

1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2012

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

AMELIA NICOL, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
(Not Present)

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

2 MR. JOYCE: Please remain
3 standing for a moment of silent prayer
4 reflection as we remember those who
5 have passed in our community this past
6 week, and as we remember the
7 servicemen and women stationed around
8 the globe who continue to defend our
9 freedom and our way of life.

10 I'd ask tonight may you please
11 remember in your prayers Marion Tomko,
12 mother of Councilwoman Evans who is
13 currently gravely ill. If you could
14 remember her in your prayers, I'm sure
15 it will be greatly appreciated.

16 (Moment of silent reflection
17 observed.)

18 MR. JOYCE: Roll call, please.

19 MS. KRAKE: Mr. McGoff.

20 (No response.)

21 MS, KRAKE: Mr. Rogan.

22 MR. ROGAN: Here.

23 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Loscombe.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

25 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Joyce.

1 MR. JOYCE: Here.

2 MS. KRAKE: Mrs. Evans.

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JOYCE: Dispense with the
5 reading of the minutes.

6 MS. KRAKE: 3RD ORDER, 3A.
7 MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA
8 HEALTH & WELFARE AUTHORITY'S REGULAR
9 BOARD MEETING HELD APRIL 19, 2012.

10 MR. JOYCE: Are there any
11 comments?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JOYCE: If not, received and
14 filed.

15 MS. KRAKE: 3B. MINUTES OF THE
16 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING
17 HELD APRIL 25, 2012.

18 MR. JOYCE: Are there any
19 comments?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JOYCE: If not, received and
22 filed.

23 MS. KRAKE: 3C. MINUTES OF THE
24 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION
25 COMMISSION MEETING HELD APRIL 25,

1 2012.

2 MR. JOYCE: Are there any
3 comments?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JOYCE: If not, received and
6 filed.

7 MS. KRAKE: 3D. 2011 CITY OF
8 SCRANTON AUDIT STATUS UPDATE AS OF
9 MAY 21, 2012.

10 MR. JOYCE: Are there any
11 comments?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JOYCE: If not, received and
14 filed.

15 MS. KRAKE: 3E. CITY OF SCRANTON
16 2012 CASH FLOWS, GENERAL FUND
17 UPDATE AS OF MAY 17TH 2012.

18 MR. JOYCE: Are there any
19 comments?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JOYCE: If not, received and
22 filed.

23 MS. KRAKE: 3F. AGENDA FOR THE
24 ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING TO
25 BE HELD JUNE 13, 2012.

1 MR. JOYCE: Are there any
2 comments?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JOYCE; If not, received and
5 filed.

6 Are there any clerk's notes?

7 MS. KRAKE: No, Mr. Joyce.

8 MR. JOYCE: Do any council
9 members have announcements?

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, I have one.
11 Give Jim Lance a second chance. To
12 whom it may concern: I'm writing to
13 request your support to give Jim Lance
14 a second chance. This fundraiser has
15 been organized to benefit Jim Lance
16 after a recent tragedy. On
17 April 20th, 2012, Jim went for
18 motorcycle ride to clear his mind.
19 With the daughter graduating high
20 school and his wife, the love of his
21 life, fighting terminal cancer to make
22 it to her graduation. He had much on
23 his plate. No one could have
24 predicted the events of that
25 unforgettable evening. Jim was in an

1 accident that almost claimed his life.
2 After several lifesaving surgeries,
3 Jim is still with us but he has lost
4 his left leg. Jim and his family are
5 thrilled to know he will recover. He
6 will make it to his daughter's
7 graduation and he will be there to
8 support his wife while she is ill.
9 The road to his recovery, however,
10 will be a long and expensive one. Jim
11 will be transferred to a
12 rehabilitation center, he will need to
13 learn how to walk with a prosthetic
14 leg, his home will have to be altered to
15 accommodate a wheelchair and he will
16 not be able to return to work for
17 sometime, if at all. In an effort to
18 help ease the financial burden, the
19 community of North Scranton rallied
20 together to support the Lance family
21 in their time of need. Give Jim Lance
22 A Second Chance will occur on July
23 14th, 2012 from 5 p.m. till 10 p.m. at
24 Holy Rosary on West Market Street,
25 Scranton. It will be an event to

1 remember. There are a few other
2 communities with as much love and
3 support for its members like that of
4 North Scranton. We are inviting you
5 to embrace this opportunity to show
6 the community you care about the well
7 being of its member. I hope you will
8 consider a donation to this fundraiser
9 in any form. Donations can be made
10 payable to the Jim Lance Fund. You or
11 your business will be recognized on
12 signage at the event as well as social
13 networking sites and any other
14 advertisements for the event. If you
15 have any questions or would like to
16 make a donation, please feel free to
17 call me at 570-575-6752. Thank you in
18 advance for your support, Nicole
19 Lance, niece Jim Lance. Unfortunately
20 the story gets sadder. Since this
21 accident, Jim's wife, Anita, has
22 passed away. She passed away ten days
23 after this letter was put together.
24 So there's a lot of tragedy in that
25 family, and they do have a daughter,

1 Kayla, who is graduating from high
2 school. And I'll repeat this. I
3 won't read the whole letter but I'll
4 repeat so we can be reminded of the
5 date of this fundraiser. Again, July
6 14th from 5:00 to 10:00 at Holy Rosary
7 Center on West Market Street. Thank
8 you for your time.

9 MR. JOYCE: Mr. Rogan, do you
10 have any announcements?

11 MR. ROGAN: Not at this time.

12 MR. JOYCE: Councilwomen Evans
13 will not be attendance in tonight's
14 meeting as she is currently attending
15 to family issues. Her mother is
16 gravely ill. Councilman McGoff has
17 left temporarily to attend his
18 grandson's graduation and should be
19 back once the graduation is completed.

20 MS. KRAKE: Fourth Order,
21 citizens participation.

22 MR. JOYCE: Our first speaker
23 tonight is Andy Sbaraglia.

24 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
25 citizen of Scranton, Fellow

1 Scrantonians.

2 I wish I had a nickel for every
3 time I came before this podium to tell
4 you about the Parking Authority. I
5 I've been warning you about the
6 Parking Authority for years now. I
7 read an article last year -- no, last
8 meeting from the Times stating that
9 when Courtright was on there he asked
10 Scopelliti to come to address this
11 issue about the Parking Authority's
12 finances. Mr. Scopelliti told the
13 Times reporter there's no problem with
14 the Parking Authority. You're dealing
15 with a defunct authority and you've
16 got to realize that. There's nothing
17 you can do to make that authority
18 better, okay. Now, the question you
19 have before you, do you want to let it
20 go into default or do you want to bail
21 it out. That's the only answer you've
22 got before you and that's the question
23 you have to answer. Now, my solution
24 is if you plan to bail them out, you
25 do with the stipulation that the

1 entire board resign. That's the only
2 thing you can do to even make any kind
3 of a dent with the people of Scranton.
4 They sold you out. They've be selling
5 you out and they cared little or
6 nothing. I talked about it years ago
7 I went before them and read their
8 reports. I knew it couldn't be
9 sustained. There's no way. And
10 there's no way now they can sustain
11 it. But you cannot just leave them in
12 there. You've go a defunct
13 organization there. You've got a
14 click and that click has to be
15 dissolved. The only way you can
16 dissolve it now is you've got the
17 power, is say you will not back that
18 bond issue without the whole board
19 resigning. They should have already
20 resigned. I guess there isn't anybody
21 there that were a common courtesy to
22 the people of Scranton to sit on that
23 board at all and not feel a shame to
24 even be a citizen of Scranton.
25 There's no question about it. But you

1 have a heck of a question. What are
2 you going to do about it? You either
3 let them go, let them default, and let
4 it go through the legal ramifications
5 that it's going to or you can bail
6 them out this time, leave them out,
7 bail them out nine months from now,
8 bail them out again, again, again and
9 again. You've got to dissolve that
10 board. Now, if you refuse to give
11 them the money, they may go to court
12 and say you can't do it`. But you can
13 stipulate that that board resign, they
14 should have. And with the dissolving
15 of that board, you get to appoint a
16 new board, a board that will be
17 responsible to the City of Scranton
18 even though they ain't going love what
19 they're getting, just like you don't.
20 You're sitting up there, you've been
21 lamb-basted since you got in a year
22 and a half. You cannot redo the bad
23 years. Mr. McGoff ran away. I don't
24 believe him. I wouldn't even come in
25 here to hang my face what he did to

1 the city. He gave away our library
2 and people, I don't know, like I
3 always said, you've got to stop voting
4 your name and your party. You've got
5 to look at the individual candidates,
6 no matter what party they come from,
7 what race be it, whatever. They've
8 got to have the city in their heart
9 and without that, we've got nothing.
10 You end up doing the same thing all
11 the other councils did, they put you
12 in a bind where you cannot really back
13 away from your requirements. You
14 could have not done all them other
15 ones. The Court ordered this, the
16 Court ordered -- why did the Court
17 order? How about all them deals the
18 mayor did with the parking authorities
19 and the parking garages, transferring
20 them back and forth to the DPW sites.
21 That's what put us where we are now,
22 and now we're at the point where
23 there's very little way to go. I'd
24 like to go like everyone themselves,
25 Chapter 11. It's just I don't want to

1 see the employees get nailed. That
2 would be the bad thing about it
3 because you don't know what the Court
4 is liable to do. But believe me, the
5 choices we got are very limited. I
6 mean, what you're going to do to the
7 citizens of Scranton is like stabbing
8 them in the back because you're going
9 to have to tack on taxes, on taxes, on
10 taxes and this mayor doesn't know the
11 meaning of how to save a dime. You
12 don't even -- even though you said
13 \$10,000 and then they have to come
14 before council, have anybody -- you
15 ask Roseanne to give all the bills
16 that he's making and see what the
17 dollar amounts are on them or how many
18 are redundant maybe if retires from
19 one place for 9,900, retires from
20 another place for another 9,900. You
21 don't know, you've go to check those
22 things. It falls on you because what
23 you got to do to the citizens of
24 Scranton, they don't like. When I'm
25 on the street, they're coming up

1 before me and they saying they don't
2 like what you did. I don't know if
3 you had much of a choice in it. I'm
4 glad I'm not up there and have to do
5 the same thing because I would
6 probably do some of it the same as
7 you. But damn it, I wouldn't sit
8 there and like it and I certainly
9 wouldn't give that authority ever sit
10 where they are. Thank you.

11 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next
12 speaker is Bill Jackowitz.

13 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
14 Scranton City Council, Bill Jackowitz,
15 South Scranton resident, member of the
16 Scranton Taxpayers Association, a
17 member of the Legion of Doom and proud
18 of it and also a co-sponsor for the
19 Kids Swim Free for five years up at
20 Nay Aug Park.

21 Do you guys up on city council,
22 do you know what the term, Stockholm
23 Syndrome is? Mr. Rogan?

24 MR. ROGAN: I've heard the term
25 used before.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Joyce?

2 MR. JOYCE: I've heard the term
3 used before but I don't know the exact
4 definition.

5 MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Loscombe?

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: I have the same
7 comment.

8 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. Stockholm
9 Syndrome is when the hostage starts
10 taking sides with the hostage taker.
11 Okay? In this case the authority and
12 the administration are the hostage
13 takers. The hostages are city
14 council, the community of Scranton and
15 the taxpayers. So I'm hoping that
16 Scranton City Council does not adhere
17 to the Stockholm Syndrome and start
18 feeling sympathy for the hostage
19 takers. You have an opportunity
20 tonight when you make your vote.
21 Remember, those guys on the authority,
22 Mr. Scopelliti, who to me proves to me
23 tonight that he is totally unqualified
24 and I repeat that, unqualified to be
25 the Director of the Scranton Parking

1 Authority. He admitted that his
2 figures were wrong tonight that he
3 sent. And how many months, how many
4 years have you been trying to get
5 those figures. He's totally
6 unqualified. So I just hope and pray
7 for the community. Remember, the city
8 is nothing but a land mass. That's
9 all it is, 26, 27 seven square miles.
10 The community is what matters.
11 Community stands for communications
12 and unity, community. We don't have
13 that in Scranton. We have no
14 communications and have no unity.
15 That's the reason the City of Scranton
16 has been distressed for over 20 years
17 and will remain distressed for another
18 20 years. Okay? Unless something
19 changes. You have an opportunity to
20 make a change tonight. Okay? And I
21 hope you do. I hope you don't
22 subscribe to Stockholm Syndrome and
23 give him in to the hostage taker, I
24 really don't. Because the community
25 will suffer dearly.

1 Now, as far as you people
2 continuing to raise taxes. You're not
3 doing the community a favor. You're
4 not doing the citizens -- I think
5 there's like maybe 60 percent of the
6 people, maybe even less of the
7 citizens in this community pay taxes.
8 Okay? The majority of the people, a
9 large percentage of the people do not
10 pay taxes. They don't pay Scranton
11 property taxes, they don't pay school
12 taxes, they don't pay Lackawanna
13 County taxes, they don't pay any
14 taxes. The majority of the people who
15 are paying taxes are between the ages
16 of 60 and probably 85 living on Social
17 Security checks and fixed incomes.
18 Those are the people who you are
19 continuing taxing over and over and
20 over again. It has to stop. It must
21 stop. People are leaving the city in
22 droves. I don't know how many people
23 I've talked to lately, they're ready
24 to go. Why? Because they can't
25 afford to live here. They just can't

1 afford to live here. The county hit
2 us with 38 percent, the city has hit
3 us with two taxes so far. I mean, the
4 wage tax is still at 3.4 percent. The
5 mayor told us his first term that he
6 was going to reduce the wage tax one
7 ten percent one year every year that
8 he's in office. He's been in office
9 ten years now. That would be one
10 complete percentage point that the
11 wage tax would have been reduced if he
12 lived up to his promise. But he
13 didn't do that. Again, I'm totally
14 against the secret meetings that Mrs.
15 Evans and Mr. Joyce have been having.
16 Any closed door meeting to me is
17 unacceptable because there's no
18 records being kept of those meetings
19 and everybody is going to back stab
20 each other when they come out of it
21 and we're never going to find out the
22 truth. The bottom line is the city is
23 broke. We're broke. We have no
24 money. The Parking Authority has no
25 money. Nobody has any money. The

1 community doesn't have any money.
2 It's time to put a stop to this. Do I
3 want to see the city go bankrupt? No.
4 But you know what if that's the only
5 alternative, then that's the
6 alternative. My opinion, you will be
7 doing the community more justice and
8 doing more for the community by
9 allowing the city to go bankrupt than
10 continue to raise our taxes and to
11 raise people's taxes. People between
12 the age of 60 and 85 make up the
13 majority of citizens and taxpayers in
14 the City of Scranton. And you have to
15 remember that. Because remember,
16 you're the ones that are going to be
17 accountable because you're the one who
18 makes the vote, not the authority.
19 They're not going to be accountable
20 one bit. But you as an elected
21 official will be held accountable.
22 And I just hope and pray that you make
23 the right choice and the right
24 decision.

25 And one last thing, I wasn't

1 going to mention this but I have to
2 mention this. On Monday I went to the
3 Memorial Day celebration up at Nay Aug
4 Par. According to the Times Tribune
5 the guest speaker was Mayor
6 Christopher A. Doherty. He went up.
7 He made a one minute -- a minute
8 speech on Memorial Day and never even
9 spoke about the veterans. He spoke
10 about one individual and one
11 individual only for a grand total of
12 approximately one minute. As a
13 veteran, as a retired master sergeant
14 in the United States Air Force, I
15 found that very disrespectful from our
16 mayor. And, again, I see our mayor is
17 not here tonight. So, again, I hope
18 you do make the right choice.

19 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next
20 speaker is Les Spindler.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
22 council, Les Spindler, city resident,
23 homeowner, taxpayer.

24 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

25 MR. SPINDLER: I, too, want to

1 speak about the Parking Authority. I
2 hope council speaks to their words and
3 says what was printed in the newspaper
4 last week that if every person didn't
5 show up tonight, they were going to
6 vote against this money giving to the
7 Parking Authority. Mayor Doherty was
8 not here as Bill said. I guess he got
9 more important business to attend to
10 than come here and try to bailout the
11 Parking Authority. As Mr. McGowan
12 said, there's 909 and some thousand
13 dollars to give to the authority. I
14 say just let them go into default, use
15 that money to pay the debt down. Just
16 let them go belly up. We can't keep
17 keeping these authorities afloat. As
18 Attorney Hughes said, if we bail them
19 out this time, they'll be back here in
20 September and December for more money.
21 We just can't keep doing that. You're
22 raising taxes on the taxpayers here
23 you keep bailing out the authorities.
24 We can't do that. The taxpayers can't
25 put up with that. Now, I want to read

1 something out of a newspaper just a
2 few days ago. Mr. McGoff, it was a
3 quote from him. To quote, Mr. McGoff,
4 "You can't let the city go into
5 default and jeopardize this 2012
6 budget. It hers -- " Mr. McGoff said
7 of Mrs Evans -- "-- who often sets the
8 tone for the majority." Is she going
9 to be the architect of bankruptcy, I
10 don't think. Well, I wish Mr. McGoff
11 was here so he'll hear what I have to
12 say. He tried to put this on Mrs.
13 Evans when Mr. McGoff is one of the
14 persons that is responsible for this,
15 him and Mrs. Gatelli and Mrs. Fanucci
16 and all the past rubber stamp
17 councils, to pass everything that
18 Mayor Doherty sent in front of them.
19 That's why we have the problem we have
20 today. Mrs. Evans has nothing to do
21 with this. I hope Mr. McGoff watches
22 the replay of this and hears that.
23 His rubber stamping has got us into
24 all this trouble.

25 Oh, one question I wish I heard

1 asked tonight. Whatever happened to
2 the 35 million dollars that the
3 Parking Authority received a few years
4 ago. What did they do with that?
5 That's a lot of money. I think if
6 they used that money in the right way,
7 they wouldn't be in trouble they are
8 now. I would love to know what
9 happened to that 35 million.

10 Next thing, the new recovery
11 plan. All I read in the paper the
12 other day, the mayor is talking about
13 a 78 percent tax hike after we just
14 got hit with a 10 percent tax hike for
15 the next ten years, he wants to raise
16 taxes for 78 percent. How does he
17 expect the people of this city to pay
18 that? As Bill said, a lot people are
19 senior citizens. Where are they going
20 to get this money from. I work two
21 jobs myself to make ends meet and
22 there's a lot of people in the same
23 boat. I don't know what the mayor
24 thinks is going on here. And he also
25 wants to raise garbage tax. We

1 already pay a garbage tax, \$178 a
2 year. They call it a fee but it's a
3 tax which I've said it a long time
4 ago, it's illegal anyway. We pay
5 taxes to have our garbage picked up.
6 This istaxation without
7 representation. If somebody had
8 enough money to take this to Court,
9 this could be defeated and we wouldn't
10 have that \$178 garbage fee. But
11 that's all this mayor knows is to
12 raise taxes, raise taxes and the
13 people in this city just can't handle
14 it anymore. Something has got to be
15 done. And as I said, I hope you will
16 let this Parking Authority go into
17 default. That's all I have tonight.
18 Thank you.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

20 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next
21 speaker is Doug Miller.

22 MR. MILLER: Good evening,
23 council, Doug Miller, Scranton.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

25 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

1 MR. MILLER: I'd like to begin
2 tonight, obviously in discussing our
3 caucus that we had here tonight, you
4 know, as I sat back here tonight, I
5 can't help but tell you that I
6 basically found the whole thing to be
7 quite comical, a complete waster of
8 time. We came out of here, didn't
9 accomplish a single thing that we
10 didn't already know. We've listened
11 here to an authority that basically
12 came un prepared, had numbers they
13 just didn't jive and now tonight they
14 want us to just hand over nearly a
15 million dollars, once again put it on
16 the taxpayers' shoulders and expect us
17 to bail them out. Well, you know, I'm
18 actually disappointed in Mr.
19 Scopelliti and his posse here tonight
20 left, because I actually did have a
21 little goodie bag here for them and,
22 you know, maybe the next time when
23 he's here in September and when he's
24 back in December looking for another
25 handout, you know, we can just stick

1 it right in there for him. You know,
2 we can even leave one for the mayor,
3 too. You know, it's just -- it's
4 beyond frustrating at this point, you
5 know as I listen to arrogance, you
6 know, listen to Paul Kelly here
7 tonight who quite frankly shouldn't
8 have been seated at that table tonight
9 as it's a complete conflict of
10 interest that he's representing that
11 authority as well as the City of
12 Scranton. You know, he made a comment
13 that, oh, my assistant is here. I
14 don't care how many assistants you
15 have here. The bottom line you're
16 here and it's a conflict of interest.
17 I don't care. You can have this whole
18 table full with your assistants. That
19 wasn't the point. We take a look at
20 the budget they sent down. The
21 numbers just didn't add up. The
22 salaries, you know, Mr. Rogan, you
23 brought up a good question asking Mr.
24 Scopelliti what his actual salary was,
25 \$83,200 for the last two years. And

1 correct me if I'm wrong, didn't we cut
2 that salary in the budget?

3 MR. JOYCE: Yes, that is correct.

4 MR. MILLER: Yes, we did. Okay.
5 That's what I thought. And he's going
6 to sit here tonight and cry for money,
7 yet he can't abide by council's
8 budgets, he can't abide by revenue
9 enhancements that this council sent
10 down. The Street Smart Program that
11 we've been talking about for months
12 now that was estimated that could
13 generate millions in the long term.
14 Attorney Hughes, I thought you did a
15 remarkable job tonight with your
16 presentation. It was pretty
17 frustrating that they couldn't answer
18 one of his questions. The fact that
19 he couldn't come up with a legitimate
20 excuse as to why it took seven months
21 to get a response, the Mickey Mouse
22 budget that we like to call it, that
23 we received basically explained
24 absolutely nothing. I do feel they
25 should re-amend that budget and get it

1 down to council and let's start
2 talking actual facts here. You know,
3 you want to talk about millions of
4 dollars that you want us just to hand
5 over and yet you can't come up with
6 factual information. It's not the way
7 the way the real world works. Mr.
8 Scopelliti also had a good thing to
9 say about the board, that they're full
10 of experienced people, lawyers,
11 business people. It's my opinion that
12 that board is full of nothing but
13 political parasites appointed by the
14 mayor and the only way we're going to
15 turn this Parking Authority around is
16 by abolishing it all together. I'm of
17 the opinion tonight that I don't
18 believe this council should approve
19 anything involving this authority. I
20 wouldn't approve a dime and I'm asking
21 you tonight to vote this down and to
22 look out for the taxpayers. We cannot
23 continue to place these burdens on the
24 residents of this city and, you know,
25 I just would only hope that more

1 people would come down and demand the
2 accountability and demand that Bob
3 Scopelliti and Paul Kelly, Ryan
4 McGowan hold themselves accountable.
5 I mean, how can they expect a city
6 council approve a loan like this when
7 they can't even give us the proper
8 information. Mr. Loscombe talked
9 about all the numerous requests we've
10 made for the last few months.

11 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Miller, it's
12 actually not a loan. It's a gift.

13 MR. MILLER: It's a giveaway,
14 it's a bailout, yeah, thank you.
15 Yeah, it's a bailout. You've got to
16 get another bailout, now it's the
17 Parking Authority, yeah, a bailout,
18 I'm asking you tonight to vote it down
19 because the games, the politics, we
20 let it go on for far too long, and I
21 like I said, sitting back here tonight
22 listening to Bob Scopelliti make me
23 sick to my stomach and I wouldn't hand
24 him over a penny.

25 Moving on to the recovery plan.

1 Well, we were made aware on the front
2 page headlines, a proposed 78 percent
3 tax increase for the next three years.
4 You've got to be kidding me. Where
5 does this man think he's coming with
6 this? Where is he coming with these
7 figures? How does he expect the
8 residents of this city to take that
9 on, but yet again to put it on the
10 taxpayer's shoulders. I don't
11 understand where this man is going to
12 come forward and hold himself
13 accountable. Why wasn't he here
14 tonight? There's no excuse for it.
15 He was invited and he should have been
16 here as well. He's the chief
17 executive officer of this city, and
18 his absence tonight is inexcusable and
19 I would demand that he send a letter
20 to council explaining why he wasn't
21 here because he, himself, personally
22 we can probably go through months of
23 caucus of explaining that Chris
24 Doherty has to do.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mr. Miller --

1 MR. MILLER: Sure.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: The mayor is in
3 Harrisburg. He did contact me. I had
4 been working on a couple different
5 things. He is there on some -- on
6 another important issue that is going
7 to mean a lot to this city right now
8 and I can verify that. So he had
9 asked if it was okay if we would still
10 have the meeting because he had that
11 appointment down there and in time
12 you'll know that it was a valuable
13 meeting so just in his defense.

14 MR. MILLER: Okay. I appreciate
15 that. But the bottom line here is
16 we've made numerous requests for him
17 to come forward and whether it's today
18 or last week or the week before, two
19 years ago, the bottom line is he's met
20 us with that usual slap in the face,
21 he has no respect for this council,
22 but most of all he has no respect for
23 the residents of this city and that's
24 what counts and he's proven it time
25 and time again. And all I'm asking

1 for tonight is for this council to
2 continue to be the champions of the
3 people and to not allow another free
4 ride, another bailout and I ask you to
5 please vote this down tonight. Thank
6 you.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

8 MR. JOYCE: Our next speaker is
9 Ron Ellman.

10 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, council. You
11 know, this newspaper last week with
12 that 78 percent increase, I think
13 that's the worst headline I've seen
14 since the Jap's bombed Pearl Harbor.
15 When is it going to stop, you know.
16 The mayor showed his disdain for you
17 people tonight by not being here. He
18 showed his disdain for all these
19 people out there. He doesn't care
20 one iota of what the public thinks of
21 him. He just keeps going on his way.
22 Well, I won't say it. It's just
23 terrible the things that the poor
24 homeowner in the city just keep
25 suffering, you know. There was almost

1 2,000 names in the paper of money
2 owed, millions of dollars last week
3 and the week before. He never made
4 any attempt to collect it. He sent
5 them over to collect from the
6 university. That's like a dog biting
7 the hand that feeds it. He's not
8 going to attempt to get any money from
9 supporters. I don't know. The reason
10 that these people were here tonight to
11 protect their positions. The reason
12 they're here is because Mr. Scopelliti
13 is just a completely, incompetent,
14 unqualified, overpaid family friend
15 that was stuck in that position. He
16 doesn't belong there. He has no
17 resume for the post. He's jumped from
18 job to job and got that one. That's
19 why they have lost all of this money.
20 Mr. Hughes did a fine job tonight
21 explaining it in the short time he had
22 the papers, I suppose. I don't know.
23 It's just -- don't throw away anymore
24 good money after bad. Take that
25 million dollars and do something

1 around the city that we need with it.
2 You know, like I said, every time I go
3 somewhere somebody is talking about
4 how bad things are and there's just a
5 constant rape of the homeowners by
6 this administration and the
7 government, that's the people's most
8 prized possession. It's just
9 impossible. I can't afford my house
10 much longer. It's already twice what
11 it was 20 years ago. Now, you're
12 talking about another doubling it once
13 more. Doherty would make a ghost town
14 out of this place, you know. You
15 people sitting there think, not only
16 your children and your grandchildren,
17 your great grandchildren will be
18 paying for what Doherty has messed
19 right now today and probably beyond
20 that. There's just no way a town of
21 37,000 taxpayers could pay, you know,
22 millions of billions of dollars. And
23 you have the papers, the editorial
24 said you've got to give them, the
25 authority the money. Maybe if you

1 showed the banks it's time to quit
2 they would have a little more latitude
3 with you instead of just keep giving
4 in and giving in. There's no way the
5 Parking Authority can get out of the
6 mess they're in. It's just like the
7 city. I don't know, you know, what
8 they can do but you're just talking
9 about a totally insufficient
10 organization that's in chaos. It's
11 got to stop. Somehow it's got to
12 stop. Those men sitting here tonight,
13 I don't know how many of you watch
14 wrestling because I'm a big fan.
15 Two weeks ago one of the wrestlers was
16 fired. He got on his hands and knees
17 and pleaded and cried and begged and
18 all that silly nonsense for his job
19 back. Last week they gave him his job
20 back. You know what he did,
21 immediately just got -- he turned his
22 back on all the public, he turned his
23 back on everybody that supported him
24 and said, "I got a contract now."
25 That's just what those people will do.

1 You give them their money, they're
2 going to turn their back on us, they
3 want more money and more money and
4 more money and it will never end.
5 Now, you've got a chance to let them
6 go, cut them loose. The people want
7 cuts, give them some cuts in the
8 Parking Authority. Thank you.

9 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

11 MR. JOYCE: Our next speaker is
12 Gary Lewis.

13 MR. LEWIS: Good evening.

14 MR. Joyce: Good evening.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

16 MR. LEWIS: My name is Gary
17 Lewis. I'm a resident of downtown and
18 I'm also a consultant specializing in
19 distressed status and distressed
20 finance. I'm here to speak to you
21 about Scranton's dire financial
22 condition again. Tonight I'd like to
23 cover three points. First, the recent
24 FEMA grant of eight million dollars;
25 second, the city's newly proposed

1 recovery plan; and third, the Chapter
2 9 bankruptcy filing.

3 First, the FEMA grant. This
4 amount which is yet another one-time
5 revenue source is tantamount to a
6 backdoor bailout of this city. All
7 parties involved in local government
8 should be ashamed that this grant was
9 necessary. It places the burden of
10 running this city squarely on the
11 shoulders of U.S. taxpayers. This
12 bailout brings the total one time
13 revenue items in 2012 to 14.2 million
14 dollars. It's the 8.2 million dollars
15 of the FEMA grant and the six million
16 dollar one time revenue item relate to
17 the meter sale. It still leaves the
18 city with a deficit that we plan to
19 cover with unfunded borrowing of
20 approximately nine million dollars.
21 This was not a fix for any of the
22 city's problems. It was yet another
23 way to kick the can a little further
24 down the road.

25 Second, the city's newly proposed

1 recovery plan still leaves a
2 structural deficit for 2013 of
3 approximately seven million dollars.
4 Without another magical one-time
5 revenue source or additional reckless
6 borrowing at astronomical discount
7 rates, the city will face insolvency
8 in 2013. I urge the council members
9 to begin exploring and preparing a
10 Chapter 9 filing as soon as possible.
11 You have seven months left in 2012.
12 In order to be eligible for bankruptcy
13 the city really needs to address two
14 main factors. The first is the city
15 insolvent and the second, has the city
16 engaged in good faith negotiations
17 with their collective bargaining
18 units, and if not, can you prove that
19 it was deemed to be impractical.
20 Unfortunately I believe the question
21 to the insolvency issue will answered
22 for us when the city becomes insolvent
23 in 2013. To address the second
24 factor, I again urge council to begin
25 negotiating with the unions to reduce

1 salary and benefits, including an
2 increase in the amount that Union
3 members pay for healthcare. Failure
4 to plan for bankruptcy now will lead
5 to a chaotic disorganized dissent into
6 insolvency and will scar this city for
7 decades. For years council and the
8 administration have addressed the
9 symptoms of this city's crises without
10 ever paying attention to the root
11 cause of -- the root cause being a
12 massive structural deficit driven by
13 excessive Union compensation and
14 astronomically high debt service
15 costs. To address these symptoms the
16 parties have focused on one time
17 revenue items such as the sale of the
18 municipal golf course, the sale and
19 leaseback of the parking meters, the
20 FEMA grant and now the proposed sale
21 of the city's stormwater system. The
22 sale of city assets to various
23 authorities simply forces the
24 authorities to borrow recklessly and
25 allows the city to temporarily avoid

1 insolvency. It's a short term fix
2 with long term implications and we're
3 just starting to see the fallout of
4 this approach with the Parking
5 Authority. I urge you to not allow
6 this to continue. It's time to focus
7 on the problem. It's time to reduce
8 the debt, restructure the corrective
9 bargaining agreements and stop raising
10 taxes. It's time to prepare for
11 bankruptcy. Thank you.

12 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

14 MR. Joyce: Our next speaker is
15 Gerard Hetman.

16 MR. HETMAN: Good evening,
17 council. Gerard Hetman for the
18 Lackawanna County Department of
19 Community Relations. Good evening.

20 Going into this weekend we would
21 just like to remind everyone of an
22 event that I spoke about previously
23 which is the annual Arts on Fire
24 Festival which will be taking place
25 this weekend at the historic Iron

1 Furnaces right down next to the
2 Chamberlain on Cedar Avenue. The
3 events begin tomorrow evening, Friday,
4 June 1st, with a parade on Lackawanna
5 Avenue at 7:45 p.m. The festivities
6 start with the first at the furnace
7 fundraiser from 8 o'clock until
8 11 o'clock p.m. The fundraiser will
9 cost \$20 at the door. Tickets are \$15
10 in advance but this will be in support
11 of the Anthracite Heritage Museum and
12 the Iron Furnace Associates, Bluegrass
13 music, drinks will be provided, food
14 and, again, vendors and a nighttime
15 iron pour which is always a colorful
16 and certainly hot event, an
17 interesting event for anyone who
18 hasn't one, especially for the first
19 time. After that, both on Saturday
20 and Sunday, there will be a number of,
21 again, iron pouring demonstrations,
22 crafts, vendors, food and a post
23 musical entertainment. The shows run
24 from Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and
25 on Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. We wish

1 everyone to come out and take a look
2 and have some fun. And, again, the
3 events on Saturday and Saturday both
4 are free. There's no admission
5 charge. It's just Friday evening for
6 the fundraiser. There is a \$20 at the
7 door fee. But both Saturday and
8 Sunday, they are free events for the
9 public to come in and enjoy.

10 In addition to that, of course,
11 tomorrow night is first Friday
12 downtown. This month we actually have
13 30 venues on the list and when you
14 combine this with the Arts on Fire
15 Festival and the fundraiser tomorrow
16 evening, it's going to make for an
17 exciting evening downtown. We all
18 want to see fun, exciting things
19 happening downtown, lively things,
20 things that will highlight the best
21 for our city and the best for our city
22 and our county and our area have to
23 offer. This is going to be a night
24 tomorrow night that will certainly do
25 that and we hope to see it grow and

1 expand and hope a lot of our regulars
2 will come down and all of our citizens
3 will come down and have a very good
4 time in downtown Scranton.

5 And our last announcement is just
6 a reminder again, the Lackawanna
7 Heritage Valley is presenting the
8 Heritage Explorer Bike Tour Festival
9 on Saturday, June 16th, 2012, from 8
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mellow Park in
11 Peckville. And the LHVA is seeking
12 both bike riders. This is a
13 noncompetitive event. It's a family
14 friendly event. Riders of all ages
15 are welcome and there's a variety of
16 different lengths that they can ride
17 from 5, 11, 22 and 44 miles routes so
18 it's a broad choice there. Again,
19 it's noncompetitive, friendly for all
20 ages, all riding abilities, and the
21 LHVA is also seeking volunteers for
22 various duties on the trail and with
23 the event. It's a great way for
24 school group whether seeking community
25 service time to get time or people who

1 just want to help out, take them out
2 and have a good time on the trail.
3 Information on this, both for
4 registration, for participate and
5 volunteering can be obtained at
6 [www.heritageexplorer](http://www.heritageexplorer.org) -- that's all one
7 word, dot org. And the phone number
8 to call for phone information is
9 570-963-6730. Again, that's
10 www.heritageexplorer.org or
11 570-963-6730. Again, we thank you for
12 your time. We hope to see you at the
13 events coming up.

14 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next
15 speaker is David Dobrzyn.

16 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave
17 Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, taxes
18 paid. All right. I wrote myself a
19 little note.

20 On 6D we have a resolution for
21 passing, tax exemptions for blight and
22 I'll combine that with my other
23 previous statements. No new
24 exemptions only on previous
25 commitments. Also box zone, all new

1 expansions, hoagie shops, taxes don't
2 cut it. What I mean by box zoning is
3 we have 35 percent of our city is tax
4 exempt and we can't afford anymore.
5 In light of whatever has to be done, I
6 worked with you people to get into
7 office and I don't have any qualms
8 with anybody up there but we can't go
9 on like this. I know it's going to
10 take years and years to rescue, we
11 might have to vote somebody two or
12 three times again before things get
13 straightened out. They turn it to the
14 courts and overrule us and do whatever
15 they want, and it's just impossible.
16 If they plan or have to raise my taxes
17 which is really 90 percent. If you
18 read the paper, it's not 78 percent,
19 it's more like 90 percent because it
20 parlays. It's so many percent of the
21 percentage of last year's so it
22 actually increases to a point of 90 or
23 95 percent over three years. And we
24 really can't afford anymore tax
25 exemptions for anybody and that's all

1 there is to it. And I had -- I'll
2 have to put this in writing next week
3 but final thing have been mentioned
4 many times as far as blight and so
5 forth, and it was my understanding
6 that their original -- originally they
7 were listed as a tax exemption because
8 it's based on some religious order and
9 it's really a profit making business.
10 And it's a shame that I could get
11 saddled with taxes for somebody like
12 that that has literally stuff that
13 looks to be junk laying all over the
14 landscape causing problems for the
15 neighbors. Now, I here they're in the
16 Capital Records building. So is that
17 going to be tax exempt some day, it
18 makes me wonder. And the med school
19 and Scranton U, I wish they had gotten
20 some kind of agreement there, because
21 years ago it was put here and then the
22 carpet was pulled on a lot of funding
23 and once again the states pulled the
24 carpet on us -- out from under our
25 feet.

1 On the Parking Authority, I think
2 half of their problem is their park
3 fees are too high. At 3.70 a hour was
4 it that I heard because I haven't
5 parked there for a long time. I used
6 to park there for council meetings
7 when it was a dollar an hour and I
8 could give a tip and still have change
9 from my five bucks. It's not worth --
10 it's really not worth it. What am I
11 going to pay, seven or eight dollars
12 to park over there. That's craziness.
13 I think they raised their fees so high
14 that nobody wants to park there.

15 And when I hear these comments
16 about the economy, it's not coming
17 back tomorrow or next year or the year
18 after that or possibly ever because we
19 keep outsourcing jobs to other
20 countries, Third World countries with
21 people working on the business end of
22 a AK-47. So as long they're working
23 on the business end of a AK-47, we're
24 not going to see a better economy or
25 jobs that are promised. It just isn't

1 going to happen.

2 There's an article in there for a
3 construction in the library. I would
4 support that because they don't have
5 good access and also this has been
6 going on now, the Union settlement for
7 how long and, please, get if you have
8 you get the Union leaders in here to
9 let us know what they think the
10 settlement is going to be because I
11 feel the administrations is keeping us
12 in a dark and just using this as an
13 excuse for a generous spending
14 program.

15 And one other thing I've been
16 mentioned about lack of recycling.
17 While I still don't have it and put in
18 a request for how much the tipping
19 fees for recycling as opposed to trash
20 fees, well, I have a national figure
21 and that's 30 billion dollars a year.
22 So that's what 300 or 30 thousand
23 million or something like that, 30
24 thousand million, is that the figure?
25 Well, just guess, do we have -- or

1 3,000 million. Do we have a potential
2 for a city the size of Scranton to be
3 paying an extra million dollars a year
4 out of the budget just to dump
5 recyclable material? What amazes me
6 is that the people with the most kids
7 and the biggest families, they're the
8 ones, they're the biggest cynics of
9 any type of environmental concerns and
10 they can bury me up on West Mountain
11 and let the -- or East Mountain and
12 let the crows pick at my bones, I
13 don't care, because I never raised a
14 family so I don't have anybody to
15 worry about once I'm gone. But it's
16 really amazing how many recyclable
17 material that I see tossed in the
18 trash and it's all over.

19 Florida once again finally, the
20 golden parrot, 170,000 people are
21 being kicked off the roads in Florida.
22 Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge
23 being accused of being noncitizens.
24 It's totally unacceptable. And it's
25 time for Rick Scott to wise up and

1 Erik Holder, get off your buns and do
2 something about it, quack, quack.

3 Have a good night.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

5 MR. JOYCE: Thank your. Our next
6 speaker is Lee Morgan.

7 MR. MORGAN: Good evening,
8 council.

9 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

11 MR. MORGAN: I'm going to
12 probably move away from the subject
13 that most people spoke about tonight.
14 I'm a city resident who owns rental
15 properties in the city. Now, when
16 Chief Elliot was chief, which he isn't
17 now, of course, Mr. Duffy is chief, we
18 had a problem with an officer and
19 intend to try to talk to Chief Duffy
20 tomorrow but I haven't been able to
21 get a ahold of this gentleman for the
22 last couple of months and he's --
23 maybe he's busy. I'm not going to
24 criticize him. I left messages for
25 him and just haven't had a returned

1 call at this point. But when Chief
2 Elliott was the chief, I had a problem
3 with an officer who lives down the
4 street, Kyle Kemp. Well, he's been
5 terrorizing my tenants now for I'd say
6 I don't know at least five years. I
7 mean, they move out, he's screaming
8 and yelling and acting in a very
9 unprofessional manner. Today I had a
10 tenant who moved out in the process of
11 moving out this gentlemen came running
12 up the street, screaming, yelling,
13 cursing, seeking confrontation and I
14 think he was going to get
15 confrontation this time. So I don't
16 know how many police officers were
17 there, quite a few. But all this
18 stems over this cell phone here -- I
19 mean, a discussion. I stopped today
20 at council to pick up file of council
21 37. I was going to speak on that
22 tonight. But last about 8 o'clock I
23 had cell phone off, I kept getting
24 messages, a tenant calling me she was
25 -- just didn't know what to do. She

1 was at her wit's ends. Well, two days
2 before that Kyle Kemp had harassed one
3 of her friends that she had staying
4 there. The lady was a little
5 distraught. But yesterday after this
6 situation, you know, the lady was
7 watching her, was really concerned
8 about her well being and this woman
9 committed suicide. I mean -- I mean
10 it's absolutely ridiculous that
11 Scranton has a police officer on the
12 force that runs around threatening
13 people, screaming, yelling, abusing
14 his police powers, and it's been a
15 course of action that's taken a long
16 -- it's been going on a long time.
17 Now, I talked to Chief Elliott about
18 it. He agreed this officer was out of
19 control. I spoke to the sergeant at
20 the time on night shift and said that
21 there would be absolutely no more
22 problems and this officer would stay
23 away from my properties and my
24 tenants. Well, look at it. After
25 Chief Duffy took over, it was like the

1 Wild West all over again. And I just
2 think there needs to be an
3 investigation of this officer and this
4 department because now somebody has
5 killed themselves. This lady killed
6 herself last night at 8 o'clock at
7 night after a confrontation Mr. Kyle
8 Kemp. And, you know, I know we're all
9 sitting here, we're all talking about
10 the city's status. But, you know,
11 officers are supposed to serve and
12 protect, not harass, intimidate. I
13 mean I've lost so many tenants over
14 silliness. I'm tired of that guy
15 threatening me, I'm tired of him
16 coming up here. Even when Chief
17 Elliott told him stay away from my
18 properties, he made comments that
19 we'll just have one of his friends at
20 the police force continue to harass my
21 tenants. That's why I'm so troubled
22 when you pass legislation and you give
23 tons of people the authority to move
24 on legislation that have no expertise
25 and enforcement. Now, this officer

1 here was a major problem. I'm hoping
2 the district attorney will look at
3 this and the state police. But you
4 know something, there's a 35-year-old
5 woman who killed herself over this
6 man's harassment. And when I listen
7 to my phone call and then after I
8 stopped and I picked up this
9 legislation, I went to the tenant, I'm
10 thinking, what could have happened?
11 Did their dog get out and bite
12 somebody? So I knocked on this lady's
13 door and she said, "My girlfriend
14 killed herself last night because this
15 guy just won't leave us alone." And
16 the tenant today, 2 o'clock he's
17 moving out. It's near 2 o'clock and
18 this guy is up there all over him.
19 And my point is, is that the kind of
20 people we have working for us that run
21 around with a badge and a gun and
22 intimidate people. And like I said,
23 this is a course of action over five
24 years. Chief Elliott at least took
25 care of it. Mr. Duffy, I don't know

1 what he's thinking. And even Chief
2 Elliott admitted this line was out of
3 line. And the sergeant I talked to on
4 the telephone said that this officer
5 was out of line. And my question is,
6 why is this guy running around with a
7 Scranton patrolman's badge on and a
8 gun. And, you know what, it's not
9 only me. I've had other people live
10 in the neighborhood, they're tired of
11 his harassment, his intimidation
12 tactics. Me, I'm not intimidated by
13 him. He tried to intimidate. I told
14 him, "Go play." Okay? Because I have
15 no respect for a punk, okay, and
16 that's what I think he is. All right.
17 But for a woman to kill herself over a
18 situation like that. You know, the
19 woman said to me, "I was really
20 concerned how shock up she was."
21 Somebody needs to find out why this
22 guy is wearing a badge for the City of
23 Scranton and why he's carrying a gun,
24 and I'm going to see the mayor
25 tomorrow and I'm going to see the

1 chief and I'm going to see the state
2 police and I'm going to see the
3 district attorney because this guy in
4 my opinion has committed crimes
5 wearing our badge. Thank you.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

7 MR. JOYCE: Is there any one else
8 who wishes to address council?

9 MR. JONES: All right. Bob
10 Jones, Scranton resident, member of
11 the taxpayers.

12 I'd just like to say you all did
13 a great job in the Parking Authority
14 today and, Mr. Hughes, I thought you
15 were going to do a -- and ask him what
16 planet he lived on. But I'm a nice
17 guy. So I'm going to write down this
18 figure and if Mr. Migliorre would
19 help, I'm going to show it because I
20 know Mr. Scopelliti went home but I'm
21 going to write down this figure and
22 I'm going to show it to him and if I
23 can show it to council, too. Probably
24 is out there. That was figure I wrote
25 down. So I'm just going to run that

1 by you Mr. Scopelliti and I hope you
2 consider it.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

4 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else
5 who wishes to address council?

6 MR. MARENGO: Good evening,
7 council. My name is Luis Morengo,
8 resident of South Side, taxpayer.
9 Right now we're at that point where I
10 know the city is in distress but the
11 taxpayers, we cannot afford anymore
12 tax increases. As we are right now, I
13 work a full-time job, my wife works a
14 full-time job, we had to cut the
15 cable, we have no air conditioner, we
16 have to make repairs to the house and
17 simply there's no money for it. If we
18 get another tax increase, I don't know
19 what I am supposed to do. The city
20 has to make sacrifices and the
21 sacrifices cannot be just getting rid
22 of what nobody cares about it. It has
23 to be getting rid of what people
24 actually care about, what is not
25 necessary. We have to go back to the

1 basics and that's the only way if we
2 will be able to move forward without
3 hitting the taxpayers with another tax
4 increase. Thank you very much.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

6 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else
7 who wishes to speak to council?

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening
9 council. Marie Schumacher, city
10 resident and taxpayer.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

12 MR. SCHUMACHER: I hope to be
13 brief tonight, but I would like to
14 tell you what I would like to hear
15 from you tonight during Fifth Order.
16 It's my understanding that in the
17 event of a default on a bond at least
18 general obligation, I'm not sure it
19 applies to revenue. But when the city
20 puts it's full faith credit and taxing
21 powers behind a bond, then the holders
22 of the bond have a right to compel a
23 tax levy or a legislative
24 appropriation. That would be much
25 like the unfunded debt that the Court

1 handed down along with coverage for a
2 millage of tax increase, property tax
3 increase to pay for that is 9.85
4 million. So I would like to know if
5 that is correct. I would also like to
6 know, I read the backup for that 35
7 million dollar bond back in 2007 when
8 it was before council and I don't
9 remember, was the parking structure
10 used as collateral for that loan or
11 was it just the taxing power of city?
12 And if one of the structures or more
13 was used as collateral, do they have
14 the right -- would they have the right
15 to sell that to liquidate the debt?

16 And then onto the recovery plan,
17 the revised recovery plan, I'm hoping
18 tonight to hear what council submitted
19 to PEL that was not accepted or rather
20 rejected, and I would also like to
21 hear when there will be a public
22 hearing on the revised recovery plan.
23 Back in -- last year on the 29th of --
24 and I'm skipping back to the bond
25 because there's something I don't

1 understand but, first, I'll read this.
2 Mr. Joyce, this is what you said
3 roughly on the 29th of November last
4 year. "Because we are being hit with
5 a 1.6 million dollar expense from
6 PennStar Bank due to the fact that
7 Scranton Redevelopment defaulted on
8 the loan which we are obligated to pay
9 since we financially back authorities
10 and as well as another 1.6 million
11 deficit that's projected from the
12 Scranton Parkin Authority and the
13 Scranton Parking Authority in 2012, we
14 have quite a task on our hands." And
15 I believe Mr. Hughes had stated the
16 week before that the Scranton
17 Redevelopment loan would default on
18 the 15th of December of last year and
19 that we had to move forward because
20 litigation was instituted by PennStar
21 Bank. Now, I don't understand what
22 the difference is between what's going
23 on now with the Scranton Parking
24 Authority and what happened last year
25 with the Redevelopment Authority. I

1 mean, the Redevelopment Authority no
2 budget was asked for from them, they
3 weren't here, and do we have any
4 knowledge of what bonds they may have
5 out or what financial obligations they
6 may come in with again? I would like
7 to know and what the difference is
8 between the situation of last year and
9 the situation this year. And then
10 finally --

11 MR. HUGHES: I'll be very quick.
12 The Redevelopment Authority, what
13 happened what that, that was the
14 financing of the city's delinquent
15 taxes that were sold, that were to be
16 collected. It was 100 percent
17 financing by the bank to collect
18 delinquent taxes. It was a loan that
19 was going to default from the
20 beginning. The city guaranteed it,
21 they got the money in. When the
22 people that were collecting delinquent
23 taxes, they hardly collected any of
24 the delinquent taxes, the note became
25 due, the city became liable. They had

1 to give the money back. That's why
2 it's in there. It was a very
3 complicated agreement. It never
4 should have been made in the first
5 place. Of if it was made, what should
6 have happened was when they sold
7 delinquent taxes, they were sold and
8 the loan was with recourse which meant
9 that the city was always liable on the
10 note. So as a result, when you a
11 100 percent financing on delinquent
12 taxes, you know that it's going to
13 default. I can't get into the
14 agreements. I just don't want to.
15 It's an entirely different situation
16 than is with the Parking Authority.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. I really
18 would like to know the difference
19 between with recourse and full --

20 MR. HUGHES: I'm not here to
21 give, you know, to give a lecture but
22 the difference is this. With recourse
23 means that when you sell it, you're
24 still liable. Without recourse, it's
25 up to the buyer to collect. The buyer

1 doesn't collect it, that's his loss.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank
3 you.

4 MR. HUGHES: In this case with
5 recourse meant that when the city did
6 it, they were still liable. When they
7 sold it to the Redevelopment
8 Authority, the Redevelopment Authority
9 went and got the financing. The bank
10 never should have given the loan in
11 the first place in my opinion.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: No. I
13 understand. It was unrealistic
14 expectations. I just didn't know the
15 difference between recourse and the
16 full faith credit and taxing power.
17 Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. HUGHES: They're to two
19 different concepts. I don't want to
20 address it anymore.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'm sorry. I
22 didn't mean to impose. Has -- and
23 finally I would like to know if
24 council has ever written to the
25 representatives and the senator that

1 represent the City of Scranton to urge
2 them to support the HB-1776 and
3 SB-1400 on the elimination of the
4 school property taxes? That would
5 certainly help a lot of taxpayers and
6 make the pill that you're going to
7 force us to swallow a lot easier to
8 get down. Thank you.

9 MR. Joyce: Thank you.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: And I do hope I
12 hear the answers. Thank you.

13 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else
14 that wishes to address council?

15 MS. CHILIPKO: Good evening,
16 council. Excuse me. Mary Chilipko,
17 resident of City of Scranton.

18 I would just like to say my, my,
19 my how people's attitude change when
20 they have to beg. Simply amazing.

21 Mr. Hughes, if I could ask
22 Attorney Hughes. Could you simply
23 refresh my memory. You mentioned a
24 few weeks ago about a certain Mr.
25 Little.

1 MR. HUGHES: I did?

2 MS. CHILIPKO: Yeah. I think his
3 first name was chicken.

4 MR. HUGHES: Oh.

5 MS. CHILIPKO: Could you refresh
6 my memory on that what he said.

7 MR. HUGHES: I don't remember.

8 MS. CHILIPKO: Something about
9 the sky falling.

10 MR. HUGHES: Oh, okay. Now I
11 remember. I'm back --

12 MS. CHILIPKO: What happened to
13 him in the end?

14 MR. HUGHES: Nobody believed him,
15 I believe.

16 MS. CHILIPKO: About the sky
17 fell?

18 MR. HUGHES: I believe it's an
19 nursery rhyme, I forget.

20 MS. CHILIPKO: I just wanted you
21 to refresh my memory on that. I
22 remember you saying the sky is
23 falling, the sky is falling.

24 Anyway, the little I heard
25 tonight from what I understood it, the

1 caucus, they had to -- the Scranton
2 Parking Authority had to pay someone
3 to bring wrong figures, to get wrong
4 figures, then they had to pay somebody
5 else to get more wrong figures and now
6 they may have to pay to train somebody
7 to possibly get wrong figures. As Mr.
8 Hughes explained from what I
9 understand, we're going to have pay
10 now or pay latter. It really doesn't
11 matter. We're going to pay it at some
12 point, whether it's now, later or not
13 at all and that being us being the
14 taxpayers of the city. Mr. Scopelliti
15 says we're fine, the mayor says we're
16 fine, the Parking Authority says we're
17 fine. I'm not fine. But if it is
18 possible at all to get a million
19 dollars from somebody and having wrong
20 figures, I'm in. Thanks for the bag,
21 Doug. Anytime throw it in there,
22 dudes. Maybe if you let them default,
23 the only possible aspect I could see
24 of that is that they might be looking
25 for jobs sooner rather than later and

1 say a year and a half or so.

2 Off topic I would just like to
3 ask if could send Mr. Wallace who is
4 my immediate concern another letter
5 asking him to appear before a caucus
6 of council because this was sure great
7 tonight. I don't know if it will do
8 any good but at least we'll start a
9 paper trail maybe --

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: I will do that
11 because I had had some questions today
12 from someone else also.

13 MS. CHILIPKO: Let's see if we
14 can keep doing that and keep reminding
15 the people out there that, you know,
16 people are concerned. And I thank you
17 both, Mr. Loscombe and now Mr. Rogan
18 for coming down into Pine Brook to
19 look at the situation but maybe if we
20 start a paper trail, again, when they
21 -- in the future when some of these
22 people, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Scopelliti
23 may actually have to produce a resume
24 or qualifications to land a job, it
25 might make a difference.

1 And lastly again I bring up
2 shame. I am shocked at how people
3 cannot be shamed whether it's a job,
4 whether it's an authority, how they
5 can't even be -- have no shame.
6 Things fall apart around them,
7 millions of dollars are at stake, no
8 shame. Thank you guys for doing such
9 a great job, hard work. Thank you.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

11 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Is there
12 anyone else who wishes to address
13 council? Hey, Chrissy.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: There Chrissy.

15 MR. SLEDNESZSKI: Jackie?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: What's up, buddy?

17 MR. SLEDNESZSKI: Jackie, what's
18 up with the firehouses? When does it
19 open? Which ones? Do you know which
20 ones open yet, Jack?

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Who?

22 MR. SLEDNESZSKI: Which ones
23 open, the firehouses? Which ones? Do
24 you know yet?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: No, not yet,

1 buddy.

2 MR. SLEDNESZSKI: Let me know,
3 Jack.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: They should all be
5 open pretty soon.

6 MR. SLEDNESZSKI: Will you let me
7 know? Let me know, Jack? All right.
8 Thanks, Jack.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: You're still
10 working, pal. You got it, Chris.

11 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else
12 who cares to address council?

13 (No response.)

14 MS. KRAKE: 5A. MOTIONS.

15 MR. JOYCE: Mr. Rogan, do you
16 have any motions or comments?

17 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
18 Joyce. I guess I'll start off on the
19 topic of the night of the Parking
20 Authority. I think tonight's caucus
21 was very enlightening to see how
22 exactly how mismanaged this authority
23 actually is. Over half a year ago
24 Attorney Hughes sent a letter to Mr.
25 Scopelliti asking for facts and

1 figures. Today when being questioned
2 by Attorney Hughes about the figures
3 that were finally produced about seven
4 months later, Mr. Scopelliti's
5 response was that he has to double
6 check the figures because he is not
7 sure if they are correct. Then asked
8 the natural followup to that and I
9 said to Mr. Scopelliti, how could
10 council make an informed decision
11 without the proper documentation? And
12 all he said was, "I understand, Mr.
13 Rogan." Well, Mr. Scopelliti is going
14 to have to understand that I'm not
15 voting for this. I didn't vote for it
16 last week. I'm not voting for it
17 again. The authorities -- it seems to
18 when you talk to them about the
19 current financial status as was
20 mentioned, the sky is falling. But
21 then when you ask, well, what's your
22 plan for reform, they say, oh, well,
23 it's going to be great after we get
24 this money. You know, they have their
25 one page Scranton Parking Authority

1 plan of action that is going to solve
2 all the problems of the Parking
3 Authority, a one page proposal. And
4 this is the solution to everything.
5 And one of them mentioned on there
6 again is the refinancing of bonds
7 which we all know that is more debt,
8 spreading out the debt over a longer
9 period of time. The Parking Authority
10 was here today because of debt. And
11 on their plan of action is included as
12 possibilities three finance bonds,
13 more debt. And many of the other
14 things are listed on here should have
15 been done since day one. They haven't
16 been working. The Parking Authority
17 is much like all the other authorities
18 and the most frustrating part about it
19 is there's no accountability. Mr.
20 Scopelliti would not have been here
21 today with the other members if they
22 weren't coming here looking for a
23 million dollars of the taxpayers
24 money. We have been requesting them,
25 Mr. Wallace, many other heads of

1 departments and heads of authorities
2 to come into city council and they
3 only come in when they need money or
4 something from us. We're here to
5 represent the taxpayers. We're
6 elected by the voters. The member of
7 the authority are appointed by one
8 person and that's Mayor Doherty and
9 they only answer to one person.
10 That's the difference between having a
11 municipal authority and elected
12 officials. Personally I believe that
13 Mr. Scopelliti should resign, Mr.
14 Kelly absolutely should not be the
15 solicitor for the city and the Parking
16 Authority which is absolutely a
17 conflict. The board should be
18 disbanded. The parking garages should
19 be taken inhouse so the city can move
20 forward with a plan to get back on
21 track. If we have to lease garages to
22 make the debt payment for the
23 authority, lease them. If we have to
24 sell them, sell them. But the
25 solution isn't more borrowing and

1 spending almost three-quarters of a
2 million dollars on a brick facade for
3 a building. Sure, it looks nice.
4 They're coming here for nearly a
5 million dollars, 600,000 of it if they
6 didn't spend to put a brick facade on
7 the building right down the street,
8 they would have had it. And their
9 answer was, well, it was part of the
10 bond issue. Well, why borrow that
11 much. Every time these authorities --
12 and even the administration. The
13 answer is always borrowing and taxing.
14 The people cannot afford it. The
15 residents of Scranton are mostly
16 senior citizens and working people,
17 many on a fixed income, many working
18 people working two or three jobs just
19 trying to make ends meet. And Mr.
20 Scopelliti and the board of the
21 Parking Authority want us to giveaway
22 nearly a million dollars of their
23 money that all of you earned, just
24 give it away. And then they'll be
25 back here three months later looking

1 for more money. I asked Mr.
2 Scopelliti if we give you this money,
3 is this the end of the line, wouldn't
4 give an answer. We all know if this
5 is approved tonight, they will be back
6 here in a few months looking for more
7 money. And then if it's approved
8 again, they'll come to city looking
9 for more money. Enough is enough.
10 Somebody has to say no. There's
11 obviously a need for parking in down
12 Scranton but the residents and the
13 business owners and the patrons of the
14 businesses in Scranton can't afford
15 the rates that the Parking Authority
16 is charging. As Attorney Hughes
17 mentioned, the parking rates in a
18 comparable city like Wilkes-Barre is
19 less than half the price. You can
20 park at a meter for cheaper. You can
21 park at a private lot for cheaper.
22 There's an inherent flaw with the
23 business plan of high rates, higher
24 than all your competitors and constant
25 borrowing. Eventually it's going to

1 come to an end and that end should be
2 tonight. I voted against this last
3 week. I was the only member of
4 council to vote down this -- vote
5 against this proposal last week.
6 There's only four of us here tonight
7 assuming Mr. McGoff comes back. It
8 only takes two votes to vote it down.
9 I'm asking for one of my colleagues to
10 join me in voting against this plan.

11 Onto the recovery plan, the plan
12 that was submitted to council is more
13 of the same from PEL and the
14 administration. It's just tax
15 increases and borrowing and reducing
16 services, essential services. There
17 has to be a plan that works for
18 everyone. There has to be cuts made.
19 But there's areas that can be cut that
20 can be replaced by private entities.
21 The DPW Refuse Division, I think I've
22 mentioned it every week for the last
23 two and a half years since I've been
24 on council that it should be privatized.
25 It can be cheaper and more

1 efficiently. The residents of
2 Scranton absolutely cannot afford this
3 type of tax increase. I know Mr.
4 Joyce, Mrs. Evans and mayor had
5 negotiations. I'm assuming and I'm
6 hoping that this wasn't part of those
7 negotiations that the mayor just went
8 off on his own and sent off this
9 proposal because the things that
10 council has talked about very few of
11 them are in this plan.

12 Miss Schumacher, you mentioned
13 what my proposal was. Actually I
14 don't have it in writing with me. I
15 was focused on the Parking Authority
16 issue tonight. I can just e-mail you
17 what I submitted. And I'll talk about
18 that a little bit more next week.

19 Onto a couple constituent issues.
20 As was mentioned, I was down in Pine
21 Brook over this week and there a lot
22 of issues throughout our neighborhoods
23 and especially in Pine Brook and one
24 of the big issue seems to be the
25 rooming houses down there. They are

1 all owned by one person, Bert Sherman,
2 his name is. Some of you may have
3 heard of him. He's also the owner of
4 the Hotel Sun over in South Scranton,
5 also the owner of the Hotel Luzerne in
6 West Scranton, known problems, known
7 trouble places for crimes and drugs.
8 And now in Pine Brook just looking at
9 the list here, I see eight, nine
10 properties all within a three block
11 radius and it's destroying the
12 neighborhood. So I -- and I know Mr.
13 Loscombe was down there as well. I
14 hope we can work together and -- or
15 meet with Chief Duffy about this, get
16 some more patrols down there and see
17 if there's something that can be done
18 legislatively to put a stop to this.
19 You know, there are people in every
20 section of the city and many that I
21 talked to Pine Brook that have lived
22 their whole lives and they love their
23 neighborhood but they don't love what
24 their neighborhood is becoming, and we
25 have to stop that. We have to fight

1 from city council -- this is even
2 before some of us were on here to
3 former Director Brazil and current
4 Director Dougher at the DPW. It's
5 completely unacceptable that we can't
6 get an appointed official in here to
7 answer to us and to answer to the
8 taxpayers. Nobody should have to be
9 flooded every time it rains. All
10 we're asking for is for the department
11 heads and for the heads of authorities
12 to come into council chambers and work
13 with us. It doesn't have to be like
14 it was tonight when it's a battle
15 between the elected officials and the
16 authority. But when you're
17 stonewalled after a year, after a
18 year, you're not getting the
19 information, they're not giving the
20 information to our attorney and we
21 finally get them in, there's a lot of
22 tough questions that we had to ask.
23 Of course, Mr. Scopelliti under Mr.
24 Kelly's advice skirted most of those
25 questions as anyone who watches the

1 tape will see. So there's a lot of
2 changes that have to be made, both on
3 financial end and on the neighborhood
4 end, and as long as I'm on this board,
5 I'm going to continue to work to try
6 to solve those problems and I will
7 save the remainder of my comments for
8 the votes. Thank you.

9 MR. JOYCE: Mr. McGoff, do you
10 have any motions or comments?

11 MR. MCGOFF: I'll wait until the
12 vote.

13 MR. JOYCE: And, Mr. Rogan, I
14 know that you asked about council's
15 suggestions and the recovery plan.
16 Not all of council's recommendations
17 were included in the recovery plan
18 and --

19 MR. ROGAN: I assumed that, yeah.

20 MR. JOYCE: And the 78 percent
21 tax increase wasn't council's
22 suggestion.

23 Mr. Loscombe?

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you.

25 Mr. Rogan stated that he had voted

1 this last week and we had voted for
2 it. And the reason I think I
3 explained last week, the reason we had
4 voted for it was to bring the panel
5 here and hear their explanation, hear
6 a little bit of history, get some
7 answers, and I have to say I was duly
8 impressed with the questions from our
9 panel. I was impressed with our
10 solicitor and less impressed with the
11 responses. You know, this is going to
12 be a hard decision, but I have to
13 agree with -- and when it comes to the
14 authority just about all the comments
15 that Mr. Rogan had made. I mean, we
16 were -- we asked for information since
17 last October, we had some bits and
18 pieces. We still never received a
19 good budget, and I think holes were
20 poked in that this evening. This is
21 the packet we received in our mail
22 today. We didn't have much time to
23 review it but it was all numbers, you
24 know. I think it could have been
25 generalized a little bit better by the

1 authority. And right now do I see any
2 authority directors in the audience
3 here? Nobody. This is an important
4 issue for them and they left. They
5 left before the vote. This shows how
6 much any of them care about this.

7 We're going to make a decision that is
8 going to impact this city, and I have
9 to tell you the authority has been in
10 denial not this year, for many years
11 as evidenced by Mr. Sparaglia's
12 article from the newspaper several
13 years ago. We can't keep bailing them
14 out because then it gives the other
15 authorities the incentive to do what
16 they're doing and say, Hey, city
17 council is going to bail them out.

18 Yes, we bailed out the Redevelopment
19 Authority last year, but I'll tell you
20 at this point in time with the amount
21 of money and debts and borrowing that
22 this city is facing just to cover our
23 own bills, we cannot cover the
24 authority's malfeasance and that's
25 what it is. They had every

1 opportunity since we've come on in the
2 last two and a half years to implement
3 a lot of those bullet points that they
4 had were suggested by city council and
5 yet they've ignored them. Now, at the
6 11th hour, the 59th minute they're
7 going to do everything, they're going
8 to do everything to save their soul.
9 I don't think it can be saved. Mr.
10 Hughes brought up a couple questions.
11 This is the first of three more -- or
12 two other payments after this before
13 they year is out and they don't have
14 the sufficient income coming in to
15 cover them. We have to bail our city
16 out. Let the authorities be on
17 notice, they want to be autonomous,
18 they want to be on their own, they're
19 on their own. We're not here to
20 burden the taxpayers. I mean, for us
21 to have guaranteed those loans at that
22 time, it's like me cosigning for a
23 friend of mine that is not even
24 working, you know. I don't know if
25 someone else was in charge of the

1 Parking Authority at that time board
2 wise or whatever but, you know, if a
3 mayor is going to put somebody in
4 charge of something that we guaranteed
5 loans to, he better make sure he picks
6 the right people. They tried to
7 lighten their budget to a small budget
8 compared to the city budget. I'll
9 tell you what, \$50,000 is a
10 significant amount let alone a couple
11 million. And I believe at this point
12 it's too little too late. We've given
13 them the opportunity, we've given the
14 opportunity time and again requested
15 information. We've been ignored.
16 They've thumbed their nose at us.
17 We've tried to work them but, you
18 know, you just can't keep bailing them
19 out. They'll never learn. Just like
20 your children, tough love. They're
21 going to have to learn the hard way.
22 They're going to have to bail
23 themselves out or they're going to
24 have to be taken over by the bond
25 counsel or whoever and perhaps they'll

1 do a little investigation and
2 determine where the money has been
3 going, why it's where it's at and
4 perhaps straighten it out so maybe the
5 city can take it over and operate it
6 professionally. But, you know, I've
7 been back and forth on this whole
8 issue since it came up. The last
9 thing I want to do is let it default.
10 But I didn't hear any good answers
11 here this evening. I didn't hear any
12 good plan going in the future except a
13 few bullet points that I said and you
14 can look back at council meetings we
15 offered some of those suggestions and
16 yet they kept pushing them aside,
17 pushing them aside. We all know the
18 Street Smart debacle. They would have
19 had these bills paid if they into
20 Street Smart. But it wasn't their
21 idea, it wasn't their choice. And it
22 was transparent. I think that's a big
23 factor, transparency. We tried to
24 state that but with a company like
25 Street Smart, not only we would know

1 every nickel that went into a meter in
2 live time. Maybe that's something they
3 didn't like. I can't say for sure
4 but, gee, why didn't they take it?
5 They were doing the program for
6 nothing. It was no upfront costs.
7 They're talking about looking out to
8 some companies now where upfront costs
9 are heavy. The reason Street Smart
10 didn't bid the last time was because
11 they were fed with what was going on.
12 They knew they had the right product
13 and I have no ties to Street Smart,
14 believe me. But when I saw something
15 that was going to benefit us and it
16 was going to benefit us with
17 transparency that we greatly need in
18 this city and it was turned down at
19 every angle by Mrs. Novembrino's
20 solicitor and by our own city
21 solicitor and, you know, this is
22 nonsense. At this point in time it
23 looks like I'll be voting no and
24 that's all I have to say. Thank you.

25 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Scranton city

1 council has received notice from
2 Northeast Revenue of their delinquent
3 tax collection from the period of May
4 19th to May 24th. As one may know
5 Northeast Revenue is collecting all
6 delinquent real estate taxes for the
7 City of Scranton with the exception of
8 2011 delinquent real estate taxes
9 which are being collected by Single
10 Tax Office. From the period of May 19
11 to May 24th Northeast Revenue
12 distributed \$961,273.42 to the City of
13 Scranton. This includes all
14 delinquent taxes collected by them
15 with the exception of 2004, '05 and
16 '06 delinquent taxes. As one may or
17 may not know, taxes for those years
18 are remitted to PennStar Bank to pay
19 on a loan taken out by the Scranton
20 Redevelopment Authority for the sale
21 of delinquent taxes for those years
22 which defaulted. The amount of
23 revenue that Northeast Revenue
24 collected from delinquent 2004, '05
25 and '06 delinquent taxes was

1 \$41,461.02. This amount was directly
2 distributed to PennStar Bank.

3 On other matters last week
4 Scranton City Council received an
5 audit status report which I spoke
6 about briefly during last week's
7 meeting. In the audit status report
8 it was indicated that there were
9 several open items that would
10 completed by the end of this month.
11 Items that would be completed and
12 submitted to Rossi and Rossi by the
13 end of the month were, one, the final
14 2010 calendar year general ledger;
15 two, the final trial balances of
16 December 31st, 2010, and copies of
17 supporting work papers on all balance
18 sheet accounts and; three, our
19 finalized fixed assets schedules and
20 entries necessary to record activity
21 for gas B34 conversion including an
22 infrastructure report.

23 Mrs. Krake, since it's vital that
24 our audit is completed in a more
25 timely fashion than last year, can you

1 please contact Mr. McGowan and inquire
2 whether the items that have been
3 scheduled to be completed by the end
4 of the month have been completed. In
5 addition, can you please ask for a
6 revised status of all open items and
7 memos sent from Rossi and Rossi.

8 A little bit about the SPA and
9 the bailout. I have to echo some of
10 the comments of my colleagues after
11 coming here tonight. I voted last
12 week to give them the chance to come
13 and present their case and I have to
14 say I agree with my colleagues
15 100 percent and will be voting no
16 tonight. It's just appalling that
17 they're submitting paperwork to us and
18 they don't even have correct figures.
19 I just have to say it just appalls me.
20 But, you know, it's interesting how it
21 took so long to get the Parking
22 Authority to come into a council
23 caucus. And honestly I don't think if
24 it were for the fact that they were
25 looking for money that they would even

1 be here in the first place.

2 And with that, I have some
3 citizens' requests. West Scranton
4 residents have informed me that the
5 condition of the 200 block of North
6 Everett Avenue is in poor shape as
7 there are many cracks in the road
8 making travel conditions difficult.

9 Mrs. Krake, can you please
10 contact Mr. Dougher and inform him of
11 the situation and ask him to handle
12 that accordingly.

13 West Scranton residents have
14 informed me that the condition of the
15 500 block of Meadow Court is in poor
16 condition as there are many potholes
17 along the 500 block making conditions
18 difficult for travelers of the court.

19 Mrs. Krake, please add this to
20 the list of items to contact Mr.
21 Dougher about.

22 West Scranton residents have
23 informed me that the home on the
24 corner of North Fillmore and Pettibone
25 Street on the even side contains

1 overgrown grass and weeds making for
2 an eyesore in the community.

3 Mrs. Krake, if you can please
4 contact Mr. Seitzinger and notify him
5 of the situation and ask him to handle
6 it accordingly.

7 North Scranton residents have
8 informed me that the 11 and the 1200
9 block of Wood Street are in poor
10 condition as there are numerous cracks
11 and potholes in the road making
12 driving conditions difficult.

13 Mrs. Krake, please add this to
14 the list of items to contact Mr.
15 Dougher about.

16 North Scranton residents have
17 informed that there are many cracks
18 and potholes in the 1400 block of
19 Church Street making travel
20 conditions.

21 Mrs. Krake, if you can please add
22 this to the list of items to contact
23 Mr. Dougher about.

24 AND south Scranton residents have
25 informed that there's a large pothole

1 on the corner of Steven Avenue and
2 Front Street an well as large potholes
3 on the block of Front street between
4 Steven Avenue and Pittston Avenue.

5 Mrs. Krake, please this to the
6 list of items to contact Mr. Dougher
7 about.

8 South Scranton residents have
9 informed me that the property on the
10 corner of Prospect Street and East Elm
11 Street which is a boarded up property
12 contains high weeds and grass and is
13 becoming an eyesore for the community.

14 Mrs. Krake, please add to the
15 list of items to contact Mr.
16 Seitzinger about and that's all I have
17 for tonight. 5B.

18 MS. KRAKE: 5B. AMENDING FILE OF
19 COUNCIL NO. 56 2011, AN ORDINANCE
20 ENTITLED "THE GENERAL CITY OPERATING
21 BUDGET 2012" BY TRANSFERRING
22 \$30,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
23 01.020.00000.4201 (PROFESSIONAL
24 SERVICES) TO ACCOUNT NO.
25 01.020.00000.4010 (STANDARD SALARY) TO

1 INCREASE THE SALARY OF THE LEGISLATIVE
2 LEGAL ADVISOR FOR THE OFFICE OF THE
3 CITY CLERK/CITY
4 COUNCIL.

5 MR. JOYCE: At time I'll
6 entertain a motion to Item 5B be
7 placed into it's proper committee.

8 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

10 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. What's the
12 current salary of the solicitor?

13 MR. JOYCE: The current salary of
14 the solicitor is \$40,000.

15 Mr. MCGOFF: So we're now looking
16 at a 75 percent increase in his
17 salary?

18 MR. ROGAN: I believe it's
19 prorated to the beginning of the year.
20 This is the first I'm looking at it,
21 so.

22 MR. MCGOFF: This is an increase
23 of \$30,000.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: That is correct.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Over the 40 that is

1 budgeted.

2 MS. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

3 MR. MCGOFF: That's a 75 percent
4 increase.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: If that's what you
6 say it is, I believe it is.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Well, three over
8 four is 7.75. That would be
9 75 percent.

10 MR. JOYCE: It would be correct.

11 MR. MCGOFF: When we sit here and
12 talk about reducing salaries of
13 everybody in the administration an
14 throughout the city and now we're
15 going to entertain a 75 percent
16 increase?

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: What I have to say
18 is at the beginning of year in our
19 budget we had added a \$100,000 into a
20 legal fund knowing the issues we were
21 going to be facing this year. And Mr.
22 Hughes had submitted a bill for a
23 little over \$5,000 for much needed
24 work that we needed and Mrs.
25 Novembrino rejected that. So that

1 money had has be -- I think anybody
2 that knows the history of this city
3 council has watched us over the years
4 can see that we have a solicitor
5 that's worth ten times what we're
6 paying him, first of all. We're
7 discussing -- he's making 40,000 and
8 he's discussing issues with the man
9 that is making \$83,000 here. I think
10 there are priorities whether you look
11 at it as 75 percent increase or a 200
12 percent increase, I think when people
13 do their job, they do it right, they
14 do the research, they spend the time,
15 they deserve what they get and I think
16 this is well warranted. I believe
17 that the solicitor's pay was higher
18 previously at one time, too, so.

19 MR. MCGOFF: It was also lower at
20 one time.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, like I said,
22 if you watched the meetings --

23 MR. MCGOFF: I was raised in
24 council budget.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: This is not

1 coming -- this is coming out of the
2 fund that we had set aside so it's not
3 -- it's not increasing anything. This
4 not a Carl Greco type budget where's
5 hundreds of thousands. This is our
6 council budget.

7 MR. MCGOFF: It's not increasing
8 anything. It's increasing the salary
9 from \$40,000 to \$70,000. Look it, I
10 think it's a substantial increase.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: It's already
12 budgeted in our council budget, the
13 \$100,000 there.

14 MR. MCGOFF: No. Again, the
15 budget -- the line item for solicitor
16 if \$40,000, not \$70,000.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Are you saying
18 he's not worth that? Is that what
19 you're saying?

20 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Okay. I disagree
22 with that.

23 MR. MCGOFF: By your own words
24 when we talk about raising salaries or
25 that everyone's salaries, we talked

1 about reducing salaries ten percent
2 across the board.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: You never heard me
4 say that.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Well -- and now
6 we're looking at increasing one by
7 705 percent I think is very
8 hypercritical of the council to do
9 that.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, if you had a
11 \$200,000 payment and it was increased
12 by 70 percent it would be
13 significantly different. We're
14 talking it was previously \$40,000.

15 MR. ROGAN: I will say this. I
16 will vote to introduce it. It's the
17 first time I'm looking at this
18 legislation. I want to know if it's
19 \$30,000 for this year or it's prorated
20 based on the year is half over towards
21 the end of the year. I'll look into
22 it more and have more to say on it
23 next week.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: And I do believe
25 that \$5,200 would have been much

1 easier to bit but obviously we have to
2 go this route.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Why is it obvious?

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Because it was
5 rejected. He's done a lot of extra
6 work for -- he's done a lot of
7 legislation that the city should have
8 done just so we can move it along.
9 Now, it's slowing down because he
10 can't touch it. If you want to get
11 this city moving forward, we have to
12 work together. Now, the city
13 solicitor has the ability to hire
14 anybody he wants and give them
15 something in excess of his salary.
16 He's representing -- he has different
17 attorneys throughout this city
18 representing different lawsuits. Our
19 attorney is hamstrung. That's what
20 I'm staying. He's can only do it
21 himself. That legal fund was to give
22 us the ability to fight on the issues
23 that we needed to fight on, and I'm
24 not going to give up because we're
25 making a difference.

1 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else
2 on the question?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JOYCE: All those of favor of
5 introduction signify by saying aye.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

7 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

9 MR. JOYCE: Opposed?

10 MR. MCGOFF: No.

11 MR. JOYCE: The ayes have it and
12 so moved.

13 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER, 6A.
14 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
15 34, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING
16 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 56, 2011
17 AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "GENERAL CITY
18 OPERATING BUDGET 2012" BY TRANSFERRING
19 \$940,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
20 01.401.12090.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
21 OPERATING EXPENSES-CONTINGENCY) TO
22 ACCOUNT NO. 01.401.15319.4299
23 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES- OPER
24 TSF DEBT SERVICE - SCRANTON PARKING
25 AUTHORITY) TO PROVIDE DIRECT FUNDING

1 BY WIRE TRANSFER TO BANK OF
2 NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY, N.A., TRUSTEE,
3 FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE SCRANTON
4 PARKING AUTHORITY DEBT PAYMENT DUE
5 JUNE 1, 2012.

6 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading
7 by title of Item 6A. What is your
8 pleasure?

9 MR. ROGAN: I move that it
10 be -- I ask that it be reading by
11 title just so we can discuss even
12 though I will be voting no.

13 MR. MCGOFF: I'll second it.

14 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. Since everyone
16 has spoken on it already. There are a
17 couple of unassailable facts
18 concerning the payment of this debt.
19 No. 1, we are guarantors on the debt,
20 we will have to pay it. If the
21 Parking Authority does not pay it
22 tomorrow, the bond insurers will go to
23 court and they will come to the City
24 of Scranton and say you are guarantors
25 on the debt, pay it and we will under

1 court order be looking at legislation
2 have soon to transfer money to pay
3 this debt. Why not pay it now. We're
4 going to have to pay it anyhow. It is
5 ludicrous to let this go and then pay
6 it after it's gone into default. The
7 consequences of default are absolutely
8 dire for the city. No. 1, if we
9 default on this, we are not going to
10 get unfunded debt. There is not a
11 bank anywhere or any financial
12 institution that will do anything to
13 fund the unfunded debt that is in the
14 budget. We will immediately --
15 immediately be looking at somewhere
16 around the \$16 million budget deficit.
17 I want to know how we're going to get
18 out of that. Voting no on this
19 legislation is voting to put the City
20 of Scranton into bankruptcy. It's
21 that simple. If there were any other
22 options, I might agree with -- you
23 know, and I do agree with some of the
24 things that were said. Maybe some of
25 the questions weren't answered by the

1 people here this evening. Maybe the
2 budget of the Parking Authority isn't
3 adequate. It doesn't change the fact
4 that we are guarantors on that bond
5 and that we will have to pay it. So
6 next week when they go to court and
7 force the city to pay this debt, then
8 what are we going to do.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: This issue didn't
10 happen overnight.

11 MR. MCGOFF: I didn't say it
12 happened overnight but I want to know
13 what we're going to do to pay that
14 debt.

15 MR. ROGAN: Force the authority
16 to liquidate.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yep.

18 MR. MCGOFF: And that's going to
19 save 16 million dollars in our budget,
20 I don't think so.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: This company can
22 appoint a receiver to take possession
23 and operate the parking facilities.
24 In the meantime perhaps they'll change
25 the board, change the operation, get

1 it straightened out and maybe by that
2 time we'll have the money for them.
3 But to keep giving them candy every
4 time they stick their hand out, we
5 can't keep doing it. We have bigger
6 issues in this city.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Are we going to pay
8 this debt at some point in the future?

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, if they take
10 us to court, we may have to. I don't
11 have the legal answer to that.

12 MR. MCGOFF: If they take us to
13 court. They've already said they
14 would.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: I don't have th
16 legal answer to that.

17 MR. MCGOFF: You don't need a
18 legal answer. They've already stated
19 that they will go to court to receive
20 this --

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, court won't
22 happen tomorrow.

23 MR. MCGOFF: No. It will next
24 week.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, that's the

1 fastest court I've ever seen.

2 MR. MCGOFF: I'm glad that you
3 find this funny that we're putting
4 this city into bankruptcy but --

5 MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff, we are
6 not putting this city into bankruptcy
7 with this vote.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, we are.

9 MR. ROGAN: Please stop that
10 spin. That is not true.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Why isn't it true?

12 MR. ROGAN: The authority can
13 liquidate assets.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: The sky is
15 falling.

16 MR. ROGAN: The Scranton Parking
17 Authority has assets to sell. They
18 can liquidate assets to pay their debt
19 before coming and begging to the
20 taxpayers that are already
21 overburdened. There is absolutely --
22 we have to stop throwing good money
23 after bad. It has to stop now. It's
24 like a gambling addict at the casino,
25 keeps going to the ATM, then they get

1 a loan and then it's all gone. We
2 cannot keep throwing good money after
3 bad. You saw what their proposal for
4 reform, it was one page and it
5 included more debt. That is not the
6 answer.

7 MR. MCGOFF: This happened this
8 year.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: But it's been a
10 history. Time to stop is now. And I
11 don't think it's funny if we go into
12 bankruptcy or we default on this, I
13 don't. This was a real serious issue
14 and I had some serious thinking about
15 it, but I know what is going to
16 happen. We're going to be here in
17 three months with the same issues and
18 trying to float bonds and come up with
19 more phone. You know, somebody has to
20 step in and take them over to
21 straighten them at this point. That's
22 the way I feel. I'm sorry.

23 MR. ROGAN: I agree completely
24 and have the authority come in here
25 and layout a comprehensive plan on how

1 things will change if they receive
2 this money, I would have considered
3 supporting it. We received a one page
4 document. It was more of the same.
5 There weren't any reforms on there.
6 It was more bonds, refinancing of
7 debt, install pay stations to have all
8 garages open. That should have been
9 done decades ago. Aggressively
10 continue to solicit validations of
11 downtown businesses. Haven't they
12 been doing that already? Why not?
13 Correspond with bond counsel to price
14 competitively in the downtown market.
15 Now, they have a long way to go on
16 that front. Work with the city to
17 investigate the transition of parking
18 meters that accept credit cards. The
19 Street Smart Program could have done
20 that but the administration shot that
21 down. Continue to improve the
22 enforcement program to generate
23 increased revenues. Again, the Street
24 Smart Program could have done that but
25 they shot it down and continue working

1 with downtown developers. That's
2 great. Continue to do more of the
3 same. We need solutions. Bailing
4 them out with a million dollars,
5 nearly a million dollars of the
6 taxpayers' money is not going to solve
7 anything. If we give them that
8 million dollars today, they're going
9 to be back for more money in a couple
10 months. They'll be back again and
11 they'll be back again and eventually
12 the city is not going to have any
13 money to give them. We're almost at
14 that point now. They have to reform.
15 Changes have to be made. Simply
16 throwing money at a problem does not
17 solve it. That's all I have.

18 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else
19 on the question?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JOYCE: All those in favor
22 signify by saying aye?

23 MR. MCGOFF:

24 MR. JOYCE: Opposed?

25 MR. ROGAN: No.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

2 MR. JOYCE: No.

3 MR. JOYCE: The no's have it and
4 Item 6A is defeated.

5 MS. KRAKE: 6B. READING BY TITLE
6 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 35, 2012 -
7 AN ORDINANCE - CREATING A PROCEDURE
8 FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PARKING TICKETS BY
9 THE SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR
10 VIOLATIONS OF CODE OF THE CITY OF
11 SCRANTON CHAPTER 439, ARTICLE II AND
12 SETTING A VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES
13 SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE FOR VIOLATIONS
14 OF SAME.

15 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading
16 of title of Item 6B. What is your
17 pleasure?

18 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6B
19 pass reading by title.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

21 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. JOYCE: All those in favor
24 signify by saying aye.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

3 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JOYCE: The ayes have it and
6 so moved.

7 MS. KRAKE: 6C.

8 READING BY TITLE FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
9 36, 2012 -AN ORDINANCE - ESTABLISHING
10 A "NO PARKING ZONE" ALONG THE WESTERLY
11 SIDE OF CEDAR AVENUE (S.R.0011) FROM
12 THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF RIPPLE
13 STREET EXTENDED SOUTH 250 FEET TO
14 ALLOW FOR SAFE SIGHT DISTANCE FOR A
15 PROPOSED DRIVEWAY BY ROSSI ROOTER FOR
16 A PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2100
17 CEDAR AVENUE.

18 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading
19 by title of Item 6C. What is your
20 pleasure.

21 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6C
22 pass reading by title.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

24 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. JOYCE: All those in favor
2 signify by saying aye.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. JOYCE: The ayes have it and
9 it is so ordered.

10 MS. KRAKE: 6D. READING BY TITLE
11 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 37, 2012 -AN
12 ORDINANCE- PROVIDING FOR THE PROPERTY
13 TAX EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN DETERIORATED
14 INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL OR OTHER
15 BUSINESS PROPERTY;
16 DEFINING ELIGIBLE DETERIORATED AREAS;
17 SETTING A MAXIMUM EXEMPTION AMOUNT,
18 AND AN EXEMPTION SCHEDULE AND
19 PROVIDING A PROCEDURE FOR SECURING AN
20 EXEMPTION.

21 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading
22 by title of Item 6D. What is your
23 pleasure?

24 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6D
25 pass reading by title.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

2 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JOYCE: Just to confirm I
5 voted against this last week and I'll
6 voting against it again. Is there
7 anyone else?

8 MR. ROGAN: I would just -- I
9 guess since we're going to discuss it
10 a little bit. One of the properties
11 that would maybe be falling under this
12 program is on Dixon Avenue and anyone
13 who has talked to the residents down
14 there understood everything they have
15 gone through with Daron Northeast.
16 That area needs to be cleaned up. I
17 support it for that reason and also I
18 support it because I believe lower
19 taxes spur business. This is not a
20 complete tax exemption. They still
21 have to pay taxes on improvements. We
22 want improvements in Scranton. In the
23 long term if we can attract businesses
24 to come to the city and improve on
25 their land and they're paying for it,

1 they're more likely to stay. The K0Z
2 Program is a complete giveaway. This
3 program they are paying out of pocket.
4 Additionally there will be permits -
5 money and permits that will come into
6 the city as well.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: I just on the
8 question, just looking at it, I'm not
9 sure -- exemptions are all available
10 hereunder shall be based on the
11 aggregate cost of the improvement as
12 follows: No exemption under 500,000,
13 an aggregate cost of which is not in
14 excess of 500,000, a 100 percent tax
15 exemption for the duration of one year
16 for an improvement to a structure, the
17 cost of which is in excess of \$500,000
18 but not in excess of one million. I
19 Just thing there's some questions on
20 this that I have at this point. I
21 move it along last week but they have
22 tax exemption here also, the highest
23 being ten years for 11.5 million.
24 Now, naturally we want incentives here
25 but, you know, we're facing a lot of

1 tax increases and also we're facing,
2 you know, we are in some dire
3 straights. Do we need to bring people
4 in? Certainly. Is this going to make
5 them jump? I don't know. I will vote
6 it tonight. This is not 7th order,
7 right?

8 MR. JOYCE: No.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: I will vote for it
10 tonight but I will have some questions
11 answered and make my final decision by
12 next week because I do have some
13 serious questions and, you know, to
14 see if they can do a graduated scale
15 on the higher ones also. It just
16 seems like it's a full --

17 MR. MCGOFF: The graduated scale
18 is meant to -- the more that you're
19 paying to rehab or to refurbish, the
20 more you're going to be paying in
21 permits and fees and, therefore, you
22 know, the greater the incentive on the
23 tax.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: What I meant by
25 the graduated, like years ago they

1 used to have the seven years and you
2 would pay, you know, a 100 percent, 80
3 percent each year if you paid -- I
4 mean, it dropped out where you pay 10
5 percent, 20 percent. It's wasn't a
6 full forgiveness for the full ten
7 years. It wasn't a full forgiveness
8 for the full five years. There was a
9 graduated percentage there. So I just
10 want to check on that.

11 MR. ROGAN: Attorney Hughes, I
12 know you've spoken --

13 MR. MCGOFF: He's not here.

14 MR. ROGAN: I can't see with the
15 wall there. I know when we did have
16 the caucus Attorney Hughes did speak
17 in depth about it and hopefully next
18 week he'll be able to provide more
19 information.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: And like I said,
21 I'll try -- it's been a busy week but
22 I'll try and get some of these
23 answered for next week but I will vote
24 yes to move it along.

25 MR. JOYCE: Anyone else on the

1 question?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. JOYCE: All those in favor
4 signify by saying aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Opposed?

9 MR. JOYCE: No.

10 MR. JOYCE: The ayes have it and
11 so moved.

12 MS. KRAKE: 6E. READING BY TITLE
13 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 38, 2012-
14 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF
15 COUNCIL NO. 53, 2011, ENTITLED, "AN
16 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
17 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE
18 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
19 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED
20 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING
21 AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED
22 UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
23 GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT
24 PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND
25 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG)

1 PROGRAM, AS AMENDED BY "EXHIBIT A".

2 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading
3 by title of Item 6E. What is your
4 pleasure?

5 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6E
6 pass reading by title.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

8 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

9 MR. ROGAN: I would just mention
10 I did speak to Miss Aebli. We do have
11 to have a public caucus on this item
12 and if you want to ask questions or
13 anything, feel free to give me a call
14 or an e-mail.

15 MR. JOYCE: Okay. Anyone else on
16 the question?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. JOYCE: All those in favor
19 signify by saying aye?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Ayes.

23 MR. JOYCE: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. JOYCE: The ayes have it and

1 so moved.

2 MS. KRAKE: 7TH ORDER, 7A. FOR
3 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
4 PUBLIC SAFETY FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF
5 COUNCIL NO. 33, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE -
6 ESTABLISHING A NO PARKING ZONE IN THE
7 900 BLOCK OF NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE
8 (S.R. 3023) ON THE WESTERN MOST SIDE
9 OF SAID STREET PURSUANT TO
10 THE HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT
11 APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH
12 MEDICAL COLLEGE FROM SR 3023 SEGMENT
13 0090 OFFSET 1000 TO SR 3023 SEGMENT
14 0090 OFFSET 1219 FOR A DISTANCE OF TWO
15 HUNDRED NINETEEN (219)
16 FEET.

17 MR. ROGAN: What is the
18 recommendation of the chairperson for
19 the Committee on Public Safety?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: As chairperson for
21 the Committee on Public Safety, I
22 recommend final passage of Item 7A.

23 MR. ROGAN: Second.

24 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the

1 question I had mentioned it earlier in
2 our caucus that this deals with the
3 Commonwealth Medical College and I
4 don't -- Mrs Krake, could you correct
5 me if I was wrong I believe there was
6 an ordinance or an agreement at some
7 point where they were offered a number
8 of parking spots at no cost in the
9 parking garage?

10 MS. KRAKE: There was. I do not
11 know the dates, to and from of that
12 agreement.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Okay. Because I
14 thought it still continued and I was
15 corrected by Mr. Scopelliti, he said
16 that was wrong so I'll have to --
17 maybe we can pull up the ordinance to
18 just make sure. But I was just hoping
19 that the amount of spaces in their new
20 parking lot will take the spaces and
21 give them back to the public in the
22 parking garages. That's all.

23 MR. JOYCE: All those in favor
24 signify by saying aye?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

1 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

2 MR. ROGAN: Ayes.

3 MR. JOYCE: Opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JOYCE: The ayes have it and
6 so moved.

7 MS. KRAKE: 7B. FOR
8 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
9 PUBLIC SAFETY FOR ADOPTION -
10 RESOLUTION NO. 23, 2012
11 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
12 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO PURCHASE
13 A 2003 FORD CROWN VICTORIA FITTED WITH
14 SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT
15 AND PRESENTLY SERVING THE SCRANTON
16 POLICE DEPARTMENT'S K-9 UNIT FROM
17 OFFICER MICHAEL MARINO
18 FOR THE SUM OF FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS
19 (\$4,000.00) TO BECOME TITLED TO THE
20 CITY OF SCRANTON'S POLICE
21 DEPARTMENT.

22 MR. JOYCE: What is the
23 recommendation of the chairperson for
24 the Committee on Public Safety?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: As chairperson for

1 the Committee on Public Safety, I
2 recommend final passage of Item 7B.

3 MR. ROGAN: Second.

4 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. JOYCE: Roll call, please.

7 MS. KRAKE: Mr. McGoff.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

9 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Loscombe.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

13 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Joyce.

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I hereby
15 declare Item 7B legally and lawfully
16 adopted.

17 MS. KRAKE: 7C. FOR CONSIDERATION
18 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
19 DEVELOPMENT FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION
20 NO. 24, 2012 ACCEPTING THE
21 RECOMMENDATION OF THE HISTORICAL
22 ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD ("HARB") AND
23 APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
24 APPROPRIATENESS FOR QUAD THREE
25 GROUP, INC., ARCHITECTS, 37 NORTH

1 WASHINGTON STREET, WILKES-BARRE,
2 PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE ADDITION
3 OF THE VESTIBULE AND AN ELEVATOR TOWER
4 CONSTRUCTED OF STRUCTURAL MASONRY
5 BLOCK WITH A MESASTONE BLOCK
6 VENEER TO CLOSELY RESEMBLE EXISTING
7 LIMESTONE AND FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE
8 EXISTING HANDICAP RAMP AT
9 THE REAR OF THE ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL
10 LIBRARY, 500 VINE STREET, SCRANTON,
11 PENNSYLVANIA.

12 MR. JOYCE: What is the
13 recommendation of the chairperson for
14 the Committee on Community
15 Development?

16 MR. ROGAN: As chairperson for
17 the Committee on Community
18 Development, I recommend final passage
19 of Item 7C.

20 Is there a second?

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. I'm
22 sorry.

23 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. JOYCE: Roll call, please.

1 MS. KRAKE: Mr. McGoff.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

3 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Loscombe.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

7 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Joyce.

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

9 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I hereby
10 declare Item 7C legally and lawfully
11 adopted.

12 If there's no other business,
13 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.

15 MR. JOYCE: This meeting is
16 adjourned.

17 (Proceeding concluded at 9:04
18 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

Amelia Nicol, RPR
Official Court Reporter