

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HELD:

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2014

TIME:

6:30 P.M.

LOCATION:

Council Chambers
Scranton City Hall
340 North Washington Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania

AMELIA NICOL, RPR
COURT REPORTER

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE PRESIDENT

JOHN LOSCOMBE

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. CERRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CERRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. CERRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CERRERA: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

14 Dispense with the reading of the
15 minutes.

16 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
17 LACKAWANNA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
18 SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT
19 EVALUATION RECEIVED MARCH 14, 2014.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any
21 comments? If not, received and filed.

22 MS. REED: 3-B. AUDIT STATUS FROM
23 ROBERT ROSSI & CO. RECEIVED
24 APRIL 25, 2014.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any

1 comments? If not, received and filed.

2 MS. REED: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE
3 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION
4 COMMISSION MEETING HELD MARCH 26,
5 2014.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any
7 comments? If not, received and filed.

8 MS. REED: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
9 FIREFIGHTERS PENSION COMMISSION
10 MEETING HELD MARCH 26, 2014.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any
12 comments? If not, received and filed.

13 MS. REED: 3-E. TAX ASSESSOR'S
14 REPORT FOR THE HEARING DATE TO
15 BE HELD MAY 7, 2014.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any
17 comments? If not, received and filed.

18 Do we have any clerk's notes?

19 MS. REED: No, Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Do any
21 council members have announcements?

22 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. McGoff, I have
23 some. The Ladies 8th Order of
24 Hibernians will have a Cuatro De Mayo
25 celebration on Sunday, May the 4th,

1 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Kilcoyne's Tavern.
2 The ladies will be serving as guest
3 bartenders for their annual
4 fundraisers and all tips will benefit
5 the Ladies Ancient Order of
6 Hibernians. Thank you.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, just one.

9 This Saturday, May 3rd, Pat Purcell
10 Memorial Scholarship 5-K Race will be
11 held at Nay Aug Park and the
12 surrounding areas. The course is 3.1
13 miles. You can register that day from
14 8 to 9 a.m. in the lower lot where the
15 race will begin. The first 100
16 entries will receive a race T-shirt
17 and a scholarship will be given to two
18 area athletes in the Supercell's game.
19 Thank you.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Last week I
21 neglected to mention two things, one
22 very important. I forgot to wish my
23 father a happy birthday, a belated
24 93rd birthday. My dad who is now in
25 the hospital and struggling a little

1 bit but nonetheless a belated happy
2 birthday to him.

3 Also I forgot to mention that two
4 members of the Scranton community, the
5 City of Scranton community ran the
6 Boston Marathon under three hours.
7 For those of you who are unfamiliar
8 with marathon running, under three
9 hours is an exceptional time. Paul
10 O'Hora ran the marathon in two hours
11 and 46 minutes and Jack Davis, a
12 fireman, ran it in two hours and 58
13 minutes, I believe. So
14 congratulations to them.

15 And lastly, the last thing is
16 there was some talk last week about
17 the pool situation at Nay Aug pool. I
18 would just like to announce that
19 people that do have questions about
20 Nay Aug, the Nay Aug pool complex, it
21 is operated through the Recreation
22 Authority and the Recreational
23 Authority meets -- our public
24 meetings, they have public meetings
25 and the next meeting is -- the next

1 public meeting is Monday, May 5th, at
2 7 p.m. at Weston Field. And if anyone
3 wishes to attend, they are open to the
4 public. I believe that at this point
5 in time there will be members of
6 council attending that but that's
7 Monday, May 5th, 7 p.m., at Weston
8 Field, Cinco De Mayo. I don't know if
9 they're margaritas but that might be
10 an extra added attraction. No, they
11 won't. And that was all.

12 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER.

13 CITIZENS PARTICIPATION.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. First
15 speaker on this list, Joan Hodowanitz.

16 MS. HODOWANITZ: Good evening,
17 council. Joan Hodowanitz, Scranton
18 resident.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Good evening.

20 MS. HODOWANITZ: Item 3-B, Audit
21 Status from Robert Rossi. It's dated
22 April 25th. I was reviewing that
23 document in the Clerk's Office and I
24 noticed that it was just one page. It
25 may have been cutoff. There was no

1 signature block. Went down items one
2 through nine. Do you know if there
3 was more than one page for that
4 document?

5 MR. MCGOFF: I don't have a copy.

6 MS. HODOWANITZ: Miss Reed?

7 MS. REED: Yes, there is.

8 MS. HODOWANITZ: Is there a
9 reason why it wasn't in the review
10 packet?

11 MS. REED: Was it just the top
12 copy?

13 MS. HODOWANITZ: Just the first
14 page.

15 MS. REED: It's copied.

16 MS. HODOWANITZ: Because you can
17 see it's a fax. It said Page 2 of
18 five pages. Can I see those
19 additional pages maybe next week?

20 MS. REED: Absolutely. Sure.

21 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. Which
22 brings up the whole issue of the
23 audit. According to Mr. Rossi, he was
24 given the status of those items at
25 least as of March 15th. His report

1 was dated April 24th and he was saying
2 that if I'm to give you an audit by
3 May 31st, I needed this information
4 which suggests to me that, again, the
5 audit is going to be late. How late,
6 I have no idea. But this is very
7 important especially in a financially
8 distressed city such as ours, we need
9 the audit as we go through the budget
10 process. I mean, audits perform many
11 functions, not the least of which is
12 lessons learned, an analysis of last
13 year's budget, and I think you don't
14 want to be wrong two years in a row.
15 So does anyone have an idea of when we
16 might get that budget or that audit
17 finished? If it's not going to be May
18 31st, how late might it be?

19 MR. MCGOFF: There's no
20 indication as to when it would be
21 completed.

22 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. Well,
23 traditionally as I've watched these
24 come to meetings, it's been months
25 late and it impacts the preparation of

1 the budget and hopefully we can bring
2 pressure to bear. With the new
3 administration hopefully they're
4 sensitive to the fact that they must
5 apply that information for Rossi to
6 complete the budget and close that
7 loop or we're just going to be
8 performing the same useless drill.

9 MR. MCGOFF: May I? I know that
10 it is the intent of the administration
11 to have the information to the
12 auditors so that the budget or the
13 audit can be completed more
14 expeditiously than in the past.

15 MS. HODOWANITZ: Who in the
16 administration is the point of contact
17 on consolidating --

18 MR. MCGOFF: The business
19 administrator.

20 MS. HODOWANITZ: Mr. Bulzoni?

21 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

22 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Les
25 Spindler.

1 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
2 council. Les Spindler, resident and
3 homeowner and taxpayer.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Good evening.

5 MR. SPINDLER: I'm concerned
6 about several weeks ago you talked
7 about the caucus and the city
8 solicitor and said there's going to be
9 some kind of litigation.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Do you have
12 anymore information about that?

13 MR. MCGOFF: Not at this time.

14 MR. SPINDLER: Because I know
15 there's rumors that it might be the
16 city unions?

17 MR. MCGOFF: Please, again,
18 please don't listen to rumors. It is
19 nothing that is eminent. Let's put it
20 that way.

21 MR. SPINDLER: I hope that it's
22 not true. But if this City gets sued
23 again, I'm not -- I've never been an
24 advocate for bankruptcy. I don't
25 think it's a good idea but if the City

1 gets sued, I don't think that we have
2 a choice. On the other hand, if
3 somebody sues the City and wins, like
4 I don't know where they expect to get
5 the money from because we have no
6 money. Like the old expression, you
7 can't get blood from stone, so.

8 MR. MCGOFF: But I will say that
9 it had nothing to do with someone
10 suing the city.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. That's
12 good.

13 MR. MCGOFF: If that answers
14 your --

15 MR. SPINDLER: That's good news.
16 Okay. Okay, the next thing. As
17 everybody knows that I wrote out again
18 for a garbage fee bill last week and
19 they were late which I think I don't
20 know what happened but I was a little
21 upset, I mean, we don't have a lot of
22 time but, you know, I said last year
23 before the budget was passed that \$300
24 is way too much. As somebody who has
25 been out of work full-time for over a

1 year now, it's hard on me. And I know
2 a 96-year-old woman who lives by
3 herself, puts out one bag of garbage.
4 She has to pay \$300. Where is this
5 woman getting \$300 from? I know
6 there's nothing you can do now but I
7 hope council and the mayor can get
8 together and get some revenue sources
9 and hopefully in the next budget we
10 can lower that garbage fee because
11 it's a big burden on a lot of people
12 in this city. And I own a double
13 house and I have to pay \$600 and it's
14 a big burden. Like I said, for this
15 96-year-old woman, does anybody up
16 there agree that you think that's
17 fair? I guess by the silence, I guess
18 everybody thinks it's not fair.

19 MR. ROGAN: I'll answer it and
20 I -- for a long time I think a per bag
21 fee because I believe it's more fair.
22 If you have more garbage, you should
23 pay more than somebody who has less
24 garbage.

25 MR. SPINDLER: Absolutely. I

1 agree. Okay. Moving on. I talked
2 about this problem I have with my
3 property for probably 12 years now and
4 three of you know, two of the council
5 people wouldn't know it but I'll give
6 them a little background. I live on
7 the corner way back when -- I think
8 about 10, 12 years ago they put the
9 handicap accessible corner in. Every
10 time it rains my property gets
11 flooded. I can't go out my front
12 door. So I'm here to ask the DPW to
13 get that problem fixed. They did fix
14 it in 2010 but it just washed away.
15 It wasn't done properly. Since then
16 as somebody up there would know that
17 the last DPW director was not
18 cooperative in this situation at all.
19 Letters were sent time after time. I
20 have copies of them and I gave them to
21 Miss Carrera. So, Councilman Gaughan,
22 you're with DPW?

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Right. If you want
24 to leave your --

25 MR. SPINDLER: I did. All of the

1 information is in the letters and Miss
2 Carrera made copies.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Right.

4 MR. SPINDLER: It's not all the
5 letters. It's just a few that were
6 sent to Mr. Dougher and the mayor and
7 nothing has been done.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. I will reach
9 out.

10 MR. SPINDLER: I hope that it can
11 be rectified --

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah. I'll pass
13 the request.

14 MR. SPINDLER: The weather being
15 nice, I waved to him and just thought
16 it would nice if he could come and
17 talk to him. And I'm sure -- I know
18 Mr. Courtright surrounds himself with
19 a lot of good people. I'm sure the
20 DPW director will be cooperative. I
21 hope he will be.

22 Lastly, Councilman Rogan, last
23 week you talked about the traffic
24 lights and I agree with you, sometimes
25 they're bad. I was thrilled tonight.

1 I don't know if this was a fluke or
2 what. Coming here from where I live,
3 I came down the expressway all the up
4 Mulberry Street, from Dunkin Donuts to
5 City Hall I hit every green light and
6 I thought of you right away.

7 MR. ROGAN: It's your lucky day.
8 But PennDOT is -- they're continuing
9 to monitor them but we've all gotten
10 complaints for -- this is going on for
11 a year now and they have said that
12 they will continue to monitor and to
13 make adjustments. I think a simple
14 solution is you have all green one way
15 and all red another as bigger cities
16 do. I guess that causes a problem
17 with speeders though. That's why they
18 try to stagger them a little bit.

19 MR. SPINDLER: I heard you saying
20 that last week.

21 MR. ROGAN: Right.

22 MR. SPINDLER: Yeah. I couldn't
23 believe I came up all the way up here
24 and had every green light. All right.
25 That's all I have tonight. Thank you

1 for your time.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Doug
3 Miller.

4 MR. MILLER: Good evening,
5 council. Doug Miller, Scranton. I'd
6 just to respond to statements that
7 were made last week that, you know, I
8 was quite disturbed by it and I felt
9 rather insulting after I left the
10 meeting during motions. Statements
11 were made by Mr. McGoff, the issue
12 last week that I had addressed with
13 the issues of the swimming pools and
14 how I expressed my dislike with the
15 decision once again not showing a
16 sense of urgency in opening these
17 neighborhood pools, particular down in
18 Pinebrook and over at West Side and
19 the Novembrino pool. We were told by
20 Mr. McGoff that the swimming pools
21 are, quote, a luxury. And, you know,
22 I think that was one of the most
23 insulting statements made here from
24 this chamber that I can remember in a
25 long time.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Insulting to whom?

2 MR. MILLER: It was insulting to
3 the residents of the City, Mr. McGoff,
4 that your arrogance as a luxury and
5 it's a luxury. You're right it is a
6 luxury and it's a luxury that you took
7 away by your squandering of our money,
8 the fiscal mismanagement by you and
9 past council, the administration. So
10 you shake your head and continue to
11 insult but, yeah, you're right, it did
12 hurt a lot of people. It was
13 insulting. Okay. This is a luxury
14 that our great grandfathers and
15 forefathers worked their blood, sweat
16 and tears to give us these luxuries,
17 the parks, the pools and you took it
18 away. And I think you owe the
19 children, the seniors and the
20 residents of this community who got
21 their \$300 garbage bill, whose taxes
22 just went up 57 percent, you owe them
23 an apology because they've had to pay
24 their fair share due to your
25 mismanagement and mismanagement of

1 others. Yeah, you're right. They do
2 deserve a luxury. You know, maybe you
3 benefitted the luxuries and you
4 benefitted giving things in life
5 because you have been successful.
6 There's a lot of unfortunate people in
7 this community that do struggle. You
8 know, Mr. Gaughan hit it on the head
9 last week. There are a lot of people
10 that are poor. This is a very poor
11 community and they rely on these
12 assets that you gave away. You took
13 them away from the children. You did.
14 You're responsible for it. You're
15 responsible for squandering 3.5
16 million dollars in the golf course
17 proceeds that we've repeatedly
18 addressed that the interest was
19 specifically used for parks and
20 recreation. You spent that. Nobody
21 else. No, it isn't wrong. It's
22 right. It was perpetually put in a
23 trust fund, it was brought by
24 residents of this community -- yes, it
25 most certainly was, Mr. McGoff, and

1 you took it away when the golf course
2 was sold to Mr. DeNaples, another
3 asset that we sold. So to have the
4 audacity to sit there and insult me
5 and the residents of this community
6 and allow the seniors and the kids now
7 to swelter in the heat once again
8 because you took their luxury away,
9 you should hold your head in shame.
10 But I've been working with the
11 Pinebrook neighborhood group and I'm
12 glad it's comical, I really am. I'm
13 glad it's comical that you took a
14 luxury away from the children and the
15 seniors and all those hardworking
16 people that have paid their fair share
17 through the years. I'm glad it's
18 comical. But since it's comical to
19 you, it isn't comical to me and that's
20 why I'm bringing in an expert, Mr.
21 Greg Herbster, who if we can recall
22 years ago was the Director of Parks
23 and Recreation. He knows those pools
24 like the back of his hand.

25 MR. MCGOFF: I know him well.

1 MR. MILLER: That's good. And
2 I'm going to bring him in and he's
3 going to look at the pools and we're
4 going to get to the bottom line to
5 determine once and for all what
6 repairs need to be made so that each
7 year we're not going back and forth
8 playing this critical thinking game
9 like it's such, you know, a big deal
10 to determine what repairs need to be
11 made, that we're that incapable of
12 managing our simple assets. And I
13 understand people will talk about that
14 at this critical time the City has a
15 lot of other issues going on that take
16 priority particularly on finances but
17 these are little things that need to
18 be addressed and we have the ability
19 to take care of the little things, let
20 alone the massive things. And that's
21 sad and pathetic. It really is. And
22 I'm working with the Pinebrook
23 neighborhood group, Mr. Chilipko and
24 her group and others who have reached
25 out and we are working on some things

1 so that next year at this time the
2 children do have the pools and their
3 luxury is given back to them and it's
4 not taken away from ignorant people
5 who have no respect for anybody but
6 themselves. So, you know, there's a
7 lot of things. As far as Nay Aug Park
8 goes, the five dollar fee, this
9 council needs to ask that question. I
10 understand the Authority, they
11 determine what goes on but this
12 council needs to send a letter to make
13 it quite clear that five dollars is
14 absolutely ludicrous. You know, the
15 residents of this City have taken
16 beating after beating after beating
17 with no sympathy whatsoever because
18 they're the ones that are constantly
19 left out hanging to dry and
20 everything -- every burden is put on
21 them but I can let everybody know
22 tonight that I'm working hard with
23 others who are concerned and I know
24 with the smirk it's funny but I take
25 pride in it and I'm not going to stop

1 until these pool do open and there's a
2 lot of other people out there that
3 were quite insulted by the statements
4 that have come forward and they're
5 going to work diligently to see that
6 this happens and with Mr. Herbster
7 coming in and looking at them who
8 knows more about those pools than
9 anybody that can be brought in and I
10 look forward to the day that we get
11 our luxury back. Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Dave
13 Dobzyn.

14 MR. DOBZYN: Good evening. Dave
15 Dobzyn, resident of Scranton. Okay.
16 Last week we mentioned about the
17 running race, the marathon and how it
18 brought people in and I'd like to
19 point out and request that Steamtown,
20 that you send some kind of letters in
21 support of Steamtown to our
22 representatives in Washington. It
23 brings in a minimum per train ride 300
24 people into the city and they stop at
25 restaurants and it was the Mall at

1 Steamtown at one time. Now, the mall
2 is up in the air. We don't know
3 what's going to happen to it. But I
4 have seen people shopping there and
5 it's a real interesting experience and
6 there's a lot of static displays and
7 stuff so to see and it's very
8 educational. So, please, consider a
9 letter to our representatives and
10 senators on Steamtown. They've been
11 cut back 20 percent over two years and
12 they were never raised in a day the
13 place opened, they got 5.2 million
14 dollars and it never increased from
15 1994. I'm happy to see that upper
16 Hickory Street is paved and I'm on
17 lower Hickory Street and it's been
18 milled. Jack, please, don't let the
19 gas company or the Sewer Authority
20 know. Okay? And that was brought up
21 to you on TV land.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: We'll try.

23 MR. DOBZYN: Okay. We need to
24 start to focus on delinquent
25 collections with some of those trash

1 bills, former trash bills -- I mean,
2 if somebody owes it now it's one thing
3 but owing it for five years or
4 whatever, that's insufferable. It
5 should be paid. And once again I'd
6 like to see council get a little more
7 active at a lot of these state
8 representatives on issues. For
9 instance, a local issue, our taxes
10 went up. Well, guess what, unless you
11 spend in excess of \$12,200 per couple,
12 you cannot claim your property taxes
13 on your income tax. The guy that has
14 a 20 million dollar mortgage, he can
15 claim his interest, he can claim his
16 taxes. But you can't because you live
17 within your means and that's
18 ridiculous. Now, they just turned
19 that around about two years ago with
20 that sequester business and the small
21 guy is the guy that got the hit. I
22 got -- it amounts to ten cents
23 deduction on income tax, interest
24 mortgage, interest rate or anything
25 like that; charitable deductions,

1 forget about it. It's money out of
2 your pocket. Everybody calls me says
3 it's tax deductible. Well, guess
4 what? It's not. I'll give it to you
5 anyway but it's not tax deductible. I
6 get in their face about it. And once
7 again I'd like to mention that our
8 Chamber of Commerce is creating a
9 commercial property bubble and it's
10 going on nationally and it's got to
11 stop. That's why several businesses
12 have moved out of the city and that's
13 why the mall is in the shape it's in.
14 We just have too much commercial
15 properties being built and it's good
16 for a few trade unions or whatever but
17 it does nothing for us except to have
18 people jumping back and forth. You
19 don't even know where they're at
20 anymore and I have better things to do
21 than to freeze my buns off and going
22 up on Montage Mountain. You know,
23 it's like I don't have to walk through
24 the weather with the mall. And, okay,
25 the golden parrot goes to Jenny Beth

1 Martin, Tea Party darling. She makes
2 more than the president. She gets 400
3 grand a year, turns over five percent
4 to the candidates and the rest of the
5 money goes to the consultant fees and
6 what have you, family -- probably
7 family members or who knows. So she
8 gets the golden parrot and don't
9 forget to call your congressman and
10 tell them to scrap the Transpacific
11 Trade Pact because we have enough
12 joblessness to go around. Thank you
13 and have a good night.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anyone
15 else who wishes to address council?
16 Don't fight.

17 MR. MORGAN: Good evening,
18 council.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Good evening.

20 MR. MORGAN: In regards to the
21 pools, I hope there could be a spirit
22 of cooperation between the council and
23 the mayor in letting an independent
24 individual come in and look at this,
25 the state of the pools and try to find

1 a solution to the problem. In the
2 community maybe we can raise some
3 money somehow with some fundraisers or
4 some of the community block, grant
5 money to be released to make these
6 pools function and I just hope that
7 council would pass that message to the
8 mayor and really I think we can get a
9 lot done if we determine we're going
10 to work together.

11 The other question I have is I
12 guess it goes to you, Mr. Loscombe, if
13 that's all right, Mr. McGoff. What's
14 going to happen with the firemen when
15 the grant money runs out?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: It's still in
17 discussion. You know, we may end up
18 going into more brown outs again. It
19 depends. We haven't worked on a
20 budget for next year. We're still
21 hoping for, you know, a continuation
22 or the new safer grant that hasn't
23 been awarded yet. It's been applied
24 for but there's still a lot of
25 variables at this point.

1 MR. MORGAN: Okay. And, Mr.
2 Wechsler, I just have one question and
3 I know you don't have the answer
4 tonight but just out of the sake of my
5 own curiosity. If we were to take a
6 look at the city's complete debt,
7 including all the authorities, all the
8 money that goes to all these different
9 sources, what would the debt be per
10 residence, you know, per structure in
11 the city if that was broken down. I'd
12 just like to -- I was just wondering
13 if that would be a number that you can
14 come up with and, you know, I've
15 talked with some people in the city in
16 the last little period of time here
17 and they're just -- I don't know how
18 to really say without -- I don't want
19 to be critical but there's just really
20 not much left that the people in the
21 city can give and really there's
22 nothing left for us to give and I just
23 think that maybe we should really
24 consider if the state of the condition
25 of the city is because the residents

1 of this city have been overtaxed for
2 decades, and we can all talk about how
3 taxes should be move up incrementally
4 over a course of time and a period of
5 time but I just think that we need to
6 find some real solutions here. And so
7 many people are just screaming like
8 they're asking why we just don't
9 rollover and go bankrupt or name a
10 receiver. They don't know what we're
11 going to do with our pensions. These
12 people are just -- they've had it. I
13 mean, they've just lost all faith in
14 city government. And, of course, they
15 have problems with other parts of
16 government but, you know, I just hope
17 that council, the five members of
18 council and the mayor can come
19 together and I still believe that the
20 best course of action for this city at
21 this time for a future to start
22 building a future together is to
23 introduce SAPA and pass it because we
24 have to find a new road to travel and
25 the road we've been on for a long time

1 has been unproductive. And we can
2 keep voting against everything but
3 sooner or later we have to regionally
4 come together and move together to do
5 one thing, create jobs, and people who
6 come from outside the city to work
7 here will spend money here and the
8 residents will earn money here and
9 they will invest their money here.
10 We've played a lot of games. Look at
11 the North Scranton project. They're
12 waiting to see what HUD is going to
13 do. I mean, look it, everybody is at
14 the public trough and we need to move
15 in a new direction and I hope that
16 council could understand that SAPA is
17 an avenue of approach that is
18 disparately necessary for this city
19 and I think it's time that we put all
20 politics together. And just end this
21 I'd say, Mr. Loscombe, don't you think
22 that really we could use some revenue
23 to make sure that we have fire
24 protection and police protection and
25 that the City is actually functioning

1 and can we really lose anything by
2 trying a new direction and giving it a
3 chance? Give it some thought and
4 maybe you'll bring it up and you'll
5 pass it, the mayor will sign it and
6 we'll have a plan to start proceeding.
7 Thank you.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

9 MR. UNGUARSKY: Good evening,
10 city council.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Good evening, Mr.
12 Unguarsky.

13 MR. UNGUARSKY: I'm Tom Unguarsky
14 and I've coming to these meetings
15 longer than any of you have been on
16 city council and I've seen what
17 happens when a council doesn't
18 investigate, ask questions and debate
19 what's on the agenda. Tonight you're
20 taking from the table for a financial
21 advisor. Now, anybody in business
22 knows that when they hire someone, he
23 has to make them a living, he has to
24 make his living, plus a profit for the
25 employer. I hope tonight you will

1 tell us what we can expect from this
2 advisor. I can't understand why
3 you're taking this from the table when
4 you have someone, Mr. Amerola, who is
5 going to give you some free advice.
6 Why can't you wait until Mr. Amerola
7 comes in with his advice and then see
8 what you're going to do. I hope you
9 know what this advisor is going to
10 cost you. He should at least earn
11 what we're going to pay him in some
12 kind of a savings. And I thank you.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

14 MS. SHUMACHER: Good evening.

15 Marie Shumacher.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Good evening.

17 MS. SHUMACHER: I will start off
18 with a follow-up. Now, tonight in the
19 caucus it was mentioned that PFM
20 representatives were at a city meeting
21 so I can assume that the answer to my
22 first question about that contract
23 that I -- the proposed contract that I
24 raised last week that, in fact, they
25 have been performing pre

1 contracturally for a matter of at
2 least months if not just this week.
3 But is someone going to answer those
4 questions specifically tonight or do I
5 need to go through them one at a time?

6 MR. MCGOFF: I can answer them
7 after the meeting at any time
8 actually.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'd prefer not.
10 Before the vote I'd like to know what
11 the answers are. So, okay. So they
12 have, in fact, been pre contractual
13 since March?

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Terms and
16 conditions may be supplemented. Is
17 this with or without the approval of
18 council?

19 MR. MCGOFF: If you would give me
20 a moment. I'm just looking for the
21 e-mail that has Mr. Bulzoni's
22 response. If you would -- I will find
23 the answers. I have too many e-mails.
24 That's the problem.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: I was going to

1 make that suggestion but what the
2 heck. Got it?

3 MR. MCGOFF: Second question, is
4 that what it was Article 1-11?

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: No. Article
6 III, terms and conditions. If you're
7 stating 1-11, they were Roman numerals
8 so it would appear to be -- could
9 be -- appeared to be 1-11.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Okay. Article III,
11 Mr. Bulzoni said that this is standard
12 contractual language and does not
13 require modification.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: That doesn't
15 answer my question which was that the
16 terms and conditions may be
17 supplemented, will those supplements
18 come before council or will they not?
19 I understand terms and conditions. I
20 mean, I understand things change
21 throughout the life of the contract
22 but --

23 MR. MCGOFF: I do not know. I do
24 not know.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Article 9

1 states that the City's liability is
2 limited to appropriations approved for
3 this effort. As stated by Mr. McGoff,
4 there is no appropriation for this
5 effort for 2014, nor is it possible to
6 appropriate forward until a proposed
7 budget is received from the mayor and
8 approved by council for next year. So
9 this is a contractual item that is
10 impossible to execute and a dangerous
11 liability for the taxpayers obligating
12 appropriations outside the context of
13 the entire budget is not a good
14 practice.

15 MR. MCGOFF: PFM on Page 16 of
16 the proposal says that we understand
17 that the City may be under pressure in
18 2014, therefore, we are willing to
19 defer any hourly compensation until
20 2015 which, I think, is reasonable.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: But then there
22 is no -- still no appropriation and
23 they're -- you are committing to an
24 appropriation and what have they spent
25 for the last two months since they've

1 been working for two months? I mean,
2 at what rate are they burning through
3 this money?

4 MR. MCGOFF: I don't know that
5 they're burning through anything and I
6 don't know how many hours they have
7 been working.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: I would like us
9 to check into that.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Payments being
11 deferred to 2015 is, I believe, good
12 practice for us.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: I don't think
14 it's good practice because we don't
15 have a budget for next year. You're
16 obligating money for next year's
17 budget that's a big chunk probably out
18 of the -- out of the budget and then
19 what else gives? Does anything else
20 give or are we going to -- I'd like to
21 go through the rest of these since a
22 lot of my time was spent going through
23 your e-mail. Okay?

24 MR. MCGOFF: Go ahead.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: There is no

1 fixed transaction fee. The No. 2
2 person or No. 2 company did have --
3 provide a transaction fee and I think
4 that's very important as well. So --

5 MR. MCGOFF: There is no -- the
6 response is no fixed transaction fee.
7 The fees are stated in the proposal
8 and we have the ability to limit the
9 amount of effort in any of the
10 initiatives.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'm sorry.
12 Could you read amount of effort.
13 Somebody coughed and I didn't hear it
14 after that. Sorry.

15 MR. MCGOFF: We have the ability
16 to guide the process by limiting the
17 amount of time on any issue.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay.
19 Deferment, oh, well, I already did
20 that one. The analyst hourly rate
21 disconnect was mentioned by Joan the
22 week before. In one place it was
23 stated as \$275 an hour per analyst and
24 in another it was stated as \$225 per
25 hour. Which is it?

1 MR. MCGOFF: \$225 per hour.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank
3 you. I'm sorry. I think I should
4 have a little more time but I'll be
5 back next -- no, I may not. Thank
6 you.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: There's Chrissy
9 after his long vacation.

10 MR. SLEDZISKI: I was not.
11 (Unintelligible.) Everyone of them.
12 Thank you.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: All Right, buddy.
14 Welcome back.

15 MR. SLEDZISKI: Thank you, Jack.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: You're right.
17 You're dressed for work tonight.

18 MR. SLEDZISKI: I am dressed for
19 work.

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
21 city council. Bill Jackowitz, South
22 Scranton resident, member of the
23 Taxpayer Association.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: First of all, I'd

1 like to start off by complimenting Mr.
2 Gaughan for speaking up last week
3 about complimenting about the swimming
4 pools being a luxury. I guess the
5 other three council members must be in
6 favor of it and agree with Mr. McGoff
7 because they did not speak up or say
8 anything.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Don't assume
10 anything because somebody doesn't
11 speak.

12 MR. ROGAN: Don't assume that.

13 MR. JACKOWITZ: Pardon me?

14 MR. MCGOFF: That would be
15 improper.

16 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Jackowitz, I
17 spoke on that under motions and I
18 support the pools being open and I
19 actually also mentioned that I believe
20 that Nay Aug should be under the city,
21 not the Recreation Authority.

22 MR. WECHSLER: And we also are
23 attending the meeting on Monday night
24 so please don't assume what my opinion
25 is.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: Well, I'm not
2 assuming. I'm just stating what a
3 fact that I believe. I'm not assuming
4 anything.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Well, you made an
6 assumption.

7 MR. JACKOWITZ: No, no, I didn't.
8 But anyway we've been fighting this
9 battle for pools over years and years
10 and years. I have a question. A
11 returning veteran, let's say a veteran
12 coming back from Iraq or from
13 Afghanistan, he's been out defending
14 the country and the people of this
15 country, do you think their children
16 should be allowed to swim when they
17 come back to Scranton? Mr. Wechsler?

18 MR. WECHSLER: I believe everyone
19 should have free swimming but the
20 reality is there's a cost to it.

21 MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Rogan?

22 MR. ROGAN: I believe it should
23 be free.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Loscombe?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: I concur with Mr.

1 Rogan.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. Gaughan?

3 MR. GAUGHAN: What exactly is
4 your question again?

5 MR. JACKOWITZ: Well, basically
6 let's say veterans and their children,
7 especially war veterans, should their
8 children be allowed to swim in
9 Scranton?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, I believe
11 everyone should be allowed to swim,
12 definitely. Nobody should be barred
13 from swimming.

14 MR. JACKOWITZ: Mr. McGoff?

15 MR. MCGOFF: I believe everyone
16 has a right to swim if that's what it
17 is.

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. So then
19 it's not a luxury. It's a right.
20 That's what you said.

21 MR. MCGOFF: No, no. I still
22 think that the City's involvement in
23 the swimming process, my personal
24 opinion is that that is a luxury that
25 the City provides, not a necessity.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. Are the
2 children in the City of Scranton
3 responsible for the financial distress
4 that the city has been in over 8,000
5 days? Are they responsible for it?
6 Or are the elected officials, past
7 mayors, past city council members, are
8 they the ones who made the decisions
9 to squander the money and waste the
10 money? We keep hearing about our
11 financial situation. My question is,
12 are the children of the City of
13 Scranton responsible for that? Would
14 anybody like to answer that?

15 MR. MCGOFF: You're asking
16 something that really can't be
17 answered.

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: Why can't it be
19 answered? Someone's responsible. Are
20 you saying no one is responsible? The
21 votes that city councilmen have made
22 in the past are not responsible?

23 MR. MCGOFF: You want me to
24 answer?

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: Go ahead.

1 MR. MCGOFF: If some child goes
2 and defaces the pool house at Connell
3 Park, yes, they are responsible.

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: Exactly. If they
5 do vandalism a 100 percent.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Okay. So you've
7 asked.

8 MR. JACKOWITZ: Does that mean
9 that they're denied the opportunity
10 because our past mayors and city
11 council members made ridiculous votes
12 and squandered all the money and
13 wasted it and now we use as an excuse
14 to the fact that the city is financial
15 strapped. We've been financially
16 strapped for 22 years, over 8,000 days
17 for God's sakes. We go through this
18 every year. Nothing ever gets
19 resolved and then we get a comment
20 that swimming is a luxury in the City
21 of Scranton, you know.

22 MR. MCGOFF: It's a personal
23 belief.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: I tell you it
25 sure offended a lot of people. I

1 mean, I don't know if you guys go out
2 and talk to the people in the City of
3 Scranton but I'll tell you what, most
4 people in the city are totally
5 disgusted. Not only are they
6 disgusted with city government,
7 they're disgusted with county
8 government and state government and
9 federal government. Because people
10 who going to work and they're not
11 making any money because all the money
12 is going to be paid to taxes. And
13 then we're told that our children
14 can't swim because it's a luxury. I
15 totally disagree with that statement
16 and I think -- I know it was an insult
17 to me, especially being a veteran and
18 I think it was an insult to lot of
19 other veterans who go out there and
20 defend. They defend the right for
21 their children to go out and have the
22 opportunity to swim on a 92 degree
23 day. Now, if we're going to be fair
24 about all this, then none of pools in
25 the City of Scranton should be open

1 and that should also be Nay Aug Park
2 unless the City is willing to run a
3 shuttle service throughout all the
4 neighborhoods and shuttle the children
5 to the pools that are open.

6 Otherwise, all the pools should be
7 closed because it's not fair for the
8 children who live in neighborhoods
9 whose pools are closed by South Side,
10 West Scranton and the Pinebrook
11 section. It's not fair to those
12 children. So I really think someone
13 should look into this, get with
14 whoever you need, the mayor, Parks and
15 Recreation and see if we can set up a
16 shuttle or some kind of service so
17 that the children can have at least
18 the opportunity to go swim because
19 it's not a luxury.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anyone
21 else care to address council?

22 MS. LEWIS: Good evening,
23 council. Debbie Lewis, West Scranton.
24 Haven't been here in awhile and I just
25 have a few loose ends so I'm kind of

1 jumping all over the place here. I
2 concur by the way with Mr. Jackowitz'
3 idea. I think if we're going to close
4 pools which I am not totally
5 dismissive of your opinion either, Mr.
6 McGoff. I understand. I do believe
7 they are a luxury but it's a luxury
8 that has become somewhat of a
9 tradition in Scranton, and I think
10 that's where a little bit of, you
11 know, feeling that we have come to
12 feel we deserve.

13 MR. MCGOFF: I don't disagree
14 with you.

15 MS. LEWIS: Right. Well, I sense
16 that you probably don't. But I do
17 also think that if we are going to
18 close them, we have to be fair minded
19 about it and equitable. And if we're
20 going to leave one or two open, we
21 should provide some kind of
22 transportation, shuttle, maybe even
23 twice a week. You know, just to give
24 those children that don't have a pool
25 within walking distance. And if we

1 can't afford that, then we really
2 should consider, like I said, being
3 fair across the board and shutting all
4 of them down. I know it's hard to
5 take but it's just unfair that you get
6 a certain amenity by virtue of where
7 you live in the city and other people
8 that pay just as much do not receive
9 it. So that's my little two cents on
10 the pools. Other loose ends I have.

11 First I want to say really
12 quickly hello to my neighbor. She
13 encourages me occasionally to come and
14 speak and if it wasn't for her
15 presence in my block of West Scranton,
16 I don't think I would even be there.
17 So she's a long time West Scranton
18 person, same residence for, I think,
19 over 50 years and I appreciate her
20 presence in my block.

21 Now, onto the actual points that
22 I'd like to make tonight. Generally
23 speaking I get the impression watching
24 council that I don't sense urgency.
25 And it's not even a matter of not

1 having urgency now that we're in this
2 financial situation, pressing
3 situation but I don't sense urgency
4 almost ever in Scranton government
5 officials. Maybe I'm not picking up
6 on it. But I know that I personally,
7 if I lived in a city and I was an
8 elected official right now
9 representing Scranton in any capacity,
10 I would feel and want to project a
11 sense of urgency. I would be coming
12 to these meetings with my sleeves
13 rolled up. That's -- because I feel
14 we need -- we have a lot on our plate
15 and I think if we're going to overcome
16 them that what we're facing, we really
17 need to start rolling up our sleeves
18 and getting down to brass tacks.
19 That's just my personal feeling on the
20 temperament or the demeanor that I
21 sense.

22 Other than that, I wanted to talk
23 briefly. Councilman Rogan had an idea
24 about the boys clubs and lifeguards
25 and stuff. Good idea. I thought it

1 was something that could be pursued.
2 As far as the report card idea, I
3 don't think it would work only because
4 you'll have children perhaps besides
5 getting the report cards wet possibly,
6 you might have somebody finding
7 somebody else's report card and you
8 don't want to provide fodder for more
9 incidents, you know, making fun or
10 bullying and so forth. But although I
11 don't agree with the idea, I applaud
12 the fact that you spoke up and offered
13 your idea because I sense when I talk
14 to people in Scranton, they have ideas
15 and they want a conduit of sorts to
16 their government and they also want to
17 hear ideas coming from their
18 government so that we can have a real
19 dynamic of discussion going on,
20 discourse. That's, I think, how you
21 solve problems. And on that note I'd
22 like to finish. I'm going to jump
23 ahead because I'm probably running
24 short on time. Because I in the past,
25 I think two and a half years ago

1 maybe, I came to this idea and
2 suggested that then council create
3 roundtable discussions composed --
4 comprised of people that have
5 expertise, others just citizens who
6 are willing to roll up their sleeves
7 and start generating ideas and to use
8 a word that is now over used, brain
9 storm. Mr. Jackowitz has offered the
10 Dante Club, I believe, as a place
11 where we can meet and so I'm going to
12 in the next few weeks put out an offer
13 to Scrantonians who love the city,
14 want to see the city through this and
15 want to offer ideas up. Not everyone
16 is going to have a winning idea and we
17 expect to have many setbacks but I
18 want people that are going to stay the
19 course, work with their government
20 officials, you know, continue with a
21 positive, you know, attitude because
22 we do have a lot to overcome and you
23 cannot become, I think, disappointed
24 too quickly otherwise we will not make
25 progress. So on that note, I thank

1 you all and thank you also to Mr.
2 Gaughan for getting back to me on
3 things. Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else wishes
5 to address council?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Reed.

8 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER: 5-A
9 MOTIONS.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
12 McGoff. This week we received the
13 Single Tax Office City funds
14 distributed comparison for 2014
15 against 2013. This would be for the
16 month ending April 30th, 2014. As you
17 may know, the total real estate tax
18 for the city was budgeted at about 28
19 million dollars. That's a combination
20 of a couple of different things. To
21 date about 19 million dollars has been
22 collected of that, represents about 70
23 percent of the total. A number that
24 struck me was that it's a plus seven
25 million dollars from this period last

1 year.

2 On the other side, the business
3 privilege tax is currently about
4 \$100,000 behind from last year. This
5 is a bit concerning to me and also to
6 members of the administration and
7 actually it's because of some of the
8 things that we've seen happening in
9 the city where businesses have either
10 closed or left the city.

11 In addition, I have requested and
12 reviewed -- I actually received this
13 today a report from Berkheimer
14 Associates containing information
15 about the amount of wage taxes that
16 have been collected in the first
17 quarter of 2013. Like I said, I just
18 received it today and I am going to
19 sit down with Treasurer Wayne Beck and
20 the Business Administrator Dave
21 Bulzoni to get their input and views
22 on where we are and where we should be
23 at.

24 And other information from the
25 Business Administrator's Office, due

1 to an illness of a very key person in
2 that department, we are experiencing
3 some delays in generating some reports
4 that are necessary for us to function
5 with our financial people and also
6 with PEL. So the City has reached out
7 to a former employee and treasurer of
8 Scranton, the person's name is Doug
9 Heim. Doug is going to work on a
10 part-time basis in the Business
11 Administrator's Office. He is going
12 to be paid a fee of \$25 per hour. He
13 is going to try to limit his hours to
14 five hours per week and right now the
15 amount of money that has been
16 allocated to this will be capped at
17 about \$10,000 coming out of our
18 professional services.

19 In other news, I agree with some
20 of the comments tonight. I wish
21 things were moving faster also in the
22 city. I'm only here five months.
23 I've been active in the city for 20
24 years. And I can tell you things just
25 don't move fast. Everywhere we go, we

1 get the same frustration. When is
2 something going to happen. I can only
3 tell you this and I've stated this
4 before and people are tired of me
5 saying this. The administration,
6 including the mayor and his people,
7 this council, our office, we're
8 working everyday and we're making
9 progress everyday gaining information.
10 I'm kind of looking at this, you know,
11 we were handed a budget for 2014,
12 we're working with it. The pools, you
13 know, that was kind of handed to us.
14 A lot of things we're working with
15 them and trying to make them the best
16 they are for 2014. In my role as
17 finance chair, a lot of people think I
18 should be saying a lot more. I'm
19 actually looking at numbers for 2015.
20 There's not much that I can do as
21 finance chair right now. There really
22 isn't. I can report information as I
23 get it. To the information that we're
24 getting and, you know, we spoke about
25 this is the budgeting process is a

1 year long thing. We don't want to get
2 into a situation and I'm not sure if
3 this happened or not but it always
4 appeared that way that everything was
5 done at crunch time. Crunch time for
6 me is going to start when we have six
7 months of information in, we have the
8 true numbers that we can track
9 estimates against the true values and
10 start going from there. And that's,
11 you know, for me that's how I plan on
12 doing my job as finance chair.

13 Some of the other comments that
14 were made, I go to neighborhood
15 meetings every week. I'm a strong
16 neighborhood person. When we talk
17 about positive people, they're in the
18 neighborhood associations. Last night
19 I attended a meeting of the Oakmont
20 Association on the other -- up by Lake
21 Scranton. Oakmont is a kind of a
22 curious neighborhood because it's
23 entering a stage now where the
24 original residents are reaching time
25 for them to sell their homes and there

1 is a huge influx of young families who
2 have made the decision to live in
3 Scranton because of the benefits and
4 the things that we have. To me that
5 is a major sign of -- the city,
6 itself, the government, we're having
7 our problems. But the neighborhoods
8 and the people of Scranton, they get
9 it and they're working towards it.
10 There's a new president at Oakmont by
11 the name of Mike Kelly. I turn 55 on
12 Friday so I call these guys young guys
13 now. But he's a young guy, he's a
14 father and he became active in his
15 neighborhood association just because
16 he saw the need and that's what we
17 need. And I agree, a roundtable of
18 ideas and discussions is a great
19 thing. If you have it, we can
20 actually come. If we form it, the
21 three of us can't be there together.
22 If you have a meeting, we can attend.
23 I would encourage anybody that wants
24 us to attend. We -- when I say we,
25 all this council, we're not afraid of

1 the public. We are out. Mr.
2 Jackowitz asked are we out in public.
3 I'm out in public all the time. I
4 don't hide from anybody, I take phone
5 calls.

6 To touch on another subject. I
7 receive a letter from a constituent
8 who is not satisfied with my
9 performance. But that person did not
10 put any contact information for me to
11 get back to them. So I want to
12 explain to that person if they wanted
13 to, send me an e-mail. My number is
14 in the phone book. I kind of work off
15 the machine because I'm not there as
16 much as I should be. Call my house.
17 I don't have a problem with somebody
18 who disagrees with me doing something
19 that they don't think I'm doing right
20 because I'm only on this job four
21 months. It takes a long to get your
22 feet wet. You know, the hardest thing
23 you do is fight to get elected and
24 then you get the job and then you say,
25 What am I going to do? And that's

1 kind of what we're getting our feet
2 wet.

3 In terms of the swimming pools,
4 myself, I am attending the rec meeting
5 on Monday night just to get the
6 feedback on what's going on down
7 there. I'll be honest with know, you
8 know, I don't know. I don't have
9 small children anymore. I don't go to
10 those pools anymore. But like I said,
11 the sense of urgency, we have. It may
12 not appear because I don't want to run
13 around like my hair is on fire. I
14 want to work on the job, get
15 information and proceed in the best
16 way possible for the City. Thank you,
17 Mr. McGoff.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

19 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Just two very
20 brief items. It was reported in the
21 paper regarding the first meeting that
22 was held through our OECD Office
23 reaching out to the community on
24 prioritizing how federal funds are
25 spent. If you haven't already, I

1 encourage you to check out the City's
2 website, it's www.scrantonpa.gov,
3 print out the survey and fill it in,
4 get it into the City to let your voice
5 be heard.

6 And I wasn't planning on
7 commenting on the pool again but just
8 because there was such -- it was
9 brought up by so many speakers. I'll
10 reiterate my decision on the swimming.
11 I believe that the children of the
12 City of Scranton should swim for free.
13 Their parents, when they come to the
14 pools, they should have to pay. The
15 children from outside of Scranton
16 should have to pay. But children and
17 residents who are taxpayers do not
18 have to pay. When I was a kid, I
19 would go to the Novembrino all the
20 time and it was one year we paid a
21 dollar and the next year it was free
22 but it was never a five dollar fee and
23 the pool was always open. And it
24 breaks my heart that the kids in my
25 neighborhood, in West Side don't have

1 a place to swim which is somewhere
2 where I spent a lot of my summers as a
3 kid, there, and West Side Little
4 League right down the way. But I hope
5 moving forward and as Mr. Wechsler
6 mentioned, the current administration
7 is dealing with previous mayor's
8 budget and what was put in there for
9 pools was put in and there was very
10 little communication between that
11 administration and City Council. It
12 was just the way it was. Luckily
13 things are much better on the
14 communication front now but I really
15 think that the City needs to find
16 partners to open up these pools. I
17 don't think it's something that can be
18 done solely on the back of the
19 taxpayer. I think it has to be
20 partnerships, stores, nonprofits,
21 through the school district, through
22 neighborhood organizations and they
23 want to help. You know, I firmly
24 believe that instead of approaching
25 our nonprofits for a cash check and

1 with taxes, it's a much easier sell to
2 say, well, you know, your nonprofit is
3 located in the Hill Section, would you
4 like to give a donation of X amount
5 that will be go specifically for the
6 Hill Section and if you do that in
7 each area where these nonprofits are,
8 I think they would be much more
9 willing to help when they see the
10 result. If we can go with plans to
11 see, well, you know, we'll pave three
12 roads in this neighborhood with this
13 money instead of just write us a check
14 and it will go to the general fund, I
15 think we would be a lot more
16 successful in pursuing pilots in that
17 manner. And also the pools,
18 sponsorships. I know we've talked
19 about it before on council. I think
20 it's something that really would work.
21 It would be nice to have the Wells
22 Fargo Novembrino Complex or whoever
23 would like to sponsor or a variety of
24 sponsors, even do it on rotating on a
25 weekly basis to have those in the

1 community to help pay for the swimming
2 instead of the taxpayers. But it is
3 something that it's nice that the kids
4 in the City should have in the summers
5 and I believe one of the speakers
6 summed it up perfectly, it's not a
7 right but it's a tradition in the city
8 and it's something that should
9 continue and we should do everything
10 we can to see that the children have a
11 place to swim. So that's all I have
12 for today.

13 MR. MCGOFF: If I can just add to
14 that. We hired a group to solicit
15 advertising what we refer to as
16 NBRO's. Pools would be a great place
17 for advertising as Mr. Rogan said. I
18 would encourage this company that we
19 have hired through -- you know, that
20 the City has hired to pursue that.
21 And you said, the Wells Fargo Pool or,
22 you know, Gerrity's pool or whatever
23 it is, a great idea. That needs to be
24 pursued.

25 MR. ROGAN: And I think a perfect

1 example of that is if you go to any
2 Little League field in the City on the
3 back fence are all different
4 advertisements for different
5 businesses, nonprofits, stores,
6 something along those lines or if you
7 want to have just one gold sponsor and
8 only that one name is put there for a
9 very large dollar amount or a bunch of
10 smaller donors like the Little Leagues
11 do and I know they're very successful
12 in raising fund on an annual basis
13 with those sponsorships. And that's
14 all.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Mr.
16 Loscombe.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you. Just a
18 couple of things. We received a
19 letter last week regarding parking in
20 the 300 block of Dupont Court which is
21 directly behind the Mulberry
22 Apartments, the old Chamber building
23 and that's the only access to the
24 parking lot, 53 parking spaces for
25 Management Enterprises building there.

1 And what's happening is it's
2 impossible to make a sharp turn, it's
3 causing a lot of dangerous situations
4 and they're. There's not supposed to
5 be any cars parked there. They did
6 send us photographs showing the cars
7 actually extending almost out to the
8 street blocking the sidewalk. We did
9 contact Chief Graziano and he
10 responded right back that he will step
11 up the enforcement in that area. They
12 requested some signage but I believe
13 signage, there's -- because there's no
14 parking allowed there, they shouldn't
15 have to have signage either because it
16 is an ordinance in that court but
17 we'll follow up on that and make sure
18 that's enforced.

19 I would like to thank our Fire
20 Department for their quick response to
21 two fires last night, one on Main
22 Avenue in West Side and one on Main
23 Avenue in North Scranton. They're
24 able to make some good stops there and
25 save the buildings.

1 Next, since everybody else
2 discussed the swimming pools, I'll put
3 my two cents in. And we're not going
4 to agree here on everything but we do
5 work together to get the ultimate
6 result. And I'm not going to sit here
7 badgering an individual or anything
8 like that. I have to say and I think
9 those that have seen me over the
10 years, I'm closely aligned with Mr.
11 Rogan on this issue. In fact, we've
12 gone to neighborhood meetings in
13 Pinebrook and we've been working and
14 actually Mr. Miller mentioned it. We
15 have actually been in contact with Mr.
16 Herbster who is working with us on
17 some issues but the big factor is we
18 had money in the ComD funding for that
19 pool and it's eliminated but we were
20 able to keep I believe it was \$45,000
21 towards the repairs. Is that enough?
22 We're still working on it. Am I
23 disappointed that the administration
24 came out with a letter they don't have
25 any intention on opening the pools

1 this year? I definitely am. I
2 haven't had a chance to sit down with
3 the mayor yet but we have been working
4 on issues like Mr. Rogan said on
5 advertising and working with the
6 neighborhood organizations and
7 businesses to get this up to speed.
8 The problem is and I know we sit here
9 every week and like some of the
10 speakers say, they run into people on
11 the street and they're complaining and
12 nothing is being done and this and
13 that. It's hard to sit here because
14 we know there's a lot being done.
15 There's a lot we can't broadcast yet,
16 but the pieces of the puzzle are being
17 put together. In my four years on
18 council I have had more e-mails,
19 personal phone calls and meetings with
20 the administration in this last three
21 months than I did in the previous four
22 years. I find that commendable
23 because it's open. They're keeping us
24 all in the loop and everybody is cc'd
25 on these. There is a lot going on and

1 rolling up our sleeves, believe me, I
2 have the same. We're wishing things
3 could be done a lot quicker but the
4 pieces of the puzzle are coming
5 together, believe me, on the financial
6 end of it, on the administrative end
7 of it, department end of it, there's a
8 lot of things that have been left go
9 for many years that have to be redone
10 now and picked up. Look at it. The
11 majority of this administration has
12 started from scratch with what they
13 have here and I think it's
14 commendable. Yes, we're going to have
15 mistakes, we're going to have
16 problems, but I'm just asking for my
17 prospective, I'm very optimistic with
18 what's been going on. The unfortunate
19 thing is some of us here, most of us,
20 you know, have a full-time occupation
21 so we try and get to every meeting
22 that we can or every, you know, again,
23 we're in contact. If we're not at a
24 meeting with someone for the
25 administration, we're forwarding the

1 information so everyone is in the
2 loop. I think we're all working hard
3 to straighten out the finances of this
4 city, straighten out the finances,
5 then we can straighten out the
6 different departments. But there are
7 a lot of little things that crop up in
8 between, the usuals, the potholes,
9 the, you know, signs and a little bit
10 of everything. Now, we get into the
11 summer season, you have people
12 complaining about barbecue grills and
13 loud music an stuff like that. It's a
14 seasonal thing. But I think this
15 administration is adapting to, you
16 know, what's been going on. It is a
17 hard process. There's a lot of mess
18 out there. And I think given some of
19 the moves that have been done, I think
20 in the long run people will be happy.
21 Was I happy we had to raise the taxes?
22 Definitely not. I took a big hit on
23 them. Was I happy with the garbage
24 fee? Not at all. I mean, it's some
25 hard decisions but by making those

1 decisions now we have a financial
2 communities looking at us seriously
3 and saying, you know, this City does
4 want to move ahead. This
5 administration, these councilmen are
6 working together to move ahead.
7 They're working together, we have to
8 work together, we have to look at the
9 future. And, you know, you can
10 disagree with me and Mr. Wechsler
11 mentioned a letter he received. I
12 mean, get used to it, Joe, because
13 they come in regularly. I had a woman
14 send me a letter because I didn't wear
15 a tie one night so she upset with
16 that. But we do have a lot of big
17 issues. There's a ton of little
18 issues and we're trying to get to all
19 of them at the same time. But I have
20 to tell you, I mean, we know that
21 we're on the verge of not prosperity
22 but straightening things out. We're
23 getting some people to believe in us
24 and I see that. And I just hope
25 everyone is patient with us and with

1 the administration. Who knows, maybe
2 in two years I'll be bashing the
3 administration but, you know, if
4 things go sour for some reason. But
5 right now I cannot, you know, I have
6 nothing but good things to say with
7 what I have seen going on. And it's
8 not just one person getting
9 information. Everybody is in the same
10 loop. And all I see is progress for
11 all of us. So I'm just hopeful that
12 we all work together and we all start
13 to have a positive feeling about this.
14 I know the tax hurt, the garage fee
15 hurts a lot of elderly. I have a
16 mother who lives alone, I know it.
17 But, you know, if we grit our teeth
18 and get through this, I'm confident we
19 have better days ahead of us. You
20 know, we can attract business and
21 stuff like that. Like Mr. Lee Morgan
22 mentioned SAPA. You know, one time I
23 was against SAPA. I haven't reviewed
24 the newest plans. There was a
25 different circumstance back then. I

1 really don't know how it's going to
2 benefit us totally because people
3 cannot be forced to move their
4 business to Scranton or anything like
5 that but I am definitely open minded
6 and willing to give it another look
7 and, you know, if it's going to
8 benefit us a little bit with their
9 latest plans, I'm definitely open to
10 it. You know, things can change over
11 the years. But I just want to say I
12 am hopeful. I am optimistic and, you
13 know, it is hard sitting here
14 sometimes and then listening to -- and
15 don't get me wrong, everyone has a
16 valid, valid argument, valid concern
17 because I mumble those same arguments
18 myself so. But we have to bite our
19 tongue because we see a lot more that
20 is going on and knowing that there are
21 things coming up in the future that I
22 think will benefit us all but they
23 can't be broadcast for fear of
24 destroying the opportunities. So,
25 please, all I ask is to be patient

1 with us and with this administration
2 and hopefully my predictions will come
3 true. Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan?

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. Thank you.
6 Just a few items. First, I would like
7 to thank the DPW for taking care of a
8 large overturned stump that was
9 creating a problem for residents and
10 blocking the sidewalk in the 900 block
11 of Monroe Avenue. They have been very
12 responsive and I thank them for that.

13 I have received numerous
14 complaints about the bottom of Cherry
15 Street as you turn onto South
16 Washington Avenue going over the
17 railroad tracks. The DPW blacktopped
18 the one side of that street and did a
19 great job but the other side is still
20 in pretty rough shape and this is a
21 heavily traveled road so I will be
22 reaching out to our DPW director to
23 see if we can eventually rectify the
24 other side of that street.

25 On the pool situation I requested

1 last week that council receive a
2 report from the administration of the
3 condition of each City pool, what
4 upgrades are needed and the estimated
5 costs of these upgrades. Just to get
6 us all up to speed on that issue. I
7 received a letter. We all received a
8 letter today from Mr. Tom Lynch, the
9 Recreation Specialist. He says,
10 "Gentlemen, per your request, Weston
11 Field and Weston Park pools will be
12 opening this season. If any funding
13 is needed, we will contact the Weston
14 Foundation at PNC Bank. Connell Park
15 pool had extensive repairs done in
16 2013 with grant money and was opened
17 and will be opening in 2014. Any
18 maintenance repairs can be paid with
19 any remaining 2013 grant funds.
20 Novembrino Pool Complex will not open
21 this year. Hopefully with grant
22 funding we will be able to open it in
23 2015. Penn Ridge Pool, also known as
24 Capouse Pool in Pinebrook has grant
25 funding allotted for it but will not

1 open in 2014 due to time restraint and
2 site analysis. The two pools at Nay
3 Aug Park are under the Scranton
4 Municipal Recreation Authority and
5 will be open in 2014. If you have any
6 further questions, please do not
7 hesitate to contact me. Very truly
8 yours, Thomas P. Lynch, the Recreation
9 Specialist for the City." So that is
10 the response that we have received on
11 the City pools for this summer. And I
12 thank him for the response.

13 The streets sweeping schedule,
14 the DPW scheduled to be in the West
15 Scranton area, Oram Street to Washburn
16 Street from May 5th to May 9th which
17 will be next week.

18 I had an interesting meeting
19 today with members of the
20 administration, Lesley Collins from
21 Scranton Tomorrow and a representative
22 from KKPR marketing which is employed
23 through contract by the City. I
24 actually saw this idea in a magazine I
25 just happened to, you know, I almost

1 looked at it by accident. It's called
2 I-City and what it is is it's an
3 application or an app for your phone
4 if you have a smartphone or an I-phone
5 or an Android phone. And what the
6 company does or what they would do for
7 the City if we were to keep exploring
8 this is we would have a City of
9 Scranton app. So you would download
10 it on your phone. What the app would
11 provide would -- it would promote
12 community engagement involvement and
13 tourism. It would promote economic
14 development, organize business
15 listings, connect residents and
16 merchants, increase local sale and
17 trade and it would keep commerce
18 local. The really cool thing about
19 this and the interesting thing is if,
20 for instance, the City has a emergency
21 like we had a few months ago when we
22 had a water main break in South Side,
23 this, if you had this app on your
24 phone, it would send you -- we would
25 have the control in City Hall to send

1 your realtime notification, a push
2 notification that would come up on
3 your phone and tell you exactly what
4 was going on. Do not go up this
5 street, it's blocked. There's a water
6 main break, we will be getting service
7 back in such and such hours. There's
8 a number of different things from
9 listening to the presentation from
10 members of I-City as I did today that
11 I think would not only spur economic
12 development but it would increase
13 civic engagement between our local
14 government here in Scranton and the
15 residents. So this is in the infancy
16 phase but it is something that I think
17 would be a great idea. The
18 administration is going to look at it
19 and I will continue to update my
20 fellow members of council and the
21 residents of Scranton as we continue
22 to hopefully move forward on this
23 project. And that is all I have
24 tonight. Thank you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Briefly,

1 as Mr. Gaughan stated, the pools in
2 Scranton this summer are not going to
3 be closed. The pools that were open
4 last year, last summer will be again
5 opened this summer. And we are
6 pursuing or the City is pursuing an
7 attempt to rectify the problems at
8 Novembrino and at the Capouse Avenue
9 pool. The problem is as it was last
10 year that extensive repairs are needed
11 at both and added expense if they were
12 to open and at this point in time the
13 City doesn't see it as feasible to
14 make those repairs or have the funds
15 to make those repairs and to open
16 those two pools. As far as my comment
17 that swimming is a luxury, my wife
18 yelled at me as well for making that
19 statement. I have believed that for
20 awhile. And all I mean by that is
21 that if the City is going to spend
22 money, there are priorities. And I
23 would think that at the bottom of that
24 priority list are swimming pools. If
25 there's -- if you're going to ask me

1 to provide revenue for things that I
2 feel are needed, you know, public
3 safety and where do we get it, one of
4 first things I would say is let's
5 consider, you know, closing pools or
6 closing parks or, you know, the things
7 that I deem are, you know, and I'll
8 again use the term, luxury. I grew up
9 at South Side pool which is now
10 McNichol's Plaza. My kids, you know,
11 went swimming at Nay Aug. Swimming is
12 a nice thing in the summer and I'm
13 glad that we have pools. I'm glad
14 that we have the pools that we do. I
15 would never do anything that would
16 deliberately deny or close these
17 pools. And, in fact, even though I
18 was accused of closing them, we have
19 made every attempt even in the past to
20 keep pools open and we'll continue to
21 do so. And even though I may feel
22 that, you know, it's an expense, I've
23 never vote to necessarily close a pool
24 or to deny anybody the right to go,
25 you know, to these pools. But enough

1 said on that and we will continue to
2 pursue, you know, the situation with
3 pools and with the parks, you know,
4 throughout the city.

5 There was also a question about
6 maybe I should say this until
7 legislation but about PFM and their
8 contract and PFM is being hired to
9 perform a very distinct function, very
10 distinct from what Mr. Amoroso is
11 doing. Mr. Amoroso was hired to
12 analyze and to provide a plan or ideas
13 for dealing with our financial
14 situation. The role that PFM will
15 play is in negotiation of the finances
16 or the financing of implementing that
17 plan. That's what they do. They are
18 distinct in their purposes. Most
19 cities have financial planners or
20 whatever title you want to give them
21 and that is the function they will
22 perform. We have a lot of
23 negotiations to do in order to deal
24 with the financial situations that we
25 have. And that will be the function

1 of PFM along with the, you know, the
2 City administration.

3 And again reiterate what everyone
4 else has said, this administration is
5 working very hard at the problems that
6 the City faces. And while you may not
7 see the results everyday, believe me,
8 things are moving forward and
9 hopefully we begin to see some of the
10 fruits of the labor that has been put
11 into it. And that is all I have.

12 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION
13 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF
14 THE COUNCIL NO. 47, 2013, ENTITLED "AN
15 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
16 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE
17 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL
18 NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE
19 CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY
20 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO
21 BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY
22 DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
23 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP
24 (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS
25 GRANTS (ESG) PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD

1 BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2014" BY AMENDING
2 THE 2014 ACTION PLAN TO ACCEPT THE ONE
3 HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND (\$160,000.00)
4 DOLLARS REQUESTED UNDER THE
5 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM IN
6 THE ORIGINAL PLAN AND AN ADDITIONAL
7 FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED
8 NINETEEN (\$53,519.00) DOLLARS RECEIVED
9 UNDER THE PROGRAM TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS
10 OF HOMELESS PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY OR
11 TRANSITIONAL SHELTERS FOR A
12 TOTAL GRANT OF TWO HUNDRED THIRTEEN
13 THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETEEN
14 (\$213,519.00) DOLLARS.

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

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

20 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I neglected to
22 mention under motions. These are
23 additional funds that the City
24 received from the federal government.
25 This is just the legislation accepting

1 those funds.

2 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
3 of introduction signify by saying aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. MCGOFF: Ayes have it and so
11 moved.

12 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
13 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL
14 NO. 16, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING
15 SECTION 108.1 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY
16 OF SCRANTON GOVERNING DISPOSAL OF CITY
17 OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY BY ADDING
18 SUBSECTION C.

19 MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading
20 by title of Item 6-A. What's your
21 pleasure?

22 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
23 pass reading by title.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

25 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
3 of signify by saying aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. MCGOFF: Ayes have it and so
11 moved.

12 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
13 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
14 RULES -FOR ADOPTION – FILE OF THE
15 COUNCIL NO. 15, 2014 - AMENDING FILE
16 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 14, 2013 “AS
17 AMENDED” ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE
18 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
19 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY
20 OF SCRANTON TO EXECUTE A DEED
21 CONVEYING PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE COLUMN
22 PARCELS CONTAINING NINE (9) SQUARE
23 FEET EACH LOCATED IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT
24 OF WAY ON THE 300 BLOCK OF COLFAX
25 AVENUE AND CONVEYING AN AERIAL

1 DEED FOR THE AIR SPACE LOCATED ON THE
2 300 BLOCK OF COLFAX AVENUE WHERE THE
3 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE IS ERECTED SUBJECT
4 TO A REVERTER CLAUSE AND TO EXECUTE
5 AN AIR RIGHTS AGREEMENT BETWEEN
6 GEISINGER COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER AND
7 THE CITY OF SCRANTON BE FURTHER
8 AMENDED TO REFLECT THE NEW
9 CONSTRUCTION DATES FOR THE PROJECT.

10 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
11 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
12 passage of Item 7-A.

13 MR. ROGAN: Second.

14 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the
16 question as previously I will be
17 abstaining from this vote.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

22 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Abstain.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
4 declare Item 7-A legally and lawfully
5 adopted.

6 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
7 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -FOR
8 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 53, 2014 -
9 APPOINTMENT OF THOMAS S. SCHUSTER,
10 1657 NORTH MAIN AVENUE, SCRANTON,
11 PENNSYLVANIA, 18508 AS A MEMBER OF THE
12 PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF
13 SCRANTON. MR. SCHUSTER IS REPLACING
14 MARY ELIZABETH MOYLAN WHOSE
15 TERM EXPIRED ON DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND
16 SHE HELD OVER UNTIL APRIL 9, 2014 WHEN
17 SHE SUBMITTED A LETTER OF RESIGNATION.
18 MR. SCHUSTER'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON
19 DECEMBER 31, 2018.

20 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
21 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
22 passage of Item 7-B.

23 MR. ROGAN: Second.

24 MR. MCGOFF: On the question.
25

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Best of luck to
2 Mr. Schuster and thank you for coming
3 to our meeting tonight. I look
4 forward to working with you.

5 MR. WECHSLER: I think Tom is the
6 first appointment that actually
7 attended the meeting that he was
8 appointed to and I think Tom will be a
9 great asset to the Planning
10 Commission.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: I concur with my
12 colleagues.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

17 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
24 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully
25 adopted. And congratulations to Mr.

1 Schuster.

2 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
3 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -FOR
4 ADOPTION – RESOLUTION NO. 54, 2014 -
5 ACCEPTING A DONATION PRESENTED TO THE
6 CITY OF SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM
7 PPL SERVICES CORPORATION.

8 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
9 recommendation of the Chair for the
10 Committee on Finance?

11 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
12 the Committee on Finance, I recommend
13 final passage of Item 7-C.

14 MR. ROGAN: Second.

15 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
3 declare Item 7-C legally and lawfully
4 adopted.

5 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
6 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
7 -FOR ADOPTION – RESOLUTION NO. 55,
8 2014 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
9 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
10 AND ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH
11 HORSEPOWER HARLEY DAVIDSON, INC. TO
12 LEASE FIVE (5) POLICE PACKAGE
13 MOTORCYCLES FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
14 POLICE DEPARTMENT.

15 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
16 recommendation of the Chair for the
17 Committee on Public Safety?

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: As Chairperson for
19 the Committee on Public Safety, I
20 recommend passage of Item 7-D.

21 MR. ROGAN: Second.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Did I skip -- Okay.
23 I'm looking at the wrong page. On the
24 question?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

5 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
12 declare Item 7-D legally and lawfully
13 adopted.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: I would like to
15 make a motion to take Resolution No.
16 50-2014 from the table.

17 MR. ROGAN: Second.

18 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
21 signify by saying aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. MCGOFF: Ayes have it and so
4 moved.

5 MS. REED: 7-E. PREVIOUSLY
6 TABLED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE
7 COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR ADOPTION,
8 RESOLUTION NO. 50-2014, AUTHORIZING
9 THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY
10 OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
11 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH
12 THE PFM GROUP TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL
13 ADVISORY SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF
14 SCRANTON FOR THE PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS
15 FROM MARCH 9, 2014, THROUGH MARCH 8,
16 2018.

17 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
18 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
19 passage of Item 7-E.

20 MR. ROGAN: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

2 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby
9 declare Item 7-E legally and lawfully
10 adopted.

11 Any further business?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. MCGOFF: Can I have a motion
14 to adjourn.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.

16 MR. MCGOFF: This meeting is
17 adjourned.

18 (Proceedings concluded at 8:06
19 p.m.)

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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 taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

Amelia Nicol, RPR