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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, May 23, 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. Mr.
5 Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

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

14 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
15 MINUTES OF THE COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD
16 MEETING HELD APRIL 23, 2013.

17 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
18 If not, received and filed.

19 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. LACKAWANNA COUNTY
20 PLANNING COMMISSION SUBDIVISION AND LAND
21 DEVELOPMENT EVALUATIONS RECEIVED APRIL 12TH
22 AND APRIL 17TH OF 2013.

23 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
24 If not, received and filed.

25 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. AUDIT STATUS FROM

1 ROBERT ROSSI & CO. RECEIVED MAY 16, 2013.

2 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
3 If not, received and filed.

4 MS. KRAKE: 3-D. AGENDA FOR THE CITY
5 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD MAY 22,
6 2013.

7 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
8 If not, received and filed.

9 Do we have any Clerk's notes
10 tonight, Mrs. Krake?

11 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any
13 council members have announcements at this
14 time? The Lackawanna County River Corridor
15 Association will conduct it's annual
16 Riverfest on Saturday, June 1, 2013,
17 including a canoe-a-thon, kayak excursions,
18 regatta and a duck-a-thon. For additional
19 information call 570-347-6311 or go to
20 www.lcra.org. Don't miss this fun filled
21 family event.

22 Finally, I wish to congratulate the
23 winners of use Tuesday's primary election
24 and recognize all of the candidates who were
25 willing to give their time and best effort

1 to the betterment of their communities. And
2 that's it. And we'll go to Fourth Order,
3 citizens' participation. Our first speaker
4 tonight is Les Spindler.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
6 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
7 homeowner and taxpayer. I'd like to start
8 by saying my thoughts and prayers go out to
9 the Gervasi family on the loss of their
10 mother. I just heard that Tuesday and I
11 felt so bad. My thoughts and prayers are
12 with the whole family.

13 I, too, would like to congratulate
14 all of the winners on Tuesday, maybe this
15 will be the start to turn our city around
16 hopefully and I wish them all of the best of
17 luck. I don't have much else tonight, but
18 the other day I spoke to a high level police
19 official and he told him a couple of
20 disturbing things last week, on one night
21 there was one police officer in all of South
22 Side. That's how depleted our police force
23 is right now. This person told me if there
24 was a domestic or a violent crime committed
25 this police officer would have been on his

1 or her own until help arrived and that's a
2 darn shame and this is all because of our
3 mayor the way he is depleted our police
4 force, forced a lot of them out, good cops
5 out of the city. For example, we had one
6 that's the police chief of Blakely that was
7 a police officer. Others went to the state
8 police and that's all because of Chris
9 Doherty. They all wanted to stay here, but
10 they were forced out and hopefully with a
11 new mayor that will change and I feel safe
12 in saying I think Mr. Courtright will do
13 that, but it's a darn shame when we have one
14 police officer to cover one section of the
15 city and it's been like that in the past,
16 it's been like that for years, and it's a
17 darn shame. That's all I have to say right
18 now. Thank you for your time.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Ms. Bidwell,
20 if you could come up, please?

21 MS. BIDWELL: Hello.

22 MS. EVANS: Hello again.

23 MS. BIDWELL: Okay, I'm a patient
24 with the Scranton Counseling. I want to
25 suggest to the city that if there was a way

1 possibly that the people here in Scranton
2 could have a community garden that they
3 could either keep for themselves that they
4 could donate to churches, they could go to
5 the farmers market or something like that
6 and where would be a good place that we
7 would start something and what do I need?

8 MS. EVANS: Well, I know that
9 currently there is a community garden in
10 West Scranton. I think it's largely
11 overseen by the West Scranton Neighborhood
12 Crime Watch Organization and from what I
13 hear it's been very successful. I think
14 there may also be something similar in South
15 Side where I think they might coordinate
16 with a very small farmers market, so if you
17 were interested in starting something like
18 that in another portion of the city, another
19 area, I should say --

20 MS. BIDWELL: Like here in the city.

21 MS. EVANS: I think what you would
22 need to do is locate a city-owned abandoned
23 lot and then I think you would need to speak
24 with the administration, specifically Mayor
25 Doherty, once you have located an

1 appropriate property. And again, it should
2 be city owned not a property that, for
3 example, may be a vacant property because a
4 home may have been torn down previously, but
5 it can still be owned by a bank or the
6 original property owner, so you have to
7 determine this carefully that is, indeed, a
8 city-owned property.

9 MS. BIDWELL: Okay.

10 MS. EVANS: And then, as I said,
11 speak with the mayor about your intentions
12 and I think if you have a group of the
13 people --

14 MS. BIDWELL: There is, we talked.

15 MS. EVANS: -- who are very
16 interested in pursuing this I think it can
17 be done.

18 MS. BIDWELL: It would be great.
19 Thank you.

20 MS. EVANS: You are very welcome.

21 MS. BIDWELL: Thank you so much.

22 MS. EVANS: You're welcome. That
23 concludes our sign-in sheet, do we have
24 anyone who else who cares to address
25 council?

1 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
2 Dave Dobrzyn.

3 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

4 MR. DOBRZYN: On 7-A and B did you
5 get any kind of answer on our Sergeant
6 Duffy?

7 MS. EVANS: Oh, no, we didn't, but I
8 do have here a copy of the letter that was
9 sent, I could give it to you.

10 MR. DOBRZYN: Oh, no, I totally
11 trust you.

12 MS. EVANS: A letter was sent on May
13 17 to Mayor Doherty and Mr. Dougher
14 regarding the Colonel Frank J. Duffy
15 monument and we haven't received a response
16 yet and that's not --

17 MR. DOBRZYN: Was it Colonel Duffy?

18 MS. EVANS: Pardon?

19 MR. DOBRZYN: Was it Colonel Duffy
20 or Sergeant Duffy, I'm not sure?

21 MS. EVANS: Well, according to the
22 letter it says Colonel Frank J. Duffy.
23 Again, this was just sent last Friday. This
24 week, of course, city hall a day off on
25 primary election day, so we have not

1 received a response yet.

2 MR. DOBRZYN: Okay. The only
3 concern here if it gets passed tonight then
4 if they don't have to answer on it for any
5 negative things that may happen to it. I
6 trust that it probably would be okay and if
7 you will get involved and even if they --
8 they don't have the land there they could
9 put it up at Nay Aug Park up there or
10 something, but it should be preserved and
11 it's a huge bronze and granite monument so
12 it probably cost quite a pretty penny to,
13 you know, replace it.

14 And for the candidates, I saved
15 quite a few signs so if anybody wants to see
16 me at the end of the council I could hand
17 them back to you or I have several.

18 And on the food trucks, it's not on
19 tonight that I can see, but please keep it
20 at 100 feet because anything more is just
21 going to make it to a point where it will
22 just be a constant argument and sore spot so
23 one person will object and the other person
24 will counter object and it will go back and
25 forth for years. But, I mean, these people

1 are left come in here and once you do that
2 you kind of the horse is out of the barn, so
3 to speak, so you can limit it somewhat, but
4 it's kind of not right to put a huge
5 limitation on it.

6 And a few weeks ago, Mrs. Evans, you
7 mentioned about Scranton U's fire alarms and
8 they were mostly cooking where somebody
9 cooked -- I have a fire alarm very close to
10 my kitchen stove because that's probably
11 where a fire would start in those houses
12 and, you know, a lot of times I have to
13 unplug the battery in order to cook, but
14 that's the safest place to have it and I was
15 wondering if full crews much firemen showed
16 up to those alarms where we possibly have
17 rolling brownouts and we have truck after
18 truck after truck full of firemen showing up
19 at these because this alarm went off? I was
20 wondering. Would Jack know that?

21 MS. EVANS: Mr. Loscombe, do you
22 know the answer to that?

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm sorry, I missed
24 part of IT?

25 MR. DOBRZYN: I think during January

1 and February Janet mentioned at least a
2 dozen false alarms or cooking fires where
3 you make too much smoke and the alarm sounds
4 off.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

6 MR. DOBRZYN: And they are all
7 probably inner connected so I was wondering
8 if we didn't have full fire fighting crews
9 showing up.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: In most cases, yes.

11 MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah. Yes.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: And then in some
13 cases there is arrangements where one
14 company would respond, but it depends on the
15 area.

16 MR. DOBRZYN: I was wondering if we
17 could possibly get something going where the
18 University verifies due to the fact that --
19 and the "U" pays a few dollars in PILOT, but
20 other universities don't pay anything and
21 they have dormitories, too, if they could
22 get somebody to verify that it's an actual
23 problem or a fire started.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe they have
25 tried that, but the fact -- the big factor

1 is if there is a real fire there is a lot of
2 valuable time lost.

3 MR. DOBRZYN: Yes, you know --

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: And it is a
5 consideration. Seconds count.

6 MR. DOBRZYN: Well, that's another
7 good argument for fees as opposed to taxes.
8 You know, one more good argument. Okay,
9 I've kind of run out of things, it's an off
10 week, but the golden parrot goes to the
11 people, once again my campaign signs were
12 vandalized and some were swiped and, you
13 know, it makes it that I have to scratch my
14 head whether I want to support people that
15 potentially took them. You know, if their
16 man won I have to sit and think about it
17 now, you know? Because I'm thinking am I
18 helping the person that engaged in actually
19 criminal activity and it's only a
20 misdemeanor and so forth, but it's wrong and
21 it really tees me off.

22 So whoever wanted to run as a
23 candidate and slant the elections and mess
24 things up and potentially put the election
25 in the wrong hands and the wrong people our

1 people couldn't do as good as a job as
2 others they get the bawk, bawk, bawk. Thank
3 you and have a good night.

4 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

5 MS. SNYDER: I don't really have
6 anything prepared, but I think it's going to
7 be a big loss to the City of Scranton --

8 MS. EVANS: Before you begin, I'm
9 sorry, could you state your name?

10 MS. SYNDER: Theresa Synder.

11 MS. EVANS: Okay.

12 MS. SNYDER: I think it's going to
13 be a big loss to the City of Scranton Mayor
14 Doherty because he has a large family and he
15 can hit on areas on which not many people
16 can do. He is both involved with the faith
17 and also the community in general. I think
18 it will be a big loss for us.

19 I think that the incumbent perhaps
20 will probably do a good job, but the thing
21 of the matter is like I have seen where
22 Chris Doherty did a lot of good for the City
23 of Scranton. I think it's going to be a big
24 loss. I think he took on a job of which
25 most people would not really want to take on

1 because there was so much involved. Not
2 only that on a most personal and a most
3 public level, but the thing is I think he
4 conducted himself in the most professional
5 way, okay? I think that he probably did as
6 much as he possibly could and as he concedes
7 or perhaps he pursues you never know. You
8 never know what's going to happen in the
9 City of Scranton. That's one thing you
10 never know.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

12 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

13 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

14 MR. MORGAN: The thing I have here
15 today is that I would like the council to
16 pass only a budget that lasts long enough
17 for the incumbents to take office in council
18 and in the mayor's office because we have
19 listened to rhetoric, and this isn't a shot
20 at anyone in general, but everybody is
21 talking about not raising taxes and not
22 doing all of these other things and I just
23 think that we should give them the
24 opportunity to take these positions and do
25 the things that they promise the taxpayers

1 they were going to do.

2 Now, I'm going to say this, in
3 regards to you, Mr. Joyce.

4 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

5 MR. MORGAN: You know, I may have
6 not agreed with council at all times, but in
7 your particular instance, I think that the
8 budget problems in this city are so vast,
9 and this isn't a shot at the rest of the
10 council, that not one person is going to be
11 able to manage pulling that budget apart and
12 finding solutions. It's just not going to
13 happen and I think that you, sir, took a lot
14 of the heat for prior things that had
15 happened in the city.

16 Now, I don't know what all of the
17 numbers were because I wasn't here locally
18 when I -- I only came, cast my vote, I
19 haven't been in the city for a couple of
20 days, but I think that I was told you came
21 short a little bit, I don't know, 100 or 200
22 votes, but I'm not sure if that's factual or
23 not either, but, you know, I have a lot of
24 things I would like to say about this
25 primary election because I think it's

1 important for the residents some day to
2 understand what's taking place and I'd just
3 like this council to really seriously
4 consider just putting a budget together long
5 enough for the next elected officials of
6 this city to come in and do the things they
7 campaigned on because rhetoric is very
8 simple, but reality sometimes is very hard.

9 And at this time I'm going reserve
10 any comments on the election, but I just
11 think that that's the proper thing to do.
12 That's my opinion and I just hope you would
13 really seriously consider it. Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

15 MR. HUGHES: Madam President, if I
16 could comment on that?

17 MS. EVANS: YES.

18 MR. HUGHES: First of all, it would
19 be a violation of the Home Rule Charter in
20 order for -- to pass such a budget. It
21 couldn't be done legally, it would be an
22 illegal budget and that would mean that the
23 new council would have to come in and a new
24 mayor and draft an amendment. I mean, I
25 don't know if Mr. Morgan means just draft a

1 budget for one week or if he means draft a
2 budget for an entire year, but then the new
3 council could come in and make amendments to
4 it.

5 There is precedent for that. Judge
6 Mazzoni ruled against council when it
7 amended the budget, you know, the mayor's
8 budget I believe it was back in 2009. We
9 spent I think it was two days of the trial,
10 submitted briefs and Judge Mazzoni said that
11 in his opinion that council could not make
12 any amendments to the budget. I did not
13 agree with his opinion, I thought an appeal
14 maybe should have been taken, but council
15 decided not to take an appeal.

16 Unfortunately, that's the law of
17 Lackawanna County right now and it would be
18 impossible and would be an illegal budget
19 and I would tell council not even to
20 consider it.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you.
22 Mrs. Schumacher.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes. Marie
24 Schumacher, city resident and taxpayer.

25 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

1 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: First, I'd like to
3 thank everybody who came out and voted in
4 general and specifically those who came out
5 and voted for me for the County Study
6 Commission. I appreciate each and every
7 vote. Now, we are getting close to the
8 halfway mark and, Mr. Joyce, I'm wondering
9 if you could get together with the new BA
10 and give us a status report as of the
11 midterm and where it was going to end.

12 For instance, one of the things, I
13 think we have given up on the police
14 headquarters as a storage area for cars. I
15 know money was included in the budget for
16 that, so things of that nature.

17 And then moving down to the Ice Box,
18 there was six -- I know there is \$600,000 in
19 the budget for the Ice Box sale and, you
20 know, that extends far beyond just getting
21 that \$600,000. We are missing out on
22 property taxes since that sale has not been
23 consummated and, as a matter of fact, the
24 Turkey Hill that was built is now paying
25 taxes only on the improvements because

1 there's a land lease and that's just wrong.
2 It's wrong for other Turkey Hills with whom
3 they compete and it's certainly wrong for
4 these of us who manage to pay our taxes. I
5 think that's should be brought to the front
6 burner and I hope that perhaps Attorney
7 Hughes can give a report tonight on the
8 where that recovery stands because, as I
9 say, it's important not just for the
10 \$600,000 but to get that on off the lease.

11 Then I'd like to talk again about
12 parking head removals. Mr. Loscombe, you
13 were absent last week, but I talked about
14 having gone by the parking heads that were
15 removed on Penn and Linden and there were
16 cars parked in each and every spot. And
17 again, coming down Mulberry Street tonight
18 there was only one of those spots that
19 you -- they were very fast, oh, it's the
20 University, very fast to get the parking
21 heads off those, but I have gone by numerous
22 times and I just did the count tonight and
23 almost always they are very close to
24 completely filled, so I think whenever in
25 the future anybody wants to take a parking

1 head away I think we need to put the "No
2 Parking" signs up at the same time and in
3 the case of Mulberry Street they have got to
4 paint over or strip off, I don't know
5 however they are, those zigzag white lines
6 because all we have done is lost revenue.
7 We haven't increased safety at all as long
8 as cars continue to park there and we have
9 to zigzag around.

10 And then to talk about other
11 revenues that I believe that were missing,
12 for instance, the Clay Avenue properties,
13 Mrs. Evans, I believe you spoke to them last
14 week, I'm a little disappointed in NRCI. I
15 know I promised to give information, but I
16 knew I didn't have one property I came into
17 -- is it NRC or the tax collector for the
18 delinquent taxes, whatever their acronym is.

19 MR. JOYCE: Northeast Revenue.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, but when I
21 got the one for the one property she noted
22 to me that, oh, but we can't collect taxes
23 on this because it's in bankruptcy. I mean,
24 they are supposed to be professionals. I
25 knew at that time that it had already been

1 in court and somebody else had the deed and
2 it was approved by a judge and it was in
3 lieu of -- the deed was given in lieu of
4 foreclosure. So there again, we are missing
5 out, there again the taxes, the back taxes,
6 weren't collected before they were given
7 building permits.

8 There is a property in my
9 neighborhood that sold for a pittance, I
10 mean, you know, we have got the common level
11 ratio is somewhere now about five times, I
12 guess it would be five times the appraised
13 value is the market value, this person
14 bought it for the appraised value, which is
15 legal, but also got a permit and none of the
16 2012 taxes are paid, the 2011 aren't paid,
17 the taxes for which -- the prior city taxes
18 for which the prior property owner owed that
19 are also supposed to be -- are allowed to be
20 charged and I don't think we are even going
21 after those. There is more slipping through
22 our fingers, and I have even more that I'll
23 bring back next week. Thank you.

24 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Mrs.

1 Schumacher, I have something for you
2 regarding the "No Parking" signs.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: We did agree with you,
5 so we have sent that letter and we are
6 awaiting the response.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, thank you,
8 and I did want to thank Mr. McGoff for
9 giving me the rental registration stuff, I'm
10 sorry, I meant to do that.

11 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, could we
12 send a memo to NRS, please, regarding those
13 Clay Avenue properties because according to
14 the documentation that we received
15 Mrs. Schumacher is accurate in that it was
16 sold or transferred from one company to
17 another, so it is not in bankruptcy and,
18 well, apparently it's not, and I think they
19 should probably be reviewing those
20 properties for collection of the delinquent
21 taxes.

22 MS. KRAKE: I will.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good afternoon or
25 good evening, Scranton City Council.

1 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Congratulations to
3 the winners and condolences to the losers.
4 The weather had nothing to do with the low
5 voter turn out in Scranton. Apathy for
6 politicians along with disgust was the true
7 reason why some people came out and voted,
8 it really is, from talking to people. They
9 just saw no use in coming out and that's a
10 shame, but that's the majority of what the
11 people stated. That's why they didn't come
12 out to vote on Tuesday.

13 I'm going to read a letter to the
14 editor that I wrote last week and that I was
15 criticized for from the podium. "City being
16 left in dire straights. My fear is that the
17 people who are seeking the positions of
18 mayor and city council members do not
19 realize how bad off Mayor Chris Doherty and
20 the current Scranton City Council will leave
21 the city financially.

22 The city's payroll, retirement and
23 health insurance system must be reduced
24 immediately. Otherwise, the city will not
25 survive without another large tax increase

1 and that will not stop the bleeding. Wake
2 up, Scranton, you are bankrupt and nobody is
3 rushing to your aid. If the City of
4 Scranton filed for bankruptcy and a receiver
5 was appointed, the residents would still
6 have police, fire and garbage pick up. It
7 would not stop. The only people who would
8 be stopped would be the seven elected
9 officials of Scranton. That might actually
10 be an improvement.

11 The seven elected officials and the
12 Pennsylvania Economy League are responsible
13 for the mess I call Scranton insane
14 government."

15 I challenge any member of the city
16 council, the administration and the Young
17 Miller or any other audience member to
18 explain to the taxpayers what is not
19 truthful or accurate in the above-mentioned
20 statement? Young Miller attempted last week
21 but failed. He was nothing more than a
22 cheerleader for failed city government.

23 According to the data from the
24 American Bankruptcy Institute there were 41
25 municipality bankruptcies, about eight per

1 year between 2007 and 2011 which is on par
2 with the average in the United States since
3 1980. Experts predict that underfunded
4 pension liabilities and stagnant tax revenue
5 could cause an increased number in municipal
6 bankruptcies. The city is the latest
7 Pennsylvania city in serious financial
8 trouble. Not my words, the words of
9 experts, which I do not believe that Young
10 Miller or anybody else on Scranton City
11 Council qualifies as.

12 All of the bankruptcies in the
13 United States are required to provide
14 police, fire and garbage pick up. It's the
15 law. Anybody who believes that all services
16 would come to a halt because of bankruptcy I
17 have some swamp land for sale in Louisiana
18 for a good price. Come see me after the
19 meeting.

20 Detroit, Michigan, is a bankrupt
21 city. They will have fire, police, DPW,
22 Detroit Lions, Detroit Red Wings, Detroit
23 Pistons and the Detroit Tigers. The
24 community will continue to function with new
25 leadership.

1 I do not scare easy. Give me the
2 facts, not your novice opinions. Some
3 cannot handle the truth, I can. Being a
4 cheerleader is good at sporting events, but
5 not at city government meetings when the
6 city is bankrupt. My background, 20 years
7 supervisory experience making the hard
8 decisions including life or death decisions.
9 Seven years as a senior enlisted hostage
10 negotiator, Strategic Air Command. Two
11 actual hostage situations.

12 Also, five years experience as First
13 Sergeant for Missile Security Squadron
14 responsible for over 400 airmen. Nuclear
15 Storage Security Supervisor, South Korea,
16 Philippines. Also, a non-commissioned
17 officer in charge, NCIC, for security escort
18 and camp teams assigned to guard and protect
19 150 minutemen missile sites located within
20 the State of North Dakota. Responsible for
21 the health, safety and welfare of 250
22 security specialists. US Air Force still
23 working to support the Warfighters who
24 defend and make sacrifices every day to
25 support and defend the constitution of the

1 United States against all foreign and
2 domestic enemies, up to and including
3 signing a contract that includes their life.

4 I have sworn five oaths in my 34
5 years of service to my country and the
6 citizens of the United States of America.
7 Did I mention that I also had a temporary
8 duty assignment to presidential security
9 support squadron providing security for the
10 President and Vice President of the United
11 States of America? How many people in this
12 room have had lunch or supper with the
13 President or Vice President or Secretary of
14 Defense? I have. So I do not intimidate
15 very easily.

16 So when people come up here or
17 elected officials say that we are not going
18 to have fire or police or garbage because we
19 are going to file bankruptcy, you are not
20 convincing me. I don't believe it, because
21 the other bankruptcies in the United States
22 have fire, police and garbage collections.
23 It's not going to happen.

24 MS. EVANS: If I could respond to
25 that quickly. In a sense, Mr. Jackowitz is

1 correct, you will still have some services,
2 but not the ones you currently enjoy because
3 they would be cut in more and half. So, for
4 example, your weekly trash collection would
5 very likely turn into a monthly trash
6 collection. Your police department and your
7 fire department would be decimated. I think
8 many of the cities to which Mr. Jackowitz
9 refers are not Pennsylvania municipalities.

10 In Pennsylvania each state has
11 different laws that govern municipal
12 bankruptcy and we have seen what has
13 happened in Pennsylvania in it capital,
14 Harrisburg, and those are facts, there is no
15 disputing that.

16 But in addition, I have a newspaper
17 article of my own about Stockton,
18 California, and the title of it is, "Walking
19 for Redemption."

20 "After Stockton, California,
21 declared the largest municipal bankruptcy in
22 the nation, it's residents are fighting to
23 stem a grim tied of violence." And it says,
24 "Walking the streets in darkness where every
25 block brings with it a tail of desperation.

1 Roselyn Burst seeks some redemption some
2 redemption for this city. These are
3 streets, on the south side of Stockton,
4 where strands of police tape lingers on
5 fence posts for, days, like temporary grave
6 markers for the record 70 people murdered
7 this year.

8 In these neighborhoods, living the
9 fallout from the nation's largest municipal
10 bankruptcy residents say there are no longer
11 enough cops to hunt the killers or services
12 to curb the violence."

13 And what they have had to do is form
14 their own neighborhood police groups to
15 guard their own neighborhoods and their own
16 park and later in the article it notes,
17 "Neighborhood Watch the Stockton police
18 Department said more than 100 neighborhood
19 watch groups are active in the city now more
20 than at any time in Stockton's history.
21 Some stand guard over their local parks at
22 night," and there is a picture of the
23 citizens doing just that.

24 So if anyone wants to tell you that
25 bankruptcy was the answer for the City of

1 Scranton it's nothing more than their
2 opinion and certainly you can take it or
3 leave it.

4 Is there anyone else who cares to
5 address council?

6 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus.

7 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

8 MS. FRANUS: Good evening. I'm just
9 a little annoyed with Mr. Jackowitz coming
10 up here every week knocking this council
11 down and the mayor. If wasn't for you and
12 the mayor getting together this year, I
13 don't care how much everybody is saying you
14 didn't get along, you did get along. If
15 wasn't for you not getting along we would
16 have had like a 129 percent tax increase. I
17 can't wait until you are gone and these same
18 people come to this podium. Who are they
19 going to blame them? They are probably
20 going to blame you for the way the situation
21 is in the present next year. They are going
22 to blame it on you.

23 I don't get it. They should be
24 thanking you. If you went bankrupt, you
25 fought to keep us out of bankruptcy, the

1 taxes would be out of site and losing their
2 homes if we filed bankruptcy. Where is the
3 thanks for that? None. 22 percent tax
4 increase. Where is the thanks for that?
5 None. Just constant criticism.

6 Look at Frank Joyce, the financial
7 wizard, before he was the financial chair we
8 had Judy Gatelli. Every time you'd say, "Do
9 you have anything to report this week?"

10 "No."

11 Just breeze right by it, we never do
12 anything. Without you, Mrs. Evans, we never
13 knew anything that was going on in the city.
14 When Kevin Murphy was president, we never
15 knew. This ordinance was passed, that
16 ordinance was passed, this, this and this,
17 but nobody knew what it was because nobody
18 objected, nobody questioned, nobody had
19 anything on the question it was just passed.
20 Everything was passed for the mayor because
21 it was a council/mayor. Nobody questioned
22 anything.

23 And attorney like Boyd Hughes does
24 his research and he explains everything.
25 Takes forever sometimes because he says

1 anything and the more he says -- but. No,
2 but, Boyd, it takes a long time.

3 MR. HUGHES: I've often been
4 criticized for that. I'm a little bit too
5 verbose sometimes, but thank you.

6 MS. FRANUS: But I love listening to
7 you, it's like a book.

8 MS. EVANS: He does a very fine job
9 of explaining very complex issues to the
10 average person.

11 MS. FRANUS: Yes, he does. Yeah,
12 you have said in one week what some
13 solicitors don't say in the whole year.

14 MS. EVANS: Or in four years.

15 MS. FRANUS: Yes, that's what I
16 mean. We look forward to hearing from him
17 because he tells the people what's going on
18 in the city and we have never heard this
19 before and this is what this council and
20 this solicitor, we never had that before.
21 We never even knew -- people at home never
22 knew what anybody was even voting on because
23 nobody explained it to them. But they are
24 going to miss it when all of you are gone,
25 most of you are gone, and they are not going

1 to know anything that's going on because who
2 knows. And they think that the council and
3 the mayor is going to get along? Wait, we
4 we'll see about that. We will just see
5 about that and we'll just say if the mayor
6 gets along and gives the police and firemen
7 everything they want. The mayor doesn't
8 usually turn over all of the money to the
9 firemen and the police usually, but we will
10 see.

11 I just think that people really have
12 to start understanding what you have done
13 for them and start appreciating it, but you
14 will be getting blamed next year, too, I'm
15 sure. I don't know what else to say except
16 people are going to be in for a rude
17 awakening once you are gone, and I know you
18 are still going to be doing all the hard
19 work you are doing each day even though you
20 are not running anymore, right up to
21 January, which is good. I don't know how
22 you can do it, considering you get no
23 thanks, it wouldn't be me, but I give you
24 credit and thank you for everything that you
25 have done for us.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
2 anyone else? Mrs. Krake?

3 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

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

6 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, thank you. First,
7 it was announced this past week that Ryan
8 McGowan, the current business administrator,
9 would be leaving his post. Mr. McGowan
10 assumed that post at a very difficult time
11 for the city and during his tenure as
12 business administrator and worked very
13 diligently to provide funding for budgets
14 and worked towards the formation and
15 implementation of the revised recovery plan
16 and I personally would like to thank him for
17 his service to the City of Scranton.

18 Secondly, I know last week we
19 received recommendations on the restaurants
20 and food trucks and I know it was a busy
21 week with the election and all, but just
22 basically two questions, who is preparing
23 the amendments for that legislation and have
24 we decided what those amendments would be?

25 MS. EVANS: Actually, I am going to

1 address that briefly under motions.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Okay, that would be
3 fine. Thank you. A little bit more on the
4 rental registration from last week, kind of
5 a follow-up. I contacted Attorney Kelly --
6 or actually I happened to run into him here
7 at city hall this past week and I asked him
8 about whether landlords were required to pay
9 a mercantile and whether LIPS through the
10 rental registration through LIPS should be
11 sending names to the Single Tax Office. His
12 response to me was that anyone who operates
13 seven or more rental units is required to
14 pay mercantile tax and that those names
15 should be sent to the Single Tax Office so
16 that that tax could be collected.

17 He asked me if I would have Mrs.
18 Krake forward a letter to him requesting
19 that he would send a letter to LIPS
20 directing them to notify the single -- or
21 directing them to notify the Single Tax
22 Office of any people that fit that category
23 and actually his recommendation was that
24 rental registration or LIPS should probably
25 send the names of the all landlords to the

1 Single Tax Office, let them contact the
2 landlords and then the landlords could kind
3 of determine whether they should be paying
4 the mercantile, you know, they would then
5 respond to the Single Tax Office.

6 So that's in the process and
7 hopefully that, you know, is just another
8 small facet of what the rental registration,
9 you know, should be able to do and
10 hopefully, you know, I don't know whether it
11 will realize a great deal of revenue but at
12 least it's another step towards
13 implementation of the rental registration
14 ordinance and, you know, making it workable,
15 a workable --

16 MS. EVANS: I think it's a very fine
17 addition and thank you very much.

18 MR. MCGOFF: No problem. Also,
19 maybe a little bit of a status update from
20 PEL, from the meetings with PEL, a number of
21 -- maybe two weeks ago I asked Mr. Cross if
22 they could -- if he would provide sort of a
23 status update from their perspective on the
24 recovery plan and that was -- he said that,
25 yes, they were in the process of preparing

1 that and that it would be sent to the
2 Clerk's Office, I don't know that we
3 received that --

4 MS. KRAKE: No.

5 MR. MCGOFF: -- as of Monday, you
6 know, we hadn't, but that should be -- that
7 should be received relatively soon, at least
8 we were told it would be, and one of the
9 things that has been mentioned at the PEL
10 meetings has doing with or has to do with
11 the commuter tax and whether the city might
12 be appealing to the Courts again for a
13 commute tax in 2014 and that this status
14 update would be kind of a step towards that
15 process so that we could see where we are on
16 the budget, on the recovery plan, and so on
17 and it may be a step towards that appeal or
18 appealing to the Courts again.

19 So again, I'm not sure where the
20 administration is or what their plans or for
21 looking at the commuter tax for, but PEL is
22 preparing, also, to move forward if, in
23 fact, the city is going to apply or appeal
24 for the commuter tax in 2014.

25 And the last thing that I have, this

1 evening there was a gentleman here from the
2 University of Scranton inquiring about
3 legislation that was sent dealing with the
4 University of Scranton and HARB and I was
5 just wondering if there was, in fact,
6 legislation and if was going to be on the
7 agenda.

8 MS. EVANS: Yes, we will have it
9 placed on next week.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Next week? Okay, thank
11 you very much.

12 MS. EVANS: You are welcome.
13 Councilman Rogan?

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Thank you. Very
15 briefly, I would just like to thank the
16 voters of Scranton for their confidence in
17 me and the election that just passed. And
18 I'd also like to congratulate everyone who
19 ran. Running for office is very difficult,
20 very time consuming and it's worthwhile
21 though and I would also like to thank
22 everyone that came out to vote and hopefully
23 voter turnout will increase for the general
24 election.

25 Just two items tonight, two motions.

1 I make a motion to amend Item 7-A per the
2 following: In the summary title, after
3 "Bridge" insert "and upon receipt, the
4 twenty-one thousand four hundred dollars
5 (\$21,400) shall be allocated for
6 Construction-Paving in the 2013 operating
7 budget line item 01.080.000083.4340."

8 And, in the Now, Therefore clause,
9 following "Project" insert "and upon
10 receipt, the twenty-one thousand four
11 hundred dollars (\$21,400) shall be allocated
12 to Construction-Paving in the 2013 operating
13 budget line item 01.080.000083.43340."

14 MS. EVANS: We have a motion --

15 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Anyone on
17 the question?

18 MR. ROGAN: Yes, these are just on
19 the items we discussed last week regarding
20 the money the city is receiving from PennDOT
21 for the sale of the land near the Harrison
22 Avenue bridge project. I brought up the
23 possibility of putting it towards road
24 paving and everyone seemed to jump at the
25 idea. We certainly agree that roads need to

1 be paved in the city and just a small amount
2 of money, but it's a step in the right
3 direction.

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

6 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

7 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

9 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

12 MR. ROGAN: I make a motion to amend
13 Item 7-B per the following: In the summary
14 title, after \$7,000 insert "and upon
15 receipt, the seven thousand dollars (\$7,000)
16 shall be allocated to Construction-Paving in
17 the 2013 operating budget line item
18 01.080.00083.4340.

19 And in the now, therefore clause,
20 following seven thousand dollars (\$7,000)
21 insert "and upon receipt of the seven
22 thousand dollars (\$7,000) shall be allocated
23 to Construction-Paving in the 2013 operating
24 budget line item 01.080.00083.4340.

25 MS. EVANS: Do we have a second?

1 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

2 MS. EVANS: On the question? I'd
3 like to thank Attorney Hughes and our office
4 for drafting these amendments to tonight's
5 legislation.

6 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

7 MS. EVANS: All those in favor
8 signify by saying aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

15 MR. ROGAN: And that is all I have
16 for tonight. Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Councilman Loscombe, do
18 you have any comments or motions?

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, just briefly.
20 I, too, would like to congratulate the
21 candidates who were victorious in this
22 election and also congratulate those
23 candidates who ran and at this point we are
24 not victorious, but I hope they would
25 continue to be civically active and work

1 towards their goals of helping the city, the
2 county, the school district or whatever and,
3 you know, just keep going.

4 I would like to thank the voters who
5 came out on election day. Although it
6 wasn't a great turnout, there is number of
7 factors, apathy would be one, you know,
8 possibly -- possibly I think the ballot may
9 have scared a lot of the elderly people, you
10 know, intimidating the fact that they, you
11 know, weren't sure what they are supposed to
12 do or sign or when it was told it was two
13 pages. Those are just my guesses, but I
14 would hope to see more voters turn out and
15 get interested in the elections in the
16 future.

17 Again, I don't know what the answer
18 is, but hopefully it will work out, but I'm
19 looking forward to working with my new
20 colleagues here and I would also miss my
21 colleagues who will be leaving here at the
22 end of this year, but I would hope that they
23 would continue to be in contact with me and
24 continue to mentor me as they have, too.
25 That's what I feel so I would hope that we

1 can, you know, continue with your ideas,
2 also.

3 Mr. McGoff mentioned Mr. McGowan, I,
4 too, would like to wish Mr. McGowan good
5 luck on his new position. He did come in
6 here, you know, in a time of great financial
7 strife and, you know, whether you like a
8 person or not, I really appreciate the work
9 he has done. I had the opportunity during
10 the negotiations on this Supreme Court
11 ruling to spend day after day working with
12 Mr. McGowan and other members of the
13 administration to work with the police and
14 fire and sort of, you know, soften the blow
15 to the citizens on that Supreme Court ruling
16 and I know that had worked tirelessly.

17 I had also been meeting with him at
18 that time when we were in jeopardy of losing
19 our Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage and
20 I was with him many times when we had
21 conference calls and all, and probably the
22 one who spent the most time working with
23 Mr. McGowan was my colleague, Mr. Joyce,
24 being the Finance Chairman, so I know just
25 in my experience working with Mr. McGowan

1 that he did work tirelessly and I wish him
2 good luck to the future and, you know,
3 hopefully everything will work out for him
4 in that aspect.

5 And lastly, I was just curious about
6 something I read in the paper this past week
7 about a meter program, Pango or something,
8 we are supposed to -- it was just a blurb, I
9 don't think anybody on council knew anything
10 about that.

11 MS. EVANS: No, I wasn't aware.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Ironically in this
13 morning's paper, which I believe is related
14 to it, I see this big ad, and we all know
15 these ads aren't cheap. It says, "Next time
16 you look for change, look for a change.
17 Smart parking is coming to Scranton
18 launching May 28. Stay tuned."

19 I mean, this is -- I don't know
20 anything about it.

21 MS. EVANS: I don't know anything
22 either, but I didn't see today's newspaper
23 article, but from -- or the advertisement,
24 but from the previous article it appears
25 that this program is separate from the

1 others, that it's yet like a third branch of
2 the parking meter program. We are looking
3 for a company to manage the program then
4 working with the manager would be a company
5 providing the upgrades to the parking meters
6 and now this seems to be someone else.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure. It's becoming
8 far more convoluted than we originally
9 anticipated. We originally anticipated a
10 company coming in, saving us money, showing
11 us in real time the money that was coming in
12 and it just doesn't seem to be happening,
13 but I don't know why we are out of the loop,
14 why this is being done unilaterally without
15 any consultation. I believe it was us that
16 brought it to the forefront a couple of
17 years ago about getting the meter system in
18 here. That was part of the Parking
19 Authority. They were notified years ago and
20 kept ignoring it until they got themselves
21 in such a spot that we had no choice, but to
22 let them, but it just seems like it's the
23 same 'ole, same 'ole, and for some old
24 reason one of the companies, StreetSmart
25 does the same thing, I mean, who is making

1 these decisions to say -- I believe the
2 meters were still the city's?

3 MS. EVANS: Yes.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Not in the hands of
5 the parking garages, who is making these
6 decisions to let me people come in? And I
7 it just seems like to me they are trying to
8 do an end around around the first company we
9 brought here, which is StreetSmart, which I
10 don't care what company would run it, but
11 let's do it right. Let's not be taking care
12 of five different hands here.

13 This is why we are in the position
14 we are in, but this is continuous and
15 hopefully January 1 this kind of nonsense
16 stops, but it just upsets me when we are
17 part of this project and we hear nothing
18 about it, we read about it in the paper.

19 And this stuff has got to stop.
20 Hopefully whoever takes office in January
21 will be a little more amenable to dialogue.
22 You know, we talk about communication with
23 the administration and all of that, yes,
24 there is times when we have had to work
25 together and have communication, but it goes

1 both ways. You know, they should let us
2 know what their intents are and that's what
3 upsets me. And, you know, in a way I'm
4 happy there is going to be a change in
5 January. I'm just optimistic, hopefully I'm
6 optimistic that the change is going to be
7 for the better of everybody, but we need the
8 transparency and it just seems that this
9 whole parking debacle is being all arranged
10 to avoid the transparency that we are
11 looking for.

12 And, unfortunately, we had a
13 speaker, I was absent last week, two weeks
14 ago the gentlemen came to the podium and he
15 said, "What are you there for? What is city
16 council there for?"

17 You know, it was going through my
18 mind because I asked myself the same
19 questions time after time, what are we here
20 for? The office downstairs continually
21 thumbs their nose at us up here. They only
22 use us when they need us, and I know my
23 colleagues have worked hard with the
24 administration to get us to a certain point
25 here where we can survive but, you know,

1 it's tough when we work hard, we take two
2 steps forward and they kick us a step
3 backward. This has been the MO for the time
4 I have been on council here.

5 And again, I would direct that
6 whoever the next mayor is, and I stated it
7 before, you don't need a city council that's
8 always agreeable to the mayor, you don't
9 need one that's always at odds with the
10 mayor, we are checks and balances, and I
11 believe we are going to continue that role
12 no matter who is in there, we made disagree
13 on things, we may agree on things, but I
14 believe we are working for the best interest
15 of everybody, but when you unilaterally come
16 out with things without our -- at least a
17 conversation with anyone here you are not
18 working for the people of this city. Now
19 there is four or five hands in this pot the
20 here. Let's -- come on, Mayor, let's get
21 straightened out here.

22 I'm a bit disappointed that this
23 stuff is continuing, and again, like I said,
24 I wonder sometimes what our purpose is here
25 under this administration. We have to get a

1 little bit stronger and I know, I mean, I'm
2 not saying -- I believe more than anything
3 that our president here as strived very hard
4 to work cooperatively and to bring out
5 issues that have been pushed aside that
6 should have been brought to the forefront
7 and, you know, I hope we can continue that
8 without Mrs. Evans here, but I know I will,
9 I will pursue the issues at this point.

10 But, you know, time and things have
11 to change. If we want cooperation we have
12 to cooperate all of the way around. We
13 don't have to cooperate just when he needs
14 or whoever is there needs it and, you know,
15 I know I ramble on, but that's my feelings
16 and when had I saw this ad this morning I'm
17 curious who paid for this ad because we all
18 know how much an ad that size costs and it's
19 not cheap. There is no number here, but
20 there is no other --

21 MS. EVANS: No identification.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: No identification on
23 who it is, but it does address smart parking
24 coming to Scranton on May 28. I have no
25 clue other than what I read in the paper the

1 other day what's going on here, so I don't
2 know if we have any -- I mean, do we have
3 any say on what's happening with our meters?
4 Shouldn't it have been presented for us for
5 approval anyway? It's our liability, too.

6 MS. EVANS: At this point I can tell
7 you that our solicitor has been meeting with
8 the administration, I believe they met just
9 today regarding the selection of a parking
10 meter management firm, and I think, you
11 know, obviously the bids came in and the
12 administration reviewed the bids, but still
13 have questions concerning some of the
14 proposals and I think there was a phone
15 conference conducted today with some of the
16 -- some of the bidders to obtain answers to
17 questions that the city had, so we do have I
18 think an experienced authority representing
19 us in these -- in this review of these
20 negotiations in our council solicitor.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure. And again, I
22 appreciate that definitely because I know I
23 haven't had the time, I apologize, to
24 really, I mean, I have reviewed the things
25 and I do still have some questions, but, you

1 know, due to a work schedule that's been
2 crazy I haven't had the opportunity to
3 really sit down with the administration at
4 this point so I do appreciate Mr. Hughes
5 working on that, but at the same token I
6 believe IPS was awarded the contract to do
7 the free program, the 90-day thing which
8 never came to fruition, this is a totally
9 different company according to the paper the
10 other day, so I'm just curious as to, you
11 know, who is making the decisions, who is
12 paying for these ads and, you know, why it
13 isn't been a little bit more open and
14 transparent because I do believe there is
15 companies out there that bid that would be
16 transparent and I do believe there is
17 companies out there that bid that would work
18 with whoever awarded them the bid and keep
19 things quiet because that's the way things
20 have been around here for years and that's
21 very disappointing.

22 So I'll be watching it carefully and
23 I'll be making my decisions which may not
24 even impact the situation anyway down the
25 road. And that's all I have to say. Thank

1 you.

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

4 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Very briefly
5 tonight, I'd like to begin by thanking all
6 of the voters who came out. I applaud them
7 for doing their civic duty. I'd also like
8 to thank -- I'd also like to congratulate
9 the winners of the primary election for the
10 Democratic and Republican nominations, I
11 know some of those aren't decided yet, and
12 I'd like to thank, again, the people that
13 came out to vote and for the time that they
14 spent out of their days choosing the elected
15 officials they think would best to serve the
16 City of Scranton and also Lackawanna County.

A few matters of business,
Mrs. Schumacher mentioned that I get
together with the new business administrator
to discuss where the city is financially
being that we are near the halfway point of
the year and I will be glad to do that and
there are some issues that need to be
brought up such as the Ice Box and such as
the towing and storage yard replacement.

1 Speaking of the business
2 administrator, as we all know Mr. McGowan
3 will be moving onto a new position. I'd
4 like to thank him for his service. I know
5 that he did work tirelessly on a number of
6 issues and I know that the Office, the BA's
7 Office is rather strained. A lot of times
8 he put in a lot of extra effort in a
9 scramble to get things done and I wish him
10 nothing but the best in his new endeavor and
11 I will be glad to work with Ms. Gina
12 McAndrew for the remainder of my term.

13 While we are on the issue of the
14 Business Administrator's Office, just to
15 give an update of where the city is
16 financially, currently we have \$12.7 million
17 in the bank and \$205,000 in accounts
18 payable.

19 A few weeks ago I addressed some
20 issues with ATV complaints that we received
21 over on Dorothy Street and Parker Street and
22 we received a response back from Chief
23 Graziano and he states, "In regards to the
24 complaints received regarding ATV's on
25 Dorothy Street and Parker Street, the patrol

1 division captains have been advised to have
2 the patrol officers and the beat patrolmen
3 monitor these locations for violations."

4 So I'm sure that residents living in
5 those areas will be pleased.

6 Also, we have received a
7 notification that bids will be opened up on
8 Wednesday, May 29, for seasonal chemicals
9 for swimming pools for the calendar year
10 2013. So once someone is selected I will
11 further update on that matter.

12 And for the residents who use the
13 West Scranton skate park and also for the
14 West Scranton Hyde Park Neighborhood Watch,
15 I would like to announce that bids were
16 opened on Friday, May 17, in city council
17 chambers for the installation of the new --
18 of the new fence for Jackson Street skate
19 park, which is sorely needed, and there are
20 three bidders, and once we receive progress
21 on this issue I'll further update everyone
22 as well. And that's it.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
24 evening. I'll be very brief tonight. The
25 three ordinances related to the food trucks

1 are not included in tonight's agenda. On
2 Monday I discussed the legislation with the
3 mayor who wished to review the
4 recommendations submitted by Ms. Collins and
5 work with council on the final draft.

6 The legislation for us of the OECD
7 RE-RE funds to operate two additional
8 neighborhood pools in summer was not yet
9 submitted to council's office by the
10 administration but should be forthcoming
11 soon.

12 Finally, I was of the understanding
13 that the city would be signing a contract
14 with a company for the MBRO program this
15 week. However, I have not received firm
16 confirmation of that issue.

17 The following companies bid on the
18 installation of the new fence for the
19 Jackson Street Skate Park: Promax Fence
20 System, Incorporated, Able Fence, and
21 Rancoski Fencing, Incorporated.

22 DPW Director Mark Dougher is in the
23 process of selecting the lowest responsible
24 bidder and thereafter contract will awarded
25 and the work should begin. I am pleased to

1 have supported this project together with
2 the mayor for the children and youth of West
3 Scranton.

4 And finally, just a quick addition
5 for Councilman McGoff, I believe that it
6 would be the law department that would be
7 drafting the amendments to the food truck
8 ordinances with the input of our solicitor.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Okay. I didn't know if
10 anyone on council wanted to have any input
11 on the recommendations, you know, before
12 they went to the law department, and also if
13 you wouldn't mind I would like to contact
14 Attorney Kelly and maybe sit down with him
15 and discuss what we have talked about before
16 we would frame those amendments.

17 MS. EVANS: Yes, and also, though, I
18 would say --

19 MR. MCGOFF: And, yes, also with
20 Attorney Hughes.

21 MS. EVANS: Yes, I would keep our
22 solicitor in that loop --

23 MR. MCGOFF: Oh, absolutely.

24 MS. EVANS: -- because he, I think,
25 would be working on what council would like

1 to see --

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

3 MS. EVANS: --in those amendments,
4 but I think by and large most council
5 members have to follow most of the
6 recommendations provided by the businesses
7 themselves.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

9 MR. HUGHES: And I kind of feel like
10 Ben Hur here, only instead of having four
11 horses there is five, and I think that that
12 comment is good. I think that all council
13 members should be involved in having comment
14 on this. I know the other night Mrs. Evans
15 and I discussed something and we were
16 discussing this legislation and one thing
17 that came up that I really do not believe is
18 addressed, and I did mention it to Solicitor
19 Kelly today, is the fact that now that it's
20 summertime and I hear the ice cream trucks
21 going all around the neighborhoods, one
22 thing that I think there should be an
23 exception in this legislation for -- at
24 least for ice cream trucks that move
25 constantly and aren't in one position.

1 That's not addressed. I mean I think they
2 should pay a license, I think they should be
3 inspected, I don't know if they currently
4 are, but to operate within the city I think
5 there should be uniformity there and that
6 should happen.

7 However, they are extremely mobile.
8 I mean, most of these food trucks and food
9 carts they are in one spot and stay there
10 and I think that there should be an
11 exception for the ice cream trucks. That's
12 just one thing that I did mention today. I
13 think that's the entirely different
14 situation. As I said at the last meeting,
15 the one problem with this was that this
16 ordinance when it was adopted, I don't
17 remember when or know when, was made for the
18 people to sell novelties at parades and then
19 everything was just grafted onto it for food
20 carts and with the same hours and everything
21 else and I think that it has to be
22 specifically tailored to these different
23 types of businesses.

24 I mean, you take it, I don't know
25 how many people know about it, but "What the

1 Fork" my wife told me, and she saw it on TV
2 in the morning before she went to work that,
3 you know, they are in competition now to be
4 one of the top ten food trucks in the United
5 States that are in a competition. I it's
6 the same "What the Fork" that's what she
7 told me, but --

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

9 MR. HUGHES: I mean, this is, you
10 know, the quality of what it is. How they
11 got in it, I don't know anything about it,
12 but I have never eaten it them or anything,
13 I think I have seen it, but, you know,
14 that's the type of thing that we are dealing
15 with here, but I think everybody's input
16 would be welcomed. You know, take a look at
17 what the Chamber did, you know, Leslie
18 Collins did on behalf of the Chamber, you
19 know, in getting the food vendors and the
20 restaurants together and giving your
21 comments.

22 And I think that, you know, we have
23 come a long way from the piece of
24 legislation that was submitted, you know, by
25 the solicitor's office that prohibited food

1 trucks within 500 feet of any business that
2 pays mercantile. I think we have come a
3 long way, but I think the best thing is that
4 we have -- that we have a unified effort and
5 have one piece of legislation that will come
6 down that doesn't have to be amended, so I
7 appreciate everybody's comments.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Mrs. Krake?

9 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. NO
10 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

11 SIXTH ORDER. NO BUSINESS AT THIS
12 TIME.

13 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
14 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
15 WORKS - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
16 27, 2013 - (AS AMENDED) AUTHORIZING AND
17 APPROVING THE RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION OF A
18 PORTION OF CITY -OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED ON
19 THE 100 BLOCK OF HARRISON AVENUE (8,711
20 SQUARE FEET) IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO THE
21 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
22 TRANSPORTATION ("PENNDOT") AS PER PENNDOT'S
23 OFFER TO PURCHASE AND SUMMARY OF JUST
24 COMPENSATION AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND
25 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER

1 INTO AN AGREEMENT OF SALE TO PURCHASE SAID
2 PROPERTY FOR THE SUM OF TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND
3 FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$21,400.00) FOR THE
4 PURPOSE OF REMOVING THE HARRISON AVENUE
5 BRIDGE AND REPLACING THE HARRISON AVENUE
6 BRIDGE.

7 MS. EVANS: What is the
8 recommendation of the Chair for the
9 Committee on Public Works?

10 MR. MCGOFF: I recommend final
11 passage of Item 7-A, as amended.

12 MR. JOYCE: Second.

13 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
14 call, please?

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

18 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

22 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

24 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
25 Item 7-A, as amended, legally and lawfully

1 adopted.

2 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
3 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
4 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 28, 2013 -
5 (AS AMENDED) TRANSFERRING A TEMPORARY
6 CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT OF CITY OWNED
7 PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 100 BLOCK OF
8 HARRISON AVENUE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF
9 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
10 ("PENNDOT") FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE
11 REMOVAL OF THE HARRISON AVENUE BRIDGE AND
12 INSTALLATION OF A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED
13 HARRISON AVENUE BRIDGE FOR THE SUM OF SEVEN
14 THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$7,000.00) AND ON RECEIPT
15 OF THE \$7,000 SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO
16 CONSTRUCTION-PAVING IN THE 2013 OPERATING
17 BUDGET LINE ITEM 01.080.000083.4340.

18 MS. EVANS: What is the
19 recommendation of the Chair for the
20 Committee on Public Works?

21 MR. MCGOFF: I recommend final
22 passage of Item 7-B.

23 MR. JOYCE: Second.

24 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
25 call, please?

1 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

10 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
11 Item 7-B, as amended, legally and lawfully
12 adopted.

13 MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
15 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 11, 2013
16 (PREVIOUSLY TABLED) - AMENDING FILE OF THE
17 COUNCIL NO. 74, 1993, (AS AMENDED), ENTITLED
18 "THE ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF
19 SCRANTON" BY REPEALING SECTION 516 ENTITLED
20 FLOOD-PRONE AREAS AND ENACTING SECTION 516
21 ENTITLED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS.

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

25 MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
2 call, please?

3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
13 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans, before we
15 adjourn I forgot one thing very quickly, the
16 property at 1006 Moosic Street, that vacant
17 property that we have been asked about for
18 years, this past week Pat Handly and the
19 South Side clean up project group cleared
20 that, Mr. Spindler was part of the group
21 clearing that property and I would just like
22 to thank him for doing that.

23 MS. EVANS: Yes. Thank you very
24 much for that information. Do we have a
25 motion to adjourn?

1 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

2 MS. EVANS: This meeting is

3 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER