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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, June 5, 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
- BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. KRAKE: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Loscombe. Mr.
9 Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. KRAKE: Mrs. Evans.

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

14 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. TAX
15 ASSESSOR'S REPORT FOR THE HEARING DATES
16 HELD MAY 1ST, 15TH AND 29TH OF 2013.

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

19 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. AUDIT STATUS REPORT
20 FROM ROBERT ROSSI & CO. RECEIVED MAY 30,
21 2013.

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

24 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. AGENDA FOR THE
25 ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD JUNE

1 12, 2013.

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

4 Do we have any clerk's notes this
5 evening?

6 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any
8 council members have announcements at this
9 time?

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, please. Today is
11 the 69th anniversary of the D-Day invasion.
12 I would like to my dad and to all who
13 participated in that momentous event, I'd
14 just like to say thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: I will stick with the
16 patriotic theme, I received a message from
17 Charlie Spano from the 9/11 Memorial
18 Committee and the Flag Day subcommittee,
19 they would like to all citizens of Scranton
20 to come to the courthouse on Friday, June
21 14, Flag Day, from 5 to 6 p.m.

22 June 14 was set by the Continental
23 Congress in 1777 as the day to fly and
24 remember the flag. The public event will
25 feature the West Scranton High School band

1 and patriotic songs. The main speaker will
2 West Scranton High School and West Point
3 graduate Army Colonel Joe D'Antona, III.
4 President Judge Tom Munley will raise a
5 large American flag after Willard Elementary
6 School students describe the development of
7 the flag through historic events.

8 Please fly your flag at your home or
9 business to honor America and the founding
10 of the US Army. That's all.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you. The City of
12 Scranton is seeking lifeguards for the
13 opening of four city neighborhood pools this
14 month. Applicants need not possess
15 lifeguard certification. The City of
16 Scranton will provide a free certification
17 class at Weston Field's indoor pool to all
18 those seeking summer employment as
19 lifeguards. Interested applicants should
20 contact Sandy Ophsinski of Colin Finnerty at
21 Weston Field's Office, and that's it.

22 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
23 PARTICIPATION.

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

1 MR. ELLMAN: Thank you, Council.
2 First off, that I find that disgusting,
3 deplorable, despicable picture of the mayor
4 accepting that \$30,000 grant just
5 reprehensible. Andy and Bill should get the
6 credit for all they have done for the
7 children of this city and the Taxpayers'
8 association. The mayor is the one that
9 close would the pools. He created the
10 problem. You shouldn't be rewarded for
11 creating a problem and solving it. I just
12 don't know words strong enough for what he
13 has done taking credit for that. It's
14 disgusting to me.

15 Secondly, council finally passed a
16 paramount measure to protect the people of
17 this city from the will continual oppression
18 of the tax exempt entities we are surrounded
19 with and when you have a chance to use it
20 you blink, you back down, you didn't -- you
21 didn't defend the city like you should have.
22 From the little I know about this move, it
23 was made to help stop them from what's
24 happening. Why? Your allegiance is to us
25 the taxpayer, not the unions, and I'm a

1 strong advocate. I voluntarily belonged to
2 two of them over the years. I would like to
3 see as many union men working in
4 construction as possible, but again, your
5 allegiance is to the taxpayers, not the
6 unions, and last week you just jumped over
7 backwards. You were just -- you just seemed
8 so happy that this -- that they were going
9 to -- you were giving them permission, I
10 guess, to go outside of their area. This
11 wasn't right. Here what are we supposed to
12 be getting in PILOTS 1.3 and they haven't
13 done nothing to help us. Nothing, but you
14 help them. You are not thinking of the
15 taxpayers.

16 You know, we are being taxed out of
17 our homes. People all their lives they want
18 a home and, God, there is just so many
19 people I talked to. I probably talked to a
20 hundred people this year that just can't
21 afford things anymore and it's not just the
22 city taxes, it's everything. My taxes are
23 over -- my insurance on the house in five
24 years has gone up \$1,000 for some reason. I
25 pay like \$1,400 and I used to pay \$295 or

1 something when I bought the house and it
2 went up little by little. Look it, Rendell
3 is giving the utilities a cart blanche to
4 charge whatever they want. It's just
5 getting impossible to own a home in this
6 city, to rent one. I got vacancies all
7 around me they can't rent because they won't
8 rent. When you do you get -- my whole
9 neighborhood has gone to pot because of the
10 zone up there. I can't walk down sidewalks,
11 I have said it 1,000 times in here, all of
12 the 2,000 block, the 2,100 block. It's all
13 a bunch of the guys staying in rooms. They
14 park on the sidewalks, the laws. There is
15 people roaming around all night in the
16 neighborhood. You know, it's not a police
17 problem because they are there. I told you
18 I got two months ago or so 4:30 in the
19 morning there is a guy in my garage and he
20 knew the neighborhood. He ran in the
21 backyard and disappeared and I blame it on
22 the Zone. That's another thing, nobody
23 cares about the Zone down there. You know
24 what I'm talking about? It's that night
25 club that stays open all night. You can't

1 imagine the garbage that hangs out right on
2 the street. They had a heroine bust
3 yesterday on 1840 or something where all of
4 the -- in that building across from the bank
5 this way. The neighborhood is just going to
6 pot and when you talk to people everybody
7 complains about neighborhoods in the whole
8 city going to pot and I don't know what the
9 solution is, but something got to be done
10 besides going to the taxpayers because we
11 are not getting nothing for our money.

12 Every time it rains I don't have a
13 sewer on the corner, there is water all over
14 the place in my yard. You know, it's just,
15 like I said, I'm not getting nothing for my
16 money. I get good garbage pick up, I'm not
17 mad at them, and I see police cars all the
18 time, but when the police cars leave people
19 going by my house 70, 80 miles an hour and
20 I'm not exaggerating, one after another.
21 Thank you.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.
23 That concludes our sign-in sheet. Is there
24 anyone else who cares to address council?

25 MR. DEVERS: Good evening.

1 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

2 MR. DEVERS: My name a Jim Devers,
3 I'm the Associate Vice President for
4 Facilities Operations at the University of
5 Scranton. I want to thank you for the
6 opportunity to address council this evening.
7 I want to first read a letter that I
8 prepared for the members of council and
9 offer some brief remarks regarding the
10 University of Scranton's proposed
11 rehabilitation center project.

12 "Dear President Evans and members of
13 Council: At its meeting on May 30, city
14 council voted unanimously to introduce a
15 resolution that accepted the Historical
16 Architectural Review Board's recommendations
17 to support our plan to demolish Leahy Hall
18 to make way for our new rehabilitation
19 center. Thank you for introducing the
20 legislation for the first reading and for
21 the public support for the project expressed
22 by several members of council.

23 Later in the meeting, however,
24 council voted to table the resolution. I
25 would like to summarize briefly the

1 University's actions in this matter to
2 address any concerns that you may have.
3 Because we knew our plan required
4 consideration by the HARB, the University
5 asked one of the project's architects
6 Mr. Richard Leonori of Hemmler-Camayd, a
7 Scranton architectural firm and a member of
8 the HARB, to share preliminary plans for the
9 center with the group in January of 2013.

10 After the project was approved by
11 our Board of Trustees in May, the University
12 applied for a demolition permit with the
13 city triggering a formal evaluation by the
14 HARB. We attended the groups meetings on
15 May 13 to answer all questions as part of
16 their typical and thorough approach to
17 reviewing projects. During the discussion,
18 the University agreed to stipulations to
19 allay concerns expressed by some members of
20 the HARB. We call these mitigation
21 elements.

22 Specifically, the HARB crafted the
23 following mitigation elements that the
24 University agreed to incorporate into the
25 overall project. First, to include a

1 courtesy review by the HARB for public
2 incorporation of the Linde Street portico.

3 Second, public recognition of the
4 1907 building by way of exhibit photo and
5 text, including acknowledgement of the YWCA
6 and it's roll in the city.

7 With these stipulations in place,
8 HARB, as a body, voted to recommend to city
9 council that they issue a certificate of
10 appropriateness for the project. After
11 council tabled the motion, the University
12 contacted the president and the secretary of
13 the HARB to confirm our recollection and
14 understanding of the HARB's action and vote.
15 They have indicated to us that HARB's vote
16 on may 13 was appropriate and the city
17 solicitor also confirmed and certified the
18 HARB's vote.

19 The rehabilitation center is
20 important to the University's continued
21 success in meeting its needs and the
22 community needs, the needs of our students
23 pursuing degrees in occupational therapy,
24 physical therapy and exercise science. The
25 center will also provide substantial

1 benefits to the city through the community
2 service activities that will facilitate the
3 more than \$900,000 in city taxes and fees it
4 will generate and the much needed
5 construction jobs for hundreds of workers it
6 will create.

7 Sincerely, James Devers, Assistant
8 Vice President for Facilities Operations."

9 I have copies of the letter I would
10 like to present to council.

11 MS. EVANS: Certainly.

12 (Letter presented to council.)

13 (Mr. Loscombe takes the dais and
14 joins the meeting.)

15 MR. DEVERS: Thank you, Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

17 MR. DEVERS: Are there any questions
18 regarding my comments?

19 MS. EVANS: I can tell you that
20 obviously there's some degree of
21 misunderstanding in this situation in that I
22 know our office made a request to HARB for
23 it to submit to city council any
24 recommendations or amendments to the
25 legislation that they would deem

1 appropriate, and as such originally I
2 believe they were to meet on Monday, June
3 10. I learned thereafter that the president
4 of the HARB cancelled that meeting.
5 However, it's also my understanding that in
6 place of that meeting they are meeting
7 today, in fact, at this time or perhaps the
8 meeting has been adjourned by now, so I am
9 hoping that their meeting will provide the
10 necessary clarifications that we were
11 seeking and that we can get it moving along
12 more swiftly.

13 MR. DEVERS: Thank you very much,
14 you have answered my first question. I just
15 had another question, at last week's council
16 meeting a comment was made regarding the
17 tabling of the second reading of the
18 resolution until the Zoning Board acts on
19 the issue. Since we have not made nor are
20 we required to make a request for any type
21 of zoning for the demolition of Leahy Hall,
22 can you clarify what the Zoning Board needs
23 to act on regarding the demolition?

24 MS. EVANS: We have only received
25 the schedule of the zoning board and it

1 appears that they will hear the University's
2 request for a dimensional variance
3 associated with its building construction.

4 MR. DEVERS: That's for the new
5 building, but at last week's meeting the
6 certificate of appropriateness covers the
7 demolition of Leahy Hall, and I think it was
8 Mr. Loscombe commented that the Zoning Board
9 needs to act on that?

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe the zoning
11 board -- I don't know about the demolition
12 part, but they have to act on the sight line
13 requirements and stuff that you are
14 requesting.

15 MR. DEVERS: That's true, but the
16 Zoning Board doesn't have to act on the
17 demolition portion of Leahy -- that we are
18 asking for Leahy Hall; correct?

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: I don't -- that I
20 don't know.

21 MS. EVANS: Well, I think --

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: I would like to see
23 the whole project together before it's
24 demolished, you know what I'm saying? I
25 would like to see approval before you just

1 make an empty lot.

2 MR. DEVERS: But we are applying for
3 a certificate of appropriateness only for
4 the Leahy Hall demolition, so the Zoning
5 Board -- just to help us, because if we have
6 to apply for something from the Zoning Board
7 for the demolition of Leahy Hall we want to
8 know that, but according to our architects,
9 engineers and legal counsel there is no
10 requirement for us to apply to the Zoning
11 Board for the demolition of Leahy Hall and
12 that's the confusion that I have as well.

13 MS. EVANS: Well, certainly, I think
14 that the point that Mr. Loscombe is making
15 is that it would be probably more
16 appropriate to bring legislation before city
17 council after each step in the process has
18 been followed and approved and I think
19 that's what's happening now in terms of the
20 Zoning Board. They will meeting next
21 Wednesday, so it's not a matter of a
22 postponement of months, they will be
23 meeting, as I said, in less than a week and
24 council always receives the decisions of the
25 Zoning Board and after we have received that

1 decision as well as HARB's report then we
2 will be happy to place the legislation back
3 into Sixth Order on our agenda.

4 MR. DEVERS: Okay. So I'm to
5 understand that there is no requirement
6 right now for us to go to the Zoning Board
7 for the demolition of Leahy Hall, that
8 portion of the project?

9 MS. EVANS: I don't think anyone on
10 city council can respond to that for you
11 because we are not the Zoning Board, we are
12 the city council and we do not handle those
13 issues.

14 MR. DEVERS: Okay, thank you. Do
15 you have any questions of me regarding the
16 project?

17 MS. EVANS: No.

18 MR. DEVERS: Thank you.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
20 anyone else who cares to address council?

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
22 Council. Marie Schumacher, citizen and
23 taxpayer.

24 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: First, I'd just

1 like to make note that the Mulberry Street
2 parking where the meter heads were removed
3 there is still no parking signs and the
4 removal of the white lines that zigzag
5 traffic down Mulberry Street still remain
6 and request that in the future if you have
7 parking heads removed for these kinds of
8 reasons that you make it a package deal that
9 everything is done at the same time. There
10 is no -- the only change now is we are not
11 getting revenue because those parking meters
12 people are still parking there. It still as
13 much of a danger coming down and going into
14 one of those cars that's parked there, so --

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Schumacher, I'm
16 still working with PennDOT on that. I have
17 an appointment with the engineer. We are
18 going to be looking at that situation a
19 little closer.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank you,
21 the sooner the better. Now, with regard to
22 5-B that was tabled last week, I would just
23 like to read a letter that I got just
24 yesterday from the National Trust for
25 Historic Preservation, which I have agreed

1 very much. It says, "Every year our nations
2 history, our beautiful landmark buildings
3 are threatened by the wrecking ball. It's
4 more than heartbreaking to watch the
5 destruction. Historic homes, landmark
6 commercial buildings, sacred battlefields
7 they are being torn down to make room for
8 parking lots or shopping malls or urban
9 sprawl and when they fall they take with
10 them our ties to the past and our
11 understanding of our own history."

12 The destruction of the 1907 YMCA
13 falls into this category and I think the
14 mitigation that's being offered of a couple
15 of pictures and a history is meager at best.
16 I do not believe that building should be
17 torn down and I don't think the
18 University -- I think the University should
19 be staying within their industrial zone --
20 or their institutional zone and you all --
21 many of you, at least, have spoken about the
22 need for that, but it always seems to get
23 pushed into the future and I think now is
24 the time to act.

25 Three, on the 5-B for tonight is the

1 intent to make this a paved parking lot and
2 what is the need in that area for another
3 parking lot in the city? What does the city
4 have at the corner of Capouse and Marion?

5 MS. EVANS: I don't believe it will
6 a for profit parking lot, I think it will be
7 likely used by a new business that may be
8 located into a building in that area and
9 they need the parking for their employees
10 and customers.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, then why
12 aren't they buying the parking -- this lot
13 instead of the city buying it and
14 maintaining it for private business? Is
15 that what you are telling me?

16 MS. EVANS: I don't know.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, if that's the
18 case, I would like -- I mean, I know a lot
19 of businesses would like somebody to put up
20 a parking lot.

21 MS. EVANS: Certainly.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: We had a business
23 and I had a parking lot and the Zoning Board
24 did not like it and I just think it's not --
25 that's not very fair to us taxpayers.

1 MS. EVANS: Well, we can certainly
2 get an answer for you before a final reading
3 on that issue.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: I certainly would
5 appreciate that. Next, what is the status
6 of the Lake Scranton Road analysis and the
7 final cost? What does the final cost come
8 in?

9 MS. EVANS: We have not yet received
10 the report of Civil Crossroads engineers. I
11 believe that they have been conducting their
12 study of late. What I have heard at the
13 same time is that very coincidentally the
14 truck traffic has halted during the period
15 of this study which, of course, is going to
16 skew the results of the study.

17 But, you know, beyond that I think
18 that raises two questions, the first being,
19 well, if the trucks are no longer traveling
20 that route they must have found an alternate
21 route, which is the case all along; and
22 secondly, if they are no longer traveling
23 that route you know, obviously there is a
24 purpose to this absence thereof so that, you
25 know, they would not be made of part of the

1 consequence of their travel and the visual
2 aspect of their travel would not be able to
3 become part of the study.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. What is the
5 date for receiving that?

6 MS. EVANS: I don't have the date.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. That brings
8 up another issue though, I know, as I've
9 stated many times, that Seymour Avenue is
10 restricted to trucks for delivery only, but
11 the parking -- but the sign advising that is
12 because of the angles of the roads it's only
13 for the -- readable by the wildlife across
14 the street. It's not readable by people
15 coming up the street really or coming down,
16 and the thought occurred to me because a lot
17 of traffic, a lot of traffic, including
18 semis and tractor trailers come across that
19 road, why -- there must be two ends. When
20 there is a no truck traffic allowed where it
21 should be -- there should be a sign on both
22 sides so that traffic doesn't come up, so
23 how does one find out? Obviously, there is
24 one on 307 not to come into Seymour Avenue,
25 but where does that zone end? Does that

1 include all of the East Mountain and if so
2 why isn't there a sign down at the base of
3 East Mountain Road to keep traffic off that
4 route? How does one find out?

5 MS. EVANS: I think, Mrs. Krake, if
6 we can send Ms. Schumacher's question to the
7 appropriate party and we'll do our best to
8 get that answer for you because I think
9 you've raised a very good question.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: I mean, it seems
11 when you put up one you should put up two
12 because it ends someplace hopefully or --

13 MS. EVANS: Absolutely.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- it's useless.

15 MS. EVANS: Right.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Next, there are --
17 if I may finish this point? There are no
18 minutes posted for the April 11 meeting as
19 yet, nor have there been any minutes posted
20 from -- and I know there was a temporary
21 stenographer here during part of the last
22 month, but from the meeting of May 9 through
23 the 30 of May, which is four weeks, there
24 have been no -- consecutive weeks there have
25 been no minutes posted, so I would like to

1 know, too, when those are going to be
2 current, and also what happened to April 11.

3 MS. EVANS: I don't know what the
4 issue is, I wasn't even aware there was an
5 issue, but I'm quite sure that they will be
6 posted as they always have been.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, as they
8 always have been was on the weekly basis, so
9 that's quite a tardiness. Thank you.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do we have
11 anyone else? Yes.

12 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Council. I
13 just have two things tonight, I haven't
14 heard anything about Mark Walsh day in the
15 city and I'm just kind of curious as to what
16 happened with that. Does anybody have any
17 idea or did something happen that I just
18 don't know about? Okay. Well, I'm just --
19 I'm wondering because I still feel and
20 think, I don't feel I think, that Mr. Walsh
21 did a lot for the city and I think that the
22 city should really show some respect for a
23 man who contributed a lot to the city.

24 And the other thing I have is as a
25 young adult I lived in the Hill Section

1 right across from the University of Scranton
2 at Hitchcock Court. I have watched the
3 growth of the University of Scranton over a
4 very long period of time from my mid-teens
5 until now. I think in many instances the
6 University is a major asset to the city, but
7 I do have to say that when I was a child I
8 believe the building we are talking about
9 tearing down was the YWCA and I'm really
10 troubled by that development to be quite
11 honest.

12 I think that a lot of the city's
13 landmarks were given in trust to the
14 University of Scranton to protect them.
15 Now, there is churches up on the Hill that
16 were conveyed to the University of Scranton,
17 they are still standing, but I really would
18 hope that the University of Scranton would
19 show some respect for some of the landmarks
20 that were conveyed to them and in my opinion
21 in a trust and residents of the city saying
22 we want to preserve these assets and we are
23 willing to turn them over to you to preserve
24 them.

25 And I do understand the University

1 is a business, and I understand that the
2 University has to build facilities for the
3 students that come here, but then the
4 question is can we do both things at one
5 time. I think the University can build this
6 structure that they want to construct
7 elsewhere. I just think that the more they
8 move their assets closer, like the former
9 Glenn Alden Coal Company, they own that now
10 and they have for awhile, they have built
11 the bookstore across the street, there has
12 been a continual movement towards town.

13 And I agree with what Marie said
14 about containing the University in a certain
15 area, and I just think that if we allow
16 building to be torn down we are doing two
17 things, we are losing a very important asset
18 to the residents of this city that has a
19 very important history to this city and we
20 are allowing the University to build and
21 continue to expand and I think it's a
22 problem because nobody is going to tear down
23 a building or an asset without a plan. The
24 plan may not be here today, but it may be
25 here tomorrow, and I just think that it's

1 time to say no to that plan and I'm glad
2 that council tabled it.

3 And, look it, I don't want to see
4 that building torn down. I just have
5 watched many assets of this city torn down
6 and I think that when people understand
7 what's taking place on the Hill, everybody
8 wants the University to be successful,
9 that's my opinion, I want it to be very
10 successful, I want Scrantonians to go to
11 school there. I want them to come out and I
12 want them to contribute to our society and
13 make Scranton a better place, but I think we
14 have to realize one thing at what cost. I
15 don't think it hurts anything for that
16 building to stay there, and I think that
17 when that building became the property of
18 the University of the Scranton the people
19 that conveyed that property to them had some
20 understanding of what was going to happen
21 and I think that the greatest gift that this
22 council could do would to go into the
23 Scranton Times archives and find out what
24 was reported and why these assets were
25 transferred or why they were sold and find

1 out what's actually occurred here and I
2 don't see any asset, I don't see any benefit
3 to this city in tearing that building down.
4 And maybe the whole council disagree with me
5 and I can live with that.

6 But I just remember it being --
7 growing up on the hill, Mr. Yuhas' building
8 was there, there was a grocery store on the
9 one corner, more apartments were across the
10 street, the University has continued to buy
11 and build. They have gone up the other side
12 of Hitchcock Court and bought some struck
13 structures there and there has just been a
14 continual growth in the Hill.

15 But my question to this council is I
16 think that that the YWCA stands for Young
17 Womens' Christian Association and I remember
18 as a child the role that played and I
19 remember the YMCA which was catty-corner to
20 building that stood on the corner across the
21 street where the high rise is, and I just
22 think that maybe the University should
23 protect some of our assets that have become
24 theirs and build or do what their project
25 somewhere else. Maybe you will agree.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

3 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
4 Doug Miller, Scranton. I'd us just like to
5 begin tonight by a brief announcement. I
6 was made aware that the fire department is
7 currently selling \$5 lottery chances to
8 raise funds to purchase AEDs for little
9 leagues throughout the city. I certainly
10 think this is a wonderful case and just
11 another example of the great community
12 service work our firemen do throughout the
13 city and I truly appreciate that and
14 obviously anyone who is looking to support
15 the cause can purchase these tickets I was
16 told at TP Sports Cards, that's over on
17 Luzerne Street. It's Tommy Patterson, he is
18 one of our firemen. He has some of these
19 chances that you can go and purchase.

20 You know, we have talked an awful
21 lot about the AEDs that we here in the city
22 have. I believe, Mr. Loscombe, you can
23 correct me if I'm wrong, we have five of
24 them, I believe, and unfortunately they are
25 not in operation. I was told that the

1 reason was because we don't have batteries
2 to power them. I found that to be an
3 unfortunate thing because if batteries is
4 what's holding us back I think that is, you
5 know, something that should be, you know,
6 addressed and taken care of immediately. I
7 don't understand why it's so difficult to
8 find funding to purchase batteries for these
9 AEDs. I mean, these are a device that save
10 lives and I think we need to really take a
11 look at this and address this.

12 I know we have talked about making
13 sure that all of our fire trucks you know,
14 have these and they should have batteries, I
15 don't understand why that's such a difficult
16 thing.

17 Moving onto another matter, we have
18 talked about the pools in the last few
19 weeks, we are made aware that Wells Fargo
20 has partnered with the city contributing
21 \$30,000 to operate four pools throughout the
22 city this summer. You know, myself and many
23 other residents, you know, year after year
24 have come to this podium begging that the
25 neighborhood pools are opened and,

1 obviously, this is a very positive thing,
2 something that we should be proud of that,
3 you know, children throughout the city will
4 no longer suffer, they will have a place to
5 recreate and swim with other children.

6 You know, I appreciate the work of
7 council, particularly Councilman Joyce who I
8 know met with the mayor and I know Wells
9 Fargo presented the check a few days ago
10 down at Weston Field. I did see that in the
11 media so I do commend you on that once again
12 and thank you and I know there is many
13 residents throughout the community that feel
14 the same way.

15 In regard to Pango we know they are
16 conducting I believe it's a 90-day trial
17 throughout the city. They have installed
18 apparatuses throughout the city that are
19 signals that that allow us to make payments
20 through our Iphone, smart phones, credit
21 card payments, debit card payments, my
22 question to council tonight would be, well,
23 once this trial is expired do we intend on
24 allowing any other organizes or parking
25 operators to come in and offer their trial

1 services so we can get a clear idea of where
2 some of the other groups stand?

3 MS. EVANS: I don't think that's a
4 question to which council can respond. I
5 think that is a decision for the mayor. It
6 falls within the realm of executive
7 authority.

8 MR. MILLER: Thank you. I know we
9 have talked about StreetSmart in the past
10 and we were hopeful we were going to give
11 them a chance, in fact, it was pretty much
12 all set in stone just about, you know,
13 Councilman Loscombe worked on that and I
14 didn't know if we are going to look to go
15 that way, perhaps we can send a letter to
16 the mayor. I know it's difficult to get
17 responses from the administration, but in a
18 situation such as this where we are looking
19 for a revenue source I think it's very vital
20 that we come to some sort of resolution very
21 soon.

22 I know this Pango has been doing a
23 lot of advertising around town. I know last
24 week I have noticed a large brain throughout
25 the downtown, smart parking they had a big

1 cardboard brain so they are definitely
2 trying to promote so I hope that we can come
3 to a resolution and come to something that's
4 going to generate revenue for the city.

5 In regards to the University of
6 Scranton, it seems to be an issue or we are
7 on here kind of ties into nonprofits and I
8 know Mr. Ellman addressed the nonprofits
9 tonight, I don't think anyone has been more
10 passionate about nonprofits than this
11 council can as far as reaching out and
12 trying to seek other payments. I know in
13 our recovery plan we were hopeful this year
14 to generate over 1.3 million. It looks at
15 this point we are going to fall a little
16 short. It's not because this council didn't
17 try, it's not due to a lack of effort, it's
18 just, you know, when you are dealing with
19 organizations who you can only ask and reach
20 out and that's exactly what you did and we
21 can only hope that moving forward we can
22 continue to pursue and that the nonprofits
23 would be willing to contribute a little
24 more. I think you have certainly been a
25 watchdog for our tax dollars, particularly

1 Mrs. Evans, Mr. Joyce and Mr. Loscombe in
2 your efforts.

3 In regards to the University of
4 Scranton's project, I certainly think you
5 are taking the smart course of action. I
6 don't see the need to rush this through. I
7 don't think it's appropriate. I think we
8 have seen what happens in past when we rush
9 things through. We seem to run into some
10 complications later on down the road so I do
11 respect your tabling of that last week, that
12 piece of legislation. You know, I don't see
13 the mindset behind voting against that. I
14 don't understand the mindset of Councilman
15 Rogan or Councilman McGoff in going against
16 that. I agree with Councilman Loscombe that
17 his concerns that this is something that
18 needs to go through the proper channels and
19 we need to make sure we have all of the
20 information before we go and pass a piece of
21 legislation like this.

22 You know, again, we are dealing with
23 an institution, a nonprofit, who contributes
24 in my feelings very little to the city. We
25 can talk about the good things they have

1 done through the years, but the fact of the
2 matter is they only contribute \$175,000, so
3 we have had a history in the city of rushing
4 things through and that's why, you know,
5 we're on the verge of a fiscal cliff today
6 so we need to do our homework, analyze
7 everything before we go and rush things
8 through. Thank you.

9 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

10 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Dave
11 Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, taxes paid,
12 dog license. Okay, last week I mentioned
13 and once again please contact the DPW and
14 get a different explanation for the recycle
15 because their current explanation is the
16 same size truck won't fit up the court for
17 recycle that's put in the Court and that is
18 a lame reason. They say, well, the truck
19 won't fit up and the same type of truck
20 picks up the recycling that picks up the
21 trash, so what I suggest is that we don't --
22 we want them sequestered from each other.
23 We want them separated so that they don't
24 have to hold a debate with every can that
25 they pick up. It's lame. Their excuse is

1 totally lame.

2 And I don't know what you can do
3 about this because I noticed some of our
4 yellow lamps, our caution signs on the
5 traffic signals are kind of quick so
6 hopefully we won't have an accident over
7 that some day.

8 And I was driving by -- I took a
9 brief look down Mathes Avenue coming into
10 town, those "No Parking" signs I think are
11 still there, so it's time that they go. We
12 could save a little money and put them in a
13 closet for later.

14 Now, I'd like to comment on city
15 council and different speeches that were
16 made and you people have put up with a lot
17 of abuse, a lot of abuse not from the
18 articles that are reported in the Scranton
19 Times, but the editorials. You put up --
20 you have been blamed for things that prior
21 councils ratified, the 500 block of
22 Lackawanna Avenue isn't filled up. Well,
23 I've heard of business property bubbles back
24 in 2006 that were building up towards a
25 commercial property bubble and that they are

1 not going to be occupied and if you go up on
2 Commerce Boulevard there by Harbor Freight
3 half a dozen empty in the strip mall, so
4 it's not your fault, and I'd appreciate if
5 speakers would consider that before they
6 rant and rave up here about that, those type
7 of issues.

8 If there isn't a business for them
9 then there is little sense in sinking all
10 that money in, and I agree with that, but
11 there is nothing you could do now. And
12 furthermore on the vote, you know, I'm going
13 to quote my mother, back when I was a little
14 kid and it might have been raining or
15 snowing or something or too cold out and I'd
16 get ornery with her she wouldn't let me out
17 the door to play and she said, "What are you
18 going to do run away and eat worms?"

19 Well, that's what I'd like to ask
20 the non-voters of Scranton and the people
21 that aren't concerned enough at election
22 time or to participate occasionally and keep
23 their remarks sensible, what are you going
24 to do sell your house and run away and eat
25 worms or what? It's just silly. The last

1 election was very disappointing.

2 And on these institutions, I'd like
3 to mention that, yes, the University does
4 give us a donation and PILOT and there are
5 several others that don't and it's time that
6 I'm curious as to whether Lackawanna College
7 has an institutional zone because they are
8 actually exacerbating the whole situation
9 here with the amount of property that is
10 getting taken in tax exemptions, and I also
11 I lost the article, I cut it out for you,
12 but there is an article I have in the
13 Scranton Times on the County looking to buy
14 a building in Scranton and that will be off
15 the rolls, so we have a double whammy and
16 triple whammy here with different government
17 institutions taking up taking up property
18 and, you know, granted they might blighted
19 to this very day and maybe not.

20 And okay, I'll make it quick, the
21 golden parrot goes to Senator McCain. Last
22 week he was talking to some people in Syria
23 and a person said, "Wait a minute, one of
24 these people that John McCain is talking to
25 took me as a hostage a year ago."

1 Sometimes you are around too long no
2 matter how popular you are. Time to retire.
3 Bawk, bawk. Have a good night.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
5 anyone else.

6 MR. ZUMO: Good evening, again, my
7 name is Sal Zumo and you promised to have
8 somebody come up and take look into my
9 driveway while I'm having problems and I'm
10 just wondering if I can get any help out
11 there? My neighbor is putting his box in my
12 driveway and making it hard for me to turn
13 around and I haven't seen from anybody or
14 heard from anybody. Is there anything being
15 done for my property?

16 MS. EVANS: Solicitor Hughes, would
17 you like to respond, please?

18 MR. HUGHES: It's been awhile since
19 Mr. Zumo was here previously, but I
20 investigated that. I don't have my notes
21 with me, but I did discuss it with Don King,
22 the city planner, he was out there. As I
23 remember it that there has been two surveys
24 performed which verified that the neighbors
25 wall is properly situate, that it's not on

1 Mr. Zumo's property.

2 The other issue was with the
3 driveway that Mr. Zumo was given an option
4 at the time when they put -- when they
5 constructed the sewer there, and I forget
6 exactly what it was, this goes back over a
7 month and a half, I believe, and that he
8 selected the option to just have a new
9 driveway put in and sidewalk instead of what
10 the other option was.

11 I'll have to check this again. I
12 did not issue a written report on it, but I
13 did investigate it and it everything that's
14 there that this -- if there is -- that there
15 was a survey, I think there were two surveys
16 done, both corroborate the fact that the
17 wall is properly situate and that there is
18 no encroachment and that it was a private
19 matter. The city really can't get involved
20 in a property dispute between the two
21 neighbors, but the surveys do confirm that
22 there is -- that the wall is properly on the
23 right property and not on Mr. Zumo's
24 property, that there was no encroachment.

25 That's how I remember it. I'll have

1 to go back and check it again, but, you
2 know, and there is really nothing that the
3 council can do on this and I believe there
4 was a release signed by Mr. Zumo for his
5 selection to have the concrete driveway put
6 in, but I'll check it with Mr. King again.

7 MR. ZUMO: Well, there is something
8 wrong here somewhere because first of all
9 when I come down here I told you that it was
10 there and we found out that the wall was
11 taken down and it was put in once they left
12 my property it went across underneath the
13 wall and it was going into a two-foot pipe
14 which the water all backed up into Zumo's
15 property and it went all over my sidewalks.
16 Mr. Meehan come down from his company and
17 has it slanted 45 degrees in my sidewalk so
18 somebody is going to get hurt. They not
19 only did that they were going to put
20 blacktop in my driveway, well, they paved
21 everybody's driveways down there, so my
22 sidewalk is on a 45 degree angle one part of
23 it and nobody has come back and the water
24 that was leaving my property originally
25 where I had a good 12 or 15 foot cement

1 tunnel they tore down was going into a
2 two-foot tunnel that thing there.

3 Now, somebody promised that they
4 would get the wall back up, they took that
5 cinderblock wall down it's been up there for
6 70 years. Why should I have to put up with
7 my neighbors coming and he has his blocks in
8 my driveway where I have to -- when I'm
9 coming in and out I have to go out of my way
10 to accommodate him?

11 MR. HUGHES: It's been awhile, but
12 when I investigated this I went over with
13 Mr. King he was out there, Donny King, the
14 city planner was out there, I don't know how
15 many years ago it was, but he was out there
16 with you, went over everything with you.
17 There were two surveys, one was done by
18 Hennemuth, and I think one was done by
19 Mendola. I think Hennemuth was your
20 surveyor, and Mendola was the neighbor's
21 surveyor, that both of the surveys agreed as
22 to where the location of the wall was. I
23 don't know, but Mr. King did investigate it
24 all and he told you that the city could not
25 get involved, that it was a private matter

1 and that the surveys refuted what you were
2 saying and that when the sewers were put in
3 you had an option as to what you wanted,
4 whether all new sidewalks or something else,
5 if it was just a driveway, and you selected
6 the one option and that's what Mr. Meehan
7 put it from Fabcor.

8 And this goes back I think five or
9 six years as I remember it, but, I'll take a
10 look at it again and I'll inform council as
11 to what it was. I'll discuss it with
12 Mr. King, but it is a private dispute. The
13 city can't get involved in.

14 MR. ZUMO: The city can't get
15 involved in it?

16 MR. HUGHES: It's a private dispute
17 between you and your neighbor?

18 MR. ZUMO: Well, the wall was taken
19 down by the city, and I didn't remove the
20 creek, they did. They put it from going out
21 my driveway where they have my sidewalks on
22 a 45-degree angle, was going out 10 to 12
23 inches over the curb soon and I don't
24 understand when they are saying that I was
25 agreeing to anything else and they haven't

1 done it. Why did they reduce it from the
2 12-foot creek that was there down to a
3 two-foot pipe from the other side of my
4 wall? I never gave them permission and I
5 didn't give this man permission to put my
6 blocks in my driveway and I had nobody
7 survey my property. Now, any survey that's
8 done was done by your city not me. Now, I'd
9 like to see where they got their information
10 from because when I was here the last time
11 you agreed the wall was there for 70 years
12 and you would put it back up.

13 MR. HUGHES: I don't think anybody
14 ever agreed to that. In fact, I know no one
15 ever agreed to that.

16 MR. ZUMO: Well, I may be wrong, but
17 I --

18 MR. HUGHES: And the city did not
19 take the wall down, it was the contractor
20 that installed the sewers. You know, I mean
21 that was the contract, it was a publically
22 bid contract and it was awarded to Fabcor.
23 But, you know, I've given the report as best
24 I can remember it. As I said, this had to
25 be about, you know, a good four to six weeks

1 ago when I went looked into it and I
2 reported it to council at that time.

3 MR. ZUMO: Well, you reported that
4 this is all happening and I don't have
5 nothing to say about it? They told me the
6 wall was going to be put back up they you
7 took -- the city took it down and they put
8 it back up. That's been there for 70 years
9 and you take it down and I have to pay to
10 have it put back up? Am I reading something
11 wrong here or where am I going here? My
12 sidewalks are destroyed, somebody is going
13 to get hurt and I'm not going to be
14 responsible for that.

15 Somebody have that 45-degree angle
16 and they promised to come back and put
17 sidewalks and a driveway paved, take care of
18 both of the things and they have done
19 nothing and I don't know where I agreed.
20 What was the agreement that I made with
21 anybody here that you know of? Who did they
22 tell you I made it with? What's my
23 alternative now? The city is not going to
24 do anything and put it back in the way it
25 was originally?

1 MS. EVANS: I really can't speak for
2 the mayor.

3 MR. ZUMO: No, I don't expect you to
4 speak for him.

5 MS. EVANS: I'm assuming not.

6 MR. ZUMO: Well, I have to have
7 something done because it's going to be a
8 lawsuit. When you take my big creek that
9 was going in my yard once it went under that
10 fence they reduced it to a two-foot pipe.
11 That is absolutely ridiculous. My neighbor
12 is in there, he has his blocks out in my
13 driveway and if I turn around in there I'm
14 bumping him, he is taking from me. I didn't
15 hire anybody to do the survey for me so
16 other than John Meehan to come down and took
17 my sidewalks and said he would put new
18 sidewalks in and a new driveway for me, not
19 to worry about a thing and I'm still
20 waiting. How long do I wait and where do I
21 go? Please give me some help.

22 MS. EVANS: Mr. Zumo, I wish very
23 much that we could help you. I'm sorry for
24 all of the things that have happened, but I
25 don't believe anyone on this council was

1 even in office at the time when all of this
2 occurred and we have no authority to change
3 any of the circumstances.

4 MR. ZUMO: Whose authority is it to
5 put the cinder blocks back where they were
6 to start with? I didn't take them down the
7 city did.

8 MS. EVANS: Well, what I'm thinking
9 that our solicitor was saying is this must
10 have been involved in the I'm thinking the
11 Meadow Brook Creek project, and that would
12 have been involved probably the Army Corp of
13 Engineers or the state.

14 MR. HUGHES: It was the Army Corp
15 that was the designer of the project, then
16 it was bid to Fabcor that was the
17 contractor. As I said, you could talk all
18 night on this, but --

19 MS. EVANS: Right. And there is--

20 MR. HUGHES: I know I spent time
21 with Don King, he went over everything, he
22 answered everything for me, I gave a report
23 to council. I didn't -- but, you know, I'll
24 do it again.

25 MS. EVANS: No, we understand your

1 concerns, but I think what our attorney is
2 trying to say is that, you know, there is
3 nothing that city council can do to remedy
4 this and any remedy that you seek you would
5 have to do on your own through an attorney.

6 MR. ZUMO: I have to worry about my
7 sidewalks that's got a 45-degree pitch and
8 not put back where they were originally. I
9 didn't ask them to do anything there, just
10 leave it like it was. Across the street
11 it's nice. They take mine and they have me
12 down low. They have put -- they were going
13 to put blacktop in my driveway after parking
14 there and I opened the driveway up that they
15 didn't have to go up and down Capouse Avenue
16 or Muncy Avenue and made the street for them
17 and this is the payoff that I'm getting, but
18 why should I have to put the wall back up, I
19 didn't take it down?

20 MS. EVANS: I understand. I don't
21 know that any wall would be put back up, but
22 we'll have someone in contact with you
23 perhaps can explain this better.

24 MR. ZUMO: Please, because I have to
25 get this straightened out before somebody

1 gets hurt on my property.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

3 MR. ZUMO: And if they do the city
4 is going to be in for a lawsuit. I thank
5 you for your time, but please, would you
6 call me when you are coming out?

7 MS. KRAKE: I will, Mr. Zumo. I
8 will.

9 MR. ZUMO: Thank you.

10 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

11 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who
12 cares to address council? Mrs. Krake?

13 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

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

16 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, very briefly. On
17 the University of Scranton issue, just a
18 clarification, the University of Scranton is
19 already using Leahy Hall as a site for its
20 classrooms, occupational therapy. The new
21 building that they are proposing would not
22 be a change in usage whatsoever, so,
23 therefore, you know, as far as saying it's
24 an expansion of the institutional footprint
25 is erroneous because it's already been

1 expanded, it's already there. It's being
2 used currently.

3 And the other thing that we are
4 making -- somebody made an issue something
5 about, you know, the tax exemption, this
6 property has been tax exempt for decades.
7 The proposed new usage of the building would
8 not diminish the tax base in any way since
9 it has already been tax exempt. In fact,
10 the economic impact of a new building on
11 that site would be infinite since it's
12 paying no taxes now, anything that we
13 would -- the city would receive in fees,
14 permits, etcetera would be more than is
15 being received now.

16 And as far as trying to push
17 something or hurry something, that's not the
18 intent. I think that what was presented to
19 us last week in the form of a resolution was
20 something that was -- that I felt was
21 appropriate. It has been voted on by HARB
22 and had been approved by HARB and all we
23 were doing was accepting the recommendation
24 of HARB, we are doing nothing more, and I
25 thought that at this time given the face

1 value of what was there we should have voted
2 on it and approved it. And that's all,
3 thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
5 Councilman Rogan, do you have comments or
6 motions tonight?

7 MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. Just a
8 few comments and a couple of requests.
9 First, I would like apologize in advance, I
10 will be unable to attend next week's meeting
11 and will be out of town.

12 And just two issues I'd like to
13 speak about, the first one, this is an
14 article that was in the Scranton Times and
15 it was also reported on WNEP. The headline
16 reads, "Scranton Public Works employee cited
17 for retail theft," and I'll read the
18 article, it's only two paragraphs.

19 "Scranton. A City of Department
20 Works employee was cited for stealing \$10.55
21 worth of dog food and deodorant from
22 Redner's Warehouse Market on Friday.
23 Anthony Giannone, 48, of Scranton, was
24 caught by a store security officer as he was
25 walking out of the Seventh Avenue store

1 around 1:40 p.m. Acting Captain Glynn
2 Thomas said the security officer saw Mr.
3 Giannone put items in his pocket, pay for
4 other items and then try to walk out. This
5 was his first offense and he was given a
6 summary citation for retail theft under \$50
7 and released.

8 Mayor Chris Doherty and DPW Director
9 Mark Dougher did not return calls for
10 seeking comment."

11 The WNEP also reported on this issue
12 and the question that they had -- were
13 trying to pose to Director Dougher and Mayor
14 Doherty was the city employee on the clock
15 when this theft occurred? And if that is
16 the case not only do you have a theft,
17 retail theft, but you also have theft of
18 public dollars if this was done while on the
19 clock.

20 So that being said, with my
21 colleagues' agreement I would like to send a
22 letter to Mayor Doherty and DPW Director
23 Dougher asking if DPW employee Anthony
24 Giannone was on the clock when he was cited
25 for retail theft?

1 Furthermore, because of the lack of
2 response not only on this issue but on many
3 other issues I will cut right to the chase
4 and ask that a Right-to-Know request is
5 placed. Please send in a Right-to-Know
6 request inquiring what hours the Department
7 of Public Works employee Anthony Giannone
8 worked on each day the week of June 3 to
9 June 7. I think the taxpayers of the city
10 and the elected officials deserve to know
11 whether this, in fact, happened on city time
12 or not. Obviously, the crime isn't a major
13 crime but it still is a theft and if this
14 happened on city time that makes it all the
15 worse. So, Mrs. Krake, with my colleagues'
16 agreement I do these items for you here.

17 And just a couple of comments since
18 it was a hot topic of conversation today,
19 regarding the University of the Scranton and
20 the HARB recommendation, I echo what
21 Mr. McGoff said. I fully support this
22 project for a few reasons, the first one
23 being said that the property in question
24 already is tax exempt. If this was a
25 property that was paying taxes or being paid

1 on it I would feel much differently about
2 it, but this is a property that is currently
3 tax exempt and has been for quite a long
4 time. The city isn't receiving any money
5 from it currently. By going forward with
6 this project not only will the city receive
7 money through fees and licensing and other
8 items, more importantly jobs will be
9 created.

10 I spoke to the union representatives
11 after the meeting last week and a few on the
12 phone and they are hurting for work and it's
13 been reported in the media that our region
14 has some of the highest unemployment in the
15 state and certainly something like this
16 shouldn't be held up if we can do what we
17 can do to get the ball rolling and get these
18 folks to work.

19 And another issue that was mentioned
20 was expansion, and one of my concerns if
21 this wasn't passed is if the University of
22 Scranton if they wanted to expand instead of
23 tearing down one of their tax exempt
24 properties and building higher, they could
25 go out and buy up other property that is

1 currently paying taxes and if that were to
2 happen to build this building then the city
3 would lose long-term revenue by taking
4 additional property off the tax rolls, which
5 I know nobody wants to see happen.

6 So I am hopeful that next week or
7 the following week that this will be put
8 back up for a vote and it will pass and that
9 is all I have for tonight until the agenda
10 items come up. Thank you.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Just one
12 brief comment, I think we have seen over the
13 last 12 years a distinct spike in expansion
14 on the part of the University of Scranton
15 and, you know, keeping in mind what my
16 colleague has said, I think we all have to
17 be cognizant of the fact that they have been
18 ever expanding throughout this 12 years and
19 buying up one tax paying property after
20 another after another after another and
21 expanding their reach not only to the
22 downtown area, but into the Hill section as
23 well and I don't believe that, you know, and
24 this isn't a comment on this project
25 whatsoever, but I don't believe that the

1 prohibition of this project would cause any
2 further expansion than, you know, they would
3 already have in mind. I don't think we have
4 seen the end of it. I didn't think it's
5 going to be a continuous growth cycle
6 unless, of, course there will be different
7 arrangements made through a Zoning Board to
8 keep the University inside it's
9 institutional zone, and that's it.

10 MR. ROGAN: I would just comment
11 that this is already a University of
12 Scranton building, and I agree with much of
13 what you and Mr. Loscombe and Mr. Joyce have
14 said on other issues regarding the
15 University and nonprofits, but this issue is
16 entirely different. We are already dealing
17 with a property that is University of
18 Scranton owned and is tax exempt. By
19 holding it up --

20 MS. EVANS: No, I agree with that,
21 I'm not arguing that point, I'm just saying
22 that, you know, if this project were to be
23 stopped saying that, well, they'll buy up
24 other properties to provide for this
25 project, that could be well accurate.

1 However, what I'm saying is I think we are
2 going to see that regardless that they are
3 going to continue to devour taxable
4 properties throughout the city and continue
5 to grow and, you know, reach farther into
6 the downtown and the hill section until
7 possibly some day the City of Scranton
8 becomes nothing more than a University town.

9 Councilman Loscombe?

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you. Just
11 a few things, first of all I apologize for
12 being late this evening. I thought I would
13 have been here a little quicker, but
14 apparently I got tied up in traffic on
15 Keyser Avenue. Several months ago I had a
16 complaint about the traffic on the Taylor
17 side of Keyser Avenue with this project, but
18 today I ran into the same situation and, you
19 know, sitting well over ten minutes in one
20 spot without moving I don't know. I think
21 we have to get together with our police
22 chief and the construction company that's
23 works with Keyser Avenue construction,
24 Kreiger, and establish some kind of traffic
25 pattern that's not going to back traffic up

1 on one side without moving for over ten
2 minutes. I mean, it could be an ebb and
3 flow or perhaps have north/south road open
4 for one way going north while this
5 construction is being done and Keyser Avenue
6 another way, but to tie up the road for as
7 long as they do I don't know, there has got
8 to be a better plan. There they are working
9 in the city, not in the suburban areas so
10 there is lot more traffic and they have to
11 be cognizant of that and safety vehicles,
12 but I will be contacting the police chief to
13 see if there is some way we can work out a
14 better traffic flow.

15 With that said, the 2600 block of
16 Jackson Street there is some major, I
17 wouldn't even call them potholes, they are
18 craters that have been sitting quite awhile
19 there and they are in a blind spot, you hit
20 them without realizing it, and I do have
21 some photos I'll pass on if we could get
22 ahold of DPW to take care of those or
23 whoever is responsible for the original pave
24 cuts in those areas, I don't know how they
25 handle that, but it's been that way for a

1 bit.

2 Someone mentioned about the parking,
3 I believe it was Mrs. Schumacher, about the
4 parking signs not being taken down and that
5 and, yes, we requested that through this
6 council office, we have sent letters to the
7 appropriate officials to remove the
8 "No Parking" signs down by Chamberlain and
9 nothing has been done. Yet, ironically, you
10 know, when they came up with this new smart
11 meter thing, Pango or whatever, they pull
12 DPW employees for the day to sticker all of
13 meters. Why can't they take a DPW employee
14 to take those signs down. It would take an
15 hour. Because we requested it, that's why.
16 You know, and it's obvious, but, you know,
17 those signs should be removed.

18 And again, I am going to be meeting
19 with officials from PennDOT regarding the
20 Mulberry Street parking situation, it is a
21 safety hazard and, you know, we are going to
22 see what can be done there because we are
23 not getting any answers. Nobody seems to
24 know who put the stripping there or
25 designated those spots, but by next week

1 I'll be at the bottom of that and that's
2 just an update for those in question that
3 situation.

4 I do have some questions on 5-B and
5 I will ask those questions when it comes up
6 for the vote and to be put on the record at
7 that time.

8 And again, you know, as far as the
9 University of Scranton, as I stated last
10 week I think this is very worthwhile
11 project, I think it's a benefit to everyone.
12 Obviously, that building has outgrown its
13 usefulness at this time and the University
14 has other plans for it. It is, as my
15 colleagues have stated, it is in a building
16 that hasn't paid taxes probably ever, which
17 is one thing. And again, I stated I was in
18 favor of the project and I'm in favor of
19 putting people to work, however, I was
20 questioned on why I voted to table it. I
21 believe we had some questions from members
22 of HARB.

23 Also, you know, I don't want to see
24 a building demolished without an approved
25 building going up there and sit as an empty

1 parking lot for a long time. We have enough
2 parking lots in downtown now, it seems like
3 every week we are approving a new parking
4 lot, but I don't see what the problem is
5 while waiting for the Zoning Board approval
6 for this, you know, it's a matter of just
7 approving the HARB agreement at that point,
8 but to go ahead and give approval to tear
9 something down without knowing what's going
10 to be there, without seeing what's going to
11 be there or have approval of what's going to
12 be there I just don't think that's prudent
13 at this time. And that's why I have my --
14 you know, my hold back on it.

15 But I do think seeing the history of
16 the University that they would put a
17 beautiful, professional building there. I
18 have no qualms with that at this point and I
19 stated it clearly last week, my qualms are
20 going into buildings that have been paying
21 taxes over years or properties and utilizing
22 those to become non-taxable. It is putting
23 a heavy burden on the taxpayers in this
24 city.

25 But, you know, there is no doubt,

1 you know, that you University has improved
2 the Hill Section and continues to do so and,
3 you know, I have family members that are
4 proud graduates of the University and, you
5 know, I do applaud them for what they are
6 doing. I would just, you know, ask them to
7 bear with us. We have a job to do here, we
8 have to represent the taxpayers and I think,
9 you know, everything will work out for the
10 benefit of everyone. And I believe that's
11 all I have. Thank you.

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

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I'm going to try to
15 be as brief as I could tonight. First I'd
16 like to talk about the tax sale that city
17 recently had. As many may have read in the
18 Scranton Times, the city generated over
19 \$600,000 in revenue from the sale. I'd like
20 to thank Chris Boland for his efforts; and
21 also I wanted to report that Northeast
22 Revenue did get back to our city treasurer
23 Chris Boland and they ran a distribution
24 report of delinquent property tax payments
25 for the period of May 1 to May 31, 2013, and

1 there has been \$500,000 -- or \$503,773.96 in
2 delinquent tax payments, and also \$5,425 in
3 delinquent tax search revenue.

4 Northeast Revenue also ran a
5 distribution of delinquent refuse payments
6 for the period of May 1 to May 31 and the
7 revenue generated from delinquent refuse
8 payments was \$69,015.

9 So I would just like to say I'm very
10 glad to see the city receiving that revenue
11 and I'd like to thank our city treasurer,
12 Chris Boland, for his efforts.

13 Secondly, I wanted to go through
14 each of the revenue and expenditure
15 categories and kind of give an update of
16 where we are for the year as far as what we
17 are projected to receive against what was
18 budgeted.

19 As you know, PEL provided a report
20 last week that I reviewed and they are
21 projecting that we're going to see a
22 \$356,151 surplus at the end of the year,
23 which definitely is positive news, and they
24 are projecting that we are going to receive
25 \$102,144,473 in revenue and that at the end

1 of the year we will have \$101,788,332 in
2 expenditures, which will make up the
3 surplus.

4 But just to give everybody an idea
5 of, you know, how much revenue we generate
6 from what revenue sources I'll begin by
7 going down the list and naming that source,
8 telling what was projected and telling what
9 PEL is projecting we'll receive.

10 First I'll start with real estate
11 taxes. It was projected that we would
12 receive -- or it was budgeted that we would
13 receive \$19,311,056. Right now PEL is
14 projecting that we'll receive \$18,417,762 so
15 we are a little bit behind.

16 Refuse revenues. It was budgeted
17 that we would receive \$4,550,000. Pel is
18 projecting that we are going to end up with
19 \$4,269,372 at the end of the year so we are
20 a little bit behind there.

21 The real estate transfer tax, it was
22 budgeted that we would receive \$2,520,000.
23 PEL is projecting that at the end of the
24 year we are going to receive \$2,339,059 so
25 we are somewhat in the ballpark there.

1 The earned income tax. It was
2 budgeted that we would receive \$22,950,000.
3 PEL is projecting that at the end of the
4 year we are going to receive \$24,936,261, so
5 much we are almost \$2 million over according
6 to PEL so that's a very good note to see
7 that we are projecting to receive that much
8 income tax revenue.

9 Mercantile and business taxes. It
10 was budgeted that we would receive
11 \$2,434,064. PEL is projecting that we'll
12 receive \$2,044,535 so we are a little bit
13 behind.

14 The parking tax, it was budgeted for
15 \$225,000, PEL is projecting \$293,203 so we
16 are a little bit ahead there.

17 The commuter tax, as you know, was
18 not approved.

19 Other taxes, it was budgeted that we
20 would receive \$1,811,000 in other taxes.
21 PEL is projecting that we will receive
22 \$1,755,425, so we are in the ballpark on
23 that. That would include the amusement tax,
24 utility taxes, etcetera.

25 Penalties and interest. It was

1 budgeted that we would receive \$104,100.
2 Pe1 is projecting \$82,315 so we are somewhat
3 in the ballpark there.

4 License and permit revenue. It's
5 projected that -- it was budgeted that we
6 would receive \$3,445,063. PEL is projecting
7 that we will receive \$3,348,766, so we are
8 somewhat in the ballpark there.

9 Fines, forfeits and violations. It
10 was budgeted that we would receive
11 \$1,405,500, and we are projected to receive
12 \$1,405,480 so we are right around in the
13 ballpark there.

14 Interest earnings. It was only
15 projected that we would receive 10,000 being
16 that the city doesn't have a ton of money in
17 the bank. PEL's projection that we will
18 receive \$8,667.

19 Rents and concessions. It was
20 budgeted for \$25,000. It's projected that
21 we will receive \$25,000.

22 Intergovernmental reimbursements.
23 It was projected at \$2,921,682. It's
24 projected by PEL that we will receive this
25 amount.

1 In lieu of taxes we are going to
2 come up short. We'll be receiving a little
3 bit more than last year. At this point it
4 looks like we'll be around the \$300,000
5 figure. The remainder that was short would
6 be made up by using the funds out of
7 contingency.

8 Departmental earnings. It was
9 budgeted for \$2, 308,500 and PEL is
10 projecting that we will receive \$2,188,677.

11 User fees. This revenue was
12 budgeted at \$60,500. It's projected that it
13 will generate \$57,763 so we are in the
14 ballpark on most of these.

15 MBROs. PEL's projection was
16 originally higher for the market based
17 revenue opportunities. They have been --
18 now they are dropping their projection to
19 \$100,000 and that's what is projected that
20 we received for this year.

21 Miscellaneous revenues,
22 \$1,676,500.hundred. PEL is projecting that
23 we receive \$1,676,525.

24 2013 bond issue proceeds, \$5,100,000
25 and it's projected that we will receive

1 that. Currently the city is under
2 discussions with Janey Montgomery Scott as
3 far as the \$17 million borrowing that needs
4 to take place for the fire and police award
5 as well as the \$5.1 million for the extra
6 pension increase or the increase in extra
7 pension payments.

8 Interfund transfers. It was
9 budgeted at \$1,870,023. PEL is projecting
10 \$1,873,982 and, of course, we have our TAN,
11 which is \$12 million, and the bond issue
12 which is \$17 million for the fire and police
13 award.

14 So that all adds up to \$102,144,473.

15 So let's look at the expenditures
16 now. We have direct compensation, which
17 includes the employees' salaries, benefits,
18 their longevity pay for union workers,
19 etcetera. That was budgeted at \$27,043,697.
20 PEL is projecting at the end of the year we
21 are going to end up spending \$26,364,625 on
22 employees' salaries and what not. That's
23 slightly -- that's lower than what was
24 originally budgeted for and you can probably
25 constitute that to people leaving the City

1 of Scranton -- or employees leaving the City
2 of Scranton for other opportunities as well
3 as people not being rehired back in a
4 positions due to attrition.

5 Health insurance, \$13,953,885.

6 That's what's the city was -- that's what
7 was budgeted for. What's projected by PEL
8 is that we'll spend \$13,885,973, and this is
9 the cost of health insurance for city
10 employees and retirees that still receive
11 city health insurance.

12 Workers' compensation, \$2,700,608
13 and it's projected that we'll spend
14 \$2,602,761.

15 Pension contributions. It was
16 budgeted that we would spend \$9,590,828 and
17 it's projected that we'll spend \$9, 531,752
18 and that's with the increase of \$5.1 million
19 this year. So, as you see, the city has a
20 large expenditure in pension contributions.

21 Other employees' expenses, it was
22 budgeted for \$1,340,999. It's projected
23 that we'll spend \$1,153,847.

24 So when you look at the total
25 employee expenditures of the city you are

1 looking at an expense of \$53,538,957 and
2 that's to keep the city operating on a
3 day-to-day basis with a full staff of fire,
4 police, DPW and administrative employees as
5 well as clerical employees.

6 Other departmental expenditures.
7 Professional services. It was budgeted for
8 \$736,232. It's projected that we'll spend
9 \$667,982, so we are projected to spend a
10 little bit less.

11 Gas, oil, lubricants and vehicle
12 repair. This was budgeted at \$935,251 and
13 it's projected that we'll spend \$975,289.

14 Landfill fees. That was budgeted at
15 \$500,000. It's projected that we will spend
16 \$508,000, so everything is generally in the
17 ballpark with these.

18 Capital expenditures, \$309,539 it
19 was budgeted at. It's projected that we'll
20 end up spending \$195,951.

21 Liability and casualty insurance.
22 That was budgeted at \$1 million. It's
23 projected that we'll end up spending
24 \$1,320,000.

25 Utilities. That was budgeted at

1 \$1,246. It's projected that we'll end up
2 spending \$1,820,000.

3 And all other departmental
4 expenditures it was budgeted at \$2,360,000
5 and it's projected that we'll end up
6 spending \$2,376,000.

7 And non-departmental expenses,
8 interest and debt service. It was budgeted
9 for \$5,519,088. It's projected that we'll
10 will spend \$5,778,774.

11 And moving on, prior year
12 expenditures originally it was budgeted for
13 \$4 million, but some of the unfunded debt
14 borrowing took care of a lot of the prior
15 year expenditures so that was moved down to
16 \$1.5 million and it's projected that we'll
17 end up spending \$1,162,490.

18 Other operating expenses. It was
19 budgeted for \$181,500, and it's projected
20 that we'll end up spending \$702,159.

21 And, of course, also other
22 expenditures, we have the TAN repayment,
23 which is going to be \$12,800,000. We have
24 expenses to the Parking Authority which we
25 are looking at \$2,800,000. We are loose

1 looking at will a state loan repayment of
2 \$100,000, which that payment has been made,
3 and we are also looking at repaying the
4 Supreme Court award which is a \$17 million
5 expenditure.

6 So altogether that generates
7 \$101,788, 332 in expenditures, so when you
8 put them all together you end up with a
9 \$356,151 surplus, and that's all.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
11 evening, everyone. I have several items of
12 business to address. First, the parking
13 meter management contract has been awarded
14 to Republic Parking System of Chattanooga,
15 Tennessee, the lowest responsible bidder.
16 According to administrative officials, the
17 new manager should begin operations by early
18 July.

19 Second, I discussed a potential
20 opening of the Capouse Avenue pool with
21 Mayor Doherty. I indicated that community
22 volunteers had offered to make repairs in
23 order to resurrect summer swimming in
24 Pinebrook. The mayor responded that he
25 would discuss necessary repairs with DPW and

1 Parks and Rec Director Dougher to make a
2 determination. However, he also noted that
3 volunteer work may violate a union contract
4 and that some services may be required to be
5 bid.

6 In addition, the city does not have
7 the required number of lifeguards to open
8 the additional four neighborhood pools
9 throughout the city at this time. When the
10 mayor informs me of his final decision I
11 will report it publically.

12 Third. The former YWCA building is
13 one of 48 historically protected buildings
14 in the City of Scranton according to HARB
15 members. We have asked HARB to submit its
16 recommendations for any clarifications or
17 amendments to the legislation that was
18 tabled during the council meeting of May 30,
19 2013.

20 In addition, the Scranton Zoning
21 Board will hear the University of Scranton's
22 request for a dimensional variance
23 associated with its building construction at
24 its June 12, 2013, meeting. Following
25 receipt of HARB's recommendations and the

1 Zoning Board decision the legislation can be
2 returned to the agenda in Sixth Order.

3 Fourth, I wish to thank Mr. William
4 Lazor, Chairmen of the Scranton
5 Redevelopment Authority, for expediting the
6 annual audit of the SRA this year at my
7 request. According to his letter of May 31,
8 2013, Rossi & Company, the auditors for the
9 city, received a copy of the draft financial
10 statements of the SRA in order that it could
11 begin any related work required to be
12 performed toward completion of the city's
13 independent audit of 2012.

14 Also, Mr. Lazor notes that the OECD
15 staff members were most helpful in meeting
16 meetings -- or excuse me, in meeting the May
17 31 due date. I appreciate the demonstrated
18 cooperation of the SRA and the staff of OECD
19 in our mission to produce a timely annual
20 audit. I also thank our city clerk, Mrs.
21 Krake, for arranging and attending the
22 meeting with the Authority and
23 representatives of Rossi & Company.
24 Hopefully any issues with the remaining
25 authorities will be resolved.

1 Scranton Police Department within 90 days.
2 Failure to forward the application will
3 constitute a forfeiture of the designation
4 and the Scranton DPW shall remove signage
5 from the designated parking space.

6 Further, the police department shall
7 create a renewal application and issue a
8 copy of same to any vehicle owner who
9 applies for and receives a handicapped
10 parking sign. This program will enable the
11 city to remove signs where they are no
12 longer needed and install them for those who
13 have been approved for handicapped parking
14 signs and have remained on a waiting list.

15 Sixth. The results of the second
16 annual Treasurer's sale in which the City of
17 Scranton realized over \$600,000 are quite
18 positive. Last year the dollar amount
19 generated leading up to the first
20 Treasurer's sale was over \$1,15,000 with
21 additional revenue realized on the sale
22 date. The success of the Treasurer's sale
23 is due in large part to the commendable
24 cooperation of the Treasurer's Office, the
25 Department of Licensing and Inspections and

1 Northeast Revenue Services, collector of
2 delinquent property taxes and delinquent
3 garbage fees for the City of Scranton.

4 Councilman Joyce, City Clerk Nancy
5 Krake, Solicitor Boyd Hughes and I worked
6 tirelessly to get NRS on board, negotiate
7 its contract and place its local office in
8 city hall. It is my belief that their
9 duties and responsibilities should be
10 expanded to collect additional city
11 delinquencies such as those for rental
12 registration fees, the parking tax and the
13 amusement tax among others.

14 Equally important, I hope the new
15 mayor and council majority will allow NRS to
16 continue its work and never revert to any
17 firm similar to NCC which cost countless,
18 significant problems for taxpayers and the
19 city by its lack of transparency and
20 accountability and its apparently illegal
21 procedures. This is an important issue for
22 the people to remember and to guard against
23 when a new mayor and a new council majority
24 takes office.

25 Finally, I have a two citizens'

1 requests for this week: Replace the faded
2 worn "No Parking" signs in front of 927 and
3 945 South Main Avenue. When turning out of
4 Archbald Street onto South Main Avenue at
5 Curry Donuts cars parked in front of these
6 addresses on Main Avenue make it impossible
7 for drivers to see oncoming traffic.

8 When this safety hazard was reported
9 to the police department by a city resident,
10 the officer explained that because the
11 current "No Parking" signs are faded he
12 cannot cite the parked cars until the signs
13 are replaced. Please address ASAP.

14 A letter to Chief Graziano regarding
15 handicapped parking spaces at Park Gardens,
16 and I'll provide more specific information
17 to Mrs. Krake following tonight's meeting.
18 And that's it.

19 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE
20 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
21 TO ACCEPT, RECEIVE AND RECORD A GIFT OF
22 REAL ESTATE FROM FMP REALTY, LLC CONSISTING
23 OF A PARCEL AT THE INTERSECTION OF CAPOUSE
24 AVENUE AND MARION STREET, ON THE NORTHEAST
25 CORNER OF SAID INTERSECTION TO PROVIDE FOR

1 ADDITIONAL PARKING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

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

5 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

6 MR. JOYCE: Second.

7 MS. EVANS: On the question?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, just on the
9 question. As I stated earlier, I have a few
10 questions on this, you know, I'm not totally
11 up to date on it, but I recall from history
12 that this parking lot was put there and the
13 Zoning Board didn't approve it, that's why
14 it was never utilized by the business that
15 was across the street. They were rejected
16 for parking there and it sat there ever
17 since.

18 Now, I don't know, ou know, if it's
19 still part of the business that was on the
20 corner or if it would enhance the sale if it
21 was approved as parking, but in this
22 particular case we are taking it back into
23 the city so we are going to pick up the
24 liability for it, but I have known just from
25 my time on here anyone that wants to put in

1 their own parking lot has to come up with a
2 drainage plan and all your surveys and all
3 of that stuff. I mean, are we going to be
4 required to do that for the public if we
5 make this a public parking lot?

6 Now, naturally, you know, all the
7 neighborhoods in our city need extra
8 parking, there is no doubt about it. I
9 think our city was built to park one horse
10 in front years ago, now everyone has three,
11 four cars. But again, you know, I don't
12 want us to get caught in an albatross where
13 we have to spend money to bring it up to --
14 I mean, I would think the city would have to
15 bring it up to the zoning regulations the
16 same as a private individual. That's my
17 question, I don't understand if it's part of
18 that business across the street why it's
19 being donated separately. If they couldn't
20 enhance the sale perhaps, you know, they
21 would have tried again to get parking
22 approval, but I don't believe it was ever
23 zoned for parking and that was the problem.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans, also, would
25 our acceptance of this obviously would then

1 take whatever the property is off the tax
2 rolls as well. Is this a way that they are
3 looking to avoid, you know, paying taxes on
4 a property that they are not using?

5 MS. EVANS: Correct. But in
6 addition, I think the parking lot I believe
7 is for use by all of the businesses, the
8 employees and patrons of all the businesses
9 in the area.

10 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not familiar with
11 where it is.

12 MS. EVANS: And I believe also in an
13 overflow from St. Paul's Church.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe, if you
15 recall, it's right across from the old A & A
16 -- where the A & A Auto Store and A & A had
17 purchased it with the intention of putting a
18 parking facility for their business and they
19 were rejected at that time and it sat ever
20 since as an empty parking lot that can't be
21 utilized, so I don't know how it could be
22 without going through zoning be approved for
23 parking for --

24 MS. EVANS: Well, Mrs. Krake, I
25 believe that Councilman Loscombe and

1 Councilman McGoff have raised very good
2 issues concerning the legislation and we
3 need answers to their questions prior to any
4 final vote on this legislation and should we
5 will not receive the answers within the
6 required time period I would advise tabling
7 the legislation until such time as we do.

8 MS. KRAKE: Mrs. Evans, perhaps you
9 would like to call a caucus?

10 MS. EVANS: Yes. That's a good
11 idea. Yes.

12 MS. KRAKE: And which departments
13 would you like us to request?

14 MS. EVANS: Well, I think perhaps we
15 should have Mr. Wallace, the zoning officer
16 present, perhaps the city business
17 administrator who could represent the
18 administration, since this legislation was
19 submitted to us by the administration.
20 Mr. Loscombe, is there anyone else that you
21 would require?

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: The zoning is a big
23 one and the administration but --

24 MS. EVANS: Perhaps Attorney Penetar
25 might be able to shed some light upon the

1 issue as well.

2 MR. ROGAN: Could we also allow for
3 public comment from the residents of that
4 neighborhood because I agree with what
5 Mr. Loscombe and Mr. McGoff said, and in
6 addition to those the city would have to
7 ensure the property, so I have a lot of
8 reservations on -- I'll vote to introduce it
9 this week, but I have a lot of the same
10 reservations that they have on that it's
11 going to cost the city, you know, some money
12 to accept this property. It's not free
13 property because the property will come off
14 the tax rolls, we'll have to ensure it, the
15 zoning issues Mr. Loscombe brought up. If
16 interest truly is a need in that
17 neighborhood and the neighbors come pouring
18 in here I think it's something that council
19 should get behind, but it's not something
20 the neighbors see a need for, you know, I
21 don't see why we would approve this, so
22 getting back to the point if the public
23 could also be allowed or business owners as
24 well.

25 MS. EVANS: Maybe we could hold the

1 caucus and would it be possible to conduct a
2 public hearing in order to obtain that
3 testimony from business owners and
4 neighbors?

5 MS. KRAKE: The public normally has
6 a chance to speak.

7 MS. EVANS: During citizens'
8 participation.

9 MS. KRAKE: But, sure, whatever you
10 would like to do.

11 MR. ROGAN: Even if we just limit it
12 a minute or two of comment per person.

13 MS. KRAKE: So would you like it
14 advertised then?

15 MS. EVANS: Yes, I think we should
16 and then in that way hopefully now the
17 neighbors and the business people in the
18 area will become aware and attend.

19 MR. ROGAN: Yep. Absolutely.

20 MS. KRAKE: Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Anyone else
22 on the question? All those in favor signify
23 by saying aye.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

2 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

5 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AMENDING FILE OF
6 COUNCIL NUMBER 54, 1986 ENTITLED "AN
7 ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR HANDICAPPED PARKING
8 AREAS WHERE OFFICIAL SIGNS INDICATE;
9 DEFINING AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES;
10 PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT THEREOF", BY
11 ADDING A SECTION PROVIDING FOR A PROGRAM FOR
12 THE SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO MONITOR A
13 RENEWAL PROCESS ON ITS APPLICATION FOR
14 HANDICAPPED PARKING SIGNS.

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

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

3 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. NO
4 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

5 SEVENTH ORDER. NO BUSINESS AT THIS
6 TIME.

7 MS. EVANS: If there is no further
8 business, I'll entertain a motion to
9 adjourn.

10 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

11 MS. EVANS: This meeting is
12 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