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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, October 3, 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
- KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 (Not present.)

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

11 (Not present.)

12 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

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

15 (Mr. Rogan and Mr. Joyce take the
16 dais and join the meeting while the minutes
17 are being read.)

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

19 MINUTES OF THE FIREMEN'S PENSION COMMISSION
20 MEETING HELD AUGUST 28, 2013.

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

23 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE
24 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST
25 28, 2013.

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

3 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE
4 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
5 HELD AUGUST 28, 2013.

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

8 MS. KRAKE: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
9 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE
10 AUTHORITY'S REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST
11 15, 2013.

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

14 3-E. SINGLE TAX OFFICE CITY FUNDS
15 DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON FOR THE YEARS
16 2012-2013.

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

19 MS. KRAKE: 3-F. AGENDA FOR THE
20 ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD
21 OCTOBER 9, 2013.

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

24 MS. KRAKE: 3-G. AUDIT STATEMENT OF
25 THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR

1 ENDING MARCH 31, 2013.

2 Ms EVANS: Are there any comments?

3 If not, received and filed.

4 MS. KRAKE: 3-H. AUDIT STATUS
5 REPORTS RECEIVED FROM ROBERT ROSSI & COMPANY
6 DATED SEPTEMBER 18 AND SEPTEMBER 26, 2013.

7 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?

8 If not, received and filed.

9 MS. KRAKE: 3-I. TAX ASSESSOR'S
10 REPORT FOR HEARING AND APPEAL RESULTS DATED
11 SEPTEMBER 11, 2013.

12 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?

13 If not, received and filed.

14 MS. KRAKE: 3-J. TAX ASSESSOR'S
15 REPORT FOR HEARINGS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 18,
16 SEPTEMBER 25, AND OCTOBER 2, 2013.

17 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?

18 If not, received and filed.

19 MS. KRAKE: 3-K. TAX ASSESSOR'S
20 REPORTS FOR HEARINGS TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER
21 9, 16, 17, 23, 24, AND 30, 2013.

22 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?

23 If not, received and filed.

24 Do we have any clerk's notes
25 tonight, Mrs. Krake?

1 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any
3 council members have announcements at this
4 time? And before you begin, please let the
5 record state that Councilman Joyce and
6 Councilman Rogan are in attendance at
7 tonight's meeting.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: I just have one.
9 First of all, I would like to announce the
10 Troop 57 from Holy Rosary Boy Scouts are
11 here this evening working on their
12 citizenship badge, and I think it's great
13 and whoever advised you picked a good
14 meeting because there is not a lot on the
15 agenda tonight, but if you would just stand
16 quickly so we could applaud you for work.
17 Keep up the good work. If you have any
18 questions for us, feel free to ask later.
19 Thank you.

20 MS. EVANS: And an acknowledgment to
21 the gentlemen who are accompanying these
22 fine men, I believe the scout leaders, so
23 they're certainly I think deserving of a
24 round of applause, too, for all of the
25 voluntary work that they do. Anyone else?

1 MR. MCGOFF: Just one very briefly,
2 a personal one, I'd just like to wish my
3 uncle Joe well and hope that he is watching
4 next week from at home and not where he is
5 at tonight.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

7 MR. ROGAN: I also have one, the
8 West Scranton Hyde Park Neighborhood Watch
9 is having a spaghetti dinner fundraiser
10 October 6 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Villa
11 Marie II. There is eat in meals, takeout
12 meals and delivery to senior living
13 locations who preorder meals. The cost is
14 \$10 which includes pasta, meatballs, salad
15 and bread, and there will also be basket
16 raffles at the fundraiser.

17 MS. EVANS: The Elm Park Church
18 located at the corner of Jefferson Avenue
19 and Linden Street in Scranton will present
20 the program "An Early History of our Church
21 and Community" on October 7, 2013, at 6:30
22 p.m. Speakers include Gino Aleo, historical
23 interpreter, who will provide an overview
24 and insights; Tom Costello, who will offer
25 an illustrated presentation of the America

1 says that the median for the country
2 something like \$52,400, something like that;
3 is that right; Frank?

4 MR. JOYCE: I don't know the exact
5 --

6 MR. ELLMAN: Something like that.

7 MR. JOYCE: -- figure, but the median
8 household income is --

9 MR. ELLMAN: You know how many doors
10 you would have to knock on in this city to
11 find somebody making a \$1,000 a week? You
12 know, half the city is retired and low
13 income. You know, I commend council for
14 resisting this 117 percent increase or
15 whatever it is, but there doesn't seem to be
16 no alternatives and people they just fear
17 this happening. You know, all I get is my
18 social security, which is less than \$1,000 a
19 month, and I have lived for six, seven years
20 on my savings and the equity in my house
21 and, you know, I can get by better than most
22 of the people I talk to for God's sake they
23 just don't have it anymore. The people have
24 given up. You know, they have just keep
25 giving and giving. It's got to stop

1 somewhere.

2 Mr. Miller brought the first
3 intelligent proposal of something to do and
4 council hasn't commented on it. It worked
5 for Pittsburgh, you know, and made the
6 Universities and the nonprofits there cave
7 in. You know, look where we are?
8 Lackawanna College advertises on billboards
9 and radio and television. They have taken
10 the heart of our city and they told the
11 people in this city to go to hell, they are
12 not paying for nothing.

13 Of course, the University of
14 Scranton that's another story. I saw the
15 paper 25 years ago they tried to get money
16 from them, you know, it's just -- they are
17 just a greedy, unscrupulous bunch of
18 parasites. But I have told you before the
19 University's achilles heel is bad publicity
20 and I have heard this from the horse's
21 mouth, so to speak. They don't want the
22 world to know how corrupt and evil and vile
23 they are to the people of this city. One
24 thing they don't want is the adversity of
25 bad publicity when they are trying to have

1 students come to this city. That's where
2 you need to attack them.

3 You know, I might sound like a
4 radical, but what we need is a march upon
5 this building. We need to have a march of
6 all of the taxpayers against city hall to
7 get the attention of this administration and
8 get the attention of all of these phony
9 nonprofits around here. There is thousands
10 of people out there that should do something
11 for crying out loud. They can certainly
12 come down here and block traffic and show
13 the world what we are going through. We are
14 just getting no where except raising taxes
15 and raising taxes.

16 You know, like I always tell you, I
17 have talked to six, eight people, I talked
18 to a man today on the phone they took his
19 food stamps and they gave him \$2 a month he
20 told me. I don't know how much his food
21 stamps were, but he said \$2 a month. Last
22 week when I left here I went over to Price
23 Rite and there's a guy with three big basket
24 fulls of soda in those long, I don't know
25 what you call them, the long cartons. He

1 had three basketfuls and I happened to know
2 who he is, he sells them at the South Side
3 Complex when they play soccer. He is buying
4 it with food stamps and here's a poor guy
5 that has a house and that was talking to me
6 about taxes they give him \$2 a month.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

8 MR. ELLMAN: These are the kind of
9 people that need our help somehow and I
10 think a march against city hall and to let
11 everybody know what the hell is going on in
12 this city because it's not going no place,
13 it's just staying right here. Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.

15 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

16 MS. EVANS: Bill Jackowitz.

17 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
18 Scranton City Council. Bill Jackowitz,
19 South Scranton resident.

20 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

21 MR. JACKOWITZ: Member of the
22 Taxpayers'. 7,937 days ago Scranton was
23 declared a distressed city under Act 47.
24 Scranton has had two mayors, Mayor Connors
25 and Mayor Doherty, soon to have a third

1 mayor who will be elected in the November.
2 Several city council presidents, Pocius,
3 Hazzouri, Murphy, DiBileo, Gatelli, McGoff
4 and Evans. What has changed in the past
5 7,937 days? Taxes have been raised numerous
6 times, the 500 block of Lackawanna Avenue
7 has been renovated at the cost of
8 approximately 30 million taxpayer dollars,
9 although, never completed or occupied by any
10 taxpaying business.

11 Currently, we have a burnt out
12 building anchoring one end of the block, a
13 vacant building, Molly Branigans, anchoring
14 another end of the block who, by the way,
15 owed the city a few hundred thousand
16 dollars.

17 Millions of taxpayer dollars have
18 been given to the Goodwill to renovate the
19 North Scranton Junior High School building.
20 Has the project ever been started, never
21 mind being completed? The Steamtown Mall
22 Association continues to owe the Scranton
23 Taxpayers while the mall continues to be a
24 burden on the city. Four times higher
25 vacancy rate than the average mall in the

1 United States. Provides minimum wage
2 part-time jobs.

3 Nay Aug Park has been renovated at a
4 cost of millions of dollars. A bridge that
5 leads to nowhere was constructed and a tree
6 house that has generated no revenue for the
7 city was constructed at the taxpayers'
8 expense. A \$5 a day swimming fee was
9 implemented by while the neighborhood free
10 pools have been closed and allowed to
11 deteriorate.

12 The Scranton Parking Authority was
13 dissolved and Robert Scopelitti lost his
14 job, although, Mike Washo landed a \$100 an
15 hour job controlling the parking garages of
16 Scranton which, by the way, are in need of
17 millions of dollars of repair and provide
18 shelter for the many homeless and unemployed
19 residents of Scranton.

20 Also, Scranton taxpayers continue to
21 repay the debt created by Mr. Scopelitti and
22 the previous Parking Authority. The reason
23 why the 2013 audit has not been completed is
24 that the private firms hired to manage the
25 Parking Authority have not provided Rossi &

1 Rossi with the audit information. Some
2 things never change.

3 Speaking of unemployment, Scranton
4 has remained at the top of the state
5 unemployment list for approximately 41
6 consecutive months. Poverty rate in
7 Scranton 33 percent and rising. Scranton
8 constructed a \$350,000 chain link fence at
9 Connell Park and called it a dog park. Most
10 cities constructed a dog park at the cost of
11 \$90,000 and have a dog park. The city
12 firefighters and police officers won a
13 landmark lawsuit and were awarded millions
14 of dollars by the Pennsylvania Supreme
15 Court. Why? Because Scranton elected and
16 appointed officials decided that it would be
17 in the best interest of the residents to
18 fight the unions in Court. Oh, well, you
19 can't win them all, although, it would be
20 nice to win one once in awhile.

21 For a period of time fire stations
22 were closed jeopardizing the safety of the
23 residents and commuters who work in the
24 city. Police officers removed from the
25 neighborhoods. Scranton city government

1 taxpayers have lost several court cases
2 which have cost the taxpayers. The police
3 and fire arbitration, the female police
4 officers' harassment case, the commuter tax
5 and minimum wage cases just to name a few.

6 Scranton's pension fund is
7 underfunded and received a severely
8 distressed rating amounting to 113.6 million
9 deficit. That's right. 113.6 million
10 deficit. Scranton retirees' health care
11 system is underfunded and will eventually
12 collapse.

13 Speaking of collapsing, the bridges
14 throughout the city are actually collapsing
15 causing major safety and congestion problems
16 for the residents/taxpayers of Scranton and
17 by all means we cannot and should not forget
18 the streets. Did I mention that the city
19 forgot to collect \$7.8 million in garbage
20 fees while they are attempting to collect
21 tax money from the commuters and nonprofits
22 and giving a \$25,000 raise to the mayor who
23 has not been elected yet.

24 How long has the city gone without a
25 cable franchise contract? Four years maybe?

1 Approximately seven or eight years
2 ago a t-shirt appeared that read "Legion of
3 Doom." The Legion of doom predicted the
4 outcome only to be ignored just take a look
5 around the City of Scranton. Tomorrow will
6 be day 7,938 of being a distressed city.
7 Doomsday is coming closer every day for
8 Scranton taxpayers. Will the embarrassment
9 ever end for Scranton residents?

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: Thank you.

12 MS. EVANS: Les Spindler.

13 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
14 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
15 homeowner and taxpayer.

16 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Recently in a drive
18 through Greenridge I noticed there were many
19 political signs past the sidewalk out by a
20 the curb. I could be wrong, but I think
21 there is an ordinance stating that's
22 illegal. It obstructs views of cars and if
23 memory serves me correct during Chris
24 Doherty's unsuccessful Senate run he had
25 many of his opponent's signs that were in

1 that same position taken down by DPW, so I
2 hope something is done with the signs that
3 are there now in Greenridge.

4 Moving on, I have been thinking
5 about this for quite awhile now, this is
6 brought up, God, I don't know how long ago
7 with the city council, but the businesses
8 that are renting the buildings in the
9 University of Scranton such as a
10 Chick-fil-A, and I thought council was going
11 to look into see if they could be taxed, was
12 there any news on that?

13 MS. EVANS: Well, it wasn't -- it
14 wasn't within council's authority to pursue
15 that. In other words, we turned to, for
16 example, we turned to the county and the
17 school district. We met with them, council,
18 school district, county commissioners and
19 they didn't appear to have any interest in
20 pursuing any of this and so we turned then
21 to the Lackawanna County Tax Assessor's
22 Office whose job it is to provide all of the
23 information regarding the nonprofits to the
24 City of Scranton and they did not cooperate
25 because apparently, you know, the county

1 commissioners don't want to take those
2 steps.

3 MR. SPINDLER: That's a darn shame.

4 MS. EVANS: Yes, it is.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Lord knows we could
6 use any kind of help we can get. Just
7 lastly, I don't think it's too early to
8 remind everybody that four weeks from
9 Tuesday is the election and in my opinion I
10 think this is the most important election
11 that Scranton has ever had because if we
12 don't elect the right mayor this year then I
13 think they could just throw a net over the
14 city and close it up because I think we will
15 be done, and I don't think a man that cannot
16 even take care of his own house should be
17 the person elected. Thank you for your
18 time.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Doug Miller.

20 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
21 Doug Miller, Scranton.

22 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

23 ALL OF COUNCIL: Good evening.

24 MR. MILLER: I'd just like to
25 beginning this evening with just something

1 that I'm a little disappointed about in
2 regards to the traffic situation on
3 Jefferson and Linden, just a little
4 disappointed in the way the University went
5 about planning the traffic situation down
6 there in terms of closing of blocks and
7 causing massive delays for those who are
8 trying to make daily commutes each morning 7
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. I know it's caused a lot of
10 inconvenience for people and I understand
11 that they are interested in getting that
12 building torn down, as you can see they have
13 a lot of it down at this point, but I think
14 better planning should have went into this
15 considering we have a lot of, you know,
16 traffic jams to begin with. This is just
17 something, another inconvenience, you know,
18 added to that and just a little disappointed
19 with the way they handled that.

20 And, you know, we do know they do
21 get away with an awful lot, but I don't
22 believe in this case they should dictate our
23 traffic flow and I certainly hope that our
24 police force isn't over there directing
25 traffic. I don't believe that we should be

1 involved. I believe they should handle that
2 issue themselves. They have a police force
3 and let them direct their traffic. I don't
4 believe the city should be assisting in
5 that, I'm not saying we are, I'm not exactly
6 sure if we are, but if there are plans to do
7 that I don't believe that should happen. I
8 do think it's inappropriate.

9 But, again, I just wish they would
10 have thought about the inconvenience that
11 they have piled on a lot of people each
12 morning when they went ahead and put this
13 traffic procedure together.

14 Moving on, you know, I normally
15 wouldn't have gotten into this, but the last
16 two weeks the suggestion that I proposed to
17 council three weeks ago has come under, I
18 don't want to say criticism, but there has
19 been some concern in regards to the meeting
20 of what I proposed and there seems to be a
21 misunderstanding out at there, this
22 assumption that it's some way meant to
23 punish college students.

24 And, you know, I kind of take
25 somewhat of an issue with that because

1 that's not the intended purpose of this
2 particular suggestion that I made to council
3 about three weeks ago.

4 You know, I took personal time to
5 sit down, going back to the August recess I
6 began sitting down and trying to put
7 together some different ideas and try to
8 come up and brainstorm some different
9 revenue enhancements for the city. I took a
10 look at some other municipalities, not just
11 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania but
12 across the nation, and when I did find this
13 tuition tax legislation that was proposed in
14 Pittsburgh by the mayor I didn't come across
15 it and say to myself, "Oh, here is a way to
16 punish the college kids."

17 You know, that wasn't my purpose.
18 My purpose was to come forward and having
19 the understanding that the city needs money
20 that's what this is about. It's not about
21 harming students. We have talked an awful
22 lot for years about paying their fair share.
23 Whether you are someone who lives in the
24 city or someone that does business in the
25 city, you pay your fair share. Whether you

1 are a nonprofit, we know where that's taken
2 us through the years, but that's what this
3 is about. It's about services that the city
4 provides daily to not only the individuals
5 that live here and pay their taxes for those
6 services, but also to those that utilize the
7 institutions that may not live there, such
8 as those students that come from
9 Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Newark, New
10 Jersey, wherever they come from.

11 We are not tacking on -- we wouldn't
12 tack on a 1 percent to say, you know, we
13 want to punish you for coming in our city.
14 We are asking you to pay 1 percent for
15 police protection, fire protection and the
16 roads that you use each day and I think we
17 can say that in those three areas we know
18 that those three things are utilized daily
19 on a daily basis. You can't argue that they
20 are not.

21 I really don't believe that an
22 extra, and I don't mean this in an insulting
23 manner, but I really don't believe that is
24 extra two or three hundred dollars is going
25 to make or break on whether or not a parent

1 decides to send their child to an insitution
2 with the city. I really don't buy that at
3 all. There are obviously a lot of different
4 things that parents review with their
5 children when determining where they want to
6 send their child and I think that if they
7 know they are sending the child to a city
8 that's willing to provide services I don't
9 think it's an issue to ask them to
10 contribute a small amount. We have
11 residents in this city who pay thousands and
12 thousands of dollars each year, barely can
13 afford to pay that for the services, and I
14 only think it's fair to ask the college
15 students to contribute.

16 You know, I took the time to do some
17 homework and the research I prepared shows
18 that we can bring in about \$6.5 million
19 annually, and it could probably be more
20 because the institutions that I put together
21 were I'm primarily University of Scranton,
22 Marywood, Lackawanna College, Johnson
23 College, Commonwealth Medical School, but I
24 was also made aware that other institutions
25 of higher learning can also be subject to

1 this tax so the city has the ability to
2 bring in excess of millions and millions of
3 dollars each year.

4 So I would say to those out there is
5 I challenge anyone to come forward. You
6 know, I did my homework and as I have been
7 saying repeatedly from this podium I respect
8 the opinion and the suggestions of a lot of
9 people, but as I have also said, especially
10 last summer when we were dealing with the
11 recovery plan and the budget, when we want
12 to be in opposition to something I firmly
13 believe that that's when it's time to stand
14 up and offer something better.

15 And we understand the challenges we
16 face. You know, Mr. Jackowitz summarized
17 many of them. He basically summed of
18 everything. You know, Mr. Ellman summarized
19 a lot of different things. We know what we
20 face. We know e need money and we need it
21 now and no bad idea or no idea at this point
22 is bad. You know, the bottom line is real
23 simple. You can't put it any simpler if you
24 wanted to. The city needs money and --

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

1 officers that are hired there.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake,
3 and thank you, Councilman McGoff.

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

6 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
7 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

9 MR. SBARAGLIA: To people that don't
10 know the house has passed a bill to change
11 the way the school systems are funded. I
12 spoke on this before and I'll speak on it
13 again, if you are a renter and you rent and
14 pay it to a landlord contact your state
15 senator and vote "no" because you are going
16 to be hit the hardest because you get
17 nothing, not a darn thing is what you get
18 when this bill is passed except higher
19 taxes. That's what you are going to get.

20 Now, who are the winners in this
21 situation? Businesses are a winner,
22 distressed cities like Scranton are winners
23 because they are going to gobble up anything
24 you get, and that's what's going to happen.
25 Now, you might get some benefit for about

1 three years or so, but then it's going to be
2 all gone. You are going to end up paying
3 more in taxes than you did into the school
4 systems. This is what's going to happen and
5 history points to that. You don't need a
6 soothsayer to tell you this is how history
7 works. They are not doing this for you. If
8 they were, I would say okay, but they are
9 not. The whole system is a school system
10 and how it's setup.

11 Unless you can correct the school
12 system entirely within the state, all of you
13 are doing is throwing good money after bad,
14 and I told you this before. When the guy
15 said he spent ten years working on this plan
16 and all he was doing is taking the poor
17 runners and hammering that's beyond me.

18 Take a percent that lives in the
19 high-rise, are they renting. Now, when they
20 go out to buy a pair of shoes they are going
21 to pay the tax because they plan to raise
22 the tax on a lot of different things and
23 what you buy and what you eat is going to be
24 taxes heavily and it's an idiotic system.
25 They didn't look at it entirely except for a

1 few special interests, and I had to fight
2 here on the board with the guy who had come
3 up with that.

4 Now, let's go back to our problem
5 here. Let's look at that \$21 million.
6 What's to stop the city from letting the
7 unions, the two unions that are involved in
8 this, acquire the \$21 million in property
9 and then we lease it back off the unions?
10 You're going to pay them a little more in
11 interest until they make it back because I
12 know the money was denied them for ten
13 years, but you can't let 200 people destroy
14 the city financially. It doesn't make.

15 Sense. Now, we want to see them get
16 paid, there is no question about that, they
17 deserve it, but there is no reason why we
18 can't pay them over ten years, say, instead
19 of in one year and let them have the
20 property, what difference would it make if
21 you are going to lease it back anyway. We
22 did this many, many times before. This is
23 the only time where it really made sense
24 because you take that \$20 million off our
25 heads and the interest at \$100,000 a month

1 is crazy and having to come up with some
2 type of a plan with the unions and they are
3 going to suffer under it anyway.

4 I mean, whatever happens to us,
5 happens to them, so maybe this would be a
6 situation where we would both benefit. This
7 would be a win-win situation that we hear
8 many times from council, a win-win
9 situation, but usually that win-win is only
10 for a certain few, but you should look into
11 something like that and maybe make easier to
12 borrow this other money we are going to
13 need. If you can take that \$21 million from
14 our head it might be easier to borrow some
15 of the other money that we need. Thank you.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

17 MR. DOBRZYN: Dave Dobrzyn, resident
18 of Scranton. I have to say that I agree
19 with that idea fully. It would be helpful
20 to the unions would cooperate and possibly
21 consider a bond issue and instead of having
22 all of this pressure.

23 I have something quick I'll just
24 pass on. What I have there are, and I don't
25 have the editorial I misplaced that

1 temporarily, but it's Act 47 would just band
2 municipalities and a lot of these template
3 laws by the American Legislative Exchange
4 Counsel and they are usually not in the
5 public interest. In Michigan they can maybe
6 buy or sell off Nay Aug Park, but they sold
7 beach front property in Bennet Harbor,
8 Michigan, that was owned by the city and
9 turned it into a golf course for the elite
10 and those people were just out.

11 And they are looking over the
12 artifacts in the Detroit museum. They sold
13 the Pontiac dome, silver dome in Pontiac,
14 Michigan, for about 1 percent of what it was
15 worth, and it was left a delapidated and
16 damaged from storms and stuff, so who knows
17 what will ever happen to that.

18 But also, I'd like to thank the
19 county, and it's time they wised up and
20 cooperated, I'm a little tired of hearing
21 their ideas that we should pay all the bills
22 and just shut our faces.

23 And with what Andy had to say be
24 careful what you wish for because. I mean,
25 currently we have new laws and regulations

1 in Pennsylvania that's going to allow PA
2 income tax be deducted and go to favorite
3 employers. And, I mean, they are shoveling
4 it in the front door and handing it out of
5 the back. It's just unbelievable and it's
6 really ridiculous and it has to stop, but I
7 don't think that my -- we need to get
8 control of the school districts and I'm to a
9 point where I think they should be stripped
10 of spending power. They should just be
11 stripped of it. No more new this and that.
12 Who is building the 4 or 6 million dollars
13 tennis court now I read in the paper, the
14 school district? They are going to tear
15 down the school and turn it into a tennis
16 court. It's like why?

17 You know, we spent more -- Mid
18 Valley spent \$6 million on their football
19 field and their books were falling apart. I
20 mean, come on.

21 Once again, I have one year here as
22 a candidate, if the tax office could assist
23 in indigent elderly to get reverse mortgages
24 that least pay their taxes instead of having
25 them going to a upset sale and this Act 47

1 would appoint a benevolent dictator, by the
2 way, and in Michigan also some of them were
3 on the way to prison for embezzlement, so
4 not only did they come in and they pushed
5 everybody out, the mayor, they pushed the
6 council out, they pushed everybody out no
7 matter who voted for them, then they turned
8 around and embezzled and mismanaged the
9 assets of the city even worse putting them
10 in worse shape than ever. So we don't need
11 no benevolent dictator. As far as I'm
12 concerned, there isn't any.

13 Okay, well, kudos for the U of S
14 paying for police.

15 And once again, contact your
16 national congressman and tell them to take
17 their trade pack and stuff it because that's
18 just what we need is more US jobless. The
19 only thing these trade packs, they are
20 negotiating a transpacific trade pack, and I
21 haven't bothered to call Washington because
22 there is probably a hoopla over this shut
23 down and everything, but it's manufacturers
24 moving to certain countries and they are the
25 people that are competing with the Chinese

1 and we don't need anymore joblessness in
2 this country, it's just ridiculous, and all
3 they ever do is cite the amount of jobs it's
4 going to create. They don't cite the amount
5 of jobs destroyed.

6 By the way, the golden parrot was
7 about North Korea about a year and a half
8 ago, well, Kim Gil Jung closed their
9 industrial park, billions of dollars
10 invested in their industrial park in North
11 Korea and he closed it. And once again,
12 USIS I'll give them the golden parrot, they
13 privatized background checks with the
14 federal government. Mr. Alexis bought
15 himself a shotgun, even though he was
16 hearing voices, and killed 12 people last
17 week and wounded several more and
18 Mr. Snowden did me a big favor because now I
19 can tell people there is a real reason why
20 do want their paranoid e-mails. Thank you
21 and have a good night.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

23 MR. DOBRZYN: Don't forget to bawk,
24 bawk.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,

1 Council. Marie Schumacher, resident and
2 taxpayer and a friend, which is one of the
3 reasons I'm here because I won't be around
4 that much longer, but he will and I don't
5 want him paying for things that I have
6 enjoyed for all of his life or at least half
7 of it.

8 I have two important issues tonight,
9 the first is parking. I have noted the new
10 meters have no days of operation. It says 8
11 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and I defy anybody to find
12 a Monday through Friday, Monday through
13 Saturday, Monday through Sunday. I have a
14 personal interest that because the church I
15 go to is located here and I think that would
16 be a harm. I think the Cathedral would
17 probably be effected by that as well, and I
18 don't know what the hours are, there is
19 nobody to call. If you -- I mean, do they
20 have an office, these people who are
21 managing?

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. I believe it's on
23 Penn Avenue. It's Republic Parking System.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: I would like an
25 official answer on why there are no days of

1 operation if it's because it's seven days a
2 week I am highly -- I highly object. If
3 it's just an easy way to get two extra days
4 worth of funding by people who aren't sure
5 and don't want to risk a ticket, I think
6 that's low and should be beneath us.

7 MS. EVANS: I don't think that's the
8 case, Ms. Schumacher, but we will contact
9 the general manager of Republic and ask
10 about your concerns for the days of
11 operation.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

13 MR. JOYCE: Yes, and maybe another
14 thing we could look into doing, you know, if
15 they are willing to do this at a very low
16 cost or no cost at all is sticker or put
17 some sort of an adhesive to the parking
18 meter that lists the hours of operation.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: That's what they
20 have done with the hours, but there are no
21 days, that's the whole issue. So that's one
22 thing with it.

23 The other thing, the woman who wrote
24 the letter to the editor about the ticket
25 she received while attending the La Festa it

1 said she paid a \$25 fine. I'm pretty sure
2 that File of Council 100 of 2009, which we
3 are still adhering to, said the fine was
4 \$20, so I'd like to know what that \$5
5 changed, too. I have some other issues on
6 parking, but I'll hold them until next week
7 because I also have a concern about our
8 funding for that \$21 million or actually
9 probably more at this point.

10 And before I forget, on 5-B tonight
11 in the past we have always had the property
12 identification number in the agenda. That
13 is not the case in the agenda tonight and
14 I'm wondering if anybody has the pin number
15 that they could share. And while that's
16 being looked up, I know -- well, another
17 side, just because it hasn't an impact,
18 Mr. Loscombe, are you going to give us the
19 breakdown tonight in the numbers of the
20 police and firemen that are --

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm still working on
22 that, I don't have it complete yet.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: Who is it that's
24 still working? I mean, it's been over a
25 year, has it not?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Myself too. I was
2 working this week, so I didn't have as much
3 as time as --

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, hopefully --

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: And I do have a
6 packet for you, too, on the crime reports
7 you had asked for, too.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, good. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Do you want me to
11 give you this map information later or --

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Either. Although,
13 if somebody has it now I'll take it now just
14 in case I have to leave a little early.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Are you ready?

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Uh-huh.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: 15745-030-0004.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Now,
19 back to last week there was a discussion or
20 maybe it was actually just an explanation by
21 Attorney Hughes on where we are on the
22 funding. I think we were lead to believe
23 that this was being worked on for the entire
24 year and I know that the \$500,000 that we
25 would owe in interest for the end of the

1 year it sounds like a lot, and it is a lot
2 of money, but it is probably not a lot when
3 had you compare it to the fee on a 20 plus
4 million dollar loan, and so I have a real
5 concern with the fee. Do we know what the
6 CaseCon and what Janney Montgomery Scott has
7 in mind for a fee?

8 MR. JOYCE: I'm going to actually
9 address that borrowing during motions and
10 one thing I will say is I will ask and find
11 out what type of fees there will be involved
12 with such a loan.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: As a taxpayer, I
14 would certainly like to know that fee before
15 there is any executed document. And I know
16 last year, also, because maybe if you could
17 get into a conflict of interest here, too, I
18 believe you voted last year to give both the
19 city and council solicitors a percent of the
20 fee or a flat dollar amount, is that not
21 true? Is that in the case of any additional
22 borrowing or was it only through one
23 particular company?

24 MS. EVANS: Solicitor Hughes, would
25 you like to respond?

1 MR. HUGHES: There is nothing where
2 either Attorney Kelly or myself will get any
3 percentage. It's not based on a percentage.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: It's a flat fee?

5 MR. HUGHES: No, it's not. Nobody
6 knows what the work is. It would be on a
7 basis of owed in services for services
8 rendered.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: And that would be
10 either Janney Montgomery or CaseCon?

11 MR. HUGHES: CaseCon; right.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: It doesn't matter
13 who gets the bond or gets the money. Okay,
14 thank you, but I would like to know, as I
15 say, in advance.

16 And then also, we are two months
17 past when we were told we would have the
18 audit. Will you be addressing when we
19 expect to see the audit?

20 MR. JOYCE: The last I have heard
21 from Ms. McAndrew is some time later in
22 October. I know that the big holdup with it
23 was the audit of the financial statements
24 from the Parking Authority.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And,

1 Mr. Rogan, have you -- may I finish the
2 question? Have you followed up with the
3 Redevelopment Authority since that's your
4 area of responsibility on why they are
5 seeking grant for a school that's located in
6 Dunmore rather than seeking out --

7 MR. ROGAN: I don't remember that
8 request, but I can certainly look into it
9 for you.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: I think you should
11 do it for the city. But, yes, thank you.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

13 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

14 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

15 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

16 MR. MORGAN: I think that -- my name
17 is Lee Morgan. The first thing I would like
18 it say is that, you know, all of the people
19 who come to these council meetings and the
20 members of council I have a lot of respect
21 for them, but sometimes my opinions are
22 different and on any fee on any student I
23 still disagree, and I think to illustrate
24 that today you should see that the boy
25 scouts are here and Marie has got her

1 grandson with her today, and I just would
2 like to ask, you know, why would we want to
3 put a fee on these individuals as they try
4 to become better citizens and increase their
5 ability to earn an income?

6 And the other thing that I think we
7 need to take a look at is I think that we
8 need to look at the nonprofits and it would
9 be a wonderful thing to take a look at their
10 investment portfolios to see how much money
11 they actually have invested in this country,
12 other countries, how much income they really
13 have at their disposal before we determine
14 that we are going to go to students who in
15 many instances their parents either borrow
16 money to send them to school or they borrow
17 money to go to school or the state or
18 federal government gives them some type of
19 grant, and I think that they are the one
20 group of the people less capable of
21 politically defending themselves because
22 most of them are not organized politically
23 and they are the easiest target to come
24 after.

25 And I just think that when a city, a

1 state government or a federal government
2 reaches the point, like, Jefferson made some
3 points about what would happen to people if
4 they were disfranchised from their
5 government, and this just seems to really be
6 heading that way, and these people most of
7 them weren't even born when this city went
8 into distressed status and if the
9 Commonwealth couldn't figure a course of
10 action that would bring the city back and
11 the PEL, I mean, why would we go after
12 students?

13 I mean, isn't it the greatest gift
14 in the world to have a college education and
15 be able to better yourself and increase
16 upward mobility so why would we try to
17 stifle that and try to tax their success?

18 And the other thing I have here
19 today is that I would like League of Women
20 Voters when it's does it mayoral debates to
21 give the candidates questions in advance and
22 ask them what their plan is to turn this
23 city around, and ask them how they are going
24 to do it because, you know, I mean,
25 everybody here is aware I put my name on the

1 ballot and I didn't go to debates, I didn't
2 campaign, but I did put my name on the
3 ballot and I brought up some issues, and all
4 the candidates are talking about not raising
5 taxes and they just have basically a revenue
6 neutral stance, and I just think that it's
7 time to let the people who want to lead the
8 city come forward, one of them is going to
9 get elected unless somebody does a write-in,
10 but let's have some truth and the person be
11 put in the mayor's officer next time and
12 let's hear their plan.

13 Let's not just say, "I'm not going
14 to do this, I'm not going to do that,"
15 because the reality is that even when you
16 listen to the PEL talk about 117 or however
17 many percent tax increase they are talking
18 about, we are still not in front of the
19 train. We are still chasing it. The city's
20 financial situation is beyond dire, and how
21 the Commonwealth didn't come here and try to
22 help us at this point really I can't
23 understand it.

24 And, you know, it's not a personal
25 attack on this council, but to be really

1 bluntly honest with you, this thing is just
2 so huge that in my own opinion I don't think
3 there is anything this council can do. I
4 don't think there is anything this mayor can
5 do. I mean, if we were creditworthy people
6 would be loaning us money. They would be
7 standing outside waiting to hand us some and
8 they are not, and that tells you that we are
9 bankrupt and it's time for somebody to come
10 forward.

11 And I don't think the state wants to
12 come forward because they don't want to
13 acknowledge this Act 47 didn't work and we
14 took on some of their fights that they
15 should have fought on their own, okay?

16 And the residents of this city, you
17 know, they talked about people in the city
18 had make over \$1,000, I know a lot of people
19 that make over \$1,000 a week in this city,
20 but, you know, I also know a lot of people
21 that make over \$1,000 a week that have moved
22 out of this city because they are tired of
23 paying 50 and 55 and 60 dollars a week in
24 wage tax, and the truth of matter is that we
25 have got to come to the conclusion that we

1 need these candidates that are going to be
2 mayor to come forward and tell us the truth
3 and then we need to take that truth and
4 listen to it and determine we are going to
5 do something about it instead of blaming the
6 Scranton Times, blaming individual council
7 members, blaming the present mayor, blaming
8 people in the past because until you can
9 control your past you can't control your
10 future. Thank you.

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

13 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

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

16 MR. MCGOFF: Not right now, thank
17 you.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman
19 Rogan, do you have any comments or motions
20 tonight?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes, just two citizen's
22 requests tonight. One is a property located
23 at 1080 Cottage Avenue. This has been a
24 problem property before that has been
25 reported to Licensing and Inspections.

1 Mrs. Krake, could we please send a
2 letter to Mr. Seitzinger and some of the
3 inspectors as well, because Mr. Seitzinger
4 had been replying to council, regarding the
5 property at 1080 Cottage. This property is
6 I believe a duplex and the residents report
7 that there are large amounts of people
8 living in there, pigeons are doing what they
9 do in the attic, and there is a lot of
10 problems both inside and out.

11 Next, there is numerous potholes on
12 Division Street from Keyser Avenue up to the
13 turnpike bridge as well as the intersection
14 of French Street and Crisp Avenue. These
15 are all on East Mountain. A resident
16 reported to me that they called the DPW
17 numerous times and spoke to Mr. Vitris, the
18 head of the union, and Mr. Vitris said he
19 was waiting for approval from Mr. Dougher,
20 the head of the department, so if
21 Mr. Dougher could be made aware of those as
22 well and hopefully they can be repaired
23 because this is on a bus route where the
24 buses travel for the kids. And that is all
25 I have for tonight. Thank you.

1 MS. EVANS: Councilman Loscombe,
2 have you any comments or motions?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: I really have nothing
4 this evening. Thank you.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
6 Councilman Joyce, do you have comments or
7 motions?

8 MR. JOYCE: Wow, everybody is short
9 on comments tonight. Yes, I do have some
10 comments. I'm happy to announce today that
11 I received a phone call on my way home from
12 work, it was around 5:00 today, from Mike
13 Judge, our financial advisor, and he had
14 informed me that the mayor and all
15 appropriate parties have signed off on his
16 contract and now he is able to work for the
17 city.

18 And I think that's very important
19 because in initial conversation and also
20 from Attorney Hughes' comments last week, we
21 learned that Mr. Judge has some interested
22 parties in pursuing the borrowing to cover
23 the police and fire award as well as the
24 increase this year to the MMO and he is also
25 looking into the possibility of refinancing

1 some debt for 2014 which could assist us in
2 keeping any tax increase to the lowest
3 possible amount that it could be at.

4 And really that's my goal and, s,
5 you know, I don't have much more time on
6 council, this is the last budget I will be
7 working on while on council, and it's my
8 goal to keep the tax increase as low as we
9 possibly could. I think it's inevitable at
10 this point to say that there will be no tax
11 increase at all. Any candidate that's
12 running for office, any elected official
13 that says there will be no tax increase is
14 telling you a flat out lie.

15 We realize the situation that the
16 city is in and we realize that we are
17 revenue strapped. Our expenses are
18 exceeding what we are bringing in and that's
19 very problematic and really I think what
20 needs to happen in the future is the state
21 has to have some involvement in altering and
22 changing the Local Tax Enabling Act to help
23 cities decide what they can levy taxes on.

24 And I know that there was an
25 editorial in Scranton Times about this. The

1 way that the current tax system is set up,
2 municipalities are too reliant on property
3 taxes to survive and this is a large problem
4 that faces Pennsylvania municipalities, not
5 even -- and not only those that are in
6 distressed status, but just municipalities
7 in general.

8 We have paid police departments,
9 paid fire departments that we need, that we
10 might even need to prevent fires or to put
11 out fires in our city and protect our
12 streets, but this is something that a lot of
13 Boroughs don't have and they don't have the
14 same expenses that municipalities do have,
15 so I think in the future, you know, I'm
16 hoping to see a change in the Local Tax
17 Enabling Act that gives municipalities more
18 leeway as far as what they could tax so the
19 burden isn't always placed on the homeowner.

20 Unfortunately, you know, you hear
21 too many times the suggestions coming out of
22 Pennsylvania Economy League is to raise
23 taxes on property owners, and really with
24 antiquated system in place that's currently
25 in place for Pennsylvania there is not too

1 many other options as far as what you could
2 do to generate more revenue as far as
3 taxation is concerned and at this point, you
4 know, you look at other things.

5 You could say, "Oh, well, if you
6 don't increase property taxes what would you
7 do?"

8 You can't increase the wage tax
9 because that's already ridiculously
10 oppressive in this city, and we have some of
11 the highest permit fees, license and permits
12 fees in the State of Pennsylvania and, you
13 know, you can go through a list of the
14 taxes, even the real estate transfer tax is
15 something that puts you at a disadvantage if
16 you are trying to sell a property or if you
17 are coming into the city to buy a property.

18 So, you know, I'll just close my
19 thought with saying that I hope to see in
20 the future the state take action and really
21 look into some serious tax reform for the
22 municipalities.

23 On another note, we did receive an
24 update from our tax collector Bill
25 Courtright as far as the city funds

1 distributed in comparison to this time in
2 2012 from the Single Tax Office, and to
3 begin I'll address real estate taxes this
4 year, and I won't read off the exact numbers
5 this time, I'll just round them off because
6 I know I probably maybe bore some people by
7 reading long winded numbers, but real estate
8 taxes were close to \$14,700,00. Last year
9 at this time we were close to \$11,900,000 so
10 we see an increase of roughly \$2.8 million,
11 that's 23.9 percent. However, you do have
12 to remember that there was a tax increase of
13 22 percent, so we would expect to see those
14 figures to rise.

15 Delinquent real estate tax, so far
16 this year the Single Tax Office has
17 collected and distributed \$535,000 in change
18 to the City of Scranton. Last year during
19 the same time period that number was
20 \$476,000 so that's a 12.5 percent increase.

21 The LST, the tax office has
22 collected and distributed a little bit over
23 \$1.2 million, and last year during the same
24 time period the tax office collected and
25 distributed \$1.4 million. That's an

1 increase of about \$80,000 or 7 percent.

2 And the business privilege and
3 mercantile taxes, the Tax Office has
4 collected and distributed to the city \$2.1
5 million. Last year at this same time the
6 Tax Office had collected and distributed
7 roughly \$1.5 million, so that's an increase
8 of 350,000 some thousand dollars or 20.2
9 percent.

10 So we see that the Tax Office is
11 doing their due diligence in collections and
12 distribution to the city.

13 And on a final note, I will announce
14 that the state did remit to the city a check
15 for slightly over \$3 million, three million,
16 six-thousand, four-hundred and ninety-three
17 dollars and 55 cents for their portion of
18 the general municipal pension systems state
19 aid. And that's all I have for tonight.

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
21 evening. I'd like to begin by addressing
22 the \$600,000 payment from BRT Ice,
23 Incorporated, LLC, which is owed to the City
24 of Scranton. After having been a KOZ tax
25 property apparently for seven years from the

1 2004 through 2010, BRT Ice is scheduled for
2 a tax assessment hearing on October 24,
3 2013.

4 In addition, a loan of \$250,000 made
5 to BRT Ice in 2004 by the Scranton
6 Redevelopment Authority was paid in full in
7 February 2013 thereby removing a lien on the
8 property. Apparently, BRT Ice was able to
9 pay it's loan, but continues to ignore what
10 is owed to the City of Scranton.

11 Mrs. Krake, please send a letter to
12 the mayor and the city solicitor on behalf
13 of city council requesting an update on this
14 payment which is included as revenue in the
15 2013 operating budget. The City of Scranton
16 cannot afford to overlook the outstanding
17 debt of BRT Ice. It is essential 2013
18 revenue and it must be aggressively pursued.

19 Next, on September 27, 2013, letters
20 were sent to Mr. Eugen Barrett, Mr. John
21 Pocius, Mr. Bill Kelly, and Ms. Katie
22 Leonard from Scranton City Council
23 concerning the flooding problems effecting
24 Augusta Avenue, Lemon Street, Gaston Place
25 and North Main Avenue.

1 On October 1, city council received
2 a petition signed by residents of these
3 streets who are experiencing flooding, road
4 erosion, displacement of the sediment and
5 underlining of a foundation due to water
6 runoff and inadequate drainage. These
7 residents request a review by the city
8 engineer and the Scranton Sewer Authority as
9 well as a meeting among representatives of
10 Johnson College, the Scranton Sewer
11 Authority, Mr. Pocius and themselves.

12 Mrs. Krake, please send a copy of
13 this petition to Mr. Barrett, Mr. Pocius,
14 Mr. Kelly and Ms. Leonard with a request for
15 notification of the dates scheduled for a
16 property and street review and the meeting
17 with residents. It's imperative that these
18 actions occur before the onset of the winter
19 weather conditions that will cause
20 significant icing and increased
21 deterioration of roads.

22 And finally, I wish to present a
23 brief update provided by the Republic
24 Parking system. All knew IPS meters were
25 certified, installed and operational as of

1 Wednesday evening, October 2, 2013. The
2 city should be pleased with the purchase of
3 new meters. No down time and no loss of
4 revenue occurred while swapping out the old
5 meter heads.

6 Further, on Tuesday, September 24,
7 there were five credit card transactions.
8 On Wednesday, September 25, 61 transactions.
9 And on Thursday, September 26, 139
10 transactions. The meters are very user
11 friendly and their monitoring is highly
12 effective. If a meter is it out of service
13 for any reason, credit card error, coin
14 jams, etcetera, the general manager of
15 Republic Parking immediately receives a text
16 and e-mail notifying him that the particular
17 meter is out of service, and if we consider
18 multiple meters being out of service over a
19 years time due to just simple coin jams, we
20 can see the substantial savings provided by
21 this new technology.

22 And finally, just one addition,
23 Mrs. Schumacher, I kept thinking about your
24 questions as the meeting progressed and I
25 believe that Republic Parking would be

1 following the old ordinance that would
2 determine days and hours of parking. We
3 have discussed this before I think at the
4 podium. That ordinance was never amended
5 nor was it repealed, so I believe that the
6 same applies. They are simply I think
7 applying what the current and original
8 ordinance states.

9 Now, I do agree with you that it can
10 be confusing for people, especially those
11 who are not from Scranton, what days must
12 parking meters be fed, and so I think we can
13 ask if there is some way to possibly remedy
14 that situation for everybody.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

16 MS. EVANS: And that's it.

17 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. SALE OF TAX
18 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT THE CORNER OF
19 LINDEN STREET AND TAYLOR AVENUE, SCRANTON,
20 PENNSYLVANIA, TO LINDEN TAYLOR, L.L.C., 56
21 LEDGE DRIVE, LAKEVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA, 18438,
22 FOR THE SUM OF \$2,500.00.

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

1 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

2 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

11 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. NO
12 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

13 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
14 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
15 FINANCE—FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 48, 2013 -
16 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
17 CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE A
18 GRANT APPLICATION AND IF SUCCESSFUL A GRANT
19 AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT THE FUNDS RELATED
20 THERETO THROUGH THE BJA FY 13 EDWARD BYRNE
21 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (“JAG”) PROGRAM
22 LOCAL SOLICITATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
23 \$23,391.00.

24 MS. EVANS: What is the
25 recommendation of the Chair for the

1 Committee on Finance?

2 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
3 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
4 passage of Item 7-A.

5 MR. ROGAN: Second.

6 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
7 call, please?

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

11 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

15 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

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

19 If there is no further business,
20 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

21 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

22 MS. EVANS: This meeting is
23 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER