

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT

PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

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.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

11 MR. JOYCE: Here.

12 MR. ROGAN: Mrs. Evans called me
13 prior to the meeting, she is sick. Please
14 dispense with the reading of the minutes.

15 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

16 MINUTES OF THE FIREMEN'S PENSION COMMISSION
17 MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2010.

18 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE
21 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE
22 AUTHORITY'S REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD
23 SEPTEMBER 16, 2010.

24 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
25 If not, received and filed.

1 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. CONTRIBUTION WAS
2 MADE BY DAVID AND DORIS CHASE IN THE
3 AMOUNT OF \$20.00 TO BE USED FOR MANPOWER IN
4 THE CITY'S PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT.
5 D. CHECK RECEIVED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF
6 SCRANTON, WHICH REPRESENTS PAYMENT IN LIEU
7 OF TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2010 IN THE AMOUNT OF
8 \$175,000.00.

9 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
10 If not, received and filed.

11 MS. KRAKE: 3-E. CHECK RECEIVED FROM
12 THE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WHICH
13 REPRESENTS PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES FOR THE
14 YEAR 2010 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00.

15 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
16 If not, received and filed.

17 MS. KRAKE: 3-F. AGENDA FOR THE
18 ZONING HEARING BOARD TO BE HELD JANUARY 20,
19 2011.

20 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
21 If not, received and filed. Mrs. Krake, do
22 we have clerk's notes tonight?

23 MS. KRAKE: We do not have them this
24 evening.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Are there

1 any council members who have any
2 announcements to make? Nothing?

3 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Right now as we
4 speak there is a benefit going on at
5 Friendly's up in Dunmore for the Neil
6 Armstrong School, I believe it's going on
7 until 8:00 p.m. I received a last minute
8 message from one of the PTA folks over
9 there. If you can make it up that would be
10 great. I believe a portion of the proceeds
11 go to benefit the school. I know it's
12 snowing out right now, but if you can make
13 it up there it would be greatly appreciated
14 and I'm sure that the school would be
15 grateful.

16 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
17 Fourth Order.

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

20 MR. ROGAN: Our first speaker
21 tonight is Ozzie Quinn.

22 MR. QUINN: Thank you. Good
23 evening. First of all, you know, it's
24 obvious that Mr. Scopelliti and the city
25 administration dropped the ball in 2010 and

1 thanks to Mr. Loscombe and the majority
2 council, this year's majority was able to
3 pick up that ball and we are pleased that we
4 are on the right track to find ways to find
5 more revenue and different revenue other
6 than the old hit the people with taxes. We
7 appreciate that very much and thank you,
8 Mr. Loscombe, for doing that, okay?

9 And Mr. Miskell made a very good
10 presentation and he is willing to sit around
11 before going to Reading and answer any
12 questions that our members may have and we
13 appreciate Mr. Miskell for doing that.
14 Thank you very much.

15 The audacity of Solicitor Kelly to
16 say to Councilman Joyce that he is not going
17 to answer that question it's not relevant,
18 the hell it isn't relevant. Anything that
19 goes on in the Parking Authority that
20 relates to StreetSmart is relevant. The
21 problem is they don't want to give up what
22 they think they're autonomous and they're
23 not autonomous, they have to answer to City
24 Council, and it's ashame when we sit here
25 and when you see them trying to any way

1 whatsoever trying to deceive the public by
2 saying, "We don't know, you put the cart
3 after the horse," you know. What do they
4 think, we're stupid? We know what's going
5 on, this is the second caucus on this thing
6 here. I come to these causes, I don't need
7 a special invitation. No. I don't believe
8 in the stuff that these authorities get away
9 with, it's murder.

10 The last thing I want to ask is this
11 here, I want to know where my money went in
12 2009. Where is the audit, the Rossi audit?
13 I want to know are there any findings?
14 Where was it spent? Is there any
15 recommendations?

16 MR. JOYCE: At this point in time we
17 do not have a final audit, we received a
18 draft and we have been asked not to disclose
19 the information with the public because it's
20 not final, however, I will be addressing
21 that during Fifth Order tonight.

22 MR. QUINN: Okay. Thank you very
23 much I appreciate it.

24 MR. ROGAN: Bill Jackowitz.

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,

1 South Scranton resident, member of the
2 Taxpayers' Association. Ozzie, find Stu
3 Renda, he will answer your question for you
4 since he was the most qualified business
5 administrator we have had ever had in the
6 City of Scranton. That's right, Mr. McGoff,
7 shake your head.

8 Bill Jackowitz, South Scranton
9 resident, member of the taxpayers'
10 association. Good evening, city council,
11 Doherty doomer hypocrites. Along with the
12 dedicated editors and staff writers from the
13 Scranton Times-Tribune who, by the way, are
14 responsible for the named doomers, and I did
15 not just call city council doomer
16 hypocrites, they know who I'm talking about,
17 the DVH members asked, "Ask Mayor Doherty
18 what other funds and other salaries used.
19 He put it into the budget."

20 The mayor's amended budget was
21 legally and lawfully adopted and now is law.
22 The same thing happened in 2002 with Mayor
23 Connors' budget. Do you remember? Doherty
24 was finance chair?

25 Also tonight's caucus on

1 StreetSmarts is the second public caucus and
2 not the first. Furthermore, Mayor Doherty,
3 Mr. Scopelliti, Scranton Times editors and
4 staff writers were invited to attend plus
5 other cabinet members so they can all become
6 well informed as the 2000 city council
7 members are. Facts do matter to DVH members
8 and they did show up. So hopefully they got
9 some valuable information tonight.

10 I would like for someone to inform
11 Fire Chief Davis and Mayor Doherty that
12 firehouses do not fight fires. Fires are
13 fought by firefighters and fire apparatus
14 along with water. So by the administration
15 and the Times-Tribune making a point of the
16 fact that firehouses will not close is
17 completely asinine to say the least, but
18 then again, I will consider the source.
19 Mayor Doherty was not aware of the fact that
20 the city had a sexual harassment policy in
21 effect for six years or the qualifications
22 of Lisa Moran and Chief Elliott and Chief
23 Ray Hayes.

24 Does anybody including the mayor
25 know the qualifications of Fire Chief Davis?

1 I do know that he was a firefighter for many
2 years. Other than that, does anybody know
3 anything else about his educational
4 experience in sexual harassment and ethics
5 training? One chief already cost the
6 taxpayers \$153,000. Did Chief Davis have
7 any management and supervisory training and
8 experience prior to his appointment as fire
9 chief? Has the Chief obtained any since he
10 became the fire chief? Possibly Councilman
11 McGoff could and would look into that. If
12 not, can Councilman Loscombe look into that
13 serious matter pertaining to the safety of
14 the residents of Scranton and the Scranton
15 firefighters.

16 Qualifications do matter. The
17 residents really cannot afford to lose
18 another \$153,000 in lawsuits. Furthermore,
19 I do know that 93 percent of the
20 firefighters voted "no confidence" in Chief
21 Davis last year. Has that "no confidence"
22 vote changed in the past year? Again, I
23 must ask what qualifications do Mayor
24 Doherty and past Business Administrator
25 Renda have to make changes in the fire

1 department without having any guidance or
2 recommendation from the trained and
3 experienced firefighters.

4 Scranton Fire Department is blessed
5 with having several firefighters with
6 degrees in firefighting and also several
7 Scranton firefighters teach firefighting
8 techniques throughout the country. This
9 very valuable asset should be used by the
10 administration at every able opportunity.

11 Also, this could be the reason why
12 some firefighters will earn more money than
13 the chief. They are better qualified.

14 Has the staff writers of the
15 Scranton Times done any investigating
16 reporting to find out what studies have been
17 used by the administration and received
18 written evidence and recommendation from the
19 consultants that were used by the
20 administration to warrant 24-hour shifts and
21 reduction of fire apparatus in the City of
22 Scranton.

23 Also, what study was used to come to
24 the conclusion that firefighters' manning
25 and police officers' manning should be

1 reduced? Also, Councilman McGoff has fought
2 to keep Fire Chief Davis' pay raise. My
3 question is, why would Chief Davis not use
4 his own cell phone? Could that mean that he
5 does not care about the residents and his
6 fellow firefighters? I guess the 93 percent
7 "no confidence" vote is warranted.

8 Furthermore, has Chief Davis and the
9 administration implemented a policy so that
10 PPL would respond to turn off power lines
11 immediately or has nothing been done?
12 Mr. Loscombe, can you address that dangerous
13 situation during motions? Also, why is the
14 mayor and business administrator making
15 these recommendations, where is Chief Davis?
16 Does he not have a say in the fire
17 department decision making? He is the
18 appointed chief.

19 Congratulations to Mr. Joe
20 Pilchesky. He beat the local judges again.
21 Not bad for a carpenter. Pennsylvania
22 Superior Court ruled that Judge O'Brien was
23 100 percent wrong in his ruling. The trial
24 court did not focus on Gatelli's duty to
25 produce prima facie evidence of actual harm.

1 More is required than the bald assertion
2 that the inflammatory statements harmed the
3 plaintiff's reputation in the social, civil,
4 professional and political community. For
5 some reason the staff writer from the
6 Times-Tribune neglected to report that in
7 his version of the story. Read the opinion
8 handed down from the PA Superior Court.
9 Again, facts do matter. Now we must hope
10 that Judy Gatelli will return the \$30,000.

11 And also, I must congratulate the
12 Times-Tribune on their story on Saturday,
13 "Mayor moved to cut cell phones." Again,
14 this time they actually went out and found
15 the truth, and again, we got the same answer
16 from the mayor, "I know nothing about it. I
17 didn't do anything. Talk to the
18 administrator, he is the one responsible,"
19 but yet the mayor and his sworn testimony
20 stated that he is the CEO and he is in
21 charge of every day-to-day operations of the
22 City of Scranton. Which is it, Mayor?

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Ron Ellman.

24 MR. ELLMAN: Council, you never
25 guess what happened to me tonight. I got

1 all ready to come here and I got a little
2 brush upstairs I use with a little round
3 things so I don't pull all my hair out and
4 my brush is gone. And I said "Rosie, where
5 is my brush?"

6 She said, "It's down here."

7 I said, "What's it doing down here?"

8 She said, "I used it to groom the
9 dog."

10 I said, "How could you do that?"

11 These things happen to me every day.
12 You know, I listen to these gentlemen about
13 the parking meter, it seems like every time
14 this table got somebody they try to take the
15 taxpayers for a ride. You know, we had a
16 bunch of guys whining were the University
17 how much they needed to take a bunch of
18 houses out for the buildings and parking and
19 then we had that bunch with six figure
20 incomes pleading to do away with the loan at
21 Boscov's, and tonight we got a bunch just
22 with a speculative venture. You know, we
23 are broke city. We just don't need any
24 more -- I have talked to a bunch of people,
25 at six, eight people and I haven't heard

1 anything positive about this.

2 The Parking Authority is just a
3 poster boy for mismanagement. You know,
4 when you were trying to get rid of the
5 Library Authority he used them as an example
6 why we don't need another authority. They
7 have taken the people of this city for a
8 ride every time you turn around. Now you're
9 gonna to give them another burden where they
10 don't -- they just don't deserve anything
11 else.

12 You know, we got -- I was downtown
13 today at 11:30 and there was so many empty
14 meters you didn't have to parallel park, you
15 could just pull in. I am talking about all
16 over downtown it's just -- you want to bring
17 business downtown let's get rid of all of
18 the meters for six months or a year and try
19 different things to bring business downtown.
20 I don't see downtown filled. I don't see
21 Boscov's filled, but raising the price
22 chasing everybody away and they are not on
23 the buses. I have asked, you know, some
24 people if they ride the bus when we were
25 talking. Nobody seems to -- that has a car

1 has changed their habits, but just assuming
2 an unnecessary unneeded venture that's like
3 this, you know, we just don't need it
4 anymore.

5 You talked about overspending last
6 week and this is something we don't need to
7 spend any time and money on. If you people
8 had gotten out and talked to some of the
9 people like I do at the grocery stores and
10 so forth you wouldn't have had this meeting
11 tonight. It's just time people just can't
12 tighten their belt any more in this city
13 with all of these ventures.

14 And I just have one other thing, you
15 know, I cry about not being able to use the
16 sidewalks, on the corner of Parker and Main
17 there is a bus stop for the little
18 preschoolers, at 2515 Main Street is a
19 house, the lady that lives there's got this
20 old junky car. She parks it out of the
21 sidewalk with all four wheels, and I'd say
22 90 percent of the time I'm on the other side
23 of the street, but I have watched the little
24 preschoolers on North Main Avenue because of
25 this car long enough and I have complained

1 and complained and complained and it never
2 gets a ticket or nothing. I don't know if
3 it belongs to the city administration or
4 maybe Obama administration, but the police
5 won't address it for some reason.

6 Let me tell you the kicker, the
7 license plates expired last May. The
8 inspection expired, and I am a betting man
9 and I will bet there is no insurance on this
10 car it is driven every day, every single day
11 the car is moved. I don't know why the
12 police don't tow it in or do something with
13 it. But, like I said, the main reason I
14 complain is it parks right on the sidewalk
15 where you can't use it and I seen these
16 little kids just out there, you know, just
17 unnecessary.

18 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Ellman, can you get
19 us the license plate number?

20 MR. ELLMAN: A plate number?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yeah.

22 MR. ELLMAN: I gave it to them once.
23 Yeah, I can get it and leave it he office.

24 MR. ROGAN: That would be great and
25 I'll forward it to the chief.

1 MR. ELLMAN: Like I said, the
2 license plate is expired in May. You know,
3 you have car insurance I imagine, everybody
4 has car insurance and license and
5 inspection. My two inspections cost me \$60,
6 I think, or \$55. That's more than this
7 junky car is worth. You know, that's why
8 it's not inspected. Well, thank you.

9 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

10 MR. ELLMAN: And I hope you consider
11 what I said about taking on another costly
12 venture like this. Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Andy Sbaraglia.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
15 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,
16 on your agenda items under I guess it's
17 five, 5-H, it's with Knowles. Knowles, you
18 know, is the broker for the city, but do you
19 know if the slide is incorporated now in
20 this dealing or are we going to get them
21 another brokerage fee when it comes time to
22 open up Nay Aug? We pay for the slide, the
23 insurance on the slide anyway, I'd just find
24 out since it looks like it's really spread
25 it would be nice if the slide was

1 incorporated in this group of, you know, the
2 fee for \$10,000 broker's fee is out of this
3 world.

4 Now, I know the keep talking about
5 that \$300,000, but nobody mentions that PEL
6 was here and called for a \$7 million
7 shortfall. You erased the \$7 million
8 shortfall. If we come in at the end of the
9 year and we're \$300,000 in the hole so be
10 it, but we already saved \$6 million
11 \$700,000. So, I mean, you got to look at
12 the broad picture when you do these things,
13 but the main thing my concern is I have been
14 hearing a lot of rumors about pools closing.
15 As you know, the Taxpayers' Association runs
16 fundraisers for Nay Aug so people could, you
17 know, kids come swim up there, but I know
18 they are not going to open Capouse, I guess
19 they are fairly on that, but they are
20 talking about a second pool and that becomes
21 more troublesome.

22 As you know, if you live in West
23 Side and they close down Novembrino where
24 are those kids going to go? Capouse -- I
25 mean, Weston Field is long way off and a kid

1 that's four or five or six they can't walk
2 there. If they close North Scranton down
3 say up at the housing project, we got all
4 them kids up at the housing project, where
5 are they going to swim back at the creek? I
6 guess you people would know there is a creek
7 that runs down by the lower line that we
8 used to swim in when we were kids back
9 there, but anyway, that's there, but they
10 would have to go there, but a five-year-old,
11 six-year-old, seven-year-old, we can't
12 really understand the weather. It may be
13 rainy, it could be steaming like a jungle,
14 we don't know, but the main thing is that
15 provisions should be made to make sure them
16 pools are open or provision should be made
17 for transportation to another pool.

18 So we got to look at these things
19 now because Janet mentioned that they might
20 use money from parks and recreation for
21 different things and she was afraid, too, I
22 would be afraid, too, that the lifeguards,
23 without lifeguards you can't open the pool.
24 If he uses up all the money for different
25 reasons then really we can't open the pools

1 and if she realizes Nay Aug, the only thing
2 they do up at Nay Aug on that pool is they
3 buy the chlorine. We pay for the
4 lifeguards, we pay for the insurance on the
5 slide and all they do is buy the chlorine.
6 Now, for that little amount of things why
7 should there be not be free swimming up at
8 Nay Aug?

9 I mean, if we pay for the liability
10 already, that's what I mean about I asked
11 about that, and we pay for the lifeguards,
12 surely we have enough money to pay for the
13 chlorine, and besides that you realize that
14 that's the pool for that whole section of
15 the city. Of course, and that's the bad
16 part about it, I mean, them people up in the
17 hill would have to go all the way down to
18 Capouse to swim or West -- I shouldn't say
19 Capouse because that's going to be closed,
20 Weston Field to swim or take a bus or
21 somehow walk up there to South Scranton and
22 go up the big hill by the projects and use
23 that pool.

24 But, I mean, it's a long distance.
25 I walk the mall. I grew up when the buses

1 weren't running like they are now, I grew up
2 actually almost a little after the war and
3 we used to walk many places. Many times I
4 walked up to -- I swam up there in the
5 gorge, I did swim there, but we walked there
6 but at that time you could walk, there was
7 no cars because of the war. It was safe to
8 walk. You didn't have to worry about a car
9 coming from anywhere because there was none,
10 but nowadays you have to worry about it.

11 Well, I hope you will look into it
12 and make sure we find out does he plan to
13 close pools, what pools he plans on close
14 and how he plans to transfer the kids to
15 another pool. Thank you.

16 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you,
18 Mr. Sbaraglia.

19 MR. ROGAN: Les Spindler.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
21 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
22 homeowner and taxpayer. Mr. Jackowitz stole
23 my thunder a little bit. I, too, want to
24 congratulate Mr. Pilchesky on winning the
25 decision in the Superior Court that the

1 Judge O'Brien said he had to name posters on
2 his website, now he doesn't have to. It's a
3 big victory for First Amendment and a big
4 victory for freedom of speech and we always
5 when I came up here said we have freedom of
6 speech, although, some people in past years
7 said we didn't have it.

8 And that leads me to bring this up,
9 on November 18 in the Philadelphia Inquirer
10 the Supreme Court made a decision the people
11 do have the right to come to council
12 meetings and speak, that's a Supreme Court
13 decision because in Philadelphia they tried
14 to get people not to speak. So, Mr. McGoff,
15 when you were president and when
16 Mrs. Gatelli were president and you gaveled
17 people out of order at this podium we are
18 not weren't out of order, you were the one
19 that was out of order.

20 MR. MCGOFF: That's incorrect.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Not according to the
22 Supreme Court. I guess you don't believe in
23 them. And another thing, Mr. McGoff, I
24 don't know what your intentions are, but if
25 you intend to run for re-election this year

1 I will do everything in my power to make
2 sure you don't get re-elected. We don't
3 need people like you representing us, we
4 need people like the supermajority.

5 Moving on, awhile back I submitted a
6 request for a left-turn signal at the corner
7 of Linden and Seventh Avenue because it's
8 really hard to turn there, was anything
9 found out about it? I did put in a written
10 request?

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yeah, we actually
12 submitted the request but we haven't
13 received a response yet, Les. We will try
14 to followup on it.

15 MR. SPINDLER: And another request I
16 did bring for my sister-in-law about the
17 corner right down here of Wyoming and
18 Mulberry, there were many traffic concerns
19 that she had.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe they were
21 submitted also, too. I didn't recall that
22 one, but I do recall the one about the
23 left-turn.

24 MR. ROGAN: We will take sure we
25 send them again.

1 MR. SPINDLER: Thank you. I spoke a
2 lot last week about the firefighters and
3 Engine 9 being taken out of service, I have
4 to put my glasses onto make sure I don't
5 miss anything. Like I said last week, Chris
6 Doherty is putting innocent taxpayers' lives
7 in danger. Not only that, he didn't even
8 take into consideration the children that
9 are going to be going to the new school down
10 on North Edward Avenue, which Engine 9 could
11 be there in like probably about a minute,
12 now they'll have to wait until the engine on
13 Luzerne Street can get there which will --
14 the response time will be much greater than
15 if Engine 9 was in service. I guess the
16 mayor doesn't care about anybody's lives
17 being lost, all he cares about is himself.

18 And not only that, he is putting
19 firefighters' lives in danger. Having them
20 work 24-hour shifts is the most outrageous
21 think I ever heard of. These men are taxed
22 to the limit to begin with, he wants to them
23 for work for 24 hours straight, it's just
24 ridiculous. I guess he is not going to be
25 happy until something serious happens to

1 somebody.

2 And back on the subject of Engine 9,
3 I don't know if anybody is aware, but Engine
4 9 had one of the largest coverage areas in
5 the whole city and that's the engine he
6 takes out of service. Like I said, there
7 is-- people's lives are in danger here and,
8 like I said, I did call the mayor and spoke
9 to him, it went in one ear and out the
10 other. Maybe if enough people do pick up
11 the phone and call it will have some effect,
12 and I also did a letter to the editor in for
13 people to call, but the Times-Tribune edited
14 that part out, so they don't want -- they
15 are just backing the mayor anything he
16 decides. I guess that's all I have this
17 week. Thank you for your time.

18 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

19 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

20 MR. ROGAN: Lee Morgan.

21 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

22 Could I give you each one of these?

23 MR. ROGAN: Sure.

24 (Mr. Morgan approaches the dais.)

25 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

1 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
2 You know, today I have a lot of respect for
3 government, I really do, but you know,
4 Section 312 of the Home Rule Charter deals
5 with investigations, okay, and the council
6 may make investigation into the affairs of
7 the city and the conduct of any department,
8 office or agency in, you know, in the city
9 in regards to legislative power and their
10 functions and may issue subpoenas for this
11 purpose.

12 Now, you know, it's no disrespect to
13 this council, but if you look at the second
14 page I have included in this a recipe for
15 chocolate chip cookies, because to be honest
16 with you, gentlemen, you, know, and I know
17 Mrs. Evans isn't here today, and like I
18 said, it's not that I disrespect you, but if
19 we can't issue subpoenas to figure out where
20 we are going and we have listened to this
21 rhetoric for council for 20 years about how
22 nobody is going to answer our questions,
23 look it, if you are the elected officials
24 and nobody is going to answer your questions
25 then we might as well just cancel all of the

1 council meetings, we'll all either come here
2 and listen to a new recipe for the week or
3 something because this city has long-range
4 problems, and we can't seem to get any
5 answers, and I think it's time to really
6 start looking for some. I'm being real
7 honest with you, okay? That Home Rule
8 Charter was written for a reason, okay?

9 You know, I appreciate what
10 everybody comes up here and says, but you
11 know, I have been listening for 20 or 25
12 years and I have watched this city just
13 disintegrate. I mean, and my point is
14 really simple. Today we talked about, you
15 know, StreetSmart. Well, out of one hand we
16 are talking about how people aren't coming
17 downtown shopping and I know a lot of people
18 that are parking out of the downtown and
19 walking in, and my question is that if we go
20 with this plan, and this is off the top of
21 my head, if we go with this plan how are we
22 going to stop people from parking for free
23 under the mall, because that's where a lot
24 of people are parking. They are really
25 disgusted with the increases in the parking

1 meter fees. I mean, and then what are we
2 going to do, are we going to write more
3 citations? I mean, we have got so much
4 office space in the downtown that the county
5 moved most of it's functions there. Where
6 are we going?

7 I mean, you know, look at it I know
8 that the council doesn't care much for SAPA,
9 and if that's so, so be it. I think it
10 should be reintroduced and I think it has a
11 lot of merit, I have a lot of respect for
12 you people, there is not doubt. But look
13 it, we need an economic engine here and if
14 we keep going to everybody who parks in the
15 downtown as being the solution to our
16 problems where are we going?

17 I agree with what this gentleman
18 said some of it, at one time people did
19 double park in the streets, but there was a
20 reason for that. We had 140,000 people here
21 and we just don't have that now. Now the
22 vast majority of the people in this city in
23 my opinion are elderly. I have walked the
24 city, how many of councilmen have? Every
25 one of them I'm sure. How many of the homes

1 in this city are empty? Don't you think we
2 really need an economic engine?

3 I mean really, you know, look it,
4 you can say, well, we'll start the meter
5 back from zero as soon as the car pulls out.
6 Well, you know, that's all right, but you
7 know what, we need people to come to
8 downtown Scranton to shop. We all know the
9 mall is in trouble, at least I do and I
10 don't know if you share my opinion or not.

11 I mean, do we really need new
12 answers? Yes. Listen to a couple of things
13 that Andy said here tonight about the
14 children in the neighborhoods. Be concerned
15 about the pools, all right? The one thing I
16 don't understand is why aren't we going to
17 the Recreational Authority and creating a
18 playground program at Nay Aug? Why aren't
19 we reaching out to the county and trying to
20 something for the children in these
21 neighborhoods? It's a well-known fact we
22 need more revenue. There is no doubt. Like
23 I asked last week, we don't even know how
24 short the pension funds are. The PEL said
25 they are 47 percent funded, but we do know

1 our long range debt is over \$300 million.
2 We need an economic engine to confront that.

3 We already know that the federal
4 government said that they are 117 percent
5 over the gross domestic product which means
6 our country is absolutely bankrupt and all
7 we keep looking to is the same broken
8 solutions, more revenue. No, we need to
9 create employment, create opportunity and
10 have government function for people and then
11 we are wondering like I am when I walk
12 through the neighborhoods why people just
13 stop voting, and I know you have come across
14 that because you have knocked on doors and
15 you've talked to people.

16 And, I mean, the vast majority of
17 the people are just tired of the same old
18 rhetoric and, you know, it's a terrible
19 shame what's happened recently in Arizona.
20 And, I mean, that should never happen. It
21 shouldn't come to that point. But, you
22 know, we have got to find solutions. This
23 is a great city, it's a progressive city I
24 think or if isn't I think it can be, and I
25 think that you can come up with the

1 solutions, but you know what, if you aren't
2 willing to use the tools you possess to get
3 subpoenas out there and bring them in here
4 and let's have a real heart-to-heart
5 conversation on what's really going on then
6 we should all be home baking chocolate chip
7 cookies and playing games, because, you
8 know, so many people talk to me and they
9 say, "Lee, why do you think nobody comes
10 there? Because they have no solutions, it's
11 all politics, it's one side against the
12 other and we keep losing."

13 And, you know, a lot of people they
14 sit home and watch us and grab a beer and
15 have a laugh. But you know what, I don't
16 agree with that. I think the laugh is on
17 them. I think they belong here. Thank you.

18 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: I would like to start
20 an investigation of the validity of this
21 recipe, I'd ask to subpoena Mr. Morgan and
22 his cookies to verify their taste. Could we
23 do that? No?

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: You think he would
25 have brought us a sample.

1 MR. ROGAN: We will be looking
2 forward to those cookies next week,
3 Mr. Morgan. Doug Miller.

4 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
5 Doug Miller, Scranton. I'd just like to
6 begin tonight by expressing my thoughts and
7 prayers to all of the victims, including the
8 Congresswoman who were involved in the
9 tragic shooting in Tucson, Arizona, and we
10 obviously all hope that something like that
11 doesn't happen again.

12 My first thing tonight on the agenda
13 was the check that we received from the
14 University of Scranton in payment in lieu of
15 taxes for \$175,000. I'd just like to go
16 back to some of the things I said before. I
17 just think I strongly believe that council
18 should consider creating a fee on KOZ's and
19 nonprofits. I believe that everyone should
20 pay their fair share. I'm not going to
21 stand here tonight and chastise the
22 University of Scranton, they did give a
23 contribution and I know that in the past
24 council has made attempts at meetings with
25 the University and I believe Mr. Loscombe

1 once back made a presentation, so I would
2 just hope moving forward and keep pushing on
3 that and strongly urge you to consider
4 creating some sort of fee so that it goes
5 all across the board.

6 Regarding the cell phones, there was
7 an article in the Scranton Times the other
8 day that I got a chance to look at regarding
9 cutting back on cell phone usage, and I just
10 I don't believe everyone in the city should
11 have a cell phone. Having the opportunity
12 to look at a list of some of the people that
13 did have one, they probably shouldn't have
14 had one to begin with, you know, I think
15 these phones should only be given to
16 emergency personnel such as the police
17 officers, firemen, DPW, etcetera. I
18 strongly believe that everyone else should
19 use their own phone and, you know, taxpayers
20 of the city shouldn't be paying for it and
21 think that, you know, making cuts obviously
22 it was wise to make the cuts that we needed
23 to make here with the cell phones and
24 hopefully we won't have any issues with this
25 in the future.

1 I'd like to talk about police
2 vehicles in the city. I know this isn't a
3 new issue here, but just in the last few
4 days I have had the chance to see a few
5 police officers cars around town, you know,
6 and really just sit back and notice how beat
7 up our vehicles are and that we are putting
8 our police officers behind the wheel of some
9 of these vehicles and we have these on the
10 roads. I mean, it's just truly appalling
11 and, you know, I know, like I said, this
12 isn't a secret, this is an issue that all of
13 a sudden we are just learning about, it's
14 been ongoing for a long time that we have
15 police officers using vehicles that, you
16 know, to be quite honest probably shouldn't
17 even be on the road and I know that with our
18 current financial situation I don't see us
19 correcting this problem any time soon, but I
20 would just hope that we would address it and
21 try to come up with a long-term solution
22 here because something needs to be done and
23 I just wanted to bring that up because it
24 really did open up my eyes here.

25 Regarding the StreetSmart, you know,

1 I really want to commend council for putting
2 this caucus together tonight and I know we
3 had one awhile back, but tonight it really
4 gave me an opportunity to have my questions
5 answered that I had and, you know, if I do
6 have any questions in the future I'll be
7 sure to ask council. You know, I just would
8 like to commend you for taking the
9 opportunity to come up with a new way to
10 generate revenue and a new way of technology
11 here. You know, we have seen studies done
12 in other areas and we have had comments made
13 that it hasn't worked in other areas, but
14 from what I have heard and read overall it
15 seemed to be successful. You know, any
16 criticism that you might receive from
17 people, you know, they are the ones that
18 probably didn't step up to the plate and do
19 any homework themselves so for anybody to
20 stand up and criticize in my opinion they
21 should just sit down, do homework, come up
22 with their own idea and then say something,
23 but if they can't do that then they should
24 just sit there.

25 And, you know, this idea that, you

1 know, people don't want to cooperate, you
2 know, questions were asked by council
3 tonight, nobody wanted to give answers, you
4 know, it's just totally out of line. There
5 needs to be more cooperation, you know, the
6 residents of this city are what's on the
7 line here and generating revenue in this
8 city which obviously we all know is
9 distressed and we are in major debt here and
10 we just should have more cooperation from
11 all departments in the city.

12 And I'd like to finally tonight talk
13 about the issue of the pools, Mr. Sbaraglia
14 brought it up. Last week the issue was
15 raised and Mrs. Evans was talking about the
16 idea of Capouse Avenue being closed this
17 summer and possibly one other pool, and the
18 idea that the administration wants to take
19 the funding set aside for parks and
20 recreation that's normally used for paying
21 for our lifeguards and using that to cover
22 the cost for the two new foremen that I
23 believe are going to be repositioned in the
24 DPW, and I just think council should do
25 everything in it's power to make sure that

1 doesn't happen. I think the last thing we
2 want to have happen, I'm sure you would
3 agree, is to have pools in the summer
4 closed. I mean, last year we had to go a
5 summer without Capouse Avenue open, we went
6 most of last summer without Connell Park
7 being open, and I just think it's in the
8 best interest of this council to do
9 everything they can to make sure we are not
10 closing pools because, you know, we need to
11 put children first. You know, what do we
12 expect them to do? Children need a place to
13 swim in the summer, obviously, the less
14 fortunate, and we do to be everything in our
15 power to make sure that they have that
16 opportunity, so I appreciate it. Thank you.

17 MR. ROGAN: Lynn Bloom.

18 MS. BLOOM: Lynn Bloom, North
19 Scranton resident. Happy New Year,
20 Everyone. I apologize for being absent for
21 so long. I had some family and health
22 issues. Usually, I don't make a habit of
23 apologizing for any other adults other than
24 my adult children. But, Mr. McGoff, I feel
25 that you truly deserve an apology. I do not

1 think for one minute that your decision to
2 vote against the rest of the council had
3 anything to do with intentionally
4 jeopardizing the safety of the citizens of
5 Scranton. My personal opinion is I disagree
6 with your decision, I think it was possibly
7 a little short sided, but I feel you truly
8 do deserve an apology. That was egregious
9 to me, so I can only imagine how you felt.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

11 MS. BLOOM: You're welcome. I have
12 been absent so long, I have so much to say
13 and so little time so please bear with me.
14 I want to address the safety issues first,
15 and I have some pictures here that I'd like
16 to show you, gentlemen.

17 MR. JOYCE: Okay.

18 MS. BLOOM: I was an Army wife for
19 the first Gulf war, my husband was deployed
20 from West Germany. As a young mother in a
21 foreign country I had to get used to the
22 idea of men carrying M-16's and guarding my
23 family. I thought that was only because I
24 lived in Europe. As we all know 9/11
25 changed this nation forever. I retired from

1 federal service in 2002, my only goal was to
2 get my youngest child off of Long Island. I
3 was not near Ground Zero, I was 42 miles
4 away, I was evacuated from my building with
5 5,000 federal employees. That is as close
6 as I want to come.

7 When my husband and I purchased our
8 home here we specifically took into account
9 my child's elementary school, location of
10 the fire services, even down to the location
11 of the fire hydrant, because I don't know if
12 some of you are aware, but how close you are
13 to a fire hydrant it effects your
14 homeowner's policy.

15 At this time not only my
16 ten-year-old son, but approximately 600
17 other Scranton Elementary school students
18 are in jeopardy. I pray to God we never
19 have a national emergency, I pray to God we
20 do not have a severe snowstorm. Main Avenue
21 is empty. Market Street, brownouts, rolling
22 brownouts possibly. I have pictures of what
23 a gymnasium with 600 elementary school
24 students looks like on a good day. I cannot
25 imagine the pandemonium that could occur in

1 a delayed response time to these children.

2 I moved to Scranton, some of you
3 might laugh, for safety. I was aware that
4 gangs were coming here, unlike some city
5 officials, but I factored in the pros and
6 cons. This administration has cut fire
7 services, services to children, they do not
8 want to -- they do want mandated staffing
9 levels, they do not want to rehire.

10 My child is my testimony to this
11 nation. I will never build a bridge, I will
12 never be famous, he is this community's
13 future, and his 599 other classmates are the
14 city's future. These children because of
15 the Scranton School District, and I don't
16 pretend to know the policy, do not have a
17 playground to play in. They have to cross a
18 street, go down dilapidated concrete steps
19 and play on a blacktop that is in disrepair.
20 That is in itself a recipe for disaster.

21 No school that I have viewed has a
22 playground in it anymore. How many
23 different ways are we going to tell our
24 youth we don't value you, but when you join
25 a gang because you need to feel accepted we

1 are going to incarcerate you to the fullest
2 extent of the law. We can't have it both
3 ways. We just cannot. I don't have the
4 solutions, I don't pretend to be a rocket
5 scientist, but I do know prevention cost a
6 heck of a lot less than the remedy.

7 Since I mentioned Scranton School
8 District, I am a taxpayer in the City of
9 Scranton. My tax dollars go through our tax
10 office to the school district. I am
11 appalled that in the 21st century a school
12 district employee is able to take credit
13 card and make purchases with no invoice and
14 no accountability. Now granted, this was in
15 the Times so anything I read I take with a
16 grain of salt, but even it's marginally true
17 how is that possible? I had a government
18 credit card, I had to give my receipts. I
19 had to enter my information within three
20 days of returning to my duty station. I
21 wanted a phone, I was only a GS-11. Only
22 GS-13's and above got cell phones, so I
23 would have to purchase a calling card and
24 verify that that -- I'm sorry-- that that
25 calling card was used only for government

1 purposes or I wouldn't get reimbursed the
2 \$20.

3 There is so much, and I don't how to
4 say it and I apologize, negligence in this
5 city across all lines, children, safety,
6 housing, drugs, pick something. We've got
7 to start working towards change and if we
8 don't start investing in our kids that --
9 youth cycle and leave. Thank you very much.

10 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

11 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

12 MS. BLOOM: Can I show you those
13 pictures?

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes, please.

15 (Ms. Bloom approaches the dais and
16 shows pictures to council.)

17 MS. BLOOM: And this is a joyful
18 event, just imagine if there was a fire
19 trying to get all of those students out.
20 Thank you very much.

21 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: Pedro Gonzalez.

23 MR. GONZALEZ: Pedro Gonzalez, South
24 Side resident. Good evening, Council.

25 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

1 MR. GONZALEZ: And greeting to all
2 in attendance. Happy New Year to all. (Mr.
3 Gonzalez speaks in Spanish.)

4 I want to first thank the City of
5 Scranton, all the residents and the
6 community members, volunteers and sponsors
7 who came out to our January 6 Three King's
8 event. Thank you, Mr. Joyce, for coming out
9 with your family and enjoying the time with
10 us.

11 MR. JOYCE: Thank you for having me.

12 MR. GONZALEZ: You are very welcome,
13 very welcome. It was extremely
14 well-attended as you saw. We wound up
15 giving 250 gifts -- or 250 children that got
16 gifts that night and over 300 adults that
17 were fed that night. All of it was done for
18 free thanks to the sponsors and the
19 community members and the volunteers that
20 participated in that event, so thank you all
21 again for that.

22 As always, our next event is January
23 14 through the 17, our annual Dr. Martin
24 Luther King event. I do have a document
25 here for you guys, for the council. We also

1 called and left notices and sent e-mails. I
2 do not believe you received that though. I
3 was told by one council member that they
4 knew not of the event, so we will provide
5 you some information before I leave.

6 The main event will be the 17th,
7 Monday the 17th, 5 p.m. on Olive Street we
8 lineup to March to courthouse square, many
9 dignitaries speak every single year. We
10 have yet to see a council member there and
11 speak, hopefully this year will be the
12 first, and they have in the past I
13 apologize, but maybe I wasn't there at the
14 time, so hopefully this year we'll have one
15 or two of you gentlemen, we know that Janet
16 with her back and for obvious reasons she
17 can't walk that far, but I know, Pat, you
18 could do it, Buddy. I know you can do it.

19 But Friday we have an event for the
20 kids at the Boys and Girls Club on Lafayette
21 Street. Saturday, Salvation Apostolic we
22 have a brunch, that's the only event that
23 comes with a cost, \$25 per ticket. On
24 Sunday we have at Scranton High School a
25 multi-cultural event that goes on every

1 single year there and Sunday, Sunday -- I
2 mean, excuse me, Monday all day long there
3 will be events throughout the entire city
4 all day long, volunteers situations at the
5 Viewmont Mall. United Neighborhood Centers
6 there is some events going on, Friends of
7 the Poor are throwing an event at the
8 University of Scranton, and then cake and
9 cocoa at the Cultural Center toward the end
10 of the evening, and I believe there is an
11 interfaith service that will be held at
12 Salvation -- one to be held at Shilo Baptist
13 Church, I apologize, Shiloh Baptist Church,
14 but there is a lot going on from this coming
15 Friday until Monday so we hope that
16 everyone, everyone is invited, again, the
17 entire community, the entire City of
18 Scranton, all of Lackawanna County. 90
19 percent of all of these events are free for
20 all attendance and it's extremely kid and
21 family friendly. Thank you again --

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

23 MR. GONZALEZ: -- for your time and
24 consideration as always. My name is Pedro
25 Gonzalez and thank you for letting me

1 express myself.

2 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

3 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

4 MR. ROGAN: Dave Dobrzyn.

5 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.

6 Dave Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, member
7 of the Taxpayers'. I also agree with some
8 of these speakers, it's very concerning that
9 the administration chooses to eliminate or
10 wait for people to retire or get hurt and
11 not replace them and shut down fire engines
12 and companies. It's really not too smart as
13 far as what I see.

14 Now, Doug talked about this a little
15 bit and we spoke about it at the Taxpayers'
16 at our last meeting, and changing some of
17 the city property taxes to a maintenance
18 fee, which would have be paid by just about
19 virtually everybody, and the only
20 disadvantage would be lose some money on
21 your income tax deductions, but the offset
22 probably would be exponential, so I'd like
23 to see some kind of study go into a city
24 maintenance fee as opposed to a city
25 property tax, that way you could eliminate

1 some of the immunities and get some more
2 money in without -- from other parties and
3 have them -- have the property tax lowered.

4 And I have a DVD here it's on House
5 Bill 1275 by Sam Rore. I gave Janet a tape
6 before, but I had another DVD, but I don't
7 think it worked out, I just grabbed it
8 before I left and tried to review it and it
9 didn't seem to work out so if you would like
10 I would --

11 MR. ROGAN: You can leave it with
12 us.

13 MR. DOBRZYN: Thank you. What that
14 involves is changing the property school tax
15 for a sale's tax, an expended sales tax, and
16 it would regulate some of the debts that get
17 piled up and so forth, and basically I felt
18 it was a good idea. There was a few people
19 there that were a little off base on the
20 tape, but that's the way things are
21 nowadays, and it's very interesting, but Sam
22 Rore retired and he is going to -- somebody
23 else has to reintroduce the bill, but that
24 would be an interest in your area.

25 MR. ROGAN: The Sam Rore that ran

1 for governor?

2 MR. DOBRZYN: Yes. Yes.

3 MR. ROGAN: I thought so.

4 MR. DOBRZYN: Yes. And he had this
5 bill refined over the years and basically
6 Dave Baldinger seemed to have it pretty much
7 together, and might I mention that the
8 school property taxes is the biggest portion
9 of the tax you pay, so there is nothing --
10 you can struggle as much as you want, but if
11 the school property tax goes crazy then the
12 property taxes are high anyway.

13 Okay, this Sunday at the Irish Wolf
14 from six to ten another benefit that we are
15 trying to get on the air that radio station
16 WFTE, and the donation is \$5.

17 And I didn't have a chance to
18 mention this the last time, but if you truly
19 believe that the reason council wasn't
20 covered by ECTV by the mayor's marching
21 orders than holler at the mayor if you want,
22 but don't holler at the people from ECTV or
23 beat up on them. It's kind of
24 counterproductive. If they have to take
25 their marching orders from the mayor then

1 that's just the way it is and if that's what
2 happened then that's what happened, but it
3 doesn't -- they are at his pleasure anyway
4 basically, we can't overrule the situation
5 we can only try and work with it, so okay.
6 Sorry I was missing my person -- I'll leave
7 the golden parrot out due to the events in
8 Arizona, but I don't drive -- write the
9 targets I just give them golden parrot.
10 Thank you. Have a good night.

11 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
12 anybody else who would like to address
13 council?

14 MR. UNGVARSKY: Good evening, City
15 Council. I'm Tom Ungvarsky. At home I have
16 a t-shirt, it has some letters across the
17 front of it, and I'd like to will that to
18 Mr. Chris Kelly. The letters stand for the
19 Legion of Doom. Back in the day when
20 Mrs. Gatelli sat up there and people would
21 come to this podium and ask questions they
22 would be ridiculed and called all kind of
23 names, one of whom was doomers. After
24 seeing the articles in the Scranton papers
25 lately, I think they have the honor of being

1 called the doomers.

2 I'm very glad to see city council
3 trying to do something. It seems as though
4 whatever city council proposes the Times and
5 the mayor is going to be against. I just
6 hope you people will continue and at least
7 try to get Scranton back on solid footing,
8 and I thank you.

9 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
10 anyone else who would like to address
11 council? Hey, Chrissy.

12 MR. SLEDENZSKI: I heard that. I
13 heard that. Jackie. Hey, Jack, I got some
14 good news for you back there, Buddy. I'm
15 working now. 8 to 7 back there. I got
16 switched to back there now. I'm working
17 back there 24 hours a night.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: At least we kept you
19 on, Chrissy, right?

20 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Thanks, Buddy. I
21 appreciate it. Pat, good job up there.
22 Keep it up, will you, Pat?

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Take care, Chrissy.

24 MR. ROGAN: Is there anyone else?
25 If not, Fifth Order.

1 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

2 MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff, do you have
3 any motions or comments?

4 MR. MCGOFF: Please. A couple of
5 things that I'd just like to mention that we
6 have received in the mail and some other
7 things. First of all, we received a
8 notification from the DCNR Bureau of
9 Recreation and Conservation notification of
10 an open grant program. I was wondering if
11 we could somehow determine whether perhaps
12 the city is applying for grants through this
13 program especially to look into the new park
14 that was suggested and I forgot what street
15 it was on --

16 MR. ROGAN: It was in North
17 Scranton.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Yeah, it was in North
19 Scranton, but certainly if we were looking
20 to funding for that area that might be an
21 area in which to do that, so hopefully the
22 city, I'm not sure who is does the grant
23 writing now for parks and rec program, I'm
24 not sure if the person that did it in the
25 past is still working in this year, but

1 certainly it's something worth looking into.

2 The second thing, I would like to
3 issue a thank you to Covenant Presbyterian
4 Church and the University of Scranton for
5 their payments in lieu of taxes and I know
6 we have, you know, argued about amounts and
7 what's fair share for people, but certainly
8 anyone who is willing to donate money to the
9 city through this program it's commendable,
10 and I would like to thank them for that.

11 Third thing, again something that we
12 received in our mail, and I asked Mr. Rogan
13 last week if anybody had looked into it,
14 it's Q-Star Technology and in there it's a
15 promotional thing, it says, "There is a
16 unique deterrent system that can help you in
17 the battle against graffiti, vandalism,
18 illegal trash dumping and copper materials
19 theft."

20 I would like to perhaps see if this
21 is something that police department and city
22 is looking into or if there is something --
23 it's worthwhile to look into, whether it's
24 cost effective, but certainly we have had
25 complaints in the past about vandalism,

1 about graffiti, especially in the parks
2 areas where for want of a better word, and I
3 hate to use it, where gangs of people
4 congregate, this may be something that's
5 worth looking into or something similar, so
6 perhaps we can investigate whether the
7 police department is looking into anything
8 of that nature, and certainly I would
9 believe that as Mr. Rogan mentioned last
10 week when we talked very briefly that this
11 may be something that is fundable through
12 CDBG or through some community grant
13 program, so I think it's something worth
14 looking into.

15 Also, we received notification of
16 bids for streetlight maintenance. I don't
17 know if any other council members, I'm sure
18 they have, but I received in the last few
19 weeks of 2010, the last few months of 2010
20 numerous complaints about streetlights being
21 out and not being taken care of. Hopefully
22 this bid process will, you know, bring us
23 someone who improve on that performance and
24 keep the streets in the city, you know,
25 lighted as they should be. Also, does

1 anybody know is there a budgeted amount for
2 this maintenance? I don't remember seeing
3 it.

4 MR. JOYCE: There is something in
5 there, I do know that. I don't have the
6 budget right in front of me, but --

7 MR. MCGOFF: Right. But, you know,
8 maybe that's something that we should -- I
9 think that the date for the bids was like
10 the 30th of the month or something around
11 there, but certainly something to keep track
12 of because I think it's something that we
13 must, you know, we must improve upon anyhow.

14 Rental Registration Act and Rental
15 Registration Program, I think we need to
16 again be proactive in this program and do
17 what we can to get it implemented as soon as
18 possible. Certainly the law governing
19 rental registration needs to be addressed,
20 we had talked about it last year and it was
21 put on hold because we never got a
22 coordinator for the program, but certainly
23 that needs to be looked at and we also need
24 to put some people in place that are
25 requesting to implement this program. It's

1 not going to run itself, and if we are
2 expecting, and I don't think that we can,
3 you know, sit back and say we are waiting
4 for the administration to do something.
5 This is something that we put into the
6 budget last year and this year and I think
7 now it's incumbent upon us to really be
8 proactive and to do something to make sure
9 that this program is implemented as soon as
10 possible and that the law is updated so that
11 it can be effective and can produce the
12 revenue that it should, but beyond that it
13 will also help alleviate some of the
14 problems that we now have with apartment
15 dwellings, absentee landlords, and so on. I
16 think it's something that we really need to
17 address as soon as possible.

18 And the last thing, just a last
19 comment from me on the StreetSmart program,
20 while I think that it may be an effective
21 program and it may be something that we
22 should look at to increase revenue I really
23 believe that this is something that should
24 be bid. I think that we are relying on a
25 statement from StreetSmart that they are the

1 only company that does this, I don't think
2 that we can do that. If we do, I think we
3 are violating the very same standards that
4 we have established. We have reduced the
5 bidding amounts, we have, you know, tried to
6 increase the number of people that are
7 available to bid on programs and I realize
8 that we want to start realizing revenue from
9 this program as soon as possible, but I
10 still think that if we are going to be
11 honest with what we are -- with what this
12 council is saying that they want to do then
13 this is something that should be bid, and
14 that is all. Thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

16 Mr. Loscombe, do you have any comments
17 motions or comments?

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you,
19 Mr. Rogan. I don't have anything prepared,
20 but I just have a couple of comments based
21 on some of our speakers here. Ms. Bloom, I
22 would like to echo her sentiments regarding
23 the children's safety. As you know that's
24 near and dear to my heart, but I don't know
25 if it's good news but this year -- or this

1 week Engine 4 remained open, although Engine
2 9 has been closed pretty much permanently,
3 but as people start retiring now or they are
4 off sick or whatever as you get into the
5 spring you are going to see the rolling
6 brownouts, Engine 4, Engine 8 which, you
7 know, I would just hope again that the mayor
8 reconsiders and appoints people as there is
9 a vacancy. Everyone's taxes are paying for
10 it, we put it in the budget, and your safety
11 and health depend on it and the only way you
12 are going to get the point across, we bring
13 it up here every week, but the people have
14 to talk -- have to call the mayor, have to
15 let it be known. Otherwise, you know, we
16 are waiting for a disaster, just like she
17 stated. I mean, it's not just fire it's any
18 kind of an incident, so there is -- this is
19 definitely a concern and I will remain on it
20 and I would just hope that the public let's
21 their ire be known, also.

22 Now, I wanted to discuss
23 StreetSmart. Mr. Ellman and Mr. Morgan I
24 believe have left here, but they seem to
25 have questions with it. Trust me, I had a

1 lot of questions, too, and I to do a lot of
2 research. I didn't want to get into a back
3 and forth debate here this evening, that's
4 not what this was setup for. It's nice to
5 see administrative people here and opening
6 their ears and eyes to what's going on,
7 although, I still feel it's going to be an
8 uphill battle.

9 I want to thank Mr. John Miskell for
10 taking the time, and one of the things that
11 has sold me on StreetSmart, and again, I'm
12 the first one to say, "Let's bid it," I
13 haven't found any company out there -- there
14 is companies out there, but not to the
15 degree of professionalism and
16 accountability, the key word accountability
17 to the public that StreetSmart possesses
18 with real time monitoring of everything. We
19 heard what happened in San Francisco with
20 the company that was mentioned here. I did
21 my research. Spent hours on the Internet
22 making phone calls and I have heard nothing
23 but compliments on the StreetSmart system.

24 You know, when I came into this
25 council I said one of the things we would be

1 looking for is increased PILOTS, increased--
2 look for innovative ways to generate
3 revenue. Well, folks, this was presented to
4 me in the summer, Mr. Miskell had seen my
5 name in the newspaper and had remembered me
6 from year's past and contacted me with this
7 program and I agreed to meet with him and I
8 passed it onto my fellow council members and
9 they thought it was a great idea. At that
10 time he explained everything to me, the time
11 lines, how he had approached the Parking
12 Authority, how he had approached the city,
13 all of this the year prior and followed up
14 with it with the mayor with no response.

15 I know I'm repeating what I stated
16 last meeting, but -- and again, I mean, they
17 have to admit here it's been presented to
18 them, they did not respond, at least they
19 came tonight to hear this and I feel
20 possibly we are on a path to cooperation. I
21 would hope so, I'm crossing my fingers,
22 because it's not for us here, it's not for
23 anybody else, it's for you the taxpayers out
24 there.

25 We were presented this year with a

1 budget that would make anyone cry. I mean,
2 when we were gutted with our public safety
3 and administrative people were making high
4 salaries, you know, they don't put fires
5 out, they don't get the bad guy, our
6 problems right now are gangs and dilapidated
7 structures, arson fires, you know, garbage
8 pickup, these are things that we have to
9 maintain, but we were presented with this
10 budget, with this manpower cut to the bone,
11 right now there would only be three
12 firehouses in this city hope if we didn't
13 amend the budget to the way we did.

14 God forbid something happened under
15 that scenario, so in our essence of looking
16 for ways of generating revenue without
17 raising the people's taxes this at this time
18 seemed to be the perfect fit. It was the
19 perfect fit, it's at the right time, and
20 it's the right technology. It's the way for
21 the city to go. We have to generate more
22 revenue and we have to do it without raising
23 the taxes.

24 If you look back at the last nine
25 years I don't see anything that was put in

1 there to generate revenue. There was many
2 one-time sales, sales of our South Side
3 Complex, our golf course. A golf -- the
4 golf course was generating revenue on an
5 annual basis. I don't agree with that sale
6 at all. I don't agree with the South Side
7 Complex. I don't think once they looked at
8 any innovative ideas in this administration
9 to raise revenues. It was always, "Okay,
10 we'll raise taxes. We will raise the fees
11 on the meters. We will do this and do
12 that."

13 I think with this situation this is
14 a first step towards our city looking at
15 revenue without coming out of all of the
16 taxpayers' pockets, and again, I know
17 Mr. Ellman and Mr. Morgan didn't agree with
18 the whole process, but I don't believe they
19 were rather pay higher taxes. The people
20 that visit the downtown would be helping
21 offset that, and in turn it is going to
22 generate more business for the downtown.
23 People will see that.

24 But I do feel this is the way to go,
25 I hope the administrative people were

1 sincere tonight and they don't throw anymore
2 hurdles in front of us because this is going
3 to take some time to get into operation, and
4 again, not only the research that I did
5 between phone calls and on-line and research
6 like that, one thing that really sold me is
7 Mr. Miskell's availability any time we
8 needed him. He came here for this caucus,
9 he was here for a caucus several weeks ago,
10 any time that I had a question or whatever
11 we would e-mail back and forth or call.
12 This is the kind of a company we want that's
13 local, that's accountable, and again,
14 transparent. The big key here transparency.
15 That's what we are all about, and this is
16 the only company that I found that has the
17 realtime transparency that we are looking
18 for and to help the people in this city to
19 offset taxes, and that's all I have to say
20 on that.

21 And the last issue, I had a meeting
22 with Representative Murphy's Office with Tom
23 Tell, his chief of staff, and several
24 members of the PennDOT engineering staff
25 along with our city engineer, Brian Swanson,

1 regarding a situation that was created by
2 Wal-Mart on South Main avenue between St.
3 Ann's and Wal-Mart reducing parking spaces
4 for businesses and homeowners by the
5 creation of a left turn lane. It's very
6 tight there, parking has been abandoned
7 without -- you know, we are still working on
8 this, so for those people that live in that
9 area we are working on it, it will take a
10 little more time, but we are making
11 progress. And also I forgot to mention,
12 Mrs. Krake was also at the meeting with us,
13 too, and she took all of the notes. Thanks,
14 Nancy. But, I think that's all I have.
15 Thank you very much.

16 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe,
17 and I'm glad to see something moving along
18 about that intersection. I spoke to a
19 business owner down there as well that was
20 experiencing problems.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yeah.

22 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Joyce, do you have
23 any motions or comments?

24 MR. JOYCE: Yes, just a few.
25 Concerning the audit, earlier this week we

1 received some correspondence from Rossi &
2 Rossi, our independent auditor, that they
3 were still awaiting city's management
4 discussion analysis section of the audit
5 report. From what I understand in speaking
6 with our city clerk, this has now been
7 taking care of by the administration and I
8 would like to thank our new business
9 administrator, Mr. McGowan, for doing so.
10 At this point we will schedule an exit
11 conference and once that is complete Rossi &
12 Rossi will have a final audit available
13 which we will be able to disclose to the
14 public.

15 Earlier tonight, in case you may
16 have missed it, we had a caucus with
17 StreetSmart Technologies, Mr. Miskell was
18 here, our new business administrator, Ryan
19 McGowan, our city solicitor and also the
20 solicitor for the Parking Authority,
21 Mr. Paul Kelly, and Mr. Scopelliti, the
22 director of the SPA.

23 At the time I had some questions for
24 Mr. Miskell, which he politely answered, and
25 I also had some questions for Mr. Scopelliti

1 and Mr. Kelly, acting as solicitor for the
2 Scranton Parking Authority, wished that I
3 would not ask him those questions as they
4 weren't related directly to StreetSmart.
5 The questions that I had are related to
6 enforcement, which in my humble opinion
7 directly affects StreetSmart or any program
8 that we would have in place.

9 And what I'm going to do tonight is,
10 Mrs. /KRAEUBG, I will read off these
11 questions for you and since they weren't
12 prepared to answer these in person perhaps
13 once they receive them by mail they could
14 answer them then.

15 So the first one is: Is it true
16 that the position of citation processor was
17 eliminated by you in the Parking Authority
18 though this position was fully funded in
19 council's budget amendments? From the
20 correspondence that I have had with a number
21 of employees in the Parking Authority I
22 understand that this position has. However,
23 before making any accusations or judgments,
24 I figured I would go straight to the source
25 being Mr. Scopelliti since he is the

1 director.

2 Number two: Is it true that you are
3 asking each citation issuer to spend two
4 hours of their day in the office to fulfill
5 the duties of the citation processor, thus,
6 eliminating eight hours of enforcement time
7 per day which is the equivalent of
8 eliminating one citation issuer?

9 Now, of course, why would
10 Mr. Scopelliti eliminate a citation issuer,
11 it would make him look bad because it would
12 like he would purposely be trying to bring
13 in less revenue to the city, however, by
14 asking four citation issuers, which we
15 currently have, to spend two hours a day in
16 the office it's basically the equivalent of
17 doing just that.

18 Number three: Could your actions in
19 doing this cause the city to issue fewer
20 citations? I think that question answers
21 itself being, yes, however, we will see what
22 Mr. Scopelliti's response is.

23 Number four: Are you following the
24 direction of the SPA citation issuers
25 account as directed in the 2011 operating

1 budget, as amended, and the budget for the
2 SPA, as amended, with the corresponding
3 letter that was sent by council? From what
4 a few employees in the Parking Authority had
5 informed me, this is not being done.

6 Number five: Are you aware that by
7 your actions of not following council's
8 budget, which was legally and lawfully
9 adopted, by taking citation issuers off of
10 the street you are deliberately reducing
11 enforcement time which can ultimately lead
12 to a budget shortfall being deliberately
13 created by you under your direction?

14 Number six: Has a grievance been
15 filed against you for these actions?

16 These are the questions that I
17 wanted to post to Mr. Scopelliti tonight,
18 unfortunately, Solicitor Kelly did not think
19 it was appropriate to ask Director
20 Scopelliti questions relating to the Parking
21 Authority at this time because they were not
22 prepared to answer those questions. Though
23 he is the director of the department I
24 believe that he should be prepared to answer
25 questions about the employees that he

1 oversees.

2 Finally, I did have a few citizens'
3 requests: Number one, I received notice
4 that the property at 508 West Market Street
5 is in poor shape, his gutters are hanging
6 off the property. In addition, front and
7 back porches are piled with junk. Residents
8 request that action be taken. Mrs. Krake,
9 can you please send a letter to
10 Mr. Seitzinger asking him to take a look
11 into the situation? Also, please copy our
12 blight control officer and Chief Duffy.

13 Various residents have reported to
14 me that the parking lot of the Dollar Store
15 on Pine Street in Scranton's hill section
16 has become a haven for suspicious activities
17 and quite possibly drug deals. In addition,
18 other residents have also reported that this
19 type of activity is occurring in the 1100
20 block of Gunster Court and the 300 block of
21 Evans Court. Mrs. Krake, can you please
22 notify Chief Duffy of this and ask him if
23 this area could be monitored a little more
24 heavily. I know that Chief Duffy is very
25 adamant about fighting this type of activity

1 in the city and he should be commended for
2 such.

3 Bellevue residents have reported
4 that properties located at 211 and 213 Fifth
5 Avenue are in a deplorable condition and are
6 filled with garbage. Mrs. Krake, if you
7 could please add this to the letter to
8 Mr. Seitzinger, and that's all I have for
9 tonight.

10 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
11 Just a piggyback on what you said about the
12 questions that you had for Mr. Scopelliti.
13 I, too, had some questions and many of them
14 you just asked from Mr. Scopelliti. What I
15 find interesting was, you know, although you
16 addressed the questions to Mr. Scopelliti,
17 it was Mr. Kelly who jumped in and I find it
18 to be a conflict that Mr. Kelly is both the
19 city solicitor and the solicitor for the
20 Parking Authority. You know, in my notes
21 when I introduced him I introduced him as
22 the city solicitor because that's the
23 position I know he holds in the city, but
24 when he spoke tonight he spoke as the
25 solicitor for the Parking Authority, so one

1 may wonder where -- which side he is really
2 looking out for.

3 And I would hope that Mr. Scopelliti
4 will follow through with what he said and
5 willing to work with us on the StreetSmart
6 system, and I would like to clear up just a
7 few misconceptions that a few people have
8 mentioned tonight.

9 A few speakers mentioned it will
10 cost more money for people to park downtown
11 with the StreetSmart system. If are
12 somebody that parks downtown, who feeds the
13 meters who pays for their time you will not
14 pay one cent more under this new system than
15 you did under the old system. If you plan
16 on going shopping for an hour or going into
17 a restaurant for an hour, put four quarters
18 in the meter, if you are there longer you
19 pay more time. This is not an increase in
20 the rate much like we saw last year when the
21 rates were doubled. The rates will remain
22 the same. The only difference is you will
23 pay for your time. You will not be able to
24 take the extra time that somebody leaves and
25 if you leave extra time you are not paying

1 for somebody else either. Hopefully this
2 will increase turnover rates in the downtown
3 which will help businesses.

4 Secondly, the article in the paper
5 about the cell phones. I agree with the
6 mayor on eliminating these cell phones. I
7 mentioned it when council first did their
8 amendments last year that people should have
9 to use their own cell phones. Five of us on
10 council we use our own cell phones. I can
11 understand the reason maybe back in the
12 early 90's when cell phone were new
13 technology and they were very expensive an
14 you'd pay on a permanent basis, but nowadays
15 many people have unlimited plans since I
16 know that's what I have because I talk to a
17 lot of residents during the week, and if the
18 five of us on council who make \$12,500 for
19 sitting up here could afford a cell phone
20 plan, I think many of the administrators in
21 the city who make much more than that could
22 also afford to pay for their own cell
23 phones.

24 Next, a few residents mentioned
25 about possibly pools closing next summer

1 and, you know, it's really frustrating to,
2 you know, when we got to the budget time
3 and, you know, we listened to the people we
4 did what the people want, we made cuts in
5 administration now the mayor is using the
6 money that should be used for lifeguards for
7 the staffing of the pools to rehire two
8 people as casual DPW workers. They were
9 eliminated in council's budget, I'll talk to
10 Attorney Hughes afterwards, I don't know if
11 there is anything that we can do, but it's
12 appalling and it's not council's intention
13 to close any pools. We did not cut funding
14 from pools, we would like to see the Capouse
15 Avenue pool open. As Mr. Sbaraglia
16 mentioned before it's very difficult for
17 somebody who lives in that neighborhood, you
18 know, say an eight or nine-year-old kid to
19 go to another pool and especially if they
20 have to go up to Nay Aug then they have to
21 pay and they shouldn't have to pay either.

22 Next I have a few residents have
23 mentioned to me about stray cats in
24 neighborhoods and I have noticed it in my
25 neighborhood as well, it's been an ongoing

1 problem, and I would urge residents if they
2 do have a problem with stray animals, cats,
3 dogs, any type of animal to contact animal
4 control or if they do, you know, catch the
5 animal to bring them up to the Humane
6 Society, throughout the neighborhoods many
7 people have been feeding stray animals and
8 it poses a risk to the animals, number one,
9 because they will be living outside in the
10 cold in these type of conditions and walking
11 around on the streets where they could
12 possibly be hit by cars, and stray animals
13 are also a nuisance to the neighbors. And
14 they often times would be, you know, camping
15 out and sleeping on a porch where it's a
16 little warmer and go into the bathroom and,
17 you know, this and that.

18 And finally, a few residents that I
19 talked to during the week, you know, they
20 give me their concerns and we've relayed
21 them for them and this one person told me
22 and it really rubbed me the wrong way then
23 they said, "I would love to come to a
24 council meeting, but I'm afraid of the
25 repercussions if I came."

1 METHOD OF EVIDENCING THE PAYMENT OF SUCH
2 TAX; CONFERRING POWERS AND IMPOSING DUTIES
3 UPON CERTAIN PERSONS, AND PROVIDING
4 PENALTIES", BY IMPOSING THE RATE OF THE
5 REALTY TRANSFER TAX AT TWO AND FIVE TENTHS
6 PERCENT (2.5%) FOR CALENDER YEAR 2011.

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

10 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

12 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
13 those in favor of introduction signify by
14 saying aye.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

17 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

18 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19 have it and so moved.

20 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AMENDING FILE OF
21 COUNCIL NO. 11, 1976, ENTITLED "AN
22 ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) ENACTING, IMPOSING A
23 TAX FOR GENERAL REVENUE PURPOSES IN THE
24 AMOUNT OF TWO PERCENT (2%) ON EARNED INCOME
25 AND NET PROFITS ON PERSONS, INDIVIDUALS,

1 ASSOCIATIONS AND BUSINESSES WHO ARE
2 RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, OR
3 NON-RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, FOR
4 WORK DONE, SERVICES PERFORMED OR BUSINESS
5 CONDUCTED WITHIN THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
6 REQUIRING THE FILING OF RETURNS BY TAXPAYERS
7 SUBJECT TO THE TAX; REQUIRING EMPLOYERS TO
8 COLLECT THE TAX AT SOURCE; PROVIDING FOR THE
9 ADMINISTRATION, COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
10 OF THE SAID TAX; AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR
11 THE VIOLATIONS", BY IMPOSING THE WAGE TAX AT
12 TWO AND FOUR TENTHS PERCENT (2.4%) ON EARNED
13 INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2011 FOR RESIDENTS.

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

17 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

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

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

24 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. AMENDING FILE OF
3 THE COUNCIL NO. 7, 1976, ENTITLED "AN
4 ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) IMPOSING A MERCANTILE
5 LICENSE TAX OF 2 MILLS FOR THE YEAR 1976 AND
6 ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UPON PERSONS ENGAGING IN
7 CERTAIN OCCUPATIONS AND BUSINESSES THEREIN;
8 PROVIDING FOR ITS LEVY AND COLLECTION AND
9 FOR THE ISSUANCE OF MERCANTILE LICENSES;
10 CONFERRING AND IMPOSING POWERS AND DUTIES
11 UPON THE TAX COLLECTOR OF THE CITY OF
12 SCRANTON; AND IMPOSING PENALTIES", BY
13 IMPOSING THE MERCANTILE TAX AT
14 THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILL (.00075)
15 FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2011.

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

19 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

21 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

22 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I would just like
23 to announce very gratefully that this is a
24 25 percent reduction from the rate that it
25 was set at last year.

1 MR. ROGAN: An council will continue
2 to hopefully reduce this rate in the future.
3 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

9 MS. KRAKE: 5-E. AMENDING FILE OF
10 THE COUNCIL NO. 8, 1976, ENTITLED "AN
11 ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) PROVIDING FOR THE
12 GENERAL REVENUE BY IMPOSING A TAX AT THE
13 RATE OF TWO (2) MILLS UPON THE PRIVILEGE OF
14 OPERATING OR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE CITY
15 OF SCRANTON AS MEASURED BY THE GROSS
16 RECEIPTS THEREFROM; REQUIRING REGISTRATION
17 AND PAYMENT OF THE TAX AS CONDITION TO THE
18 CONDUCTING OF SUCH BUSINESS; PROVIDING
19 FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF SUCH TAX;
20 PRESCRIBING SUCH REQUIREMENTS FOR RETURNS
21 AND RECORDS; CONFERRING POWERS AND DUTIES
22 UPON THE TAX COLLECTOR; AND IMPOSING
23 PENALTIES", BY IMPOSING THE BUSINESS
24 PRIVILEGE TAX AT THE RATE OF THREE-QUARTERS
25 OF A MILL (.00075) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2011.

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

4 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

6 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

7 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I'd like to also
8 reiterate that this is a 25 percent
9 reduction from the rate that was set at in
10 2010.

11 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor
12 signify by saying aye.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

15 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

16 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
17 have it and so moved.

18 MS. KRAKE: 5-F. AMENDING FILE OF
19 THE COUNCIL NO. 100, 1976, ENTITLED "AN
20 ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) LEVYING GENERAL AND
21 SPECIAL TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1977", BY
22 SETTING THE MILLAGE FOR THE YEAR 2011.

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

1 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

3 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

4 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Once again, I'd
5 like to point out that the millage rates
6 will be reduced by 10.55 percent in 2011 for
7 both land and land improvements.

8 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor
9 signify by saying aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
14 have it and so moved.

15 MS. KRAKE: 5-G. AMENDING FILE OF
16 THE COUNCIL NO. 17, 1994 ENTITLED "AN
17 ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) AUTHORIZING THE
18 GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
19 ENACT' A WASTE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION FEE'
20 FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING REVENUE TO
21 COVER THE WASTE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION
22 COSTS INCURRED BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON FOR
23 THE DISPOSAL OF REFUSE", BY IMPOSING A WASTE
24 DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION FEE OF \$178.00
25 FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2011.

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

4 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

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

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

11 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

14 MS. KRAKE: 5-H. AUTHORIZING THE
15 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
16 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT, NOT TO
17 EXCEED THE SUM OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS,
18 (\$10,000.00), WITH KNOWLES ASSOCIATES,
19 L.L.C., FOR INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES FOR
20 INSURANCE WITH GREAT AMERICAN, CNA, INDIAN
21 HARBOR INSURANCE COMPANY/XL INSURANCE,
22 PHILADELPHIA INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY,
23 ARCH INSURANCE COMPANY AND NAUTILUS
24 INSURANCE COMPANY FOR CITY INSURANCE
25 COVERAGES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2011

1 THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2012, AND TO RATIFY ANY
2 AND ALL ACTIONS AND SERVICES PERFORMED
3 SINCE THE EXPIRATION OF THE PRIOR INSURANCE
4 CONTRACT.

5 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
6 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
7 introduced into it's proper committee.

8 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

10 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
11 those in favor of introduction signify by
12 saying aye.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

15 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

16 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
17 have it and so moved.

18 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. NO
19 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. SEVENTH ORDER. NO
20 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

21 MR. ROGAN: If there is no further
22 business, I'll entertain a motion to
23 adjourn.

24 MR. JOYCE: Second.

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER