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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, September 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
- JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce. Mrs.

11 Evans.

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

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

15 MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON HISTORICAL  
16 ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD MEETING HELD ON  
17 APRIL 8, MAY 13, AND JULY 8, OF 2013.

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

20 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE  
21 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION MEETING HELD MAY 22,  
22 2013.

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

25 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE

1 FIREMEN'S PENSION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
2 JUNE 26, 2013.

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

5 MS. KRAKE 3-D. SCRANTON POLICE  
6 PENSION COMMISSION MEETING FOR JUNE 26,  
7 2013.

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

10 MS. KRAKE: 3-E. CONTROLLER'S REPORT  
11 FOR THE MONTH ENDING JUNE 30, 2013.

12 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
13 If not, received and filed.

14 MS. KRAKE: 3-F. MINUTES OF THE  
15 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE  
16 AUTHORITY HELD JUNE 30, 2013.

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

19 MS. KRAKE: 3-G. TAX ASSESSOR'S  
20 REPORT FOR HEARING DATES, JULY 10TH AND JULY  
21 24, OF 2013.

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

24 MS. KRAKE: 3-H. MINUTES OF THE  
25 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD JULY

1 24, 2013.

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

4 MS. KRAKE: 3-I. SINGLE TAX OFFICE  
5 CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON FOR  
6 2012-2013 RECEIVED ON AUGUST 1, 2013.

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

9 Do we have any clerk's notes  
10 tonight?

11 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.  
13 Do any council members have announcements at  
14 this time?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Just briefly two  
16 things. First of all, I'd just like to wish  
17 a get well to my father who had emergency  
18 surgery last evening. He is at home doing  
19 well surprisingly for appendicitis at his  
20 age, but he is doing well and he is home.

21 And also my wife who is recovering  
22 from surgery at home, and the second thing  
23 to wish my wife, I guess it's self-serving,  
24 but a happy 43rd wedding anniversary this  
25 evening.

1 MS. EVANS: Happy anniversary and  
2 God bless her and you, all of you. You,  
3 too, because you are going to be caring for  
4 them as they are recuperating.

5 MR. ROGAN: Just one announcement,  
6 the Northeast Suicide Prevention Initiative,  
7 I know the representative is here today, but  
8 I want to announce it as well. The Suicide  
9 Prevention Regional walk will be this  
10 Saturday, September 7, at 9 a.m.  
11 Registration at the Lackawanna County  
12 Courthouse on the Linden Street side or you  
13 can register early and eligible for a  
14 drawing for a special prize at  
15 [www.northeast-suicide-prevention-initiative.org](http://www.northeast-suicide-prevention-initiative.org).  
16

17 And finally, I would just like to  
18 congratulate a fellow Scranton and a  
19 neighbor Matt McGloin for making the team of  
20 the Oakland Raiders so I know he will make  
21 Scranton proud and we will all be rooting  
22 for him.

23 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

24 MR. JOYCE: Yes. On Sunday,  
25 September 8 from 3 to 7 p.m. there will be a

1 benefit for Dylan Salvagio, who is the  
2 newborn infant of Adam and Barbara Salvagio  
3 who is undergoing open heart surgery on  
4 September 24. There will a \$10 donation at  
5 the door and included in the cost of the  
6 admission there will be food, \$1 Miller  
7 light bottles, 50/50 raffle, basket  
8 give-a-ways and music by Mike Brace.

9 Also, over the recess I had the  
10 opportunity to attend one of the West Side  
11 Neighborhood Watch meetings. As some of you  
12 may know they on Thursday nights. At the  
13 meeting they were planning on developing the  
14 former LA Lewis building on 1621 Washburn  
15 Street into a community center, and there  
16 are having a walkthrough of the building on  
17 Tuesday, September 10, and Thursday,  
18 September 12, both at 6:00 p.m. for the  
19 proposed neighborhood centers so if you are  
20 interested or if you live in the area and  
21 want to learn more feel free to attend. And  
22 that's all.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you. The South  
24 Side Senior Center will hold it's annual  
25 pasta dinner and basket raffle on Thursday,

1           September 19, 2013, from 4 to 7 p.m. this  
2           dinner is its major fundraiser of the year  
3           and helps to support the many and varied  
4           activities that are provided at the senior  
5           center. Tickets cost \$9 for adults, \$4.50  
6           for children under 12 and takeouts are  
7           available. For additional information  
8           please contact Rita 570-346-2487.

9                         Scranton City Council will conduct  
10           public hearings prior to its regularly  
11           scheduled meetings on Thursday, September  
12           12, 2013, at 5L30 in order to hear citizens'  
13           comments regarding the proposed 2014 capital  
14           budget and on Thursday, September 19, 2013,  
15           at 5:30 to gather citizens' input concerning  
16           the proposed City of Scranton 2014 action  
17           plans which includes the CDBG program, HOME  
18           investment Partnership Program and the  
19           Emergency Solutions Grant or ESG program.  
20           The public is invited to attend.

21                         Further, the first reading of the  
22           action plan will occur on September 12,  
23           followed by a second reading on September  
24           19, a third and final reading is scheduled  
25           for October 24 after the 30-day written



1 comment period required by the US Department  
2 of Housing and Urban Development.

3 In addition, Scranton City Council  
4 will hold a public caucus with  
5 representatives of the Steamtown Mall on  
6 September 26, 2013, at 5:15 p.m. to discuss  
7 proposed financial legislation. And that's  
8 it.

9 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS  
10 PARTICIPATION.

11 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker this  
12 evening is Cathy Wallace.

13 MS. WALLACE: Thank you so much fro  
14 this opportunity. Thank so much for  
15 Mr. Rogan for announcing our walk and,  
16 Mr. McGoff, you said hi to your dad and I  
17 want to say hi to my mom and dad, they never  
18 miss this show, Hank and Rose. But I do  
19 want to inform everyone that there is a new  
20 organization, it's a nonprofit, it's run  
21 totally by volunteers, there is no paid  
22 staff and we are having our first walk this  
23 Saturday, September 7, starting at the  
24 courthouse and so far we have over 300  
25 people registered and hopefully we will have

1           that many that day. It's for people who  
2           have lost someone to suicide or friends,  
3           coworkers, families that are supporting them  
4           or people in general that are just very  
5           interested in this terrible, terrible  
6           tragedy that seems like it's happening more  
7           and more and I just want to say the response  
8           to this walk and our group has been  
9           absolutely overwhelming. People are just  
10          really so thrilled that we are having this  
11          event in Scranton and wondering what they  
12          can do to help. A lot of organizations,  
13          schools, the University of Scranton,  
14          Lackawanna County college, they have just  
15          been just absolutely wonderful in asking how  
16          they can participate and so I just want to  
17          make people aware of that. So thank you for  
18          this opportunity.

19                   MS. EVANS: And thank you very much  
20                   for making that wonderful announcement.

21                   MS. WALLACE: Thank you.

22                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you for doing  
23                   what you are doing.

24                   MS. WALLACE: Thank you.

25                   MS. EVANS: Our next speaker is

1 Anthony Pamela.

2 MS. PAMELIA: Good evening,  
3 everyone. My name is Anthony Pamela, I'm  
4 from 225 Lake Scranton Road, and maybe that  
5 address Lake Scranton Road you might try to  
6 remember about a study that thanks to your  
7 generosity you had done about the traffic  
8 situation on Lake Scranton Road. I  
9 carefully read it and I'm hoping three  
10 things might happen, that it becomes an  
11 official document for the council, number.  
12 Number two, that a cover letter is sent with  
13 it to the mayor asking for his response to  
14 it. And thirdly, that it be sent perhaps to  
15 some council -- the council members in  
16 Dunmore for this reason, I live right on the  
17 border of Scranton and Dunmore and I would  
18 say because I live there and I see a lot,  
19 I'm retired, 99 percent of the truck traffic  
20 is going into Dunmore so if I could I am  
21 hoping for the council in Dunmore I would  
22 say, would you please do access road in  
23 Dunmore, fix any kind of a bridge that's a  
24 problem in Dunmore that's forcing trucks to  
25 go through Scranton to get to their

1 businesses? I noticed quite a few  
2 construction vehicles going down Lake  
3 Scranton road onto Elmhurst Boulevard  
4 heading, I'm assuming out to Roaring Brook  
5 because there is development going on there.  
6 So, unfortunately, I see more and more truck  
7 traffic in the future because of the  
8 development going on in Elmhurst Boulevard  
9 into Roaring Brook.

10 I have seen cement trucks, logging  
11 trucks, construction vehicles carrying I  
12 think it's blacktop and fill back and forth.  
13 I see trucks going down into the DeNaples'  
14 property. I'm not faulting Mr. DeNaples'  
15 property because percentage wise it's not  
16 that many, but they are big trucks and they  
17 are carrying construction equipment and my  
18 fear is that and some of my neighbors that  
19 eventually scrap metal will be going up and  
20 down on that access road.

21 My suspicion is that because our  
22 Lake Scranton Road is so close to 307, and I  
23 used to drive a truck, not recently, but you  
24 would take the shortest route with the least  
25 expense in gas and the least amount of time

1 to get to your destination, so when I was a  
2 youngster driving the truck I would be  
3 driving to Greenridge and if there was a  
4 nice convenient route and there was no sign  
5 that said "No trucks allowed" I would take  
6 that route because it was quick, easy and  
7 very little traffic, so my fault perhaps,  
8 but there is no -- if there were a sign up  
9 it might discourage the truck traffic. I  
10 don't know, but they would have to be some  
11 kind of an arrangement in Dunmore for access  
12 or something, otherwise, I think it's going  
13 to get worse. That's my feeling about it  
14 and in my judgment it's going to get worse  
15 and worse and I feel badly because I retired  
16 there and wanting a nice property.

17 In the report, if you have a chance  
18 to read it, it does suggest to keep the  
19 properties in the pristine condition they  
20 are now. The trees are along the side of  
21 the road, the road is narrow because it  
22 wasn't intended to be a truck route. We get  
23 so many trucks, not just DeNaples' trucks,  
24 all kinds of trucks and they are speeding.  
25 I almost got run over with a car there.

1           They speed, trucks, motorcycles, ATVs, it's  
2           becoming not a residential area anymore so  
3           that's why I'm concerned with it. What  
4           council could do to perhaps nothing, but I  
5           hope something.

6                     MS. EVANS: I'm going to address it,  
7           Mr. Pamela, under my motions this evening.

8                     MR. PAMELIA: Well, thank you for  
9           your time and your attention.

10                    MS. EVANS: Thank you. Joseph  
11           Burke.

12                    MR. BURKE: Good evening. I'd also  
13           like to address the same topic as  
14           Mr. Pamela, Lake Scranton Road. The  
15           studies, and I read it, I read the  
16           conclusions and it certainly does not  
17           support the notion that tractor trailers  
18           should be using Lake Scranton Road. If  
19           anything, it says the exact opposite, or am  
20           I wrong? I imagine all of the council  
21           members got a copy of the report; am I  
22           correct?

23                    MS. EVANS: I received it.

24                    MR. BURKE: You received it?

25                    MS. EVANS: Yeah, and I read through

1 it.

2 MR. BURKE: And the other council  
3 members did not?

4 MR. ROGAN: I didn't receive it.

5 MR. MCGOFF: I have seen it.

6 MS. EVANS: We received it in our  
7 mailbox.

8 MR. BURKE: Well, the city did spend  
9 \$10,000 and I think every council member  
10 should become acquainted with it because as  
11 of yet, I believe it came out July 29, the  
12 mayor's office has not issued any type of  
13 report on their conclusions, and they are  
14 the one holding it up. If you do read the  
15 report you will see that it suggests that  
16 bike and pedestrians lanes should be  
17 installed on Lake Scranton Road, that there  
18 should be speed bumps installed, that there  
19 should be truck weight restrictions on Lake  
20 Scranton Road. As Mr. Pamela said, there  
21 should not be any trimming of the trees on  
22 Lake Scranton Road. It described it as an  
23 access road to Lake Scranton used by joggers  
24 and walkers, not a road for tractor  
25 trailers.

1                   I realize that there has to be some  
2                   local deliveries, but it's 4/10 of a mile.  
3                   I've lived there, once again, I've lived  
4                   there since 2003, nobody told me when I  
5                   bought that land that I would have to be put  
6                   at the convenience of anybody who is going  
7                   down to DeNaples yard. That's not a  
8                   condition of buying a home. We were there  
9                   before DeNaples punched a hole in the woods  
10                  to make the access road.

11                  And one other point, during the  
12                  course of the study only 5 percent of the  
13                  traffic was truck traffic. DeNaples was  
14                  supposed to be landlocked. They weren't  
15                  aware of the alternate road that was  
16                  mentioned in the study Elmhurst Boulevard.  
17                  Their attorney claimed there was no  
18                  alternate route, but during the study they  
19                  didn't run their trucks across Lake Scranton  
20                  Road. Well, they didn't give their workers  
21                  a vacation. Their business went on as usual  
22                  except they didn't send their trucks along  
23                  Lake Scranton Road because they didn't want  
24                  the trucks to be counted.

25                  So that's the situation. The mayor



1 has yet to make any declaration on whether  
2 he intends to enforce the ordinance that you  
3 passed, and I would consider that a slap in  
4 the face because I consider it as a taxpayer  
5 a slap in the face. The mayor was elected  
6 not on a platform of turning his back on the  
7 taxpayers and the citizens of Scranton, he  
8 was elected on his platform of defending the  
9 citizens of Scranton, and he won't defend us  
10 on this particular situation, well the rest  
11 of Scranton better be on the lookout, too,  
12 because if he sells us out he will probably  
13 sell somebody else out and that's what's  
14 happened.

15 We live at the convenience of an  
16 enterprise in Dunmore, Pennsylvania. They  
17 are going across an already documented  
18 delapidated road, that was in the study,  
19 too, the road is proved to be in horrible  
20 condition but they are not going to pave or  
21 repair that road if it ever gets repaired,  
22 it hasn't been repaired in the last 25  
23 years, so that's our situation.

24 I realize we are in the hands of the  
25 mayor, but the mayor will not respond.

1 Attorney Kelly will not respond. Attorney  
2 Kelly did not respond to my 15 phone calls  
3 offering him the evidence when he was going  
4 to make his decision about the ordinance and  
5 then I got a letter saying, "Sorry, I didn't  
6 have time to return your phone calls."

7 I showed you the same evidence I was  
8 prepared to show Attorney Kelly. Dozens of  
9 pictures of tractor trailers carrying huge  
10 loads going across 4/10 of a mile of a  
11 residential street. You wouldn't tolerate  
12 it where you live and there is no reason why  
13 we should tolerate it.

14 Finally, I'm going to repeat myself,  
15 we were there first. Residents of Lake  
16 Scranton established their homes, maintained  
17 their homes, paid their taxes since 1964.  
18 DeNaples punched that hole through the woods  
19 in 2010. There is no reason why we should  
20 have to put up with this. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And our next  
22 speaker is Thomas Simrel.

23 MR. SIMREL: I would like to thank  
24 city council for giving me this opportunity  
25 to speak the concerns that I have and I hope

1           you can do something with it. When coming  
2           into Nay Aug Park from Mulberry Street on  
3           the left is the Everhart Museum. You pass  
4           that on the left is the start of the  
5           walking/jogging trail. 792 feet further  
6           signs are posted that read, "Walking and  
7           jogging trail."

8                         The trail continues past the tree  
9           house, around the large curb, past the  
10          building where snacks/food is sold then into  
11          a path where cars, etcetera, cannot go.  
12          There are two five-mile per hour speed  
13          signs, one by the building where snack food  
14          is sold and one behind the museum that  
15          cannot be seen from the walking and jogging  
16          trail. During the course of a year  
17          thousands of old and young people with their  
18          children, baby strollers or dogs walk this  
19          trail. Some Scranton high schools use this  
20          trail for competition runs. The people who  
21          use this trail for walking or running are  
22          not safe from the cars, trucks and  
23          motorcycles that zip by at 25 or 30 miles  
24          per hour.

25                         Reasonable speed signs should be

1 posted and the cost and fines. If this is  
2 done, the people who use and love this park  
3 will be safer. I have taken this to other  
4 people to no avail. If you go up there when  
5 it's nice and warm and if you take your kids  
6 keep them close by you because it really  
7 isn't safe, and thank you very much.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Simrel.

10 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, if we could  
11 please send a letter maybe to the police  
12 chief requesting that when available  
13 officers can monitor that area and cite  
14 drivers for speeding.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Who is responsible for  
16 the signage? Would that be Parks and Rec?

17 MS. EVANS: I would think.  
18 Although, we no longer have a sign  
19 department, but it had been.

20 MR. MCGOFF: I don't know if it was  
21 the Rec Authority or --

22 MS. EVANS: I think they only have  
23 the pool area, I don't know that they are in  
24 charge of the entire --

25 MR. MCGOFF: I'll check with

1 Mr. Dougher.

2 MS. EVANS: The entire park. Mrs.  
3 Krake, did you have something to add?

4 MS. KRAKE: I believe that it's  
5 enforced by the police so I think that's  
6 about the best route.

7 MS. EVANS: Okay. And I would think  
8 then if there is police enforcement then it  
9 is they city's charge. Our next speaker is  
10 Doug Miller.

11 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.  
12 Doug Miller, Scranton.

13 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

14 MR. MILLER: Before I do get into  
15 the business that I have, this evening, I  
16 would like to just briefly take a trip back  
17 to our July 25 meeting, our last meeting  
18 before we broke for the August recess. I  
19 certainly didn't necessarily conduct myself  
20 in a professional manner that night and  
21 particularly with my exchange with  
22 Mr. McGoff. You know, I allowed things to  
23 get a little personal there. Obviously,  
24 prior to that meeting for that whole month  
25 we were discussing the University issue and

1 I certainly it was a passionate issue, an  
2 issue where you were either staunchly in  
3 support of it or staunchly against it.  
4 There was no middle ground and obviously I  
5 made it quite clear I certainly didn't  
6 support the project and obviously to this  
7 day I'm certainly disappointed in the  
8 outcome, but that's besides the point.

9 I do want to apologize for allowing  
10 it to get to that personal nature with you,  
11 Mr. McGoff. Certainly, you know, going back  
12 to my time on Junior Council I do remember  
13 what it was like to have a lot of personal  
14 statements thrown in your direction and I  
15 didn't like that myself, so I can only  
16 imagine for Mr. McGoff it was uncomfortable  
17 and certainly inappropriate and I do  
18 apologize to you and your family --

19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

20 MR. MILLER: -- for allowing it to  
21 get to that level. Certainly those types of  
22 things don't belong in this chamber. We are  
23 here to conduct ourselves in a professional  
24 manner and I do promise to do that and move  
25 forward.



1 funding will come from for the Supreme Court  
2 settlement. That's a hefty dollar. We know  
3 we have reached out to some banks and  
4 institutions to try and seek some sort of a  
5 package that the city can hopefully put  
6 together and come up with that funding. We  
7 have to ask ourselves are we going to  
8 consider a commuter tax again. I know that  
9 was a controversial subject last year at  
10 this time, but I think that we are well  
11 beyond whether or not something is popular  
12 or unpopular. I think we need to start  
13 dealing with reality and the reality is that  
14 is something we have to consider once again.

15 Another option is do we look into  
16 refinancing the debt? Certainly some may  
17 find it as a solution that's just kicking  
18 the can down the road, but is it something  
19 we can consider and try to alleviate the  
20 burden placed on the residents of this city?  
21 Do we consider this or do we look at that  
22 tax increase of 100 percent? I certainly  
23 don't think that's something that council  
24 wants to entertain right now. But we do  
25 need solutions and I'm hopeful, you know,



1           the next three and a half months we do have  
2 residents that will come forward and offer  
3 some solutions and some suggestions to this  
4 council because I think last year at this  
5 time we showed, we proved to everybody out  
6 there, a lot of the doubters and the  
7 naysayers that when two sides of government  
8 come together you can accomplish a heck of a  
9 lot and I think what's happened last year is  
10 we saw a lot of the infighting inhouse and a  
11 lot of people didn't think we would be able  
12 to put a recovery plan together, and a lot  
13 of people didn't think that budget would  
14 come together all the time.

15                       So I'm hopeful that we will be able  
16 to carry over a lot of that same cooperation  
17 we had last year into the making of this  
18 year's -- or next year's budget because I  
19 think it's very vital moving forward. As I  
20 have said in the past, I think it's very  
21 critical that the next council coming in  
22 gets involved. I know they haven't taken  
23 office yet, but, you know, they campaign,  
24 they've made a lot of statements along the  
25 campaign trail and I think they should come

1 down here and come to this podium and offer  
2 their input because they're just as much a  
3 part of this as anyone else because next  
4 year at this time they are going to be  
5 making the tough decisions.

6 I think we also need to consider or  
7 we need to continue our vigorous pursuit on  
8 the nonprofits and this is an issue that we  
9 just seem to revisit time and time again and  
10 I'm hopeful that we can reach out and work  
11 cooperatively, not just the University of  
12 the Scranton, but all of the nonprofits  
13 within the city and build a working  
14 relationship with them and somehow get them  
15 on board with what we are trying to do here  
16 and hopefully we can come up with some  
17 solutions that can make things a little bit  
18 brighter down the road, and I know it's hard  
19 today standing here to think that can  
20 happen, but we have proven when we come  
21 together we can overcome a lot of the  
22 challenges, and I'm confident that we can do  
23 that and we can do everything we can to  
24 avoid following the choice and we don't want  
25 to head down that path. Thank you.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Lee Morgan.

2 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

4 MR. MORGAN: I hope you had a good  
5 break for a month. I think that  
6 Mr. Miller's apology was really something  
7 that I think that was appropriate and I  
8 appreciate him apologizing to Mr. McGoff  
9 because I just think we all have to respect  
10 everybody whether you agree or disagree and  
11 I seem to come this podium quite a bit and  
12 disagree quite a bit, but that doesn't mean  
13 that I don't respect the people that sit in  
14 your seat or the mayor's seat.

15 But I'd also like to say that I am  
16 very disappointed on the last vote that  
17 council took in regard to the YWCA. I think  
18 that in my opinion it showed lack of vision  
19 and I just think there were other solutions  
20 that should have been really looked at and  
21 would have been a lot more feasible than  
22 where that project is going to take the city  
23 in the future because I could be wrong, but  
24 I think the University of Scranton owns the  
25 building adjacent to that and I think that

1           their plan is to move into the downtown and  
2           I think that by somebody saying that we are  
3           going to stay in the same footprint and just  
4           build another building and walkway or do  
5           whatever we are going to do because it  
6           doesn't suit our needs, I think that we have  
7           opened a can of worms here that really could  
8           have very serious repercussions for the city  
9           in the future.

10                   The other thing I would like to say  
11           here today is I would hope that when the  
12           next council meets after the election, of  
13           course, that in my own opinion I think that  
14           Mr. Rogan should be the Finance Chair, and  
15           there is a reason for that. Mr. Rogan is  
16           young man. He has been on council all of  
17           these years, evidently, Mr. Joyce, he has  
18           paid attention to the things you have done  
19           and I just think that as a young man in this  
20           city that's going to inherit the city some  
21           day I think that he's prepared or should be  
22           prepared to be the Finance Chair.

23                   And in regards to the next council,  
24           I think that Mr. McGoff should be president  
25           of the council, and the reason I think that

1 is that he was president once before.  
2 Whether people agree or disagree and talk  
3 about politics I think he has the ability to  
4 lead the next council and we are going to  
5 have three new members of the council and I  
6 think he is capable.

7 MS. EVANS: Just two.

8 MR. MORGAN: Well, but Mr. Rogan is  
9 going to be reelected so then two, but I  
10 just think that -- I just think to be honest  
11 with you, I think Mr. McGoff has leadership  
12 ability just as you do, Mrs. Evans, and I  
13 think that with the problems the city is  
14 facing I think it's time to look at  
15 Mr. Rogan as an up and coming Scrantonian  
16 that sat through the difficult times with  
17 this council and he is going to be elected  
18 for four years, so evidently he is going to  
19 sit with the whole council for four years  
20 and I just think that it makes sense to  
21 allow somebody that understands how council  
22 functions and has worked with the council  
23 and been with the council through the tough  
24 times and the preceding tenure of council to  
25 come forward and be the Finance Chair and

1 work with the council, and I think that a  
2 steady hand that Mr. McGoff can give council  
3 as having been the former council president  
4 will serve the city extremely well in the  
5 future because I think that that's what we  
6 need. We need a rock solid leadership and  
7 we need people that have been on council  
8 like Mr. Rogan and Mr. McGoff who understand  
9 the problems and the turbulent times behind  
10 them and the turbulent times in front of us  
11 and it only makes sense.

12 And then, of course, spending enough  
13 time with the new council members to bring  
14 them up to speed because I really think that  
15 the worst is still in front of us and, look  
16 it, I'm not going to take shots at the  
17 mayor, I think that PEL made a lot of  
18 statements and had a lot to do with the  
19 recovery plan and with the last budget and  
20 with everything that came about and it just  
21 didn't materialize and we just have to be  
22 very careful with what we have believe the  
23 PEL is presenting and selling to the  
24 residents of this city and to this council  
25 and I just think it's important for the next

1 council to have enough common sense to  
2 disagree with the PEL and hope that the new  
3 mayor, whichever candidate wins, will have  
4 enough of a backbone to stand up because to  
5 be really honest with you in my own opinion  
6 I believe a lot of these problems may be  
7 beyond the scope of this council and this  
8 mayor because of a lot of our solutions are  
9 in Harrisburg and I think that it's time for  
10 our state representatives and state senators  
11 to come forward and find a solution because  
12 the PEL has been here a very long time and  
13 we have gone the wrong way for a very long  
14 time. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Dave Dobrzyn.

18 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave  
19 Dobrzyn. Resident of Scranton.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

21 MR. DOBRZYN: I would like to  
22 approach with this. I have three copies, so  
23 what I gave you is an article on the water  
24 company rate hike and page number one  
25 addresses the law that if the water company,

1 PA American Water Company buys up a utility,  
2 a sewer utility, they can include part of  
3 the price of the operation and so forth in  
4 your bill.

5 Now, currently, they are asking for  
6 an 11 percent rate hike and it's a sum of  
7 money is going to go to outlying communities  
8 keeping in mind that some communities  
9 outside of Scranton are paying possibly as  
10 high as \$108 a month, but they have 300 foot  
11 frontages to their house so we to have this  
12 huge sewer line just to accommodate the  
13 sewer disposal, and I find it really  
14 egregious that a person partly out of the  
15 barn and gets by us and all of these stupid  
16 laws get passed and it's just ashamed, but  
17 currently it's probably only going to be  
18 three or four dollars a month, but what will  
19 it be in five or ten years \$30? \$40 a month?  
20 \$50 a month on our water utility bill? And  
21 then if your water is cut off keep in mind  
22 that somebody from Licensing and Inspections  
23 might stop by and condemn your home on top  
24 of it because I know one person his home was  
25 condemned because the pipes broke while he



1 was in the hospital and he lost the home.  
2 It was eventually torn down.

3 Also, I'll have to address it next  
4 week, PA tax, income tax, is going to be  
5 allowed to be retained by certain employers.  
6 Now, they are talking about a raising it to  
7 4.2 percent and they are going to let the  
8 employer keep it? This is ridiculous. I  
9 mean, for a bunch -- for the tea party for  
10 what is bunch of the little tigers they  
11 were, I mean, shame on them for these bills.  
12 They took the cooperate rate money, they are  
13 backed by corporate money now, and all they  
14 are is puppets. All they are is puppets for  
15 the corporation.

16 And I'd like to give a little pep  
17 talk. The language did get a little  
18 contentious, and what my suggestion is is  
19 separate the politics -- polite from tics  
20 and put a long "E" in the middle and it  
21 becomes polite with a long "I" -- and a  
22 silent "E" rather and, you know, that's what  
23 we need here. I don't come down here to  
24 beat up on anybody and call people names and  
25 I would suggest that people stop doing it

1 and get your time lines. Certain people I  
2 have noticed come in here and speak and they  
3 blame this council for something that  
4 happened eight years ago or four years ago  
5 or whatever. It's not right. Get your  
6 story straight, please, because you are not  
7 helping out when people decide not to run or  
8 that they are just tired of it or eventually  
9 this could just tune out.

10 One former council member told me,  
11 "I just got disgusted with how I get picked  
12 on when I vote against what people want  
13 anyway."

14 You know, a former council member  
15 told me that. She got tired of constantly  
16 getting harassed.

17 And I'd also like to go back with  
18 that water. Now, a few weeks ago you were  
19 at a proposal on privatizing the sewer  
20 plant, Mrs. Evans, and believe me, Chris  
21 Kelly couldn't wait to jump on that. Now,  
22 I'm pretty sure that came down from the  
23 administration and it was people from Dubai  
24 are going to finance our Sewer Authority and  
25 all of this, it was really -- I couldn't

1 believe that you would even think something  
2 like that. You were just reading off  
3 something that somebody said in the  
4 proposal, and that's what this is all about  
5 this law and, in fact, we are financing  
6 other people's.

7 And just quickly, please consider  
8 that Steamtown -- letter on Steamtown to our  
9 representatives and senators that they  
10 really need their funding restored because  
11 things are kind of rough down there and they  
12 cut them 10 percent two years in a row and  
13 they are also subject to sequester. So, I  
14 mean, these institutions get placed here and  
15 then carpet is pulled on the funding, well,  
16 it doesn't do us any good, we don't get the  
17 hotel filled or we don't get the tax money  
18 because it's a tax exempt.

19 And also, another thing with the  
20 Times was the Parking Authority. I have  
21 never heard once on anything with the  
22 Parking Authority, any article, that there  
23 was an unauthorized loan and that's what the  
24 problem council had was the unauthorized  
25 loan that didn't come before council, so if

1           you people would in a week or so consider  
2           letting me have your phone number because I  
3           attended a meeting on that water thing and  
4           it would have been great to have somebody  
5           from council if they could. You know, I  
6           won't keep you awake at 11:00 talking about  
7           silly city business.

8                         And a once again Ken Kuchanelli gets  
9           the golden parrot. He is the Attorney  
10          General from Virginia, he wants to make  
11          anything but wham, bam, thank you, ma'am  
12          your marriage life a one-year felony. And,  
13          by the way, you probably won't have the  
14          right to vote or own a firearm or anything  
15          else. So at a boy, Kuch. Have a good day.

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

18                        MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
19          citizen of Scranton, Fellow Scrantonians. I  
20          attended a meeting here in this chambers  
21          about the school tax. As you know, there is  
22          a little legislation running down in  
23          Harrisburg about changing the way the  
24          schools are funded, okay? I listened to  
25          their presentation, it was sort of

1 one-sided. You have winners, big winners,  
2 and you have big losers, and that's not a  
3 way a tax should be. Every renter in the  
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania would have to  
5 pay more for their food, their clothing, and  
6 everything else and in wage tax, if you so  
7 pay, without getting any reduction for the  
8 schools, because the school tax is based on  
9 property, and the renter does not own  
10 property and there is no way you are going  
11 to tell me a landlord is going to lower  
12 their rent if this passes, so they are going  
13 to get hit hard.

14 The winners are going to be business  
15 and actually cities like Scranton, because  
16 if the taxes is taken away from the people  
17 paying school tax to their real estate tax  
18 then that makes more money that the city can  
19 gobble, so that's one thing.

20 Now, the rest in the center that own  
21 property, okay. I own property. Now, my  
22 school taxes are there, of course, I paid  
23 them property taxes, but when it comes to  
24 filing your income tax you can't file it, so  
25 already your income tax is going to go up

1           because unless you can counteract the money  
2           that you are paying for your school tax you  
3           won't be able to claim it and if you are  
4           look at the way they charge for the taxes it  
5           goes up pretty good, especially if you have  
6           an \$1,800 reduction that's how much you  
7           would have to pay.

8                         Now, you would have to pay on  
9           everything you buy and eat except what the  
10          government says is WIC. I don't know  
11          exactly what's on the WIC formula, but  
12          that's excluded. I goes they couldn't do  
13          anything with it without fighting the  
14          federal government, so that's in there.

15                        So, like I said before, there is too  
16          many big losers and the rest of us, I don't  
17          even know if we are winners or losers,  
18          because I guess at some situation you would  
19          be a winner, and some situation you would be  
20          a loser, depending on how many children you  
21          got and how much clothes you buy, how much  
22          food you buy. All of these things are there  
23          and they guise it as helping the senior  
24          citizens. This is a deal to take away the  
25          school tax from the senior citizens. But,

1           yet all they had to do was pass a law say at  
2           age 70 you will be excluded on your primary  
3           dollar for school tax. They could have done  
4           that, but instead they used this theory that  
5           they are using.

6                         And, believe me, every renter should  
7           call up your state representative and  
8           senator and complain because you are the  
9           biggest loser. I'm sorry to say. It  
10          wouldn't be bad if the guy didn't say he  
11          worked on it for ten years. For ten years  
12          he has been working on this plan and it's  
13          not a very good plan. It helps out  
14          businesses, true, maybe cities like Scranton  
15          would get some use out of it, too. The  
16          center of us, I don't know. Like I said,  
17          that's all variables, but the renters would  
18          lose. Everybody living in a high rise  
19          that's living on a fixed income, everything  
20          they buy is taxed except WIC. All their  
21          clothes are taxed.

22                        Now, of course with the tax on the  
23          wages, of course, they are not working, but  
24          somewhere along the way maybe somebody is  
25          working that's in one of them housing, you

1 know, a low income, they would be hit with a  
2 double whammy.

3 So this is how it is and it's going  
4 to Harrisburg whether it passes or not, I  
5 have no way of knowing. Whether they change  
6 it or not I have no way of knowing, but this  
7 is not a good plan. Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,  
10 Council.

11 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

12 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: When I left this  
14 chamber on July 25 I had many emotions  
15 regarding the vote in favor essentially of  
16 detracting the historical designation of the  
17 former YWCA building and setting the stage  
18 for demolition of other previously  
19 designated historical buildings. Tonight I  
20 will share my ruminations down the path to  
21 the sad conclusion I reached.

22 We all had an opportunity to read  
23 the substantiation of the true historical  
24 significance the YWCA/Leahy Hall building  
25 written by guest columnist and history



1 professor Joseph E. Dunn published in the  
2 Sunday Times. A quick Google search when  
3 this issue first hit the council agenda  
4 provided the information that Dr. Dunn had  
5 received a grant in 2009 from the University  
6 of Scranton to research the records  
7 regarding Scranton's YWCA as part of an  
8 ongoing study of womens' history in  
9 Scranton.

10 So my first thought was whether or  
11 not the HARB had consulted with Dr. Dunn.  
12 Sadly, I'll never know officially because  
13 HARB minutes have not been provided to city  
14 council and a Right-to-Know request was  
15 ignored. So what we now know is that the  
16 building itself represented new topology in  
17 architecture. A space designed for the  
18 religious, residential and recreational  
19 well-being of working women and there are  
20 few sites in our city more intimately  
21 connected to the history of women's work  
22 building Scranton.

23 Other historically significant facts  
24 from that article include the first local  
25 business and professional women's

1 association was formed in that building.  
2 Classes and language and skills increased  
3 their wage earning abilities. Scranton was  
4 honored as a site for this important  
5 campaign convention due to the labors of  
6 local suffrages Kate Ryan Chapman who  
7 succeeded in convincing Lackawanna senator  
8 to cast the tie breaking vote in the  
9 Pennsylvania Senate supporting a public  
10 referendum on votes for women.

11 Just about every women's civic and  
12 reform minded organization held meetings in  
13 the YWCA spaces. The Civic Improvements  
14 Society, the Women's Club, the Parliamentary  
15 Law Club, the Century Club, the Florence  
16 Grittenden Home, which probably was to be  
17 used, if remember, was for unwed mothers.  
18 St. Joseph's family home, the Playground  
19 Association, etcetera.

20 I wondered why Mr. Rogan chose to  
21 ignore the relevant issue of historical  
22 significant and chose to make pertinent  
23 revenue and jobs for local workers the most  
24 important issue. I wondered why Mr. Joyce  
25 made this issues his first departure in my

1 recollection from voting with Mrs. Evans.

2 Was it because Mrs. Evans is a lame  
3 duck or was Mrs. Franus correct that he was  
4 promised support from the unions in his bid  
5 to be tax collector? Or was he promised  
6 either a job with the University of Scranton  
7 or with a company directly or more likely  
8 several weeks away from the University  
9 benefactor should he lose the tax collector  
10 race or did he really care more for the city  
11 revenue than for the history of women in  
12 this community?

13 During the course of your recess, I  
14 also read many articles seemingly  
15 unconnected with the demolition of the YWCA,  
16 such as one stating, and I quote, "The  
17 Alzheimer's Association reported 15.4  
18 million caregivers provided an estimated  
19 17.5 bill hours of unpaid care valued at  
20 more than \$216 billion in 2012."

21 I thought how much crass and sad to  
22 reduce personal care provided to loved ones  
23 to dollar and cents.

24 Why has the destruction of the  
25 former YWCA bothered me so much I kept

1 asking myself and God? One morning during  
2 my devotional time several different  
3 scriptures came together a day after I had  
4 watched the DVD of your caucus with HARB  
5 which had been provided to me by a friend.  
6 Two short sentences spoken by Mr. Moore lit  
7 my fuse. Referring to the former YWCA  
8 building, which I believe he voted to add to  
9 the historic building's roster, Mr. Moore  
10 said that the building was insignificant.  
11 Nothing more than a pile of bricks.

12 This was my ah-ha moment. Some  
13 structures are valued because they please  
14 the eye. Others are valued because of what  
15 happened within the walls that pleased the  
16 mind and soul. To me, the primary  
17 importance of the YWCA was the Bible study  
18 that occurred within its walls and the  
19 impact the scriptures had on women and its  
20 motivation to give and to excel for women.

21 Today's cultural appears to revolve  
22 not around the scriptures but the all mighty  
23 dollar, so the destruction of the YWCA is  
24 truly representative of the current culture  
25 just as YWCA represented the culture of its

1 day. I'm pleased and thankful I was born  
2 when I was. Thank you.

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there  
4 anyone else who cares to address council  
5 city?

6 MR. JOYCE: I'd like to briefly  
7 address some of the comments made about my  
8 vote in particular, and I understand that  
9 there was a disagreeance of opinion between  
10 me and Ms. Schumacher. However, I can  
11 assure you that I have not had any contact  
12 any of the trade union individuals that have  
13 come to the council meetings nor did I have  
14 any contact with prior promising me any  
15 support in the tax collector race nor was I  
16 promised a job or any type of a lucrative  
17 position with the University of Scranton if  
18 I should lose that race, and I just wanted  
19 to state that for the record.

20 THE COURT: Is there anyone else?  
21 Mrs. Krake?

22 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

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

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. First of all, at

1           our last meeting I was -- first of all, I'd  
2           like to thank Mr. Miller for his  
3           apologizing. Thank you and my family will  
4           be grateful for that.

5                         And with that said, I believe that  
6           Mr. Joyce is due an apology. I think  
7           speculation about why he voted and how he  
8           voted and indications that he did something  
9           inappropriately I think is unwarranted as I  
10          said, at the last meeting. I think that  
11          that is totally uncalled for at a public  
12          meeting, and my apologies for that having  
13          happened, Mr. Joyce.

14                        MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

15                        MR. MCGOFF: I also thank Mr. Morgan  
16          for his vote of confidence, but there is a  
17          whole lot of work that we have to do before  
18          January comes along and personally I will be  
19          thankful if I'm here in January, so  
20          hopefully we as can council can get the work  
21          done, you know, prior to January and moving  
22          into January with sort of a clean slate and  
23          move forward.

24                        As far as the items that were  
25          discussed at the podium, I'd just like to

1           reaffirm by support for truck restrictions  
2           on Lake Scranton Road. From the beginning I  
3           have stated that I use that road frequently  
4           and it is dangerous and it is not suited for  
5           the -- excuse me, it's been a long time, for  
6           the type of truck traffic that is going  
7           across that road.

8                         And secondly, the report that we did  
9           receive just reaffirms what was stated that  
10          that road is in desperate need, and need is  
11          the key word, of repaving. Something needs  
12          to be done there and with the amount of the  
13          foot traffic that takes place there is also  
14          a need for some type of called bicycle lane,  
15          pedestrian lane, something, because there  
16          are no sidewalks along that road and it does  
17          get a lot of foot traffic other than people  
18          running and something really needs to be  
19          done in that 4/10 of a mile area.

20                        And lastly, as far as the signage at  
21          Nay Aug Park, I'll contact Mark Dougher  
22          tomorrow and probably also take a ride up  
23          through the park just to see where the signs  
24          are and what we could do, if there something  
25          that a better placement of signage would,

1           you know, facilitate, you know, some safety  
2           measures there. And that's all I have.

3           Thank you.

4                     MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,  
5           Councilman Rogan?

6                     MR. ROGAN: Thank you. I will be  
7           relatively brief tonight. I just want to  
8           address a one issue that was brought up that  
9           I was planning on addressing tonight, which  
10          is the YWCA, which was brought up again. I  
11          make no apologies for choosing trying to  
12          help create jobs in the city and have  
13          economic growth. That's my position. We  
14          just disagree. That's what I fought for,  
15          I'm glad the vote went the way it did, and  
16          I'm very thankful that this project will be  
17          moving forward.

18                    Next, regarding the CDBG  
19          allocations, I will get in touch with Linda  
20          Aebli to see what direction she plans on  
21          moving in and, as we have in the past, I'm  
22          sure council will be making amendments. In  
23          the past, one of the things I'm very proud  
24          is this entire council has made a priority  
25          of using those funds for projects to benefit



1 the entire community. Increasing  
2 allocations for road paving, which is direly  
3 needed in the city. It's been increased I  
4 believe every year since I have been on  
5 council and since this council took over.  
6 Funding for blight removal, which is very  
7 important in our neighborhoods. Different  
8 items to help our neighborhoods.

9 Some of the things that I fought  
10 for, and many of us have removed out of  
11 there were more frivolous spending. I  
12 believe in the past tens of thousands of  
13 dollars were spent on tickets for the  
14 transport low income individuals to Broadway  
15 plans and things of that nature, which is  
16 all well and good, but I don't believe  
17 that's an adequate use of taxpayer dollars.

18 I do have a few requests tonight,  
19 and one of them, I guess sticking on the  
20 theme of the night, we are talking about  
21 truck traffic, this is regarding a stop sign  
22 on South Cameron and Washburn, and attached  
23 here is an ordinance prohibiting the truck  
24 traffic having a gross weight of 5 tons or  
25 more on the 100 block of South Cameron and

1 the 23 and 23 hundred blocks of Washburn  
2 Street, and that legislation is here as well  
3 as restricting the parking or standing of  
4 light vehicles in that neighborhood. The  
5 residents report that the stop sign was once  
6 again ripped down. It was put back up on  
7 the DPW, but not in the proper location.

8 Mrs. Krake, could we please let the  
9 DPW be made aware of this situation and as  
10 well as -- and I know there are quite a few  
11 areas where truck traffic bans are issued  
12 this one as well for the police department.

13 Next, a city resident called with a  
14 complaint about house at 913 and 915 Eynon  
15 Street. They said the house was condemned  
16 in 2012, there was an oil spill, and the  
17 complaint says that Mr. Seitzinger lifted  
18 the condemnation without a general  
19 inspection and also without having DEP  
20 inspect because of the oil spill.

21 If we could please send this to  
22 Mr. Seitzinger to have him let us know  
23 what's going on in this property.

24 And finally, I'm not going to read  
25 the letter because it is a bit lengthy, but

1           there are multiple issues on East Mountain  
2           that different residents have had. An issue  
3           of blight on Snook Street, the edge of the  
4           road on East Mountain Road being covered  
5           with leaves and litter. The condition of  
6           the firehouse on East Mountain Road. This  
7           is a wintertime issue, puddles that become  
8           ice on Seymour Avenue, which can be very  
9           dangerous in the winter.

10                         Also, the stop signs at the top of  
11           East Mountain Road, many of them are worn  
12           out and a lot of them are ignored, so I  
13           think that is definitely something that  
14           needs to be addressed, and I mentioned this  
15           before about East Mountain and West Mountain  
16           that a lot of times these neighborhoods,  
17           unfortunately, get neglected, but when you  
18           actually look at the tax rolls, the taxes in  
19           both of these neighborhoods are higher than  
20           other areas in the city, so they deserve the  
21           same services as everyone else.

22                         So I will provide this as well, and  
23           I'll save my other comments for agenda  
24           items. Thank you.

25                         MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman

1 Loscombe, do you have any comments or  
2 motions?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, just briefly.  
4 First of all, I'd like to welcome my  
5 colleagues back to Court here. A recess has  
6 given us a chance to get a little breather  
7 and probably a chance to work on some family  
8 projects, get to see our families again, and  
9 even though it was a recess for us I know we  
10 were all still working on constituent  
11 issues.

12 And as Mr. Rogan stated, the issue  
13 back at Cameron Avenue, again, that is good,  
14 I'm glad you brought it up because I was  
15 aware of that issue, also. And the traffic  
16 signs, I have also heard that just today  
17 that there is considerable amount of Colts  
18 bus traffic using North Merrifield Avenue,  
19 which --

20 MS. EVANS: That's going to be  
21 stopped, I think.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Okay, because Keyser  
23 Avenue still --

24 MS. EVANS: But I believe Chief  
25 Graziano was going to contact Colts and, you

1 know, ask that the buses will proceed, I  
2 guess, on Keyser rather than going down into  
3 the neighborhoods, so that should be taken  
4 care of almost immediately.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, because I heard  
6 there was as much as 42 buses in one day  
7 just traveling that residential route, so it  
8 does appear we have issues on different  
9 parts of the city with truck traffic.

10 MS. EVANS: Everywhere.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: And hopefully we will  
12 get these issues straightened out and  
13 enforced. I know it's tough because our  
14 police department is spread thin and we  
15 don't have a sign department anymore, so I  
16 don't know how we are obtaining our signs at  
17 this point, but that's something I would  
18 like to see in the future come back because  
19 I think it's very important, our signage,  
20 especially crosswalks now with the school  
21 areas and everything. They are sorely  
22 needed, so I just hope that that stuff comes  
23 back.

24 But, again, it's good to be back  
25 here. Good to hear the issues again. As I

1           stated, you may have been on recess, but we  
2           have been working on several different  
3           issues and they will be reported on as we  
4           go.

5                        I did attend the meeting about a  
6           week ago conducted by our state  
7           representative Marty Flynn at Holy Rosary in  
8           North Scranton for the neighbors up there of  
9           the Rockwell Avenue bridge who were  
10          concerned about, you know, the timeliness of  
11          what's going on. We do have legislation  
12          this evening that would be introducing and  
13          hopefully be able to fast track it next  
14          week. It does appear even with this here  
15          legislation that that bridge probably  
16          won't -- won't be completed, I think it's a  
17          liberal estimate maybe with good weather  
18          next summer, it could be completed next  
19          summer, but they are not looking at  
20          completing it until late fall, early winter  
21          next year.

22                       The one advantage to the legislation  
23          that we are passing tonight to the residents  
24          of this city is the refinancing package for  
25          it and stuff like that, instead of the city

1            paying 20 percent our cut is reduced to 5  
2            percent, so it's over \$300,000 savings for  
3            the city but, unfortunately, it's taken so  
4            long. I don't mean -- I mean, it could have  
5            been -- it should have been closed long  
6            before it was, we were fortunate, that's how  
7            bad it is, but I think we are on track now  
8            and with this legislation it's going to be  
9            advance. We have good news that possibly in  
10           the next few months before Christmas the  
11           Linden Street bridge will be open, West  
12           Linden Street, and the Moosic Street bridge,  
13           also, at least two lanes one way on one lane  
14           another way should be opened within the next  
15           I believe month or so was the report that  
16           was given. So we are starting to get access  
17           back and forth in the city and hopefully we  
18           still have other bridges to work on.

19                            And ironically, the bridge, the West  
20           Lackawanna bridge that I have reported on so  
21           frequently, that section finally collapsed.  
22           It was fortunate that they had that plywood  
23           up there, otherwise, it could have been a  
24           catastrophe, but there is a big chunk laying  
25           on the ground below, and again, fortunately

1           it wasn't going over the railroad tracks  
2           where it collapsed or there was a road  
3           underneath there. It's a dead end spot, so  
4           that was a blessing, but I do believe -- did  
5           I see somewhere where bids for the  
6           engineering and stuff have been approved or  
7           was it Shoener for the engineering?

8                     MS. KRAKE: I'd have to check.

9                     MR. LOSCOMBE: I thought I just saw  
10           that because I believe that was up, but --

11                    MS. EVANS: But, if I could.

12                    MR. LOSCOMBE: Hopefully it --

13                    MS. EVANS: Just one quick comment  
14           on the Rockwell Avenue bridge, Mr. Loscombe  
15           is correct in that the funding for the  
16           project will be shifting, whereas, you know,  
17           previously the federal government provided  
18           80 percent and the city was to provide 20  
19           percent, but now we are going to be involved  
20           in a situation where again the federal  
21           government will provide 80 percent, but the  
22           State of Pennsylvania will provide 15  
23           percent, and the city will provide only 5  
24           percent.

25                    Now, that may create a \$300,000



1 savings. But, on the other hand, it may  
2 also create only a \$40,000 savings because  
3 there was a ten-year time limit set by the  
4 federal government on such projects, and the  
5 city exceeded the ten-year time limit and as  
6 such the city may be required to refund the  
7 federal government approximately \$260,000 so  
8 that now we are hoping that won't occur, but  
9 we must be realize it very well could occur  
10 and that would drive down our savings that  
11 would be incurred in this shift from 20  
12 percent to 5 percent down to more likely  
13 \$40,000 in savings.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Ironically, if we  
15 didn't have this shift and that happened we  
16 would be paying \$40,000 more than we  
17 originally would have, so it's just -- you  
18 know, I don't know if they haven't taken it  
19 serious over the years some of these  
20 projects. It was the same thing with our  
21 streetlights, the directional signals. We  
22 were that close to losing over \$900,000, we  
23 had extensions on that, on the city's  
24 portion for the design work because we were  
25 right at the tail end at getting that done

1 and I don't know why. There is just no  
2 reason for these projects to be delayed  
3 until the 11th and sometimes the 13th hour  
4 with a little extension beyond the 11th  
5 hour. But, you know, we have to be more  
6 prudent in the future so we don't lose these  
7 opportunities, you know, and hurt our  
8 constituents even more, but basically that's  
9 all I have. Thank you.

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

12 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I'll try to be as  
13 brief as possible. First, I wanted to start  
14 out tonight by thanking the Scranton La  
15 Festa Committee on their hard work and  
16 diligence that they have put in to this  
17 year's Italian festival. I had the  
18 opportunity to volunteer with some members  
19 of the Scranton Jaycees at the festival and  
20 I got to meet some members of the committee  
21 and they really do a great job putting forth  
22 a lot of volunteer hours to make that  
23 festival a success and to bring a lot of  
24 people into the downtown area. It brings in  
25 permit revenue into the city and I think

1 overall it's a very beneficial part of the  
2 city and it's all -- it also honors part of  
3 the city's heritage.

4 Now, secondly tonight, I just wanted  
5 to give a brief update of where the city is  
6 as far as money that it's received from the  
7 Single Tax Office. As of the end of the  
8 August of 2012, the city received  
9 \$11,303,411.31 in real estate tax revenue.  
10 This year the city has received  
11 \$14,356,619.41 in real estate tax revenue,  
12 so that's an increase of slightly over \$3  
13 million or 27 percent.

14 Now, mind you, we did have a 22  
15 percent tax increase, however, we still are  
16 seeing a greater percentage of the revenue  
17 coming in than the tax increase was, so  
18 that's a very positive note that indicates  
19 that the people are current on paying their  
20 taxes.

21 Delinquent real estate tax as of the  
22 end of August 2012, the city had received  
23 \$450,341.05. This year, as of the end of  
24 August, the city received \$509,349.72.  
25 That's an increase of \$59,008.57 or 13.1

1 percent.

2 The Local Service Tax as of the end  
3 of the August of 2012, the city had received  
4 \$967,987.91. As of the end of August in  
5 2013, the city received \$1,211,063.64. This  
6 is an increase of \$243,075.73 or 25.11  
7 percent.

8 Business privilege and mercantile  
9 taxes, as of end of August of 2012 the city  
10 received \$1,647,418.27. As of the end of  
11 August this year the city has received  
12 \$2,041,569.49, which is an increase of 23.93  
13 percent.

14 So overall revenue from the tax  
15 office is coming through very well I would  
16 say, and I would just like to thank the  
17 staff over there and Mr. Courtright for  
18 doing a good job.

19 In other news, the audit, I received  
20 an e-mail over the recess actually from Ms.  
21 Schumacher about the audit, and I know that  
22 in the past it was stated that the timeline  
23 while they projected completion date for the  
24 audit would be in June or July, and  
25 obviously that hasn't happened, there are

1           some outstanding issues, I don't think it's  
2           as bad as it was at the this point last  
3           year, but the following was to be provided  
4           by April 15: The Parking Authority audited  
5           financial statements as of December 31,  
6           2012, and we don't have that yet, and there  
7           are three open memos that Rossi & Rossi had  
8           also notified us about. The workmens'  
9           compensation and cash investments, six  
10          questions follow-up and the workmens'  
11          compensation posting.

12                        I will address this with Ms.  
13          McAndrew, our business administrator, and  
14          hopefully report on when these memos will be  
15          resolved and also when a completed audit of  
16          the SPA will be obtained as well.

17                        We also received some information or  
18          actually a letter that was sent to the mayor  
19          by John O'Shea, who is the president of the  
20          Composite Pension Bard and he writes: "On  
21          August 28, 2013, the Pennsylvania plan  
22          actuarial, Bayer-Barber, presented the  
23          actuarial valuation results of the City of  
24          Scranton's pension plan as of January 31,  
25          2013. I have included a summary page by

1 Bayer-Barber which outlines the city's 2014  
2 minimum municipal obligation," as we refer  
3 as the MMO, "and the MMO adjusted for relief  
4 under Act 44.

5 By definition, the MMO only  
6 establishes a minimum compliance with that  
7 Act 205. It does not ensure the plans  
8 solvency. It is the board's strong  
9 recommendation that the City of Scranton  
10 fund its pension beyond the MMO before Act  
11 44 relief.

12 As indicated by Randy Siegle, CEO of  
13 Bayer-Barber, contributions at the MMO level  
14 with Act 47 relief are not sufficient to  
15 fund the plan. Given the desperately low  
16 funding levels of the fire pension fund,  
17 which is at 17.5 percent, non-uniform, which  
18 is a 24.2, and the police, which is at 30.4  
19 percent funded, there is a significant  
20 concern regarding the continued solvency of  
21 the plan. All of the plans professionals,  
22 including actuarial, administrative and  
23 investment and the legal concur with the  
24 Composite Board recommendation to use the  
25 MMO before Act 44 relief as a baseline for

1 the City's 2014 contribution."

2 And, as we know, there was an  
3 article in the Scranton Times regarding the  
4 increase to the MMO and, unfortunately, for  
5 the city it looks like that the city will be  
6 contributing more to fund pensions in 2014,  
7 which is an additional expense beyond 2013  
8 and the Composite Pension Board recommends  
9 that we go beyond that additional expense  
10 and we have to decide whether or not that's  
11 feasible or not in the whole realm of things  
12 that are being discussed, especially since  
13 PEL is saying in a worst case scenario they  
14 are projecting or they would recommend a 118  
15 percent tax increase, so there is many  
16 issues that have to be tackled here.

17 There is the whole pension fund MMO  
18 issue for next year. There is revenue  
19 sources that have to be discussed for next  
20 year such as a commuter tax. There is a lot  
21 of open issues as far as the Supreme Court  
22 award. I know progressions have been made  
23 on that, and I did receive an e-mail from  
24 Gina Andrew recently, which I will forward  
25 to everyone, and what I am in the process of

1 the doing with her is trying to set up a  
2 meeting next week to discuss some of the  
3 city's cash flow issues to discuss the  
4 future and to discuss what we have to do to  
5 basically make it through the end of the  
6 year, and I would invite any council member  
7 who would like to come to contact me if they  
8 wish to do so.

9 But to conclude tonight, I'll be  
10 here for a few more months and we have some  
11 pressing things on the table. We have a  
12 very large -- or PEL is basically saying we  
13 have to tax the crap out of people in the  
14 City of Scranton and in order to fill an  
15 operating deficit for next year. I'm  
16 recommending that we pursue all revenue  
17 sources that we possibly could as well as  
18 try to refinance debt. We need a commuter  
19 tax, we need to refinance debt, and we need  
20 to try to keep the tax increases low as  
21 possible so that the City of Scranton and  
22 its residents can afford to stay here.

23 Right now to give you an estimate of  
24 what PEL would recommend, it would be an  
25 additional \$500 expense per year, a tax



1           increase of 100 or 110 percent. It would be  
2           an extra \$500,000 out of the average  
3           homeowners' pocket and, as you know,  
4           Scranton is a city that is home to many  
5           senior citizens living off of social  
6           security and fixed incomes and they can't  
7           afford that.

8                         So my goal for the last few months  
9           while I'm still on council is to work harder  
10          than I ever have before to try to see that  
11          the tax increase for 2014 is minimized by as  
12          much as it could be.

13                        And interestingly enough, you know,  
14          Lee Morgan came up here tonight and made  
15          some interesting statements about the  
16          solution being in Harrisburg and I believe  
17          that a big part of the solution is in  
18          Harrisburg. In the future, when I'm not on  
19          council, because obviously we know what we  
20          have to work with this year, to provide some  
21          brief background Harrisburg limits what we  
22          can do as far as taxes our concerned. Who  
23          we could tax, and basically our taxation  
24          powers. Harrisburg must work to institute  
25          an increase in the sales tax to offset

1 property taxes. I think that would be a  
2 good measure. And also, I would very much  
3 like to see Harrisburg pass legislation to  
4 allow cities to impose an impact fee for  
5 public safety in order to keep property  
6 taxes low, an impact fee that nonprofits  
7 would also pay into.

8 So I would just like to say that  
9 Mr. Morgan's comments tonight made a lot of  
10 sense. Council is basically strapped with  
11 what they can do to keep taxes low. The  
12 solutions have to come from above us at this  
13 point, and that's all I have to say tonight.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Evans, if I  
16 could just -- tonight on 5-G we will be  
17 authorizing the mayor and other appropriate  
18 city officials to execute and enter into an  
19 inspection services contract with Shoener  
20 Environmental to provide design and  
21 construction inspections services for the  
22 construction work for the project entitled,  
23 "West Lackawanna Avenue bridge approval  
24 project."

25 So it looks like that's the

1                   successful engineer that will be designing  
2                   the bridge.

3                   MS. EVANS: Thank you.

4                   MR. LOSCOMBE: I knew I had gotten  
5                   some information on it now. It's here  
6                   tonight.

7                   MS. EVANS: Thank you.

8                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Our bridges are  
9                   moving forward and that's something that we  
10                  have approved several months ago to be bid.

11                  MS. EVANS: Good evening. I'd like  
12                  to welcome everyone back to the these  
13                  chambers as we begin Scranton City Council  
14                  fall session. During the August recess, as  
15                  my colleague Mr. Loscombe noted, the work of  
16                  the administration and city council  
17                  continued. I wish to provide you with a  
18                  brief update of the several items of  
19                  interest.

20                  First, paving program bids were  
21                  opened on August 26, 2013, for the following  
22                  streets in West Scranton: Seventh Avenue 50  
23                  feet from each side of the overpass. In the  
24                  downtown, North Washington Avenue, 100, 200,  
25                  300 blocks from Lackawanna Avenue to

1 Mulberry Street. Lackawanna Avenue to 300  
2 and 400 blocks of Penn Avenue, including the  
3 entire intersection to Washington Avenue,  
4 and Jefferson Avenue, the 600 block.

5 In the Hill Section, Clay Avenue,  
6 the 900 and 1,000 blocks from Myrtle Street  
7 to Popular Street. Madison Avenue, the  
8 1,000 block from Ash Street to Popular  
9 Street, and Arthur Avenue. The 400, 500 and  
10 a portion of the 600 blocks from Mulberry  
11 Street to 230 feet north of Olive Street.

12 In South Scranton, Meadow Avenue,  
13 100 and 200 blocks for Moosic Street to  
14 River Street.

15 And finally, in Greenridge, Albright  
16 Avenue from the paved joint near Court  
17 Street across the bridge to the flood wall  
18 joint. Also, the 1300 to 1500 blocks of  
19 Albright Avenue, which will include the  
20 paved joint to Marian Street.

21 Second, the Office of City Council  
22 received the engineering study of Lake  
23 Scranton Road which was conducted by Civil  
24 Crossroads Consulting Engineers, LLC. The  
25 study determined that vehicles could use

1 Elmhurst Boulevard rather than Lake Scranton  
2 Road and recommended that the city place  
3 weight restrictions on this residential  
4 road, among others.

5 Therefore, in light of this  
6 engineering study, I asked Mrs. Krake to  
7 send a letter to the mayor and City  
8 Solicitor Kelly urging them to abide by the  
9 legislation legally and lawfully adopted by  
10 city council in November 2012 and post  
11 appropriate signage as soon as possible on  
12 Lake Scranton Road. And following the  
13 installation of the signage, Mrs. Krake,  
14 please inform Chief Graziano that the police  
15 department would be able to enforce the city  
16 ordinance and signage.

17 Now, granted, there were a number of  
18 other recommendations mentioned by some of  
19 my colleagues, including a pedestrian lane  
20 or bike lane, paving of the street,  
21 etcetera, obviously, these have not been  
22 included. I should say the funding for such  
23 projects have not been included in the  
24 current year's budget. However, if council  
25 members are interested in pursuing those

1 changes for that area, then that is  
2 something that they must consider when  
3 reviewing the mayor's proposed budget for  
4 the Year 2014.

5 In addition, please send a letter to  
6 Chief Graziano regarding the truck ban in  
7 the Bellevue area. In his correspondence to  
8 council on January 23, 2013, the chief  
9 indicated that he had reviewed a 1994  
10 traffic study conducted by Bogart  
11 Engineering and the placement of signage and  
12 it was the opinion of the police department  
13 that the issue is enforcement related.

14 However, residents report that the  
15 truck traffic continues daily despite the  
16 presence of the police cars at either the  
17 South Side Complex or St. John's Church  
18 parking lots. What is the number of  
19 citations issued to trucks and/or tractor  
20 trailers traveling in the Bellevue area  
21 since January 2013? Can the few officers  
22 who are certified in weights and measures be  
23 assigned to this area on a temporary basis  
24 to enforce the truck ban and weight  
25 restrictions in order to send a message to

1 trucking companies that Bellevue is off  
2 limits and violators will be cited.

3 And I think further, if you are  
4 sending a message in one area it's going to  
5 apply to the others, so that once the  
6 signage is posted on Lake Scranton Road I'm  
7 sure many of the truck drivers will receive  
8 the word or the message that Scranton is  
9 serious about enforcing it's weight measures  
10 and it's truck bans in designated areas and  
11 those who violate it will be issued and  
12 cited.

13 Now, the problem in Bellevue has  
14 been ongoing for nearly 20 years, and it's a  
15 cave-in area and this area needs a deserves  
16 a solution.

17 Third, council received a petition  
18 for permanent parking on the 900 block of  
19 Prescott Avenue and forwarded it to Chief  
20 Graziano on August 27, 2013, for  
21 determination. When a response is received,  
22 it will be reported publically.

23 Fourth, the city finalized a contact  
24 with KKPR Parking and Public Relations of  
25 Milford, Pennsylvania, for preparation and

1 implementation of the market based revenue  
2 opportunities or MBRO program which will be  
3 effective through June 1, 2016.

4 Fifth, on July 29, 2013, the City of  
5 Scranton received a check for \$17,000 from  
6 the University of Scranton for payment of  
7 false alarm billing from February through  
8 June 2013. Following a motion approved by  
9 the majority of the city council to withhold  
10 permits until delinquent bills were made by  
11 the University.

12 Sixth, in response to a citizen's  
13 request regarding the status of United  
14 Neighborhood Community Development  
15 Corporation revitalization projects on Cedar  
16 area avenue, city council received the  
17 following letter from Michael J. Handly,  
18 executive director:

19 "The development known as Cedar 500  
20 has been fully funded through multiple  
21 sources and will construct 30 new apartment  
22 units in the five and six hundred blocks of  
23 Cedar Avenue, as well as the three and four  
24 hundred blocks of Alder Street. The  
25 development has been approved by both the





1 Residents request installation of stop signs  
2 on Elm Street and Broadway where each  
3 intersects with the Heritage Trail.  
4 Pedestrians, including mothers with children  
5 in strollers, walkers and joggers, are  
6 experiencing dangerous traffic conditions at  
7 these crosswalks. They have reported that  
8 drivers accelerate or swerve in the opposite  
9 lane of traffic rather than yield to  
10 pedestrians on a daily basis. Although  
11 yield signs are posted, they are inadequate  
12 to prevent an accident at these popular  
13 trail locations.

14 Also, stop signs are located in the  
15 parking areas for trail users as they exit  
16 the lots, but they are none at the  
17 crosswalks located at Elm Street and  
18 Broadway. Please send letters to the city  
19 engineer and the police chief requesting  
20 that they investigate these conditions and  
21 post stop signs at these locations if  
22 necessary, and that's it.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Evans?

24 MS. EVANS: Yes.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: I apologize, but if

1           would just allow me one more. You touched  
2           on it and it reminded me after the last  
3           meeting and when we had requested the  
4           payment for the false alarms from the  
5           University of Scranton, I just want to  
6           clarify something. False alarms are false  
7           alarms. When the city responds there to  
8           rescue people from the elevators that's not  
9           chargeable, that's not a false alarm. They  
10          respond their for cooking incidents where  
11          toasters set off the alarm, that's a not a  
12          false alarm. False alarms<sup>4</sup> are when they  
13          are called in falsely or students  
14          mischievously pull a station and spray the  
15          fire extinguishers in the hallway, stuff  
16          like that. That's what constituted the  
17          false alarm charges and apparently the  
18          University does have signage up there that  
19          any student caught doing that is responsible  
20          to ultimately pay it, so I don't know if  
21          they have collected on their part yet or  
22          not.

23                                But I just want to clarify that  
24                                because I think people think that every time  
25                                there is an alarm up there they are being

1 charged for it and that's not the case.  
2 They are responding quite a bit and, of  
3 course, the University is not the only  
4 place, many of our hospitals and stuff like  
5 have a number of alarms that come in and  
6 some of them false, maybe a child pulling a  
7 station or whatever and the hospitals'  
8 alarms go off when they are doing a spray  
9 treatment or a breathing treatment for a  
10 patient. That's not a false alarm. It  
11 activated the alarm because of a substance  
12 because there is a distinct difference, so I  
13 just wanted to clarify that because a few  
14 people have asked me. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And that  
16 reminded me of just one more brief update, I  
17 spoke with the mayor today about the  
18 delinquent garbage fees and he indicated  
19 that additional time was provided to those  
20 who owed delinquencies to make payment,  
21 which is why it has not yet been advertised  
22 in the newspaper. However, the  
23 administration is hoping that these  
24 delinquencies will be advertised next week  
25 as a separate section in the Scranton Times

1           since the number of delinquencies are so  
2           lengthy, the mayor has indicated that it can  
3           be as much as ten to 11 pages worth and so  
4           certainly we are hoping that these  
5           delinquencies are collected as soon as  
6           possible.

7                         And the mayor also stated that there  
8           is a concerted effort, and I think  
9           Councilman McGoff discussed this at a  
10          previous meeting, a concerted effort  
11          involving the ten largest offenders and  
12          should they not all make payment in full  
13          they will be pursued and there will be  
14          repercussions. And that's it.

15                        MS. KRAKE: 5-B. APPROVING AND  
16          ACCEPTING THE UPDATED CITY OF SCRANTON  
17          CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2014 THE  
18          FIRST-YEAR REVISION AND EXTENSION OF THE  
19          2013 FIVE YEAR PLAN.

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

23                        MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24                        MR. JOYCE: Second.

25                        MS. EVANS: On the question? All

1                   those in favor signify by saying aye.

2                   MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

3                   MR. ROGAN: Aye.

4                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

5                   MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

8                   MS. KRAKE: 5-C. CREATING AND  
9                   ESTABLISHING A NEW ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY OF  
10                  SCRANTON'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY  
11                  DEVELOPMENT ("OECD") TITLED PA DCED HOUSING  
12                  AND REDEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HRA)  
13                  REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS ACCOUNT NO. 19A0101 FOR  
14                  THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS  
15                  ("DCED HRA GRANT FUNDS") RECEIVED FROM THE  
16                  SCRANTON-CONNELL, LLC.

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

20                  MR. ROGAN: So moved.

21                  MR. JOYCE: Second.

22                  MS. EVANS: On the question? I  
23                  believe it is wise to set up a separate  
24                  account for this particular matter. If  
25                  everyone remembers, proceeds received by the

1 city from the Scranton Connell, LLC, must be  
2 used for loans for businesses. That's what  
3 is considered the first round of the  
4 repayment. When you enter the second round  
5 of repayment, which would be those  
6 businesses, repaying the city for the loans  
7 they would receive as a result of the  
8 proceeds of Scranton Connell, that second  
9 round is what is categorized as RE-RE funds  
10 and they can be used for any purpose within  
11 the City of Scranton.

12 So I think this is appropriate.  
13 It's wise to set up the account, keep it  
14 separate, and to keep it utilized for HUD's  
15 designated purpose, which is loans to  
16 businesses.

17 All those in favor signify by saying  
18 aye.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

22 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

25 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. AUTHORIZING THE

1 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS  
2 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A SUPPLEMENTAL  
3 REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 041222-D WITH  
4 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE  
5 PURPOSE OF INCREASING AND RE-ALLOCATING THE  
6 FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR DESIGN, RIGHT OF WAY,  
7 UTILITY COSTS AND CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FOR  
8 THE ROCKWELL AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT.

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

12 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

13 MR. JOYCE: Second.

14 MS. EVANS: On the question?

15 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I'd just like to  
16 make a brief comment. I'd like to thank  
17 Representative Flynn and, of course,  
18 Councilman Loscombe. I was unable to attend  
19 the meeting that night, but I did have a  
20 good discussion with Representative Flynn.  
21 About ten minutes after the meeting we were  
22 on the phone discussing this and the  
23 residents of North Scranton have waited for  
24 too long for this bridge, and being a  
25 resident of West Side I know for sure what



1           it's like to be without a bridge, we had a  
2           couple, the Crisp Avenue, which we fought  
3           hard to have reopened, and we have a couple  
4           of more that we are working with PennDOT  
5           now, so we look forward to have this project  
6           completed for the residents of North  
7           Scranton.

8                         MS. EVANS:  And I know that  
9           Councilman Loscombe during motions discussed  
10          that at length what is behind this  
11          legislation in terms of the Rockwell Avenue  
12          Bridge project, but just to reiterate the  
13          one item, the reason for this legislation is  
14          the fact that the city exceeded the ten-year  
15          limit for federal fund funding, and within  
16          that ten-year limit the federal government  
17          is expecting the municipality to progress  
18          from design through construction and  
19          right-of-way and that did not occur.

20                        So PennDOT is now in the process of  
21          getting the project refunded for the  
22          right-of-way and construction and by doing  
23          so that will change that funding formula for  
24          which the city is responsible.

25                        MR. ROGAN:  And just to add one

1                   thing, I know Jack, Mr. Loscombe, you  
2                   mentioned under motions about possibly  
3                   moving it up. I think that would be  
4                   something that would be great if we could do  
5                   it two readings.

6                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

7                   MR. ROGAN: Next week.

8                   MS. EVANS: Well, actually, it's  
9                   only a resolution so there would only be two  
10                  readings and next week will be the final.

11                  All those in favor signify by saying  
12                  aye.

13                  MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

14                  MR. ROGAN: Aye.

15                  MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

16                  MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

19                  MS. KRAKE: 5-E. ACCEPTING A  
20                  DONATION OF ONE HUNDRED (\$100.00) DOLLARS  
21                  FROM ANTHRACITE HERITAGE MUSEUM AND IRON  
22                  FURNACES ASSOCIATES PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF  
23                  SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

24                  MS. EVANS: At this time I'll  
25                  entertain a motion that Item 5-E be

1 introduced into its proper committee.

2 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

3 MR. JOYCE: Second.

4 MS. EVANS: On the question? This  
5 money is being donated to the fire  
6 department in appreciation for their  
7 assistance in numerous community gatherings.

8 All those in favor signify by saying  
9 aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

13 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

16 MS. KRAKE: 5-F. AUTHORIZING THE  
17 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS  
18 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF  
19 AGREEMENT THAT THE CITY OF SCRANTON WILL  
20 COOPERATE WITH LACKAWANNA COUNTY IN  
21 PREPARING THE 5 YEAR UPDATE OF THE 2009  
22 BI-COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND APPOINT  
23 CITY PLANNER, DON KING AS OUR MUNICIPAL  
24 REPRESENTATIVE.

25 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll

1 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be  
2 introduced into its proper committee.

3 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

4 MR. JOYCE: Second.

5 MS. EVANS: On the question? The  
6 county received both federal and state  
7 funding to update the plan so there will be  
8 no cost to the City of Scranton and  
9 participation relieves the city from having  
10 to prepare its own individual plan at its  
11 own expense, and so by joining in this it  
12 keeps the city eligible for disaster  
13 funding, and I believe that the entire  
14 process will take 18 months and conclude in  
15 late 2014.

16 All those in favor signify by saying  
17 aye.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

19 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

24 MS. KRAKE: 5-G. AUTHORIZING THE  
25 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS

1 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN INSPECTION  
2 SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SHOENER ENVIRONMENTAL  
3 TO PROVIDE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
4 INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION  
5 WORK FOR THE PROJECT ENTITLED: "WEST  
6 LACKAWANNA AVENUE BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT  
7 PROJECT".

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

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. JOYCE: Second.

13 MS. EVANS: On the question?

14 This contract is for \$89,600 and it  
15 is funded through HUD and the funding was  
16 applied for by OECD. The contract remains  
17 in effect through December 31, 2014, and  
18 RFPs were issued by the city.

19 All those in favor signify by saying  
20 aye.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

24 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. NO

3 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

4 SEVENTH ORDER. NO BUSINESS AT THIS

5 TIME.

6 MS. EVANS: If there is no further

7 business, I'll entertain a motion to

8 adjourn.

9 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

10 MS. EVANS: This meeting is

11 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.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER