1	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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5	HELD:
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7	Thursday, May 30, 2013
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9	LOCATION:
10	Council Chambers
11	Scranton City Hall
12	340 North Washington Avenue
13	Scranton, Pennsylvania
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23	CATHENE C NADDOZZI DDD OFFICIAL COURT DEDORTED
24	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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2	CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:
3	LANET EVANS DESTDENT
4	JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
5	FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT
6	ROBERT MCGOFF
7	PAT ROGAN
8	JOHN LOSCOMBE
9	NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK
10	JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
11	BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR
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1 (Pledge of Allegiance recited and moment of reflection 2 observed.) 3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please. 4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. MR. MCGOFF: Here. 5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan. 6 7 MR. ROGAN: Here. 8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe. 9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here. 10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce. MR. JOYCE: Here. 11 12 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans. 13 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the 14 reading of the minutes, please. MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. 15 MINUTES OF THE COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD 16 MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013. 17 18 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments? 19 If not, received and filed. MS. KRAKE: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE 20 21 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION MEETING HELD APRIL 24. 2013. 22 23 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments? 24 If not, received and filed.

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MS. KRAKE: 3-C. CONTROLLERS REPORT

1	FOR THE MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2013.
2	MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
3	If not, received and filed. Do we have any
4	clerk's notes this evening, Mrs. Krake?
5	MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.
6	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any
7	council members have announcements at this
8	time?
9	MR. ROGAN: Just one. The South
10	Side Neighborhood Watch Community Day will
11	be held on June 1 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in
12	the Saint Stanislas Church parking lot
13	located on the corner of East Elm and
14	Pittston. Again, that's June 1 from noon to
15	3 p.m.
16	MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?
17	The Lackawanna County River Corridor
18	Association will conduct it's annual
19	Riverfest on Saturday, June 1, 2013,
20	including a canoe-a-thon, kayak excursions,
21	regatta and a duck-a-thon. For additional
22	information call 570-347-6311 or go to
23	www.lcra.org. Don't miss this fun filled
24	family event. And that's it.
25	MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'

1	PARTICIPATION.
2	MS. EVANS: Our first speaker
3	tonight is Bill Jackowitz.
4	MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
5	Scranton City Council. Bill Jackowitz,
6	South Scranton resident and member of the
7	Taxpayers' Association. Recently my
8	standing as a speaker in this forum and the
9	facts I have presented was questioned. I am
10	a retired Air Force Veteran with 20 years of
11	active duty honorable service and can prove
12	of it. My taxes are paid up and current.
13	am a resident of the City of Scranton. My
14	family has resided in Scranton for over 100
15	years. If you check out the county
16	courthouse, you will see my father's name or
17	two monuments, the General Kosciuszko
18	monument on Spruce Street and the General
19	Pulaski monument on the corner of Linden
20	Street and Adams Avenue.
21	I have been co-chairperson for the
22	Kids Swim Free Program and have successfully
23	conducted approximately 15 swimming events
24	at Nay Aug Park paying for children 15 and

under to swim free using the monies that

have been donated by the local businessmen and private citizens. While others have sat back and only talked about it, I did it.

Those facts that I present each week are not mine. They are the produced by the Pennsylvania Economy League, the city administration, city council, Scranton Tax Office, business administrator, State Department of Labor and Industry, US Census, local news report plus national and international news reports, attendance at court hearings and listening to testimony and rulings from the bench and, finally, experts in the field of municipal finance.

Unfortunately, these reports are not always positive news as a matter of fact.

Mostly they are negative reports based upon the fact that the City of Scranton has been distressed for 21 1/2 years with no solution on how to get out of this distressed city status.

Furthermore, the financial evidence points to bankruptcy municipality. Poverty level in Scranton 31.5 percent. One family out of every three families living in

1	Scranton live in poverty. I present them in
2	the hope that the administration and city
3	council and the Pennsylvania Economy League
4	will seek to correct the sins of the past
5	and improve the reputation and living
6	conditions for all Scranton residents and
7	taxpayers.
8	I have also been accused of
9	threatening, bullying and calling city
10	council members names from this podium. I
11	ask each of the council members and council
12	staff members, is this a truthful and
13	factual statement? Mr. McGoff?
14	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
15	MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Rogan?
16	MR. ROGAN: No.
17	MR. JACKOWITZ: Mrs. Evans?
18	MS. EVANS: Yes.
19	MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Joyce?
20	MR. JOYCE: No, you have never
21	called me a name.
22	MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Loscombe.
23	MR. LOSCOMBE: No.
24	MS. JACKOWITZ: Mrs. Krake? Nancy?
25	MS. KRAKE: Would you please repeat

1	what you just said?
2	MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, I have been
3	accused of calling city council members
4	names and bullying them from this podium and
5	I'm just wondering if that's true or not, if
6	that's an accurate statement.
7	MS. KRAKE: If you have councilmen
8	names, is that your question?
9	MR. JACKOWITZ: Yes, or bullying
10	them?
11	MS. KRAKE: Or bullying them?
12	MR. JACKOWITZ: Harassing them?
13	MS. KRAKE: And you want to know if
14	I feel you have done that?
15	MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, I'm just
16	asking a yes or no?
17	MS. KRAKE: Yes or no? I think it's
18	to ambiguous a question because it's
19	determining how they feel about your remarks
20	and I can't really speak on anyone's
21	feelings. I can speak on my own.
22	MR. JACKOWITZ: Well, what about
23	your feelings?
24	MS. KRAKE: My feelings, yes,
25	sometimes I have been offended, but it is

1	your right to do that.
2	MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. Attorney
3	Hughes?
4	MR. HUGHES: I would think that
5	whether it's offensive is how any council
6	member interprets that and, obviously, there
7	are a few council persons that do from their
8	standpoint. It's subjective. I think that
9	if you did, you would be called out of order
10	maybe.
11	MR. JACKOWITZ: I have never been
12	called out of order, but is it a yes or no
13	answer?
14	MR. HUGHES: I can't answer it yes
15	or no.
16	MR. JACKOWITZ: We'll just leave it
17	at that.
18	MR. HUGHES: Sometimes your comments
19	are to some council members are a little
20	offensive in my opinion.
21	MR. JACKOWITZ: Thank you. My
22	disagreement with the seven elected
23	officials in Scranton and the Pennsylvania
24	Economy League should not and does not in
25	any way represent bullying, intimidation or

disrespect for anyone. It only represents
my displeasure with the way Scranton elected
officials conduct Scranton business. My
belief and understanding is that elected
officials are elected to work for the
people. I hold all elected officials
accountable to the people.

I do not always agree with the mayor and city council. This is my right as a citizen, veteran and taxpayer to agree or disagree. I also have the right to express my opinion at any time and I will. You can either or disagree with my opinion. That is your right.

There is more to government than taxes. How about financial management of the tax money that has been generated and spending restraints by the elected officials in the city administration? Government should not be a popularity contest. Some will run away from danger, others will run toward the danger to help save lives and ensure freedom for all. They is why they are called war fighters and first responders. Without these people those who

1 run the opposite direction would be lost. 2 Does anybody at city council have 3 any questions or comments to make before I 4 leave the podium? MS. EVANS: Thank you. Your time is 5 6 up. 7 MR. JACKOWITZ: Thank you very much. 8 MS. EVANS: And our next speaker is 9 Rick Schroeder. 10 MR. SCHROEDER: Good evening. 11 here as the business manager of IBEW Local 12 81 which represents the electricians in the 13 City of Scranton. Offices located at 431 14 Wyoming Avenue. I want to take a minute to 15 thank council for the opportunity to come up 16 here to voice opinions that I have and I 17 also want to thank each and every one of you 18 for the service that they do for this city. 19 Whether anyone agrees or disagree certainly 20 the service that you do in the city I think 21 has to be recognized. For those of you that will be leaving I thank you what you have 22 23 done in the past. For those of you that are 24 staying, I certainly look forward to working 25 with you in the future.

1	We have a number of people, we have
2	over 150 members that live in the City of
3	Scranton. I'm here tonight to ask the
4	council to consider accepting the
5	recommendations of the Historical
6	Architectural Review Board for approving the
7	certificate of appropriateness for the
8	University of Scranton Linden Street, 800
9	Linden Street in Scranton here. The
10	demolition of Leahy Hall and the new
11	building that will be constructed there.

After talking with people from the University of Scranton, I understand it will be an eight-story building and I think that this building is going to be bigger and better than what is there. It's going onto a site where the building already is not on the tax rolls and I think that, you know, there was always some concern if there was a nonprofit, but the fact that it wasn't on the tax rolls and prior to that being the YWCA wasn't on the tax rolls, I think that it's a win-win for the city because of the jobs that are going to be created.

Certainly I'm speaking here because

I represent construction workers that stand to hopefully work on that project. I think there will be hundreds of people that will be working there generating a lot of tax money that will be coming into the city. I think that the utilization of that one is going to be a bigger and taller building. The space for the physical and occupational therapy units that will be there I think is going to be a big plus to us and the community.

I lived and was grown up in the Hill Section of Scranton and I can tell I remember when the University was only a few buildings here and I have seen it develop into one of the finest institutions of higher learning in the country. I don't think there is anyone here or anyone in the city that wouldn't be proud to say that they had somebody graduate from the University.

I can personally tell you that I had a son that went there, graduated from there, and I'm very proud to say that he did go there and, you know, unfortunately, lives in another area now, he is a doctor that lives

1 in another area, but certainly I think that 2 he had some of the opportunities he had 3 because of going there. 4 So the some of the positive things that the University has done, you know, the 5 University has a \$404,077,660 regional 6 7 impact in 2011, 2012. They had an economic 8 impact of over \$5 billion since 1980. There 9 are some staggering numbers here. 10 students spend an average of \$1.4 million 11 off campus each month. 12 The community organizations held 13 more than 4,500 events at the University of 14 Scranton since 2004. 15 The University employees make up 16 nearly 10 percent of the city's work force 17 and nearly 1 in 10 city residents are 18 students, alumni or employees. 19 Last year the University voluntarily 20 contributed \$175,000 to the city, \$58,000 to 21 Lackawanna County. The University committed

So there is a lot of positive things that the University has done. I would hate to think what Scranton would look like

\$3.16 million to beautify Mulberry Street.

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1	without the University of the Scranton. I
2	remember the older delipidated buildings
3	that were there when I used to walk to
4	school every day and walk by the University
5	of Scranton. I think that it could be a
6	win-win and I certainly ask each one of the
7	council members to consider approving the
8	University of Scranton's plans for Linden
9	Street. Thank you for your time.
10	MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.
11	MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.
12	MS. EVANS: Jack Figured. Good
13	evening, council. Good evening, Janet,
14	Frank. Thank you for your service. Janet,
15	it wasn't that long ago when you were
16	walking through the city streets looking for
17	votes with your son and it doesn't seem to
18	be that long ago anyway, I have grayed a
19	little since them.
20	I'm here to speak on two subjects
21	tonight. I'd like to know if anyone has any
22	information on the Rockwell Avenue bridge
23	project? It seems that I went to a meeting
24	about three years ago where there was a

design study done and there was something

that was going to happen there but since
then it's fallen off the map and the road
has been closed off for a year and we don't
have anything. The neighborhood doesn't
have any indication what's going on. Does

MR. LOSCOMBE: The neighbors know as much as we do, unfortunately. We have been kept in the dark on a lot of stuff even though we request information we still don't receive it. We have passed extra money for the bridge, also. But, you know, when it comes to that point that's as far as it goes here. Hopefully that will change in January.

anybody have update or anything on that?

MR. FIGURED: Hopefully with the new administration and new council members, it's going to be a tough road to follow, you guys did a great job and thank you for that. I'm also here to speak on the University of Scranton, and like Rick says, that building will be an eight-story building. It's going to a beautiful structure. There is an economic impact to the city not only in mercantile taxes that the builders, the

contractors, the architects and engineers

will be paying for that. There is also over

\$400,000 in permit fees that will be a

direct benefit to the city.

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When we had previously spoken, and I have been here before on projects for the University and for other construction projects, as you know, the previous projects on the dormitories and science center that were built two years ago, I did a little research on it, and I am with the bricklayers now and craft workers and for the project for the dormitories alone the bricklayers alone had 30,000 man hours. laborers, which are our coworkers and we rely on to get the materials to us, had about 20,000 man hours. That translated to over a \$1,200,000 payroll. From that payroll we figured that it was around 25 to 30 thousand dollars in city wage tax that was paid. Noted, not all of those were city residents that worked on that project, but I can tell you as business manager for the bricklayers when a project comes into the city, whatever area it is, we use local

residents first in that area and give them
the opportunity to work close to home.

As we exhaust our work list we move into Dunmore, Riverside, and Mid-Valley, places like that. Occasionally we get the opportunity to outreach into other areas, maybe Schuylkill County or Monroe County with the project the dormitories and the science project were being concurrently build I had 100 percent employment and that was city workers, people that worked in the Boroughs surrounding us. That was a great think.

Currently, I have about 70 percent unemployment at the present time. As you can see, there is not much going around in the City of Scranton and the work that is being done those entities that came to you and asked for special considerations on tax breaks and LERTAs and stuff like that, they made a lot of promises not only to us, but to the council. If you were to go down on Greenridge Street where they are building that new project there for the elderly, all out of state workers. You know, there are a

1 few workers from in the area there, but most of them are from out of town, the 2 3 contractors are from out of town. 4 checks to see that they pay city wage tax? Who checks to see that they pay the 5 mercantile? I think these people are coming 6 7 up here on a free ride. I don't think there is anybody that goes down and checks their books.

> We check the books. As the union our contractors are forced to pay the wages and the benefits and the taxes in the municipalities that they work in because we enforce that. So, you know, that's one of the things that you can see by looking around in the area and that's why we are here, we are here to support the University, 90 percent of the projects I have been involved with in my type of work, and I don't get everything at the University, but 90 percent of it comes from the people of the City of Scranton. And I have asked that question, I have asked, "Where did you source materials and how do you do things like this?"

This is going to be a silver leaf project. It's not going to be built as a silver leave, but it's going to be built to the standard of a silver leaf project. That means that most of the materials and everything is going to be sourced within a 200 mile radius of the Scranton. That's going to benefit the businesses that live and work in the City of Scranton. That's going to be benefit the people that live here in the City of Scranton.

They are the things that when we come to you and we are looking to make sure that things are passed for the progression of this city, they are the things that you really don't know about, but we do and they are really what I want to bring to your attention. And so when you are considering this tonight I would like you to consider all of those facts. The contractors, the business people, the residents, the people that are out there and everybody that it's going to benefit from a project like this.

We have also met on other projects with Geisinger Medical Center and stuff to

date, they are going to do another wonderful project. That's going to double the incentive in the city. You are going to get double the permit fees and double the mercantile taxes. Everyone needs certain variances and certain things that happen to make these projects go. It's about time we take care of our own because those entities that come before us, like the ones that I spoke earlier on and the housing project over on Davis Street, no benefit to anybody. They benefit themselves.

And one thing that really nobody knows about when those people from out of state come here to work and they work here eight, nine, ten months and they go back to South Carolina, Nevada or get the unemployment compensation \$200 a week they take our money. They take the money from Pennsylvania. They collect on Pennsylvania unemployment. They don't collect from North Carolina and Florida and things like that. They take our money back with them and they our taxes back and they take your money back with them, so that's what we ask for here

1	tonight. We ask for that consideration and
2	I'm sorry I went over and thank you again.
3	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Drew
4	Simpson.
5	MR. SIMPSON: Good evening.
6	MS. EVANS: Good evening.
7	MR. SIMPSON: Again, I'd also like
8	to thank council for all your past support
9	to the working people here in this area.
10	You have been a great friend of ours and we
11	always look forward to working with you and
12	look forward to working with you in the
13	future.
14	I'm a resident of the City of
15	Scranton and I also represent the United
16	Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of
17	America. I also am here tonight to speak in
18	support of the University of Scranton's
19	Rehabilitation Center project. The
20	University of Scranton has since 2008
21	constructed four major projects with a cost
22	of approximately \$200 million. These
23	projects alone have generated for the City
24	of Scranton approximately \$2.5 million in
25	building permits and business privilege

1 These figures do not include the taxes. 2 smaller projects done nearby the University. 3 The University utilizes contractors who use 4 a local work force and professional trades people who are in an established area 5 standard that including family sustaining 7 wages, health insurance and retirement programs.

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The University is one of only a few entities who have continued to build and put our members to work through one of the worst economic times this country, state and region has ever seen. One figure that is difficult for me to calculate is the amount of wage taxes paid to the city by our members who live in the city and work on these projects. One thing is assured, that with the hundreds of the carpenters who have worked on these projects the city has benefited greatly.

The University of Scranton's rehabilitation project comes at time when two or three major projects in the city have been put on hold causing our members to be unemployed and with the new state laws on

unemployment makes many of them unable to collect. This project takes a property that is not on the tax rolls, and hasn't been since its days as the YWCA and will make another gateway to the city as you enter from the expressway onto Jefferson Avenue and by incorporating the existing Linden Street entrance in the new building keeps intact some of the architectural heritage of the building.

This project will bring to the city coffers approximately \$445,00 in building permits, \$280,000 in mercantile tax, \$17,000 in plan review and an unknown amount of wage taxes and another \$47 million to the total the University has spent in building and investment in the city.

There have been numerous projects in the past and one currently that have received KOZ or LERTA tax breaks to build in the city that were approved by council.

Most of these projects bring in an out-of-town contractor and an out-of-town workforce and most recently an undocumented workforce from California and Las Vegas.

1	These workers do not pay local taxes and
2	they take their money back to whatever state
3	they came from. The University of Scranton
4	has never turned its back on the local
5	workforce, as council hasn't. So tonight I
6	ask the council to accept the recommendation
7	of the Architectural Review Board and
8	approve the certificate of appropriateness
9	so we can put our members back to work.
10	Thank you for your consideration.
11	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Joanne
12	Davis.
13	MS. DAVIS: I have a couple of
14	packets here. I can bring them to you.
15	Good evening.
16	MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.
17	MS. DAVIS: Good evening. My name
18	is Joanne Davis. I'm a resident of Scranton
19	and owner of Mrs. D's Pizza, Hoagie and Beer
20	Eatery on South Washington Avenue across
21	from McDonald's in the South Side Shopping
22	Center. The purpose of my appearance
23	tonight is not only to inform Scranton
24	residents and council of the feral cat
25	problem in the city, but to offer a possible

1 solution in managing the problem.

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Like many communities, we have a serious feral cat problem. Unfortunately, it is our responsibility as a community to attempt to fix it or more realistically manage it. The recent stabbing of a cat by a University student was outrageous. Cats are being poisoned and run down on the streets daily. Euthanizing them is not the solution as the Humane Society of the United States website states, "Even if there were enough money to remove and euthanize feral cats, others would move into the vacant territory to take advantage of the food source and shelter now made available. Ιt is an endless cycle." I am aware of the recent ordinances

I am aware of the recent ordinances adopted by several of our neighboring communities which issues fines to goodhearted citizens for feeding these desolate animals.

I am hopeful that this council would never consider such an uncivilized ordinance. The Humane Society of the United States addresses this issue by stating, "The

logic is that people think if there is no 1 2 food available the cats will go away. 3 However, they are territorial animals who 4 can survive for weeks without food and will not easily leave to search for new food 5 sources. Instead, they tend to move closer 6 7 into human habitation as they grow more 8 desperate. Their malnourished condition 9 will make the more susceptible to parasitic 10 infestations such as fleas. They will 11 continue to reproduce resulting in the 12 visible of many kittens and cats, thus 13 making the situation much worse instead of 14 improving it. Another reason is that the 15 bands are nearly impossible to enforce. 16 Experience shows that people who care about 17 cats will go to great lengths to help a 18 starving animal."

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The Humane Society of United States has said, "That a program called TNR, which stands for trap, neuter, release has proven to work. Feral cats are trapped, neutered and returned to their territory. They no longer reproduce and because of this it dramatically reduces fighting and the noise

associated with mating. Foul odors are reduced as well because neutered male cats no longer spray. Neutered cats also travel less so they are less of a nuisance. TNR improves the quality of life for existing colonies preventing the birth of more cats and significantly reduces the number of cats over time.

Additionally, many groups that provide resources for TNR have calculated that the cost associated with TNR are considerably less than those related to the removal and euthanization of feral cats."

I, myself, can testify to that because for the past ten years I have a been feeding feral cats by home near Nay Aug Park. I have personally found that using the TNR method has been much more cost efficient and limits new arrivals into the colony. The Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery found that over a 11-year period in six different states less than 1 percent of 103,643 feral cats examined had to be euthanized due to infection, disease or debilitating conditions. Less than 1

1 percent.

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With this information, the solution 2 3 is to fully implement TNR. We at Mrs. D's initiated a fund called Street Cats. Thanks 4 to the Good People of Eastern, Pennsylvania, 5 Animal Alliance or EPAA for short, we have 6 been able to use these monies to neuter 7 8 feral cats. EPAA charges just \$35 for each 9 medical procedure, whether male or female, and includes ear tipping, which I'll explain 10 11 in a minute, as well as an injection for 12 This is \$15 cheaper than what rabies. 13 Griffen Pond Animal Shelter costs the city 14 to euthanize a cat.

The procedure, which is performed by a veterinarian, gives a cat a chance to live their lives by then releasing them back to their territories. Thus far we have come across many caregivers who feed and care for feral cats. Cats do have a home, it's the outdoors where they have been living for more than 10,000 and it's their natural habitat.

The clinic, however, is not only for feral cats but for family pets. The charge

1 for a family cat is \$60. This involves 2 neutering and injections for rabies and 3 distemper. Cost for these services at a 4 veterinarian is approximately \$225. Some families who have limited financial 5 resources and cannot afford the cost of a 6 7 veterinarian now have a much more affordable 8 option. Unfortunately, some of these family cats are part of the problem when they are

not neutered and allowed to stray.

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For a family cat there is also the option of ear tipping, which is a surgical procedure which approximately one-quarter inch is removed from the tip of the cats left ear. This identifies it as having already been neutered in case it is trapped again. Having been identified as a neutered cat would then be immediately released and all feral cats are automatically ear tipped.

A worthwhile footnote while I have learned of more recently is a neighbor of a friend called the city to help with feral cats in their neighborhood and they were told by the city they no longer trap cats and it is up to the individual to trap, take

1	the cat wherever they see fit and pay for
2	the results of their actions out of their
3	own pocket, which makes this drive even more
4	important. And I thank you.
5	MS. SISLO: Good evening.
6	MS. EVANS: Could you state your
7	name please?
8	MS. SISLO: My name is Christine
9	Sislo.
10	MS. EVANS: Oh, I see you are next
11	on the list.
12	MS. SISLO: Yes, I'm a resident of
13	Scranton and I volunteer for Mrs. D's Street
14	Cats. I would like to emphasize that this
15	service is possible due to the devoted group
16	from Broadheadsville called Eastern
17	Pennsylvania Animal Alliance. The entire
18	process is fairly simple.
19	The group, which includes a
20	veterinarian, travels in an RV to Mrs. D's
21	and they arrive early in the morning. We
22	have a van already setup in one of Mrs. D's
23	parking lots to temporary house the animals.
24	The volunteers of Mrs. D's register the cats
25	and accept payments, which are made at the

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time of the registration. Again, it is \$35 for a feral cat and \$60 for a family pet.

The owner leaves the cat and a telephone number. Mrs. D's volunteers also observe the cat before and after surgery and contact the owners when the cats are ready to be picked up later that same day.

One obvious question is how do we trap a feral cat and bring it to Mrs. D's? For those who do not have traps we do and we will lend them to you and show you how to use them. It's pretty easy. We have met many others bringing cats in their own traps in an attempt to manage the problem in their neighborhood. To these people we say, "Keep up the good work and when you get your area under control please help us help others who don't have traps and transportation."

We are all in this together and together as a community we can make a difference. For appointments please visit EPAA's website at EPAAonline.com or call them at 570-994-5846. If you have any questions about feral cats trapping or would like to volunteer at Mrs. D's in connection

with this worthwhile community service, please call 570-604-4008. Donations, which are solely used for neutering feral cats and injections are also accepted at Mrs. D's. Checks should be made out to Street Cats and sent in care of Mrs. D's at 519 South Washington Avenue in Scranton, Pennsylvania, 18505.

Thus far, we have neutered a total of 85 cats in are three clinics. 17 of those have been paid for by funds from Street Cats. It is noteworthy that the great majority of these costs associated with neutering feral cats is paid for by caring individuals bringing in the cats. The monies are limited to St. Cat's fund and is available to those who cannot afford the service, so if there are feral cats in your area and, believe me, they are all over the city, and you would like to help manage the problem, please contact us at 570-604-4008.

I would like to conclude by saying if you think by fixing just one cat isn't helping, listen to what the Alley cats
Allies proclaims, one female cat and her

1	offspring in a seven-year period
2	hypothetically can produce 420,000 kitten.
3	I ask the council to review the current
4	contract at the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter
5	ad it relates to euthanizing cats for \$50
6	per animal and give careful though to
7	providing funds to St. Cats to humanely
8	neuter these animals. It appears that
9	neutering is not only healthier for the
10	colony and cheaper, but in the long-term it
11	is much more cost effective in managing the
12	problem.

We would also like to ask a council member how we could stay in touch with one of you and be able to announce our upcoming clinics. That dates are always available at EPAA's website and the next two clinic dates in June are the 4th and 18th. Their voicemail is very limited so please be brief and they will call you back. They are volunteers and the EPAA is a nonprofit organization. And above all, please spread the word and don't forget to call us with any questions. Again, 570-604-4008. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.

Our next speaker is Doug Miller.

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MR. MILLER: Good evening, council.

Doug Miller, Scranton. I'd just like to start off tonight by piggybacking on a couple of comments that were made last week by I believe it was Mr. Morgan and I thought he made a lot of sense with the argument he brought up and that was in regard to the city's 2014 operating budget, and it was dealing with council making a budget that I also agree with them should be an interim budget that only provides the services that we need to get us started and I think we should let the incoming council members that take office in 2014 open the budget up and do what they told us they were going to do throughout the entire campaign. They all thought it was so easy for four months and they answers to everything, and they think that it's so easy to not have to raise taxes and, you know, making cuts solves all of our problems and cooperation solves all of our problems so why not let them come in and let's see what they have. The new mayor,

the new council, let them put their money 1 where their mouth is. They made a lot of 2 3 promises throughout the campaign, let's see 4 if they have the ability to do the job because, quite frankly, I don't think they 5 do. 6

> And we would like to sit back and laugh and make a mockery out of this council when I think next year at this time, as I said two weeks ago, yeah, we will be laughing, and are we going to ask ourselves, you know, do we miss the good ole' days? The good ole' days, yeah, you bet we will because I think we are taking for granted what we have here.

> And you can be bullied and you can be name called and you can be, you know, told that you didn't do the job the right way, well, what people don't realize is the difficult task you had at making that budget and that before you even went into that budget you had to draft a recover plan, and I don't think you were given enough credit for that.

> > And I think, you know, we hear

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speaker after speaker who come up here week after week and tell us how we should run the city and they all cite off that's resumes and, you know, I'm going to rebut Mr. Jackowitz because I understand he did bring my name up last week, referring to me many times as young Miller. I don't have a problem with the young Miller claim, I know that that's a sign of disrespect, but I don't mind that. I know I'm youthful, I think that's actually an asset to me because many individuals my age are fleeing the city and I chose to stay here, so I'm going to respond to old Jackowitz.

that as a compliment being a cheerleader.

You're right, I am a cheerleader, Mr.

Jackowitz, and I appreciate that. I have been a cheerleader here to 12 years cheerleading a good cause. Trying to cheerlead good government and to see that my city moves forward in a positive direction so that my generation has a reason to stay here.

I think we are all cheerleaders to a

certain degree. Mr. Jackowitz is a

cheerleader. I think we can all recall for

years Mr. Jackowitz came here weekly wearing

a Legion of Doom t-shirt cheerleading his

6 cause.

So we all are here for one reason and that's to see the city move forward and to see good productive things happen and I think, quite frankly, it's unfair when we have individuals like Mr. Jackowitz who come up here, and I appreciate his service to the country and everything he cited, but he is missing one thing and it has nothing to do with council, what does it have to do with council? I appreciate his service to the country. I appreciate that he has had lunch with presidents. I'm sure the president probably didn't make any decisions regarding the country until they sat down with him.

And, you know, while we are on that subject of having the next council come in and do the budget perhaps Mr. Jackowitz himself, you know, the guru of knowledge, let him come in and offer his service. You

know, he has all the answers, let Mr

Jackowitz come in since he thinks he can do

your job, which I personally think he would

last five minutes in your spot, let him come

in and help do a budget.

You know, he has gone onto say that council is not qualified, he wants to talk about facts so let's do that tonight. Let's talk fact. I have a copy with me tonight Article II of the city's Home Rule Charter, Section 201 through 204 has to do with the governing body and the division of powers. Basically to summarize it talks about the two powers of government, the legislative branch and executive branch.

So to simplify it for Mr. Jackowitz and anybody else out that there may not understand it because those of us who have paid attention and understand how the city's functions wouldn't have to refer to this, but I figured tonight we'd have to educate people like Mr. Jackowitz, you are the legislative branch, you pass legislation. It's the guys downstairs, it's his job to enforce it. So when we come up here and we

criticize you for things not being implemented and we wonder why revenue enhancements haven't been implemented we could go knock on the door downstairs and get our answers down there. You can only implement. You can only try. There is other people involved. They have a job to do as well. You can't run the entire city.

We talked about bankruptcy and he made a comment that my statements were misleading. They weren't misleading at all. If we did a little research, like I did, I pulled up an article today from Stockton, California. As we all know they are the United States' largest city to file for bankruptcy and I pulled up an article from April 1 of this year in regards their public safety, and I just would like to cite a few of the paragraphs in here.

"Stockton's violent crime rate jumped 25 percent from 2011 to 2012. In an attempt to stay solvent, the City of 296,000 people cut 25 percent of its police force resulting in a record number of homicides and a surge in property violence."

What did this do? Well, it prompted
the council of Stockton to consider raising
their sales tax to 8.75 percent to make up
for the lost revenue so they could hire back
an additional 25 police officers. This is
fact, Mr. Jackowitz.

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This is just an example of what would go in the City of Scranton, so when we come up here and we say we want to file for bankruptcy, maybe she should file tomorrow and maybe that's the only way people are going to realize how great they have it today that tomorrow when they wake up and they see less police officers on the street, less firemen, and a garbage collection that goes from weekly to monthly, so I think we really need to sit back and I think a lot of us need a wake up call of reality and fact because the facts are right here. I listen to a lot of silliness week after week and it's time to give them reality. Thank you.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. That concludes our sign-in sheet, is there anyone else who would like to address council?

1	MS. CHILIPKO: Good evening,
2	Council.
3	MR. ROGAN: Good evening.
4	MS. CHILIPKO: Mary Chilipko,
5	resident of the City of Scranton, getting to
6	be a repeat offender here at council. I
7	just want to comment briefly on the program
8	that those women are so gallantly are
9	running, they are lovely cats in my
10	neighborhood, I have had three spayed
11	already, and there is such a need. I know
12	our animal control officer has been out for
13	surgery for awhile now so it is a problem in
14	this city, and there is no backup for animal
15	control, so if he is out, you know, he is
16	out for surgery, I do know him personally,
17	he does a great job, it's impossible and as
18	she said with a kill shelter, again,
19	according to her figures it is cheaper to
20	spay or neuter than to euthanize, which I am
21	very strongly against.
22	One positive for Pinebrook, I was
23	told today that we will be receiving mulch
24	for the playground at the Pinebrook Field,
25	which is very badly needed. We have some

very poor kids or disadvantaged kids in our
neighborhood who that will certainly benefit
so we are very grateful to the Department of
Public Works for that.

Next, I saw two articles in the paper today about the swimming pools and the only one not mentioned again is Capouse Avenue or Pennridge with it's extensive repairs as what we were told. I did see where Wells Fargo will donate to open Weston Park and Weston Field, so one question is will that free up some of the money designated for those parks to at least do some of the repairs at Pennridge? Could somebody --

MS. EVANS: I don't believe there was any money allocated in this year's budget for any type of the pool repairs so what is being donated by Wells Fargo was enabling those two pools to open and then the OECD Urban Development Action Grant Funds are being used to open two additional pools and make the improvements to them that are necessary to get them open.

MS. CHILIPKO: Oh, because I thought

the other pools were mentioned with that

OECD money, Weston Park, I'll have to go

back and look again.

MS. EVANS: The OECD money is I would say much like a matching fund or a matching grant to what's being provided by Wells Fargo. Wells Fargo will sponsor two pools basically and then Councilman Joyce suggested using RE-RE money, that is the UDAG RE-RE account money to open the two additional pools and make the improvements.

MS. CHILIPKO: Oh, okay. That wasn't the way I understood it. I know the people in Pinebrook and Greenridge are very anxious. Well, first of all, they don't want to see it. It's blight. It's an eyesore and they don't want to see it just razed, so I guess I'm asking there are some volunteers, there are some people that have approached me, that would like to do some physical work, take a look at the pool and possibly have a fundraiser because

Novembrino -- well, I don't want to mention any other names of the pools that may need work, but it's important. It's an important

part of our neighborhood. As I said, we are probably one of the lowest in the low to mod neighborhoods in the city and somehow, I know, Mr. Rogan, you have been involved, I'm going to put you on the spot, with Pinebrook in the past, and, Mr. Loscombe, I would just like if there is any way that we could look into it and see if we can come up with any way to save that pool. Even if we made some of the repairs that if maybe, you know, the mayor said they are extensive, even if we could take a look at it and just try to do something to maybe upgrade it just a little built.

And that's all I have to say, thank you for the mulch, and I would volunteer to help save the cats and I would hope that others in the city, I spoke briefly to the ladies out in the hall and I would hope that other people who step up. There are a lot of people stepping up in the city. I have noticed that in the last few minutes -- or few months, I'm sorry, with the animals and projects and food trucks and everything else that really benefits the City of Scranton so

1	for that I'm very happy. Thank you.
2	MS. EVANS: Thank you.
3	MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.
4	MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
5	Council. Marie Schumacher, resident and
6	taxpayer.
7	MS. EVANS: Good evening.
8	MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.
9	MR. JOYCE: Good evening.
10	MS. SCHUMACHER: Will there be a
11	second reading of 5-B? Yes/no?
12	MS. EVANS: A second reading?
13	MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah.
14	MS. EVANS: Well, it's on the agenda
15	tonight for introduction so it will
16	MS. SCHUMACHER: There will be.
17	Okay, just one question that I would like
18	answered during motions, is this structure
19	within the institutional zone of the
20	University of Scranton? I don't believe
21	that it is. I think that's beyond the
22	cutoff, so during motions I would like to
23	have that either denied or reinforced.
24	MR. HUGHES: I'll answer that
25	question, it's beyond the institutional

1	district of the University of the Scranton.
2	MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. I think it's
3	time we start using our zoning laws as they
4	are statues as they are
5	MR. HUGHES: I don't think the
6	answer right now as to whether this building
7	would be permitted in the zone in which it
8	is being constructed, that I don't know. I
9	mean, I haven't reviewed the zoning
10	ordinance, but it is beyond the
11	institutional district.
12	MS. SCHUMACHER: So
13	MR. HUGHES: That ends at Jefferson
14	Avenue.
15	MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. If we are
16	ever going to have I mean, there is no
17	reason for having an institutional zone if
18	we are not going to enforce the boundaries,
19	so I think that that's something that needs
20	to be looked at certainly.
21	Next, I'm extremely disappointed
22	that none of you council members even
23	thought enough last week when you were
24	voting to transfer the money from the sale
25	of the Duffy Park properties to inform us

1	about what is happening to the statute. I'm
2	especially disappointed in Mr. Rogan who is,
3	of course, too young to remember either of
4	the world wars or maybe even know any
5	relatives that fought in those wars and
6	sacrificed and I just think it's ashame and
7	God help his generation if they forget
8	what's been done for them and all the blood
9	that's been shed for them and sacrificed.
10	MR. ROGAN: I certainly didn't
11	forget. We have my grandfather fought
12	and actually both of my grandfathers fought
13	in both wars.
14	MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, if you could
15	hold your comments until the end.
16	MR. ROGAN: No, I want to finish
17	this point because you struck a nerve. This
18	was regarding the funding. This wasn't
19	regarding the monument. I think every
20	single person on this board and the mayor
21	will do what's right to make sure that
22	statute is put back up.
23	MS. SCHUMACHER: But the question
24	that was raised two weeks ago was the money
25	in, and you all didn't appropriate it, so

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move that and store it and restore it or whatever happens to do with it? You didn't

where is the money coming from to make -- to

4 answer that question and I don't think you

researched it to find out what's going to 5

happen. It's just, oh, yeah, you know. And 6

I remember a wonderful monument that was at 7

8 Pastori School, it was shaped like a cross

9 and it was war heroes and it was a beautiful

10 think and nobody knows what happened to

11 It just the school was sold and the that.

12 monument disappeared and, you know, just

13 Those people whose names were on

14 there I guess don't matter to the current

15 generation. I think that's sad.

> So I just think transferring that money to paving before it was known whether or not there is money to do what's appropriate for that statute, and I will

give Jamie tonight a little bit on the

21 Scranton Doughboy and there is a lots of --

22 you can go to website if you are interested

and get a lot more information. That one

happens to one of only 23 that is in cast

and it matters to a lot of people. And

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again, I'm sorry that it wasn't even

addressed before the vote last week. It

would have been very nice to have been

brought up-to-date on how that is going to

be provided, so just charge on.

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Now, moving to the controller's report for the month of April, it shows a year-to-date real estate tax revenue as a percent of the total revenue lagging the prior year by 5 percent. This is troubling. I would like to request the Finance Chair obtain the number of the properties for which taxes have been received by the end of April in each these years as it may be the saturation point for obtaining additional revenue from property taxes increase as been That's troubling. Fortunately, reached. the wage taxes are up so that's a help, but I'm really concerned about the property taxes.

Further, the impact on the lag on the operating budget of this lag is even greater if the amount shown in the controller's report is the 122 percent of last year's revenue and the 22 percent has

1	not been taken out which is dedicated to the
2	unfunded debt, so I think it's an important
3	issue and I would hope that Mr. Joyce is
4	able to get the number of properties that
5	have paid taxes this year as opposed to last
6	year and see if there is a trend there.
7	And then, Mr. McGoff, last week you
8	spoke of a PEL that PEL is coming up with
9	a budget status and could you please tell us
10	when that budget status update will be
11	available?
12	MR. MCGOFF: Yesterday.
13	MS. SCHUMACHER: Yesterday did you
14	say?
15	MR. MCGOFF: Yesterday.
16	MS. SCHUMACHER: So does the Clerk's
17	Office have copies or do you have copies?
18	MR. MCGOFF: I have a copy, yes. I
19	believe all council members do and I believe
20	the Clerk's Office does.
21	MS. SCHUMACHER: Are you going to be
22	speaking to it tonight?
23	MR. MCGOFF: Personally, no.
24	MS. SCHUMACHER: Mr. Joyce, will you
25	be speaking to that tonight?

1	MR. JUYCE: I just received it so
2	I'm going to take some time to review it
3	over the next week and I'll discuss it next
4	week.
5	MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay.
6	MS. EVANS: Council members had just
7	received it this evening in their male so we
8	have not had the opportunity to review it.
9	MS. SCHUMACHER: And how many pages
10	is it?
11	MR. JOYCE: It's a little lengthy.
12	So it's not just a page or two pages,
13	it's
14	MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. You
15	will have something next week then. Thank
16	you.
17	MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
18	MS. EVANS: Good evening.
19	MR. MORGAN: I'd like to agree with
20	Marie tonight on the monument. You know, we
21	are losing all of these monuments across
22	this nation. Gettysburg has been chopped up
23	and a lot of it has been sold off. In Hawaii
24	they are getting rid of a pool that was
25	built in remember ance of the World War I

veterans because they don't want fund its reconstruction. I think we have a very shallow memory of our own history and I think we should be protecting these things and I don't think that's really taking place in our country and I just hope that the city doesn't blow in one. I remember being a kid walking by that statute a couple of times. I don't know if it's true or not that it was knocked over a couple of times and repaired a couple of times, but I think we should have a lot more respect for the people who have sacrificed their lives for our nation and sacrificed their families and their wealth and everything else in regard to our

I mean, we can't even find a plaque that was put up for a former mayor I believe in the South Side Sports Complex, so, I mean, if we have such disrespect for the sacrifices of former Scrantonians not to guard these sites and not to make sure the right things are done then I think we are a responsible for that ourselves.

And, Mr. Rogan, I don't think

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anybody should be offended by somebody wanting to protect a site. My grandfather was a World War I veteran, great, great grandfather who was mustard gassed and I believe my father told me he used to breath pneumonia to clear his lungs and I just think that, you know, it's easy to look at the sacrifices of others and not give it the standing it should have, and I'm not saying you are doing that, Mr. Rogan, I just think that we need to really reconsider how we are going to protect these. I mean, we have got some artifacts, don't we, in the basement from the old Civil War Museum unless they have moved them somewhere, so these things are very important to this city or they should be.

We've got great monuments at Nay Aug
Park. I believe we have the hatch cover
from the Main. I mean, they are just very,
very important things that should be always
protected, that's my opinion.

And the last comment I have here is that I think that that feral cat program is a wonderful idea and I think that if it's

I	possible this council should look for some
2	amount of the funding to move this project
3	even thought they probably haven't asked the
4	council for funding, but I think that
5	sometimes projects are worthy and people
6	shouldn't come here and ask for money, I
7	think that we should realize that they are
8	important and the great benefit they can do
9	for this city because I see feral cats
10	everywhere and they are absolutely
11	everywhere and I don't know why the laws
12	don't make people accountable for their
13	animals, and I'm not asking this council to
14	cut Griffin Pond funding because evidently
15	they do a wonderful job, but I just think
16	that that lady just stated some wonderful
17	statistics and I have walked the
18	neighborhoods like those of you have and you
19	bumped into people that are feeding five,
20	ten, 15 cats and their heart is just
21	attached to these animals and I just hope
22	that the council would consider that. Thank
23	you.
24	MS. EVANS: Thank you.

MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave

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Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, taxes paid and so forth. On these pools, I read an article we are short on lifeguards and it's probably a little late this year, but if Weston Pool were open during the winter and we could get high school students like from the swim team or something like that and train them and then it would be somewhat indentured, I mean, that they would have to work for the City of Scranton just like the volunteer fire departments do if you volunteer for EMT training you have to pay them back until you fulfill your obligation, your pledge to work as an EMT. We could probably -- and create a good jobs for a kid from Scranton that's going away to college in the fall, so it's something to consider for the next year. It's a little late this year probably.

And I have spoken about trash removal several times and there seems to be some confusion here. DPW, people keep coming to me and telling me the DPW tells them the reason they ask for recycling out front is because the trucks won't fit up the

they see the trash truck going up the court and it's the same type of truck. So now I would recommend that the DPW give the real reason is that we don't have to stand there and debate for ten minutes whether something is trash or recycling. It needs to be sequestered. We can't pick up a couple of bottles on the top and find out that there is a half of doggie doodle in the bottom. I mean, you don't want to have that mixed in there so it's plain and simple and their explanation at the DPW is totally, totally

courts, and it's kind of offensive because

And, now, we had a mention here about building with the tax exempts and institutional zones and the only thing I have to say on it is once we start going out of the institutional zone I want to see everybody in a job, I want to see the University held within their footprint because it's high volume buildings, it's not as big as what would warrant it if it were just housing or something like that, but it's time for people to start considering

insufficient.

paying taxes when we go outside the institutional zone of some type because 33 percent of our city is currently tax exempt and it's the little ole' mommas and papas that are picking up the tab. I talk to people that are -- their mothers are living on 600 bucks a month so we can't continue to afford to raise their taxes and put them out of a home if they are not well on their way already with 600 bucks a month. You are taken money out of their own family pockets to support their mother and supplement and keep them in the house.

And a lot of the things have been said about council and the vote and public attitude, last week especially, and I don't find the attendance at the last election worth offending anybody. 25 percent.

Shame, shame, shame. We have lot of the complaints, I hear it, and I'm starting to mention to people become the turnout and I can see by the grimace on their face that maybe they weren't one of the people that turned out and it's ashame. You need to get the facts straight and we are only started

on this Scranton recovery and it's not going to happen overnight and it's not going to happen in four years and we need some changes. We need a two-term mayor. We get too entrenched, too entrenched with three and four terms. It's just too long and they run out of ideas and they get too many friends along the way and when you have a friend that's a friend of a friend it gets too inconvenient to tell them to wise up, you are not doing things the way they should, so we need a two-term executive.

And, furthermore, I would like to remind America start voting against the trade packs, please. People are going backwards and backwards and backwards on wages and it's just how does somebody continue to keep their head above water when they lose half their wages? 60 percent of people that lost their wages in 2007 are working for 30 percent less and they are also drawing -- there is about 30 percent of the people are drawing on the retirement out of 401k's and paying more taxes than Mr. Romney on it. So thank you and have a

1 good night and don't forget to bawk, bawk, bawk. 2 3 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there 4 anyone else who cares to address council? MR. DEVERS: Good evening. 5 MR. LOSCOMBE: 6 Good evening. MS. EVANS: Good evening. 7 8 MR. DEVERS: My name is Jim Devers. 9 I am the assistant vice president for 10 facilities operations at the University of 11 the Scranton and I would like to respond to 12 the questions regarding the zoning. It is 13 true that this building is out of the 14 institutional zone. It is in the central 15 business district. However, we have done 16 extensive studies. Our architects and the 17 engineers have studied the zoning code and 18 the building is a permitted use in the central business district. 19 20 Also, the building Leahy Hall, is 21 used by the occupational and physical 22 therapy departments that serves the City of 23 Scranton and the residents of the City of 24 Scranton. What we want to do is build a new

and improved facility that offer the same

1	services. We have the Leany Clinic that's
2	located in the building next door at
3	McGurrin Hall. Our intention is to connect
4	the two building and make that a very
5	vibrant corner and a very signature-type
6	building for not only the University but the
7	City of Scranton.
8	And if you have any questions
9	regarding the zoning or the building itself,
10	I would be happy to answer them at this
11	time. Thank you.
12	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
13	anyone else who would cares to address
14	council? Mrs. Krake?
15	MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.
16	MS. EVANS: Councilman McGoff, do
17	you have any comments or motions tonight?
18	MR. MCGOFF: Just very briefly.
19	First of all, since it was brought up, we
20	did receive an update from PEL, I will defer
21	to Mr. Joyce for a response sort of, you
22	know, next week, but I will say a couple of
23	things. I will say that the memorandum that
24	was sent from PEL is very optimistic and I
25	think that optimism speaks to the

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cooperative effort that the council and the administration has made to try and implement the 2013 budget and to implement the recovery plan initiatives. I hope that this optimism can carry over through the rest of 2013 and continue into 2014, but PEL seems to indicate that they feel we are moving in the right direction and I believe also that we are moving in the right direction.

And the second thing and last thing, I, too, I guess maybe took a little bit of offense at the presumption that because we didn't provide some kind of the funding for the Duffy memorial that we don't care about it. I have lived in South Side my entire life. That memorial has been part of my life. It was actually a football field for awhile when we were very young. It was -- the statute set a nice pick for running pass patterns, but nonetheless, I think that presumption is erroneous. I think we all feel, you know, that that is something that needs to be preserved.

And we spoke last week that all of us I think indicated that we would find a

way in which that memorial will be preserved and will be kept, but just because we didn't do a funding for it, is not an indication that we don't care. We will I'm sure continue to work to preserve that memorial and to make sure that it is, you know, placed in a proper area where it will be part of the history and part of the City of Scranton. And that's all I have, thank you. I'm done. 

MS. EVANS: Thank you. I'm so sorry. Councilman Rogan, do you have any comments or motions tonight?

MR. ROGAN: Yes. Thank you very much briefly. Just to comment on the comments that were made about Duffy Park, the vote last week was not a vote to remove the monument or move the monument anywhere and there were comments, I believe it might have been Mr. Loscombe or a speaker that said, well, what about placing it up at Nay Aug Park, which is a great idea, it's the most utilized park in the city, and I do take offense that the comments that I don't understand, you know, the sacrifices. I

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studied history, I have family members that fought in the world wars, and I have always fought for veterans. You know, just last year in last year's budget I introduced an amendment to give a tax break to veterans. I purchased a flag just last month, a 3 by 5 flag for the Vietnam Memorial up at Nay Aug and that's why I took offense to those comments, it was simply allocating the funding that we are getting for that land. It wasn't a sale of the monument or anything of that nature and I'm sure everyone on council would agree that the mayor, and I don't agree with the mayor on much, but I'm sure everyone agrees that the monument needs to be placed appropriately somewhere in the city and that's what I'll fight and I think we all fight to see that that happens.

Two other issues, I will be voting "yes" for the agenda item regarding the architectural review for the University of the Scranton and a couple of reasons why I support it. One, as was mentioned, it will create a number of jobs in the city, which are desperately needed right now; and also,

1	I have always said with the University of
2	the Scranton we would like them to grow and
3	get bigger. I went there, but we would like
4	them to grow up instead of out. This takes
5	one of their buildings that they already
6	own, they are not acquiring new property, so
7	this is something that I will support.
8	Finally, just one request, would you
9	please send a letter to the DPW and the
10	contractor that paved Schneider Avenue
11	asking that curbs are put in. Residents on
12	the 12000 block, and I have a couple of
13	specific addresses, they report that when it
14	rains the water comes down the hill and it's
15	now flooding their properties. I have that
16	here and I also have some pictures that I
17	could send in tomorrow as well of some of
18	the yards that were flooded from the rain
19	the last couple of days.
20	So that is all I have for tonight.
21	Thank you.
22	MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
23	Councilman Loscombe, do you have any motions
24	or comments?

 ${\tt MR.\ LOSCOMBE:} \quad {\tt Just\ briefly,\ I\ echo}$ 

1	my fellow colleagues on the statute
2	situation. I know we are all interested in
3	that and to accuse us of ignoring it is
4	false. I went to the I believe it was
5	over two years ago the meeting on the
6	Harrison Avenue bridge and I have to go back
7	to my notes and I will contact PennDOT, but
8	I thought at that time they were looking at
9	three different locations of the road, they
10	were going to relocate that park over off
11	the road there which would contain that
12	would be part of the that would be the
13	new Duffy Park with the statute, that was my
14	understanding, but I will follow-up to make
15	sure of that.
16	So that is why we didn't show a

So that is why we didn't show a concern because, you know, it would be -- it will be taken care of one way or the another, but, you know, I was offended, also.

And Mr. Rogan mentioned about the paving and that, we also -- I mean, I think he mentioned Jackson Street it's just paved and they are ready to cut into it already right up the whole length. You know, I

don't know I mentioned it probably two years ago when we were putting out bids for paving, I don't know who is responsible, is it the engineer, is it the contractor, but all utilities should be notified prior to those contracts starting that the roads are going to be paved and they should have a certain time period that they come in, I could see an emergency, but they are replacing lines. These were preplanned for years now. So, I mean, it's a folly. We got enough bad roads in the city as it is, but to have to put up with this. But my other thing is the sewer 

lids. Some of these newly paved streets are beautiful to drive on until you drop in those sewer lids. They haven't been brought up to level and I don't know what the -- you know, do we contact the Sewer Authority? Again, this should be the contractors' responsibility before they get paid to make sure those roads are inspected and properly completed.

And I guess that's it. All reserve other comments for when the vote is.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Councilman Loscombe. Councilman Joyce, do you have any 2 3 comments or motions? 4 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I'm going to try to be as brief as possible. The other week 5 to answer some citizens' questions that came 6 7 up, Mrs. Schumacher asked about the real 8 estate taxes being designated and we did 9 receive a response from our tax collector, 10 Bill Courtright, and he states that in 11 response to the letter that we sent him on 12 May 10, yes, all amounts designated to the 13 unfunded debt borrowing are paid and are 14 reflected in the city's real estate distribution of funds. As of the date of 15 16 this letter, which he sent on May 23, 17 required payments made to M & T Bank and 18 First Liberty Bank and Trust are paid in 19 full through the end of May 2013. So that's 20 just one tidbit of information. 21 Also, we received some information 22 from the Single Tax Office regarding 23 comparisons in regard to where we are this 24 year at the end of May in comparison to

where we were last year at the end of May.

1	So far for the real estate tax, last
2	year as of May 31, 2012, the city received
3	\$10,210,229.90 from the tax office. This
4	year so far we received \$12,730,160.84 which
5	is a 24.68 percent increase. However, you
6	have to factor in that there was a 22
7	percent increase in the real estate tax, so
8	we are collecting at a slightly higher rate.
9	Delinquent real estate taxes last
10	year as of 5-31-2012 we received
11	\$365,449.47. This year we received
12	\$344,738.17 which is down 5.67 percent or
13	\$20,711.30.
14	As far as the local service tax or
15	as some refer to the emergency services tax,
16	as of 5-31-2012 we received \$429,628.16.
17	This year as of 5-31 we have received
18	\$742,317.48 and that's an increase of 72.78
19	percent or \$312,689.32.
20	And as far as the business privilege
21	and mercantile taxes are concerned, last
22	year as of this point we received
23	\$1,515,725.77. So far this year we have
24	received \$1,869,283.42 and that's an

increase of 23.33 or \$353,557.65.

1 And also, we have to take into account that there was an increase of 12.5 percent to the business privilege tax and mercantile taxes over the past year, but we are collecting a little bit more at a better rate than we were last year at the same time. 8

Also, just to inform everyone, there were some bids sent in and opened on Wednesday, May 29, in council chambers for the City of Scranton seasonal chemicals for swimming pools, excluding Nay Aug Pool, for the calendar year of 2013. We have two bidders, being Miracle Chemical Company and Main Pool and Chemical, Incorporated, so once a bidder is chosen I'll further inform you of who it was.

And also, council received an e-mail-- well, before I get to that I will announce that we received a check from Comcast in regard to the franchise fee payment that we're owed in the amount of \$207.059.52.

And also, Comcast they sent to me a notification that effective June 27, the

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Inspiration channel will be added to Channel
2 295 on the digital starter channel lineup
3 for those interested and issues with
4 Comcast.

Moving on, we did receive an e-mail in council's office regarding a property on River and Meadow Street and that's the last one in the ten hundred block of River. We received some complaints before. As of the past week some companies are putting up some very large billboards on that property advertising their business phone numbers and etcetera, and the residents want us to report this to the appropriate departments and hopefully get something done about this because this is a residential zone and the residents want to keep it that way and they are worried that this is turning into a local garbage dump for signs.

So, Mrs. Krake, if we could please notify Director Seitzinger of this it would be greatly appreciated and ask him to research into this situation and hopefully people aren't just throwing signs there.

Also, I'd like to thank Rich

1 Schroeder for coming in, Jack Figured, Drew 2 Simpson, and I don't want to miss anyone 3 else, also Jim Devers for coming in to 4 explain the project that is hopefully going to be in the works at the University of 5 Scranton. I am in support of this project. 6 7 As Mr. Rogan said, it's a good thing that 8 they are building up and not out and it's 9 going to create \$400,000 in permit fees as we learned and also it will have an economic 10 11 impact to the city as far as mercantile and 12 business privilege taxes, so that would 13 be -- that is definitely a positive. 14 And finally, last but not least, if 15 we could send a letter to the appropriate 16 party, I believe Mr. Dougher would be the 17 most appropriate, and ask him about the 18 status of the Rockwell Avenue bridge. 19 think hopefully we could get an answer on 20 that and see when plans are being made for 21 that bridge to be put back into service. 22 And that's all for tonight. 23 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

evening. The terms of two zoning board

members will expire effective July 1, 2013.

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1 One of those individuals, Mr. Lance Stange, 2 notified city council previously that he is 3 unable to continue his service for a 4 completion of his current term. I thank Mr. Stange for his dedication and 5 professionalism throughout his years as a 7 zoning board member and Mrs. Wardell for her service in completing the term of the late James Williams.

> As a result of these two vacancies, I ask that all residents who are interested in serving on the zoning board would submit a letter of interest and rest may to the office of the Scranton City Council on or before Friday, June 14, 2013. E-mail submissions to council members will not be eligible for appointments.

Again, the Office of the Scranton City Council will accept only letters of interest and resumes mailed to or hand delivered to the Office of City Council on or before the deadline of Friday, June 14, 2013, for the purpose of filling two positions on the Scranton Zoning Board.

Next, included on tonight's agenda

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•	Tot incroduction is a resolution accepting
2	the recommendation of the Historical
3	Architectural Review Board, or HARB, and
4	approving the certificate of appropriateness
5	for the University of the Scranton for
6	demolition of the Leahy Hall, the former
7	YWCA building, located at the corner of
8	Linden Street and Jefferson Avenue. Because
9	of the ambiguous language contained in the
10	resolution pertaining to the "courtesy
11	review" rather than a mitigation review of
12	the historic elements of the building and
13	the absence of a time frame for such review
14	relative to demolition, I recommend that
15	council table this legislation tonight and
16	request HARB well, table it tonight
17	following introduction, I should have been
18	more specific, and request HARB and the
19	legal department to review and revise the
20	legislation accordingly.
21	Council needs to know what is meant
22	by a courtesy review and what the plan is
23	concerning the portico.
24	Next, I received two ordinances

pertaining to lease agreements between the

City and United Neighborhood Centers for the McGreen Center and the Belleview Center. asked Solicitor Hughes to review the legislation and he responded noting several concerns regarding the ordinances, including that despite the title presented a ten-year least it is, in fact, a 40-year lease. Therefore, Mrs. Krake, please return the legislation to the legal department with Attorney Hughes' responses for correction before it can be placed on council's agenda.

In addition, council received a response from Harold S. Hill, PE, Assistant District Executive of Construction with PennDOT regarding the signalization at the intersection of North Washington Avenue and Linden Street in downtown Scranton.

Mr. Hill states, "Our traffic unit reviews and monitors signal timing both during and after construction. Due to your concerns over the timing of this signal, our traffic unit inspected the intersection of North Washington Avenue and Linden Street. This is a preliminary inspection since the intersection is not complete yet. The

city's contractor is making adjustments to
the signal."

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And finally, in response to comments made during citizens' participation this evening by I believe Mr. Figured and Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Krake, I'd like a letter sent, please, to the Single Tax Office requesting that they check into contractors performing work in the City of Scranton, especially in conjunction with who has pulled permits from LIPS. I do believe, I listened carefully to what you were saying and it is the responsibility of the Single Tax Office to oversee and collect those taxes and I thank you very much for bringing these situations to our attention. certainly make sure that the Single Tax Office is made aware and that they do or perform their due diligence in obtaining the proper taxation from these out-of-town and out-of-state employees. And that's it.

MS. KRAKE: 5-B. ACCEPTING THE
RECOMMENDATION OF THE HISTORICAL
ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD ("HARB") AND
APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

1	FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON, 800 LINDEN
2	STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR
3	DEMOLITION OF LEAHY HALL; TO INCLUDE
4	COURTESY REVIEW BY THE HARB FOR PUBLIC
5	INCORPORATION OF THE LINDEN STREET PORTICO;
6	PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF THE 1907 BUILDING VIA
7	EXHIBIT PHOTO AND TEXT, INCLUDING
8	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE YWCA BUILDING AND ITS
9	ROLE IN THE CITY; AT 630 LINDEN STREET AND
10	235 JEFFERSON AVENUE, SCRANTON,
11	PENNSYLVANIA.
12	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
13	entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
14	introduced into its proper committee.
15	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
16	MR. JOYCE: Second.
17	MS. EVANS: On the question?
18	MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the question
19	because I haven't commented yet on this
20	here, Mrs. Evans has stated the reason why
21	we are tabling it, and also it hasn't been
22	before the zoning board yet either, I
23	believe that's two weeks away. For us to
24	approve something before the zoning board
25	is

1 MS. EVANS: Well. I would recommend approval in terms of introduction. 2 3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, oh definitely. 4 MS. EVANS: And then tabling it. 5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Don't get me wrong, I'm in favor of this building, I think it's 6 7 going to be an asset to the area, but again, 8 we have to do things the right way. I have 9 been probably the most critical here, or one 10 of the most critical about different things of the University, it's no secret, tax 11 12 exempt properties and stuff like that, but 13 the thing is, I mean, this is already tax 14 exempt property, which I have no problem 15 with it. I will be more critical at looking 16 in the future and future development that 17 encroaches out of the institutional zone in 18 taxable areas. 19 You know, we had a very good meeting 20 several years ago at the University and it 21 was portrayed the wrong way by the news 22 media and, you know, I still remember that. 23 All we were trying to do is be fair to the 24 citizens of this city, the taxpayers. The 25 taxpayers have seen the universities

1	property double in the last 12 years, which
2	is fine, they are doing a beautiful job, but
3	again, it's still on the back of the
4	taxpayers.
5	You can read all of the literature
6	that shows the economic impact, but we have
7	still been distressed since 1992. That
8	impact hasn't benefited us totally. Not
9	that there isn't a benefit, I'm just going
10	to say it like it is. You know. I mean, we
11	are receiving \$175,000 now in lieu of taxes.
12	You know, I still remember a
13	property that was purchased for \$27,000 in a
14	court, which is out of the institution zone
15	there, and the University purchased it for
16	\$550,000 and tore it down. I mean, you
17	know, this is the kind of the stuff that
18	upsets me to a degree that I am critical
19	about because a lot of average people don't
20	have that kind of money to buy a property to
21	tear down.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Are we still on the
23	question here?
24	MS. EVANS: Yes.

MR. MCGOFF: It doesn't seem to be.

1 MS. EVANS: No, I --

MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm referring to my beliefs as to why -- I'm sorry, Mr. McGoff, if I offended you, but that's where I stand. I believe this is a worthwhile project, it's a good project, but I am going to say that future expansion out of the institutional zone will be looked at critically by me.

Now, I may be a minority, I probably will be a minority, but I'm here at the behest of the 70,000 taxpayers in this city, but I am for this project and everybody knows where I'm coming from. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: And I'll just comment very briefly, I have listened carefully to our solicitor's comments throughout the last several years regarding I think the initial growth of the University of the Scranton, and perhaps a bit of information tonight that was vocalized was not exactly accurate and that in the beginning the properties and the homes in the Hill Section that were taken for the University of Scranton expansion they were not blighted those homes. They were not homes that should have

been torn down, but the city was a very good

partner and a very formidable neighbor to

the University of the Scranton and enabled

from the very beginning throughout today

it's consistent expansions.

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And as Mr. Loscombe said, I think it was very unfortunate years ago that we were portrayed falsely by the of newspaper and the University the leaders of the University and it is important to remember that, yes, we represent, just as the University represents a Jesuit mission, which is admirable and it educates extremely extraordinarily well the youth not only in our area but surrounding states, we as city council represent the taxpayers of the City of Scranton. After all, we do not represent the University of the Scranton. The University of the Scranton is a tax free institution so we are here to represent the best interest of the taxpayer, to be a good neighbor, and to always ask the University to engage in that reciprocity by helping the City of Scranton survive and avoid bankruptcy and continue to be in the future

1	a prospering, successful host city that the
2	University can be proud to be located in.
3	Anyone else on the question? All
4	those in favor 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	MR. JOYCE: I'd like to make a
12	motion to table Item 5-B.
13	MS. EVANS: We have a motion on the
14	table, is there a second?
15	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
16	MS. EVANS: On the question?
17	MR. MCGOFF: I don't see the need to
18	table this. Mr. Devers was here to answer
19	any questions, asked if we had any, and
20	nobody had any about the ordinance and now
21	we are going to table it because we have
22	questions. I think that there is no need to
23	table it. If there are questions that need
24	to be answered they can be answered before
25	the next reading.

1	MR. LOSCOMBE: I don't believe the
2	zoning board has had a chance do look at it
3	yet, this project yet.
4	MS. EVANS: No. I think they are
5	meeting June
6	MR. LOSCOMBE: Two weeks, June 12.
7	MR. ROGAN: They would meet the day
8	before final reading. June 12 would be the
9	zoning. If it followed the normal process
10	zoning board would meet Wednesday, June 12.
11	The final reading, if it followed the normal
12	course, would be on Thursday, June 13.
13	That's why I agree with Mr. McGoff, I don't
14	see the need of tabling it. Now, if it got
15	to Seventh Order and there were questions
16	unanswered at that point I would support
17	tabling it.
18	MS. EVANS: Well, it's a resolution
19	so there would be only one further reading,
20	but I have been contacted by members of HARB
21	who felt that what they had agreed to in
22	term of the University's plan is not what
23	has been represented in the legislation and
24	they would like the opportunity to look at

this again and provide legislation that is,

1	indeed, correct before we pass it.
2	MR. MCGOFF: Then why wasn't anybody
3	from HARB here to contest it?
4	MS. EVANS: I don't know, perhaps
5	you can call and ask them.
6	MR. MCGOFF: Well, you are the one
7	that's stating that they were and
8	MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
9	in favor signify by saying aye.
10	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
11	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
12	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
13	MR. MCGOFF: No.
14	MR. ROGAN: No.
15	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
16	moved.
17	MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. NO
18	BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. SEVENTH ORDER. NO
19	BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.
20	MS. EVANS: If there is no further
21	business, I'll entertain a motion to
22	adjourn.
23	MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.
24	MS. EVANS: This meeting is
25	adjourned.

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2	<u>CERTIFICATE</u>
3	
4	I hereby certify that the proceedings and
5	evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
6	notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
7	above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
8	and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
9	ability.
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12	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
13	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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