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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, May 9, 2013

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

- JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
- FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT
- ROBERT MCGOFF
- PAT ROGAN
- JOHN LOSCOMBE
- NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK
- JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 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.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

11 MR. JOYCE: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

13 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the  
14 reading of the minutes, please.

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

16 NOTICE OF THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE  
17 SCRANTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO BE HELD  
18 ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2013 AT 11:30 A.M. IN  
19 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

20 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
21 If not, received and filed.

22 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S  
23 REPORT FOR HEARINGS TO BE HELD ON MAY 15,  
24 2013.

25 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?

1 If not, received and filed. Do we have any  
2 clerk's notes this evening?

3 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.  
5 Do any council members have announcements at  
6 this time?

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: I have one. I'm  
8 going to read from the letter: "To whom it  
9 may concern: I'm writing to request your  
10 support for a memorial on the square. The  
11 community of North Scranton is gathering  
12 together this year to erect a monument in  
13 honor of Jerry Moran. Jerry grew up in  
14 North Scranton and graduated from Scranton  
15 Technical High School. After high school,  
16 Jerry studied photo journalism at Oklahoma  
17 University and joined the US Navy. He  
18 traveled the world as a combat photographer  
19 for the navy between 1979 and 1984.

20 When American Airlines Flight 77  
21 crashed into the Pentagon on Tuesday,  
22 September 11, 2011, Jerry was working there  
23 as an engineering contractor for the Navy  
24 doing video teleconferencing. Sadly,  
25 Jerry's body was never recovered nor

1 returned to his family.

2 In order to commemorate our local  
3 hero, a monument will be erected at  
4 Providence Square. This monument will  
5 forever commemorate Jerry and his ultimate  
6 sacrifice to the country he loved.

7 In order to raise the money needed  
8 to purchase the monument, have it engraved  
9 and installed, there will be a fundraiser on  
10 May 18, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
11 at the Polish Club in North Scranton.  
12 Tickets for the event will only be \$10 and  
13 will include food and refreshments. Let's  
14 show everyone what North Scranton can do.  
15 The night is sure to be monumental."

16 And might I add, all of the city,  
17 not just North Scranton.

18 "I hope you will consider a donation  
19 to this fundraiser in any form. Donations  
20 can be made payable to the Jerry Moran fund.  
21 You or your business will be recognized on  
22 the signage at the event as well as on  
23 social networking sites and any other  
24 advertisements for the event. If have you  
25 any questions, please feel free to call

1 570-575-6752. Thank you in advance for your  
2 support. Sincerely, Nicole Lance."

3 Thank you. That's all.

4 MR. ROGAN: Two events. Two great  
5 events this Saturday, May 11, one in the  
6 morning and one in the evening. The first  
7 one is a 5-K run/walk for kids hosted by  
8 Lackawanna Ambulance this Saturday, May 11,  
9 at McDade Park. The registration begins at  
10 8:30 a.m. and the walk at 10:00. Prizes,  
11 refreshments and all proceeds go to a  
12 Abilities 21, a local support group for  
13 families and children with special needs.

14 Second, the Dante Literary Society  
15 is having their spring pasta dinner. It  
16 will be on Saturday, May 11, from 4:00 to  
17 7:00 p.m. The menu will include pasta and  
18 meatballs, salad, bread, cake, coffee and  
19 tea, so you can get the exercise in the  
20 morning and then get your meal at night.

21 The cost is \$11 for adults, \$7 for  
22 children, and the location is 1916-1918  
23 Prospect Avenue located in South Scranton.  
24 Thank you.

25 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

1 Council Solicitor Hughes is unable to attend  
2 tonight's meeting.

3 The Lackawanna County Astronomical  
4 Society will celebrate Astronomy Day on  
5 Saturday, May 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the  
6 Thomas G. Cupillary Observatory. The  
7 planets Jupiter and Saturn and its rings as  
8 well as star clusters and galaxies will be  
9 able to seen through telescopes. The  
10 program is free, admission is free, and the  
11 public is invited to attend.

12 The Scranton/Lackawanna County  
13 Taxpayers' Association will conduct  
14 interviews of Republican mayoral candidate  
15 Marcel Lisi and Democrat William Courtright  
16 on Tuesday, May 14, at 6:00 p.m. in Scranton  
17 City Council chambers. The interviews will  
18 be broadcast on Channel 19 by ECTV.

19 Republican candidates for the Office  
20 of Scranton mayor will debate on Monday, May  
21 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the University of the  
22 Scranton's Brennan Hall. Democratic mayoral  
23 candidates will debate on Tuesday, May 14,  
24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Moscovitz Theatre on the  
25 fourth floor of the University of Scranton's

1 DeNaple's Center. Both debates are  
2 sponsored by the League of Women Voters of  
3 Lackawanna County and the University of  
4 Scranton's Political Science Department.

5 And finally, I'd like to wish all  
6 the wonderful women in our community a very,  
7 very Happy Mother's Day. And that's it.

8 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
9 PARTICIPATION.

10 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker  
11 tonight is Frank Galdieri.

12 MR. GALDIERI: Good evening, ladies  
13 and gentlemen. Most of you know me, I'm a  
14 retired police officer with the City of  
15 Scranton. I have been contacting council,  
16 DPW and the city for many, many years, and I  
17 have come to the conclusion that I need to  
18 ask council one question, what is the scope  
19 and purpose of Scranton City Council? What  
20 is your meaning here?

21 MS. EVANS: We are the legislative  
22 body of the City of Scranton and we serve as  
23 the system of checks and balances on the  
24 executive branch of the government.

25 MR. GALDIERI: That's the answer I



1 was looking for, thank you. Checks and  
2 balances. When I walked in here this  
3 evening, Mr. Jim Lockwood from the Scranton  
4 Times saw me and he said, "Mr. Galdieri, I  
5 can't believe you are here again."

6 It's been a year that he was here  
7 when I came to council over a year ago  
8 begging to get my road paved. However, it's  
9 not the first request, many of you know  
10 that. I have been requesting this for over  
11 18 years. The road hasn't been resurfaced  
12 in 26 years. I have documentation that I  
13 have sent to the city numerous times. My  
14 next question is what do the dates March 8,  
15 2012, and March 21, 2013, have in common  
16 with the city council?

17 Regarding your minutes on March 8,  
18 2012: "Mr. Rogan: Next I wanted to update  
19 a few items that were brought up last week.  
20 Last week the conditions of Pike Street were  
21 brought up by a resident and I spoke to Mr.  
22 Galdieri on the phone, I actually missed a  
23 call from him yesterday. I have to get back  
24 to him if the DPW has gone down there to  
25 patch the holes. Never mind put it on a

1 paving list or move forward with a permanent  
2 solution, it's very frustrating as a council  
3 person when people come to you, and I know  
4 Mr. Loscombe as well spoke to Mr. Galdieri,  
5 and you relayed this to the department head  
6 and nothing gets done. And I thought, you  
7 know, for once -- even the Scranton Times  
8 did an article on this that it would light a  
9 fire under the DPW, the next day the trucks  
10 should be up there and at least patch the  
11 holes."

12 To this day, still nothing.

13 March 21, 2013. "Also, one that  
14 myself and Mr. Loscombe addressed numerous  
15 times, which is Pike Street. Potholes still  
16 haven't been filled, the road still hasn't  
17 been paved, we haven't heard anything  
18 whether it will be placed on a paving list  
19 for this year. Could we also request once  
20 again that the road is repaired. In the  
21 meantime, it hopefully will be placed on the  
22 paving list for 2013. This is one of the  
23 worst roads in the city."

24 It is one of the worst roads in the  
25 city. It's deplorable. We are actually

1 driving on dirt in many areas. Mr. Rogan,  
2 Mr. Loscombe have both been up there, they  
3 have seen it, the Times has documented it,  
4 WNEP has been up there. What does it take  
5 to get this road resurfaced? That's my next  
6 question.

7 MS. EVANS: City council does not  
8 have the authority to direct the DPW  
9 director or the Mayor of Scranton. The  
10 mayor basically -- well, I'm sure you are  
11 aware, the mayor has the power to hire and  
12 to fire alone. The mayor oversees all of  
13 his cabinet members, so it's either a matter  
14 of the mayor giving that order or the DPW  
15 director deciding independently that that  
16 particular street would be placed on the  
17 paving list. City council does not compile  
18 a paving list, whether it is the streets  
19 that are paved through OECD funds or through  
20 other funds, meaning citywide, whether it's  
21 low to moderate income areas or moderate to  
22 high income areas.

23 The most city council can do, and I  
24 know because I remember you, too, you  
25 e-mailed me many times and it's long before

1                   2012.

2                   MR. GALDIERI: Yes, ma'am.

3                   MS. EVANS: And I made request after  
4 request after request to have that road  
5 paved as well as a number of the others,  
6 some of which haven't been done in 50 years  
7 and this is citywide. We can only make the  
8 request. We cannot give the orders because  
9 we have no authority to do so nor will they  
10 respond to an order coming from city  
11 council.

12                   We have made every request on your  
13 behalf, but my recommendation to you would  
14 be to call the mayor's office and ask for an  
15 immediate meeting with him and with  
16 Mr. Dougher, the head of the DPW.

17                   MR. GALDIERI: I have done that.

18                   MS. EVANS: And?

19                   MR. GALDIERI: I was there this  
20 morning again, never got a phone call back.

21                   MS. EVANS: You were in the mayor's  
22 office this morning?

23                   MR. GALDIERI: I was in the DPW's  
24 Office again. My level of frustration is  
25 just absurd at this point. Mr. Rogan and I

1 have been in close contact many numerous  
2 times and one of his last responses to me  
3 was, "I have sent over a dozen letters to  
4 Mr. Dougher with no response."

5 So my question, which I first asked  
6 is, what is the purpose of city council? If  
7 it's a checks and balances shouldn't  
8 somebody intercede and say, "We've got a  
9 problem here. This is a serious problem,  
10 you are not even paying attention to it.  
11 You are not responding to."

12 It's apathy and ignorance and I  
13 don't care, it's not right. Something needs  
14 to be done. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Our next  
16 speaker is Les Spindler.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,  
18 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and  
19 homeowner and taxpayer.

20 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

21 MR. SPINDLER: It was very  
22 disturbing for me to hear last week that the  
23 AEDs that were donated to the city by Senofi  
24 Pasteur have been sitting in Fire Chief  
25 Davis' Office and not being used.

1                   MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, just a  
2 clarification, I'm sorry, they are not in  
3 Chief Davis' Office, he doesn't have them.  
4 I was there.

5                   MR. SPINDLER: Well, correct me if  
6 I'm wrong, but Councilman Rogan stated that  
7 last week and so did Councilman Loscombe.  
8 I'm just going by what I heard.

9                   MR. LOSCOMBE: We were reading from  
10 a letter last week, Les, but I'm still  
11 working on getting to the bottom of it and  
12 to be honest with you I was going to address  
13 it later, but I did speak to the chief, he  
14 assured me they are not in his office.

15                   MR. SPINDLER: Are they on the fire  
16 trucks?

17                   MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe there are  
18 two trucks that have them at this point.  
19 Rescue and once of the truck companies.

20                   MR. SPINDLER: But they are not the  
21 ones that were donated; correct?

22                   MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

23                   MR. SPINDLER: I'll be interested to  
24 find out where they are if they're not in  
25 the chief's office because they should be on

1 the fire trucks.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: I agree.

3 MR. SPINDLER: We are talking about  
4 saving lives here.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: I still don't have a  
6 full report to give, but it won't be tonight  
7 because there is still information I'm  
8 waiting on.

9 MR. SPINDLER: Well, we are talking  
10 about saving lives here, whoever has them  
11 should be getting them ready to go, put  
12 batteries in, whatever, and get them on  
13 those trucks. We are talking about lives.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: But as Mr. McGoff  
15 said, the chief doesn't have them in his  
16 office, but they are somewhere in city hall.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Okay, I'm just going  
18 by what I heard last week.

19 The next thing, ATVs, I have talked  
20 about them here and saying how dangerous  
21 they are. If anybody read the paper this  
22 week a young man from Tunkhannock High  
23 School just got killed this week on an ATV.  
24 There was also a story about two weeks ago  
25 about an ATV hitting a young child and

1           killing that child. I have come here many  
2           times saying how dangerous they are. Where  
3           I live in Tripp Park they are all over the  
4           place. I was walking my dog down Dorothy  
5           Street about two weeks ago in the dark, two  
6           ATVs came flying up Dorothy Street, had to  
7           be going 50 miles an hour. No lights, it  
8           was pitch dark, could have easily killed  
9           somebody. So maybe a letter could be sent  
10          to the chief and see if they get extra  
11          patrols on Dorothy Street maybe. I thought  
12          when the new school was built it might solve  
13          that problem because that's where they used  
14          to go, now they go all the way to the end of  
15          Dorothy Street and there is railroad tracks  
16          there, and that's where they are going.

17                    But I was really upset that they  
18                    came flying up Dorothy Street with no  
19                    lights. It was pitch dark. No regard for  
20                    anybody's safety, even their own.

21                    MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake will send  
22                    that that to Chief Graziano for his  
23                    attention to the situation, and I just want  
24                    to add to that, I know I have personally  
25                    have seen them on Parker Street, which is



1 particularly dangerous, because it's down to  
2 one lane over that bridge for over two years  
3 now and they will come flying through  
4 regardless of the color of the light.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Here's another pet  
6 peeve of mine, pit bulls. If anybody  
7 watched the news yesterday there was a pit  
8 bull attack in Hazelton. This gentleman was  
9 walking his dog, I forget what kind it was,  
10 but a pit bull attacked the dog. Thank God  
11 the dog lived, but it took \$2,000 worth of  
12 work to get that dog a hundred stitches.  
13 Thank God they found the owner, the owner is  
14 responsible to pay that \$2,000, but  
15 something has got to be done. And you know  
16 what, I think pit bull owners have should  
17 have to register that pit bull just like a  
18 sex offender has to register so we know  
19 where they are because when I walk my dog  
20 I'm always looking around. As you know, my  
21 dog was attacked quite a few years ago by  
22 two pit bulls. Thank God she survived. I  
23 think these people should have to report  
24 them so we know where they are. I think  
25 it's a dangerous situation. These dogs are

1 very, very violent dogs.

2 Next, last week two candidates came  
3 up to this podium and spoke and criticized  
4 the way the tax office is being run, and one  
5 was a mayoral candidate. And with all due  
6 respect, Mrs. Evans, I don't think you  
7 should let that continue because we all know  
8 the tax office is run by another mayoral  
9 candidate and to me that's just up here  
10 campaigning and I don't think it should be  
11 done and I think the only person qualified  
12 to run the city is the tax collector and  
13 these people are just getting up here and  
14 looking for their moment of fame, and I  
15 don't think it should be allowed. They can  
16 come up here and speak, but they shouldn't  
17 be able to speak about another candidate.

18 The last thing, the food trucks, I  
19 guess it's on the agenda tonight.

20 MS. EVANS: For the second reading.

21 MR. SPINDLER: I hope council  
22 doesn't okay the way it's written right now.  
23 I hope they leave it at 100 feet for the  
24 food trucks because, as I said last week, we  
25 can't put them out of business. Like I

1           said, if we chase them out of the city their  
2           business -- what are we telling other  
3           businesses coming into the city so I would  
4           hope council keeps it at 100 feet, and  
5           that's all I have to say right now. Thank  
6           you.

7                       MS. EVANS: Thank you. Bill  
8           Jackowitz.

9                       MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,  
10          Scranton City Council. Bill Jackowitz,  
11          South Scranton resident.

12                      MS. EVANS: Good evening.

13                      MR. JACKOWITZ: It's nice to see all  
14          these students here, I hope they will  
15          participate in the election in May and I  
16          hope they are not just here for credit.

17                      And also to the students that are  
18          here, there will be a Veterans Day Armed  
19          Forces Day parade on May 18 at 11:00 in  
20          Scranton, so I hope you can get all of your  
21          students to come down and honor all of your  
22          military personnel who will be marching in  
23          that parade on May 18 because it would be  
24          nice to get some young people out there for  
25          the Armed Forces Day parade, maybe we can

1 match the St. Patrick's Day crowd. I doubt  
2 it though.

3 Okay, lowest most responsible  
4 bidder, not necessarily the lowest bidder.  
5 Could this statement by Attorney Paul Kelly  
6 and be interpreted that the choice has  
7 already been made? Possibly pay to play  
8 back in Scranton? How has the taxpayers  
9 benefited with the new policies in effect  
10 for the parking garages and meters?  
11 Personally, I don't see any benefit yet.  
12 It's coming up on a year and now we got --  
13 three people applying for and -- well,  
14 anyway, I hope there is no shenanigans in  
15 play here.

16 I also have the same question about  
17 city council. I mean, we pay \$130,000 a  
18 year approximately for city council, five  
19 city council members, three secretaries, and  
20 an attorney, but yet it seems like every  
21 time we are told that you can't do anything  
22 and all we do is send letters. We are  
23 making the post office rich if we are using  
24 stamps. I mean, seriously. I mean,  
25 somebody needs to do something. This city

1 has been distressed for 21 years. Somebody  
2 has to do something and it has to be done  
3 now. Every day wasted is another day people  
4 are beholding, so sooner or later somebody  
5 has to answer to these problems that the  
6 city has, whether it be the mayor or whether  
7 it be the department heads or whether it be  
8 city council.

9 I'm sorry to say that you guys are  
10 the only ones that are open because you hold  
11 a meeting every week. You know, the mayor,  
12 I don't even know if the mayor still lives  
13 in the city. You know, maybe he does, maybe  
14 he doesn't. I don't if Mark Dougher lives  
15 in the city. Maybe he does, maybe he  
16 doesn't. Nobody ever sees him around, and  
17 you try to call his office and he doesn't  
18 respond to your calls. You send him  
19 letters, he doesn't respond to his letters,  
20 so I don't know if they still live in the  
21 city or not. I mean, they may be living at  
22 who knows where, you know? But somebody has  
23 to do something. This has been going on for  
24 like 270 months now, the city has been  
25 distressed like 270 months, going on 21

1 years, and nobody ever has any answers.

2 I'm tired of hearing that, and a lot  
3 of other people in this city are tired of  
4 hearing that, tired of hearing that. We  
5 need to start getting answers and somebody,  
6 whether it be the mayor or whether it be  
7 city council or whether it be the city  
8 controller, you guys are the seven elected  
9 people in this city. We elected you to help  
10 us and make our lives better, all seven of  
11 you. Now, get together and start working  
12 together. And I don't mean next year when  
13 we get a new mayor and city council, I mean  
14 right now, May 9, 2013, let's start working  
15 together and working on these problems that  
16 we have. It's ridiculous now and that's why  
17 people don't even want to come to the city  
18 anymore, seriously.

19 I heard a candidate for mayor speak  
20 about negotiations with the city unions to  
21 try and reduce the payroll. We need to  
22 start that right now, May 9, 2013, we need  
23 to start those negotiations right now. We  
24 don't need to wait until we have a new mayor  
25 and a new city council and a new city

1 council president, we need to start those  
2 negotiations and talks right now and get  
3 something in place because the city is dying  
4 and it's dying quick.

5 After speaking with numerous  
6 Scranton residents we are weary of Scranton  
7 government as is. We need to get real in  
8 Scranton. Nobody has the stomach to do just  
9 that other than perhaps those who advocate  
10 bankruptcy. This city needs to behave as if  
11 it already is bankrupt because the city is  
12 bankrupt. It needs to make the tough  
13 decisions and make cuts. I do not see this  
14 happening, especially when the mayor elect  
15 is receiving a \$25,000 pay raise and  
16 appointed attorneys receive bonuses for  
17 doing their job, that is, helping the city  
18 out of the financial mess which was created  
19 by the seven Scranton elected officials and  
20 Pennsylvania Economy League. The taxpayers  
21 did not create this mess, but they will pay  
22 for it.

23 I see some fairly weak attempts at  
24 cutting costs, but nothing approaching the  
25 type of cuts and enforcement of current laws

1 that need to be put in place. Deb Neihaus  
2 has proposed a noise ordinance. Ronny  
3 Ellman has proposed citing people for  
4 parking violations, nothing has ever been  
5 done. Are we serious about raising revenue  
6 or are we not? Let's get serious May 9,  
7 2013.

8 MS. EVANS: Greg Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Good evening. Greg  
10 Evans, Scranton resident and homeowner and  
11 small business owner here in Scranton. I'm  
12 here today to address you regarding the  
13 upcoming food truck legislation. I'm not  
14 here to speak to you as a brick and mortar  
15 restaurant owner, which I am, nor am I  
16 representing anybody by speaking here, but  
17 it's great to see that, you know, some of  
18 our competitors are here, "What the Fork."

19 Instead, I'm here to speak to you  
20 purely as an advocate of what's best for  
21 Scranton. By that I mean, we must be  
22 mindful and think long-term that the  
23 legislation today has a positive impact on  
24 years to come. Let me state that I'm also a  
25 patron of the food trucks, believe it or



1 not, and I have enjoyed their menus and I  
2 appreciate their entrepreneurial efforts.  
3 One of my business is a restaurant and it  
4 relocated from it's original location in  
5 order to reduce expenses, rent, utilities,  
6 taxes, etcetera. That was a smart business  
7 decision that put us from losing money every  
8 month to profiting monthly. A smart  
9 decision right? Of course.

10 So what would happen if small  
11 restaurants see the advantages, especially  
12 of no property tax, and they decide they are  
13 going to downside to a food truck and leave  
14 their brick and mortar location. This  
15 concern lies on more vacant storefronts and  
16 I'm sure we can all agree vacancies aren't  
17 inviting for other businesses or residences.  
18 The downtown revitalization would be taking  
19 two steps back.

20 Again, this is not attacking the  
21 industry or taking a side right now, this is  
22 me being purely in the middle looking out  
23 what's best for the taxpayer. I'm solely  
24 speaking from the perspective of economic  
25 impact. There is good news, however, there

1 are simple solutions to encourage brick and  
2 mortar restaurants to stay put in their  
3 retail location and for food trucks to  
4 operate on a level playing field.

5 I have three solutions I would like  
6 to suggest to you. One, allow the food  
7 trucks to operate, but limit the parking  
8 spaces they may occupy. This will prevent  
9 saturation of food trucks with food truck  
10 industry and allow for an acceptable amount  
11 of competition between the mobile vendors  
12 and the retail brick and mortars. This will  
13 also accord brick and mortar to stay where  
14 they are.

15 Two, increase the annual food truck  
16 fee. Yes, they have costs in doing  
17 business, too, I understand that completely,  
18 but this shows they are truly invested in  
19 Scranton just like the brick and mortars.  
20 Perhaps you might want to consider something  
21 of a PILOT.

22 Three, once the limited spaces are  
23 decided upon, bid them out. This would be a  
24 creative revenue source that would gain top  
25 dollar for "space fee for prime locations."

1                   With these three solutions you are  
2                   controlling the economic impact off the  
3                   exciting new food truck industry and with  
4                   this control you are insuring a positive  
5                   economic impact. You may also satisfy both  
6                   sides by creating a level playing field.  
7                   With these considerations and the open  
8                   dialogue between the brick and mortar and  
9                   the food trucks -- food truck vendors, I'm  
10                  confident they will find a way to co-exist  
11                  and collaborate to make downtown Scranton  
12                  even more inviting. These dialogues are a  
13                  great example of democracy. Moreover, they  
14                  are a brilliant example of cooperation.  
15                  Thank you.

16                   MS. EVANS: Thank you. Doug Miller.

17                   MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.  
18                  Doug Miller, Scranton. I heard I was  
19                  criticized earlier in the evening for  
20                  politicking from the podium again. I guess  
21                  that's what's happens when you've been  
22                  coming here for 12 years. You know, I don't  
23                  come here as a candidate, I come here as a  
24                  concerned citizen of this city and, you  
25                  know, maybe if some of the other candidates

1           who are so-called concern only come out of  
2           the woodwork every four years and they've  
3           never attended a public meeting in their  
4           life, you know, let them come down here.  
5           This podium and this chamber is open to  
6           everyone, so I have dealt with that issue in  
7           the past, I'm not here to politic, I'm here  
8           to discuss issues, that's the difference.

9                         Moving onto business, I'd like to  
10           touch on the food trucks once again and  
11           reiterate my statement in support of the  
12           food trucks. I don't see why we need to  
13           make an issue out of this. These are  
14           individuals, as I stated last week, who are  
15           only try to make a living just like anyone  
16           else in this community and rather than  
17           causing harm and trying to force them out of  
18           the city as the administration is trying to  
19           do here, we should be supporting them. We  
20           should be working cooperatively with them to  
21           ensure that they can be successful here and  
22           work with the brick and mortar  
23           establishments in the city.

24                         This is about, you know, getting  
25           everyone involved and trying to move the

1 city forward and what we seem to want to do  
2 here is push people out of the city that are  
3 only trying to, you know, benefit not only  
4 themselves but the community, and I'm  
5 hopeful that, as I said last week, we can  
6 come to a resolution on this and make sure  
7 it's in the best interest of all parties.

8 You know, last week some statements  
9 were made in regards to the, you know,  
10 cooperation and the mayor and the council  
11 working together and, you know, it kind of  
12 brought me back to a lot of the arguments I  
13 made in the last year and a half,  
14 particularly going back to the summer when  
15 we dealt with the recovery plan and, you  
16 know, as I have said before, I sound like a  
17 broken record, I truly do wish it was as  
18 easy as, you know, a lot of the speakers  
19 think it is as well as a lot of the  
20 candidates out there running for office.

21 You know, we hear about, you know,  
22 how we need cooperation and we need to do  
23 this and we need to do that, and I don't  
24 think a lot of these individuals would last  
25 five minutes in your shoes if they really

1           knew what you went through last summer and  
2           how difficult the decisions were you had to  
3           make. You know, it's all sounds nice to say  
4           we need to work together, we need to do  
5           this, we need to make cuts. As we talked  
6           about last summer, there is only so much you  
7           can cut, you know, we hear we need to slash  
8           salaries and we need to cut public safety.  
9           There comes a point in time where it's not  
10          realistic anymore, there is only so much fat  
11          you can cut. You know, the only way you can  
12          move forward is by coming together and put  
13          your minds together and come up with a  
14          solutions and that's exactly what you did,  
15          that's why we had the recovery plan put in  
16          place.

17                         Yes, we know the reality at this  
18          point in time and we haven't realized a lot  
19          of those revenue sources, but as we talked  
20          about many times we could have very easily  
21          given up on all of those revenue  
22          enhancements and said, "You know what, we  
23          are going to take the easy way out and we're  
24          just going to throw in the towel and we're  
25          going to file for bankruptcy like so many

1 people want us to do."

2 Well, that's not the solution.

3 Let's go down and see what's going on in  
4 Harrisburg, and if you watch the news  
5 recently you see they have gotten themselves  
6 in even more trouble by misleading investors  
7 as to what their financial situation  
8 actually is. Is that what we want to have  
9 yourselves in? Is that the situation we  
10 want to put ourselves in at this time? I  
11 don't think it is.

12 So for a lot of people out there who  
13 in my opinion think really don't have all of  
14 their facts together, I think you need to  
15 sit back and take a look at the whole  
16 picture that, yeah, this is a tough time,  
17 but we could sit and we can fingerprint  
18 point and we can go back and forth until we  
19 turn blue, the reality is we have difficult  
20 decisions to make and they are not easy, and  
21 it's been proven that when two sides of  
22 government come together things can happen.

23 So when we want to talk about  
24 cooperation, well, yeah, let's go back to  
25 the summertime because we had cooperation.

1           You know, we had a council and mayor that we  
2           never thought would come together but it  
3           happened because this council put politics  
4           aside and realized one thing, the people in  
5           this community and the future is what  
6           matters, and we know the ones that  
7           contributed. We know the ones that sat and  
8           grandstanded week after week and contributed  
9           nothing. We know who those individuals are  
10          and we know who made the tough decision.

11                         And I am confident in this recovery  
12          plan and I'm confident in the work that you  
13          put into it and that we will realize these  
14          revenue sources and it's going to take time.  
15          Things don't happen overnight, but we don't  
16          give up. We need to stay the course and I  
17          commend you for everything you have done,  
18          and that's all for tonight. Thank you.

19                         MS. EVANS: Thank you. I might add  
20          to this quickly, this council truly has  
21          worked hand in hand with the administration  
22          for over a year half now and everyone on  
23          this council, with the exception of one  
24          member, has worked with the mayor and his  
25          administrators regularly, almost weekly,



1 from Mr. Loscombe and his negotiations with  
2 the mayor on union contracts. Mr. Joyce,  
3 who has handled the finances admirably and  
4 been to all of the meetings with PEL with  
5 financial firms. Myself. I know that  
6 Councilman McGoff, for example, handled the  
7 rental registration program and attends  
8 weekly PEL meetings.

9 So I think it's really a disservice  
10 to say that, you know, there is -- actually  
11 there two issues at stake here, that  
12 cooperation is going to solve everything.  
13 Cooperation is wonderful and we have been  
14 cooperating fully now since December of  
15 2011, but the problems are so great that it  
16 requires much, much more than that.

17 And, you know, unfortunately, as  
18 well-intentioned as people are they don't  
19 understand all of the good, the bad and the  
20 ugly of what's gone on and the facts. So I  
21 would say, you know, I just wanted to  
22 correct that mistaken impression that's been  
23 circulating for far too long that there is  
24 never been any cooperation and there is a  
25 toxic relationship. That is not true.



1 with what the Scranton Times said and gave  
2 my opinion on who the solicitor should be  
3 and why.

4 But, you know, what I'd like to say  
5 here tonight is that I think people come  
6 here and ask, like the first gentleman he  
7 asked why we are not paving the roads. I  
8 mean, it's previous obvious why we are not  
9 paving the roads, and this isn't a shot at  
10 council, but in my opinion the city has been  
11 living on government welfare for decades and  
12 we have come to the point where everything  
13 is done with grants and sometimes we make  
14 unwise choices and borrow money and that's  
15 what's come, but at the end of every long  
16 day there is only one person responsible and  
17 that's the individual voters who go out and  
18 vote for the candidates of their choice, and  
19 in my opinion that's their prerogative.  
20 They are free to vote for whoever they care  
21 to vote for, and I think as damage continues  
22 to move in a forward cycle it reaches a  
23 point where it's decades long and then how  
24 do you turn around at the end of the cycle  
25 and say that the last people sitting in the

1 seats are the ones responsible for cycle  
2 after cycle damage and just no intervention?  
3 Just you just keep passing it down the line,  
4 you know?

5 I just find that the people in this  
6 city have to start making wise and conscious  
7 choices and I kind of agree with what Mrs.  
8 Evans said today, I don't think the tooth  
9 fairy is coming tonight to solve all of the  
10 problems the city has financially, and I'm  
11 somewhat of an opinion that we are going to  
12 see exactly where we stand in the next  
13 budget because I think it's going to be  
14 unbelievable and I don't know where all the  
15 money is going to come from, but maybe  
16 people will be hoping the tooth fairy is  
17 coming so we will see where that goes.

18 But, you know, the things that has  
19 me is I didn't get a chance to see it, I  
20 have only heard about it, but I did read  
21 some of it in the Scranton Times when they  
22 did interviews with the council candidates  
23 and I just -- and this isn't a shot at the  
24 Scranton Times, this is just my opinion, I  
25 don't see how we can allow candidates to

1 discuss a commuter tax because I don't see  
2 how we are going to go back into Court and  
3 ask the Court to grant us one, and that's  
4 not a criticism of the recovery plan, but  
5 Mr. Serafini's amendments were quite plain  
6 that we had to prove that the recovery plan  
7 actually worked and raise the revenue it was  
8 designed to raise, and it hasn't happened so  
9 my only curiosity is how can we have  
10 candidates for office discussing a commuter  
11 tax that can't be enacted because the law  
12 doesn't allow it?

13 I mean, maybe if the solicitor was  
14 here he could give his opinion, but I just  
15 think that when we start listening to  
16 political campaigns, whoever they are, they  
17 should be based in fact and I think the last  
18 person that should be driving misinformation  
19 to the public is either the radio or the  
20 television or the newspaper because all of  
21 the voters come to a conclusion of where we  
22 should go and most get no information from  
23 government itself, they go to outside  
24 sources.

25 And the first gentlemen when he

1           talked today about the roads, I did a  
2           Right-to-Know on the money that the city has  
3           spent over the decades and the amount of  
4           money that the city has invested in itself  
5           is zero. I mean, I have gone back 50 years.  
6           Everything has been done with grant money.  
7           There is only one or two projects that the  
8           city solely funded, because I asked the  
9           question.

10                         So when you look at that and you  
11           have people come up and they ask, "What's  
12           the role of council," I think that every  
13           citizen in this city should read the Home  
14           Rule Charter and know what the branches of  
15           government do or what they should do and  
16           that's only good citizenship, and I think  
17           that more people should be at these council  
18           meetings and be more bated in government  
19           understand what we can accept from our  
20           government. It's great to just stand there  
21           and expect unrealistic things, but then when  
22           you expect unrealistic things you stop  
23           participating because nothing happens.

24                         So, you know, I just hope you guys  
25           have a good day and thank you.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Our next  
2 speaker is Dave Dobrzyn.

3 MR. DOBRZYN: I have something to  
4 give to the council here and I'll comment on  
5 it as we go. Okay, on 7-A, city business,  
6 we have a request for the Assessor's Office  
7 and the commissioners to start reviewing tax  
8 exempts and some of them do great things and  
9 some of them are just simply tax exempt and  
10 they greatly benefit people throughout the  
11 county and the region and nobody wants to  
12 compensate us for over 30 percent tax exempt  
13 properties in this town, so I would like it  
14 see some PILOTS. I'd like to see safety  
15 fees and paving fees so that some day  
16 somebody that hasn't had their street paved  
17 or plowed in 26 years can get their street  
18 paved on plowed or whatever.

19 And I'd also like to once again  
20 stress that they should be politically  
21 neutral. As a tax exempt charitable  
22 organization, you have no right to determine  
23 how other people should live to your  
24 religious doctrine.

25 Okay, food vendors. I'm torn on

1           that. I guess that is what, No. 6-C? Is  
2           that what governs the food vendors tonight?

3                     MS. EVANS: It's in Sixth Order.

4                     MR. DOBRZYN: Okay. Now, at this  
5           point I think we need to really look at this  
6           because there is nice people on both sides  
7           of it. If you put the food vendors out of  
8           town, first I seen something about them not  
9           being allowed to operate at night after many  
10          of these institutions are closed. I  
11          purchased -- when the Scranton Times had  
12          their fireworks at Thanksgiving and the  
13          lighting of the tower I had a nice gyro at  
14          the street festival and there was a band  
15          there and the restaurant on the corner was  
16          closed, so I couldn't buy anything there,  
17          right? So I think it should be just let be  
18          or tabled and let's see when the smoke  
19          clears and debate this a little further.

20                    Now, council candidates please start  
21          attending. I read about the debate, I'll  
22          try and catch it hopefully, I can see it on  
23          ECTV, but there is a lot of debt in the city  
24          and we need to know how it's going to be  
25          paid and the test of a true fiscal



1 conservative is somebody that pays the  
2 bills. My philosophy on life, and I'm not  
3 broke, is that accept the worst and you will  
4 always been pleasantly surprised because if  
5 everything can go wrong it will and if  
6 everything goes wrong you will still have  
7 the bills paid and your head above water.  
8 And expect the worst and it's like I said,  
9 it's all downhill from there, it's a breeze,  
10 so I'd like them to start attending, and  
11 they don't have to comment on political  
12 situations or campaign from the podium, but  
13 they certainly do need to get up the speed  
14 with what's going on in the city.

15 And I have a question with General  
16 Dynamics, and it's not the parking  
17 situation, and it's a warning to them, it's  
18 my understanding what the work of General  
19 Dynamics can be bid by Canada or Mexico  
20 under NAFTA and I'm wondering, very  
21 seriously wondering if the lack of work down  
22 there is because somebody in the government  
23 is getting cheaper merchandise from another  
24 country. We had that with the tanks. We  
25 had the A1 Abrahams tank that Canada bought

1           the German one and we are supposed to be in  
2           a trade agreement and they bought the German  
3           one manufactured in Germany and now if there  
4           was a situation where it was needed they  
5           would have to go to Europe for parts. It  
6           sounds silly to me.

7                         And 5-A and B does that involve  
8           Dewey Park that is selling a certain tracks  
9           of land to the highway department PennDOT?

10                        MS. EVANS: On Harrison Avenue?

11                        MR. DOBRZYN: Yes. It kinds of  
12           sounds like it.

13                        MS. EVANS: I think a certain  
14           portion of the land there that I believe the  
15           PennDOT needs to purchase in order to --

16                        MR. DOBRZYN: Build the bridge.

17                        MS. EVANS: Fulfill it's bridge  
18           project.

19                        MR. DOBRZYN: I think they are going  
20           to try and keep the bridge open. Well,  
21           whatever has to be has to be, hopefully they  
22           can renovate or replace or, you know, do  
23           something decent after the fact because up  
24           on Meadow Avenue, the last three blocks of  
25           Meadow Avenue were beaten to hell to put



1 is trying to sell comp time as compensation  
2 for overtime. Whatever about the taxes?  
3 What about if you become employed? Can they  
4 hold that over to a quarter where you laid  
5 off early and you have a low quarter? It's  
6 all just take the money when I work for it.  
7 Forget about it, Eric Cantor. Don't forget  
8 to bawk, bawk, bawk everybody. Have a good  
9 night.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you. That  
11 concludes our sign-in sheet, is there anyone  
12 else who cares to address council?

13 MR. MARTIN: Good evening, Council.  
14 My name is Ken Martin, I'm a city taxpayer  
15 and homeowner. I'm also the president of  
16 the West Side Falcon Youth Organization in  
17 West Side. I came here tonight mainly  
18 because I don't like anybody saying anything  
19 false about the West Side Falcons or me  
20 myself. It is what it is, that's the way I  
21 believe in my life, which I'm not going  
22 through a good time in my life right now and  
23 anybody that knows me knows my wife Cathy is  
24 going through a tough time.

25 Tonight when you had Ms. Aebli here

1 and the rest of them from OECD I just want  
2 everybody to know, and I want people to know  
3 out there, first of all, do I believe the  
4 bridge should be fixed in any way, anyhow?  
5 Yeah. Even if it was Falcon money or  
6 anybody else's money, yeah.

7 I have lost kids down at my fields,  
8 all right? I have lost two players recently  
9 in the last couple of years in a fire. I  
10 certainly don't want any kid falling or  
11 anything like that or anybody getting hurt,  
12 but I believe the truth needs to be said at  
13 times and not to lie or fabricate.

14 I'm not going to say too much, I  
15 will say one thing back in '07 when we did  
16 get the grant for the lights, which again,  
17 all you know was for \$100,000 and the lights  
18 came in and they were for I believe 79, a  
19 truck came in from Mesko and dropped them --  
20 actually drove on the field and we were  
21 responsible for taking them off. That was  
22 it, and the Falcons took care of the rest,  
23 the conduit, the electrical, the building,  
24 the Falcons took care of the rest.

25 There was some money left over and

1 through some people I did try to, not that I  
2 allowed the money just to lay around like it  
3 was said tonight, I did try to purchase  
4 another pillar, another light in the far  
5 corner. You can imagine that when so many  
6 kids down in the field that my own corner  
7 gets a little dark at, the first bid that  
8 came in from Mesko, I believe it was for 12  
9 something, and I did contact, at that time  
10 it was not Linda, it was Leo, I believe his  
11 last name was DeAngelo or very close to it,  
12 he told me I had to go under ten grand and  
13 at that time, unfortunately, the Falcons  
14 were coming off a championship season and  
15 right now, I mean, I have two champions, and  
16 I'll be honest with you, right now I'm  
17 sitting with a large bill jacket wise, so I  
18 didn't have the extra money, but what I did  
19 was I did call Mesko and Mesko was very  
20 pleased with us. Mesko dropped the bill  
21 down to under 10 grand. Yeah, he took money  
22 off the light pole. And, again, I did talk  
23 to Leo about it again and it was just a  
24 quick -- so that's what happened and as far  
25 as that 21 and that stayed there forever,

1 all right?

2 As far as -- I know times are tough  
3 all over, as far as the paving, I believe it  
4 was originally -- and that's been done a  
5 couple of times. I know she said tonight,  
6 "You've got to jump on things," well, this  
7 isn't my only job. This is something I do  
8 because I love it, you know? I go to work,  
9 I just got home, you know, usually during  
10 the season I'm just getting home going to  
11 practice. I eat at 8:30.

12 Yeah, that's all I can say. I  
13 forget where I left off to tell you the  
14 truth. I just wish people would tell the  
15 truth, you know? As far as, again, I think  
16 I'm starting to remember. Again, remind me,  
17 I'm sorry for the way I'm dressed, but I  
18 came right from work and, okay, back to the  
19 when they dropped it down to the ten.  
20 Again, I was told no and it stayed there  
21 forever and as far as the paving, and that's  
22 where I was as far as the paving, all right?

23 The paving, it was done a couple of  
24 times, it was done by former player of mine  
25 Russo, all right, and all of the boys played

1           for me, so honestly the city was getting a  
2           great deal by him doing it. Anybody that's  
3           been by our field, all right, you know, on  
4           the back alley Dewey Avenue right by the  
5           steps it looks pretty bad right now, he was  
6           going to cut that out and pave. He was also  
7           going to repave as you go up the backside,  
8           the back hill.

9                        MS. EVANS: Please finish.

10                      MR. MARTIN: You want me to finish?  
11           As far as the roofing, all right, and by the  
12           way, I believe the first time he ever gave  
13           me an estimate on it was like 18 and then I  
14           contacted him again when I thought it was  
15           going and I said, well, just say that things  
16           are dropped, I disagree with her there, all  
17           right?

18                      As far as the surveys, you got to  
19           understand this not just -- I have a normal  
20           job, I have a normal family, all right?  
21           Taking surveys, not everybody likes to give  
22           one. Not everybody wants to know and let  
23           the city know what they are making. Do I  
24           try my best? Absolutely. I will say this,  
25           I did go down to her office twice, not once,



1 twice to hand in surveys, all right? How  
2 many? I don't know. I wish I counted them,  
3 maybe if we ever got business with the city  
4 again I guess I'll hire my own solicitor or  
5 attorney.

6 As far as the roof, the roof was  
7 appraised at four grand, that was material  
8 only, I had a private contractor that was  
9 one of my coaches on my "C" team that was  
10 willing to do it, him and his brother, and  
11 certainly down at our field all the coaches  
12 would have pitched in as far as carrying the  
13 bundles up and all he would have to do was  
14 lay them. That's how it was.

15 All right, and I don't want take any  
16 more time up because I watch these meetings  
17 a lot, but I don't come much, unfortunately  
18 I work a lot, I work out of town. Jack, you  
19 did ask for something from Ms. Aebli, I  
20 don't have them all here because I did run,  
21 but I did find a couple ones just loose, I  
22 guarantee you, I know where you live, I  
23 believe, I will find more for you and this  
24 is something you asked for today.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: They will have to

1 produce what they have, also. Thank you.

2 MR. MARTIN: Again, I think all of  
3 you do a great job, it's not easy. I'm just  
4 a little guy that has 200 kids. By the way,  
5 it's not 200 families, it's 200 kids about  
6 240, it fluctuates sometimes, sometimes the  
7 cheerleaders are better than the boys, you  
8 know. That's all I really got to say.

9 Again, just the only reasonable why  
10 I came down here is to tell the truth, okay?  
11 Good night, Council.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you. If I  
13 could just make a comment, I know Kenny very  
14 well, he is married to my sister, of course,  
15 and she is having her problems like Kenny  
16 said, but I've got to commend Ken. I'm  
17 telling you for years and years he has  
18 coached the football teams back there,  
19 coached many of the great players today,  
20 college and beyond on his own time and his  
21 own heart and he drives back and forth every  
22 day to Berwick. I don't know how he has the  
23 stamina and energy he has to be honest with  
24 you, but as you can see he is passionate.  
25 He is passionate about what he does. You

1           could hear it in him and I know he would  
2           like to say a lot more, and that's what  
3           upsets me and I think I'll save it for  
4           motions because, you know, I have been quiet  
5           for quite awhile and now and I think I'm  
6           ready to blowup.

7                         You know, sometimes fair is fair,  
8           sometimes it's not, but the way some things  
9           transpire it makes you wonder and I think  
10          hopefully come election there is enough  
11          people in this city that have their eyes  
12          open to what's going been on here. And  
13          again, I'm going to save that for motions,  
14          but just to touch on what Kenny said, there  
15          was \$20,000, \$21,000 I think left over from  
16          the light, and we were told by Mr. DeAngelo  
17          at that time that anything over \$10,000 had  
18          to be bid. Kenny went to the company that  
19          they got the previous lighting from and they  
20          dropped the price under \$10,000 at a cut  
21          rate price to do it.

22                        Then we were told, no, we can't do  
23          it and at that point when we applied for the  
24          paving and the roof we were told we can't  
25          transfer that money over. Ironically,

1           that's what they did. So I don't know what  
2           to believe over there to be honest with you.

3                         Now, as Mr. Martin stated they  
4           bought the lighting for the field it was  
5           dropped off, the Falcons took care of  
6           everything from that point off, from the  
7           time they dropped them off from the truck.  
8           However, the hassle just to get the material  
9           for this roof \$4,000 getting material for  
10          the roof, and he had a roofer that's on the  
11          lead that was going on put it on there, we  
12          were told you had to have an engineering  
13          plan and this and that, that's the same with  
14          the parking. I mean, some times this money,  
15          good money is thrown after bad. That's  
16          what's wrong with some of these government  
17          programs.

18                        And she said it's got to be shovel  
19          ready, you got to be able to get right into  
20          it. That's okay for the people that are on  
21          this OECD list year after year getting these  
22          grants because they already have the  
23          lawyers, they already have the financing and  
24          they already have the know how, but when you  
25          are an average Joe and you are trying to get

1 something for the people you work for and  
2 help and represent to say it has to be  
3 shovel ready and you don't have all of the  
4 paperwork. I want to see a raise of hands  
5 here, how many of you would like to fill out  
6 a census survey? Nobody. It's tough. It's  
7 impossible. Yet, I'm going to say it, I  
8 apologize, I'm going to say it, you know, we  
9 have people coming to this podium with all  
10 their ideas they think we can snap our  
11 fingers here. Believe me, if we could there  
12 would be a lot more done. Cooperation,  
13 that's a big word. Mrs. Evans alluded to it  
14 before, we cooperate as much as we can with  
15 everybody. It's tough when the cooperation  
16 doesn't come back. When we ask information  
17 from department heads and we are ignored or  
18 given lip service, which is the most part,  
19 not only us neighborhood groups and  
20 everything, this has been the culture here  
21 for several years. That's why we are deeper  
22 and deeper.

23 We are not at the abyss of a fiscal  
24 cliff right now because this council  
25 majority is here, that cliff has been

1 building up for years. It's only been  
2 brought to your attention because this  
3 council majority is here. We had to stop  
4 it. If it went on unabated where were we  
5 going to be in two or three years,  
6 bankruptcy would be the only option, and we  
7 are not looking at that option. I know in  
8 my heart and everyone up here our best  
9 interests have been for you, the taxpayers,  
10 and try to come with the balance all along,  
11 but as I said today it came it a head  
12 because of a situation like this, a  
13 situation like that. I spoke to people and  
14 a question like that, there are two sides in  
15 this city, the has and the have nots. If  
16 you are on the have side connected this is  
17 the nature of politics here that we have to  
18 stop.

19 I have stuck it out here because I  
20 want to see it stopped. I think we have a  
21 good chance, but when it comes from the top  
22 it's tough. Sure it's fine with us here,  
23 but that one still has more power than us  
24 five. Otherwise, things would be a lot  
25 different, but when I hear from contractors

1           and developers the problems that they have  
2           with inspectors, with inspection companies,  
3           with permits, with zoning, all of this stuff  
4           and I go out and I look at the quality of  
5           the work some of these contractors are doing  
6           I'm amazed because I turn around and I see  
7           certain favored few that are doing a minimum  
8           to get by and they have no hassle. In most  
9           cases no permits.

10                        When I see people that have it or  
11           are getting things taken care of from the  
12           Department of Public Works you try it as an  
13           average Joe and see if they will come and  
14           take care of you. My frustration has been  
15           building up and I'm letting it out, I  
16           apologize, but this is what's been going on  
17           and election day is coming up and you have  
18           to elect the people that you believe in and  
19           you think can help and work with us, not  
20           those that have been connected, not those  
21           that continually have connections, and don't  
22           believe in lip service. Look at their  
23           history, look at their eyes, believe what  
24           they have to say because that's what you are  
25           going to have.





1           this area, and I have had people lose their  
2           jobs because of where I am, but I'm not  
3           going to comprise my beliefs to cow-toe to  
4           someone of a higher importance. I could  
5           have quit a long time ago and made a lot  
6           more money than I am sitting here right now,  
7           but I believe that we can make a difference  
8           and I believe that I have stuck it out. And  
9           God bless my wife for sticking it out with  
10          me through this, but I'll get off the  
11          soapbox now, I'm sorry.

12                    MS. EVANS: No, I think it needed to  
13           be said. Thank you. Is there anyone else  
14           who cares to address council?

15                    MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm sorry, Andy, for  
16           tying you up there.

17                    MR. SBARAGLIA: You didn't tie me  
18           up, I have been here listening to it for a  
19           long, long time. Andy Sbaraglia, citizen of  
20           Scranton, fellow Scrantonians. I hear a lot  
21           about shovel-ready projects. Did anybody  
22           think the potholes fits that category? I'm  
23           sure they are shovel ready, but they aren't  
24           being filled, are they?

25                    MR. MCGOFF: Yes, they are.

1 MR. SBARAGALIA: As far as the  
2 bridges, I guess we can teach all the kids  
3 to sing instead of London bridges, Scranton  
4 bridges are falling down. You will fit  
5 right in and we'll get by. Actually, it  
6 might even get action out of Washington.

7 But I was reading in the paper about  
8 the bids for the meters, is that \$60,000  
9 figure right that was there, that they were  
10 offering \$60,000 for the meter; is that  
11 right?

12 MS. EVANS: To operate the meter  
13 program, not purchase them.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yes, to operate the  
15 meters they are giving us \$60,000 to operate  
16 the meters and then you said that we were  
17 collecting, what was we collecting on the  
18 meters, something like a half a million was  
19 pouring from the meter collections into the  
20 city coffers that we couldn't transfer them  
21 meters over to the Parking Authority because  
22 we needed the money? It just don't make  
23 sense half the time.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Their contract is for  
25 \$60,000 to operate them, to maintain them.



1           They are not employees of the City of  
2           Scranton.

3                       MR. SBARAGLIA: Oh, I assumed that  
4           because for 60,000 I don't think they would  
5           be hiring union people, that's obvious, so  
6           apparently the meter maids are going to lose  
7           their jobs or be transferred. Do we really  
8           have to do it, that's the question. Do we  
9           really have to do it? Surely there must be  
10          some person in the administration that can  
11          actually operate meters, parking meters. I  
12          remember we did it. This wasn't something  
13          that was there before life in Scranton. We  
14          used to do it. I remember people going out  
15          and collecting the meters, checking the  
16          meters, but all of a sudden now you feel  
17          like we don't have the people really with  
18          the brain power to do it, and I don't quite  
19          understand that. Why can't we operate our  
20          meters ourselves? What is the main reason  
21          you're afraid that we don't have competent  
22          people that are able to do that? Because  
23          that's what it amounts to. You are saying  
24          that nobody in the administration has the  
25          brain power to go oversee the meters and we

1 did for years and years and years. It  
2 wasn't until they got in trouble with the  
3 Parking Authority that they went through all  
4 of this other rigamarole.

5 Remember it was the Parking  
6 Authority that caused that because they  
7 needed that money to meet their payrolls to  
8 meet their this or meet their that, but  
9 surely you should think that we can operate  
10 the meters ourselves. It shouldn't be that  
11 complex and the police and the citation  
12 issuers can go out there and do what they  
13 always do. I got a ticket from the police  
14 up at the hospital. They did their job. I  
15 was parked a little too far out, so they  
16 gave me a ticket. I went down and the paid  
17 the ticket, but why do you assume we can no  
18 longer do anything in the city very good  
19 anymore? Everything has to be let out to  
20 somebody else. We want to sell the Sewer  
21 Authority, the Department of Public Works,  
22 this, that and whatever. What has happened  
23 to the administration in this city that we  
24 can't hire people competent enough inside of  
25 the city to do the job that must be done.

1                   And as far as your cooperation with  
2                   the mayor, when something is good you do it.  
3                   When something is bad you say no. That's  
4                   what you are elected to do. You are the  
5                   balance and checks. You always were. I sit  
6                   with you many nights in the room out there  
7                   and talking to DiBileo and watching out of  
8                   Harrisburg and you were coming up with a  
9                   plan for fiscal help. Of course it didn't  
10                  go through, but at least you tried and you  
11                  were there. I have been with you. You  
12                  tried many, many things. It just so happens  
13                  it fell on deaf ears. Everything fell on  
14                  deaf ears and it came to fruition now.

15                  When that man first stepped up there  
16                  and you had them the majority, for first  
17                  thing I said to you was double his salary,  
18                  he is going to need it, because I knew what  
19                  was happening and I knew what was coming.  
20                  And as far as the fruition it's here. I can  
21                  understand we are going to get that tax  
22                  increase and anybody that runs for council  
23                  and says we are against tax increases is the  
24                  most stupidest thing I ever heard. We are  
25                  all against tax increases, but that isn't

1           what our problem is. Our problem is the  
2           money, and the only way we can get money is  
3           either hold up banks or tax the citizens of  
4           Scranton. That's the only way we are going  
5           to get out of this. We all know this.  
6           Anybody with common sense knows this.

7                        So we don't -- there is no plan for  
8           grandiose designs. What we have to do is  
9           buckle down. Like I said a long time ago,  
10          watch your pennies and the dollars will  
11          fall. I mean, where we are now is almost  
12          impossible to get out of this. You are  
13          right, I'll be dead probably before we get  
14          out of this with any luck. If not, I'm  
15          going to be really passed all that, but  
16          that's what's going to happen. I'm sorry to  
17          see it happen. You are right, a lot of  
18          things have been let go.

19                       And as far as potholes, believe me,  
20          there is nothing that's more shovel ready  
21          than our potholes. I mean, to go out, of  
22          course they are. I always said the way they  
23          used to do it is the best way, maybe they  
24          can't do it no more. They used to come up  
25          with a gas hopper, heat it up, take a blow

1 torch, heat the patch, drop the hot mix into  
2 it and then run over it with a little steam  
3 roller. Now, what happened with all of  
4 those things I don't know, but like anything  
5 else, I'm getting old. I guess they wore  
6 out like me. Thank you.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,  
9 Council. Marie Schumacher, homeowner and  
10 taxpayer in the city.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

12 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: First on agenda  
14 items I would encourage you to pass 6-A and  
15 B tonight and then accelerate it to Seventh  
16 Order for final passage in evening so that  
17 very worthy program can get started. That's  
18 on the library, the Albright library.

19 And then 7-A, I don't really  
20 understand what good a resolution is going  
21 to do. I believe the County now is -- the  
22 County is refusing to do an audit of the  
23 nonprofits is two refusals already. I don't  
24 know why we just don't pony up and do it and  
25 in that vein I have brought tonight, and



1 I'll provide it to the Clerk's Office, a  
2 copy of the letter that the tax exempt  
3 review letter was sent to all of the tax  
4 exempts out in Allegheny and can go online  
5 and you can read it and if you want to spend  
6 nine bucks you can even print it.

7 But if we put the onus back on the  
8 nonprofits rather than us trying to do it  
9 and then have somebody hire somebody perhaps  
10 to go over those and do a spot check with  
11 the 990's to make sure that everything was  
12 accurate or make the 990's an attachment I  
13 think that would at least get it moving  
14 instead of playing ping pong with the  
15 county, I don't think that's going to  
16 happen.

17 Back to some old items, Mr. Joyce,  
18 again, you provided figures last week  
19 comparing real estate tax revenue through  
20 April for 2012 and 2013?

21 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did 2013 include  
23 the 22 percent tax hike again?

24 MR. JOYCE: Well, yes. Revenues  
25 increased by 27 percent, but, of course, we

1 did have a 22 percent tax increase so --

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: And that's not  
3 usable for operating, general operating,  
4 that's for the unfunded debt repayment;  
5 correct? So it's not really going to do  
6 operations a whole bunch more, so we don't  
7 have a lot of money, extra money around to  
8 do more than we thought; correct?

9 MR. JOYCE: Correct. Part of -- of  
10 course, part of that is for the unfunded  
11 debt.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes. Well, both  
13 years, 2011 and 2012 and one was ten and one  
14 was 12 so, yeah, that's 22 the way I add,  
15 yeah, so that's too bad. I hope we find a  
16 way to split that out so it more accurately  
17 reflects what's usable for operating  
18 expenses and what's going to prior debt  
19 repayment.

20 Then, Mr. McGoff, back to you on the  
21 rental registrations or do I have to did a  
22 Right-to-Know to get the number of  
23 properties that are registered and of those  
24 how many have been inspected by our city  
25 inspectors --

1                   MR. MCGOFF: I do not have that  
2                   number.

3                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Can you get it  
4                   reasonably you think?

5                   MR. MCGOFF: I could try.

6                   MS. SCHUMACHER: I would appreciate  
7                   it. If you don't get it by next week and  
8                   I'm here next week I'll do a Right-to-Know.  
9                   The other thing, do you know if they have  
10                  provided the list of those who are  
11                  registered to the Single Tax Office so that  
12                  they can also check to see if they are  
13                  paying mercantile on the rentals?

14                  MR. MCGOFF: I do not know offhand  
15                  if they have done that.

16                  MS. SCHUMACHER: Could you check on  
17                  that as well?

18                  MR. MCGOFF: Okay.

19                  MS. SCHUMACHER: Because that's  
20                  another -- okay, now, oh, the parking meters  
21                  they were just talking about, is there a  
22                  copy of the RFP available in the Clerk's  
23                  Office? I'll try to come in and Monday and  
24                  review that because the way I'm looking at  
25                  it, and looking at the quotes, this is only

1 for the management portions, so I guess  
2 there is going to be a second RFP for buying  
3 new meters and etcetera? Is that the  
4 upstanding? That we'll go back to zero and  
5 when a car pulls out? I mean, the last one  
6 had new heads on polls, is that still a  
7 plan?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: My intention was for  
9 them to be rebid, for the company to -- the  
10 successful company to bid the technology.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: That's the way --

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Or for us to bid the  
13 technology for the, you know -- vice versa.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, because I  
15 really didn't like the way --

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: However, that doesn't  
17 mean it's going to happen that way.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, the way it  
19 sounds, and I hope it's not true, that's why  
20 I want to look at them, is that it's --  
21 it's just going to be a fallback. We just  
22 wasted a bunch of time and it was going to  
23 be --

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: There is  
25 quote/unquote a sentence in this newspaper.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: And that's very  
2 troubling. I have a lot more, but please  
3 pass 6-A and B tonight in Sixth and Seventh  
4 Orders. Thank you.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

6 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Is there  
7 anyone else who would like to address  
8 council?

9 MS. DANIEL: Hello, my name is  
10 Simone Daniel and I'm a city taxpayer and  
11 homeowner.

12 MR. JOYCE: Pardon me, would you be  
13 able to repeat your name?

14 MS. DANIEL: Simone Daniel.

15 MR. JOYCE: Pardon?

16 MS. DANIEL: Simone Daniel.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Move the microphone a  
18 little closer.

19 MS. DANIEL: Is that better? I  
20 wanted to address the food trucks. I would  
21 hope that you would vote to keep the ruling  
22 at 100 feet and keep -- I think at night  
23 when businesses are closed that the distance  
24 should be dropped. The trucks have been a  
25 nice addition to the city. It's new

1 business and provides the city with a good  
2 service, particularly at night. What I love  
3 about Scranton is that it's never felt like  
4 a small town. We have never thought  
5 ourselves as small and I think we should be  
6 embracing this growth and entrepreneurship.  
7 The new regulations will drive out these  
8 businesses. There will be a lot of loss of  
9 investment for these people and they base  
10 this investment on the standing regulations.

11 So I think to encourager continued  
12 growth and not to see anymore people without  
13 any income and without the loss of jobs. If  
14 we keep things the way they are, I think  
15 it's worked fairly well. There are  
16 glitches, but I think there is room for  
17 improvement, but we need to be keeping them  
18 where they belong. Thank you.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

20 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else who  
21 would like to address council?

22 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Frank. Hi, how are  
23 you? Didn't say hi tonight, Frank.

24 MR. JOYCE: I didn't see you,  
25 Chrissy.

1 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Hi, Jackie.  
2 Frankie, this is for you, Frank. The street  
3 down by my house, Frank, the potholes are a  
4 mess down there. They are a mess.

5 MR. JOYCE: Okay.

6 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Thank you.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thanks, Chrissy.

8 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else who  
9 would like to address council?

10 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

11 MR. JOYCE: Mr. McGoff, do you have  
12 any comments or motions?

13 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, first of all on  
14 the food truck/restaurant situation, I spoke  
15 to Ms. Leslie Collins, the director of  
16 Scranton Tomorrow today following the  
17 meeting that was held with both the food  
18 truck vendors and the restaurant owners.  
19 I'm told that there were approximately 20  
20 individuals that attended the meeting and  
21 that it was kind of an issue oriented  
22 meeting with open and productive dialogue.  
23 And, as she said or it was in her e-mail to  
24 me that it was amicable and that the issues  
25 were discussed openly and that many of the

1 issues were discussed were a few that were  
2 still open that needed to be addressed and  
3 that they were going to reconvene early next  
4 week and that they would hopefully have some  
5 time after that meeting have any proposed  
6 changes that they had that they would agree  
7 to, that they had agreed to.

8 I know that that probably moves  
9 beyond the deadline that you had originally  
10 set, but I would hope that we can see the  
11 progress that has been made and that we can  
12 wait until their proposals are presented to  
13 us before we advance the legislation or  
14 before we vote on it in Seventh Order. I'm  
15 assuming that they will vote on this this  
16 evening to move to --

17 MS. EVANS: In Sixth.

18 MR. MCGOFF: And move it to Seventh  
19 Order and then wait to see what changes are  
20 proposed and what they have -- what  
21 agreement they have reached. I think that  
22 is the way in which we can resolve this to  
23 everybody's pleasure or at least somewhat at  
24 their pleasure. I think by moving forward  
25 with legislation that doesn't include their



1 proposals would be fool hearty and really  
2 would defeat the purpose that we originally  
3 set out to accomplish.

4 And with that, I would like to thank  
5 Leslie Collins from Scranton Tomorrow for  
6 conducting these meetings and I think it's  
7 an example of what cooperation and working  
8 together can do to resolve issues and  
9 hopefully by the end of next week or the  
10 following week we have some resolutions to  
11 the situation and we can move forward with  
12 the proposals and with the legislation that  
13 would be acceptable to all.

14 As far as the caucus that was held  
15 this evening and the funding for the West  
16 Lackawanna bridge, I thought Ms. Aebli  
17 presented the proposals from OECD very I'll  
18 say properly. She told us exactly why these  
19 things were chosen and we have questioned in  
20 the past OECD for not being diligent and  
21 doing the things and now when Ms. Aebli  
22 comes here and explains that she is trying  
23 to follow the requirements, the HUD  
24 requirements for funding of these programs,  
25 now we are questioning why she is doing

1           that.

2                       I think that, you know, if we don't  
3           want the funding for that to come from these  
4           sources then we should provide some other  
5           alternatives, but from what she presented  
6           these -- some of these activities are not  
7           eligible, others still have money remaining  
8           that would be sufficient for doing these  
9           projects into the end 2013, and as far as I  
10          was concerned I was content with what she  
11          had to say and proof of what she had to say.

12                     The third thing, somebody mentioned,  
13          you know, someone mentioned about street  
14          repairs and street paving, DPW started doing  
15          street repairs and paving in April and have  
16          continued to do so on a daily basis. Maybe  
17          it wasn't in front your house or in some  
18          areas that you have driven, but they have  
19          been out on a daily basis doing repairs when  
20          possible, weather permitting, they have been  
21          doing the repairs and actually have milled  
22          and started to pave a number of streets  
23          throughout the city.

24                     And lastly, on the rental  
25          registration, although I didn't ask specific

1 numbers I did speak to Mr. Seitzinger and  
2 also to Lori Reed, who is now in the Rental  
3 Registration Office, I don't know if that's  
4 the right term, but they are now conducting  
5 a second mailing to landlords who have not  
6 responded and telling them or explaining to  
7 them the late fees and other things that  
8 would be incumbent upon them should they not  
9 meet the -- now that they have not met the  
10 deadlines. They are increasingly the  
11 database daily. Housing inspectors are out  
12 every day looking at properties and adding  
13 to the database and she explains to me that  
14 a lot of the work that they have been doing  
15 has been sort of the office work working  
16 towards getting the database set and doing  
17 the mailings and so on and that they have  
18 now started to increase the time that they  
19 are spending doing the inspections so that  
20 the number of inspections should be  
21 increasing through the summer months.

22 And the last thing I think that  
23 should be noted that revenue from rental  
24 registration has already exceeded the  
25 budgeted amount and if it continues, and

1 especially if they get to some of the  
2 delinquent landlords, that it probably  
3 should exceed the budgeted amount by quite a  
4 bit. And that's all I have. Thank you.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,  
6 Councilman Rogan, any motions or comments?

7 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Quite a few issues  
8 tonight actually. I guess I'll start on the  
9 West Lackawanna bridge caucus that we had  
10 and, you know, I echo a lot of what  
11 Mr. Loscombe said and, you know, I  
12 understand his frustration and first I'd  
13 like to thank Ms. Aebli for coming in, which  
14 is something that we don't get from any  
15 other department heads, so at least that's,  
16 you know, something positive to take from  
17 the evening.

18 My concern is obviously all of these  
19 projects are worthy. Myself and others on  
20 council have made certain things priorities  
21 in the funding with these allocations, one  
22 of them being demolition of hazardous  
23 structures, and I think we need to -- there  
24 is so many properties in this city that need  
25 to be torn down, there is so many of them,

1           and I am worried that taking the funding  
2           away now even though it may not be used this  
3           year will leave us short when it comes to  
4           removing those structures in the future.

5                       Now, Ms. Aebli mentioned that, you  
6           know, and she is right that there can't be  
7           over a certain amount of money in the whole  
8           portfolio and we addressed that issue last  
9           year when it did occur, I believe it was by  
10          a unanimous vote, to transfer funding from  
11          an area that I believe everyone was on board  
12          supports which are the neighborhood police  
13          patrols that we couldn't legally use at the  
14          time into neighborhood paving.

15                      I don't think there is one elected  
16          official in this city that believes simply  
17          let the funding go and return the funding  
18          back to HUD. If we got to where we had to  
19          use the funds we would move them into a  
20          program where we could use it. This program  
21          or this project, the West Lackawanna bridge,  
22          I disagree with the assessment that it's  
23          shovel ready. Shovel ready to me means if  
24          we funded it today the work would begin  
25          within the next month. There is still

1 months of reports that have to be done  
2 before anything constructive is done.

3 Now, obviously, that's part of the  
4 process, but shovel ready to me means the  
5 engineering is done, everything is ready  
6 with a crew ready, they just need the phone  
7 call to say the money has been appropriated.  
8 We are not in that scenario. I don't see  
9 what the urgency in approving this transfer  
10 is. There is also \$113,000 appropriated for  
11 the West Lackawanna Avenue bridge and Ms.  
12 Aebli stated tonight that would be more than  
13 enough to get the ball rolling on this  
14 studies and the various other things that  
15 need to happen before we get to the actual  
16 building, the actual repairs.

17 Two other issues, one that I'm glad  
18 Mr. Loscombe brought up because I know we  
19 talked about it previously and I forget to  
20 mention it during the caucus, is that travel  
21 in West Side is already very -- it's already  
22 very difficult to get from West Scranton to  
23 other parts of the town because of the  
24 bridges that are out. I believe PennDOT I  
25 think maybe a month ago informed us that the

1 Linden Street bridge would be repaired by  
2 the end of the year. Now, if Linden was  
3 back up and running and Lackawanna had to go  
4 down to two lanes it wouldn't be as much of  
5 a burden because drivers would have an  
6 alternative route to get to and from the  
7 neighborhoods in West Scranton.

8 That being said, at this time I  
9 personally believe it should remain on the  
10 table, I don't know how my colleagues feel  
11 about that. I wouldn't be comfortable  
12 voting on it right now and I think we should  
13 have a firm dollar amount of what the actual  
14 cost is. The money was transferred, the  
15 \$113,000 that's in there now was transferred  
16 from the Rockwell Avenue bridge because too  
17 much was put in so we may not even need this  
18 total, it might be even less. It may be  
19 more. I would rather have the exact amount  
20 of what it's going to cost before we put the  
21 funding in.

22 Maybe, you know, some of these  
23 projects can be saved. Maybe a little of  
24 the money of the demolition of the hazardous  
25 structures could stay or maybe a small

1 amount for the vacant property review or for  
2 the Falcons, the North Scranton Little  
3 League it's a great program as well. That  
4 one seems to be the least feasible at this  
5 point in time, you know, that the survey  
6 process is a little different there than  
7 with the Falcons where it's just the survey  
8 of the players.

9 And I'm glad Mr. Martin came as well  
10 to give their side of the story. They do  
11 great work down there and we, at least  
12 myself, I would certainly rather give them  
13 \$4,000 for material materials and have  
14 volunteer labor than give out a grant to  
15 another organization for \$20,000 that's  
16 doing the materials and the labor and  
17 everything all bundled together.

18 But it's just frustrating that it  
19 played out this way, you know, that I know  
20 Mr. Loscombe for over a year has talked  
21 about this bridge and if the engineers are  
22 correct and the bridge is structurally sound  
23 and there is no danger to motorists, you  
24 know, I don't see the urgency in  
25 transferring the money right now and it's



1 going to be -- it's going to a few months  
2 anyways.

3 And next, another important issue is  
4 Pike Street. Mr. Galdieri was here once  
5 again and this is a very frustrating issue.  
6 Now, obviously funds are limited, not every  
7 street that needs to be paved can be paved.  
8 Anyone who tells you that will be foolish,  
9 but when a resident calls council members or  
10 e-mails for years even before I was on the  
11 board, current council members, the mayor,  
12 current director of DPW, former directors of  
13 DPW and can't even get an answer, that  
14 speaks to a problem in city hall, a complete  
15 lack of cooperation in city hall and anyone  
16 who tells you there is cooperation in this  
17 building is delusional.

18 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not delusional.

19 MR. ROGAN: Well, you wouldn't agree  
20 that council needs to cooperate better and  
21 have caucuses before the meetings and  
22 everything else?

23 MR. MCGOFF: I just said I was in  
24 city hall this week, went to basically every  
25 department and spoke to everybody.

1                   MR. ROGAN: You believe right now in  
2 the city everyone is cooperating as well as  
3 we can?

4                   MR. MCGOFF: Not as well as we can  
5 perhaps, but it's not total absence of the  
6 cooperation either --

7                   MR. ROGAN: And not only --

8                   MR. MCGOFF: -- like you are  
9 indicating.

10                  MR. ROGAN: Not only with  
11 intergovernmental, but the residents as  
12 well. If a resident calls a department, you  
13 know, you don't expect to speak to the  
14 director of the department or obviously you  
15 can't phone the mayor at any time of day, he  
16 keeps a very busy schedule as well, and I'm  
17 not certainly not, you know, defending the  
18 mayor, but you would expect a call back at  
19 some point in time or a letter or something  
20 even if it's saying, you know, in this  
21 issue, "Mr. Galdieri, we don't have the  
22 funding right now to fix your road, we will  
23 try to fix the potholes. You know, please  
24 try to wait it out another year."

25                  Some kind of answer. Not just, you

1 know, no response. I know Mrs. Evans  
2 mentioned it was how many years ago did this  
3 begin when you were before I was on the  
4 board?

5 MS. EVANS: And actually before  
6 Mr. Galdieri turned to me, I know he had  
7 been e-mailing Mr. Courtright about it for  
8 quite awhile, so he kind of goes from  
9 council member to council member hoping that  
10 something is going to change based on to  
11 whom he is making the request.

12 But I remember hearing, I'm not 100  
13 percent sure if it was Mr. Galdieri, but  
14 something tells me it is because this is an  
15 area of road where there is few homes;  
16 correct?

17 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

18 MS. EVANS: That the answer, I  
19 believe he told me that Mr. Courtright gave  
20 him was, "There aren't enough houses on this  
21 street. You know, you are not worth enough  
22 votes to be paved."

23 MR. ROGAN: Well, I doubt that  
24 Mr. Courtright said that.

25 MS. EVANS: Well, no, Mr. Courtright

1                   was -- he was not saying, because  
2                   Mr. Courtright is not in charge just like we  
3                   are not in charge.

4                   MR. ROGAN:   And that's frustrating  
5                   part.

6                   MS. EVANS:   Mr. Courtright was only  
7                   a councilman at the time, so that was the  
8                   answer that he provided, and I'm assuming he  
9                   was basing on that on what he had been told.

10                  MR. ROGAN:   And this is what is so  
11                  frustrating about the way the city works  
12                  right now that -- and I know Mr. Galdieri is  
13                  frustrated because of the condition of his  
14                  road, but I think he would be a little more  
15                  pleased if his call, you know, from the DPW  
16                  was returned or even if they said, like, we  
17                  can't pave it right now, but we are going to  
18                  try, you know, to make it right in the  
19                  future.

20                  And it's just so frustrating.  It's  
21                  not just this one issue, it's so many  
22                  issues.  Some departments heads have been  
23                  very responsive to city council.  You know,  
24                  and I don't agree with Ms. Aebli on this  
25                  issue, but I thank her for coming in.  There

1 are other department heads that we have  
2 asked to come in numerous times to discuss  
3 different issues and they haven't. And it's  
4 difficult for some of us, you know, that  
5 work during the day to make it down to the  
6 department heads during the day and a lot of  
7 times it's -- these are important issues  
8 that's need to be fixed and people just want  
9 it answer.

10 Some of the people that have  
11 contacted me with issues were so happy just  
12 to get a phone call back even though their  
13 issue wasn't resolved because they see a  
14 government at every level so unresponsive to  
15 the residents. It's something I hope will  
16 change in the future, and that's all I'll  
17 say on those issues.

18 Two other items, one, has council  
19 received legislation from the administration  
20 regarding the towing contracts?

21 MS. EVANS: No.

22 MR. ROGAN: Because I did speak to a  
23 few tow truck operators that said there was  
24 a deal that was made between the tow truck  
25 operators and the administration and, you

1 know, they asked me if it would be on the  
2 agenda tonight and I didn't know if it was  
3 so it wasn't even sent down yet?

4 MS. EVANS: No, it wasn't sent down,  
5 but I think there is going to be an issue  
6 with that because I think part of the  
7 agreement, and if you talked to them you  
8 should be aware of the agreement, that it's  
9 giving them ten years of a guarantee to do  
10 the work to the exclusion of everyone else  
11 at a rate of \$20,000 per year for a total of  
12 200,000, you know, after ten years, which is  
13 basically what they have been paying all  
14 along so it's no nothing different.

15 But because \$200,000 well exceeds  
16 the \$10,000 limit for bidding, you know, if  
17 they want a contract then I think this is  
18 going to have to go out to bid.

19 MR. ROGAN: And this is, you know,  
20 just so the residents out there know, this  
21 is an agreement that's trying to be worked  
22 out between the tow truck drivers and the  
23 administration to fill the line item in the  
24 budget for the city tow yard that never  
25 materialized, so hopefully I would like to

1 see a draft of whatever was agreed upon. I  
2 know maybe the administration will send that  
3 down.

4 Mrs. Krake, could we request to  
5 receive a copy of that, any sort of draft  
6 agreement? Now, from what I was told I was  
7 told there was an agreement and it should be  
8 up for a vote.

9 MS. EVANS: No, there has been no  
10 legislation sent and I am thinking that our  
11 solicitor is going to want to take a look at  
12 it, but, you know, what had occurred is that  
13 when you are dealing with a contract like  
14 that then you are dealing -- and you want to  
15 make this into legislation then you have to  
16 abide by other legislation which then means  
17 this is going to be opened up to all towing  
18 companies to bid to on it.

19 MR. ROGAN: And that's why this is,  
20 you know, in the past they have always  
21 operated year to year and this would  
22 basically they would be paying us ahead of  
23 time because of what was budgeted and then  
24 the next, you know, so many years they  
25 wouldn't be paying. It can be broken down

1 to two payments this year instead of  
2 normally as they pay every year.

3 MS. EVANS: But it comes out to the  
4 same amount of money.

5 MR. ROGAN: Yeah.

6 MS. EVANS: Actually, the city, you  
7 know, if the city had taken the route of the  
8 towing yard behind the police station it's  
9 very likely the city could have realized  
10 more money but, you know, this was the  
11 mayor's decision, he wanted to handle this  
12 himself, and we'll see what happens from  
13 there.

14 MR. ROGAN: I certainly disagreed  
15 with some members on the yard and we don't  
16 have to rehash that issue again, but I think  
17 the problem was it was put into the budget,  
18 now that money has to be realized somehow.  
19 If the yard didn't materialize we are  
20 looking for another way to bring in that  
21 amount of money for the budget.

22 And finally one issue, this would be  
23 a request for Mr. Seitzinger, regarding the  
24 food trucks, if any legislation is passed  
25 from city council who would be enforcing



1           that legislation? Which is a question that  
2           was brought up.

3                   MR. MCGOFF: That was a question  
4           that was addressed at the meeting today,  
5           they were concerned about --

6                   MS. EVANS: I think it's in the  
7           legislation now.

8                   MR. ROGAN: Okay.

9                   MS. EVANS: And the city health  
10          inspectors --

11                  MR. ROGAN: Which health inspectors  
12          was the question?

13                  MS. KRAKE: This is has come up  
14          before and I know from union that this is  
15          the question.

16                  MR. ROGAN: That's exactly right.

17                  MS. KRAKE: As you can see there is  
18          several different pieces of legislation  
19          where it says that the health inspector you  
20          are adding duties only because they are  
21          memorializing them for lack of a better  
22          word, in fact, that they will have to  
23          inspect a food truck where before it didn't  
24          actually say that in the code, so those  
25          would be the additional duties to the health

1 officer.

2 As far as distances, that has  
3 nothing to do with anything in License and  
4 Inspections or a health officer, would it be  
5 the police or License and Inspections, I  
6 think they would have to decide that among  
7 themselves.

8 MR. ROGAN: Could we send it to the  
9 police department as well then to see if  
10 they would be enforcing it and I guess it's  
11 a little premature because nothing has been  
12 passed yet.

13 MS. KRAKE: Well, I think the  
14 question is who is enforcing it now.

15 MR. ROGAN: Yeah. If it is being  
16 enforced.

17 MS. EVANS: It's never been  
18 enforced.

19 MR. ROGAN: If we are going to pass  
20 some sort of legislation that's not going to  
21 enforced, you know, we maybe wasting our  
22 time. You know, I'd like to know who would  
23 be enforcing it and I don't know if that --  
24 there would be agreements over this or  
25 what's going to happen regarding the extra

1 duties with the inspectors with the police  
2 department, but it's definitely something,  
3 you know, just something that was brought up  
4 to me that I would like to get out there.

5 That's all I have for tonight and  
6 thank you. And I'd like to wish my mother  
7 and my grandmother and all of the mothers  
8 out there a very Happy Mother's Day this  
9 Sunday. Thank you.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman  
11 Loscombe.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you. I think I  
13 said it all before, but I just have a few  
14 items I have to touch base on. With the  
15 approval of my colleagues, I would like city  
16 council to send a letter to the city  
17 solicitor requesting the 800, 1000 and 1100  
18 blocks of Mulberry Street be posted as "No  
19 Parking" and the parking areas that are  
20 there removed for safety reasons. Okay?

21 Meter management agreement, I have  
22 noticed in the paper that several times it's  
23 stated it would be between the  
24 administration and city council would get  
25 together on it. Has anyone heard from the

1 administration on the bids or are they going  
2 to sit down with us or --

3 MS. EVANS: I haven't heard  
4 anything. I know that we had received  
5 copies of the bids that I asked to be  
6 forwarded to you since you had been the  
7 point person on this and I think --

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: I was just curious if  
9 it was going to come to us as legislation as  
10 usual without any --

11 MS. EVANS: Well, I would suggest  
12 that you contact the mayor and maybe  
13 schedule a time to sit down with either him  
14 or Ryan McGowan to review the bids and  
15 provide input in terms of who will be  
16 selected. But again, it's not city council  
17 who makes the selection, ultimately it's the  
18 mayor that makes the selection then I  
19 imagine the legislation would be sent to us  
20 for approval.

21 So, you know, I think probably the  
22 best direction you can take at this point is  
23 to schedule that, bring the proposals with  
24 you --

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

1 MS. EVANS: -- and review them with  
2 one of those administrators and let them  
3 know what your thoughts are on that because  
4 I know you have followed this more carefully  
5 than anyone else on council for four years,  
6 nearly four years now.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Okay. Thank you. I  
8 was just curious if anybody had heard  
9 anything other than that.

10 MS. EVANS: No, just that the bids  
11 were received, that, you know, I requested  
12 copies of them and received that and I  
13 wanted you to take a look at it.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

15 MS. EVANS: And that's as far as we  
16 have progressed.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you. And, you  
18 know, my colleagues have spoken, I know I  
19 haven't really said anything about the food  
20 trucks, I was just hoping they would bring  
21 me some samples, but they come in empty  
22 handed tonight. No, I do, I believe in free  
23 enterprise. I think it's great, you know, a  
24 city like this can have a variety like that  
25 and I think most people, even the business

1 owners do appreciate it, and I would hope  
2 and I hope that there was progress made  
3 today that come next week we will have, you  
4 know, something that's amicable to everyone  
5 because I think we need that variety.

6 I mean, with competition, you know,  
7 there is price wars and everything, maybe  
8 they will have half price sales one day or  
9 whatever, just what happened with our meter  
10 bids, you know, our meter management bid,  
11 you know? There was no bids before and it  
12 was \$125,000 and now it's cut in half so  
13 that's what free enterprise and competition  
14 is all about, but you see McDonald's setup  
15 next to Burger King and next to Wendy's and  
16 they all thrive and that's what I like to  
17 see here and I do appreciate it, but that's  
18 where I'm coming from.

19 And just lastly, we were talking, I  
20 forgot to ask Ms. Aebli, maybe it doesn't  
21 even effect her, but we passed legislation  
22 probably over a year ago for funding for  
23 blight tracking software for our city  
24 planner, and I haven't heard anything about  
25 that. I was just wondering what the status

1 is, what progress we have and what it's for.  
2 If it's part of their -- you know, I mean,  
3 we should all work together on it, we should  
4 know where the blighted problems are, so if  
5 we could send a letter to Mr. King and just  
6 ask him what the status is on the blight  
7 tracking software that we financed back  
8 awhile ago.

9 And to my wife and my mother and all  
10 of the mothers out there, I would like to  
11 wish you all a Happy Mother's Day. And  
12 that's all I have. Thank you.

13 MS. EVANS: Councilman Joyce, do you  
14 have any comments or motions?

15 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Very briefly  
16 tonight, just to give everyone a snapshot of  
17 where the city is right now, the cash  
18 balance of the city as of May 6 is \$11.7  
19 million and we have \$23,000 in accounts  
20 payable.

21 Secondly, I'm very glad that Mr. --  
22 oh, I thought you had a comment.

23 MS. EVANS: It's a sidebar.

24 MR. JOYCE: I'm very glad that  
25 Mr. McGoff spoke to Leslie Collins about the

1 meeting with the food trucks. In fact, I  
2 wanted to speak with her and to get more  
3 information of how that went and I'm very  
4 glad that the meeting was amicable.

5 Like Mr. McGoff, I believe it would  
6 be fool hearty to vote on the legislation as  
7 it is in Seventh Order, so I'll vote on the  
8 legislation tonight, but I think we should  
9 wait until there is a compromise set in  
10 stone before we move further with the  
11 legislation in Seventh Order.

12 I did have a conversation with the  
13 mayor regarding an issue that several  
14 speakers have brought up being that the  
15 weather is starting to get warmer and that's  
16 swimming pools. As you know, last year the  
17 only pool that was open in the city was Nay  
18 Aug and that's ashame. A lot of  
19 underprivileged children, a lot of residents  
20 who would like to use the pools suffered as  
21 a result, and this year after speaking with  
22 Mayor Doherty he has agreed and is confident  
23 that we are going to receive a \$31,000 grant  
24 to open two of the swimming pools. He  
25 specified that Weston Park and Weston field



1           would be two that were open, and I said that  
2           we should open more and we should open up  
3           the pools that aren't in need of serious  
4           repairs, and two of the major pools in the  
5           city are the pools at Connell Park, which  
6           serves South Side, and Novembrino Pool,  
7           which serves West Side.

8                         And I spoke to the mayor more about  
9           the issue and we came to an agreement that  
10          we could use money from the UDAG repayment  
11          account to open up these pools. It's about  
12          \$15,500 a pool to maintain and pay for  
13          lifeguards and what not and the pool  
14          chemicals to last throughout the summer  
15          months. So with my colleagues' agreement,  
16          and the mayor said that he would be  
17          agreeable to this as well, if we could send  
18          a letter to the law department to have them  
19          draft legislation to use money from the  
20          RE-RE account to open up Novembrino Pool and  
21          also the pool at Connell Park.

22                         MS. EVANS: Yes.

23                         MR. ROGAN: Certainly.

24                         MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

25                         MR. ROGAN: Could we also ask the

1 administration what the status of that  
2 splash park, the proposed splash park at  
3 Novembrino is?

4 MR. JOYCE: We could, and I didn't  
5 specifically speak with the mayor on this  
6 issue, but I think it's a dead issue right  
7 now being that the pool is going to be  
8 something that will be open this year so --

9 MS. EVANS: And we removed the  
10 funding for that through the CDBG program.

11 MR. ROGAN: And I know part of the  
12 reason -- part of the reason why they said  
13 it was closed last year was because he still  
14 wanted to move forward with a splash park  
15 and it seemed like the residents in the  
16 city, and I think most of us on council,  
17 were against that as well.

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Joyce,  
20 for bringing that to the mayor.

21 MR. JOYCE: No problem, and I'm very  
22 glad that that's something that the mayor is  
23 willing to do and then I'm glad to see that  
24 there will be swimming in the city this  
25 year. And that's all.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good  
2 evening. I have several items to address.  
3 First, the Scranton Treasurer's tax sale is  
4 scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2013. The  
5 sale will be advertised in two newspapers of  
6 general circulation and the legal newspaper  
7 published and printed in Scranton on May 13,  
8 May 20, and May 27, 2013. The deadline for  
9 posting on premises is Friday, May 24, 2013.

10 Second, city council received a  
11 letter and supporting documents from a city  
12 resident regarding a number of properties in  
13 the 400 block of Clay Avenue on which  
14 delinquent taxes dating back several years  
15 appear to be owed as of April 26, 2013, and  
16 significant renovations are occurring  
17 despite the stop work orders issued by the  
18 city zoning officer.

19 Scranton City Council asks  
20 Mr. Seitzinger, LIPS director, to provide  
21 copies of any and all permits that have been  
22 issued in the last seven months and any and  
23 all applications filed in the last seven  
24 months for the properties listed on the  
25 documents council received.

1                   Mrs. Krake, please forward that  
2                   letter to Mr. Seitzinger ASAP. In addition,  
3                   please forward a copy of all information  
4                   provided by the resident to the members of  
5                   the Scranton Zoning Board and it's solicitor  
6                   for their review and recommendations.  
7                   Request replies on or before May 28, 2013.

8                   Third, I recently received e-mails  
9                   from owners of the ice cream trucks and from  
10                  Jill Murrin, who oversees the South Scranton  
11                  Farmer's Market, requesting special  
12                  provisions in the proposed ordinances  
13                  relating to both.

14                  For example, will ice cream trucks  
15                  be allowed to stop for children on a city  
16                  street or standing less than the designated  
17                  footage from a brick and mortar  
18                  establishment?

19                  Also, Mrs. Murrin stated that the  
20                  farmers participating in the South Side and  
21                  West Side and Courthouse square farmers  
22                  markets can ill afford the annual fees and  
23                  they sell their goods only once weekly. At  
24                  the same time, however, we have a very large  
25                  and quite successful farmers market located

1 off Albright Avenue which operates far more  
2 frequently.

3 Therefore, Mrs. Krake, I'd ask you  
4 to contact the legal department regarding  
5 these issues in relation to the proposed  
6 ordinances. Please inquire if such  
7 businesses are included in the ordinances,  
8 and if so, does the administration recommend  
9 adjustments to the legislation?

10 Fourth, despite the opinion of  
11 Attorney Frederickson, the resolution  
12 requesting the Lackawanna County  
13 Commissioners to establish a policy for the  
14 Assessor's Office to commence reviewing the  
15 status of all properties qualifying for  
16 exemptions from property taxation under the  
17 Institution of Purely Public Charity Act is  
18 included in Seventh Order on tonight's  
19 agenda for final approval. City Council  
20 Solicitor Boyd Hughes strongly disagrees  
21 with the opinion of Attorney Frederickson  
22 and has advised council to approve the  
23 legislation.

24 Further, Solicitor Hughes intends to  
25 send a letter to the appropriate county

1 offices and Mayor Doherty in conjunction  
2 with this legislation requesting an  
3 investigation of specific tax exempt  
4 properties. Solicitor Hughes will comment  
5 further on this matter during next week's  
6 city council meeting.

7 At the same time, the County  
8 Assessor's Office continues it's  
9 longstanding hearing process of lowering  
10 taxes assessments for businesses and  
11 residents countywide while it has failed to  
12 conduct a complete countywide property tax  
13 reassessment since 1967.

14 The Office of Tax Assessment in  
15 Allegheny County conducts a countywide tax  
16 exempt review every three years and is in  
17 the process of performing one at this time,  
18 but Lackawanna County Attorney Frederickson  
19 states: "To review the status of the every  
20 nonprofit in the city, not just in the city,  
21 not the county, would probably take three  
22 years."

23 If a review of the tax exempts city  
24 property would require three years should we  
25 assume that countywide tax reassessment

1 would take over ten years since nonprofits  
2 alone own 33 percent of the Scranton  
3 properties?

4 Such excuses are extremely  
5 disappointing to the taxpayers of Scranton.  
6 City council is seeking a fair review  
7 process for all tax exempt properties to  
8 ensure that all properties continue to  
9 comply with the law governing exemptions.  
10 Same may own properties that are no longer  
11 used or may be newly utilized for commercial  
12 purposes. The city cannot conduct property  
13 tax assessments. The county has the  
14 responsibility to get the ball rolling to  
15 review the status of the tax exempts,  
16 particularly since it refuses to conduct  
17 countywide tax reassessments.

18 Failure to act hurts the taxpayers  
19 by allowing incorrect tax exemptions and  
20 antiquated tax assessments in the community  
21 to become the burden of the taxpayers.

22 Finally, I have one citizens'  
23 request for the week, according to Mr.  
24 Zaworksi, the Scranton DPW damaged his  
25 property on Parallel Drive, please send a

1 second request to Mayor Doherty and DPW  
2 Director Dougher to address this issue as  
3 soon as possible. And that's it.

4 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING AND  
5 APPROVING THE RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION OF A  
6 PORTION OF CITY -OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED ON  
7 THE 100 BLOCK OF HARRISON AVENUE (8,711  
8 SQUARE FEET) IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO THE  
9 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF  
10 TRANSPORTATION ("PENNDOT") AS PER PENNDOT'S  
11 OFFER TO PURCHASE AND SUMMARY OF JUST  
12 COMPENSATION AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND  
13 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER  
14 INTO AN AGREEMENT OF SALE TO PURCHASE SAID  
15 PROPERTY FOR THE SUM OF TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND  
16 FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$21,400.00) FOR THE  
17 PURPOSE OF REMOVING THE HARRISON AVENUE  
18 BRIDGE AND REPLACING THE HARRISON AVENUE  
19 BRIDGE.

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

23 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24 MR. JOYCE: Second.

25 MS. EVANS: On the question?



1 MR. ROGAN: Yes on the question.  
2 Does anyone know where these funds are going  
3 to be spent or where they are going to go?

4 MS. EVANS: No. I'm assuming they  
5 are going into the budget.

6 MR. ROGAN: Would anyone object to  
7 having the money earmarked for additional  
8 road paving or repairs of the city?

9 MS. EVANS: Not at all.

10 MR. JOYCE: Not all.

11 MR. ROGAN: Mrs. Krake, could we  
12 please make that request as well to the  
13 mayor and business administrator? I have it  
14 written down.

15 MS. KRAKE: I'm curious, could it be  
16 added to the legislation and then you would  
17 get --

18 MS. EVANS: I believe we can ask  
19 Solicitor Hughes to draft an amendment  
20 stating that.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes, that would be even  
22 better because then it would be legally  
23 binding.

24 MS. EVANS: So if you could take  
25 note of that, please, Mrs. Krake, and upon

1 his return we'll discuss that with him.

2 MS. KRAKE: Thank you. Anyone else  
3 on the question? All those in favor signify  
4 by saying aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

11 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. TRANSFERRING A  
12 TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT OF CITY  
13 OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 100 BLOCK OF  
14 HARRISON AVENUE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
15 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
16 ("PENNDOT") FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
17 REMOVAL OF THE HARRISON AVENUE BRIDGE AND  
18 INSTALLATION OF A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED HARRISON  
19 AVENUE BRIDGE FOR THE SUM OF SEVEN THOUSAND  
20 DOLLARS (\$7,000.00).

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

24 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

25 MR. JOYCE: Second.

1 MS. EVANS: On the question? All  
2 those in favor signify by saying aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

9 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.  
10 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 21,  
11 2013 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
12 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO ENTER  
13 INTO A SUB-GRANTEE AND COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
14 WITH THE SCRANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR  
15 KEYSTONE RECREATION, PARK AND CONSERVATION  
16 FUND GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00 FOR  
17 REPAIRS TO THE HISTORIC ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL  
18 LIBRARY.

19 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by  
20 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

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

23 MR. JOYCE: Second.

24 MS. EVANS: On the question?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question.

1 Did we receive answers to the questions our  
2 solicitor had asked?

3 MS. KRAKE: No, we did not.

4 MS. EVANS: As of today no? I had  
5 checked yesterday and nothing had been sent.  
6 I think --

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: I will vote to  
8 advance it to Seventh Order.

9 MS. EVANS: I think maybe under  
10 those circumstances rather than suspending  
11 the rules tonight and passing it into  
12 Seventh Order, we will have to allow it to  
13 take its traditional path and, Mrs. Krake,  
14 if you could please send a memo to  
15 Mr. Finnerty explaining what occurred, that  
16 we had asked for a clarification to the  
17 legislation from the law department, it was  
18 not sent, and as a result the legislation  
19 could not be passed in two readings and we  
20 look forward to passing it next Thursday.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

22 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those  
23 in favor signify by saying aye.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

2 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

5 MS. KRAKE: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -  
6 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 22, 2013 - AN ORDINANCE  
7 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY  
8 ACCOUNT NO. 02.229605 ENTITLED "KEYSTONE  
9 RECREATION, PARK AND CONSERVATION FUND  
10 GRANT" FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF  
11 GRANT FROM THE KEYSTONE RECREATION, PARK AND  
12 CONSERVATION GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF  
13 \$500,000.00 FOR REPAIRS TO THE HISTORIC  
14 ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

15 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by  
16 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

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

19 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

3 MS. KRAKE: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -  
4 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 23, 2013 - AN ORDINANCE  
5 - AMENDING SECTION 340-1, 340-8, 340-9  
6 AND 340-13(A) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF  
7 SCRANTON GOVERNING PEDDLING AND SOLICITING  
8 WITHIN THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

9 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by  
10 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?

11 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-C  
12 pass reading by title.

13 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

16 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

17 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

19 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

22 MS. KRAKE: 6-D. READING BY TITLE -  
23 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 24, 2013 - AN ORDINANCE  
24 - REPEALING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 112 OF  
25 2009, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED "ESTABLISHING THE

1 DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS  
2 OF THE CITY HEALTH INSPECTOR, PROVIDING FOR  
3 THE PAYMENT OF AN ANNUAL LICENSE FEE FOR  
4 PUBLIC EATING OR DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS  
5 WITHIN THE CITY OF SCRANTON, ESTABLISHING  
6 ANNUAL APPLICATION AND RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS,  
7 IMPOSING CERTAIN DUTIES UPON THE DEPUTY  
8 DIRECTOR OF INSPECTIONS AND THE CITY HEALTH  
9 INSPECTOR, PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR  
10 REVOCATION AND REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSES,  
11 AND PROVIDING FOR IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES”.

12 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by  
13 title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?

14 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-D  
15 pass reading by title.

16 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

22 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

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

1 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 25, 2013 - AN ORDINANCE  
2 - ESTABLISHING THE DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES  
3 AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE CITY HEALTH  
4 INSPECTOR, PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF AN  
5 ANNUAL LICENSE FEE FOR PUBLIC EATING AND  
6 DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF  
7 SCRANTON, ESTABLISHING ANNUAL APPLICATION  
8 AND RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS, IMPOSING CERTAIN  
9 DUTIES UPON THE DIRECTOR OF LICENSING,  
10 INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS AND THE CITY HEALTH  
11 INSPECTOR, PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR  
12 REVOCATION AND REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSES,  
13 AND PROVIDING FOR IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES.

14 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by  
15 title of Item 6-E, what is your pleasure?

16 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-E  
17 pass reading by title.

18 MR. JOYCE: Second.

19 MS. EVANS: On the question?

20 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I would just like  
21 to reiterate that these three pieces of  
22 legislation will require another reading and  
23 that hopefully we have proposals from the  
24 meetings between the vendors, food truck  
25 vendors and the restaurants, prior to next



1 reading so that we can consider those as  
2 part of the legislation.

3 MS. EVANS: All those in favor  
4 signify by saying aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

11 MS. KRAKE: 6-F. READING BY TITLE -  
12 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 26, 2013 - AN ORDINANCE  
13 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 22, 2006,  
14 ENTITLED "AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE  
15 DESIGNATION OF PARKING SPACES FOR CERTAIN  
16 CITY OF SCRANTON PERSONNEL IN AND ALONG DIX  
17 COURT, THE PARKING AREA IN THE REAR OF THE  
18 CITY OF SCRANTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING, AND A  
19 PARKING LOT ALONG MULBERRY STREET ADJACENT  
20 TO THE SCRANTON FIRE HEADQUARTERS, AND  
21 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SCRANTON POLICE  
22 DEPARTMENT TO ENFORCE THE PARKING  
23 DESIGNATION AS REFLECTED IN THE ATTACHED  
24 SCHEMATIC".

25 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by

1 title of Item 6-F, what is your pleasure?

2 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-F  
3 pass reading by title.

4 MR. JOYCE: Second.

5 MS. EVANS: On the question? All  
6 those in favor signify by saying aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

8 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

10 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

13 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.  
14 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES  
15 - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 21, 2013 -  
16 REQUESTING THE COMMISSIONERS OF LACKAWANNA  
17 COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR THE  
18 ASSESSOR'S OFFICE OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY TO  
19 IMMEDIATELY COMMENCE REVIEWING THE STATUS OF  
20 ALL PROPERTIES QUALIFYING FOR EXEMPTION FROM  
21 PROPERTY TAXATION UNDER THE INSTITUTIONS OF  
22 PURELY PUBLIC CHARITY ACT.

23 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the  
24 Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
25 passage of Item 7-A.

1 MR. ROGAN: Second.

2 MS. EVANS: On the question?

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, I would like to  
4 say something on this, I would just like  
5 remind people your portion, the county  
6 portion of your tax bill, is greater than  
7 the city portion of your real estate tax  
8 bill and for the county to refuse to address  
9 the issues that would be presented to them I  
10 think is unconscionable. You pay your taxes  
11 to the county as well and they should  
12 respond and do the work that they are  
13 required to do.

14 MS. EVANS: I agree.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well said.

16 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? Roll call,  
17 please.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

24 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

25 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

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MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

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

If there are no further motions or  
business, I'll entertain a motion to  
adjourn.

MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

MS. EVANS: This meeting is  
adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER