scranton Club sold for
22 \$700,000, they owned it 30 or 35 years why
23 can't we go after them for some money? If
24 they -- if they was a bunch of phoneys
25 that's a good example.

1 You know, I think you five people
2 need Mr. Hughes to really go into the
3 qualifications to be tax exempt. There must
4 be hundreds of them and between the city and
5 the county and they are supposed to be
6 investigated every four years and reviewed
7 and they are supposed to -- supposed to have
8 a product.

9 Last week this Paul Mansour bought
10 two more pieces of property for \$220,000
11 that were on the tax rolls condemned for
12 this Lackawanna Institute. The Lackawanna
13 Institute has I think 13 or 14 pieces of
14 property right now that nothing is being
15 done with it. They don't do nothing. They
16 don't -- they're just not on the tax rolls
17 anymore. The Woolworth site he has 13 or 14
18 years and not a thing is being done with it.
19 You know, if that's not a tax cheat I don't
20 know what it is. If that's not a phony
21 company that is taking the money away from
22 the people of this city I just don't
23 understand why can't he be challenged?

24 Why can't you council challenge this
25 man or any of these phoney's, and the place

1 is full of them? You've got some kind of
2 authority to do something. All he does is
3 plant a couple of trees, we could have
4 a tree service out there cheaper than having
5 16 pieces of property off the tax rolls. He
6 ought to be investigated, you know, but you
7 people -- I know when I am mad about the
8 University, you have been dealing with a
9 priest that lies and that must be an
10 obstacle to start with.

11 I noticed last week I said that the
12 mayor was bragging we got \$2 million out of
13 a \$20 million project, the paper a couple of
14 weeks, I think it was in May, said it was
15 \$33 billion project. You see, they brag one
16 way but when they pay it goes the other way.

17 I know my time is up, but I've had a
18 very knowledgeable businessman tell me that
19 the Recovery Plan is just a complete waste,
20 it's a failure, and I think somebody as
21 knowledgeable and successful tells you that
22 somebody needs to pay some attention and
23 maybe there is a Plan B out there, you know,
24 because all of these years this plan has
25 failed. It's failed us miserably. Instead

1 of going after these multi-million dollar
2 businesses like the University of Scranton I
3 sat there and listened raise this, raise
4 that, raise something else.

5 If they did away with the parking
6 meters and all but six or eight people and
7 the truck and the office and the pensions
8 and the benefits and the salaries, not the
9 parking lots, but that part of it, it would
10 save more money than the parking meters
11 bring in. I was told this by someone from
12 the city. It was ten years ago, eight, ten
13 years ago. There is all kinds of ways, you
14 know, things that aren't being done.

15 You want to save some money get rid
16 of Austin Burke for crying out loud. I have
17 looked at it with my son on his computer you
18 go back 30 or 35 years there isn't a thing
19 in the world positive that they have done
20 for this city. Go look you yourself on a
21 computer. Thank you.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
23 anyone else who would like to address
24 council?

25 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.

1 MOTIONS.

2 MS. EVANS: Mr. Rogan, do you have
3 any comments or motions?

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. Just a
5 few brief comments about PEL's presentation.
6 I would like to express my opposition to
7 much of what was included in the revised
8 Recovery Plan. Just to sum it up, what's
9 included in the packet they gave us is just
10 cut police, cut fire protection, increase
11 the garbage fee and increase taxes.

12 Now, last time when PEL was here
13 they told us that the revised Recovery Plan
14 would mirror the 2011 budget, but council
15 has not received the mayor's budget, we have
16 not comprised our amendments yet, so how do
17 they know -- how can they mirror the 2011
18 budget when it hasn't even been put together
19 yet?

20 Again, a 50 percent property tax
21 increase over four years and the people of
22 Scranton cannot afford it. You know, the
23 people who do have jobs are strapped for
24 cash and unemployment in the 11th
25 congressional district is the highest in the

1 state, Scranton being part of that district.

2 Secondly, I would just like to make
3 a comment about health care costs and about
4 Mercy Hospital. I try not to talk about
5 national issues so much at the meetings, but
6 Mr. Cross said that the health care
7 expenditures will be going up 10 percent
8 year over year, and I don't dispute his
9 numbers at all, and also the other part of
10 it, and his numbers are correct, he is a
11 number's guy, we are people persons up here.
12 We have to look out for the people. You
13 know, it's easy to say, "We are going to
14 raise taxes, we are going raise the garbage
15 fee, we're going to cut police and cut
16 fire," on paper that sounds real easy to do.
17 When you go out and talk to the people in
18 the neighborhoods who are worried about
19 crime, who are worried about keeping their
20 homes, that's where it becomes difficult
21 and, you know, we have to look out for the
22 people. We are not just looking at numbers
23 on a sheet of paper we are looking at
24 people.

25 But getting back to health care,

1 when the Health Care Reform Bill passed we
2 were told that, you know, employers would
3 see reductions in costs. That's not
4 happening and, you know, one of my concerns
5 is that now Mercy Hospital is being put up
6 for sale and for over 100 years the City of
7 Scranton has had a Catholic hospital within
8 it's city limits. Now because of the -- the
9 hospital officials say because of the Health
10 Care Reform Bill it's being put up for sale.
11 Well, that's all I'm going to say about
12 that.

13 And next I have a two citizen's
14 requests: One was for a specific citizen,
15 but I think it applies to a lot of other
16 people with the big rainstorm yesterday, and
17 I have received multiple calls and e-mails
18 from people all over the city that have had
19 problems with, you know, storm water in
20 their neighborhoods, different roads being
21 blocked off because of the storm water and
22 on Cameron Avenue, which we have been
23 talking about for quite some time now, I had
24 received some pictures on my phone last
25 night and that road was so flooded the

1 person had pictures of their yard, the
2 backyard, and nobody should have to live
3 like that in this city, and his request was
4 that we would ask Mr. Brazil to come in for
5 a caucus, and not only specific to his
6 issue, about if anybody else has a issue
7 with flooding in other parts of the city, so
8 if that's agreeable with other members?

9 MS. EVANS: Yes.

10 MR. ROGAN: If we can work it into
11 our schedule and get Mr. Brazil in here.

12 MS. EVANS: Absolutely.

13 MR. ROGAN: I have one other
14 request, a residents report a deplorable
15 condition of the 900 and 1400 block of South
16 Webster Avenue. They state that even though
17 the road is being repaired temporary pave
18 cuts should remain so the road is passable
19 while under construction. Apparently they
20 are not being monitored and residents report
21 they fear damage to their vehicles or loss
22 of control of their vehicles while traveling
23 over the street.

24 And I have a few comments on the
25 Crisp Avenue Bridge, but I'll hold that

1 until we get to that point. Thank you.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

3 Mr. Loscombe, do you have any comments or
4 motions at this time?

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you,
6 Mrs. Evans. I apologize for not being here
7 last week because I was little bit under the
8 weather, feeling much better now, but I
9 do -- I have a list of people I still have
10 to return some calls to. Believe it or not,
11 as Mr. Rogan said, we are called on a daily
12 basis, e-ailed and everything and I just got
13 a bit behind since I wasn't feeling good so
14 those of you who didn't hear back me by the
15 end of this weekend you will all have heard
16 from me so stand tight.

17 And Mr. Rogan just mentioned about a
18 meeting with Mr. Brazil, I was just
19 wondering if we can also include our city
20 engineers since he's a big part of our
21 structural drainage program, so if we could
22 do that. Also.

23 MS. EVANS: Yes.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Also, I want to talk
25 on PEL. It's no big surprise to me their

1 remedies. I think we could have all just
2 filled in the blanks. Raise the taxes,
3 raise the fees, parking, garbage, and cut
4 services. You know, they sold the last
5 Recovery Plan to the voters on the basis of
6 a tax increase that didn't go through, and
7 what happened after it was in? It went
8 through 25 percent tax increase and now
9 looking at one of the resolutions they are
10 looking at another 50 percent, as Mrs. Evans
11 said.

12 When this plan came in initially
13 they went after public safety. The fire
14 department was reduced by 50 at that time
15 and that was supposed to be the big savings,
16 that was supposed to bring our city back.
17 Here it is 18 years later not only 50 men,
18 but I believe there is at least eight to ten
19 men short right now that he hasn't put in,
20 he wants to cut some more -- or they want to
21 cut some more, which impacts or public
22 safety, increase our taxes, and in the mean
23 time, I think Mr. Ancherani had the figures,
24 is the amount of money invested in
25 administrative salaries and positions.

1 have been working harder rather than
2 fighting arbitrations and appeals, and
3 again, Mrs. Evans touched on this, to find
4 more creative innovative ways to bring
5 revenue into the city. They mentioned a
6 couple of items there, but those are studies
7 they did or reports. They should have
8 enough influence themselves and they could
9 get all of the other distressed cities
10 together to work on some of these issues.

11 It appears that they are missing the
12 ball on that. Their answer is continuously
13 raise fees, raise taxes. You know, we can't
14 and I don't want to see anybody's services
15 cut by one person, whether it be garbage,
16 fire, police or clerical. They are the ones
17 that are in the -- in these buildings and on
18 the streets 24 hours a day protecting you,
19 the taxpayers. It's time we have to look at
20 creative revenues and we have to -- another
21 big thing, and it was mentioned again here
22 tonight, we have to real in the authorities
23 to some degree. We are on the hook for a
24 lot of money. The Parking Authority, I
25 mean, down the road and it's starting

1 already, you are going to see Sewer
2 Authority bills coming in. A lot of loans.
3 A lot of big money out there. And there is
4 not a lot of government grants available.

5 A lot of this stuff should have been
6 looked at in the past 18 years not today.
7 They haven't even looked at what's going to
8 happen when these arbitration awards come
9 through. That's not even in their proposed
10 budget here.

11 All I'm saying is we have a hefty
12 job ahead of us here and I believe all of us
13 here are going to do it. We are going to
14 work on it and we are going to present the
15 plan that's going to be beneficial to
16 everyone in this city with the people in
17 this city in mind, not people that we owe or
18 we want to take care of, the people we are
19 going to take care of here is you, the
20 citizens of this city, and that's all I have
21 to say on PEL. Just stay tune for future
22 meetings with PEL.

23 It was mentioned again, and again,
24 we have had some heavy rains again. We have
25 had some situations where there has been

1 flooding incidents, some of them seem to
2 appear in the same areas all of the time.

3 As I mentioned two weeks ago, I have
4 been in meetings with Representative
5 Murphy's Office, Tom Tell, the staff
6 director there has been holding meetings,
7 and I spoke to him today, as a matter of
8 fact on the phone, and he is a little
9 disappointed. Some things haven't been done
10 and that's why we are going to meet with
11 Mr. Brazil and the city engineer because
12 some of it falls back on the city. We have
13 also worked through the state and the Sewer
14 Authority on different issues.

15 But again, some of these are
16 recurring problems and one of them,
17 apparently the parts were ordered several
18 weeks ago, so I will have to contact the
19 Sewer Authority and see what the status is
20 because that was another problem last night.
21 There is other areas such as Laurel Street
22 where there is standing water. I mean, this
23 problem has been there for years and it
24 was -- when George Parker was the engineer
25 he recommended something to the city at that

1 time, it still hasn't been done so I'm going
2 to bringing that up with the engineer and
3 Mr. Brazil when I speak to them on that.
4 These people have been living with these
5 problems for years.

6 Let's see, Bulwer Street the project
7 was completed. 32 of Oak Avenue, the city
8 contacted the constituent, but no resolution
9 has been mentioned, No solution has been
10 mentioned. This is an e-mail I received
11 from Representative Murphy's Office from Tom
12 Tell, who we have been working with on these
13 issues.

14 The 32 of Birney Avenue we all went
15 out there and we met on the situation. I
16 went out there after the -- the last several
17 rains and apparently it appears that the
18 problem is resolved at this point. I'm not
19 saying it can't come back, it was a matter
20 of cleaning some situations out there, some
21 drains and that.

22 15 of Luzerne, that's the one I
23 mentioned that they are waiting for a part
24 for the Sewer Authority for 15th Street.
25 They plan on putting a cross grade across

1 15th street to stop the water from flowing
2 across into the residents. The fire trucks
3 were there pumping last night a couple of
4 residents on Luzerne Street at the end of
5 15th Street.

6 Kosek Avenue, real bad, real rough
7 conditions, we are going to see about --
8 getting the potholes filled and some
9 blacktop there. The residents have put up
10 with that for quite awhile.

11 Let's see here, again, North Cameron
12 Avenue. There's a hole big section of
13 Keyser Valley there and it appears that
14 there is no storm drains on the upper side
15 of Keyser Avenue on any of the side streets
16 so everything is rolling right across Keyser
17 Avenue, down into Cameron Avenue, Merrifield
18 Avenue into Dewey Avenue. They had the
19 Linde Creek flood project done several years
20 ago, they just -- the DPW had just completed
21 I believe it was the 4 and 500 blocks of
22 North Cameron Avenue, they ran some
23 underground drainage, but this is lower and
24 everything is still coming in here and, you
25 know, a frequent speaker here, I know there

1 is a retired police officer, his basement is
2 flooded every time we have a heavy rain like
3 we did last night and it's just getting --
4 these people are getting frustrated.

5 We have to come up with a resolution
6 for that the state is working on something
7 on Keyser Avenue and they are going to widen
8 it and everything, but that might be a year
9 or two away. We have to come up with some
10 immediate solutions, and that's also going
11 to be discussed.

12 Watson and Smith Place in West Side,
13 another area, again, lack of manholes. And
14 Luzerne and Meridian which is notorious down
15 at the bottom there, bottom of the hill by
16 Burger King, that place. That's another
17 perennial problem and it actually goes down
18 lower on Luzerne Street a lot of people
19 their yards get flooded down below.

20 I mean, these are situations that I
21 think with the meeting of the minds, the
22 engineer and our Department of Public Works
23 and the Sewer Authority, whatever, we could
24 all work together and resolve these, at
25 least give the people that live in these

1 areas some peace of mind after all of these
2 years, and that's all I have. Thank you.

3 MS. EVANS: Mr. Loscombe, could I
4 add to that list?

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

6 MS. EVANS: A report that I received
7 today it's the intersection of Fisk Street
8 and North Washington Avenue, a property on
9 the corner was flooded last night during the
10 rainstorm and a number of the homes on Fisk
11 Street have had not only property flooding
12 but basement flooding as well. I believe in
13 the past, within the last year very likely,
14 the Sewer Authority was up there and they
15 did a little bit of work, you know, maybe
16 cleaned out the storm drains and etcetera
17 and it helped for awhile, but we were told
18 at the time that one of the root causes of
19 this is coming from Marywood University, and
20 something was supposed to have -- I can't
21 recall right now, something was supposed to
22 have occurred eventually in terms of the
23 University to try to alleviate that flooding
24 problem. So when you are -- when you
25 together with Mr. Swanson and Mr. Brazil and

1 Mr. Tell, you know, if that can once again
2 be looked into and if maybe you could remind
3 Mr. Swanson about that. He may actually
4 recall what the situation was with Marywood
5 University and that particular area that's
6 getting all of this flooding and runoff.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Okay. I'll take care
8 of that. Also, I just cut off a little too
9 quick, I did want to say, you know, the
10 prior rain storms I had been out there, DPW
11 had their crews, I saw them hand digging
12 some of the manholes and moving the stuff
13 away, trying to clear the leaves, they were
14 spread pretty thin, they were doing the best
15 they could, and I applaud them for their
16 effort.

17 And also as I related, Gene Skeleton
18 from the Sewer Authority had sent me this
19 list of basins that they had cleaned prior
20 to that rain storm, the week before last,
21 but again, these might be temporary
22 solutions. We have to come up with a
23 permanent solution and eliminate all of this
24 extra work, eliminate a lot of problems for
25 people because a lot of these people their

1 insurance doesn't cover the damage, so it's
2 devastating. So I just hope we can come up
3 with, you know, we work together and we can
4 come up with some resolutions for the
5 benefit of our residents, and that's it.
6 Thank you.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.
8 Councilman Joyce, do you have any comments
9 or motions at this time?

10 MR. JOYCE: Just a few. As
11 Mrs. Krake explained earlier, I would be
12 commenting on the 888 funds tonight. As you
13 may know, two meetings ago I sent a request
14 to the tax office for a breakdown of the
15 \$557,000 that was sent from the tax office
16 to the city that was allocated -- or that
17 was entitled 888 funds.

18 In case you may not have caught that
19 meeting, basically 888 funds they consist of
20 a 1 percent tax collected from residents
21 that work in the City of Scranton that do
22 not live here and do not have a municipal
23 wage tax. From that \$557,000, approximately
24 \$519,000 of that 557 are 888 funds from
25 2009. Approximately \$38,000 of the \$557,000

1 consist of funds between the years of 2004
2 and 2008.

3 Just to give you an idea of the
4 breakdown by year typically how much
5 Scranton receives from this type of
6 funding-- or this type of tax rather: 2004,
7 the city received roughly \$550,000; in 2005,
8 it was roughly \$481,000; and 2006 it was
9 roughly \$494,000; in 2007 it was roughly
10 \$512,000; in 2008 it was roughly \$570,000;
11 and in 2009 the amount is approximately
12 \$518,000, so that's just an update from the
13 tax office.

14 And also as you know tonight we will
15 be voting to amend the Home Rule Charter to
16 allow for the bidding of professional
17 services and, once again, I would like to
18 state that I am very pleased that we are
19 taking that step and I truly believe that
20 this is the right thing that we are doing
21 here.

22 Secondly, also as you may know, we
23 are directed by the Home Rule Charter to
24 have an independent audit by May 31. Our
25 independent auditor being Rossi & Rossi sent

1 numerous updates regarding information that
2 was to be completed by the BA Office. Some
3 of these have been completed, some have not
4 and, in fact, it's possible that all are
5 complete by now.

6 However, subsequently, when updates
7 were sent from Rossi & Rossi Council also
8 requested information as to why information
9 was being provided late and also for
10 projected dates of when various items that
11 the auditor needed to complete the audit
12 would be provided.

13 Unfortunately, it's now -- well, I
14 wouldn't say unfortunately it's October 12,
15 but unfortunately it's October 12 and we do
16 not have a completed audit and this is at
17 this point from a quick calculation four and
18 a third months past the date that the Home
19 Rule Charter provides.

20 In addition to this, I just want to
21 state for the record that the business
22 administrator has not responded to even one
23 of the various requests that we had sent as
24 a council for information regarding the late
25 items and just to give you a brief

1 background, I would say on a monthly basis
2 Rossi & Rossi provides us with a list of
3 things that are outstanding that the BA's
4 Office needs to provide and I believe the
5 most recent update, if I could refer to
6 Mrs. Krake, I believe it was sometime in
7 early September or late August when we sent
8 out our last request and we requested that a
9 response was provided at some point in
10 September.

11 However, the fact that it's October
12 12 and we don't have a completed audit it's
13 not following the Home Rule Charter, and I
14 think it's about time that this -- that we
15 get this done. So with this in mind,
16 Mrs. Krake, can you please send a letter to
17 Mr. Renda again asking if all of the
18 outstanding items that Rossi & Rossi had
19 previously informed us of have been
20 resolved.

21 In addition, if you could also add
22 to that request if he would provide us with
23 a date or a time frame by when council can
24 expect to receive a completed audit.

25 In addition, Mrs. Krake, can you

1 also please send another request to NCC
2 asking for a breakdown of all delinquent
3 real estate taxes collected in 2007, 2008,
4 and 2009. In this breakdown, can you please
5 request that they provide the information
6 broken down into three categories: The face
7 value of the delinquent tax that's owed; the
8 interest that was collected; and also the
9 penalty that NCC imposes. I believe that we
10 sent out requests similar to this nature
11 before, however, I don't believe that we
12 received any responses, and correct me if
13 I'm wrong.

14 MS. KRAKE: No.

15 MR. JOYCE: But being that budget
16 season is right around the corner, I think
17 this is something that would be very, very
18 useful to council and that I believe is
19 sorely needed in order to generate accurate
20 figures.

21 And I just wanted to make a few
22 comments regarding PEL's presentation
23 tonight. I think, you know, I don't agree
24 with many of the aspects of the presentation
25 as echoed by some of my colleagues,

1 Mr. Rogan, Councilman Loscombe, the whole
2 presentation is basically raising fees,
3 raises taxes and cutting services, and I
4 don't think that that's the solution that we
5 should be looking at. I think we should be
6 looking at many different alternative
7 revenue streams and I think that we need to
8 look into the past to see, you know,
9 everything that we have done and learn from
10 the mistakes that we may have made in the
11 past and look to the future in order to put
12 together some tactical solutions that don't
13 cause such a great burden to the taxpayer.
14 And that's all I have for tonight.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Evans, can I
16 just add one thing?

17 MS. EVANS: Yes.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: One other impact from
19 not having the audit complete yet is
20 something that we had questioned a couple of
21 weeks ago, the fire truck that we had
22 approved several months according to go our
23 response when we had inquired what was of
24 the status on the fire truck, Fire Chief Tom
25 Davis stated that they had to wait until the

1 audit was done because it was based on our
2 audit report, so they haven't even ordered
3 the truck yet. We've already lost a half a
4 year protecting our citizens with a piece of
5 equipment that we have already approved
6 because we don't have a complete audit yet.
7 So, I mean, that's just one thing that's
8 impacted. I'm just curious as to what else
9 has been impacted by the lack of our audit
10 at this point. That's all I have to say.
11 Thank you.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Maybe I'll
13 just add one more impact to what you were
14 saying, I think it's also very difficult to
15 design budgets and to design revised
16 Recovery Plans in the absence of the most
17 recent audit, that being for the fiscal year
18 2009.

19 Good evening. Since early 2010 this
20 council has worked aggressively to save
21 taxpayers' dollars, apply accountability and
22 transparency to city government, solve the
23 homeowner's problems, restore respect and
24 decorum to council chambers and research the
25 paper trails of the finances of Scranton.

1 While fulfilling it's obligation to
2 work cooperatively with the mayor and his
3 administration, council asks questions,
4 examines information, and demands answers
5 before it approves legislation that impacts
6 you, the taxpayers, and sometimes holds
7 legislation until pertinent information and
8 answers are located.

9 The power of city council is limited
10 to legislation, and legislation can control
11 the purse strings, as you will continue to
12 see throughout the remainder of 2010 and
13 even more significantly in 2011. City
14 council is one member of a strong and
15 talented team consisting of Council
16 Solicitor Boyd Hughes, City Clerk Nancy
17 Krake, Assistant City Clerk Cathy Carrera,
18 and staff member Jamie Marciano.

19 Research, planning and development
20 of legislation for the benefit of the
21 taxpayers are daily practices and among
22 numerous ongoing projects. I'd like to
23 present one example of our efforts tonight,
24 and I did allude to this earlier this
25 evening during the PEL caucus. City council

1 recognized that a sizable and questionable
2 sum of money is provided to the Scranton
3 Parking Authority annually while
4 simultaneously hundreds of free garage
5 parking spaces have been given to the
6 Connell building, the Commonwealth Medical
7 College and the Hilton Hotel, thereby,
8 negatively impacting parking revenue.

9 At the same time, the Parking
10 Authority was unable to balance it's 2009
11 and 2010 budgets without scurrying for
12 additional borrowing during the third and
13 fourth quarters of those fiscal years
14 despite it's \$35 million bond issue in 2007.
15 This bond issues includes an agreement by
16 the city to pledge full faith and credit of
17 taxation to provide payment if the Parking
18 Authority is unable to meet it's financial
19 obligations. A pledge of full faith and
20 credit can translate to tax increases for
21 you.

22 As a result, city council wanted a
23 closer look into the finances and operations
24 of the Parking Authority. Since
25 representatives and officials of the Parking

1 Authority would not attend a public caucus
2 meeting, council requested and received a
3 prospectus from the Scranton Parking
4 Authority. Council Solicitor Boyd Hughes
5 determined from that prospectus that the
6 annual budget of the Scranton Parking
7 Authority must be approved by Scranton City
8 Council.

9 This interesting fact was never
10 revealed to any council to my knowledge and
11 Scranton Parking Authority budgets are not
12 approved by city council in the past. As a
13 result, council notified the Scranton
14 Parking Authority and the city legal
15 department that legislation must be
16 submitted to city council for it's
17 consideration and approval of the 2011
18 Parking Authority budget.

19 Council anticipates that there will
20 be forthcoming changes to that budget in
21 order to better ensure that the financial
22 debt of the parking authority will not fall
23 on the backs of Scranton taxpayers.

24 Next, earlier in 2010 my council
25 colleagues and I met with the mayor to

1 discuss health care arbitration awards
2 against the administration that stated the
3 city had acted in bad faith. We asked the
4 mayor not to appeal the awards and to save
5 tax dollars that would be wasted on
6 attorneys and appeals. Council's advice
7 fell on deaf ears and the mayor chose to
8 appeal to the Court of Common Pleas.

9 Recently, Judge O'Brien of the
10 Common Pleas Court denied the city's
11 petition to vacate both the elite and the
12 health insurance co-pay arbitration awards
13 and ruled in favor of the police and fire
14 unions in these two cases. The interest on
15 the health insurance co-pay is mounting from
16 the date of the first violation and the city
17 is also responsible for attorney fees.

18 Since the State Department of
19 Community and Economic Development
20 intervened on behalf of the city in at least
21 one of those two cases, it seems likely that
22 the city will once again appeal and, in
23 fact, tonight during the PEL caucus we
24 learned from DCED that the city has decided
25 to appeal both cases further flushing

1 taxpayer dollars down the toilet.

2 While the clock ticks, the costs
3 grow for all of us. And let the record show
4 by correspondence to the mayor, I know we
5 already put DCED and PEL on notice during
6 the caucus, but by correspondence to the
7 mayor that city council does not support an
8 appeal of Judge O'Brien's decision.

9 Union health care is granted by
10 contract, whereas, nonunion health care is
11 not. If the administration is looking for
12 health care savings it can certainly work
13 through the Health Care Committee and it can
14 certainly look to cut where it currently and
15 lawfully is able to do so.

16 Next, I was pleased to learn that
17 vital firefighting equipment, three aerial
18 proximity warning devices which detect
19 electrical current in power lines will soon
20 be purchased. However, it's been nearly
21 three years since the death of a Scranton
22 firefighter, and for those years the city
23 was aware of the need. The equipment should
24 are been purchased immediately and paid for
25 by cutting frivolous items within the

1 budget. The mayor stated that the city is
2 always trying improve safety for
3 firefighters. If that is true, then why did
4 he wait three years? The need was apparent
5 long before the results of the study were
6 issued? Why didn't he fund and purchase
7 this equipment long ago and why is the mayor
8 failing to allocate 2011 CDBG funding for a
9 much needed fire engine?

10 The mayor has made no secret of the
11 fact that he has long desired to cut
12 manpower within the fire department and to
13 close the fire station or engine companies
14 within the City of Scranton and perhaps his
15 declining a purchase of a fire engine in
16 2011 is just that much more foreshadowing of
17 the enactment of this plan to cut fire
18 services in this city.

19 Finally, I have citizens' request
20 for the week: 403 Stafford Avenue, this is
21 the third request, I asked Mr. McGoff to
22 look into this, but I haven't heard anything
23 back from him yet. There is a resident
24 within the house. Neighbors complain of
25 garbage on the porch and tremendous

1 jungle-like overgrowth surrounding the house
2 and encroaching onto residential properties
3 on River Street. Address this as soon as
4 possible before winter weather conditions
5 occur. Neighbors have been patient and
6 awaited update from the city on this
7 eyesore.

8 South Side residents want to know
9 why they have reported the eyesore at the
10 intersection of Meadow Avenue and River
11 Street for three years and it's not been
12 addressed. Numerous letters were sent,
13 photos were taken, the owner's name was sent
14 to LIPS, etcetera, and the posters and
15 overgrowth still remain. Residents now want
16 to know whom this man knows that he is
17 allowed to ignore his property at an
18 entrance to the city.

19 A resident requests action at a
20 condemned property located at 521 Maple
21 Street as in the past, copper tubing was
22 stolen from the basement and the property
23 overgrown and overrun with skunks. Two
24 people ran from the house when you utility
25 crews arrived to shutoff utilities. The

1 property is on the demolition list, but
2 neighbors ask for a date of demolition and
3 assistance from the city if the demolition
4 will not occur until 2011.

5 Residents of East Mountain report
6 that catch basins in the East Mountain area
7 are full. They request that these basins
8 are cleared.

9 Neighbors are very concerned that a
10 condemned house next to the empty lot at the
11 intersection of Meadow Avenue and River
12 Street may now have residents. Just
13 yesterday, Monday, October 11, a moving van
14 was observed removing items from the house
15 and another was observed moving items in.
16 Also, neighbors reported a police presence
17 at the scene. Please provide an update on
18 this property as soon as possible.

19 City residents report clogged storm
20 drains on Mulberry Street.

21 And the final request I have already
22 spoken with Councilman Loscombe about
23 previously under motions, and that is it.
24 Mrs. Krake.

25 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. SALE OF TAX

1 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
2 225 REAR ST. FRANCIS CABRINI AVENUE,
3 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX MAP NO.
4 14518-070-03701 TO SHAWN SMITH, 224-226 ST.
5 FRANCIS CABRINI AVENUE, SCRANTON,
6 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, FOR THE CONSIDERATION
7 OF \$2,600.00.

8 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
9 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
10 introduced into it's proper committee.

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. JOYCE: Second.

13 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
14 those in favor of introduction signify by
15 saying aye.

16 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

18 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

19 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
20 have it and so moved.

21 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AMENDING FILE OF
22 COUNCIL NO. 67, 2009 - ENTITLED "AN
23 ORDINANCE AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 123,
24 2007, ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
25 THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF

1 THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
2 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED
3 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
4 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (AS AMENDED) TO BE
5 FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
6 GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT
7 PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY
8 SHELTER GRANT (ESG) PROGRAM", BY AMENDING
9 THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND THE 2008 ACTION
10 PLAN TO INCLUDE NEW FUNDING UNDER TITLE XII
11 OF THE FEDERAL AMERICAN RECOVERY AND
12 REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 ("RECOVERY ACT")
13 FOR THE HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID
14 RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP) AND THE COMMUNITY
15 DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-RECOVERY (CDBG-R)
16 THAT RESULTED FROM THE RECOVERY ACT" IN
17 ORDER TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CDBG-R
18 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT
19 OF \$37,500.00 TO THE CDBG-R CRISP AVENUE
20 BRIDGE PROJECT.

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

24 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

25 MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MS. EVANS: On the question?

2 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question.

3 This is something that I have been pushing
4 for since January and I know my colleagues
5 that were on council longer than me for even
6 longer than that, my question is, I'm glad
7 to see there is legislation on the agenda
8 regarding the Crisp Avenue Bridge, but I was
9 under the impression that this work was
10 supposed to begin by now.

11 Mrs. Krake, could we please send a
12 request to OECD and any other department
13 that may have this information to find out
14 when the project will be begin?

15 MS. EVANS: And maybe I can explain
16 just briefly to you what had happened, some
17 of the funds that were set aside for the
18 project were used by I believe the city
19 engineer for other unforeseen costs that
20 were involved and as a result total funding
21 that was necessary at the time had been
22 deleted, drawn down, and as a result OECD is
23 transferring from CDBG-R the necessary
24 amounts of money into the Crisp avenue
25 Bridge Project to get it moving as quickly

1 as possible, so that is a good thing because
2 I share your exhaustion and frustration with
3 the Crisp Avenue Bridge and the five years
4 worth of problems and delays and excuses
5 that all of those city residents have been
6 through.

7 MR. ROGAN: It seems every time, you
8 know, we think the project is going to start
9 there is another roadblock that comes up and
10 then yet another and another and I don't
11 know why the administration has been putting
12 this project on the back burner for all of
13 these years because there a lot of people
14 that live up on that area of the city and
15 there is only one way to get up to that
16 section of West Scranton now. This bridge
17 is desperately needed, but this is a good
18 step.

19 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else on
20 the question? All those in favor of
21 introduction signify by saying aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

24 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. AUTHORIZING THE
3 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
4 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO GRANT
5 CONTRACT NUMBER C000047525 WITH THE
6 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ("DCED") THROUGH THE
8 ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM TO ACCEPT AND
9 DISBURSE GRANT FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF
10 SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

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

14 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

15 MR. JOYCE: Second.

16 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
17 those in favor of introduction signify by
18 saying aye.

19 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
23 have it and so moved.

24 MS. KRAKE: 6-A. NO BUSINESS AT
25 THIS TIME.

1 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
2 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -
3 FOR ADOPTION-FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 41, 2010 -
4 AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY
5 OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, SECTION 6-14
6 CONTRACTS, SUBSECTION (C) TO PUBLICLY BID
7 FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

8 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
9 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
10 passage of Item 7-A.

11 MR. ROGAN: Second.

12 MS. EVANS: On the question?
13 Council fought for this for months, council
14 waited for cooperation from the
15 administration on this for many months and
16 we are very pleased in conjunction with the
17 administration to pass this legislation
18 tonight. Roll call, please?

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

24 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

1 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
2 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

3 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
4 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR
5 ADOPTION-FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 42, 2010 -
6 CREATING AND
7 ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO.
8 02.229597 ENTITLED "POLICE, FIRE AND
9 AMBULANCE REPORT FEES" FOR THE RECEIPT
10 AND DISBURSEMENT OF THE REPORT FEES
11 COLLECTED PER FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 28,
12 2010 (AS AMENDED).

13 MS. EVANS: What is the
14 recommendation of the Chair for the
15 Committee on Finance?

16 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
17 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
18 passage of Item 7-B.

19 MR. ROGAN: Second.

20 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
21 call, please? Again, I'm very proud of the
22 efforts of this council. It's because of
23 these efforts that monies will be placed
24 into this account for the purchase of police
25 vehicles and other equipment needed by the

1 Scranton Police Department. Roll call,
2 please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

10 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
11 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
14 RESOLUTION NO. 40, 2010 - ACCEPTING A ONE
15 THOUSAND (\$1,000.00) DOLLAR CONTRIBUTION
16 FROM SANOFI PASTEUR PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF
17 SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT.

18 MS. EVANS: What is the
19 recommendation of the Chair for the
20 Committee on Finance?

21 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
22 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
23 passage of Item 7-C.

24 MR. ROGAN: Second.

25 MS. EVANS: On the question?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the question,
2 I would like to -- we are on "C"; right?

3 MS. EVANS: Yes.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: I lost my place. I
5 would like to thank Sanofi Pasteur for
6 continuous contributions to the police and
7 fire departments in Scranton. I mean,
8 monetarily-wise and the AED's we approved
9 prior to, so I just wanted to personally
10 thank them.

11 MS. EVANS: And that goes for all of
12 council. Roll call, please?

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

20 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
21 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

22 MS. KRAKE: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
23 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
24 FOR ADOPTION- RESOLUTION NO. 41, 2010 -
25 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

1 CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
2 EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH
3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES TO PERFORM AN
4 ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING
5 CHOICE.

6 MS. EVANS: What is the
7 recommendation of the Chair for the
8 Committee on Community Development?

9 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the
10 Committee on Community Development, I
11 recommend final passage of Item 7-D.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

13 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
14 call, please?

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

20 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
23 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

24 If there is no further business,
25 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

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MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

MS. EVANS: Meeting adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER