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1	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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5	HELD:
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7	Thursday, September 13, 2012
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9	LOCATION:
10	Council Chambers
11	Scranton City Hall
12	340 North Washington Avenue
13	Scranton, Pennsylvania
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24	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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## <u>CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:</u>

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JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE
(Not present)

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1	(Pledge of Allegiance recited and
2	moment of reflection observed.)
3	MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.
4	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
5	MR. MCGOFF: Here.
6	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
7	MR. ROGAN: Here.
8	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe. Mr.
9	Joyce.
10	MR. JOYCE: Here.
11	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
12	MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the
13	reading of the minutes, please?
14	MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
15	AUDIT STATUS FROM ROBERT ROSSI & CO.
16	RECEIVED AUGUST 16, 2012.
17	MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
18	If not, received and filed.
19	MS. KRAKE: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
20	REPORT, HEARING DATES FOR AUGUST 8, 2012,
21	AND SEPTEMBER 5TH, 12TH, AND 26TH OF 2012.
22	MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
23	If not, received and filed.
24	MS. KRAKE; 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
25	REPORT APPEAL HEARINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 19TH

AND 27TH OF 2012. 1 2 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments? 3 If not, received and filed. MS. KRAKE: 3-D. TAX ASSESSOR'S 4 5 REPORT, FINAL HEARING RESULTS FROM AUGUST 22, 2012. 6 7 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments? 8 If not, received and filed. 9 MS. KRAKE: 3-E. TAX ASSESSOR'S COMMERCIAL APPEALS REPORT. 10 11 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments? 12 If not, received and filed. Do we have any 13 clerk's notes this evening? 14 MS. KRAKE: No. Mrs. Evans. MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any 15 16 council members have announcements at this 17 time? Mr. Loscombe, is unable to attend 18 tonight's meeting due to illness. 19 A Voting Rights Forum will be 20 conducted next Wednesday, September 19, at 21 7:00 p.m. in Pern Auditorium Brennan Hall at 22 the University of Scranton. The event will 23 help the people to understand the new voter 24 ID law in Pennsylvania as well as voting

rights in general. Admission is free and

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everyone is encouraged to attend. Nothing is more fundamental to our democracy than the right to vote and eligible voters should not be turned away from the polls in November.

The South Side Senior Center located at 425 Alder Street in Scranton will conduct it's annual pasta dinner and basket raffle on Thursday, September 20. Proceeds will benefit the many activities provided to participants 60 years of age and older.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles No.

314 in Scranton will hold a chicken barbecue on September 22 from 1 to 6 p.m. The cost is \$8 and takeouts are available. All proceeds will benefit ALS. For additional information, call the club at number 961-5495.

The Scranton/Lackawanna County

Taxpayers' Association will conduct a

candidate forum on Tuesday, September 18, at

7:00 p.m. in city council chambers. Frank

Forina and Theresa Kane, candidates for

state representative of the 115 district

will participate.

St. Ann's Maronite Catholic Church located at 1320 Price Street in West Scranton will conduct it's annual parish festival this Saturday, September 15, from 3 to 7 p.m., and Sunday, September 16, from 12 noon until 7:00 p.m. The festival will feature Lebanese foods and pastries, authentic Lebanese music, a middle Eastern coffee bar, raffle drawings, children's games and fun for the entire family. That's it.

MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
PARTICIPATION.

MS. EVANS: Our first speaker this evening is Ron Ellman.

MR. ELLMAN: Thank you, Council.

First I'd like to quell a misconception that all I do is talk to a bunch of illegal immigrants standing in front of the grocery store holding an Access card. I think three-quarters or four-fifths of the people I talk to are homeowners and professional people and property owners, business people.

It just comes to mind Monday morning early I was at DePietro's Pharmacy in

Dunmore, we sat and talked about council for five, ten minutes. That's who I talk to mostly. Not that I -- I don't have any feeling for people that don't have property or something, but, you know, that's just how it is.

Next, I'd like to talk about this deplorable despicable headline about the University suing us. This Mr. Hinton, their attorney, brags that they have given a couple million dollars since '83, but he must have a lapse of memory or overlook the fact they have taken over 150 houses off the payroll, off the tax rolls, probably ten times that much of a loss and he's got the audacity to make them into the victim and being dishonored. It's the people of this city that are the victims of that school.

You know, they showed their true colors when they would rather pay this ambulance chaser a fee than give us some money, and I'm not against education in the least bit, you know, they brag about the future of their 5,000 students, how many of them since '83 have moved to Scranton, you

know? Probably zero. The big bagel.

Nobody. But nothing is said about 5,000 of our students that haven't gone to a proper education and haven't gotten what they should have because of the University taking all our taxable property and not paying any school taxes. It's just a mess. Just a mess.

You know, again, I come -Mr. Hinton himself talks about the public -the Pure Public Charity Act in the paper.
They don't fall under it anymore, especially
it said they have relieved the government of
some it's burden. They have put a
tremendous burden on the people of this
city, just five consequences here you have
to fault -- you have to be every one of them
to fall under this Act and they don't fall
under them anymore. They might have 100
years ago but they don't even more. Wyoming
County doesn't give them any leeway
whatsoever and we should shouldn't.

You know, I remember when you went to Lackawanna College and asked for a donation, they told the people of this city

council to go to hell. They said we would have to raise our tuition; isn't that right? But it's all right for people to have to have their taxes raised to cover them. It's just -- it's just such a deplorable situation it's just so one-sided. I don't know where it's going to end.

That property, that empty lot on the corner of Jefferson and Mulberry, that's not anything religious about it. That took over \$5,000 a year in taxes off the rolls. It was a business that was a real estate -- a lawyer's office. We lost his income taxes and the house taxes. A block up is that new dorm, as I remember it was Scott's store, that was a four-story apartment building off the payrolls plus the businesses that were there and the next block is the same thing a new dorm where there was businesses, then we got the parking lot that they are crying about.

I bet an audit will show all of these businesses made them plenty of money. They are a wealthy, you can look on the internet. They brag about their wealth and

their worth, but they just suck up every single thing they can and find us every way they can, they are not a good neighbor.

They only way to get to them is give them bad publicity from the bottom up. They have to be stopped. You cannot let them go anymore. You can't give in no more to them, and I guarantee they don't want any bad publicity. They don't want to be known in their true colors that they showed to the people of this city you got to let the city, the county and the state know what we are fighting about. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.

Andy Sbaraglia.

MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia, citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, as you know, the closing days before you took office Mr. McGoff pushed through an authority for the library and we are stuck with that authority. Now the snake has come out of the bag. They want us to lend them a half a million dollars to lease this building that we did own for 50 years. Your legislation, I'll read it to you, "Library

building will be used as an unreserved use by the public as a library for only 50 years."

This is what I mean about allowing people to sit up there and not being able to challenge them. That four years is too long to wait to get rid of somebody that's doing damage to the city, but the gall is they want us to give them the money, the leaseback, the library. No, that cannot be. You can't allow it to happen. You must stand strong on this.

The library belongs to the people of Scranton for maturity until we are all dead and our grandchildren are dead and our great grandchildren as long as that library stands and we can't -- look at the damage that has been done by this authority -- I mean, these so-called legislators that we put in office. We stand bankrupt today because of them. We have no future because we have tax everybody that death of the just to make ends meet because of the damage they did and they go by and they smile like as if they did a great thing for the city. We cannot hold

them responsible. I wish we could. I wish we could change the policy and hold public officials responsibility for their actions, but we can't. They say they are incompetent and if you are pushing it there I am going to give it to the competent people. I think that's what we got.

Now, did you look at our engineer, you told me it was John Pocius; is that true or not?

MS. EVANS: I believe CECO is the engineering firm and Mr. Pocius is the representative of CECO to the city.

MR. SBARAGLIA: If he is objecting as an engineer, CECO got -- wants to -- has the contract on the paving cuts. Don't you think that's a little conflict of interest where the guy that works for CECO is in charge of overseeing the paving cuts? You don't find it a conflict, I guess. I don't --

MS. EVANS: No, I'm not saying that, but we, city council, has no authority or involvement or hiring an engineer firm.

MR. SBARAGLIA: But you do have a

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That you do have. So you got to use mouth. that mouth not just when it comes election time because that's ridiculous. Same with the cars, we are advertising for broken down cars two o'sevens because we need the police cars, but yet when that money was for the grant and the block grant why wasn't it used when it was supposed to be used? Somewhere along the line we gave the money for that block grant to buy police officers and then this year they cry and say you can't use them this year, so we have to buy broken down police cars. Where is the logic in this system? Where is the logic in this government?

You got to be more responsibility.

You are not dealing with people who are up board, you are dealing with people that like to cover up, when you should have asked could that money that wasn't used when it should have been used could something else be deleted that that money was for and that money in turn would end to buy the police cars, because you got to remember it's a number game on the formula. Sometimes you

can use the money for one thing, sometimes you can use the money for another. They said you couldn't use it, I understood that, but somewhere along the line maybe a project that wasn't complete could have been completed and then that money could have been in use because it was all a formula and we exceeded the formula.

But in turn we have to buy the police cars, so it's coming -- instead of coming from the block grants it's coming out of our pockets. Where does it end, I guess when we are all broke. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Les Spindler.

MR. SPINDLER: Good evening. Les
Spindler, city resident and homeowner and
taxpayer. A month or two ago I spoke about
this and I want to speak about it again, the
intersection of Franklin and Sprue the
traffic lights have been out for I don't
know how long, six months or whatever. A
month or so ago there was an accident both
people said they had the green light, the
lights are totally off, there is no lights.

The other day a coworker of mine was waiting for her daughter to come and pick her up and take her to an appointment, a lady ran the red light and ran into her daughter. After the accident her daughter had to go the hospital, she has a bruised neck. Something has got to be done with that intersection. It was an 84-year-old woman. She also said, "Oh, I had the green light."

The cops said, "Lady, the lights are off. There is no green light."

That's two accidents where people said they thought they had the green light. Something has got to be done. I don't know, everybody in this city thinks the lights are green all the time? They are not even on. It's a dangerous situation there and I just hope something is done before somebody is not seriously hurt or worse than that.

MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, could we send a letter to the company that's doing the traffic lights and learn why it's been out so long and when it will be functioning again.

MS. KRAKE: Yes.

MS. EVANS: Thank you.

MR. SPINDLER: I have a seen a company putting different lights up in different areas on Linden Street. There are working lights there, why don't they give the intersection where there is no working lights, that would make sense.

The Parking Authority, I was happy to see the other day about Central Parking taking over because hopefully that's the thing of the end of the Parking Authority.

And, Attorney Hughes, am I safe to say in the near future Mr. Scopelliti won't have a job?

MR. HUGHES: As of yesterday Mr.

Scopelliti turned over all of his keys to
Mr. Washo. He has no keys to the Authority.

It's my understanding that is he no
longer -- well, he was informed that as of
Tuesday the Parking Authority will have no
money to pay him. I have no idea, but if he
were here tonight I think you heard Mr.

McGowan say that, and even though the
legislation is on and we're terminating the
cooperation agreement as of October 8, that

all of the employees are back and will be city employees, the once that are the meter people, so that there will be no monies transferred to the Parking Authority so they have nothing in their bank accounts, they have nothing coming from the city, they have no money to pay anybody so the Parking Authority right now is over.

MR. SPINDLER: Thank you.

MR. HUGHES: Other than the board, the only function is the board in place just to as the owner of the facilities but they are not operating the facilities and they have no money.

MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you.

MR. HUGHES: I don't know how they can pay anybody.

MR. SPINDLER: Thank you. I wish

Central Parking good luck and I hope they do
a good job.

Next thing, the Linden Street bridge, Mr. Loscombe isn't here and he usually comments on that, that was supposed to start work on in July now we are almost mid-September, pretty soon we are going to

into the winter, I have no faith that that's going to be fixed this year and that's another safety hazard. The emergency vehicles came over down there and that's, I don't know what the holdup is, it's just ridiculous. People's lives are in danger here, seems like nobody cares.

The next thing, lastly, I brought this up last week about the tax thing, last night's news on Channel 16, a legislator, I didn't hear where he was from, but he says he is going to submit a bill where all cell phones, all handheld cell phone use will be banned, but I have no faith that will ever be passed because when this texting law was passed I ran into Senator Blake and asked him why he didn't include even talking on a cell phone, he said we can't get the votes.

And I thought about it, why can't they get the votes, and then it came to me, they don't want to vote for that because they are probably the biggest violators of the law. If they voted that they wouldn't be able to use their own cell phones, but I think they should look at the safety of

people. It's definitely a safety hazard using cell phones. I hope that if this gentleman introduces this bill it is passed. They should not have handheld cell phones for any reason. It's just a safety hazard, and I hope if it comes up for a vote again it passes.

That's all I have. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Bob Bolus.

MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.
Bob Bolus, Scranton.

MS. EVANS: Good evening.

MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

MR. BOLUS: One question I have is what are we paying Washo for? If you have a board in place why do we need to pay a guy \$100 an hour for the Scranton Parking Authority that's automated and changing. Let a board handle it. I mean, we are all here to cut costs not to keep incurring them and \$100 an hour is a nice little windfall.

I know we wasted money on the golf course funds, \$3 1/2 million the mayor squandered. Hottest summer on record and one pool was open, and people wondered why

people in this city are disgusted with what's going on.

We are so deep in debt that Captain Nemo's submarine, the Nautilus, could never get to where we are and where we are still going. We are not going to stop with just a couple of meetings and borrowing, the old adage, "You can't borrow to get out of debt."

Well, we are. We are going in debt deeper and deeper and we have tied the anchor chain around the necks of the people in the City of Scranton and their pocketbooks, and there is no bottom in sight. No matter how we want to push the peas around the plate it's not going to happen. Either we run Scranton as a business or we are not going anywhere. We just can't keep borrowing and borrowing. Look at where we are, the laughing stock of the nation. That tells us we did something wrong.

One thing I will commend this council, it was nice to see that you finally brought the mayor here. It took him how

long to be what, the sixth councilman, eight, 12 years.

The past councils that did the rubber stamping, played his became, played their game at the expenses of the people.

They got pensions, they got other things that they weren't entitled to because they put the people at risk and that's where we are, and every one of them should hang their heads in shame where the city is today.

There is no games. There is no animosity one way or the other, your records all speak for yourselves. It's black and white.

Watch a video, watch a tape, read a newspaper.

Responsibility starts with councils and administration. The people's hands are tied. The only thing they can do is every two or four years make a change and I think we need to do that. The sad part is this, I paid --well, remember Holy Cross Church that went up for sale, it was \$3. The city was going to demolish it and all of that. I paid \$35,000. Bought the church not because I needed a church or I needed a hall, but I

believed in Scranton and the preservation of our historical values and cultures and that's why I bought it. It wasn't worth \$35,000, but what it represented was worth a lot more to all of us in the city.

Well, I have been assessed \$500,000 for this property by the county, the taxes are \$25,000 a year. I have let the kids play free since I bought the property at the Holy Cross hall, that's all been put in jeopardy, and it troubles me to see the University of Scranton, a bully with money, sit here now and sue this city over their private enterprises. It's a damn disgrace. There is no other words to put it.

Now, if their Jesuits or whatever they want to preach what they are doing to the city is just sickening. It's time they took responsibility. And don't tell me you are going to pay 140 some thousand, what it's going to cost me over the next five years is going to equal what they pay on all their enterprises and we need to make a change. You need now once and for all you need to consider a fee, not a tax, taxes

don't apply on KOZ and nonprofits, but this city can, since you are the majority and you can override the mayor, you can implement a fee in this city that goes across everybody in the city. At 1 percent the University would pay over \$11 1/2 million a year to the city for whatever the fee may be and whatever they can do with it. It becomes creative financial responsibility. You got to create what you need to get this place straightened out.

And it's not just the University, it's every one taking a free ride at the cost of all of us in this city. \$500,000 for a church that was worth three bucks? It's an absurdity, but that just shows you what goes on with politics in the City of Scranton. That's why we are here. It wasn't about the people, it was about who was looking to get elected, who was going to do their buddies a favor and where they were going. And now it's time, the parties is over and it's time to act.

One thing I need to do, Mrs. Evans, if I may I'd like to ask Mr. Hughes a

question, and this has been here a long time and it relates to the city and its financial responsibility if I may ask him a question?

MS. EVANS: Yes.

MR. BOLUS: Mr. Hughes, if you could, I have asked Mr. Kelly, we put it before the board here, I submitted deeds regarding the 16 1/2 foot deeded waterway on East Mountain. There was a \$50,000 offer that I made for that property whether a home is on it or not, it wasn't properly done, it was done in a subdivision that was basically illegal in the way it was done.

I spent a lot of money having deeds, you know, searched and all of it and proved that the city still owns it. Paul Kelly made a statement the city does not. We requested, and I believe council did at that time, to produce the deeds. Put the paper where his mouth is once and for all and to this date nobody has produced whether the city does or does not own it and I'm asking if council tonight could make a motion that Mr. Hughes get that information for Mr. Kelly and we put this matter to bed once

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and for all. There is \$50,000 on the table and the city could use every penny and that's my request if I could get that.

MR. HUGHES: It's my opinion that I should not do that work. That it is not up to me to do that. My position with council is strictly on legislative matters and this is not a legislative matter.

MR. BOLUS: Would council then entertain a motion to either have Mr. Kelly come here and produce the documentation? This has gone on over almost two years now this has been going on and on and on. time there is accountability. Since we are looking for everybody to be accountable in this city he is not exempt from it and it's time he stands up to the plate and produces the truth and factual information. Ιf council would entertain that motion. don't want to see it in the form of a lawsuit and deposition and take the city, which is unfair, to make the city come up with more money to satisfy what we are entitled to know.

We are taxpayers and right now we

are all being penalized by the financial situation of this city and we are entitled to see that where every dime can be retrieved to take the burden off of us is recapture.

MS. EVANS: Mr. Bolus, I'll discuss this with our solicitor and then I believe council will follow his advice.

MR. BOLUS: Okay, if you could let me know, please? Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Ozzie Quinn.

MR. QUINN: Good evening.

MS. EVANS: Good evening.

MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Scranton
Taxpayers' Association. I just wanted to
repeat what Mrs. Evans said and I want to
thank Mrs. Evans for announcing the
Taxpayers' Association forum on Tuesday.
Frank Farina and Theresa Kane are the
candidates and this is for the vacant seat
that Representative Staback who is retiring
up the line and it covers a big area so it's
going to be live on ECTV so I know a lot of
people up the line watch ECTV so I hope they

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are watching that night.

I want to also mention about 5-B, especially Mr. Rogan in regards to this here Community Development Block Grant going again for, I don't know what year is it, I think since Mr. Doherty has been here we spent over \$50 million just in CDBG. No HOME, no emergency funds, no UDAG and no whatever, okay? The fact is that I doubt if they did 10 percent of that. Less than -- I say less than 10 percent of that was done for neighborhood improvements to housing rehabilitation and it's the Housing and Community Development Act, for some reason or other they just forget about that housing end of it and that's why we see -- all we see is the city inspectors condemning buildings, tearing down and vacant land where a lot of these properties could be repaired by their owners. Some of these people who are suffering right now paying the taxes and what not for the grants and the deferred loans.

I would go out on a limb and say we are the only city in the United States as an

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entitlement city that does not have a housing rehabilitation program. I don't want to hear about Scranton Neighbors, Lackawanna Neighbors or anything like that, I doubt if they did 25 homes in the 25 years they have been in existence, okay? That's not it. You got to do a comprehensive housing rehabilitation program. You see what's happening out there and it's deplorable.

The other thing I want to do is the fact is that, you know, since we are looking for and scraping for money I saw they are bidding out for tires, fuel, anti-skid and janitory office stuff. I know this is old hat, but again, there should be some intergovernmental cooperation here with the school district and the county to see if somehow that, you know, you can't do this in a bulk bid. Right now housing developments and community organizations across the United States they are doing bulk. They are getting together and doing bulk bidding. The City of Scranton it behooves them to do I mean, we don't have two nickles to it.

rub together. So I'd appreciate if you would look into that, Mr. Rogan, on this here, okay?

MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

MR. QUINN: The other thing here that I want to put in perspective, this was in the paper today and the regional news, it says that Clarks Summit opposed the commuter tax plan, it goes onto say that the Clarks Summit Borough council met last night and they read Alexander Chelik, the mayor of Mayfield's, letter and they are in support of opposing the 1 percent tax. The one councilman says, "I don't feel like the residents should be double tax and said I think that the council should be ashamed of themselves. "

I want to put this in perspective.

You people up there, you three people up
there, Mr. Rogan, Mrs. Evans and Mr. Joyce
and Mr. Loscombe, you are only there since
two years, okay? Mrs. Evans was in before,
of course, she has a history of going
against this borrowing. Now, this borrowing
has been going on since 2002 and it's been

going on and going on and going on and Mrs. Evans is trying to say, "Stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it, and nobody was stopping it.

The Scranton Times who has financially, as I mentioned before, endorses the mayor and they are the biggest cheerleader of the mayor. They go on and say that they are going to do hundreds of jobs on Lackawanna Avenue in the Southern Union building, they are going to do the condominiums, nothing ever came of that. You know, we just spent and spent and spent and Mrs. Evans tried to stop it it was all rubber stamped by the last ten years of the councils, okay, and not yours.

So I want to put it in perspective for the people out there, it is not their fault because there is a commuter tax or any other tax that's going to increased. That's strictly because the Scranton Times and Mr. Doherty were alone and they just rode rough shot through this here community. You know, the Scranton Times has an ethical position as a journalistic -- to watch out for the community in this here and they

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didn't do it and Mr. Doherty, they let Mr.

Doherty go on and on and on. Thank you very

much.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Doug Miller.

MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.

Doug Miller, Scranton.

MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

MR. MILLER: I'd just like to begin this evening on the legislation tonight on 5-E dealing with the 9.75 million unfunded borrowing. I've been listening to Mr. McGowan and Mr. Judge this evening, there was a question posed by council and that was what institution would we be participating with in dealing with the unfunded borrowing? And, you know, it is my personal opinion that knowing the history of the lending institutions locally that it's my belief that we should conduct any negotiations without outside institutions. I think the local banks and institutions show what they felt for the city in the past and they knowing full well the situation we were in did nothing to help us, and I think it just goes to show with the efforts by Attorney

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Hughes and Mr. John Judge we have proven that we can be successful with outside institutions such as Amalgamated Bank and I think that moving forward and dealing with this borrowing and any other borrowing in the future hopefully we won't have to worry about that problem, but moving forward I strongly suggest we consider using outside institutions. That's just my opinion.

Dealing with the Parking Authority on the agenda tonight, I'm certainly pleased that the transition process is moving forward successfully. You know, last week we were made aware that Central Parking, the second largest parking company in the nation, will oversee all of the garages and now that Mr. Washo is officially in control and will obviously handle the day-to-day operations down at the Authority.

But I do have one question tonight, and it's a question for Attorney Hughes dealing with the sweeping changes that have taken place. Attorney Hughes, are you aware if Attorney O'Brien has been terminated in his position as legal counsel for the SPA?

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MR. HUGHES: I have no idea.

MR. MILLER: Okay.

MR. HUGHES: The only thing I know is what I said before. As of today, the Parking Authority has absolutely no money and I don't see how they could pay anybody or retain anybody to pay. Everything is going to run through Mr. Washo. All the bank accounts were turned over to him on Tuesday pursuant to his notice of taking over the court order of Central Parking. All the balances in the bank accounts are now in Mr. Washo's account, daily receipts as they come in from Central Parking will be put in Mr. Washo's account as the receiver, and as was stated previously by Mr. McGowan the line item in the budget, which was over half a million dollars, which was approximately \$200,000 every two weeks to be transferred to the Parking Authority has been discontinued.

The six meter people or seven meter people will now all become employees of the city. Their is an office here in city hall they are working out of LIPS. I believe all

of the computers have been transferred from the Parking Authority area where they used to work here to city hall, so I don't see, you know, they really don't have any money so I don't see how they could engage in it, but I have no personal knowledge of it.

MR. MILLER: I think that answers the question. Honestly, if they don't have any money as Attorney Hughes just stated I don't see how they can keep on an attorney, so I'm sure we'll get more information on that as time goes on, but thank you, Attorney Hughes.

Obviously tonight on the agenda we need to make a payment, the bond payment that's due this week I believe on Saturday of \$325,000 on the city's end and certainly we are obligated to make that payment. But, as I stated, I'm hopeful that this will begin the process of turning the operation around and restoring accountability and transparency once and for all. This certainly has been quite a burden for the city and certainly a cause of many of our tremendous financial obstacles we have had

to deal with in the last ten years due to the years of incompetent leadership down at the Parking Authority, but throughout this whole process I want to commend council, Attorney Hughes, and all of those involved in this transition process, Mr. Washo, and bringing in Central Parking who have proven to be confident individuals who oversee parking facilities and I'm quite confident that it will turn out to be a success.

Finally tonight, just a few questions dealing with the capital budget that was addressed last week. We were made aware that 13 police vehicles were out of service as of last week, repairs were being made. We are awaiting on four new vehicles that I believe were in New Jersey and we were waiting for them to arrived, do we know at this point if we did receive those vehicles?

MS. EVANS: I don't know. I can check though with Councilman Loscombe and we can update you hopefully next week.

MR. MILLER: Okay. Thank you. I know it was Councilman Loscombe who did

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bring up the issue and with him being absent tonight it would be appropriate to bring that up next week with him.

And on the capital budget, you know, I certainly feel there is many things that are addressed in the budget that obviously we need to focus on such as the repairs that need to be made at the several fire Obviously, roads and bridges. stations. Building improvements in city hall and the elevator to get everything back up to code. Work down at the DPW and the police headquarters, but I would just like to suggest that, you know, obviously the capital budget would be addressing this for quite some time now, it's a process that takes some time, but just my suggestion would be if you could possibly consider placing adequate funding aside to address issues such as maintenance to police vehicles, fire engines and DPW vehicles that are certainly falling apart. We have police officers driving around in vehicles that from the looks of it they don't seem to safe and it's something that I feel we should be

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pretty embarrassed about that we have, you know, public safety personnel driving around in inadequate vehicles in my opinion and I think these are priorities that need to be addressed and when we talk about the park system and we want to invest \$7 million in parks I think it goes back to once again priorities and that this administration has had a difficult time of grasping that concept of priorities and I think we need to start addressing the essentials and this certainly is essential, so like I said, moving forward with the capital budget I would like to see us address improvements to the vehicles. That needs to take priority. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Lee Morgan.

MR. MORGAN: Good evening, council. The first thing I have is America is not a democracy, it's a representative republic and I think that's really important to note that today because in true democracy people would be asked their opinions and things would be done by a vote of the masses.

And I'd like to also say that I

think that our major problem is that we have taken a plan, which I believe is very flawed, and I think that the people outside of the city like the Clarks Summit council and other citizens are doing the right thing by beginning now to fight any commuter tax, and I also believe that the citizens should also fight any sales tax increase because that's not the solution to our problem.

I also believe what Mr. Bolus said to be factual, that we can't borrow our way into financially stable and I don't think that the people outside of this city are responsible for the debt. I think that the residents of this city have an obligation to go to the polls and vote. They chose the leadership they chose and the dominoes fell the way they did. The city's financial problems have been well-known for an extremely long period of time.

But the other thing I want to talk about is something that Ozzie Quinn hit on here before about the amount of demolitions in the city. I have got a list of 202 properties that are demolished from 1998 to

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the present and there have been some that were demolished with the city in-house or that the city itself paid for.

I personally think that the city's rental registration program is just a terrible piece of the legislation for the residents of this city. I think it's nothing more than a revenue enhancement, and what I'd really like to do is I'd like to drop this list of 202 properties off to council because I really think that since you have legislated a rental registration program, and I think maybe you should take a good look at this 202 properties and see why they were actually were demolished and what the reasons for their condemnations were and whether the people who own those properties didn't understand they had a right to go to the Building Appeals Board and is it possible that these properties were targeted and torn down so that we could create an atmosphere in the city center to create apartments and use all kinds of funding formulas to try to sell the downtown?

Don't forget that before they became

apartments the county moved many of its offices into the downtown and since that time, of course, things have changed a lot and the county is basically bankrupt, too, so it's not much of a difference between the county and the city at this point.

But, you know, when you read this list and it starts at 615 Greenridge Street, you know, 210 Sanderson Avenue, 1 through 10 Just Right Place, Kruger Place, 1347 Wyoming Avenue, 1212 Marian Street, I mean, the list just goes on and on and on, but you know the pathetic part is this, we haven't invested in the neighborhoods for a long period of time, but think all of the revenue we have lost in taxes.

And do you think that maybe some of the funds that were coming into the city should have been instead of diverted into the downtown invested in our neighborhoods? I mean, you see the scandals that are rocking the city. Even now we are questioning the Scranton school district, that made the newspaper today, and is it possible that the city, I know I remember I

was in Washington State I think in 2000 and I was sitting there watching TV and the reporter said that the mayor, who was the mayor at the time, had changed political parties and that Scranton, Pennsylvania, was the most corrupt place in America. may be comical and some people may find it to be comical, but the truth of matter is that this city is hundreds of millions of dollars in debt, its residents are trying to sell their properties and leave, and I think good government creates an atmosphere where businesses flourish and people want to live and we have the direct opposite here, so maybe it is comical, but I don't find it to be comical.

And, you know, like I said last week when you go to the administration in Scranton and little kids tell you that they are hungry, maybe it should mean something. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Dave Dobrzyn.

MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.

MS. EVANS: Good evening.

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MR. DOBRZYN: I didn't read much about the capital budget, I would like to get a copy of it, but I have a simple request for everybody concerned, forget about any further spending on swim splash parks, tearing down buildings, I haven't been by them, I do intend to go by them, I guess the one is Novembrino and the other one is down on Capouse Avenue and I'm willing to bet that they are probably much larger than what we will get out of it, reconstruction just like Nay Aug Park.

Mr. Pilchesky came in with a statement a couple of years ago, a year or two ago, and he shed some considerable light on the problem. I used to go to do my business somewhere else because when we were doing the Kids Swim Free because I was so close to getting arrested inside of that bathhouse, so I won't go any further than that.

Also, now on this parking meter business, it started out sounding like a good idea, but I have a question, will meters still take change?

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MS. EVANS: Yes.

MR. DOBRZYN: I cannot imagine a credit card company billing me 25 cents.

They will probably charge me two or three bucks just to do that, right, and I'm very concerned about it, and I don't want you people to look bad. I previously stated my support for what council is doing and I fully understand that it's going to take a long time to straighten out all of the problems we have and --

MR. ROGAN: Mr. Dobrzyn, just as an anecdote, I was down in Philadelphia and they have you can buy by credit card or you can give them cash, and the way it works each block has a kiosk on it and you can go up and say you want to by two hours worth of time.

MR. DOBRZYN: Right.

MR. ROGAN: You go up to the kiosk and you can put it quarters or cash or you can put in a credit card and then at that point you will get a ticket and you put it it right in your window, so even though the bigger cities have moved to credit cards you

can still pay with change or cash.

MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah, I'm one of those simpler folks that I don't travel much.

MR. JOYCE: It's not meant to eliminate the cash payment.

MR. DOBRZYN: Like New York City, I mean, I don't care for Mr. Blumberg he mentioned with the Occupied Movement I have the seventh largest army in the world and he is always crowing about second amendment rights and everything I'm wondering here what's the purpose.

And I have a sewer bill here from last month and I would appreciate if I could get it back, but if you people could take a copy because I have a fixed charge of \$39, consumption charge of \$41.50 and gallons used of 83e. So where are we going here with this? I'm all for environmental -- sound environment regulations and so forth, but it's very concerning that I'm being charged \$41.50 and I would like to keep a watch on it so I'm going to give this to Ms. Marciano and I'll see you after the meeting to get it back and make a copy and we'll

have to do some more research.

On this library, I didn't know that they could ever use the library for anything else so I'm wondering, and my advice would be, be very careful there.

And also I would like to criticize our county commissioner. It seems like with this zoning for the "U" and everything else they seem to be on somebody else's side other than the people from Scranton. We are tired of being the cash cow around here and we want to see a resolution, if has to start there then I would encourage all of the people from the city to start to do something about it.

I went down there one time to talk about that silly baseball idea and by the time Marie and I got through the security check the meeting was over, you know, so so much for the security check. I mean, I went up five floors up and, you know, pat me down or whatever but good God get me in there or at least let somebody let them know don't start the meeting early.

And once again this voting law is a

total disgrace. Somebody from the state legislator almost admitted to it's like practically treason that it was to ensure a vote for one candidate or the other and it's ashame.

And once again with the public unions I would like to elaborate on that. People are going backwards, they are not going forward, and public unions are getting their raises and I realize that that goes back 10 years and so forth, so I'm criticizing what happened five or ten years ago, but be careful who you vote for. Be careful because we can't keep outsourcing all of our jobs and so forth and having people lose ten and 20,000 dollars a year on their wages and expect to keep ahead of all these tax increases and so forth.

And by the way, Pat, Mr. Clinton is included in the outsourcer in chief so I just thought you would like that little note because he signed an act on the Chinese trade pact.

And once again, I would like to advertise a great book, if anybody is

interested it's available at the library,
it's \$16 at the mall, they have a book store
from the public library and it's called
"Free Lunch, how the wealthiest Americans
enrich themselves at government expenses and
stick you with the bill."

One example from the book, George Steinbrenner, he built the new baseball park, he was handed \$600 million worth of public property and that's here you go with our library. They are just fleecing us and we are the cash cows. Thank you and have a good night. Moo, moo and bawk, bawk tonight.

MS. EVANS: Thank you.

MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hello, Janet.

Frankie. For each of you. That's for you, Frank. Pat, that's for you.

MR. ROGAN: Thanks, Chrissy.

MR. JOYCE: Thanks, Chrissy.

MR. SLEDENZSKI: So, Janet, our game it tomorrow night. I hope we are going to do something right. We are going to win tomorrow. Good luck, West. Good luck tomorrow. Let's win this one.

1 MS. EVANS: That's right. 2 MR. SLEDENZSKI: For the city. 3 That's it. Thank you. MS. EVANS: Thank you, Chrissy. 4 5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, city council. Marie Schumacher, resident and 6 7 taxpayer. 8 MS. EVANS: Good evening. 9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Tonight I though 10 since it's sort of an in-between much of 11 anything week or at least it was until I 12 read the agenda, I thought I would review 13 some previously asked questions and see if 14 maybe I could get some answers tonight, but also I'd like to start with some new ones 15 16 and then I'll go through the old ones as far 17 as I can. First one for Mr. Joyce, is the 18 19 replacement of the South Side Sports Complex 20 included in the capital budget, and how much 21 of the five year totals you provided last week are to be provided in 2013? 22 23 MR. JOYCE: No, the replacement of 24 the South Side Sports Complex is not

included in the capital budget. And what

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1 was the other part of your question? MS. SCHUMACHER: You read the five 2 3 year figures, what is the figure for 2013? 4 MR. JOYCE: For 2013? 5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Next year? MR. JOYCE: Let me get my capital 6 7 budget copy. As far as total capital 8 expenditures are concerned \$2 million. 9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. 10 assume those are grants because your revised 11 recovery plan stated that capital 12 expenditures would be pretty much restricted 13 to grants. 14 MR. JOYCE: That is correct. Next, Solicitor MS. SCHUMACHER: 15 16 Hughes has referenced his past working 17 Recovery Plan with Mr. Washo more than once 18 which leads me to ask whether city council 19 and/or it's solicitor recommended Mr. Washo 20 to be the court-appointed receiver of the 21 Scranton Parking Authority? 22 MR. HUGHES: No. 23 MS. EVANS: No, that is not true. 24 City council and the administration had 25 nothing to do with the appointment of the

receiver, just as we had -- we had no involvement in the choice of a new trustee, we had no involvement in the choice of a receiver and we had no involvement in the choice of a new management company.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Now, a procedural question, I don't understand how the operating agreement with the Parking Authority can be cancelled before the ordinance becomes law. Wouldn't the ordinance have to pass before the 30 day -- before the time, the notification could be given, which is 30 days?

MR. HUGHES: I'll be very brief, it's the most unusual clause I've ever seen on a notice, it's my opinion that we do not have to give 30 days notice to do it, we just have to give them the notice within 30 days of the cancellation. I have never seen a clause like it, it's extremely unusual.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, within. I thought you would have -- okay, that answers that. Thank you.

It's been almost a year since the Supreme Court issued it's ruling in favor of

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the police and firefighters, how much interest has accrued during the past year and what is the monthly accrual amount?

MR. JOYCE: I'm not 100 percent sure what the interest rate is on it, but I could find that out.

MS. SCHUMACHER: I would appreciate that. Maybe you could bring that back next week. Thank you.

And then could I ask for a show of hands of any council member who took the opportunity to review the affordability section of the Scranton Sewer Authority CSO long-term controlled plan draft as I recommended on the 23rd of August? Okay. I really strongly suggest you do that because it is -- it does have a formula for affordability based on many factors and I think a lot of people in this city are going to reach the break point.

Next, how much real estate tax revenue have we lost to date due to real estate assessment appeals? Okay.

And then I'd like to maybe somebody could ask Mr. Loscombe if although remote

cameras are functioning and being monitored by the police and if not how many are.

And then the new stuff, I would just note one thing with respect to kiosk payment of parking, it's very difficult for a lot of handicap people and the elderly that have to go down and then pay and then come back and they move slowly anyway and it is not only a burden on them, but it's eating into their time.

Okay, to the previously raised questions, do we have the list of entities billed yet for the parking tax?

MR. JOYCE: No, we don't have that, but I will bring that up with Mr. McGowan again.

MS. SCHUMACHER: I mean, it just seems strange that we can't get that.

Next, the size of the rental property database, did you -- were you able to get that? The census figure, just so you know, the last census figure said there were 33,853 housing units in Scranton with a home ownership of 54.6 percent. That leaves like 15,369 units that are most likely occupied

by renters. How close are we to that 15,000?

 $\label{eq:MR.MCGOFF:} \textbf{MR. MCGOFF:} \quad \textbf{I was going to address}$  this during motions.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay.

MR. MCGOFF: Would you prefer that I do it now and we can hold Mrs. Schumacher's time for a moment? Do it in context now --

MS. EVANS: It's your decision.

MR. MCGOFF: To answer the questions that you asked of me last week, and please hold the time for Ms. Schumacher while I'm talking, the database that we currently have lists 1,266 rental properties, so we are nowhere near close to 15,000.

And as far as billing, there has not been a billing sent as of now. I found this out this past week when I went to get the information. I was told by the person that is functioning in the rental registration position that there was -- first of all, I was told that there was no database, that he couldn't find it or couldn't access it. I don't know why, but that was the first thing and because they couldn't access that there

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was no billing sent and then there were a whole list of other problems with implementing the program.

Since then I have talked with Mr. Seitzinger and apparently they have been -- that Mr. Seitzinger did say that they are -- they do have the database of the 1,200 odd properties and that they were doing two other things to improve upon that number. One was going to garbage fees to determine rental properties, and the other that was suggested at the PEL meeting the other day by Mr. Cross was that other -some other municipalities had utilized sewer fees, so I know Mr. McGowan has sent the request to the Sewer Authority for, you know, those -- for that information so that hopefully within some period of time that database will be increased.

One of the things that I wanted to ask council tonight, and I don't know if we can do it as a letter to the rental registration director or I don't know what the title is, I would think that we should have at least a billing sent to the 1,266

1 properties that we have in the database at 2 this point in time and I would hope that 3 that billing would be done by -- at least by October 1, and that any future -- any new 4 5 listings be billed as identified. don't know if we, you know, can do that as a 6 request from council or a demand from 7 8 council or, you know, how we go --9 MS. EVANS: You can make a motion that the letter can be sent. 10 11 MR. MCGOFF: Well, I would like to 12 do that at this point if that's possible to 13 make a motion that the letter be sent to 14 LIPS that that be done, that billings by October 1 of the already identified 15 16 properties and new listings as they have 17 been identified. 18 MR. ROGAN: Second. 19 MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry. 20 MR. ROGAN: Second. 21 MS. EVANS: On the question? A11 those in favor signify by saying aye. 22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 23 24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

MR. JOYCE:

Aye.

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

MR. MCGOFF: Moving -- I'm probably taking up too much time here, but moving forward I would hope that the database be somewhat current by December, you know, we have something that's closer to the 15,000 that that's, you know, however reliable that number is, but that we have something closer so that as we move into 2013 we have a much more reliable listing of our rental properties.

The other thing that, you know, I'll just mention it, I really do think that as we move into 2013 if this is going to be successful I think it does demand an additional person working on this program and I know from the beginning and I have always advocated that it be done at the outsource and done on a contingency basis so that we get somebody with some initiative and all to implement the program. And I'm finished.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Just to comment on that, number one, I think that -- I think

the whole thing should have been outsourced but I guess that wasn't possible, but I'm pretty sure you are getting a good database because I have attended enough Sewer Authority meetings to k now that they have an excellent database and they also have an inspector who goes out and checks properties so that should be good.

But the paperwork I gave you before about that proposal also stated that Lackawanna County would also give you a listing of all of the properties for which the billing address is not the property, so that would probably be, you know, a landlord from someplace else, and the worst that could happen is that the people, you know, prove that it's not a rental property when you send it out.

MR. MCGOFF: Right. I'd rather err on that side.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, but I still have the concern about, you know, whether or not we have enough inspectors to do those inspections, those safety inspections, even of the 1,200, and I'm not surprised at the

city's database. I sat down with Mark
Seitzinger one afternoon and that has got to
be the worst piece of the software that was
ever created. I do not know how that
happened and any extra money that is laying
around should -- that should be replaced and
upgraded to something that's at least in
this century. I'll be back next week.

Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. With regard to the monies lost on reassessment, I think perhaps we might be able to either obtain a figure for that from the county officer or I know that we make available the tax assessor's reports in our office on a consistent basis because they are listed as part of our agenda each week and as they are received they are basically commented on by city council or, you know, there may be a lack of comment, but certainly, you know, because they are so readily available, you know, you can always take a look at that yourself and keep a running tally.

MS. SCHUMACHER: But I think you all would want to.

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MS. EVANS: Well, I think that would be great, but I know, you know, I'll just speak for myself, I have so many duties and responsibilities that are often times more pressing and I'm trying to prioritize and handle all of the situations and put out all of the fires that arise daily.

Mr. McGoff, though I did want to say, I think everyone is on board with rental registration program, but rather than hiring another employee I agree that I really think this should be outsourced. Ι know we talked about the Sewer Authority and, you know, gaining access to that information a long time ago and nothing came I think what we need is perhaps a of it. company to come in and operate that program, someone who has experience in doing so or experience in a related field so that they can come in and basically hit the ground running and then allow our city inspectors to do their jobs, you know, according to their job descriptions.

So I think that should be hopefully a direction we should be moving in and

perhaps the administration could put out an RFP for that and, you know, within the contract itself there could be an arrangement made, as you said, for work on a commission basis.

MR. ROGAN: I would just add as mentioned from the podium and it's been mentioned before that there is concern that we don't have enough inspectors to do the inspections. Hopefully if the program brought in enough money it would be, you know, enough to pay for another inspector or two. As I said, I support the program fully, I don't see it as a revenue generator, I see it as, you know, protecting the neighborhoods, and that's what I would think, too.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Mrs. Krake?

MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

MS. EVANS: Councilman McGoff, do you have any comments or motions?

MR. MCGOFF: I'll guess I'll continue. And I would as far as the housing inspectors are concerned, I thought that -- and they probably wouldn't like me for

saying it, but I thought one of the things that the housing inspectors could do in their daily routine in the various neighborhoods was identify rental properties. As they walk various neighborhoods, identify properties that may not be on the list that they know, you know, from their work to be rental properties. I realize that that's an added responsibility to the job, but I think it's also something that could be beneficial to implementing the program.

As far as conducting the inspections through the rental registration, we did put in a safety inspection. It's not a code inspection and there are -- I believe that there is enough people to go out and do these safety inspections. I'm just considering what would need to be done and I would assume that, you know, one would take no more than half an hour and so, you know, as the registrants came in I thought it would be easy enough to go out and, you know, hit each property.

Again, I know that that's adding

responsibilities to people, but at a time when people need to do their jobs, and again, I'm probably not going to hit it off well with the city inspectors, but just my feeling. Anything else on the rental registration I'd be happy to answer or at least talk about.

One thing that came up, and maybe I'm wrong, but I was looking at the legislation in dealing with the public library and as I read it all it was was accepting a grant --

MS. EVANS: Yes.

MR. MCGOFF: -- for money or repairs and renovations.

MS. EVANS: Where the city will ask as a passthrough, we are not giving the library a dime.

MR. MCGOFF: Correct, and that with that grant would be included that that grant would be received that the buildings must be a library for a minimum of 50 years, so it was doing nothing to curtail the timeline of a library and, you know, not putting, as you said, not putting the city into, you know,

any financial responsibility for it, it seemed like pretty innocuous legislation and nothing to be concerned about, and let's face it, you know, the library does need some repair and I would look forward to receiving that moneys and seeing the repairs and renovations done to a library.

I mentioned before the PEL meeting d that I attended -- or that I do attend, at the last meeting PEL gave, which I believe we all received, an implementation plan for the recovery plan. With council's permission, and I know Mrs. Krake also attends the meetings, I would like to continue to attend those and act as kind of update to PEL and back to council as far as the implementation of that goes.

I believe with the structure that they have created for, you know, the meetings would tend to be more useful than what has been in the past, at least there is now some structure and some idea for implementing the plan, so thank you for your allowing me to do that.

Two other things that I'd just like

to touch on briefly as far as housing rehabilitation is concerned, I know one of the speakers said that he doubts that there have been any homes that are whatever number in the past 25 years, I know that in the past we have received reports from OECD detailing the number of homes that had been rehabilitated in the city. I know we haven't received those in awhile, but perhaps it would be interesting to at least go back and take a look at that over the last couple of years. I know that I could go to in South Side alone and find five homes that have been rehabbed in the last year, so there is a rehabilitation program taking place.

And as far as comparing it to the demolition program, I don't think the properties that I have seen demolished by the city are ones that were receiving no tax money because they had been vacated and they have liens and whatever else against them going back numbers of the years. Most of the ones that I have seen were eyesores in the community, small, really uninhabitable

places and ones that could not be rehabbed because to rehab them you could not make them -- you could not bring them to current code. You know, as I said, small and a lot of small lots, so I think that we are doing a great service to the community by removing these blighted properties and rehabbing the ones that can, in fact, be rehabbed.

Could we do more? Possibly, but it is a costly venture, and again, I think that through OECD and the CDBG funding we have the funding, but we have, you know, worked on the rehabilitation of homes in the area.

And the last thing dealing with the Scranton Parking Authority, I just have two questions, and again, I don't know if they are answerable, is the Scranton Parking Authority -- has the Scranton Parking Authority dissolved? Does it no longer exist?

MR. HUGHES: If you want me to answer that?

MR. MCGOFF: If you would, please. I'm sorry.

MR. HUGHES: No, the Scranton

MR. MCGOFF:

MR. HUGHES:

When the Parking

parking authority is not dissolved. It continues to exist just with the board of directors. It has no money.

MR. MCGOFF: Okay.

MR. HUGHES: And it still owns the garages, but is subject to Court order the garages are being managed by the receiver, Mr. Washo, who has hired Central Parking to manage the garages with the goal to increase the revenue and decrease the expenses so that the obligation of the city will be reduced in the event that the Parking Authority under Mr. Washo, and actually Wells Fargo Bank that is now the trustee, cannot make the bond payments.

So that they will exist and if there is proposals received and looked at in order to sell some of these garages and to privatize them that board will have to meet and will have to approve that to reduce the debt. They still own the garages.

Sure.

MR. MCGOFF: Could I have a follow-up question?

Authority then or is out of the receivership, will the operation of the garages return to the Scranton Parking Authority?

MR. HUGHES: If it -- if they ever do come out of receivership, I believe the answer would be, yes.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. And that is all. Thank you very much.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
Councilman Rogan, do you have any comments
or motions this evening.

MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. I would be very brief tonight, I am feeling a little under the weather. Four things I wanted to bring up, the first on the Parking Authority. As was mentioned, I did speak to employees at the Parking Authority and Attorney Hughes also mentioned it as well that Mr. Scopelliti and the management at the at the Authority are no longer in charge, and as I stated when we had the previous votes that I opposed on giving the money to the Authority, I said once the management is changed I would support

paying, you know, the debt obligations.

So that being said, I will be voting "yes" on those payments tonight and understand that it does need to be passed in one meeting because of the deadline this weekend.

Secondly, and actually on that issue just so council could have a little more information and I guess we will just see how everyone feels about this, I would like to request that Mr. Washo come in for a caucus just so he can present his plan of what's changed, what's going on, for council and for the public. If that's agreeable to everyone to make that request?

MS. EVANS: Um-hum.

MR. ROGAN: Mrs. Krake, could we please send that letter to Mr. Washo?

MS. KRAKE: Yes.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Could we include -- I don't mean to interrupt, could we include also in that a representative from Central Parking.

MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

MS. EVANS: Sure.

MR. JOYCE: Yes, I think that would be a great idea.

MR. HUGHES: From what I understand I don't think anything would be productive next Wednesday night, I think he has -- you know, he just took over on Tuesday, Central Parking is in here, I don't know how much information that they could give council, maybe they could come in and just give you an overview, but I don't know how much information they would have. I don't know if it would be better to wait until he gets everything, you know, really -- that they have a good operation of sense as to what they are doing.

MR. ROGAN: That would be fine, and I understand they have a history of, you know, working with different garages and just so they can talk about some of their experiences and, you know, what they are going to do, even if they can't elaborate, as you said, they did just recently took over even if they can't elaborate too much and, you know, put a face to a name for

council and the public as well.

MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, though, and I would remind everyone next week we have a public hearing for the CDBG allocations, so perhaps the following week.

MR. ROGAN: That would be fine.

Next, on the unfunded borrowing while the merit of it can be debated, I don't see the need for the emergency certificate. We still haven't received the unfunded "A" yet so I really don't see the reason to run that through in one meeting. I do thank Mr.

McGowan for coming and answering the questions that council had.

Next on the CDBG, I did receive some changes that other council members suggested and if anyone else has any just give me a call or e-mail, however, and the public as well if they have any concerns they can reach out to me and I will have something put together and given to everyone before next week's meeting to review and, you know, let the public also have their input as well.

As has been mentioned, the funding

has been cut pretty much every year since the federal government is just as broke as the city, so it is getting tougher and tougher, there is not as much fat I would say in there as there was in the past and I think part of that is because council has been cutting that and we have been trying to put money and again this year to put it in areas that will help the community and help the people the most.

And finally, just one citizen's requests and I do have a few more that I apologize I have to get a few residents I have to get back to, for over a month now I have brought up the potholes in front of 3030 Division Street. Now, I understand that the administration has been working with council a little bit more. All I'm asking for the mayor to do is to have his department heads answer to city council simple requests, filling potholes, information requests. It's frustrating that a resident would have to contact me ten times because they haven't had a result yet.

So, Mrs. Krake, could we please send

in bold a request to Mr. Dougher asking that the potholes in front of 3030 Division

Street are repaired, and that is all I have for tonight. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
Councilman Joyce, do you have any comments
or motions?

MR. JOYCE: Yes. To begin tonight I'm going to address the capital budget again, and I'm going to try and be a little bit brief because I'm a feeling bit under the weather myself.

To remind, the process of capital budgeting is the budget of planning, validating and selecting the long-term projects involved with the city. The capital budget that was sent down by the administration to council is a five-year plan beginning in 2013 and ending in 2017. The capital budget that was sent from the administration was sent to council pursuant to Section 904 of the Home Rule Charter which states that the mayor shall submit to council the first five-year capital budget after adoption of the charter initially at

least nine months prior to the final date for submission of the budget, and all subsequent years shall be submitted to the council at least three months prior to the final date for the submission of the budget.

The capital budget was sent to council on August 15 of this year, therefore, it complied with the deadline.

Now, just to remind everyone, there is four sections of the capital budget that was sent down by the administration being fire stations and equipment, bridges, roads, curbs and sidewalks, which is Section II, building improvements, which is Section III, and the parks system which is Section IV.

The estimated cost for these sections in the administration's capital budget were \$14 million being \$2.5 million per fire stations and equipment, \$3 million for bridges, roads, curbs and sidewalks, \$1.5 million for building improvements, and \$7 million for the park system.

The majority of the funding for these projects as reported by the administration is to come from grants and

contributions. In fact, \$10.5 million is to come from grants and contributions.

I sent an e-mail to Ryan McGowan, our business administrator, to ask what grants and contributions the city excepts to receive that will equate to \$10.5 million. He responded by saying that currently there are no planned grants that the city has applied for.

In addition, the administration expects to receive \$1.5 million from one-time revenue sources and \$2 million from operating transfers from other funds. I also e-mailed Ryan McGowan asking where the one-time revenue sources are expected to come from as well as the \$2 million from other funds are expected to come from.

Basically for these questions the response was the same, there is no specific one-time revenue sources or other funds that the city is expected to receive money from.

Essentially, with all being said, the capital budget is nothing more than a wish list of what the city would do with \$14 million in unborrowed money for capital

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projects if grants and one-time revenue sources would become available.

The projects in the capital budget may not ever happen if grants are not obtained. However, by voting for the capital budget it initiates the process of the city applying for grants for the specific projects contained in them.

I'm going to vote to move this piece of legislation tonight, but in the mean time I would also like to ask for the opinions of other council members as to what projects they believe should be included or deleted from the capital budget. I would ask that other council members provide me their suggestions by Tuesday of next week. brought this up at last week's council meeting, but so far I have only received a few suggestions, so if by Tuesday of next week if we can all just look at the capital budget again and provide suggestions of what we like versus what we don't like or representing what we wish to change or anything that we wish to put in there or delete it would be greatly appreciated.

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In other city business matters to report, there have been many questions asked to me by residents and speakers regarding TAN Series B of 2012, which is being loaned by the Amalgamated Bank, which I had the opportunity to meet with last Friday. The first question that was asked of me is why do we need another TAN in the first place?

The answer to this is that we need another TAN because the city does not have the distribution of cash flow throughout the vear. For instance, say someone earns \$1,000 per week, they receive that amount every week for 32 two weeks out of the year. This pattern doesn't hold true for the city. We do not receive the same amount of cash in every month because tax revenues are not received in the same amounts on consistent basis. Therefore, the city uses TANS, which are short-term tax anticipation notes to fill the gaps where revenues may not be realized at high amounts.

The second question that was asked of me is what is the amount of the interest rate and when do we have to pay the TAN

back?

The amount of the TAN that was passed by council was for \$6.25 million and the interest rate is 5 percent and we must pay this note back in full by December 15, 2012.

The third question that was asked me is what is the total amount of interest that will have to be paid by taking out the TAN?

To answer this, the total amount of interest that would be paid by taking out the TAN is \$86,076.39.

The fourth question that was asked of me is how will the city pay this TAN back?

This TAN will be paid back by two main sources of funding. The first source of the funding is the state DCED loans and grants being \$2 million in no interest loans and \$225,000 in grant money received by the state. It is my understanding after speaking with Mr. McGowan before tonight's meeting that the city did receive the proceeds from the no interest loan and the grant will be received tomorrow from my

understanding.

The second source of financing will be through earned income tax collection.

Essentially that will happen until the TAN is paid off or December 15, whichever comes first. 60 percent of the earned income tax revenue, which is the wage tax, will be transferred to Amalgamated Bank.

A fifth question that was asked of me is what are the fees associated with the loan?

Fees associated with the TAN are \$282,250 with the great majority of these fees going to Amalgamated Bank and Case Con Capital.

And I do have a few citizens'
requests. First deals with the 1200 block
Aker Avenue. Several residents of Aker
Avenue as well as residents who travel
through lower West Scranton have informed me
that there are large potholes in the 1200
block of the Aker Avenue that are in serious
need of repair. Motorists have also
informed me that potholes are making travel
conditions difficult and even caused one

motorists to get a flat tire when accidently being hit with the potholes.

Mrs. Krake, with this in mind please contact Director Dougher and ask him to handle the situation in the best way that he sees fit.

The second request deals with the lot vacant lot between 643 Beach Street and Hetz Court. South Scranton residents living on Beach Street have voiced their concern to me about the lot between 643 Beach Street and Hertz Court. Residents have informed me that the lot has overgrown weeds and grass reaching over five feet high. Residents have also informed me that this lot has become a breeding ground for skunks and various rodents which are causing problems in the neighborhood. Residents wish to see the grass and weeds cut on the this lot as soon as possible.

Mrs. Krake, with this in mind,
please contact Director Seitzinger and ask
him to handle this situation the best way he
sees fit.

And also, in addition, various South

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Scranton residents and business owners on Cedar Avenue have contacted me regarding the lot between 709 and 717 Cedar. Residents and business owners have informed me that the lot contains overgrown grass and weeds that have grown to about three to four feet high and that the lot hs become a haven for rodents which are bothering residents.

Mrs. Krake, please add this to the list of the issues to contact Director Seitzinger about. And that's all I have for tonight.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good evening. I'd like to begin by acknowledging the work and achievement of this council, Solicitor Hughes and our staff, in changing the operations of the Scranton Parking Authority. We held firm for a year and did not sell our city's parking meters or lose this revenue item. When we were refused financial documents by the SPA, handed bogus SPA budgets but told to pay their debts, council stepped up to the plate, took necessary actions and by initially refusing to payment we gained the ears of the bond

issuers. Soon afterward, council made the bond payment and the dismantling of the Parking Authority began.

First, with the replace trustee; second, the resignation of the Parking Authority solicitor; third, the appointment of a receiver; and fourth, just this week the hiring of a new management company that has replaced the previous management and whose goal is to increase revenue and hopefully make the garages self-sustaining.

Council, its solicitor, and its staff worked hard and fought hard to protect Scranton taxpayers and as a result significant change for the better has occurred in the last two months.

The next SPA bond pavement is due on September 15. Consequently, emergency legislation was sent to city council yesterday, September 1, by the mayor to transfer \$325,000 from the contingency account to nondepartmental expenses, operating transfer debt service, to provide funding for this September 15 bond payment.

The legislation must be adopted

during this meeting in order to meet the payment deadline. Because a new management company, Central Parking, assumed operation of the parking garages effective September 11, 2012, and the cooperation agreement between the city and the Parking Authority is being terminated, city council should vote to approve this payment.

We have accomplished our goals at the Parking Authority to better serve and protect Scranton taxpayers. We have also retained the city's parking meter revenue and both of these measures will now prevent a drain on city taxpayers by halting the need for any tax increases to fund Parking Authority debt.

In addition, council received emergency legislation to secure a second unfunded debt borrowing in the amount of \$9.75 million for 2012. A public caucus was conducted earlier this evening prior to our regularly scheduled meeting in order that city business administrator, Ryan McGowan, could explain this specific legislation and it's urgency to the public.

According to both Mayor Doherty and BA Ryan McGowan, any potential tax increase related to this unfunded debt borrowing was already included in the revised recovery plan and the 2013 tax increase should be remain at 12 percent.

Further, the mayor stated that the city is hoping to finalize the first \$9.85 million in unfunded debt borrowing by the end of the month.

Also, on tonight's agenda is introduction of the 2013 CDBG program allocations. In compliance with the federal requirements, a public hearing will be held regarding the proposed allocations followed by a 30-day public comment period and the final vote will occur during the October 25 council meeting. And before I do provide my recommendations to Councilman Rogan, I would like to hear from the people during the public hearing next week. And that's it.

MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE
MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE
CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED

1	SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
2	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
3	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
4	PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)
5	PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)
6	PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1,
7	2013.
8	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
9	entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
10	introduced into its proper committee.
11	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
12	MR. JOYCE: Second.
13	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
14	those in favor of introduction signify by
15	saying aye.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
17	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
18	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
19	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
20	have it and so moved.
21	MS. KRAKE: 5-C. PROVIDING FOR THE
22	ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN STREETS, OPEN SPACE
23	PARCELS AND STORMWATER FACILITIES IN THE
24	MOUNTAIN LAKE ESTATES SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN
25	THE CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA. ALSO

1	AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
2	CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT FOR THE SUM OF ONE
3	DOLLAR (\$1.00) AND RECORD IN THE LACKAWANNA
4	COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICIAL RECORDS A
5	DEED FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED LANDS AND
6	RIGHT-OF-WAYS.
7	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
8	entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
9	introduced into its proper committee.
10	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
11	MR. JOYCE: Second.
12	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
13	those in favor of introduction signify by
14	saying aye.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
16	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
17	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
18	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19	have it and so moved.
20	MS. KRAKE: 5-D. CREATING AND
21	ESTABLISHING A GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT
22	#01.101860 TITLED "FIRST LIBERTY BANK-ESCROW
23	ACCOUNT CITY OF SCRANTON-EARNED INCOME TAX
24	SINKING FUND" FOR THE RECEIPT AND
25	DISBURSEMENT OF 2012 EARNED INCOME TAX

REVENUE TO BE DRAWN DOWN BY AMALGAMATED BANK
ON A MONTHLY BASIS FOR PAYMENT ON THE TAN
SERIES B-2012.

MS. EVANS: At this time I'll entertain a motion that Item 5-D be introduced into its proper committee.

MR. ROGAN: So moved.

MR. JOYCE: Second.

MS. EVANS: On the question?

MR. JOYCE: Yes. I just wanted to describe the establishment of this account very briefly. This account is being created to make payments to Amalgamated Bank. What is going to happen from now on with earned income tax revenue is that our tax collector, Bill Courtright, will transfer earned income tax checks into this account and First Liberty Bank will then divvy up 60 percent of that and give that to Amalgamated Bank and issue the remaining 40 percent to the City of Scranton. That's all.

MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those in favor of introduction signify by saying aye.

MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

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1	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
2	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
3	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
4	have it and so moved.
5	MS. KRAKE: 5-E. PROVIDING FOR THE
6	PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
7	PETITION THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF
8	LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR
9	PERMISSION TO FUND UNFUNDED DEBT IN AN
10	AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE MILLION SEVEN
11	HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$9,750,000.00)
12	DOLLARS; AUTHORIZING INCIDENTAL ACTION; AND
13	REPEALING INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES.(EMERGENCY
14	CERTIFICATE ATTACHED).
15	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
16	entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
17	introduced into its proper committee.
18	MR. MCGOFF: So moved.
19	MR. JOYCE: Second.
20	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
21	those in favor of introduction signify by
22	saying aye.
23	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
24	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
25	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?

1 MR. ROGAN: The ayes have it and so 2 moved. MS. KRAKE: 5-F. AMENDING FILE OF 3 4 COUNCIL NO. 56, 2011, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2012" BY 5 TRANSFERRING \$325,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO. 6 7 01.401.13090.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL 8 OPERATING EXPENSES-CONTINGENCY) TO ACCOUNT 9 NO. 01.401.15319.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES-OPER TSF DEBT SERVICE-SCRANTON 10 11 PARKING AUTHORITY) TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY DEBT PAYMENT 12 DUE SEPTEMBER 15, 2012. (EMERGENCY 13 14 CERTIFICATE ATTACHED). MS. EVANS: At this time I'll 15 16 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be introduced into its proper committee. 17 18 MR. MCGOFF: So moved. MR. JOYCE: Second. 19 20 MS. EVANS: On the question? All 21 those in favor of introduction signify by 22 saying aye. MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 23 24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

MS. KRAKE: 5-G. AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH KEYSTONE RECREATION, PARK AND CONSERVATION FUND REQUIRING THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO COMMIT TO A GRANT REQUIREMENT TO ASSURE THAT THE ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUILDING WILL BE USED AS AN UNDISTURBED USE BY THE PUBLIC AS A LIBRARY ONLY FOR FIFTY (50) YEARS.

MS. EVANS: At this time I'll entertain a motion that Item 5-G be introduced into its proper committee.

MR. MCGOFF: So moved.

MR. JOYCE: Second.

MS. EVANS: On the question?

MR. MCGOFF: As I read that and as Mrs. Krake read it the wording sounds that sometimes if you read it one way it will only be a library for 50 years rather than library only for 50 years, so maybe that's where some of, you know, maybe there was some confusion with, you know, how it was worded. Maybe there should be a comma or

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something there, or maybe a library only for a minimum of 50 years should have been included in that.

MS. EVANS: I think, Mrs. Krake, if we could take a look at the legislation for amendment in the next week to make that change.

MS. KRAKE: Yes.

MS. EVANS: I do understand the concerns cited by some of our speakers tonight, perhaps I was looking at the glass as half-full in that since the Library Authority has the deed to the Albright Library, my fear was that at any time they could do what they wished with that building and so by designating that for 50 years it's going to remain, if this is what it means, a library for public use so that it can't be sold or given to anyone else then that is a guarantee that I find most appealing because I don't know who is going to sit here five, ten, 30 years from now who would be in agreement to hand that library over to perhaps a post-secondary institution.

I'd rather see or I'd rather know

1 that there is some guarantee at least for 50 2 years that nothing like that is going to 3 happen. MR. MCGOFF: In the -- I don't mean 4 5 to belabor this, in the backup on the letters that we received from the Board of 6 7 Trustees and from the Board of the Scranton 8 Public Library Authority, it reads, "And 9 further assures that said building will 10 continue to be used as a public library for 11 not less than 50 years." 12 So it's worded a little bit better 13 in the backup than --14 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Anyone else on the question? All those in favor of 15 16 introduction signify by saying aye. 17 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 18 MR. ROGAN: Aye. MR. JOYCE: Aye. 19 20 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes 21 have it and so moved. 22 MS. KRAKE: 5-H. AUTHORIZING THE 23 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS 24 TO APPLY FOR A GRANT APPLICATION AND, IF 25 SUCCESSFUL, TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT

1	AND ACCEPT THE FUNDS RELATED THERETO A
2	KEYSTONE RECREATION, PARK AND CONSERVATION
3	FUND GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00 FOR
4	REPAIRS TO THE HISTORIC ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL
5	LIBRARY.
6	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
7	entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
8	introduced into its proper committee.
9	MR. MCGOFF: So moved.
10	MR. JOYCE: Second.
11	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
12	those in favor of introduction signify by
13	saying aye.
14	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
15	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
16	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
17	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
18	have it and so moved.
19	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to
19 20	
	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to
20	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to suspend the rules to move Items 5-E and 5-F
20 21	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to suspend the rules to move Items 5-E and 5-F to Sixth and Seventh Order to be considered
20 21 22	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to suspend the rules to move Items 5-E and 5-F to Sixth and Seventh Order to be considered for final passage based upon the attached

1	MR. ROGAN: Yes. I will vote "yes"
2	just because of item my support for Item
3	5-F.
4	MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
5	in favor signify by saying aye.
6	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
7	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
8	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
9	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
10	have it and so moved.
11	MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
12	READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 54,
13	2012 - AN ORDINANCE – APPROVING AND
14	ACCEPTING THE CITY OF SCRANTON CAPITAL
15	BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2013 PURSUANT TO SECTION
16	904 OF THE CITY'S HOME RULE CHARTER.
17	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
18	title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?
19	MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-A
20	pass reading by title.
21	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
22	MS. EVANS: On the question?
23	MR. MCGOFF: Just very briefly, I
24	know Mr. Joyce asked that we provide
25	additions or subtractions or whatever to the

capital budget, I think it would be more 1 2 appropriate to prioritize the items in the 3 capital budget, those things that we feel 4 are most needed in terms of capital 5 improvements as opposed to adding, you know, or removing things. Just a thought. 6 MS. EVANS: And that I think that's 7 8 something we can consider and perhaps --9 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I think that's a 10 good idea, too. MS. EVANS: And if you would like to 11 12 submit that, Mr. McGoff, I think that would 13 do. 14 Anyone else on the question? those in favor signify by saying aye. 15 16 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 17 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 18 MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. 19 Opposed? The ayes 20 have it and so moved. 21 MS. KRAKE: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -22 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 55, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE 23 - AN ORDINANCE TERMINATING THE COOPERATION 24 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON 25 AND THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY AS OF

12:01 AM OCTOBER 8, 2012 AND GIVING NOTICE 1 TO THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY THAT FILE 2 OF COUNCIL NO. 104 OF 1995 HAS BEEN 3 TERMINATED AS OF 12:01 AM OCTOBER 8, 2012. 4 5 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure. 6 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-B 7 8 pass reading by title. 9 MR. ROGAN: Second. 10 MS. EVANS: On the question? 11 MR. MCGOFF: Again I'd like to make 12 a brief comment. Last week I voted "no" on 13 this primarily because of the method in 14 which it had been introduced. I didn't feel 15 there was adequate time to review and 16 consider what was being presented. I think 17 in many cases now with the changes that have 18 taken place at the Parking Authority this is 19 almost a moot point that this is being done 20 and I will vote "yes" for it. 21 MS. EVANS: Anyone else on the 22 question? All those in favor signify by 23 saying aye. 24 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

MR. ROGAN:

Aye.

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1 MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes 2 3 have it and so moved. 4 MS. KRAKE: This would be on the 5 council's addendum to the agenda. 6-C, FORMERLY 5-E, READING BY TITLE 6 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 57, 2012 - AN 7 8 ORDINANCE - PROVIDING FOR THE PROPER 9 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO PETITION THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF 10 11 LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR PERMISSION TO FUND UNFUNDED DEBT IN AN 12 AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE MILLION SEVEN 13 14 HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$9,750,000.00) DOLLARS; AUTHORIZING INCIDENTAL ACTION; AND 15 16 REPEALING INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES. (EMERGENCY 17 CERTIFICATE ATTACHED). 18 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure? 19 MR. MCGOFF: I move that Item 6-C 20 21 pass reading by title. 22 MR. JOYCE: Second. 23 MS. EVANS: On the question? 24 those in favor signify by saying aye. 25 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

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1	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
2	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
3	MR. ROGAN: No.
4	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
5	moved.
6	MS. KRAKE: 6-D, FORMERLY 5-F -
7	READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 58,
8	2012 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF
9	COUNCIL NO. 56, 2011, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED
10	"GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2012" BY
11	TRANSFERRING \$325,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
12	01.401.13090.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
13	OPERATING EXPENSES-CONTINGENCY) TO ACCOUNT
14	NO. 01.401.15319.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
15	EXPENSES-OPER TSF DEBT SERVICE-SCRANTON
16	PARKING AUTHORITY) TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR
17	THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY DEBT PAYMENT
18	DUE SEPTEMBER 15, 2012. (EMERGENCY
19	CERTIFICATE ATTACHED).
20	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
21	title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?
22	MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-D
23	pass reading by title.
24	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
25	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
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1	those in favor signify by saying aye.
2	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
3	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
4	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
5	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
6	have it and so moved.
7	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to
8	suspend the rules to move 6-B to Seventh
9	Order for final passage.
10	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
11	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
12	those in favor signify by saying aye.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
14	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
15	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
16	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
17	have it and so moved.
18	MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER.
19	MS. EVANS: Is there I'm sorry,
20	Mrs. Krake. Is there anyone who wishes to
21	address council on Items 7-A, 7-B or 7-C
22	that have been moved to Seventh Order?
23	MS. SCHUMACHER: I don't see the
24	need to move what was 6-B to Seventh Order
25	tonight because it's a moot point, so

waiting another week and doing it, as I stated last week I hope we had seen the last of legislation that was passed in one night. This, of course, is two, but I still waiting another week would not be a detriment.

On 5-E, I tend to agree with Mr. Rogan, I don't see the urgency. We have had one since January of or February, a Court order, and we still don't have that one, so I don't see why that the burning need, and with respect to what was 5-F, again, timing. We have known for some time that was going to happen, and I don't know why we didn't have it on the agenda three weeks ago and do it in three readings in case anyone did have a comment that's not here tonight. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. The only thing I would like to add to that is that in some cases legislation -- well, in the case of the specifically the bond payment for the Scranton Parking Authority, I was working on that for the last two weeks and basically held that up until this evening because I wanted to be very sure that before council

would consider this bond payment that the management of the Parking Authority had switched hands and that all of the loose ends were tied up, so sometimes when you are looking at a piece of emergency legislation it's happening because we are working on it right into and beyond the 11th hour and we are trying to do that so that we are protecting the taxpayers.

In terms of the other involving the unfunded debt, it's my understanding that this needs to be done in one evening because the administration would like to approach the Court of Common Pleas to get a Court date and the longer it takes to pass the legislation the longer it is going to take to take that step and go before the Court and then, of course, the Court cannot grant a hearing for this for possibly another month, and money is needed for 2012 bills, so it needs to happen as soon as possible.

The \$9.85 million of the original unfunded debt borrowing, obviously, was held up all of this time because the Pennsylvania Economy League and DCED wanted a recovery

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plan and also because the city was still working on an audit and right now that's still ongoing. Great progress has been There is meeting that's going to made. occur tomorrow between the financial -- I think our BA and with Rossi, the auditor, and then contact will be made with the financial institutions that is very likely providing that \$9.85 we hope by the end of this month, but it was key to them, and it seems to me even more important than a revised recovery plan, was getting that audit done which is what I have been saying all along and what our solicitor has been saying all along. They want to see the financial statements, they don't want to see -- you know, it's not as important as estimates and projections into the future of what it might be and what it might not be, they really wanted to know where we have been and where we are right now. So we are taking care of everything as quickly as possible in order to now abide by that recovery plan and to keep the city alive.

So if there is nothing else on the

1 question then -- no? 2 MR. ROGAN: We have to read it. 3 MS. EVANS: Oh, okay. We have no one else from the audience then, Mrs. Krake, 4 5 by all means. MS. KRAKE: 7-A, FORMERLY 6-B, FOR 6 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -7 8 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 55, 2012-9 AN ORDINANCE TERMINATING THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON 10 11 AND THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY AS OF 12 12:01 AM OCTOBER 8, 2012 AND GIVING NOTICE TO THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY THAT FILE 13 14 OF COUNCIL NO. 104 OF 1995 HAS BEEN TERMINATED AS OF 12:01 AM OCTOBER 8, 2012. 15 16 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the 17 Committee on Rules, I recommend final 18 passage of Item 7-A. MR. JOYCE: Second. 19 20 MS. EVANS: On the question? Ro11 21 call, please? 22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. 23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. 24 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan. 25 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

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1	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
2	MR. JOYCE: Yes.
3	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
4	MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
5	Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
6	MS. KRAKE: 7-B, FORMERLY 6-C, FOR
7	CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
8	FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 57, 2012
9	- PROVIDING FOR THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE
10	CITY OF SCRANTON TO PETITION THE COURT OF
11	COMMON PLEAS OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY,
12	PENNSYLVANIA, FOR PERMISSION TO FUND
13	UNFUNDED DEBT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
14	NINE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND
15	(\$9,750,000.00) DOLLARS; AUTHORIZING
16	INCIDENTAL ACTION; AND REPEALING
17	INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES.(EMERGENCY
18	CERTIFICATE ATTACHED).
19	MS. EVANS: What is the
20	recommendation of the Chair for the
21	Committee on Finance?
22	MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
23	Committee on Finance, I recommend final
24	passage of Item 7-B.
25	MR. MCGOFF: Second.

1 MS. EVANS: On the question? Ro11 call, please? 2 3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. 4 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan. 5 MR. ROGAN: No. 6 7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce. 8 MR. JOYCE: Yes. 9 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans. 10 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted. 11 12 MS. KRAKE: 7-C, FORMERLY 6-D, FOR 13 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 58, 2012 14 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 56, 2011, AN 15 ORDINANCE ENTITLED "GENERAL CITY OPERATING 16 BUDGET 2012" BY TRANSFERRING \$325,000.00 17 18 FROM ACCOUNT NO. 01.401.13090.4299 19 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL OPERATING EXPENSES-CONTINGENCY) TO ACCOUNT NO. 20 21 01.401.15319.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES-OPER TSF DEBT SERVICE-SCRANTON 22 23 PARKING AUTHORITY) TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR 24 THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY DEBT PAYMENT 25 DUE SEPTEMBER 15, 2012. (EMERGENCY

1	CERTIFICATE ATTACHED).
2	MS. EVANS: What is the
3	recommendation of the Chair for the
4	Committee on Finance?
5	MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
6	Committee on Finance, I recommend final
7	passage of Item 7-C.
8	MR. ROGAN: Second.
9	MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
10	call, please?
11	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
12	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
13	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
14	MR. ROGAN: Yes.
15	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
16	MR. JOYCE: Yes.
17	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
18	MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
19	Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.
20	If there is no further business,
21	I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.
22	MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.
23	MS. EVANS: This meeting is adjourn.
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ability.

<u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER