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1	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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5	HELD:
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7	Thursday, May 8, 2014
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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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23	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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1	<u>CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:</u>
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3	ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT
4	PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
5	JOHN LOSCOMBE
6	JOSEPH WECHSLER
7	WILLIAM GAUGHAN
8	LORI REED, CITY CLERK
9	KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
10	AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR
11	ANTE MINORA, ODEICITOR
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1	(Pledge of Allegiance recited and
2	moment of reflection observed.)
3	MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.
4	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.
5	MR. WECHSLER: Here.
6	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.
7	MR. ROGAN: Here.
8	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.
9	MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.
10	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.
11	MR. GAUGHAN: Here.
12	MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Here. Dispense with
14	the minutes, please. And prior to Third
15	Order we do have a proclamation to read.
16	The young ladies who were involved who are
17	receiving the proclamation are unable to
18	attend this evening, but I do want to read
19	the proclamation and they will be presented
20	to these two young ladies at a later date.
21	It says, "WHEREAS, the Council of
22	the City of Scranton is desirous of honoring
23	"ELIZABETH MORAN" and 'NICHOLETTE SEVERE"
24	the two "CITY OF SCRANTON LIFEGUARDS" who
25	are responsible for saving the life of a six

	4
1	(6) year old boy; and
2	WHEREAS, the "LIFEGUARDS" on duty at
3	Weston Field indoor pool Thursday, May 1,
4	2014, were tending to their everyday
5	responsibilities, when "LIFEGUARD ELIZABETH
6	MORAN" caught sight of a child who
7	disappeared underwater and stayed down; and
8	WHEREAS, this alarming sight caused
9	"ELIZABETH" to jump into the pool to rescue
10	this child; and
11	WHEREAS, upon successfully
12	retrieving the boy from under the water and
13	bringing him to the surface, "LIFEGUARD
14	NICHOLETTE SEVERE" helped pull the boy out
15	of the pool; and
16	WHEREAS, "ELIZABETH MORAN" a
17	lifeguard for 12 years and "NICHOLETTE
18	SEVERE, a senior at Scranton High School and
19	a lifeguard for 2 years, performed CPR on
20	the boy who was unconscious and not
21	breathing; and
22	WHEREAS, "ELIZABETH'S" quick
23	thinking and watchful eyes enabled her to
24	retrieve the boy from the water with
25	'NICHOLETTE'S" assistance and perform

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1	critical rescue procedures that are part of
2	a lifeguard's required training; and
3	WHEREAS, after some mouth to mouth
4	resuscitation and chest compressions,
5	"ELIZABETH AND NICHOLETTE" were able to
6	bring the boy back to life;
7	WHEREAS, Scranton City Council, the
8	Administration, their PARENTS AND FAMILIES
9	and ALL of the Citizens of the City of
10	Scranton are very proud of these "LIFEGUARDS
11	ELIZABETH AND NICHOLETTE: And we are very
12	grateful to them for all of their efforts,
13	not only for their actions on this
14	particular day, but on each and every day
15	throughout the year.
16	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT
17	ON Thursday, May 8, 2014, Scranton City
18	Council wishes to honor "ELIZABETH MORAN"
19	and "NICHOLETTE SEVERE", for their bravery
20	and heroic actions during this life saving
21	event.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this
23	Proclamation be made a permanent part of the
24	Minutes of this City Council, as lasting
25	tribute to "ELIZABETH MORAN" and "NICHOLETTE

1	SEVERE.
2	And I had the opportunity to speak
3	to two of these young ladies Monday evening,
4	they were again working at Weston Field pool
5	and offered them a thank you on behalf of
6	the City Council and the City of Scranton.
7	This is why we need trained individuals at
8	all of the city facilities. These people
9	are integral to the safety of the community.
10	I would also like to mention that
11	both of the lifeguards were trained by the
12	same person, Ms. Lisa Walsh, who conducts a
13	lifesaving class. I would also like to
14	commend Ms. Walsh for her efforts and
15	training, you know, young people for this
16	important role in our community.
17	Anyone else? Thank you.
18	MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
19	COMPARISON OF CITY FUNDS TO DISTRIBUTED TO
20	FROM THE SINGLE TAX OFFICE FOR THE YEARS
21	2013 AND 2014.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
23	If not, received and filed.
24	MS. REED: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE
25	SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE

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1	AUTHORITY'S REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD
2	MARCH 20, 2014.
3	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
4	If not, received and filed.
5	MS. REED: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
6	REPORT FOR THE HEARING DATE TO BE HELD MAY
7	21, 2014.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
9	If not, received and filed.
10	MS. REED: 3-D. TAX ASSESSOR'S
11	RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD ON
12	APRIL 23, 2014.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
14	If not, received and filed.
15	Are there any announcements from the
16	council? On the agenda this evening are
17	just a couple of new items which should be
18	mentioned. The leases for the little
19	leagues throughout the city, it would be
20	noted that certain little leagues in West
21	Side are not included because there was a
22	change in the nature of the operations in
23	West Side so those leases are being done
24	individually or separate from these. They
25	will be on the forthcoming agenda.

8 1 Also, there are a number of pieces 2 that involve the grant received from DCED 3 with the accepting of the funds. These will be voted on this evening, and if passed we 4 5 will look to expedite these pieces of legislation next week since some are -- some 6 7 of them are time sensitive and need to be 8 passed with some alacrity, and that is all. 9 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION. 10 11 MR. MCGOFF: Marie Crispino. MS. CRISPINO: Good evening, 12 council. My name is Marie Crispino. 13 I live 14 in Scranton and I'm head of the public services at the Albright Memorial Library. 15 16 I'd like to use this forum to invite 17 Scrantonians to our fifth annual "Swinging on the Vine." It's our only fundraiser that 18 19 we have. As always, it is a held on the 20 Friday before the Memorial Day weekend and 21 this year it's May 23 from 5 until 8. 22 Tickets can be purchased at our 23 libraries or online at www.albright.org. 24 Purchased in advance they are \$15 and at the 25 door they are \$20. Paul Labelle and his

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1	Exact Change will be there again. There
2	will be food, beer, wine, margaritas and
3	many, many raffles to choose from.
4	Every year we try to add something
5	different and this year the library has had
6	a tremendous help from Lackawanna College's
7	Culinary Arts Program. Their director
8	Stephanie Decker and her students are
9	cooking up several surprises for our guests.
10	If anyone has recently visited the
11	library or travel passed it you have seen a
12	great amount of scaffolding surrounding the
13	building. With the city's help, the library
14	was able to secure a Keystone grant which
15	has enabled us to undertake a major
16	renovation project. The project completion
17	date is some time in the late October. In
18	effect, this project will ensure that the
19	library remains an architectural gem in our
20	community.
21	Obviously with such a large
22	renovation project, with the Keystone grant
23	not covering the entire costs, all local
24	donations are truly needed. Please plan on
25	attending "Swinging on the Vine". In doing

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1	so, it will help your public library and
2	have a great deal of fun along the way.
3	In closing, I'd like to speak about
4	the gems you will find inside your public
5	library. If you are not a member, please
6	join. The library card is free. You will
7	have access to all of those things you think
8	about when you think about a public library,
9	but we also offer free computer classes,
10	resume building and job searching and help,
11	programming for all of the ages especially
12	for children and teens, reference and
13	genealogy resources, and many electronic
14	resources that you can access from your home
15	with your library card. Our staff are
16	professional and always willing to help one
17	on one.
18	We also operate the only new
19	bookstore in the City of Scranton at the
20	Steamtown Mall. Library Express is located
21	on the second floor of the mall. It is a
22	new and used book store, but it is also a
23	small public library. The Albright Memorial
24	Library is your library and we really want
25	you to take advantage of it. Any questions

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1	please contact us. You are more than
2	welcome to ask for me. If I don't have an
3	answer for you, I will get it for you.
4	Thank you and please attend "Swinging on
5	Vine," May 23, starting at 5 p.m. and I
6	really do wish you all can join us. Thank
7	you.
8	MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you very much.
9	MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry, are there
10	fliers for
11	MS. CRISPINO: I already gave them
12	to her, yes.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much.
14	MS. CRISPINO: You're very welcome.
15	Thank you.
16	MR. MCGOFF: And we also see that it
17	is hopefully put onto the roll for ECTV as
18	well.
19	MS. CRISPINO: All right, great.
20	Thank you.
21	MR. MCGOFF: Our next speaker, I'm
22	sorry, Mr. Spindler.
23	MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
24	Council. Les Spindler, city residents and
25	homeowner and taxpayer.

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1	MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.
2	MR. SPINDLER: I read that article
3	in the paper two days ago about those
4	lifeguards and I have to add, also, that was
5	a great act of bravery and heroism. Because
6	of them the family still has their little
7	boy and I would like to add my thanks to
8	those people. It was a great thing they did
9	and I think besides the proclamation I think
10	they deserve to have a day to be honored, if
11	that would be possible, I don't know, but
12	thank you to those two lifeguards.
13	Okay, last week I came here to talk
14	about my property how it's been flooded
15	years and years and before any of you were
16	even on council I have been coming here and
17	talking about it, and letter after letter
18	had been sent to the previous DPW director
19	with no response.
20	As I said, I was here last Thursday,
21	last Friday I think it was, Councilman Rogan
22	called DPW Director Gallagher, Monday
23	morning Director Gallagher was at my front
24	door. I was at work, but my wife answered
25	the door and he told her what he was going

to do. I spoke to Councilman Rogan, he said he is going to take care of it, but he has to wait until they get the hot blacktop I guess, and he said it might be a few weeks, he said they will take care of it, the hot stuff will stick better. Tuesday I come home from work it was done. I don't know if you knew that, Councilman Rogan?

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I spoke to Mr. Gallagher MR. ROGAN: and actually, I might as well thank him now, he actually went out with the DPW crew and help fix this curb on your property, and the reason why I took special interest in it, and obviously not everyone's problem are going to be resolved in one day, but like you mentioned city council over the last four years we have sent probably a dozen letters, phone calls to the DPW and we certainly have to thank Mr. Gallagher for a job well down and the guys at the DPW for getting on top of this so quick. I was astonished as well how quickly it was done, but unfortunately it took four years.

> MR. SPINDLER: Oh, longer than that. MR. ROGAN: Longer than that, but it

is --

2	MR. SPINDLER: It was fixed four
3	years ago poorly, it washed away, but the
4	reason I'm here is to thank Director
5	Gallagher and the DPW people that did that
6	because I'm waiting a long, long time and it
7	looks like a great job and thank you to you,
8	Councilman Rogan, for the quick action. And
9	you know what, it's cooperation like this
10	that hopefully will turn this city around.
11	We need cooperation from everybody in this
12	city. I said that for your first council
13	meeting when I came here, first meeting of
14	the year I said we need cooperation from
15	everybody, everybody has got to work with
16	the mayor and council, all of the directors
17	and I know the things are being done behind
18	the scenes. A lot of people don't know this
19	and I think some people have said that in
20	the past some council people and lot of
21	things can't be said yet because nothing is
22	done yet, but people are working.
23	Yet you get people coming here week
24	after week being negative. We don't need
25	any more negativity, we have for 12 years.

We got to be positive. I think the mayor is it going to do a great job, no secret I supported him because I think he is going to do a great job and I think along with this council and I think the city is going to do a good job, and you are only in office four months along with the mayor. It's only four months. Miracles can't happen in four months. It's going to take a long time to get the city back on it's feet.

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But, as I said, I have been told that things are being done there is talks to fix this and fix that, so I'm encouraged, but I am being patient like everybody else has to be patient. And I know that this city will be back and the feet it's one day. I love this the city, as I'm sure all of do and a lot of other people do, so I can't wait for the day that Scranton is back on top again.

That's all I have to say other than, like I said, thanks again to DPW Director Gallagher. I really appreciate it. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Mr. Quinn?

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1	MR. QUINN: Good evening. Ozzie
2	Quinn. Member of the Citizens and Taxpayers
3	Association. I, too, would like to thank
4	Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Wechsler.
5	Mr. Wechsler and Mr. Gaughan attended our
6	neighborhood meeting and at that meeting
7	they heard about a stump that was a tree
8	that was cut down in the 900 block of Monroe
9	Avenue and the stump remained and the stump
10	was pushing the sidewalks up, people were
11	falling and it was a real safety problem. I
12	called Brian McAndrew from LIPS, he in turn
13	I sent a letter into Mr. Hinton. In a
14	matter of three days the stump was removed.
15	Now those people called me up and
16	they said that for three years they have
17	been trying to remove that stump and it was
18	out of there in a matter of four or five
19	days of their meeting, so I appreciate you
20	people up there for doing that, and I
21	appreciate Mr. Gallagher for doing that.
22	And I told the people who called, I
23	says, it wasn't me, it was the council and
24	the administration working together to get
25	things done and basically that's what it

1	was, okay?
2	Next, I have to talk about an
3	ordinance that I talked about in April here
4	and follow-up a letter and then, Mr. McGoff,
5	you talked about it about the ordinance with
6	household furniture on people's front
7	porches, especially couches, how it looks
8	like heck in the city and the blight. I
9	just come over the Harrison Avenue bridge at
10	5:00, the gateway to the city and with a new
11	bridge and in that block there was a guy
12	hanging his laundry on the front porch and
13	sitting on two kitchen chairs, you know?
14	So what I'm asking is that I'm
15	writing letters to Mr. Hinton about the
16	different locations, okay, but what is
17	council going to do to enforce this? I
18	remember the last time you said you were
19	going to muster up the people who were
20	responsible for enforcement, has there ever
21	been anything done?
22	MR. GAUGHAN: Mr. Quinn, I spoke to
23	Mayor Courtright about this issue and he had
24	said that I had mentioned to him that I
25	thought it might be a good idea for a

saturation of the Hill with inspectors, police officers. He also thought it would be a good idea so that is something you may see in the future, and when they are going to do that he said he will let council know and obviously let the Hill N\neighborhood Association know.

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MR. QUINN: That's good news, thank you.

MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Quinn, I also spoke to the mayor about that and he thought it would probably be a good idea to get the District Attorney involved with that. They have some greater resources than our police department has so when we do this I believe we are going to get District Attorney Jarbola's office involved.

MR. QUINN: Thank you. The last thing I want to know is have you received the letter I sent in with regards to the Nay Aug Pool? You know, I sent that letter on behalf of the Hill Neighborhood Association, okay? Basically the points in there is that it was a reviewed by an attorney, the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Act, and

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1	he saw leeway in regards to changing an
2	ordinance getting done by the governing
3	body, to change the Recreation Authority's
4	purpose basic projects such as the Nay Aug
5	charging for pools, okay?
6	The PTA Prescott School has joined
7	us. They called me last night. The
8	president come over my house and said she
9	was happy that we finally took a step
10	towards this and they have been trying to
11	get something done to no avail. They are a
12	little upset with the fact that \$5 for a kid
13	to go it Nay Aug Pool when historically Nay
14	Aug Pool was for the Hill Section kids and
15	if the kids want to swim they have to walk
16	two miles to Weston Field and two miles back
17	and you know a kid this isn't the day and
18	the age for kids to be walking that far,
19	okay?
20	The point and part in the letter was
21	the fact that we want collaborators. We are
22	not going to (unintelligible) about it, you
23	know? If we could sit down and talk with
24	the PTA and HOA and council and the mayor to
25	see what we can do in regard and the
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Recreation Authority unless you resolve it by putting forth litigation that would change the purpose of the Recreation Authority similarly to what they did with the golf authority, if you recall? So, you know, it's not something that's etched in stone or it can't be changed, it can't be changed, it's a municipal authority, that's baloney. Okay?

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So on behalf the Hill Neighborhood Association the families up there, children and the PTA, please, realize that these kids got to have a place to swim, okay? And ten years olds can't be walking, 11 year olds can't be walking, you know? We could sit down and come up with some solution, you know? That's all we want, but none of this hard nose stuff like the Recreation Authority either pay up the \$5 or you don't get in, okay? I appreciate if you would follow up on that because summer is coming very quickly. Thank you very much. MR. MCGOFF: Joan Hodowanitz.

MS. HODOWANITZ: Good evening, Council. Joan Hodowanitz, Scranton.

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1	MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.
2	MS. HODOWANITZ: First of all, I
3	want to thank Mrs. Reed. Last week I asked
4	about a document in the background material
5	for the general public, it was the Ross
6	report on the status of the audit and there
7	was only one page, clearly there were pages
8	missing and she made sure I got access to
9	those missing pages tonight. That's the
10	good news.
11	The bad news was instead of nine
12	items of information lacking for the
13	completion of the audit, there are 28 items
14	and nine outstanding memos, so it would
15	appear that we are not going to have the
16	audit on it's due date of May 31. And this
17	is worrisome, because as I said last week,
18	that you audit could offer valuable
19	information in terms of preparing next
20	year's budget.
21	When a corporation has to submit its
22	annual report to the SEC every year, it has
23	a 90 to 120 day window and that's firm and
24	fast. And we have what, five months and yet
25	we still year after year miss the target.

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1	I'm hoping that because this is the first
2	year of the new administration that will be
3	the last year when we have any significant
4	delays with that audit, because it's an
5	important document and we need it.
6	The second thing I'd like it address
7	is in tonight's packet for review by the
8	public in the Clerk's Office there was a
9	one-page document, it was a Single Tax
10	Office item and it showed a year-to-year
11	comparison as of the end of the April, what
12	we collected last year as of April 30 and
13	this year. For real estate we did very
14	well. There was a 62 percent increase of
15	about \$7 million and I think we can
16	attribute that to the increase in real
17	estate taxes. Delinquent taxes, however,
18	were down 12.7 percent or \$39,300 for the
19	same period. Earned income taxes was down
20	over 56 percent for a decrease of \$66,500.
21	The LST/EMS tax was about flat, and the
22	business privilege mercantile tax was down
23	5.75 percent for a decrease of \$82,000.
24	Now, you might say, well, this is
25	preliminary data, the year is young and this

money will flow in. Well, what happens if these trends are sustained through the course of the year? You are looking a significant shortfall, and the fact that earned income tax is put down 56 percent is something that demands an explanation.

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Now, I know this was just a one-page document, but as we go forward with your budget planning process, you need to look at that and why are we not taking in the revenue we should be. Do we have fewer people working, are they working for less money or are we simply not having employers sending in that tax? There's a problem somewhere?

MR. ROGAN: I think the discrepancy with the earned income tax is because, and I may be wrong but we can look into it, that's handled by Berkheimer and I do remember last year when tax reports came in the delinquent EIT was still being collected by the tax off, but from years, I think it was '13 on it was collected by Berkheimer so that number that is included in that report may only be the delinquent earned income tax.

1 MS. HODOWANITZ: It just said earned 2 income tax. 3 MR. ROGAN: I'm almost positive, we 4 could check for you. 5 MS. HODOWANITZ: Yeah. 6 MR. ROGAN: Because I know the 7 earned income actually generally tends to go 8 up. 9 MS. HODOWANITZ: But if this were to 10 be a trend, it is a something you certainly 11 want to try to fix now rather than address 12 it in November and December when you are a 13 going to go, oops. 14 MR. ROGAN: And if it is, indeed, 15 the delinquencies, that collection amount 16 should go down every year because 17 eventually, hopefully they will all be paid. 18 MS. HODOWANITZ: Well, I didn't see 19 the word delinquent so that's 20 MR. ROGAN: We could check. 21 MS. HODOWANITZ: that peaked my 22 interest. I'm just bringing it to your 23 attention because if it's an issue it should 24 be addressed now rather than later in the </th <th>_</th> <th></th>	_	
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	23	attention because if it's an issue it should
25 year. Thank you.	24	be addressed now rather than later in the
	25	year. Thank you.

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1	MR. WECHSLER: Just we have been
2	I have been meeting with Wayne Beck, the
3	city treasurer, and Mr. Bulzoni, constantly
4	reviewing these numbers and we are concerned
5	as well. These numbers do not include,
6	especially under the business privilege and
7	mercantile tax, you know the hits that we
8	took earlier this year with some of the
9	businesses leaving, so these numbers are
10	very accurate and reviewed constantly.
11	MS. HODOWANITZ: It would make sense
12	with VaxServe leaving and whoever else left
13	I would understand that, but that 56 percent
14	figure for earned income tax just it's like
15	a red flag.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
17	to address council?
18	MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave
19	Dobrzyn, resident. I haven't heard anything
20	about Steamtown and it was mentioned a
21	couple of weeks ago about how the half
22	marathon brought a lot of people into town.
23	Well, on a good weekend Steamtown would
24	probably bring in three to four hundred
25	people in a town and they might stop at a

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1	restaurant or whatever on the way out.
2	Also, there is several people from
3	the area that are an employed there as
4	rangers, and it's an interesting experience
5	if you have never been there. You should
6	try going and it would be I would be
7	overjoyed if you would send a letter to our
8	representatives to get the funding back to
9	normal.
10	Now, last week words such as urgency
11	came up and one of the things that I find
12	disturbing over the years is that there is a
13	lack of collection on trash fees and so
14	forth. I mean, if everybody that does pay
15	has to pay \$300, I heard a story last week
16	and it's hearsay but I could check it out in
17	the newspaper, I remember the name, six
18	properties owned and they haven't paid a
19	dime of trash fees since 2001 or something
20	like that. That's a lot of money. That's
21	in the tens of thousands of dollars plus and
22	that's totally not acceptable to let some
23	honcho to get away with something like that.
24	At least we should have a lien, and
25	I don't know far back it would go. I think

in Pennsylvania you only have two years to sue over a lot of other things. My sister would have qualified for a medical lawsuit, a malpractice suit, she was missed her cancer five years in a row, but by the time everything unfolded two years had passed and it was out the door, you know?

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So it's really serious that 22 percent are not paying a dime on that, and if they are unable to pay we could just leave the lien stand hopefully and when they pass away some day or sell their house and go into nursing home or whatever, at least you will have your foot in the door to get compensated when the house is traded. Conceivably somebody could move into town and buy a house and live there for five or six years and move out and never pay a dime on that and it might get under the radar, so that's very serious.

And, of course our property taxes, so I'd like to see something, I had a wish list here and that was on one of them was trash fees, and I'm happy to see that the utilities are fixing the roads and, Jack,

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1	like I said last week don't let the sewer
2	authority or the gas company know and that
3	goes for you out in TV land.
4	And I'd also like to mention that
5	it's voting time. Get informed, get out and
6	vote your conscience and really consider it
7	important that the situation with voting in
8	this town is terrible. 22 percent last
9	time, that is ugly, so the public needs to
10	get involved and start getting involved and
11	it's only one or two days a year.
12	And once again, contact your
13	congressman and tell him no to the
14	transpacific trade pack. We don't need
15	anymore people on the unemployment line,
16	including in our area.
17	And the golden parrot once again
18	goes to Jenny Beth Martin, tea party
19	darling, earns more and the president, 400
20	grand a year, she pays five percent of that
21	money out into candidates and the rest goes
22	into consulting fees and whatever, you know,
23	so maybe that's a good think because I don't
24	particularly care for tea party candidates
25	anyway. Thank you and have a good night and

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1	done forget to bawk, bawk, bawk.
2	MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.
3	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
4	to address counsel?
5	MR. MORGAN: Good evening, council.
6	MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.
7	MR. MORGAN: I just have a question
8	here, on the paving machine if a citizen
9	would like to make a bid on that when is
10	that paving machine going to go up for
11	either auction or scrap? Can a resident bid
12	and that machine? Could it be possibly that
13	it has to be done?
14	MR. GAUGHAN: I'm not sure to be
15	I don't believe so. I'm not sure. I can
16	check into that. I don't even know when it
17	is going to be up for auction or for
18	scrapping.
19	MR. MORGAN: Well, I'd like to make
20	an offer on that machine as crazy as that
21	sounds, even if I just put it in my yard for
22	a decoration.
23	You know, the other thing is I came
24	in this week and I paid my garbage fee, and
25	I rolled into the mayor's office. I

figured, well, I'm downtown I might as well since I'm in the building go in there, and I did ask the mayor to send up to council SAPA I hope he does. He didn't say aqain. whether he supported it or whether he didn't and I just came back here today to say that I just really hope that council is really thinking about that issue. I know it's been on my mind for a lot of years and I just hope that when it was initially brought forward that it would have been voted and passed and it would have took the city recovery really a very far way, and I just hope that every councilman that you are talking amongst yourselves, pro and con. I hope that maybe in the next

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meeting you might share why you might be opposed to that because I really would be interested to hear that or, of course, why you support it. But I hope that for lack of any other meaningful plan and considering the ramifications of passing that and what it will do for the city and Dunmore, I think that even though Dunmore is not part of Scranton I hope you really, really give it

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1	some consideration.
2	And the last thing I have here is I
3	know it's too early yet, but, Mr. Wechsler,
4	I asked you a question last week, and I know
5	you probably didn't have a chance to do
6	that; right?
7	MR. WECHSLER: I requested the
8	information, but I did not get an answer.
9	MR. MORGAN: Look it, I appreciate
10	your time. Thank you.
11	MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.
12	MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
13	to address council?
14	MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
15	MOTIONS.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler?
17	MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,
18	Mr. McGoff. On Monday, President McGoff and
19	I did attend the meeting of the Recreation
20	Board that was held at Weston Field. At the
21	meeting, we did request I should say I
22	requested if there was any chance for any
23	free swimming or change of hours for the Nay
24	Aug complex this year. Unfortunately, right
25	now in terms of the Rec Board that's not an

option right now. Free swimming, in their eyes, is something that they can't have because the funds that they do generate goes for chemicals and for maintenance at the Nay Aug complex. The money that is generated from those fees if it were to be a free swimming would have to come from the City of Scranton's budget. So it's something that I think that

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we can look at for 2015, it's a term of making some adjustments to our budget. I do agree with Mr. Quinn it's something that we do have to look at going forward for next year.

One of the things that did come out at the meeting, and I know Mr. Quinn asked this last week about an audit, they are in the process of bidding their audit for this year.

They also said that it was the first time that they ever had a council person at meeting in 25 years, so we did get a lot of information out of that and I was happy that I went.

I had a success similar to

Mr. Spindler's up on East Mountain. Dennis Gallagher came and helped out with a constituent there who has had a problem for many years. Mr. Gaughan and I made a visit there and contacted Mr. Gallagher and he did do the same thing for a person on East Mountain, which was very good.

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Some of the numbers that we received now that we want to talk about in terms of the this EIT tax, Berkheimer & Associates has provided us numbers for the first four months of 2014. It's hard to do a comparison to the 2013 because the 2013 first four months include some monies that came from 2012, and there are also was an increased efficiency in collection that kind of skewed the numbers, so as it compares to 2013 \$8.8 million was collected, and in 2014 \$7.4 was collected. Like I said, those numbers really can't be compared because in 2013 they are kind of inflated.

Looking at it in terms of where we are at with the budget, our budget forecasts \$23 million in the EIT collections, so with about a third of the year done we have about

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1	a third of the money collected.
2	And, you know, we continue to get
3	these reports, we are watching them because
4	I believe that the budget process is a
5	yearly, weekly thing. We have to get into
6	the habit of looking at the numbers,
7	reviewing them as we go along,
8	unfortunately, making adjustments. Looking
9	at this I don't know if we are going to be
10	adjusting any numbers up or down looking at
11	this, but, once again, this is a cooperative
12	effort. These numbers were provided to us
13	by the Berkheimer agency through the City
14	Treasurer's Office. Mr. Beck was happy to
15	review them with me and they are looking at
16	them together as we move forward, and that's
17	all I have tonight, Mr. McGoff. Thank you.
18	MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?
19	MR. ROGAN: Yes, just two very brief
20	comments and one issue, the pools have been
21	much of the topic and discussion at these
22	meeting for the last few weeks and,
23	unfortunately, for this year we are kind of
24	under a tight schedule to get much of
25	anything done, but I think we have to start

planning for next year. What I'm going to request that our office does is we contact city engineer CECO and Associates to do an examination on the pools that are closed to determine exactly what needs to be done, an itemized list of what needs to be done to get the closed pools reopened and what -and approximate of what those costs would be.

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Once we determine what the costs are to make the repairs that are necessary to get the pools open, city council and the administration can then look at either including it in the budget as a line item, using OECD funds, or the third option, which is the one that I think we really need to pursue, is trying to raise the money privately.

As I mentioned in the last few meetings, there are a number of different ways to raise these funds privately for the pools by selling naming rights, having signs, even having -- putting in a walkway with bricks where people could buy a brick for "X" amount of dollars and have their

name on it. I know a lot of other cities have used that successfully to raise funds for different projects, and by doing that we will be saving the taxpayers as well, the businesses would get their name, get their recognition and best of all the children would have a place to swim in the neighborhoods. So if we can do that, I will send that in tomorrow morning to request that itemized list. And just finally, once again, I would like to thank DPW Director Denny Gallagher for a fantastic job on an issue that was lingering for many, many years and those of you that watch council meeting on a regular basis know that Mr. Spindler has been at this meeting dozen of times bringing up this issue, and once he came last week, we called Denny Gallagher, he went out personally, visited the site, followed back up with city council. I went out and visited the site and a couple of days later the problem was solved, so definitely a job well done to the Mr. Gallagher on a number of the fronts from what my colleagues are

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1	saying as well this week.
2	And finally, Item 6-A I will be
3	making a motion to table that following our
4	vote. There is a 30-day required public
5	comment period on that item, so that's why
6	that will be tabled after the vote, and that
7	is all for tonight. Thank you.
8	MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Loscombe?
9	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, just briefly two
10	things. I would like to congratulate our
11	lifeguards who were honored here this
12	evening. Too bad they weren't able to
13	appear in person, but they have done a great
14	job in that position and you hope the
15	training you have been taught would never
16	have to be used and, you know, they used it
17	to the best of their ability and they were
18	able to save a child's life, and that's how
19	the system works and I really appreciate
20	what they have done and the fact that they
21	have taken their training to heart, and this
22	is something that they will live with
23	forever and it is an honor, and so I thank
24	them along with my colleagues.
25	The other thing I would just like to

38 1 correct the record on something Mr. Wechsler 2 just stated, nothing against Mr. Wechsler, 3 but Mr. Joyce and myself attended a Rec Authority meeting in our first year in 4 5 office and they told us the same thing, we 6 are the first councilmen in 25 years, so it 7 was just funny hearing that. 8 MR. WECHSLER: That is it funny. 9 MR. LOSCOMBE: But we did go and, 10 you know, we have tried to stay apprised of 11 things since then. 12 MR. WECHSLER: I stand corrected, 13 Jack. 14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Oh, no, no, you are 15 just repeating what you were told. I just 16 thought it was humorous though, but as you 17 can see our panel is working on a lot of 18 different issues as we continue to do so, as 19 I stated last week. You know, everything is 20 open as far as it can be and there is a 21 progress being made little by little each 22 day, so hang in there and down the road you 23 will be surprised. Thank you. 24 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan? 25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. Thank you. I'd

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1	like to echo Mr. Loscombe's statement about
2	the two lifeguards. I'd like to also thank
3	them for saving the young boy's life down at
4	Weston Field and I'm glad to hear the young
5	boy that was saved is doing well.
6	A few weeks ago I received a few
7	complaints from residents in Minooka on
8	Colliery Avenue concerning the Laurel Woods
9	development, which is right off Davis Street
10	in Minooka. They were having issues with
11	some of the residents of the development
12	walking through their backyard. They
13	requested that the developer put up or
14	finish putting up a fence that would fence
15	off the development from their back yards
16	and they thought that would take care of the
17	problem.
18	Council had written a letter to Don
19	King, our city planner. Don King had
20	forwarded that letter to the developer of
21	Laurel Woods. I spoke personally with the
22	developer and we worked out an arrangement
23	and they will be putting up a fence to take
24	care of that issue, so I thank Glenn Morgan,
25	who is a developer of Laurel Woods for being

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1	so kind and working together with myself and
2	Don King and council.
3	I received a complaint from a
4	resident today about speeding in the 700
5	block of West Elm Street. The resident is
6	afraid that someone is going to get,
7	especially a child. It is where many
8	children play in that area. I spoke with
9	the Chief of Police Carl Graziano today via
10	e-mail and he said that the police has spent
11	considerable time in that area in the past.
12	He will direct the patrolmen to continue
13	enforcement efforts in that area and assess
14	the signage situation, one-way sign that the
15	resident had also mentioned to me that may
16	need be repaired because residents are not
17	able to see it properly.
18	Also, tonight in caucus we discussed
19	parking issues in the 900 block of Prescott
20	Avenue. I have been getting complaints
21	about that for about two months now and we
22	have been working on that. I think we are a
23	going to possibly hold a forum on that in
24	the next few weeks. Attorney Minora is
25	going to be in contact with the police

41chief, Carl Graziano, so hopefully we will2be able to take care of that issue and get3those residents permit parking in that area.4The DPW street sweeping schedule May512 through May 19, which will be next week,6are scheduled to be in North Scranton, Oak7Street in Wood Street including all avenues8and streets.9And finally in the caucus we10discussed Mr. Amaroso and when he will be11coming back to council. I asked President12McGoff and he explained that somewhere in13the area of two to three weeks in the future14Mr. Amaroso will be coming back hopefully to15council and in caucus similar to the first16one that was had to give us his17recommendations. And that was all I had.18Thank you.19MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.
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18 Thank you.
19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.
20 I did have one announcement that I forget to
21 make earlier in the evening. Monday, May
22 19, the Electric City Cocktail Wars will be
23 held from 6:00 to 9 p.m. at Posh at the
24 Scranton Club. This is sponsored by
25 Scranton Tomorrow. Tickets are \$10, \$15 at

the door. What it is, upon entry you will be given a small cocktail glass and they have bartenders competing for prizes. Bartenders will be using -- it's being sponsored by some Jim Beam distributor. They will be using Jim Beam products making cocktails, you will be able to sample the different cocktails and then vote on the So the bartenders win prizes and best ones. you get to sample some hopefully some very good cocktails. They are also some other events, auctions and things going on, but it sounds like a very nice evening and very fun evening. That's May 19 at Posh, the Electric City Cocktail Wars.

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Also, I would like a thank you to the Scranton Fire Department. Last evening there was a house fire a block from my home. The Scranton Fire Department responded very quickly and, you know, controlled the fire and also controlled its spread to an adjoining home where it was contained a one-half of a double and also, you know, prevented it from moving to the building next door. So, again, a thank you to the Scranton Fire Department for another good job.

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And last thing I have, somebody mentioned SAPA and whether we would comment on that, this is it something -- SAPA is something that needs to be addressed by both the administration and the council. This is not something that I think that council should initiate unless there is an agreement between council and the administration to put forth legislation to adopt SAPA then its becomes a moot point. I don't believe that there is any sense in legislation being put forward if, in fact there is not an agreement between the administration and council for adopting it.

Hopefully, in the near future we
will be able to have some legislation on
that matter if it, in fact, the
administration wishes to pursue it, but
making comment on that until such time there
is legislation really is fruitless.
And that is all I have. Thank you.

24 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -25 AN ORDINANCE – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

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44 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY 1 OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO LEASE AGREEMENTS 2 3 WITH VARIOUS LITTLE LEAGUE, TEENER LEAGUE, 4 MISS-E LEAGUE, AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE ASSOCIATIONS FOR USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY 5 IN CONNECTION WITH APPROVED LITTLE LEAGUE, 6 TEENER LEAGUE, MISS-E LEAGUE, FARM LEAGUE, 7 8 T-BALL LEAGUE AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE 9 ACTIVITIES FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2014 AND ENDING APRIL 10 11 14, 2017. 12 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll 13 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be 14 introduced into its proper committee. MR. ROGAN: 15 So moved. 16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 17 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? 0nce 18 again, I would like to mention that these 19 are -- they are three-year leases and they 20 are for little leagues other than the ones 21 in West Side which we will be addressing 22 when other legislation is before us. 23 All those in favor of introduction 24 signify by saying aye. 25 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

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1	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
2	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
3	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
4	MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
5	ayes have it and so moved.
6	MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
7	AN ORDINANCE - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING
8	SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229607 PA
9	LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT TRUST ("PLGIT")
10	ENTITLED "PLGIT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS"
11	FOR DISBURSEMENT AND TRACKING OF THOSE FUNDS
12	FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PURPOSES.
13	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
14	entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
15	introduced into its proper committee.
16	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
17	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
18	MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
19	Again, just for clarification, the PLGIT is
20	the grant money that was we voted upon and
21	received from DCED, and now we are just
22	approving the acceptance of these funds
23	creating an account for accepting these
24	funds.
25	All those in favor of introduction

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1	signify by saying aye.
2	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
3	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
4	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
5	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
6	MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
7	ayes have it and so moved.
8	MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
9	AN ORDINANCE - TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM FUND
10	06 CAPITAL PROJECTS CASH-PLGIT 2003 BOND
11	WHICH FUNDS AND ACCOUNT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED
12	FOR THE CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS, AND
13	ABOLISHING AND CLOSING SAID ACCOUNT AND
14	TRANSFERRING THE FUNDS REMAINING IN SAID
15	ACCOUNT TO A NEW SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT LISTED
16	BELOW.
17	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
18	entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
19	introduced into its proper committee.
20	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
21	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
22	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
23	those in favor of introduction signify by
24	saying aye.
25	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

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1	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
2	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
3	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
4	MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
5	ayes have it and so moved.
6	MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
7	AN ORDINANCE - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING
8	SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229608 ENTITLED
9	"ACT 47 GRANT" FOR THE RECEIPT AND
10	DISBURSEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
11	BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) GRANT FOR FINANCIAL AID
12	UNDER AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF MUNICIPALITIES
13	FINANCIAL RECOVERY ACT, ACT 47 OF 1987, AS
14	AMENDED.
15	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
16	entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
17	introduced.
18	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
19	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
20	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
21	those in favor of introduction signify by
22	saying aye.
23	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
24	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
25	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

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1	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
2	MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
3	ayes have it and so moved.
4	MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
5	READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
6	17, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF
7	THE COUNCIL NO. 47, 2013, ENTITLED "AN
8	ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
9	APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
10	SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO
11	IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR
12	COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
13	TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
14	BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT
15	PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY
16	SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG) PROGRAM FOR THE
17	PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2014" BY
18	AMENDING THE 2014 ACTION PLAN TO ACCEPT THE
19	ONE HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND (\$160,000.00)
20	DOLLARS REQUESTED UNDER THE EMERGENCY
21	SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM IN THE ORIGINAL
22	PLAN AND AN ADDITIONAL FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND
23	FIVE HUNDRED NINETEEN (\$53,519.00) DOLLARS
24	RECEIVED UNDER THE PROGRAM TO ADDRESS THE
25	NEEDS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY OR

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1	TRANSITIONAL SHELTERS FOR A TOTAL GRANT OF
2	TWO HUNDRED THIRTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED
3	NINETEEN (\$213,519.00) DOLLARS.
4	MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by
5	title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?
6	MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
7	pass reading by title.
8	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
9	MS. MCGOFF: On the question? All
10	those in favor signify by saying aye.
11	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
12	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
13	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
14	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
16	ayes have it and so moved.
17	MR. ROGAN: I make a motion to table
18	Item 6-A per the required 30-day public
19	comment period.
20	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
21	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
22	those in favor of tabling Item 6-A signify
23	by saying aye.
24	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
25	MR. ROGAN: Aye.

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1	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
2	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
3	MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
4	ayes have it and so moved.
5	MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
6	FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
7	-FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 16,
8	2014 - AMENDING SECTION 108.1 OF THE CODE OF
9	THE CITY OF SCRANTON GOVERNING DISPOSAL OF
10	CITY-OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY BY ADDING
11	SUBSECTION C.
12	MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
13	Committee on Rules, I recommend final
14	passage of Item 7-A.
15	MR. ROGAN: Second.
16	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
17	call, please?
18	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.
19	MR. MCGOFF: 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.

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1	MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.
2	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
3	Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
4	Any further business? If not, I'll
5	entertain a motion to adjourn.
6	MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.
7	MR. MCGOFF: This meeting is
8	adjourned.
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1 2	<u>CERTIFICATE</u>
2	I hereby certify that the proceedings and
4	evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
4 5	
	notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
6	above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
7	and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
8	ability.
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11	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
12	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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