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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, December 7, 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  
(Not present)

PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF  
(Not present)

FRANK JOYCE

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

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

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

12 MR. ROGAN: I received a phone call  
13 from Mrs. Evans this morning, she is not  
14 feeling well and Mr. McGoff also called in,  
15 he is not able to attend tonight. Please  
16 dispense with the reading of the minutes.

17 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. NO  
18 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

19 MR. ROGAN: We also do not have  
20 clerk's notes tonight as well, right?  
21 Before citizens' participation begins, I see  
22 we have a very large crowd today so I would  
23 ask that everyone would stick to the five  
24 minute speaking time, and our first speaker  
25 is Fay Franus.

1 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.  
2 Last week, Mr. Rogan, you weren't in favor  
3 of Council tabling the loan from OECD. As  
4 chairman of OECD I would think you would be  
5 the first person that would want this tabled  
6 until this investigation. I just have to  
7 wonder why you did that.

8 Another thing, I read in the paper  
9 where you said the city is in bad shape and  
10 you really didn't think you could afford  
11 much more for the animal shelter. Well, you  
12 can't be too much of an animal lover. What  
13 is the worth of an animal? You couldn't  
14 give me \$1 million for my dog, \$6 million.  
15 A person is heartbroken if their dog gets  
16 lost, and you know what they do when their  
17 dog gets lost, the first thing they do is  
18 call the Humane Society or the Griffin Pond  
19 Animal Shelter to make sure that maybe  
20 somebody turned it in, but now if you don't  
21 find the money, council doesn't find the  
22 money to make this work right, the dogs will  
23 be roaming the streets because the animal  
24 control officer will say, "Well, I don't  
25 have the \$50 to give for this animal,

1                   therefore, I can't pick it up for you, a  
2                   stray."

3                   MR. ROGAN:   Mrs. Franus --

4                   MS. FRANUS:   And I want to have my  
5                   time --

6                   MR. ROGAN:   -- the fee only applies  
7                   to the city, not to private individuals.  
8                   The \$50 per animal fee is being asked of the  
9                   city.

10                  MS. FRANUS:   I know, but if they are  
11                  the stray, aren't they supposed to pay for  
12                  that?

13                  MR. ROGAN:   I'm saying you as a  
14                  private citizen.

15                  MS. FRANUS:   No, no. I'm talking  
16                  about if they pick up -- suppose I was  
17                  walking down the street and I saw a stray  
18                  and I called the animal control officer, I  
19                  would hope they could come and pick it up.  
20                  I mean, I was a meter reader, I found many  
21                  strays and I would call the animal control  
22                  officer every day so that stray wouldn't be  
23                  mine, so my point is I absolutely think this  
24                  council should could whatever they have to  
25                  do.

1 Mrs. Evans has quite a bit of  
2 experience with budgets, I would think with  
3 her help she can possibly help you guys find  
4 a way to find this money because it's very,  
5 very, very important. I think you could cut  
6 a lot more salaries and the crony positions  
7 that the mayor has to make this possible. I  
8 just know, I'm not really going to take any  
9 excuses for this. This is too important.  
10 Either you love animals or you don't I  
11 guess, but if you do you won't let this  
12 happen. I really don't want it hear we  
13 can't afford it. I just don't. Because,  
14 like I said, every person's animal is worth  
15 the world to them, it's their life.

16 Now, on another matter, the article  
17 that was in the paper today that the mayor  
18 is going to veto this or did veto this and  
19 he is going to take it to Court, well, the  
20 Home Rule Charter states this, so that was  
21 just a scare tactic on his part about it not  
22 being right with the Home Rule Charter. It  
23 says, Section 203 of the Home Rule Charter  
24 says, "Allocation of certain powers and  
25 duties, all powers and duties of the city

1 government which are legislative in nature  
2 shall be exercised and performed by  
3 council."

4 If council does not approve a  
5 contract he cannot enter into it. To do so  
6 is a violation of Section 609 of Home Rule  
7 Charter. It makes me wonder, suppose that  
8 council didn't amend it, okay, and they just  
9 voted against it, what would the mayor do?  
10 I want to know why does the mayor send it to  
11 council for approval, disapproval, anything  
12 if by chance they don't go along with it why  
13 send it to council if it doesn't matter what  
14 they do? Does that make any sense. I  
15 personally think that Mayor Doherty is  
16 complete -- it really eats him alive that  
17 Janet Evans is so intelligent and can handle  
18 all of the stuff in the city and all of the  
19 financial matters and really run a business.  
20 He can't take it that she, a woman, is as  
21 smart if not smarter, I'm saying smarter  
22 than him. He can't deal with it. That's  
23 just my opinion.

24 Now, another thing I heard, I just  
25 heard this, the city clerical workers, I

1 believe there is 40 of them, they come to  
2 work in the morning, they have to put their  
3 hand on a machine that count when they are  
4 here and when they leave for lunch, which I  
5 agree with, I think everybody should do  
6 that, it's accountability, I think it's  
7 great, but when city administration workers  
8 walk right alongside of them and don't have  
9 to do the same thing that's blatant  
10 discrimination. Wouldn't be me. I would  
11 never do it. No way ever would I do that.  
12 I think somebody needs to call the ACLU or  
13 something because how do they get away with  
14 it?

15 I also heard a rumor again, but  
16 maybe it's going to be true, that Lisa Moran  
17 might be going to the Sewer Authority and  
18 they may be creating a job for her as head  
19 of human resources. Well, let me tell you  
20 something, creating a job so Mayor Doherty  
21 may lose that position but they are going to  
22 make sure she gets another job so how are  
23 you really saving money? Now, this may not  
24 be true, but it probably is. And not just  
25 that our sewer rates just went up and they



1 have the guts to create a job.

2 Please, do something about finding  
3 the money for the animal shelter. Top  
4 priority. More important than a couple of  
5 jobs.

6 MR. ROGAN: Mrs. Franus, I want to  
7 respond before you leave the podium. The  
8 reason why I voted against tabling the loan  
9 was council receives the agenda on Friday  
10 and our meeting is on Tuesday, so we really  
11 only have three, three and a half days to do  
12 our research. I didn't have all the facts.  
13 I didn't want to put it on the table and let  
14 it sit there, I just wanted it to be move  
15 forward to next week so we can collect the  
16 facts and give it an up or down vote.

17 MS. FRANUS: Well, why is it that  
18 the rest of council members thought it was  
19 important to table it? Why did they think  
20 it was important to table it and yet you  
21 didn't?

22 MR. ROGAN: Well, I understand where  
23 they were coming from, but --

24 MS. FRANUS: How come they weren't  
25 coming from where you were coming from?

1 MR. ROGAN: That's why we have five  
2 separate people on here.

3 MS. FRANUS: Well, let's put it this  
4 way, I don't agree with your thinking.

5 MR. ROGAN: That's fine. I just  
6 wanted to explain myself.

7 MS. FRANUS: Well, I don't think it  
8 means anything because people listening last  
9 week really don't understand you, chairman  
10 of OECD especially, you should let this be  
11 investigated as thoroughly as possible.  
12 Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

14 MR. JOYCE: Just to make a quick  
15 comment about the animal shelter, and I know  
16 I have been working quite a bit on going  
17 through the city finances and budget work,  
18 and right now in the budget that was sent  
19 down to council there is approximately  
20 \$6,500 allocated to donate to the Griffin  
21 Pond Animal Shelter which by far isn't  
22 enough to cover the \$50 per animal fee in  
23 Scranton. As we have heard from Griffin  
24 Pond Animal Shelter that I would say there  
25 is between maybe 700 to 1,000 animals

1 brought up there by the animal control  
2 officers a year, and make no mistake, there  
3 will be extra funding allocated above that  
4 \$6,500 to take care of that need, and that's  
5 all.

6 MR. ROGAN: I would also just like  
7 to say on the animal shelter in the past the  
8 city has donated I believe it was \$9,500 per  
9 year.

10 MR. JOYCE: I think it was about  
11 \$9,000.

12 MR. ROGAN: \$9,000 per year and now  
13 we are -- with the fee of \$50 per animal it  
14 would cost about \$50,000 per year, so as you  
15 can see we are looking to find the money,  
16 and I mentioned in the paper that seems  
17 pretty steep. It's just the fact that I'm  
18 looking to save money everywhere we could.  
19 Obviously, you know, we care about animals  
20 and stray animals in our neighborhoods are a  
21 big problem. I live in West Side and in my  
22 neighborhood it's a very big problem and the  
23 way to address we can't just let the animals  
24 stay out on the cold streets we have to  
25 bring them somewhere and take care of them.

1                   It just was surprising that all of a  
2 sudden after all of these years that it hit  
3 us all at once. That's why it was  
4 surprising to me. I never said that I  
5 opposed it, it was just came surprisingly  
6 and, you know, it's money that we have to  
7 come up. Obviously, as Ms. Franus  
8 mentioned, we are working on cutting the fat  
9 from the budget. We are working on cutting  
10 administrative salaries, and we are working  
11 on putting the money where it's going to  
12 benefit people, and that's all I have to  
13 say. Andy Sbaraglia.

14                   MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
15 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I  
16 read in the paper that the mayor is going to  
17 veto the agreement with the cable company.  
18 If he vetoes that agreement then we have no  
19 franchise agreement with the cable company.  
20 Does that mean we can open up our Scranton  
21 area to other cable companies if there is  
22 some available? But basically I read the  
23 agreement, the fact is they are giving us 5  
24 percent and I don't know I believe it's  
25 three or four hundred thousand for this EG

1 Channel, everything else is just legal  
2 terminology, so what in that agreement that  
3 the mayor doesn't like, the 5 percent, maybe  
4 he wants to cut it to 1 percent? Have a  
5 party with the people from the cable company  
6 or what? But it's -- you can charge up to 5  
7 percent. As you know the cable fee went up  
8 because they raised the fees, so hence any  
9 time there is a raise in the cable fees the  
10 city makes more money because we collect 5  
11 percent, so somewhere along the lines I  
12 don't know how the mayor can sit there and  
13 say we are going to veto this agreement  
14 unless he can find out what he doesn't like  
15 specifically in this agreement other than he  
16 can't control the peg channels, and if  
17 that's the case we'll tell him we don't want  
18 a dictatorship. In China they control the  
19 news, not in America, so if he wants to do  
20 all of that he should just change countries.

21 Now, it looks good, the figures look  
22 good on your program for Street Smart or  
23 parking meters and so forth and so on, how  
24 many people use the meters at Chamberlain or  
25 General Dynamics?

1 MR. ROGAN: No one.

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: That's right. Now,  
3 look at the penalty fees that they gave us.  
4 They said we collect \$366,000 and when we  
5 put this knew system in we are going to  
6 collect \$3,272,000 in fines. How many  
7 people do you think is going to come into  
8 Scranton? Exactly why do we use the meters  
9 at all in Scranton? We go to the doctors,  
10 we go to the lawyers, we go to the  
11 restaurants. Them are people that's coming  
12 into the city spending their money in the  
13 city.

14 You are not old enough to remember  
15 when we had free parking way back when, when  
16 the malls first came out, okay? If it  
17 wasn't that we had lost this revenue we  
18 would city still have free parking. Now, of  
19 course, you realize we did have some people  
20 who park at the meter and leave their car  
21 all day. This system, of course, would  
22 probably eliminate them, but I don't think a  
23 lot of people -- with these fines people  
24 ain't going to come here. There is no  
25 reason really to come to Scranton other than

1 if you like a particular dentist or a  
2 doctor, you can go anywhere. You go up to  
3 Wal-Mart in Taylor, Wal-Mart in Dickson  
4 City, Wal-Marts everywhere. Even our mall,  
5 when he came before you and tell you the  
6 mall is dying and they have free parking and  
7 they still can't make it.

8 You don't really want to do much, I  
9 realize we need the money, I believe in  
10 really driving out of the ballpark, but,  
11 man, I would think -- you know what I don't  
12 like these figures at all, and I think they  
13 would have an adverse affect about people  
14 coming in doing business in Scranton. I  
15 would avoid it and I think a lot of people  
16 would, but besides that point it's a good  
17 position to be looking at.

18 But you never looked at the problem,  
19 you know where we are able to tax the  
20 lawyers, the doctors, and that same 3.4  
21 piece of legislation that you passed anybody  
22 that does a service in Scranton can be  
23 taxed, in other words, all those doctors in  
24 the hospitals can be taxed. You should look  
25 into it or find out why our tax collector

1           isn't looking into it and make sure we have  
2           the legal ramifications to go after it. You  
3           are talking about millions and millions of  
4           dollars from them people in the city. I  
5           just had operation, well, you did, too. You  
6           saw what the bill was. Somebody made I  
7           think it may have been \$150,000. That money  
8           could be taxed, some of it anyway.

9                         So stay with your out of the  
10           ballpark, that's the only way you can go,  
11           like I said before, I'd like so you break up  
12           the police protection, the fire protection  
13           like some of the other towns did and  
14           charge -- take a look at your millage and  
15           whatever millage we're paying for the fire  
16           department take it off and put a fee on for  
17           that. Thank you.

18                        MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

19                        MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.  
20           Bob Bolus, Scranton. I'd just like to take  
21           a moment, if we can, to remember all of  
22           those today is December 7 and remember all  
23           of our vets and all of people that died on  
24           the December 7, but not only there but  
25           everybody throughout every conflict that we



1 have had if we will take a moment on that,  
2 please, I'd appreciate if everybody could do  
3 that. (Moment of reflection observed.)

4 Thank you. I'm sure they appreciate it.

5 What I'd like to do is start off on  
6 the Griffin Pond Shelter. As an individual  
7 that's had animals pretty much for all of my  
8 lifetime I became very upset. I attended  
9 the meeting on Sunday because we have kind  
10 of pushed the animals to the side. Now, put  
11 them in a hole, give them a shot, through  
12 them in the incinerator, but if you have  
13 owned an animal you would rather have the  
14 animals sometimes more than you would your  
15 own kids. You could beat them, you could  
16 yell at them, you know, and they'll come  
17 back and they'll lick your hand and they'll  
18 lick your face. They give a love that you  
19 can't buy, you can't demand. It's natural.

20 And, Mr. Rogan, I don't know if you  
21 owned a dog or a cat or ever had an animal,  
22 but had you had one I think each and every  
23 one of us here would appreciate the fact  
24 that we need to do something about it. We  
25 can't sweep it under the rug, and I'm sure

1 council after hearing what I heard before is  
2 going to do everything in it's power. I'm  
3 sure with Janet and everything else if it's  
4 there I think it should be given the time to  
5 consider it and see what you do come up  
6 with. If it isn't then I'm sure we could  
7 all come back and criticize you over it, but  
8 I think you should be given the opportunity.

9 I think we should open Nay Aug Park,  
10 the zoo that was closed. It belongs to the  
11 people in this city. Have people volunteer.  
12 The University offered to have educational  
13 things that they brought up in different  
14 schools, kids could come there and take care  
15 of animals. Let the city pick up the cost  
16 there through donations.

17 I mean, Chris Doherty has his own  
18 playground out there. Well, it's lacking  
19 animals, it has everything else but the  
20 animals, and he chased them all out. He  
21 closed it in lieu of selling it for a dollar  
22 for 99 years to Lackawanna College. Well,  
23 that fell through. Well, let's use it for  
24 it's purpose, a visitor's center.  
25 Certainly. Donations? Absolutely. Take

1 care of the animals there, it's our  
2 responsibility. It's not Griffin pond or  
3 the people up there to do it, it's our  
4 responsibility, it's our city. Chris  
5 Doherty doesn't want to pick it up and he  
6 wants to evade the issue. Well, for the  
7 dogs and cat taken to the shelter we need to  
8 receive donations and we need to educate  
9 people on what the animals really are, they  
10 are our true friends. Your children grow up  
11 with them, the animals lay by there and  
12 guard until it's death, protecting your home  
13 or your family.

14 I think we should put \$1.50 fee on  
15 tickets sold at the stadium and the Cultural  
16 Center. Pass a \$2 fee on all county  
17 residents and nonprofits and KOZ's. It's a  
18 fee, we have a garbage fee, that was  
19 illegal, but we got away with it, so we  
20 can't put fees on if you want to. Have  
21 stores add on 50 cents on every sale.

22 We heard about parking meters  
23 tonight, millions of dollars that could be  
24 made, well, how about 25 cents off every  
25 meter that goes towards the pond, okay, it's

1 outside revenue. It's squandered through  
2 the Parking Authority and other places, put  
3 it to a good use, feed the animals that they  
4 care about, but respect the volunteers and  
5 the people that actually do the job.

6 How about fines? A dollar on every  
7 fine, every parking ticket that goes out of  
8 the city we take a dollar off it and add it.  
9 Let the politicians, the judges, the  
10 congressmen and the people who didn't want  
11 to take their pay raise, well, how about  
12 given half of it at least to the shelter to  
13 the animals. It's easy to do. They don't  
14 want to take the raise, they want to give it  
15 away, well, what better place can you give  
16 it than to the animals.

17 How about a \$50 fee throughout the  
18 Commonwealth on every municipality in the  
19 county, not just the City of Scranton  
20 because it's not just the City of Scranton  
21 here that's at issue, it's everywhere in the  
22 county that these animals come from. Let  
23 them pay for it. They can come up with 50  
24 bucks. They can buy road salt, they can do  
25 all of that. If we had saved the \$3 million

1 from the golf course we would use the  
2 interest today and have used it other than  
3 let Chris Doherty squander \$3 million plus  
4 how many thousands in interest.

5 These are only some ideas. These  
6 are only my opinions. People out here they  
7 have no -- we are the animal lovers and I  
8 think everybody in the city and the county  
9 have to recognize that. We will be heard.  
10 Thank you.

11 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

12 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Kathleen Hawley.

14 MS. HAWLEY: Hello. My name is  
15 Katie Hawley and I speak as a former  
16 employee of the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter,  
17 also as a mom of four rescued pets, two dogs  
18 and two cats. My family and I have also  
19 been rescuing animals from the shelters  
20 since I can remember. Our first adoption  
21 was when I was three years old. I don't  
22 know any other way other than to adopt. I'm  
23 also a local spay, neuter and rescue  
24 activist. I am constantly trying to educate  
25 the public on how serious pet over

1 population in our area is.

2 I can speak from experience that the  
3 shelter has almost none of the resources it  
4 requires. Short lives are standard simply  
5 because they do not have the manpower or  
6 equipment to run a sanitary shelter. If  
7 they were able to do something about the  
8 ventilation in the building I feel as though  
9 the odor would not drive so many people out.  
10 There are some shelters that are almost as  
11 sanitary as hospitals and are extremely  
12 welcoming to the public.

13 If the city is willing to drop off  
14 nearly 1,000 dogs this year alone then they  
15 should be willing to make the financial  
16 compensations to care properly for these  
17 animals.

18 I believe that when we die we are  
19 met at bridge by every animal we have come  
20 in contact with throughout our lives and  
21 they decide if we cross. If these animals  
22 are allowed to suffer in these horrible  
23 conditions then I think a lot of us will be  
24 stuck on the other side.

25 I have heard that statistics and

1 numbers are always helpful at city council  
2 meetings so I would like to provide with you  
3 a few. One unspayed female dog can be the  
4 result of 67,000 puppies within six years.  
5 Three unspayed female cats can produce one  
6 million kittens within ten years.

7 Anyone who has ever done any  
8 research on pet over population or anyone  
9 involved with rescues or shelter life knows  
10 full well that every litter born in the  
11 world is a litter euthanized in a shelter  
12 somewhere. It's a ripple affect. Four to  
13 six million pets are euthanized in shelters  
14 ever year and I believe that education is  
15 key to the said truth. Once you are aware  
16 of how serious pet over population is there  
17 really is no argument. Adoption is the only  
18 way. If there were a city ordinance stating  
19 that pet owners spay or neuter their pets by  
20 six to eight months of age literally  
21 millions of innocent lives could be saved.

22 You cannot walk down the street in  
23 Scranton without coming across someone that  
24 breeds their pitbull or knows someone that  
25 does. One of my rescues is the result of

1           irresponsible pitbull breeding and although  
2           he is a phenomenal dog now with an awesome  
3           temperament he suffered major health  
4           problems when I first rescued him as a  
5           puppy. He was taken away his mother way too  
6           soon and was completely malnourished and  
7           starving for affection when I first found  
8           him abandoned in an apartment below me. Not  
9           only did it cost me hundreds of dollars in  
10          vet bills for prescription foods and  
11          antibiotics and such, but I feel as though  
12          my Leroy did not get a fair start in life.

13                        Interaction between mother and pup  
14                        or kitten as well as interaction between  
15                        littermates is crucial for the future of a  
16                        dog or cat. These people breeding and  
17                        putting these sick puppies and kittens out  
18                        to our city have no idea what they are  
19                        doing, have no certifications, no licenses  
20                        and are inexperienced with breeding and  
21                        usually with the breed that they are trying  
22                        to breed and they are also breeding for the  
23                        wrong reasons. Anyone breeding a dog to  
24                        make money is breeding for the wrong reason.  
25                        Breeding done my individuals that actually



1 love a breed are well-educated,  
2 well-experienced certified breeders will  
3 tell you that there is no money to be made  
4 if you are breeding simply for the love of  
5 the breed.

6 If a female is to have any  
7 complications during her pregnancy and a  
8 cesarean is required, I am sure that the  
9 people breeding dogs in their basements and  
10 backyards are not going to be willing to pay  
11 the thousands of dollars to get the  
12 euthanized. Not only that, but these dogs  
13 are selected at random. Some people will  
14 breed their dogs simply because one has a  
15 female and the other has a male.

16 Proper breeding requires extensive  
17 vet records of both maternal and paternal  
18 blood lines and if there is the slightest  
19 notion of an illness or any genetic flaws,  
20 the dogs are pulled from the gene pool and  
21 are no longer allowed to reproduce. The  
22 repercussions of irresponsible breeding are  
23 infinite. With no spay or neuter ordinance,  
24 there are more unwanted, unstable, unhealthy  
25 cats and dogs in the streets being dropped

1 off by the public or by the animal control,  
2 more people remain uneducated on the matter  
3 and put their pet and any offspring they  
4 produce at serious risk of major health  
5 issues and add to an already horrendous  
6 situation.

7 I did work in a shelter. I have  
8 seen the ugly side of this problem. I have  
9 seen too many innocent friendly animals end  
10 up euthanized and put in a plastic bag to  
11 keep quite myself. I believe it would save  
12 the city money to have a spay and neuter  
13 ordinance because there would be a major  
14 reduction in the number of animals needed to  
15 be trapped, chased, found and dropped off.

16 Besides the obvious more reasons  
17 breeding is such a terrible thing, it is the  
18 taxpayers who wind up paying for these  
19 irresponsible breeders because animal  
20 control officers are very needed in the city  
21 overrun with pets.

22 Our landlord required we show vet  
23 record stating that all of our pets had been  
24 spade or neutered and vaccinated which I  
25 feel as though it should be state law. A

1 major reason many landlords require pets to  
2 be spade or neutered is because of  
3 unnecessary infection found in pets that are  
4 not fixed. I propose that there be a city  
5 ordinance state that if you did not adopt  
6 your pet and they are not already spade or  
7 neutered in order to own the pet they must  
8 be fixed. If not, face a fine and if not  
9 willing to pay the fine the animal be  
10 seized. It will save the city thousands of  
11 dollars and save millions of lives to get  
12 these breeder off the streets.

13 Please always remember to spay,  
14 neuter and adopt, and to close I would like  
15 to leave you all with my own top ten spay  
16 and neuter list and attached to the back is  
17 a wonderful article that's very, very well  
18 put together regarding backyard breeders and  
19 puppy mills versus responsible breeding, so  
20 lots of helpful information.

21 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Ozzie Quinn.

22 MR. QUINN: Good evening. Ozzie  
23 Quinn, taxpayers' association. When Mayor  
24 Doherty come into office there was \$2.1  
25 million surplus operating budget and

1 long-term debt was 30 million dollars.  
2 Presently we are looking at that \$5 million  
3 deficit and a long-term debt of \$148  
4 million. Mr. Doherty says he was going to  
5 be able to get nonprofits so he could get  
6 more revenue to pay in lieu of taxes, he  
7 sold the municipal golf course which is  
8 revenue for producing, you don't do that,  
9 and he just ignores whatever he is trying to  
10 do and he never produced any revenue.

11 Now, comes 2011 -- oh, he hired,  
12 yeah, he hired for over a million dollars a  
13 lot of people in this administration. Now,  
14 he wants to -- public safety he wants to cut  
15 down. Office clerks, he wants to cut. The  
16 animals, he wants to cut down. The man is  
17 just a hypocrite. He says that he is there  
18 for the people, but he isn't there for the  
19 people.

20 Now, I looked at the presentation  
21 tonight on Smart Street and it was a very  
22 good presentation and if you looked at it  
23 very closely and if you looked at the  
24 various communities that, you know,  
25 implemented this Smart Street it's a win-win

1                   situation when you look at the revenue it's  
2                   going to produce. Now, that's creative.

3                   You know, I just saw the president,  
4                   I saw governors, I read it and I saw it, the  
5                   mayors they all are saying you got to be  
6                   creative, Mr. Loscombe has been creative.  
7                   The first creative move I have seen in this  
8                   city in the a long time to try to get  
9                   revenue. We commend you on that,  
10                  Mr. Loscombe, I do very much for reaching  
11                  out, because that revenue if we -- if  
12                  somebody was on the ball when Mr. Doherty  
13                  was offered back last year maybe these  
14                  people we wouldn't have to be worried about  
15                  laying people off, and I'm worried about it.  
16                  I'm worried about it. I'm worried about the  
17                  fact that it's public safety, everybody is  
18                  worried about it, and I don't like to see  
19                  people laid off just because of the fact  
20                  that there is a budget that just won't hold  
21                  it, but yet you hold your cronies in there  
22                  and it's not right.

23                  Now, one thing I do -- I have  
24                  noticed, also, the fact that when Mr. Visco  
25                  gave the presentation he did say that it's

1 going to produce economic development as it  
2 has in other cities, and that was a plus,  
3 you know? A lot of people say, yeah, well,  
4 it's going to drive people out of town, but  
5 when you see Wilkes-Barre, as a matter of  
6 fact, just today gave them a positive yes on  
7 this, too. So, you know, 2000 meters spread  
8 throughout the City of Scranton when we say  
9 he surveyed he said 27 of them were broken,  
10 okay, 100 meters he surveyed, so extrapolate  
11 that over 2,000 and find out how many aren't  
12 collecting revenue and which would be  
13 collecting revenue, and I'm one of the  
14 taxpayers. I want to see revenue, so this  
15 is a way I think we can produce it.

16 If it doesn't work, it doesn't work,  
17 but nobody else in this administration is  
18 doing anything to help these people. All he  
19 is doing is spending, spending, spending.  
20 Every time he was able to raise money it was  
21 by refinancing the bonds and that got us  
22 into the mess we are. It's like taking your  
23 credit card going down Boscov's paying off  
24 Boscov's with your Bank of America card and  
25 yet you're think you're free now of Boscov's

1 loan, but it's on your Bank of America card.  
2 That's what he has been doing and we are  
3 winding up here and we should not be arguing  
4 here. We should have enough revenue to go  
5 around in the city.

6 You know, we are losing people,  
7 there is no doubt about it, and we are going  
8 to continue losing people unless we do get  
9 creative like the program that Mr. Loscombe  
10 is trying to bring in here. So, please,  
11 look favorably towards this program and try  
12 to do something for these people, okay,  
13 because it isn't their fault it's the  
14 mayor's fault. Thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Carl Farise.

16 MR. FARISE: Good afternoon,  
17 Council, my name is Carl Farise. I'm a  
18 lifelong resident of the City of Scranton.  
19 It is with a great deal of pride and  
20 pleasure that I can say I live in Scranton.

21 Thank you for this opportunity to  
22 share a few thoughts with you. As a  
23 Christian, I feel plea bound to speak  
24 regarding a matter of the utmost importance  
25 to a vast number of Mercy employees as well

1 as the communities we serve. The matter  
2 before us this day is a possible sale of  
3 Mercy Hospital.

4 Before I go any further, I would  
5 like to thank Mr. Loscombe for attending our  
6 community event. We appreciated you there,  
7 we are happy to see you there.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

9 MR. FARISE: It is with reservation  
10 that I come before you regarding my  
11 employer. Mercy Hospital has provided me  
12 with a living wage for over 33 years. I  
13 have learned many skills, I have met some  
14 incredible people, and have grown in my  
15 faith. I stand before you and say that we,  
16 the employees, managers and labor alike,  
17 provide the best care around the area. Just  
18 look at our record of achievement. Seven  
19 employees have been given a gift of life at  
20 Mercy, some have grown old at Mercy, like  
21 myself, together. Yes, and some have died  
22 at Mercy. Mercy has and always will remain  
23 near and dear to all of us in this  
24 community.

25 Our conflict is not with Catholic



1 Health Partners or our administration at  
2 Mercy of Scranton, as a delegate of our  
3 union, SCIU, I am confident that my thoughts  
4 ambulate the sentiments of our union members  
5 as well as some of our managers at Mercy.

6 We do acknowledge management's  
7 rights to protect their affairs as they see  
8 fit. This is not the issue. Most every  
9 worker I speak to, most every worker I speak  
10 to real concern is what appears to be the  
11 front runner who will take over managing  
12 Mercy Hospital, that's for profit  
13 corporation is Community Health System or  
14 CHS.

15 Some facts you need to know. In  
16 2008, CHS within a few years purchased two  
17 hospitals in Washington. They proceeded to  
18 eliminate the trauma center designation and  
19 closed the Parkinson Clinic. This is done  
20 after CHS had promised not to close the  
21 facilities. They do not live up to their  
22 promises. CHS engages in potentially  
23 dangerous behaviors at the facility level.  
24 Some of their Pennsylvania hospitals are  
25 among the worst. CHS inappropriately put

1 patients in restraints and failed to provide  
2 their patients with emergency call buttons.  
3 CHS does not respond to patient concerns.

4 CHS own Lockhaven and Sunbury  
5 Community Hospitals and have the fifth and  
6 sixth highest rate of health citations in  
7 the state, six times the national average.  
8 On April 28, 2010, Sunbury Hospital was  
9 cited for violating federal law, federal  
10 regulations regarding restraints. In  
11 addition, a patient was placed in seclusion  
12 for the convenience of nursing staff.

13 CHS has their problems beyond SCLU  
14 facilities. National business journals  
15 reviewed national labor relations board  
16 records for the past year and found CHS was  
17 nearly double the rate pending and closed  
18 unfair labor practice charges.

19 If I may, I'd like to approach the  
20 panel with even more damaging CHS  
21 information?

22 MR. ROGAN: Yes, please.

23 MR. FARISE: Documentation here it's  
24 backed up by our researchers. Thank you.  
25 (Mr. Farise approaches the dais.)

1 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

2 MR. FARISE: Time constraints  
3 prevent me from continuing. I have only  
4 touched the surface. Community Health  
5 System is not good for patients, it's not  
6 good for our community or our employees.  
7 I'm here to ask the citizens of this  
8 community to help us turn back the possible  
9 sale of Mercy Hospital to CHS. The citizens  
10 have a voice. It is time to make those  
11 voices heard. Keep CHS away, away from our  
12 community. A website you might be  
13 interested in is [FutureofMercy.com](http://FutureofMercy.com).

14 This holiday season we wish you and  
15 your family love, happiness, prosperity and  
16 good health. Thank you four your time and  
17 have great days and tell someone that you  
18 care.

19 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you,  
21 Mr. Farise. If I could just comment  
22 quickly, I did attend their inaugural  
23 meeting, I apologize I was unable to make  
24 the meeting yesterday, but I will be at any  
25 future. I had another program yesterday.

1 MR. FARISE: That's fine.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: But what Mr. Farise  
3 is saying is it's been announced in the  
4 newspaper Mercy Hospital is for sale and the  
5 employees have been there under the Mercy  
6 spirit, I guess they would say, all of these  
7 years and they want to keep that spirit and  
8 once of the contenders to purchase Mercy  
9 Hospital is a for-profit business that's  
10 only in it for profit, basically they're  
11 probably one of the for-profit businesses  
12 that have the highest number of violations  
13 throughout the country from what I  
14 understand from the meeting and from the  
15 presentation that I had seen. And all of  
16 the employees at Mercy Hospital are worried  
17 about is that the care continues and that if  
18 it is sold that the proper company which has  
19 the spirit that we have in Scranton takes it  
20 over and, you know, anything I can do it I  
21 will definitely be there.

22 MR. FARISE: Thank you. Can I say  
23 one more thing? All of the other speakers I  
24 heard before me I'm thinking all of the  
25 complicated issues that are handled by the

1 city, it's a credit to our community that  
2 they appear here and it's a credit to you  
3 gentlemen that you try your best to deal  
4 with many complicated issues. I don't know  
5 how you do it. Thank you.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you,  
7 Mr. Farise.

8 MR. ROGAN: Marie Schumacher.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,  
10 Council. Tonight I have a few follow-up of  
11 a few procedural questions and then some  
12 budget comments. On the follow-up side I  
13 would like to know if anyone 00 during  
14 motions if you would answer then, if any one  
15 has checked on the PEL contract to see if  
16 there is, in fact, a hold harmless clause,  
17 and if so what is the outcome of that  
18 reading of that contract.

19 Second, last week I reported there  
20 was a difference between the wage taxes the  
21 Scranton Tax Office were collected for the  
22 City of Scranton, a difference between what  
23 the Single Tax Office says they collected  
24 and what's reported by the city and in the  
25 audit report of \$36.4 million for the years

1           2005 through 2008. I would like to know if  
2           anybody checked into that and has a reason  
3           why. I would also like to know if the audit  
4           is available, and those are the follow ups.

5                     Now, to the procedural questions,  
6           capital budget. What is being done about  
7           the capital budget. I believe we have only  
8           -- what's today, is today the seventh today?  
9           Yeah, Pearl Harbor Day. Yeah. We only have  
10          one more week and I have not seen a  
11          revision, proposed revision to the capital  
12          budget, so that's an issue.

13                    I am very disappointed that council  
14          will not be presenting amendments to the  
15          mayor's budget tonight for two reasons:  
16          One, it tells me that citizen input is not  
17          valued if we are only going to be given a few  
18          minutes to see the changes and then  
19          potentially comment on them, and I would  
20          guess by next Tuesday the chances that any  
21          changes that we would suggest be  
22          incorporated would not be considered.

23                    But the second reason is because of  
24          Section 905 in the Home Rule Charter that  
25          says, "Should a change in a program or

1           budgetary item exceed 10 percent of the  
2           mayor's recommended budget, another public  
3           hearing must take place within 72 hours to  
4           justify said change."

5                        So anything, if there is anything  
6           that's over 10 percent I guess you are held  
7           to under the 10 percent, but because if  
8           there is the mayor's budget would take  
9           affect the next day, and I think we have a--  
10          as I say, I'm very disappointed that we are  
11          not having at least a week to review what  
12          the changes are.

13                       Next, again back to a procedural  
14          question to the Home Rule Charter, when it  
15          says ten days, does it mean ten days or ten  
16          calendar -- ten calendar or ten business  
17          days because, again, if the mayor chooses to  
18          veto an ordinance he has a ten-day period.  
19          If it's a ten-day period that is calendar  
20          days it's going to be very difficult to  
21          advertise and schedule any override before  
22          the end the year. There may not even be a  
23          next regularly scheduled meeting until the  
24          following year if the mayor waits for the  
25          full ten days if it's calendar days.

1                   And now to my budget comments.

2                   First of all, I would like to know if the  
3                   Housing Authority and the school director or  
4                   the school district reimburses the city 100  
5                   percent for both the salary and the burdens  
6                   on salaries for the pensions and health care  
7                   and all of those other things for the  
8                   resource officers there provided by the  
9                   city.

10                   I would like to know why the Housing  
11                   rental license is only estimated at \$10,000.  
12                   I would also like to know or recommend that  
13                   with respect to the funding for Griffin Pond  
14                   I don't think \$50 is trivial and when we  
15                   were -- when Scranton Today gave up on First  
16                   Night I think there was a reason, it was  
17                   stated when it was decided to continue that  
18                   they would go out and raise their money and  
19                   personally I object even without the need  
20                   for that \$50,000 at Griffin Pond to our tax  
21                   money being used for First Night. Twenty  
22                   minutes of worth of fireworks versus a year  
23                   for an animal at Griffin Pond to me there is  
24                   just no comparison.

25                   Everybody else has gone over, I'm



1 going to finish up.

2 MR. ROGAN: Sure.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: I like to know if  
4 our police and firefighters are the only  
5 civil service employees, if not, which  
6 others are.

7 I would like to recommend that the  
8 budget contain a revised computer system  
9 for -- that would, again, allow us to find  
10 out how much has been collected in, for  
11 instance, building permit fees which the  
12 current system can't do, and then our state  
13 legislators if anybody who goes on  
14 Grassroots.com on a regular basis as do I  
15 saw for the last two days that a lot of  
16 places are concerned about the state's  
17 unfunded mandate that both Mr. Murphy and  
18 Mr. Smith voted on Act 106 which creates a  
19 database of all restaurants and cafeterias  
20 in the state. I don't believe with -- I  
21 believe the budget has one health officer in  
22 it. I don't believe one health officer can  
23 comply with that state mandate and I think  
24 perhaps also additional training is  
25 required.

1                   The other thing is, and I don't  
2                   really know if I copied it, is I question  
3                   whether or not the budget that we are  
4                   reviewing is even a legitimate budget  
5                   because the Home Rule Charter says that the  
6                   prior year's budget actual figures are  
7                   supposed to be provided with the budget and  
8                   they aren't there now and they haven't been  
9                   there and all we have is last year's budget  
10                  which doesn't come anywhere close to what  
11                  the actuals are going to be in a lot of  
12                  instances, and the actuals through September  
13                  of this year the Home Rule Charter says it  
14                  should -- we should have the actuals for all  
15                  of last year and so this budget is invalid  
16                  and should have been sent back originally.  
17                  Thank you for your time and your  
18                  consideration.

19                   MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

20                   MR. JOYCE: Mrs. Schumacher, if you  
21                   are able to leave some of your requests with  
22                   our assistant city clerk Jamie over there.

23                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Which ones?

24                   MR. JOYCE: Just some of the  
25                   questions that you asked about.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: Hopefully you will  
2 answer those during motions, but --

3 MR. JOYCE: Well, some of the new  
4 ones regarding the budget specifically.

5 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Jennifer  
6 Crutchley.

7 MS. CRUTCHLEY: Good evening. My  
8 name is Jennifer Crutchley, Scranton  
9 Pennsylvania. I'm a rescue mom of four,  
10 foster of three, and I do a lot of work with  
11 the rescue groups and such things like that.  
12 I'm also a dog obedience and educator. Not  
13 only do I do those things, I also work for  
14 an agency in the area that provides services  
15 for people with intellectual disabilities.  
16 One of the resources that we utilize in  
17 helping those consumers is the Griffin Pond  
18 Animal Shelter. Our residents recycle for  
19 them, they do drives for them, they walk the  
20 animals, it's amazing what the Griffin Pond  
21 does for them.

22 As a trainer, I see a need almost  
23 ever single for the services at Griffin Pond  
24 Animal Shelter, the education, and as a  
25 community, as a pet owner we need to do

1 something here. It's just so important.  
2 That's all I just really wanted to say, I  
3 just want to brief. Everybody else is  
4 running long.

5 MR. ROGAN: Thank.

6 MR. JOYCE: Thank you for your time.

7 MR. ROGAN: Eileen Herchick.

8 MS. HERCHICK: Good evening, City  
9 Council. My name is Eileen Herchick, I'm  
10 the president of IAM Local 2462. I  
11 represent the clerical union workers for the  
12 city and Single Tax Office. I'm here  
13 tonight to humbly ask city council to please  
14 put back the ten positions that were  
15 eliminated from the mayor's 201 budget.

16 In a short synopsis of our union, we  
17 have continually over the past eight years  
18 lost positions. For example, at the end of  
19 December 2001 we had 95 positions, today we  
20 are down to 62. Last year we lost our  
21 traffic division which was replaced by a  
22 company that has made no significant savings  
23 to the city.

24 We also lost the zoning secretary.  
25 She not only took care of all of the

1           clerical duties within the zoning and  
2           planning departments and commissions, but  
3           she also sent out and collected fees for the  
4           rental registration. Since that job was  
5           eliminated we haven't collected any revenue  
6           this year relating to rental registrations.  
7           She also worked the counter and helped the  
8           customers who came into license and  
9           inspections.

10                   After losing those positions we were  
11           told that we would never lose any jobs again  
12           because of all of the cuts we endured over  
13           the years and that we were streamlined  
14           enough. Unfortunately, this year they  
15           eliminated ten positions.

16                   These positions include the janitor  
17           for Parks and Recreation and the DPW  
18           building. She cleans and maintains these  
19           buildings. There are no other janitorial  
20           services at these buildings so who will  
21           clean the buildings once this job is  
22           eliminated.

23                   The administrative assistant to  
24           Parks and Recreation. She prepares the user  
25           fee forms and prepares the cash receipts

1           that are sent out to city hall. She  
2           maintains all lifeguard employment  
3           applications. She also prepares the  
4           memberships for use of the pool and accepts  
5           the payments from the patrons that use the  
6           pool of Parks and Recreations. She also  
7           books all of the events down at Parks and  
8           Rec.

9                        The accounts payable clerk. She is  
10           responsible for all payments to all vendors  
11           in the city. She keeps impeccable records  
12           of each and all transactions that are made.  
13           She also assists the business administrator  
14           in the Right-to-Know.

15                      The assistant administrative  
16           assistant payroll clerk in the police  
17           department. She keeps all personnel records  
18           for each person at the police department and  
19           also does the payroll for the policemen.  
20           She prepares vouchers for payments to the  
21           vendors that use the services of the police  
22           department.

23                      The administrative assistant records  
24           coordinator in the controller's office. She  
25           maintains a spreadsheet of all parts and

1 other expenses to all city vehicles and  
2 prepares a semi-annual report to the  
3 controller. She maintains records of  
4 vouchers and purchase orders along with  
5 normal general office duties. She also logs  
6 and keeps track of all of invoices dealing  
7 with the Scranton Times.

8 The tax collector in the Treasury  
9 Office. She takes the payments of  
10 delinquent city taxes. She records each  
11 payment into the tax book and sends records  
12 to NCC at the end of each month. She  
13 researches and satisfies tax liens. She  
14 processes all correspondence from the  
15 sheriff's sales and updates the tax book.  
16 She deals with all attorneys who need  
17 information on properties when there is a  
18 closing. She assists in the collecting of  
19 parking tickets and refuse fees. We just  
20 learned recently that the delinquent city  
21 taxes and refuse fees will again be done by  
22 the this office as it was done years ago.  
23 Also, the tax sales may be coming back to  
24 that department. Who is going to do that  
25 work if her position is eliminated?

1           The payroll clerk. She assists the  
2           other payroll clerk in all aspects of  
3           payroll. She helps to prepare and transmit  
4           the payroll for processing for every person  
5           who is employed in the city. She assists in  
6           all aspects of payroll regarding arrival and  
7           departing of employees. She deducts all  
8           required funds and directs these funds to  
9           their proper monetary commitments. She  
10          assists in preparing all reports to the  
11          state and local taxes and to the IRS on a  
12          quarterly basis. We have approximately 600  
13          employees which they keep every type of  
14          payroll record. It would be impossible for  
15          just one person to handle this job.

16                 The administrative assistant in your  
17                 office. I don't need to tell you how  
18                 important Jamie is to all of you. Your  
19                 office is one of the busiest offices in the  
20                 city and city hall and it would be ashame to  
21                 lose her.

22                 The housing inspector, I'll leave  
23                 for Patty Fowler.

24                 I ask again who will do the work  
25                 once these positions are eliminated. The



1           loss of these or any jobs would be  
2           detrimental to the daily services that we  
3           provide our citizens. As Mr. Newcomb said  
4           last week and I'd like to thank him, we are  
5           the backbone of city hall. We are the first  
6           ones in the building ready to greet the  
7           public and the last ones here at night. We  
8           handle most of the public's needs from  
9           paying their tickets and house taxes to the  
10          refuse fees and assisting people with  
11          questions on tax delinquent properties. We  
12          handle all licenses needed in the city. I  
13          just have a couple more lines, may I speak?

14                   MR. ROGAN: Sure.

15                   MS. HERCHICK: Thank you. We handle  
16          all licensing in the city from homeowners to  
17          business owners and contractors to dog  
18          licenses. We handle all blighted and  
19          condemned properties and towing of abandoned  
20          vehicles on properties. We keep this  
21          building clean and properly -- all the  
22          buildings clean and properly maintained. We  
23          maintain all of the records and reports for  
24          the police, fire, DPW, Parks and Rec  
25          Departments which includes their personnel

1 files. We maintain and keep all police,  
2 fire, and municipal vehicles running and  
3 operational and when needed assist the DPW  
4 and maintain their vehicles.

5 In conclusion, we keep all  
6 departments, be it the police, the fire, DPW  
7 or Parks and Recreational functioning and  
8 operational so that they could do their job.  
9 On behalf of myself and my members we would  
10 appreciate anything this council could do to  
11 save these positions, and I thank you very  
12 much.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: I just have one  
14 question for you, anywhere in-between now  
15 and the time that you were notified that  
16 these positions were being eliminated did  
17 Mayor Doherty or any department heads ever  
18 layout a plan of how the duties and  
19 responsibilities of these positions would be  
20 allocated?

21 MS. HERCHICK: No, basically they  
22 just told us that --

23 MS. FOWLER: We'll work with what we  
24 have.

25 MS. HERCHICK: We'll work with what

1 we have, yeah.

2 MS. FOWLER: That's what we were  
3 told.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: How did they  
5 determine what positions they were going to  
6 eliminate?

7 MS. FOWLER: That's a great  
8 question.

9 MS. HERCHICK: That we don't know.  
10 We have no idea.

11 MS. FOWLER: We would love to know  
12 that if you find that out.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, like the  
14 firehouses, the dart board method I would  
15 assume.

16 MS. HERCHICK: Yeah. Yeah. Thank  
17 you.

18 MR. ROGAN: Patty Fowler.

19 MS. FOWLER: Good evening. My name  
20 is Patty Fowler, I'm one of the housing  
21 inspectors that have been eliminated in this  
22 budget seven out of ten years. It's tough.  
23 That means that our inspection's officer  
24 will be working with two housing inspectors  
25 for 26 square miles in the city. The amount

1 of square miles in the city hasn't changed,  
2 continuing to get rid of housing inspectors  
3 does not help the continuing blight issue  
4 that we are all aware of. We all  
5 acknowledge there is a huge blight problem  
6 in this city. Some areas are worse than  
7 others, however, two inspectors will never  
8 get the job done and I ensure that you will  
9 all agree with that since you ever week have  
10 issues that you bring up.

11 As inspectors we work hard, we  
12 patrol the various sections of the city on a  
13 daily basis. We respond to tenant and  
14 landlord complaints, cover all areas which  
15 involve property maintenance. This includes  
16 exterior and interior concerns and covers  
17 everything from infestation to serious  
18 blight safety issue. We often have to  
19 perform investigative work when dealing with  
20 vacant and abandoned properties currently up  
21 for foreclosure. This economy has only  
22 increased in that respect in the amount of  
23 our work. We often deal with a variety of  
24 agencies in the city such as the Bureau of  
25 Aging, Children and Youth, the animal

1 control officer when we are compelled to  
2 condemn properties with such safety issues.

3 Our daily work also includes  
4 checking on property permits for work being  
5 performed within city limits, insuring that  
6 the work being performed done by license  
7 contractors. We are also protecting the  
8 property values of everyone that calls and  
9 wants something done next to them. We are  
10 also called to different police actions to  
11 different properties. When properties are  
12 condemned for drug arrests, fires, whatever  
13 issues, utilities that are shut off, the  
14 list goes on. It's unclear to me how two  
15 inspectors would fill the void that would be  
16 left with the loss of two inspectors in that  
17 office.

18 When our last contract was  
19 negotiated it was made very clear to our  
20 union by the administration that we are  
21 working at that point with bare bones, we  
22 are bare bones and we couldn't do it with  
23 any less of a support staff than we had  
24 then, here we are now ten people less. I  
25 don't understand it.

1 I would also like to touch on the  
2 fact that while everyone in the union is  
3 willing to pitch in, we will now have to  
4 voluntarily have a call-in list to clean the  
5 front sidewalks in the event of a snowstorm.  
6 Just to give you an idea of how skeletal our  
7 clerical union has been cut our people are  
8 willing to pitch in.

9 Finally, I would like to take the  
10 time to point out that while the clerical  
11 union is the most underpaid and under  
12 appreciated, I as a citizen, coworker and  
13 union sister would like to take the time and  
14 I wish you would include me to thank them  
15 for the work they do for us every day.  
16 (Whereupon the audience claps.) Anything  
17 that you can do to help us we would  
18 appreciate it. Thank you.

19 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Debbie  
20 Torbal.

21 MS. TORBAL: Good evening, Council.  
22 I'm Debbie Torbal, I'm the tax clerk,  
23 resident and taxpayer of the City of  
24 Scranton. I am here tonight to offer my  
25 support to my fellow union members, firemen,

1 police, DPW and especially my clerical union  
2 partners. Even though the cutting of the  
3 clerical union does not affect public  
4 safety, I think cutting the clerical union  
5 jobs would greatly impact the public service  
6 that the City of Scranton homeowners and  
7 citizens deserve, and I believe that the  
8 city clerk positions being cut are  
9 instrumental in keeping the city running,  
10 efficiently and productively and I would  
11 appreciate you considering reinstating our  
12 jobs. Thank you very much.

13 MR. ROGAN: Nancy Reese.

14 MS. REESE: Hello. Good evening,  
15 I'm Nancy Reese of the NEPA Animal Adoption  
16 Network. I'm here in support of the Griffin  
17 Pond Shelter and I would like to talk about  
18 a few things maybe the city could possibly  
19 think about to help them with the \$50 per  
20 animal fee.

21 First I would like to talk about a  
22 spay and neuter ordinance. For those who  
23 don't know how a spay and neuter ordinance  
24 works it's very simple, I have been looking  
25 into them for the last year, you can go

1 about it several different ways depending on  
2 which one you are looking into, but they are  
3 pretty simple. First, anybody caught  
4 breeding cats or dogs in their possession  
5 purposely, either they don't want to take  
6 them to the vet to get spade or neutered or  
7 they are breeding them purposely in their  
8 homes, when caught would be, you know,  
9 warned and provided with low cost resources  
10 to get their pet fixed and ASAP. Second time  
11 \$100 fine, for example, the third time they  
12 go back another increase in the fine and the  
13 third time possibly a misdemeanor charge to  
14 enforce spaying and neutering.

15 Of course there is going to be  
16 exceptions for breeders, responsible  
17 breeders. A lot of times breeders are very  
18 scared about a spay and neuter ordinance, a  
19 responsible breeder I feel wouldn't have a  
20 problem with registering their intact dog  
21 with the city. Therefore, you could also  
22 tack on a fee for people registering,  
23 breeders registering their animals.

24 As you mentioned earlier, Mr. Rogan,  
25 you live in West Side, you would know that



1 the growing population of cats is  
2 ridiculous. It's out of control. Recently  
3 in the last few months we've started a trap,  
4 neuter, release program and we have fixed in  
5 the last few months 30 cats from West  
6 Scranton and 15 of them we did find homes  
7 for, if they are nice when we get them we  
8 are able to put them up for adoption. If  
9 they are feral a lot of times we do have to  
10 put them back, but they are fixed and we do  
11 provide rabies shots for them.

12 We have only had to take three to  
13 the shelter for obvious reasons, so we are  
14 trying to help our community and we do ask  
15 other people to pitch in. A lot of times  
16 the citizens are also doing trap, neuter,  
17 release on their own and everything comes  
18 from our own pockets, so we would like you  
19 to, you know, possibly think about a spay  
20 and neuter ordinance and any money that you  
21 would make from that can be forwarded to the  
22 shelter possibly to fund the \$50,000 they  
23 are looking for.

24 I believe that's it. I do have a  
25 lot of more, but I think that's it for right

1           now, but I do work for the Griffin Pond and  
2           as a multiple pet owner and an animal lover  
3           my whole entire life I have always dedicated  
4           myself to the animals and there is lot of  
5           people here today that, you know, are animal  
6           lovers and owners and we do hope that you do  
7           think out thoroughly what you can do to  
8           raise money to cover the cost because if the  
9           shelter were to go under we all know that  
10          it's going to be bad, it's just not good.  
11          There is already cats, hundreds of cats,  
12          they start breeding at four months of age  
13          and it's babies have babies, so we hope that  
14          you do think it out thoroughly and do give  
15          them, you know, what they are asking for.

16                   MR. ROGAN: Thank you. I apologize,  
17                   I skipped a speaker, Linda Parintano. I  
18                   apologize for that.

19                   MS. PARINTANO: Good evening, city  
20                   council. My name is Linda Parintano. I'm a  
21                   Scranton city worker. I am in building  
22                   maintenance. I have been with the city for  
23                   21 years. I have never bumped out of my  
24                   position, I have always stayed in building  
25                   maintenance. Well, since 2001 we have lost

1 four positions in building maintenance. We  
2 now have a cleaning company. Right now we  
3 don't have a -- we don't even have a  
4 maintenance man. There is no maintenance  
5 man in this city. He is out on compensation  
6 so we literally have no maintenance man.  
7 There is myself, there is another man in the  
8 department in which I was one of the  
9 positions eliminated, I work out of DPW and  
10 I work out of Weston Field. In my position  
11 the other gentleman that I work with I had  
12 to bump in which he is a very special man  
13 and it was very hard for me to do that, but  
14 I had no other choice.

15 Coming into this building after so  
16 long I started off with in the city for 21  
17 years, like I said, I started cleaning in  
18 city hall. I was on second floor, I took  
19 care of second floor. When this  
20 administration came in they eliminated  
21 everybody. I was in this building alone for  
22 four months. Then finally they brought back  
23 the other man to clean. I was put down at  
24 police headquarters. Down from police  
25 headquarters I now clean out of, like I

1           said, DPW and Weston Field.

2                         Since coming in this building  
3           tonight I look at this building and to me  
4           it's a disgrace. I went in those bathrooms  
5           on second floor in which I kept meticulous  
6           they are a mess. Police headquarters are a  
7           mess. Our own people are cleaning the  
8           bathrooms down there. There is no soap,  
9           it's a pigsty and it hurts to see that they  
10          want to eliminate another position in  
11          building maintenance. Maybe they don't  
12          think you need a clean building, I do not  
13          know. I try my best at DPW.

14                        I'd like to know if anybody here on  
15          city council knows how much it costs to pay  
16          a cleaning company? Do you know what the  
17          price is, the year that we pay for the  
18          cleaning company per year?

19                        MR. ROGAN: I don't know offhand.

20                        MR JOYCE: I don't know offhand  
21          either.

22                        MS. PARINTANO: I would say it's an  
23          average of \$65,000 a year for the cleaning  
24          company which is totally ridiculous, and our  
25          salaries what do we make? What does the

1           cleaning person -- what does the janitor  
2           make, \$30,000? So you get rid of another  
3           janitor making 30,000 a year and give it to  
4           the cleaning company for \$65,000 a year and  
5           they do not even clean. To me, like I said  
6           before, when I left this place I had those  
7           bathrooms on second floor meticulous. They  
8           look terrible. It's just a disgrace for  
9           what the building used to look like to what  
10          it has become.

11                   I just want to know how come the  
12           county doesn't have privatization with  
13           cleaning or how come the school district  
14           they have their own people. Why can't we  
15           have our own people back in building  
16           maintenance like it used to be, like we used  
17           to take pride in this building. Now we come  
18           in it's just not the same, and I just think  
19           as somebody in building maintenance that  
20           watched the department get cuts since 2001 I  
21           think it's time that we saw stop. Enough.  
22           We are just as important as the next person  
23           in building maintenance and every other  
24           clerical worker that is being eliminated.

25                   For two weeks I sat back and I

1 watched them talk about the policemen and I  
2 watched them talk about the firemen, that is  
3 wonderful, we need them, too, but we are the  
4 also clerical union in which I'm proud to be  
5 a member of. That's all I have to say.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just a couple of  
7 quick questions, the private company that  
8 does the cleaning --

9 MS. PARINTANO: Yes.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: -- do they have any  
11 set hours or are they punching in or do  
12 they --

13 MS. PARINTANO: No, I believe they  
14 do not punch in, I'm not sure about that. I  
15 know they are not here as long as we are. I  
16 know the one man that works here is here  
17 from 4 to 10:30, and that's his hours, me at  
18 the other building I'm there from 4 to 11:30  
19 because I opt to take the 40 hours.

20 I mean, right now I personally don't  
21 believe they are here right now, I do not  
22 know. I don't know who locks the doors, I  
23 don't know what time they come in, I have no  
24 idea, but I know right now as I'm talking I  
25 am on vacation and there is nobody cleaning

1           the Department of Public Works and that's  
2           sad, so I am hoping that -- after a whole  
3           week of being out of the Department of  
4           Public Works I do not know what that  
5           building is going to look like when I go  
6           back and that's not right because we are  
7           dealing with a hundred men down there. A  
8           hundred men.

9                         And besides having all of the  
10           buildings we have one maintenance man? Now  
11           he is off on compensation we have no  
12           maintenance man. Nobody. Nobody to change  
13           the lights, there is lights burnt out.  
14           Nobody. Nobody is there to do the work.  
15           (Mr. Loscombe points to the light.)  
16           Exactly. My exact point. We have lights  
17           burnt out at DPW and if I want to do them I  
18           will get up on a chair like I have done  
19           before and I will change the lights.

20                         In fact, I'm out tonight and I was  
21           so worried about who was cleaning the  
22           building down there that I'm making phone  
23           calls stating if there is no toilet paper or  
24           paper towels I will go down there and fill  
25           it for yas. They said, "No, you stay on

1           vacation," but that's just bothering me.  
2           Right now as I'm speaking I'm thinking to  
3           myself, "Do they have paper towels down  
4           there."

5                       MR. LOSCOMBE: The other question I  
6           had supplies, cleaning supplies and stuff  
7           like that, does this company utilize ours or  
8           do they bring their own?

9                       MS. PARINTANO: They use ours.  
10          Because a couple of months ago, I would say  
11          maybe about four to five months ago I had a  
12          meeting with the administration, okay, I had  
13          problem down where I work, everybody was  
14          there, I have asked for my supplies. When I  
15          was up here I used a scrubber and I used a  
16          burnisher, okay, which I was the one that  
17          kept these floors shiny. I was the one that  
18          did the waxing up here. I asked for that  
19          equipment to go down to the Department of  
20          Public Works in which my boss, who is Mark  
21          Seitzinger, says, "Absolutely."

22                      He was stopped dead short by human  
23          resource director and said, "No, that has to  
24          stay at city hall for the cleaning company."

25                      Why should it stay at city hall?



1           That machine is city property. Why should  
2           the cleaning company use it? Why should the  
3           cleaning company use our materials? That's  
4           not right. You're a cleaning company, bring  
5           your own materials. When I cleaned houses  
6           on a personnel level I brought my own  
7           cleaning equipment in. I didn't expect the  
8           people to supply me with what I needed.  
9           They are getting supplied by the city with  
10          all of the work that they are doing, plus  
11          they are making \$65,000 a year, if not more.  
12          If not more. So you know what, my  
13          suggestion is get rid of the cleaning  
14          company, bring back another position in  
15          building maintenance, you could have one  
16          cleaning city hall, you could have one  
17          cleaning DPW, and you could have one  
18          cleaning police headquarters like we used to  
19          have it done, and then we used to rotate  
20          when someone was off. Those buildings would  
21          get cleaned.

22                        When this first started with the  
23                        privatization with the company they were  
24                        supposed to fill our positions when me and  
25                        Harry were off. They do not do that. This

1 cleaning company that they got now they do  
2 not do that. Thank you.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just lastly, are you  
4 saying all of us men are slobs?

5 MR. ROGAN: Ron Ellman.

6 MR. ELLMAN: Ronnie Ellman, member  
7 of the Taxpayers' Association. I have to  
8 say something to somebody who is waiting for  
9 a message from me, it was Whiting Brothers.  
10 Now you can go to sleep. I was at the VFW  
11 in Dupont Friday night at the bar and this  
12 other fellow and me were talking about this  
13 big chain of gas stations and truck stops in  
14 California years ago and we couldn't  
15 remember the name, it drove both of us nuts,  
16 and it popped into my head and he told me  
17 see if I remember it. They were horrible  
18 looking places. They were built in the 20's  
19 and 30's, they were just horrible looking,  
20 but they used to have six hamburgers for a  
21 dollar. Can you imagine that? That's like  
22 going into Burger King and getting six  
23 hamburgers or McDonald's. I mean, getting  
24 six great big hamburgers. Well, anyway,  
25 that's no longer.

1                   Getting back to business, about the  
2                   dog pound, I suggest they become an  
3                   authority like the Parking Authority and the  
4                   Sewer Authority because that would make them  
5                   eligible for all of this graft and  
6                   corruption that they get, right? It's just  
7                   a passing thought how they could raise  
8                   funds.

9                   And I saw in the paper about the  
10                  permits were supposed to bring in what,  
11                  \$3,800,000 or something, they can only see  
12                  to account for half of that money, that the  
13                  paper said that there was 1,400 jobs, I  
14                  don't know if that's with the mayor 6,000  
15                  jobs or above it, but again, they forgot to  
16                  tell the Single Tax Office about, you know,  
17                  all of these jobs.

18                  This newspaper is just full, full of  
19                  it. But I have to say one thing today they  
20                  had a good editorial about that NEIU, I  
21                  don't know were they don't disband with  
22                  them. How could they -- the state allow  
23                  these people to get away with it with what  
24                  goes on there. This article is in the paper  
25                  a couple of weeks ago, forget that Rossetti

1 he took the state for a million dollar ride,  
2 he ought to be in jail for something for  
3 what he has done to the taxpayers. The one  
4 that came in for 16 weeks he was given  
5 \$2,000 a week salary, but he was given  
6 almost \$4,000 a week vacation benefits, for  
7 16 weeks he had \$60,000. Who ever heard of  
8 that?

9 At the school board at the meeting  
10 Wednesday they want to raise the taxes 4  
11 percent or something with all of this  
12 monumental waste going on, all of these  
13 people that aren't worth nothing it's not  
14 right to hit the taxpayers again. Somebody  
15 else needs to bite the bullet for a change,  
16 you know, it's just the people are just so  
17 sick of being taken for a ride by the  
18 government. Right here, a man making  
19 \$60,000 vacation in 16 weeks it just doesn't  
20 make sense. The president doesn't make  
21 money like that and he is worth more than  
22 any of these people.

23 You know, I have been listening to  
24 all of these ladies talk and there is people  
25 in this very room right now that I talked to

1           trying to -- when I was badmouthing Doherty  
2           week after week after week that said we have  
3           to vote for him to keep our jobs. So you  
4           can see how much he cares about you people  
5           out there now. You see what kind of man  
6           Chris Doherty is now. And when you go in  
7           that voting booth there is no one looking to  
8           see how you vote you should vote with your  
9           heart. You don't have to vote because you  
10          want to keep a job here because that wasn't  
11          very good security. I'm not trying to get  
12          somebody made add me because I'm completely  
13          100 percent on you guy's side. I think this  
14          is a terrible situation.

15                 Todd O'Malley and Chris Doherty have  
16          given hundreds of KOZ's in this city that  
17          haven't done a thing except take millions of  
18          dollars off our tax rolls. Thirteen years  
19          think of the kids. There are so many kids  
20          going to school they have to build one and  
21          not any of those people are paying a penny  
22          for those children going to school. I  
23          thought you were going to give me Phyllis'  
24          time. Well, I thank you.

25                         MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

1 MR. ELLMAN: I'd like to say one  
2 thing. Can I say something real quick?

3 MR. ROGAN: Sure.

4 MR. ELLMAN: It's Christmas time,  
5 you know, and this will just take a minute,  
6 Christmas, this stays with me year after  
7 year. Every Christmas I think of this, when  
8 I used to go up and back to California in  
9 the 50's and 60's, I think it was Christmas  
10 about a week before Christmas in '64 when I  
11 had my little no-window convertible, I left  
12 Los Angeles and I was in Barstow at this big  
13 hotel and restaurant and I had -- I was  
14 driving to Memphis and Atlanta and I just  
15 didn't look forward to it, so I had some  
16 coffee or something, and I went -- I got in  
17 my car and I was just worn out and hadn't  
18 started so I went in the office and I asked  
19 the man they used to call them -- they had  
20 day sleepers. You would have eight hours  
21 for \$3 in the motel. Anyway, I told them I  
22 wanted to sleep for an hour or two and he  
23 said, "Why don't you just sleep in your  
24 car," he said, "You don't even have to move  
25 it."



1           you, nobody ever come for it."

2                   I must have had that quilt like  
3 another 20 years. When my ex-wife threw me  
4 out of the house she kept the quilt, but I  
5 guess she's still got it. That's the one  
6 that beat me with the frying pan so bad.

7                   But every Christmas that comes back  
8 to me how I woke up with that big quilt and  
9 it never could account what happened to it,  
10 but it's just -- it seemed like it was  
11 something to do with Christmas, you know?

12                   MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

13                   MR. ELLMAN: Thank you.

14                   MR. ROGAN: Doug Miller.

15                   MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.  
16 Doug Miller, Scranton, joking before, well,  
17 I don't want to call it a joke, but it is a  
18 serious matter, you talked about the light  
19 being out, I think that light has probably  
20 been out for two and a half years, I was  
21 seated here on junior council and that thing  
22 was still out.

23                   MR. LOSCOMBE: It's been out since I  
24 been here.

25                   MR. MILLER: I would be lying if I



1           said I was surprised. Regarding Griffin  
2           Pond shelter, we've heard a lot of  
3           statements made on that this evening, I  
4           would just like to follow-up on what  
5           everybody else has been commenting on I,  
6           too, would hope that council would support  
7           this group. You know, when you take a look  
8           at the things they do for the community not  
9           just here in Scranton, but all over the  
10          county providing protection for these  
11          animals who, you know, need the protection  
12          and in a lot of instances they become  
13          nuisances in neighborhoods and Mr. Rogan  
14          talked about West Side, you know, I, too,  
15          being from West Side understands it's an  
16          issue and I just think that we squander a  
17          lot of money through the years in this city  
18          and I just think that this is a worthy  
19          investment and I would hope that council  
20          would find room in the budget to put aside  
21          some funding for the shelter because they do  
22          provide a good service and we shouldn't be  
23          using it as a free dropping station. You  
24          know, we have a lot of people here tonight  
25          from the shelter who are dedicated

1 individuals who dedicate their time to  
2 provide a service to the community and they  
3 should be commended for that and, you know,  
4 we shouldn't just turn around and slap them  
5 in the face, you know, we need to start  
6 doing the right thing.

7           Regarding the issue of cameras in  
8 the city, I took the time a few weeks ago to  
9 read an article in the Scranton Times  
10 regarding these cameras, I believe we spent  
11 over \$200,000 plus on these cameras and we  
12 find out today that they are not being used  
13 and for their intended to purpose and that  
14 was to be a useful watchdog for the police  
15 department. We learned that lot of these  
16 cameras don't even work, they were placed in  
17 areas that to be honest with you that  
18 weren't really crime areas, and we also hear  
19 that, you know, we have police officers with  
20 their backs turned to them, the monitor.  
21 Whether that was done intentionally or not I  
22 don't know, but if we are going to make an  
23 investment and spend this kind of money  
24 whether it's coming from the city coffers or  
25 the Scranton money the bottom line is if you

1 are going to make an investment in something  
2 I would hope that you make take advantage of  
3 it.

4 And once again, as usual, like I  
5 said, I would be lying to you if I said I  
6 was surprised we go and squander money like  
7 it's nothing. I mean, it's just really out  
8 of control. It really, really disgusts me.

9 But the main issue tonight I have is  
10 the proposed cuts with the public safety,  
11 the police and fire, but also to the  
12 inspectors, the clerks, and to the  
13 maintenance. I want to express my strong  
14 opposition to this mayor as a lot of other  
15 people have come up here and expressed the  
16 same viewpoint, and I would just hope that  
17 council will understand that this plan is in  
18 the best interest of the residents of this  
19 city. It might work in other towns, but  
20 it's not in the best interest of the  
21 residents in this town.

22 You know, public safety needs to be  
23 the number one priority for this council and  
24 I believe some of you have stated that in  
25 the past and I hope that council has

1           dissected this budget and I would imagine  
2           you have, you've had the opportunity to do  
3           so since January, so I would hope that all  
4           five of you have a firm grasp of what's  
5           going on here with this budget, you have had  
6           enough time, and I just feel that we need to  
7           make cuts in other areas.

8                         We have heard administrative cuts,  
9           we need to start there. The millions of  
10          dollars we spend in administrative salaries  
11          and the positions that we create all of  
12          these jobs floating out there let's start  
13          there. You know, the taxpayers are pretty  
14          fed up with this and I for sure am, too, and  
15          I would just hope that this council will  
16          begin to do something about it and I look  
17          forward to seeing what your proposed cuts  
18          are and I believe we will be seeing those in  
19          the next few days and over the next few  
20          weeks as well.

21                        You know, it's ashame that here in  
22          Scranton we always have a difficult time.  
23          Every year we have the same obstacle, you  
24          know, where are we going to make cuts, where  
25          are we going to start. You know, it always

1 starts with the police and fire, that's  
2 always our first start for whatever reason  
3 and we ignore everything else and we go  
4 right to that. Now we want to shut fire  
5 stations down. I mean, you know, it's  
6 unbelievable.

7 Why can every other city and town  
8 across the country make cuts and cuts back  
9 and we can't? It's like pulling teeth. I  
10 mean, you know, we look for solutions and we  
11 hear the same rhetoric and, you know, this  
12 isn't a problem that's occurred overnight,  
13 this has been going on for many years  
14 because we let politics and egos in the way,  
15 and we elect the same people over and over  
16 again who have their strings pulled and  
17 they're controlled and they are told how to  
18 vote and what to do and they don't have the  
19 interest of the people in mind and that's  
20 what you were elected to do.

21 You know, I'm proud to be a  
22 Scrantonian, there is no doubt about that,  
23 but the thing that really upsets me is that  
24 I know myself the two young gentleman we  
25 have seated on this council and every other

1 young individual across this city, including  
2 future generations, are going to be left  
3 with a massive debt that is just  
4 unimaginable and it's because, again, we  
5 have let politics and egos get in the way  
6 and they've destroyed our future pretty much  
7 and to be honest with you, I know it's a  
8 very negative thing to say, but it's the  
9 truth and sometimes, you know, the truth  
10 needs to be told, and I would just hope that  
11 with the majority of Scrantonians putting  
12 faith in this council to do the right thing  
13 I'm one of the many residents in say that  
14 hopes you will to the right thing appreciate  
15 your time. Thank you.

16 MR. ROGAN: Dave Dobrzyn.

17 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Dave  
18 Dobrzyn, member of the Taxpayers', resident  
19 of Scranton, so forth. On 7-A, B and C, I  
20 would like to compliment you, it's my  
21 understanding that these are the rules that  
22 allow Northeast Criminal Conspiracy, I mean,  
23 Northeast Credit and Collections to rip us  
24 off for how many years and not really result  
25 in any significant collection of taxes and,

1 in fact, exacerbate people paying their  
2 taxes when they're behind.

3 And now on this animal control, we  
4 are probably stuck with the situation, so  
5 you people will just to have figure out how  
6 to deal with it the best you can. If they  
7 want \$50 an animal that's the way it's going  
8 to be. They are the ones setting the  
9 standard. However, I agree with lot of  
10 these people. I have three pets and every  
11 animal I have wound up at my door for some  
12 reason or another. I picked up a cat off  
13 the street had been hit by a car, I thought  
14 she was a goner, but she's still around and  
15 they are neutered and taken care of at the  
16 vet and so forth.

17 Now, Mr. Joyce about two weeks ago  
18 mentioned about trash and expanding it to  
19 apartment buildings, I would like to suggest  
20 that some of the trash that I before  
21 mentioned and the situations of illegal  
22 dumping may be the result of allegedly  
23 privatized trash. That couch that a  
24 landlord gets stuck with or the tenant  
25 doesn't want to get sued by the landlord so

1 he has an extra couch or a couple of chairs  
2 that are beaten up, well, if you have to pay  
3 too much for them or you can't get rid of  
4 them or you can't get the privatized person  
5 to take them out there is always the trolley  
6 tunnel or the bridge above 307 or whatever  
7 and with the building materials that I  
8 aforementioned that is privatized trash  
9 because you are supposed to have, if you do  
10 a roof or something like that or renovations  
11 you are supposed to have a dumpster parked  
12 in front of the house and that's all  
13 supposed to collected and taken away, and  
14 instead somebody slips in somewhere on some  
15 back road and just dumps it off.

16 So I'd like to see, I don't care if  
17 there is 30 units in a house if they want to  
18 pay DPW for those units and do it right  
19 that's okay by me, and also the recycling, I  
20 have noticed that in some apartment houses  
21 people have told me that they do not recycle  
22 and we get grants and so forth according to  
23 tonnage or whatever and that is one grant we  
24 will never receive. So, you know, the  
25 younger people have a bigger interest in



1 that than me, who knows how long I'll be  
2 around, but in reality it's very important  
3 that these things be done and other than  
4 glass most of the recycling can be done on  
5 profit.

6 And finally, the golden parrot award  
7 this week goes to Justin Phillips of the tea  
8 party nation for implying that people should  
9 have to own property to vote. Whatever  
10 happened to taxation without representation?  
11 Bawk. Bawk.

12 And the Afghan vice president with  
13 stopped at Dubai with \$54 million in \$100  
14 bills, that is an approximately 1100 pounds  
15 of hundred dollar bills all in cold cash,  
16 where did he get the money? I'd like to  
17 follow him around. He gets the golden  
18 parasite award. Thank you and have a good  
19 night.

20 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Bill  
21 Jackowitz.

22 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,  
23 South Scranton resident, member of the  
24 Taxpayers' Association. In the past two  
25 weeks we have learned from Mayor Christopher

1 A. Doherty's sworn testimony 14 September  
2 2010 the following information about the  
3 mismanagement of the City of Scranton.

4 Number one, the mayor was not aware  
5 that he and the City of Scranton were being  
6 sued by two female police officers.

7 Two, the delegation of authority in  
8 Scranton is made orally with no written  
9 procedures in place. Unbelievable.

10 Three, that the Mayor Doherty was  
11 not aware that the appointed Director of the  
12 Human Resources, a cabinet position, had a  
13 degree in fashion design. Also, she had no  
14 formal training or education in management  
15 supervision or sexual harassment or ethics  
16 training.

17 Four, that Mayor Doherty appointed  
18 the police chief had no supervisor training  
19 or experience in sexual harassment or ethics  
20 training resulting in taxpayers paying  
21 \$100,000 in Court awards to two female  
22 police officers plus attorney fees, total  
23 \$153,000.

24 Five, we learned that Mayor Doherty  
25 appointed Director of Public Safety was

1 appointed on the recommendation of one  
2 person, District Attorney Jarbola, and also  
3 that the director had no experience in  
4 sexual harassment or ethics training. We  
5 learned that the cabinet members report to  
6 other cabinet members, although they all  
7 hold positions as cabinet members and that  
8 no minutes are kept at the weekly cabinet  
9 meetings held by Mayor Doherty.  
10 Unbelievable.

11 "Question: Tell me what experience  
12 Mr. Hayes had in the administration of  
13 sexual harassment policies?

14 Mayor Doherty's answer: I don't  
15 know if he had any.

16 Question: What was your  
17 understanding as to the city's obligation to  
18 maintain and effect the policy that specific  
19 prohibited sexual harassment?

20 Mayor Doherty's answer: I wasn't  
21 aware that he had to have a policy.

22 Question: Have you since learned  
23 that that might be a requirement of the law?

24 Mayor Doherty's answer: I have not  
25 been aware of that one way or the other.

1                   Question: As of today, you are not  
2 aware of that?

3                   Mayor Doherty's answer: Right.

4                   Question: So until today did it  
5 ever occur to you that you have never --  
6 that the city has never promoted a female to  
7 a position of rank within the department?

8                   Mayor Doherty's answer: Well, it  
9 has occurred to me because you don't see  
10 them.

11                  Question: What have you done, if  
12 anything, to address that?

13                  Mayor Doherty's answer: I have done  
14 nothing.

15                  Question: Did you at any point  
16 encourage or direct Chief Elliott or  
17 Mr. Hayes to seek education in the law of  
18 sexual administration or as to what sexual  
19 discrimination as to what their  
20 responsibilities might or might not be  
21 regarding police officers?

22                  Mayor Doherty's much: We asked. I  
23 know Chief Doherty -- or Chief Elliott. We  
24 had all of the cabinet people going to  
25 sensitivity training.

1 Question: Prior to this incident?

2 Mayor Doherty: No.

3 Question: Whose responsibility  
4 would it have been to investigate those  
5 complaints and resolve them?

6 Mayor Doherty's answer: It would  
7 have been the HR Department and whatever  
8 department head that was involved with them.

9 Question: Would they report to you?

10 Mayor Doherty's answer: They would,  
11 yes.

12 Question: If there was, in fact, a  
13 finding made by, for instance, a federal  
14 agency of a probable cause to believe that  
15 sexual harassment occurred or discrimination  
16 had occurred would you get that report?

17 Mayor Doherty's answer: If there  
18 was, I'm not aware of it.

19 Question: Would you act on it?

20 Mayor Doherty: If there was  
21 probably if it was serious enough.

22 Question: What constitutes how  
23 serious a claim involving sexual  
24 discrimination would it take for you as a  
25 mayor to do something?

1                    Mayor Doherty's answer: If my  
2                    subordinates had told me it was serious  
3                    enough that we should act on it.

4                    Question: So if your subordinates--

5                    Mayor Doherty: Right.

6                    Question: -- told you.

7                    Mayor Doherty: Hum."

8                    Wow, I'm sure happy that I do not  
9                    work for the City of Scranton under Mayor  
10                   Doherty's administration. Remember, his  
11                   cabinet members, department heads have no  
12                   training or experience in these matters, but  
13                   yet the mayor was going to rely on them and  
14                   their recommendation. No wonder why the  
15                   city lost the Court case and the harassments  
16                   happened in the first place, but just  
17                   remember, experience does not matter. A  
18                   direct quote from a past city council  
19                   president. Apparently that is the  
20                   philosophy of the Doherty administration.

21                   For four years the citizens were  
22                   being told by the Doherty three council  
23                   members that they were getting their answers  
24                   from the administration cabinet members. I  
25                   do not see how. They would have answers.

1 No minutes were being taken and kept and  
2 some cabinet members had more influencing  
3 authority than others.

4 Finally, I would like to know what  
5 qualifications Mayor Doherty and Mr. Stu  
6 Renda, business administrator, have to  
7 supervise the Scranton Police Department and  
8 the fire department? Under Mayor Doherty's  
9 reign as mayor the city has remained  
10 distressed. His outdated Recovery Plan has  
11 been violated by him and his cabinet members  
12 and Mr. Renda has been late every year with  
13 his audit report and refuses to answer  
14 questions posed him by the residents and  
15 Scranton City Council. How in the world can  
16 they manage a fire department and police  
17 department without any knowledge, expertise  
18 or experience? Can someone please answer  
19 that question for me tonight?

20 And also, I support the clerical  
21 union, I think they are getting ripped off  
22 and they suffered and they have sacrificed  
23 enough, and again, we have a mayor right  
24 here, this is his sworn testimony, these are  
25 honest answers, not editorials, not made up,

1 not make believe. He swore to this, and  
2 look at the answers he has given. I will  
3 continue next week.

4 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there  
5 anyone else that would like to address  
6 council?

7 MR. GERVASI: Good evening again,  
8 city council. My name is Dave Gervasi,  
9 resident and taxpayer, and I'm the president  
10 of the firefighters' union. I have two  
11 things to say tonight and after listening to  
12 our colleagues from the clerical union I  
13 have a hundred things to say.

14 This is not the latest wave, the  
15 clerical union last been getting hit by this  
16 administration, this is probably the fifth  
17 wave they've got hit. I remember in the  
18 beginning they were getting hit because  
19 apparently there was no money for the  
20 clerical union employees. They knocked  
21 these women and men off and then the next  
22 thing you know they would hire somebody at  
23 twice the salary to do basically the same  
24 job in a nonunion position and call it a  
25 middle management position.



1                    Apparently, the mayor didn't have  
2                    any friends, you know, whose kids needed,  
3                    you know, sanitation jobs or secretary jobs  
4                    making \$25,000 a year. That was the first  
5                    wave.

6                    I work with a lot of these people  
7                    and I know what they do and they work hard  
8                    and they go to work every day just for a  
9                    decent day's pay. Isn't it ashame that they  
10                   have to come here and practically beg city  
11                   council to help save their jobs so they  
12                   could do a service for the city? Isn't a  
13                   shame the fire department and the police  
14                   department have to come here and say,  
15                   "Please keep the citizens safe"?

16                    What are you left to work with  
17                    because of one guy, because of one guy who  
18                    just wanted to advance himself politically  
19                    and decided he was going to borrow \$100  
20                    million and spend it, and now I guess it's  
21                    time to pay the piper because the  
22                    firefighters and the police got a cost of  
23                    living raise after nine years, so now all of  
24                    sudden there is no money.

25                    Well, the police and fire

1 department, again, did not cost you any more  
2 this year than it did nine years ago. The  
3 clerical union probably cost you about  
4 two-thirds of what it cost you nine years  
5 ago, and the DPW cost you less than it did  
6 nine years ago. Why is our budget up \$17  
7 million? Two years ago they were up \$22  
8 million? Where did that money go? I'll  
9 tell you where the money went, debt payment.  
10 Debt payments for the next 30 years, and now  
11 we have all of these fine people coming up  
12 here saying, "Please save our jobs because  
13 all we want to do is come to work and do our  
14 job and provide a service and now we can't."

15 Now they can't. You guys have a  
16 tough road ahead of you, you really do. But  
17 you know what, let's talk about the man who  
18 did bury us in debt and now there is no  
19 money and now all of these people are losing  
20 their jobs and people are not going to get  
21 the services they got. Let's talk about  
22 some of the things he has done. You know  
23 what's funny, it's just an observation I  
24 made when the ten names came out I could  
25 probably -- five of them just an example,

1           one person is a veteran person in a veteran  
2           position that's been here forever, that  
3           position got eliminated, that person  
4           happened to be married to a firefighter.  
5           One person who is in a veteran -- is a  
6           veteran in a veteran position that person  
7           happened to be the person who had to testify  
8           and tell the truth about a prior cabinet  
9           member calling names of female police  
10          officers, that position got eliminated. We  
11          have a person that happens to be helping you  
12          on a daily basis, that person has to be  
13          eliminated, but past councils that were  
14          friendly with this mayor had five people  
15          working in there now they want you to go to  
16          two.

17                   Just coincidence I'm sure, it's all  
18                   coincidental, and one person that has been  
19                   knocked off their position I think seven  
20                   times in nine years just happens to be the  
21                   vide president of the clerical union that  
22                   came to this podium and had the guts to  
23                   speak up about what's going wrong in the  
24                   city, but I'm sure that's just coincidental,  
25                   too.

1                   I'm sorry, back to my rant. I just  
2                   wanted to come up here tonight and two  
3                   things I wanted to say was very simply that  
4                   there is debate going on right now about  
5                   public safety, the guys where I work in my  
6                   department have spent hundreds of hours  
7                   getting -- getting a lot of information  
8                   together just so that the people are aware  
9                   of what this department is going to look  
10                  like, if you can't help us the mayor gets  
11                  his way.

12                  We brought truthful, factual,  
13                  comprehensive, scientific information to the  
14                  school board, to city council and we are  
15                  continuing to talk to the people in the city  
16                  to let them know certain areas of the city  
17                  how their response times and their fire  
18                  safety is going to suffer, and I would just  
19                  like to ask the administration while we're  
20                  debating this over the next two weeks or  
21                  week if they could just be truthful just  
22                  once, just be truthful like we are trying to  
23                  be just once.

24                  Like the article the other day in  
25                  the paper when the mayor just throws this

1 out, two days ago it was the average  
2 firefighter make \$67,000 a year. Well, the  
3 other day in the paper it was, and I quote,  
4 "The average cop and firemen in Scranton  
5 makes \$70,000 -- will make \$70,000 next  
6 year."

7 Let me tell you the truth. One, the  
8 highest paid firefighter in the department,  
9 our deputy chief -- may I finish?

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MR. GERVASI: Is going to make  
12 \$8,000 less what he is saying. Four people  
13 are going to make \$10,200 less than what he  
14 is saying and they are our assistant chiefs.  
15 Our inspectors are going to make \$12,000  
16 next year less that when he's saying.  
17 Twenty of our captains are going to make  
18 \$14,700 than the statement he made.  
19 Twenty-one of our lieutenant's are going to  
20 make \$16,900 less what he stated in the  
21 paper. Forty-five of our drivers, operators  
22 are going to make \$18,900 less than what he  
23 stated in the paper, and 46 of our private  
24 firefighters are going to make \$21,900 less  
25 than what he stated in the paper. If you

1 add them altogether it's \$17,000 less what  
2 he stated in the paper. That's the truth.

3 And by the way, the first thing the  
4 administration, the cabinet members said to  
5 these fine clerical workers when they said  
6 they were losing ten people, "Blame the cops  
7 and firemen on their award. Blame the cops  
8 and firemen."

9 I guess the administration wanted us  
10 to go without a raise for 12 years, but  
11 because we got a cost of living raise they  
12 want them to blame us because we finally got  
13 a cost of living raise. It's incredible.  
14 Thank you for hearing me.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

16 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hello, Pay.

17 MR. ROGAN: Hey, Chrissy.

18 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hey, Jack, you  
19 handsome devil, you. Remember, Jack, these  
20 people want to keep their jobs, Jack. Keep  
21 the jobs in the city for these people in the  
22 city. Let's keep the jobs for these people  
23 in the city. Thank you.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: We're working on it.

25 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening.

1 Nelson Ancherani, resident, taxpayer and  
2 recording secretary of the FOP, First  
3 Amendment Rights. Eleven positions in  
4 January 2010 cut under council's amending of  
5 the 2010 budget. Wages rolled back to 7.5  
6 raise from 2001 to equal the 7.5 percent  
7 raises of public safety raises in nine years  
8 saving \$700,000 in the process. Arguments  
9 by the city and the courts that it affects  
10 the health, welfare and safety of the  
11 citizens of Scranton, the judge concurred.  
12 Move ahead six months and 69 positions will  
13 be eliminated in an attempt to save \$2.5  
14 million. A little late trying to save money  
15 since 2001.

16 I wonder what the Courts will say  
17 when those 69 positions are going to be  
18 eliminated? I wonder what words will be  
19 used then by the judge? Health, welfare,  
20 and safety of the citizens are strong words.  
21 I wonder if old man Webster can top those  
22 words?

23 During the lawsuit brought about by  
24 the city against council, no police or fire  
25 personnel were going to be eliminated by

1           council. Health, welfare and safety of the  
2           citizens of the Scranton was still going to  
3           suffer. The city's and judge's words, not  
4           mine. Forty-four police and fire, what will  
5           the courts say now? Health, welfare and  
6           safety of the citizens.

7                     If I'm correct, in 2001 there were  
8           92 clerical workers. If you, Council, do  
9           not restore clerical positions, it will be  
10          50 clerical workers left to do the work of  
11          92. That breakdown is a 45 percent loss of  
12          the clerical workers since 2001. That's  
13          almost one-half of the original compliment  
14          since 2001. Clerical workers are the  
15          backbone of the city, they are the supply  
16          and support of the men and women in the  
17          field. Supply and support.

18                    I know you are thinking long and  
19          hard over this budget, you do not have an  
20          easy job, but I have faith and I know you  
21          will do the right thing by looking at each  
22          eliminated position proposed by the City of  
23          Scranton, and again, remember, health,  
24          welfare, and the safety of the citizens of  
25          the City of Scranton. You guys have a



1 colossal job, we'll, all five of you do.  
2 Good luck and think about the little guy,  
3 the clerical, and the health, welfare and  
4 safety of the citizens of Scranton, public  
5 safety.

6 And now also on a last note, I hope  
7 you can find money for the animal shelter.  
8 \$50,000 is a small amount when you compare  
9 it to the \$4 million spent on outside  
10 attorneys. Thank you.

11 MR. ROGAN: Is there anyone else who  
12 would like to address council?

13 MR. KNOCH: I'm John Knoch, I'm a  
14 Scranton police officer. I just wanted to  
15 come up and talk to you guys about what it's  
16 like on the road. Right now we are already  
17 working shorthanded. Every time I go to  
18 work I'm on the "B" shirt, I work three to  
19 11. We are nonstop from the time we get in  
20 the car until the time we go home, and  
21 domestics are by far the most dangerous  
22 calls we go on and we have even had times  
23 where we are going to them by ourself. We  
24 have no available backup, COM Center is  
25 trying to get ahold of other people to come

1 and help us and there is no available backup  
2 for us.

3 As it is right now we don't even  
4 have enough police officers. I understand  
5 that we don't have the money, but cutting  
6 any police officers right now would not only  
7 be dangerous to the civilians in the city,  
8 but to the police officers themselves.

9 And I also heard other people  
10 talking about animal shelters tonight, which  
11 is also an important thing, I understand,  
12 however, finding money for an animal when  
13 people's jobs are in jeopardy it just seems  
14 wrong. I mean, I'm an animal lover myself,  
15 however, I think people should keep their  
16 jobs before animals should be put into the  
17 shelters. That's basically all I have to  
18 say. Thank you.

19 MR. ROGAN: Is there anyone else who  
20 would like to address council?

21 MR. HALLOCK: How you doing,  
22 Council? Chris Hallock, taxpaying citizen,  
23 FOP member. I know a lot of people are  
24 upset that you guys don't have the  
25 amendments done and are ready to present it

1           today, I would just like to thank you  
2           actually for taking your time, I mean,  
3           people have got to understand that the  
4           budget that you were handed to what it needs  
5           to be to -- for the city to thrive is, you  
6           know, completely two separate ends of the  
7           spectrum so I appreciate you taking the time  
8           and looking into this.

9                         I mean, everyone that come up here,  
10           I'm glad the clerical workers are all here,  
11           I mean, we've heard from police, firemen,  
12           working side-by-side with many of them they  
13           are, you know, important no the city. I  
14           mean, I can't put into words how much they  
15           mean to the city and the every day functions  
16           that people just don't realize, see, they  
17           are not seen, but they're equally as  
18           important as everyone is.

19                        I saw a lot of people here for the  
20           animal shelter. I agree that's definitely--  
21           someone who just the other day responded to  
22           a call, had to pick up a dog that was hit by  
23           a vehicle and transported to the animal  
24           hospital in Clark's Summit. I mean, it's  
25           just -- it is a priority and I think that,

1           you know, you guys really got your hands  
2           full here and I just -- I continue to  
3           appreciate the work that you guys are doing  
4           and, I mean, you guys are fighting, you  
5           know, to keep my job and everyone's job and,  
6           you know, I wasn't planning on saying  
7           anything, but seeing people up here and  
8           they're kind of mad that you're not ready to  
9           go forward with the budget today I feel, you  
10          know, like I have to stick up for you guys  
11          because you got to understand the  
12          substantial of the future of Scranton that  
13          this budget has and how hard it is for you  
14          guys, so I just want to thank you for taking  
15          your time to make sure that you go through  
16          this thoroughly and make sure that, you  
17          know, it's line by line like you said you  
18          would and, I mean, that takes time, so I  
19          appreciate that.

20                   And I'm glad, you know, to see the  
21                   clerical workers here, we haven't really  
22                   heard from them, and I'm glad the people are  
23                   not afraid to come up here and voice their  
24                   opinions and their beliefs. Again, I would  
25                   like to continue to thank everyone, council,

1 everyone, for the continued support to  
2 myself, the fellow officers and all the  
3 firemen, clerical workers. It's amazing to  
4 see the people unite in a situation like  
5 this and that's all I ask for and it's great  
6 to see that. Thank you.

7 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there  
8 anyone else that would like to address  
9 council?

10 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

11 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Loscombe, do you  
12 have any motions or comments?

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you Mr.  
14 Rogan. First of all, I would like to make a  
15 motion to appoint Mr. Rogan our temporary  
16 chair for Committee on Rules.

17 MR. JOYCE: Second.

18 MR. ROGAN: Motion has been made.  
19 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
23 have it and so ordered.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Now, just a couple of  
25 thoughts, first I will start with the animal

1 shelter. You know, the three of us here are  
2 new to this council and in the midst of  
3 getting the budget thrown on our lap to me  
4 is a book of fiction as it is, we were -- I  
5 don't think any of us realized the  
6 ramifications to the animal shelter or how  
7 that operated we saw in the budget an amount  
8 in there and until we had the caucus two  
9 weeks ago we were unaware of the situation.

10 Naturally, it's among our Christmas  
11 list, our Christmas wish list. We are all  
12 animal lovers, we have a daunting task with  
13 the budget alone and, like I said, we are  
14 all animal lovers, I know I am, especially  
15 my wife if something happened to my springer  
16 she would mourn for him forever, me she  
17 would forget about the next day, but I have  
18 seen what the animal shelter has done.

19 I know many people who have adopted  
20 pets and it's a great service and I do agree  
21 that they are working underfunded, and as  
22 part of our wish list we are definitely  
23 working on providing more in there. Maybe  
24 perhaps we can with the help of the animal  
25 shelter throughout the year come up with

1           some more innovative ideas to generate funds  
2           for them even fundraisers using some of the  
3           city's properties, too, throughout the year  
4           on top of it, but I do assure you that it is  
5           on our Christmas wish list, our budget wish  
6           list, and it will not be forgotten.

7                        Secondly, is just the article I read  
8           on the Comcast veto by the mayor in the  
9           paper today. His statement, "It's my  
10          opinion if council overrides the veto they  
11          will lose in Court which will cost the  
12          taxpayers more money, Mr. Doherty said."

13                      Well, first of all, he may have won  
14          last year but I think the judges in this  
15          town and the public have seen what condition  
16          our city is in, they have seen the decisions  
17          we have made through the year, and I think  
18          they will have a little more faith in us  
19          should it come down to Court, but all we are  
20          doing is trying to give you, the public, the  
21          best advantage as we always are.

22                      We have reduced the contract from 15  
23          years to ten years, we would all go with  
24          five years if we thought it was possible,  
25          but ten years appears to be the minimum. We





1 would have been a lot easier if we had  
2 everything in black and white tonight to  
3 present to people, but we have been waiting  
4 for information, we want to have all of the  
5 information in place legally and ethically  
6 before we make some of these decisions and  
7 we have tried. Yes, from the beginning of  
8 last year we tried. We were stymied at the  
9 beginning of last year, taken to Court over  
10 our amendments at that point. We have  
11 studied the budget through the year, but we  
12 had no idea what the budget was going to  
13 entail until that bombshell was dropped on  
14 us. And, as I said, it's a daunting task.  
15 I'll telling you I'm tired, I can imagine  
16 these guys. Frank is doing a lot of numbers  
17 work, Pat, every one has been working night  
18 and day and we are doing things like we  
19 promised. We are looking at innovative ways  
20 to bring revenue in, the last thing this  
21 council wants to do is raise taxes. The  
22 mayor dumped this on his lap when he put it  
23 in the newspaper and the only thing we can  
24 do is leave it stay or raise taxes to pay  
25 for these people.

1 Well, I think the taxpayers are  
2 paying enough and they want to get the  
3 service they deserve and they should get the  
4 service, which they haven't gotten, and as a  
5 former employee of the city for many, many  
6 years here, you know, I don't want it to get  
7 lost on the clerical union or the DPW, you  
8 have not been forgotten. Although most of  
9 the meetings have focused on police and  
10 fire, we have kept you guys in our sights  
11 and I know personally the importance that  
12 you have.

13 I have worked with many of you  
14 through the years in various functions as a  
15 contractor, as a -- I mean, even this year  
16 on council I have had a good opportunity to  
17 utilize all of the departments in the city  
18 to see who performs the work, to see who  
19 responds to us, and it's you people in the  
20 trenches that have done that and have done  
21 the work and the last thing we want to do,  
22 we are looking for every possible penny we  
23 can to not raise the taxes, to keep all of  
24 the positions in place, and that's our  
25 Christmas wish list. We may not achieve it

1 100 percent, but we have been working hard.

2 And that meeting today about the  
3 parking meters and stuff that's just one of  
4 the innovative things we have, we can't  
5 spill everything out right now because I  
6 guarantee you, as I stated before, the posse  
7 will be out tomorrow trying to knock down or  
8 innovations because we came up with it.  
9 Something that should have been done over  
10 the last nine years. Why wait until now to  
11 try and balance the budget on the backs of  
12 everyone and, you know, blame it on  
13 contracts and everything. They have had  
14 nine years to put aside a minimal amount  
15 every year in anticipation of this. It  
16 seems that this administration thinks they  
17 can just keep jumping ahead and getting away  
18 with it. I think maybe they thought they  
19 would be out of here before -- hit the fan,  
20 that's all I'm going to say, but that's not  
21 the case, and there is more to come.

22 And we have been forward thinkers  
23 since we are been here, that's why we  
24 started last spring. We know there is a lot  
25 more to come and it's not undeserved either.

1           The fact is they could have made preparation  
2           for it, they could have been more open, and  
3           in essence we have made a lot of attorneys  
4           in this town and out of town very wealthy,  
5           and as a city council I know, I mean, we  
6           discuss things on a regular basis, we are  
7           all in agreement, the public in this city  
8           does not deserve a tax increase, they  
9           deserve the services both from clerical  
10          workers, garbage, fire and police that they  
11          are paying their taxes for now.

12                   I think we are too lean with  
13           everything as it is to be honest with you,  
14           but why break something that's working. We  
15           are doing our damndest and I promise you I  
16           hope everybody is happy with the final  
17           result, but unfortunately, Mrs. Schumacher,  
18           we have been -- it's not something that we  
19           can do overnight. After that budget came  
20           out there was a lot of questions we had, a  
21           lot of information that we still required  
22           and at this point we are still waiting for  
23           some of it, but next week, and we will  
24           follow the law, we will follow the Home Rule  
25           Charter, and I will be here Christmas night

1 if I have to make sure everyone is taken  
2 care of, and I guess that's all I really  
3 have to say. Thank you.

4 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Joyce?

5 MR. JOYCE: I echo Councilman  
6 Loscombe's round of applause to that. First  
7 of all, the budget. This is an item that  
8 I'm going to want to table tonight,  
9 obviously. As you know, the budget  
10 presented to council for 2011 contains some  
11 of the most drastic cuts that Scranton has  
12 ever seen. Though we all wish this was an  
13 easy process, unfortunately, it's not. As  
14 you know, there is serious public safety  
15 concerns with the proposed budget, and with  
16 everything in mind at this point in time I  
17 have spoken to each member of council  
18 separately on their ideas, what they would  
19 like to see happen, what they would like to  
20 see done, and with all of this being said  
21 I'll present amendments based on the input  
22 of all council members at a special meeting  
23 that we are working on a time for, I believe  
24 at this point it will be next Monday, and  
25 once we get that time finalized, Mrs. Krake,

1 if we could have ECTV put a notification out  
2 across the channel so that the public can be  
3 notified, and then subsequently we will have  
4 a public hearing, so at least we are not --  
5 and, Mrs. Schumacher, like you said, at  
6 least we are not going to just present  
7 everything and give the public a few minutes  
8 to look at it even though I know a day may  
9 not be a great deal more, but we are trying  
10 to take everything that everyone says into  
11 consideration and I'm very glad that we are  
12 waiting at this point, one, two council  
13 members are absent tonight; and two, we were  
14 able to hear a lot of the opinions and  
15 concerns of some of the various clerical  
16 workers and some of their union which will  
17 all be taken into consideration in the  
18 amendments.

19           Regarding the audit, we received a  
20 draft audit that is subject to change. At  
21 this time, unfortunately, I cannot discuss  
22 the report with the public, and the  
23 correspondence from Rossi & Rossi, let me  
24 find the notification here in my notes, I  
25 had it somewhere, here it is, they had sent

1 us a letter and we had requested what they  
2 had, and they basically drew up, "Pursuant  
3 to the request on behalf of Scranton City  
4 Council and our letter dated November 29,  
5 2010," they enclosed a draft of the audit  
6 report, "that is subject to change for  
7 pending response from an Attorney Kelly,"  
8 who at this point I understand is still  
9 holding up the process a little bit.

10 "These draft reports are for  
11 internal use only and no information should  
12 be disclosed to the general public. After  
13 receipt of the attorney's response, we will  
14 issue a final draft of the report for  
15 preparation of the city management and  
16 discussion and analysis section of the audit  
17 report and schedule an exit conference."

18 So that is where we are right now.  
19 I am reviewing what Rossi & Rossi has  
20 submitted to us, but unfortunately, there  
21 are still some open ends.

22 About Street Smart Technology, once  
23 I received notification that we were having  
24 public caucus I had the opportunity to  
25 research this organization a little bit and

1 find out more about what they do and I  
2 applaud Councilman Loscombe for his efforts  
3 that he has put into bringing Street Smart  
4 Technologies here to give a presentation. I  
5 think it's a good move for the city,  
6 especially in a time where we need all of  
7 the revenue that we get with the tough  
8 economic changes, especially with some of  
9 the economic challenges that we will face in  
10 the future as well.

11 I think, Councilman Loscombe, I  
12 think that you have done a remarkable job  
13 with bringing them here and I just want to  
14 express my thanks for that, and I think as a  
15 council we should send a letter, if it's  
16 agreeable with my two colleagues that are  
17 here right now, perhaps we could ask Bob and  
18 Janet, recommending that the Parking  
19 Authority pursue looking into seriously  
20 implementing the program that Street Smart  
21 Technology is proposing.

22 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely. I would  
23 like to see it done tomorrow.

24 MR. JOYCE: I would, too. I didn't  
25 have the opportunity to make the



1           announcements I was going to make during the  
2           earlier part of the meeting, but I did want  
3           to say that the downtown senior center is  
4           going to have a Christmas party, that will  
5           be held on December 15th from 9:30 to 11:30  
6           a.m. following with lunch at noon and  
7           entertainment will be provided by Frank  
8           Gervasi and the Poets. The cost for this  
9           event is \$3 for nonmembers plus a meal  
10          donation, for members the only cost is a  
11          meal donation.

12                        Secondly, St. Peter & Paul Roman  
13          Catholic Church on 1309 West Locust Street  
14          will hold an annual pierogi sale on December  
15          11 before and after 4:00 mass and also on  
16          the December 12 before and after 11:00 mass.  
17          The price is \$5 per dozen, and that's all I  
18          have for tonight.

19                        MR. ROGAN: Thank you. I just have  
20          a few comments and few questions and then  
21          I'll speak on the budget. The first comment  
22          I have is I know in the past councils have  
23          historically recessed after passing the  
24          budget, but when I was looking at the  
25          calendar Christmas is on a Friday and--

1 Christmas Eve is on a Friday and Christmas  
2 is on a Saturday, New Year's is on a Friday  
3 and New Year's Day is on a Saturday, so I  
4 would hope that council would continue to  
5 meet throughout December and into the new  
6 year without taking a recess.

7 Secondly, I have a few citizens'  
8 requests for tonight. Actually, first I  
9 want to talk about the Street Smart  
10 Technology. Councilman Loscombe mentioned  
11 this right when he was appointed, I  
12 remember, this idea and, you know, that's  
13 what we are trying to do, as he mentioned  
14 before, we are trying to be innovative. You  
15 know, the way to raise revenue is not simply  
16 by going through the budget and saying,  
17 "Well, we need to raise taxes by 25  
18 percent."

19 We need to find other ways to bring  
20 money into the city. We have aggressively  
21 worked towards a rental registration fee  
22 which actually Councilman McGoff was a part  
23 of last year when he tried to get it up and  
24 running. Hasn't worked well so far, but we  
25 are working on getting that back on the

1 right track, and I firmly believe that the  
2 residents of Scranton have been taxed and  
3 taxed and taxed and they can't take it  
4 anymore. If there is another tax increase  
5 for the residents of Scranton more and more  
6 people will leave the city forcing the  
7 people that are left in Scranton to pay even  
8 more taxes, so I firmly believe we are  
9 getting on the right track here, we have  
10 only been on council, the three of us have  
11 only been on council for less than a year.

12 So it's not the fault of any of us  
13 who have only been here a year that the city  
14 is at it's end. It's not the fault of the  
15 police and fire unions who haven't gotten a  
16 pay raise in nearly a decade that we're in  
17 debt. It's not the fault of the clerical  
18 unions who have lost scores of members for  
19 the last ten years, it's the fault of the  
20 previous councils, the current mayor,  
21 previous mayors who have used the simple  
22 philosophy, failed philosophy of taxing,  
23 borrowing and spending year after year after  
24 year, but starting next week when this  
25 council passes their amendments to the

1           mayor's budget cutting the fat, cutting the  
2           administrative waste and restoring vital  
3           positions for the safety of the residents of  
4           Scranton. Scranton will finally take the  
5           first step on the long road of financial  
6           recovery. Thank you.

7                         And finally, I have a few citizens'  
8           requests. The first one is from a resident  
9           who wanted to call to report that a stop  
10          sign is missing at the intersection of  
11          Prescott and Linden in front of the 1438  
12          Linden Street. Could we please forward that  
13          to Mr. Brazil asking him to replace that  
14          immediately as a safety concern?

15                        Secondly, there is a car outside,  
16          I'm not going to give the address or the  
17          license plate on here, but I'll give it to  
18          you, Mrs. Krake, that has two flat tires and  
19          the inspection is overdue and I believe it's  
20          out-of-state plates as well.

21                        And secondly, 1520-1522 Linden there  
22          is an unattended property with vagrants and  
23          kids running in and out of the property.  
24          And that is all.

25                        MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE

1 SINGLE TAX OFFICE TO COLLECT THE 2010  
2 DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR THE CITY OF  
3 SCRANTON.

4 MR. ROGAN: Attorney Hughes, should  
5 we wait a minute for Mr. Joyce to return  
6 before we vote?

7 MR. HUGHES: Yes.

8 (Mr. Joyce returns to the dais.)

9 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE  
10 SINGLE TAX OFFICE TO COLLECT THE 2010  
11 DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR THE CITY OF  
12 SCRANTON.

13 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll  
14 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be  
15 introduced into it's proper committee.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

17 MR. JOYCE: Second.

18 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All  
19 those in favor signify by saying aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
23 have it and so moved.

24 MS. KRAKE: 6-A. READING BY TITLE -  
25 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 53 2010 - AN ORDINANCE -

1           AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A FIVE  
2           MILLION (\$5,000,000.00) DOLLAR PRINCIPAL  
3           AMOUNT, TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE OF  
4           THE CITY OF SCRANTON KNOWN AS TAN SERIES A,  
5           AWARDED TO PENN SECURITY BANK AND TRUST  
6           COMPANY; DETERMINING THE FORM AND TERM OF  
7           SAID NOTE; AWARDING SAID NOTE; AUTHORIZING  
8           AND DIRECTING THE FILING OF CERTAIN  
9           DOCUMENTS; AND DIRECTING THE PROPER  
10          OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE  
11          ANY AND ALL OTHER ACTIONS AS MAY BE REQUIRED  
12          IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF SAID  
13          NOTE.

14                   MR. ROGAN: You have heard reading  
15                   by title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

16                   MR. LOSCOMBE: I move that Item 6-A  
17                   pass reading by title.

18                   MR. JOYCE: Second.

19                   MR. ROGAN: On the question? All  
20                   those in favor signify by saying aye.

21                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

22                   MR. JOYCE: Aye.

23                   MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
24                   have it and so moved.

25                   MS. KRAKE: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -

1           FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 54 2010 – AN ORDINANCE -  
2           AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NINE  
3           AND ONE HALF MILLION (9,500,000.00) DOLLAR  
4           PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, TAX AND REVENUE  
5           ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
6           KNOWN AS TAN SERIES B, AWARDED TO THE  
7           FIDELITY DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK;  
8           DETERMINING THE FORM AND TERM OF SAID NOTE;  
9           AWARDING SAID NOTE; AUTHORIZING AND  
10          DIRECTING THE FILING OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS;  
11          AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE  
12          CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ANY AND ALL OTHER  
13          ACTIONS AS MAY BE REQUIRED IN CONNECTION  
14          WITH THE ISSUANCE OF SAID NOTE.

15                   MR. ROGAN: You have heard reading  
16                   by title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

17                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Mr. Chairman, I move  
18                   that Item 6-B pass reading by title.

19                   MR. JOYCE: Second.

20                   MR. ROGAN: On the question? All  
21                   those in favor signify by saying aye.

22                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

23                   MR. JOYCE: Aye.

24                   MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
25                   have it and so moved. At this time I will

1 entertain a motion that council suspend the  
2 rules and pass Item 6-A and 6-B into Seventh  
3 Order for final consideration.

4 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

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

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
11 have it and so moved.

12 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
13 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -  
14 FOR ADOPTION-FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 49, 2010 -  
15 REPEALING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.82, 2007  
16 ENTITLED "APPROVING PENALTY, INTEREST AND  
17 FEE SCHEDULE FOR COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT  
18 REAL ESTATE TAXES".

19 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
20 recommendation of the Chair for the  
21 Committee on Finance?

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

25 MR. ROGAN: Second. On the



1 question? Roll call, please?

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
3 Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

10 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item  
11 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION  
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR  
14 ADOPTION-FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 50, 2010 -  
15 APPROVING PENALTY, INTEREST AND FEE SCHEDULE  
16 FOR COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE  
17 TAXES AND REFUSE FEES.

18 MR. ROGAN: What the recommendation  
19 for the chairperson for the Committee on  
20 Finance?

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

24 MR. ROGAN: Second. On the  
25 question?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: On the question, I  
2 would like to make a motion to amend Item  
3 7-B by deleting the following subsections of  
4 Item No. 3-B, C, D, E, G, H and thereby  
5 reassigning the remaining subparagraphs in  
6 chronological order whereas 3-F now becomes  
7 3-B.

8 MR. ROGAN: Is there a second?

9 MR. JOYCE: Second.

10 MR. ROGAN: Are there questions on  
11 the amendment?

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just a brief  
13 explanation, basically the penalties that  
14 were handed down we are changing them to be  
15 a little bit more user friendly. You won't  
16 lose your house to a sheriff's sale by an  
17 overdue garbage fee, stuff like that.  
18 Council has amended Item 7-B to be a little  
19 bit more user friendly in these economic  
20 times. That's all I have to say on it. I  
21 don't know if Mr. Joyce would like to say  
22 anything?

23 MR. JOYCE: That's okay, I think you  
24 pretty much summed it up.

25 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor of

1 the motion to amend Item 7-B signify by  
2 saying aye.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

4 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

5 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
6 have it and so moved. May we have a roll  
7 call for Item 7-B, as amended.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
9 Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

16 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item  
17 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

18 MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION  
19 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION  
20 -FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 51, 2010 - APPROVING  
21 FEE SCHEDULE FOR DELINQUENT TAX SEARCHES,  
22 DELINQUENT AND CURRENT REFUSE SEARCHES, AND  
23 LIEN/CONDEMNATION SEARCHES.

24 MR. ROGAN: What the recommendation  
25 of the Chairperson for the Committee on

1 Finance?

2 MR. JOYCE: As chairperson for the  
3 Committee on Finance, I recommend final  
4 passage of Item 7-C.

5 MR. ROGAN: Is there a second?

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

7 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll  
8 call, please.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
10 Rogan.

11 MR. ROGAN: No.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

15 MR. JOYCE: No.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

17 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item  
18 7-C defeated.

19 MS. KRAKE: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION  
20 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-  
21 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 52, 2010 - APPROPRIATING  
22 FUNDS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY  
23 GOVERNMENT FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE  
24 FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 2011 TO AND INCLUDING  
25 DECEMBER 31, 2011 BY THE ADOPTION OF THE

1 GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE YEAR  
2 2011.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: I would like to make  
4 a motion to table 7-D at this time.

5 MR. JOYCE: Second.

6 MR. ROGAN: Motion has been made.

7 On the question?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe it's been  
9 stated before that we are still in the  
10 process of working on our amendments and  
11 that's the reason.

12 MR. ROGAN: And for those in the  
13 public, Item 7-D is the budget. We will be  
14 presenting our amendments next week at a  
15 caucus and again next week at the general  
16 meeting. All those in favor of tabling Item  
17 7-D signify by saying aye.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

19 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
21 have it and so moved.

22 MS. KRAKE: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION  
23 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION-  
24 RESOLUTION NO. 53, 2010 - APPOINTMENT OF  
25 THOMAS PREAMBO, 510 DEAN STREET, SCRANTON,

1 PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY  
2 PLANNING COMMISSION FOR AN ADDITIONAL FOUR  
3 (4) YEAR TERM. MR. PREAMBO'S TERM EXPIRES ON  
4 DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL  
5 EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2015.

6 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the  
7 Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
8 passage of Item 7-E.

9 MR. JOYCE: Second.

10 MR. ROGAN: On the question? I  
11 would just like to thank Mr. Preambo for  
12 sending in his resume well ahead of time  
13 without having to be asked by council. It  
14 has been our policy for anyone being  
15 appointed to a board or commission to send  
16 in a resume just so we could have a little  
17 background information about them. Roll  
18 call, please.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
20 Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

24 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

25 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

1 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

2 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item  
3 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

4 MS. KRAKE: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION  
5 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION-  
6 RESOLUTION NO. 54, 2010 - APPOINTMENT OF  
7 JERRY RICHARDSON, 829 CAPOUSE AVENUE,  
8 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER  
9 OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION FOR AN  
10 ADDITIONAL FOUR (4) YEAR TERM. MR.  
11 RICHARDSON'S TERM EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31,  
12 2010 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON  
13 DECEMBER 31, 2015.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: I would like to make  
15 a motion to table Item 7-F.

16 MR. JOYCE: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: On the question, as  
19 Mr. Rogan has just stated and we have stated  
20 many times at this podium that anyone  
21 getting appointed to a commission or board  
22 or reappointed must submit a resume. We are  
23 not talking a lengthy resume, we are  
24 speaking one page a little bit of their  
25 background and experience in that field and

1 I don't know what it is, but we haven't been  
2 getting the response. We are giving them  
3 the courtesy by tabling this item tonight  
4 that we will send a follow-up letter from  
5 city council reminding them of this exercise  
6 and hopefully they will get the point.

7 I, for one, after January 1 I won't  
8 even vote to table. I mean, the word has  
9 been out for a year, they should know, and  
10 this just goes to anyone out there that's  
11 going to be appointed to a board we require  
12 a one-page resume, just a brief resume.  
13 Mr. Preambo gave a very lengthy one, which  
14 was very good, I wish everyone would follow  
15 in his footsteps and those other few that we  
16 were provided with, but I will be voting  
17 "no" if we don't get any resumes in the  
18 future, and that's my comment on that  
19 motion.

20 MR. JOYCE: I concur and at this  
21 point it could be a handwritten document for  
22 the level of the response that we have had.

23 MR. ROGAN: I would agree with my  
24 colleagues. Obviously, we will give them a  
25 week, if they don't send in a resume put



1           them back on the table and vote for it,  
2           obviously if they don't send it obviously we  
3           will vote it down --

4                   MR. LOSCOMBE:  If I could just --  
5           I'm sorry, I thought you were done.

6                   MR. ROGAN:  We also have one more I  
7           believe it was almost two months ago  
8           appointment that we put on the table and we  
9           sent them a letter and we never received  
10          anything back, so next week maybe if we can  
11          put that back on the table and give it an up  
12          or down vote.

13                   MR. LOSCOMBE:  Okay.  I would think  
14          for someone that's professional enough to  
15          want to be on one of those boards it only  
16          takes five minutes, as my colleagues have  
17          said, to even handwrite a resume.  I think  
18          it's a disgrace to our public that you can't  
19          even provide us with that and that's all I  
20          have to say.  I mean, if you want to be  
21          professional act professional.

22                   MR. ROGAN:  All those in favor of  
23          tabling Item 7-F signify by saying aye.

24                   MR. LOSCOMBE:  Aye.

25                   MR. JOYCE:  Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
2 have it and so moved.

3 MS. KRAKE: 7-G. FOR CONSIDERATION  
4 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES – FOR ADOPTION-  
5 RESOLUTION NO. 55, 2010 - APPOINTMENT OF  
6 RAYMOND HAYES, 2637 CEDAR AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
7 PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, TO THE BOARD OF THE  
8 SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY. MR. HAYES WILL BE  
9 REPLACING FRANCIS NOONEY, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES  
10 ON DECEMBER 31, 2010. MR. HAYES' TERM WILL  
11 EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2015.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: I would like to make  
13 a motion to Table Item 7-G.

14 MR. JOYCE: Second.

15 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: The same reasons as  
17 discussed under 7-F.

18 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor of  
19 tabling Item 7-G signify by saying aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
23 have it and so moved.

24 MS. KRAKE: 7-H. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES – FOR ADOPTION-

1 RESOLUTION NO. 56, 2010 - APPOINTMENT OF  
2 ELIZABETH RANDOL, 622 SOUTH WEBSTER AVENUE,  
3 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 AS A MEMBER OF  
4 THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY.  
5 MS. RANDOL WILL BE REPLACING LEO VERGNETTI  
6 WHOSE TERM EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2010.  
7 MS. RANDOLS' TERM WILL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER  
8 31, 2015.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: I would like to make  
10 a motion to table Item 7-H.

11 MR. JOYCE: Second.

12 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Again, that's three  
14 out of four for appointed to authorities or  
15 boards that have failed to comply and these  
16 are supposed to be professional people.

17 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor of  
18 tabling Item 7-H signify by saying aye.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

20 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
22 have it and so moved.

23 Before Item 7-I and 7-J are read,  
24 are there any citizens who would like to  
25 address council because they were moved to

1 Seventh Order? If not, let the record show  
2 nobody spoke.

3 MS. KRAKE: 7-I, WHICH WAS FORMERLY  
4 6-A, CONSIDERATION FOR THE COMMITTEE ON  
5 FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO.  
6 53 2010 - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE  
7 OF A FIVE MILLION (\$5,000,000.00) DOLLAR  
8 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, TAX AND REVENUE  
9 ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
10 KNOWN AS TAN SERIES A, AWARDED TO PENN  
11 SECURITY BANK AND TRUST COMPANY; DETERMINING  
12 THE FORM AND TERM OF SAID NOTE; AWARDING  
13 SAID NOTE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE  
14 FILING OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS; AND DIRECTING  
15 THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
16 TO TAKE ANY AND ALL OTHER ACTIONS AS MAY BE  
17 REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF  
18 SAID NOTE.

19 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
20 recommendation of the Chairperson for the  
21 Committee on Finance?

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

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

1 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll  
2 call, please?

3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
4 Rogan.

5 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

9 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

11 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item  
12 7-I legally and lawfully adopted.

13 MS. KRAKE: 7-J, WHICH WAS FORMERLY  
14 6-B - FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
15 FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO.  
16 54 2010 - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE  
17 OF A NINE AND ONE HALF MILLION  
18 (9,500,000.00) DOLLAR PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, TAX  
19 AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF  
20 SCRANTON KNOWN AS TAN SERIES B, AWARDED TO  
21 THE FIDELITY DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK;  
22 DETERMINING THE FORM AND TERM OF SAID NOTE;  
23 AWARDED SAID NOTE; AUTHORIZING AND  
24 DIRECTING THE FILING OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS;  
25 AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE

1 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ANY AND ALL OTHER  
2 ACTIONS AS MAY BE REQUIRED IN CONNECTION  
3 WITH THE ISSUANCE OF SAID NOTE.

4 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
5 recommendation of the Chairperson for the  
6 Committee on Finance?

7 MR. JOYCE: As chairperson for the  
8 Committee on Finance, I recommend final  
9 passage of Item 7-J.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

11 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll  
12 call, please.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
14 Rogan.

15 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

19 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

21 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item  
22 7-J legally and lawfully adopted.

23 Being that there is no further  
24 business I'd make a motion to adjourn.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

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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  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER