1	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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5	HELD:
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7	Thursday, November 7, 2013
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9	LOCATION:
10	Council Chambers
11	Scranton City Hall
12	340 North Washington Avenue
13	Scranton, Pennsylvania
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24	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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2	CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:
3	LANET EVANS DESTDENT
4	JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
5	FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT
6	ROBERT MCGOFF
7	PAT ROGAN
8	JOHN LOSCOMBE
9	NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK
10	JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
11	BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR
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1	(Pledge of Allegiance recited and
2	moment of reflection observed.)
3	MR. ROGAN: 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.
11	Mrs. Evans.
12	MR. ROGAN: Please dispense with the
13	reading of the minutes.
14	MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
15	MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH &
16	WELFARE AUTHORITY'S REGULAR BOARD MEETING
17	HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2013.
18	MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
19	If not, received and filed.
20	MS. KRAKE: 3-B. LACKAWANNA COUNTY
21	PLANNING COMMISSION SUBDIVISION AND LAND
22	DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION RECEIVED SEPTEMBER
23	17, 2013.
24	MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?

If not, received and filed.

1	MS. KRAKE: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
2	REPORT HEARING DATES HELD ON OCTOBER 9TH,
3	16TH, AND 17TH OF 2013.
4	MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
5	If not, received and filed.
6	Do we have any clerk's notes this
7	evening?
8	MS. KRAKE: Two very brief ones, Mr.
9	Rogan. We did receive a call from Mark
10	Dougher and subsequently he spoke to other
11	people at DPW concerning the pave cuts for
12	roads on Mary Street and Oxford Court. The
13	first one on marry street there was a
14	serious gas leak and UGI had to release the
15	main. They will be repairing it curb to
16	curb.
17	MR. ROGAN: Oh, good.
18	MS. KRAKE: And the other was
19	apparently there the paving that was done in
20	Oxford Court they paved over the sewer lids
21	or the lids to access the utilities and they
22	had to go back and cut them and then this
23	past Friday, the one in particular that I
24	believe the complaint was about, has been
25	fixed.

1	MR. ROGAN: Thank you very much.
2	The first speaker on the sign-in sheet
3	tonight is Bill Jackowitz.
4	MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
5	Scranton City Council.
6	MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.
7	MR. JACKOWITZ: 7,972 days ago
8	Scranton was declared a distressed city
9	under Act 47, reality not fiction.
10	Congratulations to the winners of
11	the election, condolences to the losers.
12	Will Scranton continue to make the same
13	mistakes or it will cooperation and working
14	together actually happen in Scranton
15	government? The new re-elected mayor and
16	the city councilmen should be included in
17	the drafting of the 2014 budget and revised
18	recovery plan.
19	One out of every three Scranton
20	registered voters voted, not too good.
21	Has the 2013 audit been completed?
22	\$840,000 fee plus additional bonus
23	to consultants and attorneys who negotiate
24	more borrowing for city that has been
25	distressed for 22 years. Success or more

1 distress?

Arbitration awards, what is the latest information on the payment? How much will each individual receive? When will the payment begin? Answer during motions, please. If the city unions take over the city assets and in a New York minute as promised will the union be required to pay taxes on these assets? This may actually help the city out if they have to pay taxes.

I have some concerns about the 1 percent pay your fair share tax that has been proposed. Will all students attending classes in Scranton be required to pay this, tax including Scranton residents who have children attending the local colleges, universities and Scranton school district schools? The majority of Scranton school students' parents do not pay Scranton property tax or Scranton school tax, but yet their children are attending the Scranton schools on a free ride being supported by the Scranton taxpayers.

In addition, will the fair tax law include people who reside with their

parents, relatives or friends without paying their fair share in taxes, also? the state college students are working and paying Scranton wage tax 2.4 percent and the 1 percent school taxi equaling 3.4 percent wage tax. There are some high school students working and paying the wage tax, also. Would they be exempt from the fair share tax? Should get legal opinion from the State Attorney General Office, the State Tax Law Division in and the US Attorney General Federal Tax Law Division.

We know the city law department did, they said the smoke willing ban was legal and remember those days? Let's go to the real people who make the laws, not our local attorneys.

Scranton has been embarrassed far too many times in the past. Correct me if I'm wrong, the nonprofits located within the city limits of Scranton own their buildings and equipment, have no problems making payroll, but yet Scranton property is not owned by the city unions, awarded to them by a judge. Scranton made worldwide news by

1	paying employees \$7.50 an hour and cannot
2	pay their bills on time. The only
3	improvements made within the city limits
4	being made by the nonprofits using their
5	money and developers using tax money, so
6	seriously, do the nonprofits need the city
7	or does the city need the nonprofits?
8	Does anybody really think that after
9	spending \$100,000 or more on the education
10	that anybody would stay in Lackawanna County
11	where the per capita income is \$24,152,
12	maybe working at one of the malls.
13	Actually, the income in Scranton is lower,
14	\$19,068. Why would you stay in Scranton?
15	Finally, FYI, for your information,
16	Scranton residents and elected officials pay
17	attention and you people out in TV land pay
18	attention to this, what could Scranton do
19	with this tax money that is being wasted?
20	Medicare, Part B and Part D paid \$23 million
21	for dead patients in 2011, and \$29 million
22	for drug benefits for illegal immigrants
23	from 2009 until 2011 right from the Health
24	and Human Services Inspector General.

In addition, it has been reported

1	this past week that \$130 million dead people
2	have been paid social security benefits.
3	\$400 million has been paid out to dead
4	federal retirees, plus an additional \$170
5	million paid out to dead military retirees.
6	Dead doctors are still writing prescriptions
7	for Medicare. \$60 billion in fraud.
8	Medicare alone, information obtained from
9	the Health and Human Service Inspector
10	General report.

According to the postal inspector general, the postal service overpaid truckers \$61.5 for their gas. For those of you who do not know what IG means, inspector general. Federal employees inspecting other federal employees and reporting the facts to the people and the so- called people in charge and elected officials. Yet, some people believe that the government is capable of administering the health care of all of Americans.

According to Secretary Sebelius, sworn testimony, convicted felons are being hired as navigators to sign people up for Obama Care, which mean convicted felons have

1	access to private citizen's personal and
2	private information including their
3	financial information. That was she
4	testified to that yesterday. What a county.
5	Vote for the law and then read it later.
6	What could Scranton do with the
7	portion of the money that it stolen each
8	year and every day in the United States.
9	Scranton could sure use those millions of
10	dollars.
11	(While Mr. Jackowitz was speaking,
12	Mrs. Evans joins the meeting.)
13	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Our next
14	speaker is a Les Spindler.
15	MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
16	Council. Les Spindler, city residents and
17	homeowner and taxpayer.
18	MS. EVANS: Good evening.
19	MR. SPINDLER: I think Tuesday was
20	the great day for the City of Scranton. I
21	think we took a step forward turning this
22	city around. I want to congratulate
23	everybody that won. And finally, I think we
24	elected somebody that can work with city
25	council and not fight with them as has been

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took 12
going t
up, but

the case for the last 12 years, and people I think just have to be patient because it took 12 years to tear this city down, it's going to take quite awhile to build it back up, but I think the people are going to be in place in January that can do that.

And, finally, we got rid of the elite Greenridge regime and that's going to be for the better of this city, and I was surprise would to see the paper today that Mayor Doherty called the Mayor elect and is going to have him included in the budget talks, which surprised me at first, but I think there is method to his madness because if this budget ends up like most of his budgets did looking like swiss cheese, he could say, "Well, you incoming mayor helped out with it, too, so we have to blame him."

But I hope everything works out and I hope we do come up with a good budget this year.

Lastly, 7-C on the agenda, \$250,000 for Alexander's Spa, how much money are we going to give this place? I mean, there was a loan years ago and now more?

1	MS. EVANS: Yean, that's the same
2	loan, Mr. Spindler. OECD in July of 2012
3	reduced the annual or excuse me, reduced
4	the monthly payment by half and changed the
5	interest rate from 5 percent to 1/2 a
6	percent and this is the legislation now 15
7	months later approving those changes, so we
8	will be I'm hoping tabling this issue
9	tonight until Ms. Aebli is able to come in
10	for a caucus and I'll talk more about that
11	under motions.
12	MR. SPINDLER: Okay, it went from 5
13	percent to 1/2 percent?
14	MS. EVANS: Um-hum.
15	MR. SPINDLER: So we are losing 4
16	1/2 percent interest. I can't believe that
17	was paid in the past. Okay. Thank you.
18	That's all I have.
19	(While Mr. Spindler was speaking,
20	Mr. Joyce joins the meeting.)
21	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Doug Miller.
22	MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
23	Doug Miller, Scranton.
24	MS. EVANS: Good evening.
25	MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

MR. MILLER: I'll be very brief

tonight, I'd just like to recap the events

that transpired on Tuesday by congratulating

obviously the winners, and also those who

may have fallen a little bit short. I do

commend those individuals for putting their

7 name on the battle ballot.

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I would like to congratulate Mr. Rogan on his re-election to city council for four more years. To Mr. Joyce, I want to congratulate you on a hard fought campaign, you should be very proud of yourself, you offered a lot. You were certainly a very over qualified candidate for that particular office and I think you have proven over time, you know, your talents and assets or your talents and intelligence and abilities you have, they certainly have been an asset to this council for the last four years, and there is no doubt in my mind, you know, we certainly have heard the last from you and look forward to see you utilize your attributes forward.

25 Congratulations to Mayor elect

Courtright. He certainly knows what he is getting into moving forward. As a few speakers tonight have already alluded to, it is my hope that we can continue, you know, move forward in a cooperative manner. commend the mayor for reaching out to Mr. Courtright and asking him to take part in the budget process. I think that is a very important roll for him to play. will be his city, you know, very shortly, and so his ideas and opinions and suggestions should be incorporated into the 2014 operating budget.

I do feel moving forward that we should invite, Mr. Courtright, Mr. Weschler, Mr. Gaughan I believe it is, to a caucus, and allow them to discuss publically their thoughts and their vision for the city. The budget that this council does craft will certainly be one that the next administration and council will have to work with and so I think they should take part in the process.

As we know, you know, the last four years have been a challenge, particularly

the last year half and we know what we have gone through and, you know, to those out there who think the problems are going to be solved overnight, I think are a little The challenges are going to mislead. continue, you know, it's going to take an awful lot of work. I think we have shown that, you know, the blame game I think has been put to bed. We need to move away from all of those types of things. The politics has to be put aside because, you know, if we allow that to continue to dictate the

going to continue to worsen.

But I am confident that the individuals coming in understand that and they are ready to roll their sleeves up and get to work with input from people around them, and I only hope moving forward that more citizens come forward and offer their suggestions because, as I have said, we need input from everyone involved. There is no one perfect plan, there is not one perfect idea and when we all come together we have proven in the past that we can be successful

decision making, you know, the city is only

1 and I just wish everyone the best of luck. But before we get to January we know 2 3 we have a budget to put together with the 4 administration and council we have in place It's certainly going to be a 5 challenge, but I'm confident we will get 6 7 through it easily and get ready to move forward. Thank you. 8 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Andy 9 10 Sbaraglia. 11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia. 12 Citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian. Ι, 13 too, would like to know, I was here when we 14 did this the first time around with that 15 loan, but the worst part about it though was 16 it done legally? Could she legally do what 17 she did, and if you didn't -- can't do it 18 legally then it's up to you to put her feet 19 to the fire. You cannot condone illegal 20 actions done by anyone in this 21 administration, even the council. That's 22 not a way to run the government. 23 I saw people get elected on council 24 who got pensions and another people that got 25 on the council didn't get pensions, and I

read the legal ease on that, and that think was tossed out for a word, they used the wrong word, but the local courts okayed it.

Why they okayed it I don't know, they knew darn well it wasn't legal, but they don't have -- they are not fair. If a person spits on the sidewalk he can be arrested. A politician can do whatever he wants and unless it's grossly he won't be arrested, he won't even be sanctioned. I'm not even going to get into that because there is a lot of legal ramifications. In the private sector I know it goes to Court, there is no

But I want -- I, too, want to thank all of the people who won the election, but a dirty word came up in that election too, KOZ. Scranton has many KOZs. They just don't call them a KOZ. We got nonprofits, we got state office buildings, federal office building, a lot of courthouses, administration buildings, to the taxpayer they are a KOZ, there is no question about it. Why anybody would think about another KOZ.

question about it.

I think when you said there was like 22,000 who work outside of the city come to work in the city, I believe that was something close to that, why would you want another KOZ without having a commuter tax? With a commuter tax I can see a KOZ, but without a commuter tax there is no reason for a KOZ. All it is is musical chairs.

You saw what happened down there, down in Pittston here with a lot of people that work in Wilkes-Barre moving into that KOZ so they wouldn't have to pay taxes.

That's not the way a government should be run.

A government should be run where everybody pays their fair share taxes. And I don't even know what happened with all of those loans that we gave KOZs to. How many of those people ran down to the county and tried to get their assessment changed? I bet everyone did. And there is no question about it, KOZs do not work the way they are formulated by the legislature. They just don't work, and things have to be done.

Scranton, you know and I know, I

don't even want to mention it because I don't want to get upset tonight what's going to happen with the taxes. And the truth is the police and fire contracts are set, the firemen's contract are set and the DPW's contract are set. All you do with them unions is make sure you follow the contract. That's it. And that isn't going to help the city at all when it comes to money.

Like I said a long time ago, well, not that long ago, maybe two months ago, let the unions have the city assets and then lease them back. If you can reduce that \$21 million borrowing, that alone would help you financially. Without it, what them banks are saying and what I read they are putting our feet to the coals. Either you take that 100 percent interest, which is actually higher, but I'll go for 100, you are not going to get the loans. And without the loans you can't run the government.

So, like I say, if they went out and said they would put a lien against our assets, let them have it. We can lease them back and spread that loan over ten years.

1	That's fair, I think. Most of the policemen
2	and firemen will still be working in ten
3	years, but without it we are going to go
4	down like the SS Scranton, but that has the
5	ability to rise, we don't. We are just
6	going to go down and sink to the bottom of
7	the ocean. You got to come up with some way
8	to reduce that borrowing, and that is the
9	only way you can actually do it, because you
10	are even talking about the TAN. I won't get
11	into anymore of that. It gets me upset.
12	MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.
13	MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Mr.
14	Sbaraglia.
15	MS. EVANS: Dave Dobrzyn.
16	MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave
17	Dobrzyn.
18	MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.
19	MR. DOBRZYN: Resident and taxes
20	paid, fees paid, not like some people that
21	run for offices of the city, but I had a
22	thought with a lot of this tax exempt
23	business and, you know, it's also like Andy
24	said state buildings, courthouses, why can't
25	they combine the city government and lobby

the state for compensation, and this should
be done statewide because we are taking an
awful, awful beating on this.

And with KOZs or whatever you want to call them, the one thing I would like to point out, one point I'd like to make is that they don't have to hire one person from the city. General Dynamics doesn't have to hire one person from the city. They can't say, "You are from Scranton, we don't want you," but they don't have to hire you and that's the way it is. We live in an at-will state.

And I passed Pat some Steamtown things, do you have them there? And I would like you people to consider before budget time of maybe contacting a few congressmen and so forth. Almost their entire season with fall foliage was wiped out and I was on three or four trips near the end of the month. There are no leaves past Moscow to be seen, there were a few nice events at the end of the excursion or in the middle where you could get to your destination and stuff, but they were also sold to a Republican

1	senator and it was good think. I like I
2	love Steamtown, Joe McDade, but quite
3	frankly their funding has slumped to an
4	extremely insufficient level and they can't
5	keep things going.
6	Now, on Alexander's, that 7-C,
7	please table that tonight until you can get
8	those people in and if they don't want to
9	come in keep it tabled. Baloney.
10	And I have a question for our
11	Scranton Times editorial, what's their
12	answer to unilateral mayoral actions and his
13	designated department heads?
14	Also, the Parking Authority,
15	unauthorized loans, what's their answer to
16	it? You know, they never came to council to
17	ask for anything and they just did, and now
18	once again we are stuck with the results.
19	And my bank keeps calling me to
20	lower my interest rate and I'm almost afraid
21	to talk to them because I know what kind of
22	sleazes they are. They have been fined
23	billions of dollars and I don't trust them.
24	I'd just as soon as stay at the percentage

I'm at.

Okay, we have a golden parrot, we had about 33 percent turnout, and lot of voters in Scranton with all of the issues facing us 2/3 of the people in this town that were eligible to vote, even though we have an absentee ballot, even though we have empathy at the polls, there is no lines, no hassle to date, they didn't show up to vote. And certainly if you are not going to inform yourself you might as well stay home anyway because you are just voting for the last sign you saw.

And once again, I have a golden parrot for the welfare states, Kentucky Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, \$3.45 million in farm subsidies to a representative from Tennessee for Farm Aid and the typical average of the these states are a \$1.65 for every dollar that they pay out and, by the way, that representative also voted against -- voted for cutting food stamps. Half of the children in this country, half of people that receive food stamp aid are children, so maybe his kids should go to school hungry for a change. I

1 doubt it at \$3.5 million subsidies to his 2 Thank you. Maybe he should get 3 another mailbox so he could make it seven, 4 what did you think? Have good night. MS. EVANS: 5 Thank you. MR. JOYCE: Thank you. 6 7 MS. EVANS: That concludes our 8 sign-in sheet, is there anyone else who 9 cares to address council? 10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, 11 Council. Marie Schumacher, city resident 12 and taxpayer. 13 ALL COUNCIL: Good evening. 14 MS. SCHUMACHER: First I would like 15 to thank all of those who ran for office. 16 know it's not an easy thing and I look 17 forward to working with those who were 18 successful, but I have got to tell you I am 19 somewhat disappointed and had the bucket of 20 cold water thrown on me this morning when I 21 read in the paper and saw that, you know, 22 transparency sounds wonderful when campaigns 23 are being run, but when the campaign is over 24 reality sets in and we know now that 25 Mr. Courtright is unwilling share with the

citizens of this city who is going to be on
his team to select at least the business
administrator and maybe other department
heads. I don't think that's a very good
sign.

And, Mr. Rogan, I can't tell you how little I think about your idea to move the caucuses of the city council back to the Clerk's Office. It's --

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$ ROGAN: They would be open to the public.

MS. SCHUMACHER: If you've been in that room it's not -- well, but it's only available to the public who physically come. It would not be available to the general public who views this on ECTV, plus it is not -- it's not built for -- if you get the five people, all of you in there, it's not, and that's my opinion. I think it should be out here and you should meet, and I would recommend that maybe you could try to get the backup materials earlier and have read them and not be leafing through them while you are sitting up there, that might help, but we need a lot more visibility and not

1	less.
2	So, again, we are eight days away
3	from receiving the budget and we still have
4	no audit or no time, Mr. Joyce?
5	MR. JOYCE: Well, the latest is we
6	have received financial statements from
7	Rossi & Rossi for the city's management
8	discussion and analysis section of the audit
9	report. The city, of course, will review
10	these, reply back to the auditor and then
11	the final audit will be issued. I do have
12	the Scranton Parking Authority's financial
13	statements that was finally completed.
14	MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And speaking
15	of the Parking Authority, did we get any
16	feedback from the questions that
17	MS. EVANS: Yes, do you want me to
18	wait until motions?
19	MS. SCHUMACHER: Sure. That's fine.
20	That's fine. And then whatever happened to
21	the caucus that was going to be held with
22	Steamtown Partners and what happened to the
23	request that they made?
24	MS. EVANS: Well, the request was
25	tabled, I believe.

1	MS. SCHUMACHER: I believe so.
2	MS. EVANS: And it remains on the
3	table until such time as they would come in
4	for a public discussion. However, there has
5	been no word, no contact from Steamtown Mall
6	representatives regarding that caucus or
7	further situation so the ball is in there
8	court.
9	MS. SCHUMACHER: Are we absolutely
10	positive, and maybe this is a question for
11	Mr. Rogan, are we positive that that was not
12	like the Alexander's Spa, just gone ahead
13	with without the knowledge of council?
14	MR. ROGAN: Well, legally that
15	shouldn't be the case. I could ask.
16	MS. SCHUMACHER: And are you going
17	to be presenting during motions tonight the
18	status of all of the loans and
19	MR. ROGAN: We still have not
20	received them from OECD.
21	MS. SCHUMACHER: And I would like
22	also say I do hope that 7-C will be tabled
23	until there is a caucus available.
24	And I'd like to know from Mr. Joyce
25	and Mrs. Evans, how involved have you been

1	in the 2014 budget preparation process
2	compared to last year's budget?
3	MR. JOYCE: I have been somewhat
4	involved, but I will say that I have not
5	been as involved as in 2013. I have spoken
6	to the mayor a few times. Well, I have had
7	a few meetings with the mayor, I have had a
8	few meetings with the business
9	administrator, and I have an idea of what's
10	going to be sent down, but I do not know the
11	final numbers.
12	MS. SCHUMACHER: You are in
13	agreement with what they have done so far?
14	MR. JOYCE: I can't say I'm in total
15	agreement.
16	MS. SCHUMACHER: I can wait. That's
17	true. That wasn't a fair question because
18	they can make changes, too, before it come.
19	And then I'd like to ask how many of
20	you have read at a minimum of Chapter 5,
21	which is the proposed legislation section,
22	of the Local Government Task Force report
23	that was issued in the middle of October?
24	No? Again, I brought it up last
25	week because of all of the one element,

1	which is the alcohol tax for the city
2	residents or city establishments, I would
3	hope that you would read it and again
4	respond before that piece of legislation is
5	voted on at least to our three
6	representatives that represent the City of
7	Scranton because I think it's important and
8	I'll be talking more about that in the
9	future. Thank you.
10	MS. EVANS: Thank you.
11	MR. UNGVARSKY: Good evening, city
12	council.
13	MR. JOYCE: Good evening.
14	MR. UNGVARSKY: I'm Tom Ungvarsky,
15	and I would like to congratulate Mr. Rogan.
16	MR. ROGAN: Thank you.
17	MR. UNGVARSKY: Mr. Joyce, I'm sure
18	you would have made a fine tax collector.
19	MR. JOYCE: Thank you.
20	MR. UNGVARSKY: I see on the agenda
21	where we are going to give the Scranton
22	Parking Authority \$420,000; is that correct?
23	MR. JOYCE: That is correct.
24	MR. UNGVARSKY: Has the Parking
25	Authority sent in their budget for last

1	year?
2	MS. EVANS: No.
3	MR. UNGVARSKY: No?
4	MS. EVANS: No.
5	MR. UNGVARSKY: Is that \$420,000 the
6	final payment for the year?
7	MS. EVANS: It's part of the final
8	payment for the year.
9	MR. UNGVARSKY: So we will still
10	probably owe another \$420,000; correct?
11	MS. EVANS: No.
12	MR. JOYCE: No.
13	MR. UNGVARSKY: Any idea how much we
14	will owe?
15	MS. EVANS: Actually, the December 1
16	bond payment is \$8,005 or \$805,193.75 and
17	it's all interest. The total amount needed
18	from the city is \$643,722.37. It is made up
19	of \$233,722.37, which is the balance from
20	the \$1.9 million line item in the 2013
21	budget, and an additional \$410,000 that was
22	discussed by Mr. Washo when he attended a
23	council caucus several months ago. At that
24	time I think he indicated he would need an
25	additional 300 to 500 thousand dollars. but

1	he couldn't give us a firm number until
2	November, and so he has now provided us with
3	these numbers.
4	MR. UNGVARSKY: That doesn't sound
5	too good, but is there anyway we can tie
6	that amount of money into them providing
7	their budget to us?
8	MS. EVANS: I don't believe so.
9	MR. UNGVARSKY: I don't think so
10	either.
11	MS. EVANS: Because the Parking
12	Authority for all intensive purposes doesn't
13	operate any longer. The garages are
14	management operated by Standard Parking and
15	they are overseen by a receiver, Mr. Mike
16	Washo.
17	MR. UNGVARSKY: Well, we have
18	someone running the authority getting paid
19	\$100 an hour, I think he should be able to
20	provide some kind of a budget for us, but no
21	matter, and as far as Alexander's, what
22	recourse do we have to OECD providing this
23	reduction in interest and the extension of
24	the loan? Is there anything that will
25	hannen to NECD or are they just going to get

1	away with it?
2	MR. ROGAN: Well, the legislation
3	can be voted down by council or amended.
4	MR. UNGVARSKY: But what happens to
5	OECD?
6	MR. ROGAN: Well, that would be
7	MR. UNGVARSKY: I mean, they did it
8	without council's permission.
9	MR. ROGAN: Well, either the mayor
10	or the head of OECD, Ms. Aebli, could
11	terminate or punish those who didn't follow
12	the proper procedure in this case, but
13	council, unfortunately, doesn't have the
14	power to hire or fire.
15	MR. UNGVARSKY: So any public
16	official, as Bill Jackowitz said earlier
17	this evening, can just do anything and get
18	away with it. I thank city council anyway.
19	MS. EVANS: Thank you.
20	MR. JOYCE: Thank you.
21	MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who
22	cares to address council?
23	MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.
24	MS. EVANS: Councilman McGoff, do
25	you have any comments or motions?

1	MR. MCGOFF: Not at this time.
2	Thank you.
3	MS. EVANS: Councilman Rogan?
4	MR. ROGAN: Yes, very briefly. I
5	would like to first off by thanking the
6	voters of Scranton for selecting me for
7	another four years on city council. I
8	received 10,299 votes and I wish I could
9	thank each one of you individually because
10	it means the world to me and getting their
11	stamp of approval for the work that I have
12	done for the past four years and I would
13	also like to congratulate my colleague, Mr.
14	Joyce, on a good campaign.
15	MR. JOYCE: Thank you.
16	MR. ROGAN: And I also would like to
17	congratulate our mayor elect, Bill
18	Courtright, and I'm very confident that he
19	will be the right person to lead the city
20	for the next four years, and I'm very much
21	looking forward to working with the mayor
22	and hand-in-hand unlike what we have seen
23	under the previous administration.
24	Just one comment that was brought up
25	which was regarding having caucuses, we

1 aren't referring to when we have a group in, 2 for instance, when we have Linda Aebli in 3 and when we have Alexander's in to discuss 4 an issue on the agenda. What these caucuses 5 would be and the way this transpired was 6 Mr. McGoff brought the idea up to me six 7 months ago or so of bringing back caucuses 8 next year. This is something that the previous councils have done to discuss 9 10 proposed amendments that may be made on the 11 floor at the meeting, just our thoughts on 12 the legislation, and what it can do is it 13 can make the public portion of the meeting 14 much more seamless where instead of bickering back and forth for half an hour 15 16 because we don't understand one another or 17 we weren't able to get in touch with each 18 other beforehand, we could put our ideas out 19 there and if we disagree then we disagree, 20 and if we agree we do and a lot of different 21 things can be worked out and talk about what 22 we are going to discuss at the meeting. 23 So it's something that I think is a 24 good idea, and they would be open to the

public, and when we have large issue

1	oriented caucuses they would still be
2	conducted in council chambers just as they
3	are today.
4	Regarding Item 7-C I will be making
5	a motion to table that until a caucus can be
6	arranged, and that is all I have for
7	tonight. Thank you.
8	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman
9	Loscombe, do you have any comments or
10	motions tonight?
11	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you. Just
12	briefly, as Mr. Jackowitz said before I
13	would like to congratulate all of the
14	victors and, as he said, condolences to the
15	losers, but if you read the Times' editorial
16	the morning after the election it sounds
17	like it should be the other way, condolences
18	to the winners and congratulations to the
19	losers.
20	But, you know, we all have a
21	daunting task ahead of us. I think everyone
22	is ready to pursue that task. I'm looking
23	forward to working with my colleagues here.
24	I congratulate Mr. Joyce on a fine campaign.

It was a nice, clean campaign and, you know,

he was going against some odds with party registration and stuff I would say, but I think there is a bright future ahead for Mr. Joyce, and again, I think there is a bright future ahead for our city, so I hope you do see progress and I believe we can all work together to solve our problems. Again, it's not going to happen overnight, we didn't get this way overnight, we are going to continue the fight that we have started and straightened things out and I'm just looking forward to a positive new year.

And secondly, I did receive a letter in my mail regarding a question from the city resident on open burning, they are having a problem with their neighbors burning all the time. Yes, there are regulations on open burning in this city, we had mentioned from this dais several times the only open burning is for cooking, grills and stuff like that.

Now, if you do have a small outdoor
-- you can have a gas fire pit, which is not
intrusive, it doesn't let off smoke. We did
say that some times those little chimaeras

•	Thepraces are onay as rong as the smoke is
2	directed away from the any neighbor's homes.
3	Once it effects and our homes are so
4	close in the city, but once it effects a
5	neighbor at this point it's a nuisance and
6	it is illegal. So if you continue to have
7	problems I read in the letter the Fire
8	Department was there, they should have
9	warned the party, but you can continue to
10	call the Fire Department and most
11	importantly call the police. There are
12	ordinances they can cite the person for the
13	open burning and the nuisance and hopefully
14	that will resolve it, but if you have any
15	further questions don't hesitate to contact
16	me. And that's all I have to say. Thank
17	you.
18	MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
19	Councilman Joyce, do you have any comments
20	or motions tonight?
21	MR. JOYCE: Yes, I do. Tonight I
22	would first like to begin by congratulating
23	some of our newest elected officials.
24	First, I'd like to begin by congratulating
25	our new mayor, Mr. Bill Courtright. He is a

fine man and I am sure and certain that he
will do a good job for the City of Scranton.

Second of all, I would like to congratulate Mr. Bill Fox in the Tax Collector's race. He ran a very clean campaign, as did I. I'm sure that he will do the tax office well.

And also, I would like to congratulate the winners of the council race, Mr. Pat Rogan, who I have been a colleague with for almost four years, Mr. Bill Gaughan and Mr. Joe Weschler. And also the winners of the school board race, Mr. Cy Doughy, Mark McAndrew, Bob Sheridan and last, but not least, Rob Casey. I'm sure that they will bring their ideas and fresh insights to the school board and seek to improve the board in as many ways as they can.

Second of all tonight, I did want to talk a little bit about the budget. As you know, I have been involved somewhat in this year's budget process. I have been informed by the mayor of some things that he would like to do, some things that he wouldn't

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like to do, and I spoke with the business administrator as well. This is the first time I'll say this in the years that I have been on council is that for in budget I will not propose any amendments to the budget that is sent down. This is primarily for the simple fact that I will not be here to see them through. I will, however, invite my colleagues, especially the ones that will be here for the next two to four years, if not more, to present amendments, and I'm very -- and I'm also very pleased that the mayor did reach out Bill Courtright and offer to bring him in to discuss the budget as well, and I actually did place a call into Mr. Courtright and told him that I would be happy to meet with the mayor and our mayor elect to see that budget is formed that is in approval with the mayor elect.

I remember that one of the main frustrations I had being a new elected official, and especially the Finance Chair, is being handed over a budget that I had no control over, so I would like to see our newly elected officials have more control

over that budget since they will be the ones that will oversee it.

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I will be happy to offer any advice, input, as far as legality of taxation methods revenue sources, fees, etcetera, but I will not personally make amendments to it that I will not be able to personally see through, and I will be happy to cast my affirmative or negative vote based on whether the budget that -- the final budget with any amendments is realistic or not realistic, and that being the case where I would be vote "no" because one of the main issues here is the 2014 tax anticipation note, and in order to obtain that 2014 tax participation note, which will be vital in making sure that expenses at the beginning of the year are paid as well the employees are paid, one of the conditions is that the budget does have to be approved by the lender and they have to be confident in that budget. So I will cast my vote in the affirmative or negative manner based on how I see that budget being in the eyes of the lender.

1	To conclude tonight, we did receive
2	a copy of the city's 2012 financial
3	statements, which will be used for
4	completion of the city's management
5	discussion of the analysis section of the
6	audit report. We also received the
7	financial statements from the Parking
8	Authority from 2011. With this in mind,
9	once the city conducts a management
10	discussion analysis section, the audit will
11	be completed and the final version will be
12	available for real estate view.
13	And finally tonight, we did receive

And finally tonight, we did receive an update from Northeast Revenue. From October 1 to the 31, Northeast Revenue collected roughly \$100,000 in delinquent property taxes, and also \$231,770 in delinquent refuse bills.

And I did read in the paper today that, of course, with the new mayor there becomes the opportunity to appoint new department heads, and I sincerely hope that a complete evaluation of all of the department heads is carried out because I will say this, in working with the

1 administration over the past four years 2 there are some people in the administration 3 that do put forth a good effort and do do a 4 good job and I think that they should stay. And that's all I have to say for tonight. 5 MS. EVANS: Thank you. 6 7 evening. In response to a citizen's 8 request, city council sent a letter to 9 Mr. Mike Washo on November 1, 2013, 10 regarding repairs to the two parking 11 Thereafter, Mr. Washo contacted garages. 12 Mrs. Krake and stated that the City of 13 Scranton is responsible for all repairs. 14 However, as each of us is aware, the 15 city is not in a financial condition to 16 provide any funding. Rather, it would 17 appear that garages should be closed, 18 particularly since some of the garages do 19 not operate daily at the full capacity. Nevertheless, those decisions will be made 20 21 by the new administration. 22 In addition, Republic Parking 23 responded to Mrs. Schumacher's question 24 regarding parking, and I'll read their

e-mail at this time:

"Number 1. We are almost through 1 with the labeling of the meters. 2 3 downtown court was finished last week and we 4 only have a few outlying areas to complete. 5 We'll definitely be completed by November 8." 6 7 He apologized for not updating us 8 sooner. They simply had a label created specifying "Monday through Friday" and it 9 has been placed by the hours of operation on 10 11 each meter. 12 The photos that the license plate 13 recognition vehicle captured can be 14 identified for whatever time period is 15 specified. It is setup normally to default 16 to a 90-day time period. 17 Republic has requested, however, 18 that the time period be adjusted to 180 days 19 to accommodate Pennsylvania Magisterial 20 Court processes. 21 So I hope that provides the answers 22 that citizens were seeking. I'd like to 23 commend Republic Parking for its 24 accountability, transparency, cooperation

and diligence in its management and

1 operation of the city's on-street parking Further, Republic's management has 2 program. 3 continuously and successfully increased 4 program revenue. Next, OECD director, Linda Aebli, 5 was unable to attend a public caucus which 6 7 had been scheduled for this evening. 8 caucus will be reschedule for November 21, 9 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in order to discuss the terms of a 2007 loan granted to Alexander's 10 11 Salon. 12 In addition, the related resolution 13 in question will be tabled during Seventh 14 Order this evening if council members are in 15 support of doing so. 16 Also, I would like to congratulate 17 the winners of Tuesdays general election for 18 both city and county offices and thank all 19 of the candidates for their hard work, time, 20 and positive campaigns which addressed vital 21 issues of concern to taxpayers. And on a final note, I know, Ms. 22 23 Schumacher, you had posed a question 24 regarding the budget. I have spoken with

the mayor weekly regarding this proposed

1 budget. I have inquired if PEL were 2 involved in the process and they are 3 responded just to the extent that 4 state-related issues were involved. I can 5 say that, you know, we had -- well, some of us had many ideas to generate much needed 6 7 revenue and to save money and those being 8 specifically the commuter tax, health care 9 consortium, a city-owned and operated 10 storage yard, PILOTS from large nonprofits, 11 Sadly, none were pursued due among others. 12 to complaints from our neighboring 13 communities who utilize not only our city 14 services, but also the many county, state 15 and federal office buildings as well as 16 universities and health care facility 17 located in Scranton; lack of cooperation 18 from the county commissioners, specifically 19 with regard to PILOTS and the health care 20 consortium; towers complaints; and the lack 21 of administrative action, and I think that 22 relates specifically to the PILOT payments 23 as well. 24 I think most of you know that I

railed against excessive city borrowing and

1	Parking Authority borrowing for many years,
2	even before each of my colleagues was
3	elected, predicted that the financial house
4	of cards would tumble down and was mocked by
5	former colleagues and endlessly attacked by
6	the newspaper, and when the financial
7	collapse occurred I chose to work
8	cooperatively with the administration to
9	address the problems and keep our city
10	afloat, but once again was mocked by some of
11	council and attacked by the newspaper,
12	neither of whom offered solutions.

So now I think it's time for the mayor, and particularly the mayor elect and seated council members who will remain as Mr. Joyce said for the next two, four or more years to work together to produce a 2014 budget or those same seated council members to work together to amend the budget if necessary because they will be in positions of authority to oversee the budget, the borrowing and spending next year and it is their ideas that must be included in the 2014 budget.

I agree with my colleague, Mr.

Joyce, since neither of us will have the opportunity to oversee that budget we should perhaps take a step back and allow those who will to do the job, and I also agree with Mr. Joyce that it's very important for the mayor elect to be involved because, you know, I'm sure it's troubling to be saddled with a budget that is produced by others. And so it is my deepest hope that

And so it is my deepest hope that

Mr. Courtright will work with Mr. Doherty

and my colleagues throughout the next week

and produce a budget that they feel is

feasible for next year as well as realistic.

And that's it.

MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AMENDING FILE OF
COUNCIL NO. 77, 2012, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED
"GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2013" BY
TRANSFERRING \$410,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NUMBER
01.401.13090.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
OPERATING EXPENSES-CONTINGENCY) TO ACCOUNT
NO. 01.401.15319.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
EXPENSES-OPER TSF DEBT SERVICE-SCRANTON
PARKING AUTHORITY) TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR
THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY DEBT PAYMENT
DUE DECEMBER 1. 2013.

1	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
2	entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
3	introduced into its proper committee.
4	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
5	MR. JOYCE: Second.
6	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
7	those in favor signify by saying aye.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
9	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
10	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
11	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
12	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
13	have it and so moved.
14	MS. KRAKE: 6-A. READING BY TITLE
15	-FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 52, 2013 - AN ORDINANCE
16	- AUTHORIZING THAT THE RECEIPT OF ANY FUNDS
17	FROM THE CHARGE SCHEDULE, WHICH IS EXHIBIT
18	A, TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF
19	SCRANTON AND THE FIFTEEN (15) AUTHORIZED
20	TOWING BUSINESSES, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY
21	ORDINANCE FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 50, 2013 (AS
22	AMENDED) BE DEPOSITED INTO SPECIAL CITY
23	ACCOUNT NO. 02.229550 ENTITLED "PUBLIC
24	SAFETY/POLICE GRANTS" WHICH WAS CREATED BY
25	ORDINANCE, FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 21, 2004.

1	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
2	title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?
3	MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
4	pass reading by title.
5	MR. JOYCE: Second.
6	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
7	those in favor signify by saying aye.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
9	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
10	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
11	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
12	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
13	have it and so moved.
14	MS. KRAKE: 7-A. FOR CONSIDERATION
15	BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR
16	ADOPTION-FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 51, 2013 -
17	TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM FUND 04 CITY OF
18	SCRANTON PARKS AND RECREATION ACCOUNT WHICH
19	FUNDS AND ACCOUNT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR
20	THE CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS, AND ABOLISHING
21	AND CLOSING SAID ACCOUNT AND TRANSFERRING
22	THE FUNDS REMAINING IN SAID ACCOUNT TO THE
23	PNC GENERAL FUNDING CHECKING ACCOUNT LISTED
24	BELOW.
0.5	MO EVANO III (' ()

MS. EVANS: What is the

1	recommendation of the Chair for the
2	Committee on Finance?
3	MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
4	Committee on Finance, I recommend final
5	passage of Item 7-A.
6	MR. ROGAN: Second.
7	MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
8	call, please?
9	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
10	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
11	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
12	MR. ROGAN: Yes.
13	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.
14	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.
15	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
16	MR. JOYCE: Yes.
17	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
18	MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
19	Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
20	MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
21	BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
22	RESOLUTION NO. 44, 2013 - RATIFYING AND
23	APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF
24	THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF
25	SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO THE OFFICE OF

1	JUSTICE PROGRAMS-BULLET PROOF VEST
2	PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW
3	BALLISTIC VESTS FOR SCRANTON POLICE OFFICERS
4	AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
5	APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT THE
6	GRANT AND DISBURSE THE GRANT FUNDS IN THE
7	AMOUNT OF \$36,361.76 FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE
8	VESTS.
9	MS. EVANS: What is the
10	recommendation of the Chair for the
11	Committee on Finance?
12	MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
13	Committee on Finance, I recommend final
14	passage of Item 7-B.
15	MR. ROGAN: Second.
16	MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
17	call, please?
18	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
19	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
20	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
21	MR. ROGAN: Yes.
22	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.
23	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.
24	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
25	MR INVCF: Ves

1	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
2	MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
3	Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.
4	MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
5	BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR
6	ADOPTION-RESOLUTION NO. 45, 2013 - AMENDING
7	RESOLUTION NO. 144 OF 2007 ENTITLED
8	"AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
9	CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
10	ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN
11	FROM THE COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING
12	LOAN PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 150.9 IN AN
13	AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000.00 TO
14	ALEXANDER'S SALON & SPA, INC. TO ASSIST AN
15	ELIGIBLE PROJECT" BY AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
16	AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS OF THE
17	CITY OF SCRANTON TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
18	MODIFICATION/EXTENSION OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT
19	BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND ALEXANDER'S
20	SALON & SPA.
21	MS. EVANS: What is the
22	recommendation of the Chair for the
23	Committee on Finance?
24	MR. JOYCE: As Chair for the
25	Committee on Community Development, I

1	recommend final passage of Item 7-C.
2	MR. ROGAN: Second.
3	MS. EVANS: On the question?
4	MR. ROGAN: As discussed, this will
5	be tabled until we can schedule a caucus and
6	depending on the outcome of the caucus you
7	can either approve, deny or reach some sort
8	of middle ground on this legislation.
9	MS. EVANS: All those in favor of
10	tabling Item 7-C signify by saying aye.
11	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
12	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
13	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
14	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
15	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
16	have it and so moved.
17	If there is no further business,
18	I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.
19	MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.
20	MS. EVANS: This meeting is
21	adjourned.
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2	<u>CERTIFICATE</u>
3	
4	I hereby certify that the proceedings and
5	evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
6	notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
7	above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
8	and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
9	ability.
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11	
12	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
13	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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