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2	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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6	HELD:
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8	Thursday, MAY 15, 2014
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10	LOCATION:
11	Council Chambers
12	Scranton City Hall
13	340 North Washington Avenue
14	Scranton, Pennsylvania
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24	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR – OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

4 ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN LOSCOMBE

7 JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

1	(Pledge of Allegiance recited and moment of reflection
2	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.
14	MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
15	MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
16	SCRANTON
17	HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD ON APRIL 7, 2014.
18	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
19	If not, received and filed.
20	MS. REED: 3-B. AUDIT STATUS FROM
21	ROBERT ROSSI & CO. RECEIVED MAY 8, 2014.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
23	If not, received and filed.
24	Are there any Clerk's notes?
25	MS. REED: No, Mr. McGoff.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Do any council members have announcements at this time?

MR. WECHSLER: Mr. McGoff, I have few. Of course I'd like to mention that Saturday will be the Armed Forces Day parade. I would encourage everyone to come downtown and support our veterans.

Also, the lady's Ancient Order of
Hibernians will host a guest bartender event
Monday, May 19, from 6 to 9 at the Parker
House. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: I have one as well.

There will be a polish food festival Sunday,

May 18, from noon to six sponsored by St.

Stanislas Elementary School. That will be

again from noon to six at 530 East Elm

Street over in South Side.

MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? I would like to mention that this weekend at Monday Montage is the, I think it's the third annual Celtic festival. Entertainment, food, vendors, and it's not only for those with Celtic descent it's a good time. I encourage people to go. I think it's a \$10

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charge for entry and it's around where the water park is located. I have attended the last two years. It's a very nice event.

That's the Celtic festival this weekend Saturday and Sunday.

Also, I did want it mention that this Tuesday, this coming Tuesday, is the primary election May 22 --

MR. ROGAN: 20th.

MR. MCGOFF: May 20, sorry. May 20, primary election. Unlike other primary elections because of the referendum question on county government all eligible voters may vote in the primary election. Now, you can't vote for candidates, but you are eligible to vote on the referendum question. That's important because in many cases independent voters or some smaller third parties who are registered in that way, you are not -- you can't vote in the primary, but it's important to note. This is an important event for Lackawanna County, the future of the county hinges on this vote and all people should make an effort to vote in this primary and on this referendum

question.

And also, on tonight's agenda Item 6-B, C and D if voted in the affirmative there will be a motion to move them to Seventh Order. As was explained last week, there is some timeliness to moving them to Seventh Order. If anyone wishes to speak to that, to any of the those pieces of legislation that will be moved to Seventh Order, please do so during citizens' participation, and that's is all I have.

MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION.

THE COURT: Joan Hodowanitz.

MR. MCGOFF: Joan, before you start, just don't start her time, I have a note and I forgot to mention it, city hall will be closed Tuesday, May 20, because of the primary election. However, DPW is working on the 20th so refuse pick up should be on time, but city hall itself will be closed on the 20th.

And also, for 5-C on the agenda, there will be a motion to table that if it is passed in Fifth Order. Thank you. I'm

sorry.

MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz, city resident. I'd like to begin,
Mr. McGoff, by offering my condolences on the loss of your father.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much.

MS. HODOWANITZ: I read his beautiful obituary. I understand he was a veteran of World War II and you and your family must have been very proud of him.

MR. MCGOFF: Yes, we are.

 $\label{eq:ms.hodowanitz:} \text{MS. HODOWANITZ:} \quad \text{So I'll see you on}$ the parade route on Saturday.

Do we have any information on whether or not Mr. Amaroso is planning another briefing to the general public in the form of a caucus?

MR. MCGOFF: I do not have any specific information. I know that he did meet with members of the administration during this past week, but I was unable to attend so I don't know if there is any specific date set for a further presentation. I have been asked that and I would -- I would assume that when there is a

final draft or final proposal that we will,
I'll say, insist that there be a public
disclosure.

MR. GAUGHAN: I was just to going to say maybe we could, Mrs. Reed, if you would send a letter and ask tomorrow what if they are intending on.

MR. MCGOFF: I'll find out tomorrow.

I was unable to.

MS. HODOWANITZ: Does this contract end at the end of June with the Chamber of Commerce. Is it the end of June that the six months are up?

MR. MCGOFF: It was a six-month contract so I'm assuming yes.

MS. HODOWANITZ: My only other item is I noticed in the background papers in the Clerk's Office, Rossi & Company's audit status report for May, and looking back at the one for April there were 28 outstanding items, it's now gone down to 26 outstanding items, which is progress, but I fear that we are not going to make the May 31 deadline for completing that audit, so I think it's something that, you know, I'm not saying

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pressure, but I think continually checking with the administration on why there might be backlogs in some of these areas and that audit can top, you know, a more useful date.

MR. MCGOFF: I will say that one of the -- one of the problems has been the I'll say lack of staffing that had -- we have tried to supplement to move the process along.

MS. HODOWANITZ: All right. know, I've often wondered, and maybe I shouldn't say this, but since the city has such a large population of retirees, many of them whom are, you know, educated professionals in various areas, I wonder why we don't -- we don't see volunteers to help out in some of the municipal tasks that we have before us. You know, if staffing is a problem. You might find that you have people with the qualifications who will be happy to offer their talents, their time and their talents now that they're retired. And that's all I have. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Mr. Hetman.

MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

MR. HETMAN: Gerard Hetman from
Lackawanna County's Community Relations
Department, good to see you as always. To
begin this evening, I would like to announce
an event that for this year will be in the
second year of operation. It's an event
that our department started last year in
fulfilling a need in our community and is
back by popular demand again this year.
That will be our second annual Lackawanna
County Job Fair. The job fair this year,
takes place on Thursday afternoon, June 12,
from 1 p.m. to five 5 p.m. at PNC field in
Moosic.

The job fair will follow similar to format to what we had last year and it will 60 private sector employers from in and around Lackawanna County exhibiting at PNC field on the upper concourse of the suite level, and the public is welcome during those hours. Again, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, and speak to all the employers present and see what type of opportunities are available for those

employers.

We do ask all of the employers in attendance to bring information on all of the employment positions they have available, full-time positions, of course, but also part-time, seasonal and internship opportunities, so we welcome that individual seeking full-time employment, but also maybe students or retirees who may be looking for seasonal or part-time work as well as students seeking internships at the start of the summer.

It's a good opportunity for anyone looking for any of those types of positions to attend and speak to a broad variety of employers across a variety of different industries in our area. Last year we had several thousand people attend, that's when we lost track because there were so many folks coming through the door from all walks of life, so everyone is welcomed. All ages, all skill sets and abilities. Please come out to the job fair on Thursday, June 12.

And we thank everyone for spreading the word, you know, when we do these events.

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You know, this helps in everything we else we do, but a person-to-person network is important in getting the world out there an help fill these needs, so we thank everyone who helps us spread the word on this event.

Secondly, on top of the infrastructure, the Lackawanna Rail Authority bridge expands at the bottom the Market Street coming down the hill one direction from Greenridge corners and down the hill the other way from Providence There will be maintenance and Square. upkeep work this coming week from Monday, May 19 through Friday, May 23. The work will take place beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day and should wrap approximately 1:30 p.m. each afternoon. The Rail Authority has informed us that most of the work due to the design of the bridge will take place Wednesday through Friday of this coming week.

We have reached out to the Scranton

Police Department and spoken to Chief

Graziano regarding the possible traffic

obstructions. The chief has assured us that

he will send officers to check on the work beginning of each workday and the department will provide some cones and barriers or if necessary station an officer there to make sure there is as less of disruption of traffic as possible. Crews don't anticipate a major problem, but the police department has reached out to us and said they are willing to help direct traffic to keep things safe for work crews, pedestrians, and motorists, and again, minimizing any traffic obstructions that might result as a result of the repairs.

And then just two brief housekeeping items. First, the Lackawanna County wireless initiative continues to take shape on a variety of different sectors and walks of life in Lackawanna County, one of those is helping improve our recreation and quality of life programs. On that note, McDade Park in Scranton now has free accessible wireless internet, internet access for visitors to the park, so if you bring your cell phone, your laptop, you can log into wireless provided by the Lackawanna

County Department of Information Technology at McDade Park. We do also have the same service right now at Merl-Sarnosky and Aylesworth Park, Covington park will be coming online soon. We have had it on courthouse square for quite some time and in the courthouse.

So, again, we know a lot of the folks in the city like to come to McDade Park in the summer and it's a good resource to use while they are there for work, study of any other pursuits that they may pursue.

And also, we would like to thank on behalf of the commissioner, the Scranton Police Department for two of the officers who attended our bike safety fair thew e spoke about last month that was held in late April at McDade Park, that would be Lieutenant Larry Namoetka and Patrolman Tony Geida, I'm sorry if I got the names wrong there, but those two officers were in attendance at our bike safety fair. They were a tremendous help in making sure all the children that attended received a bike helmet that fit them properly and they knew

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how to wear it properly. They also provided several bicycle safety demonstrations and how to properly ride and maintain children's bikes during the summer months.

We had a great turnout there.

Mr. Loscombe, we thank the officers on the public safety for attending. They were a great help to us.

And last, but not least,

Mr. Wechsler mentioned the parade already,
we thank you for talking about that all of
you, and we hope to see each of you and many
others out at the parade route this coming
weekend. We have worked over the last few
weeks with the parade committee to try and
boost the events, attendance and
participation and make some good gains. We
hope the parade continues to grow and
prosper with all of other work hope that

So thank you as always, ladies and gentlemen.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Hetman.

Elizabeth Davis.

will happen.

MS. DAVIS: Good evening.

ALL COUNCIL: Good evening.

MS. DAVIS: As I said, my name is Elizabeth Davis. I'm here representing the Scranton public library and we are here to invite the community and all of you to our annual block party and fundraiser "Swingin' on Vine" which will be held on Friday, May 23, from 5 to 8 p.m.

For \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door you will get three hours of food and drinks, chances to win amazing raffle prizes and live music from Paul Labelle and the Exact change. All prizes and food were graciously donated by the community and local businesses and we are especially excited to feature a southwest menu thanks to the Lackawanna Colleges' culinary arts program.

Proceeds from Swingin' on Vine
benefit Albright Memorial, Nancy Kay Holmes
Branch, Library Express and the Lackawanna
County Children's Library so that we may
continue to bring the highest quality
collections and services to the community.

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Some of our services range from story time for young children, which are really important for early learning skills. We have free online tutoring for school age students through high school and elementary school, as well as job and career development services such as resume writing and computer classes and other developmental skills.

We also want to note that the library is under some renovation, which is being funded by a Keystone grant which we would like to thank the city for helping us apply for and receiving. You will note that the building is covered in scaffolding an dust everywhere, but we are open and we would hope everyone comes to the event on the 23rd. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Dave Dobrzyn.

MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council. Dave Dobrzyn, resident. First I'd like to offer my condolences to Mr. McGoff for the loss of his father.

> MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

MR. DOBRZYN: He was a World War II flyer and both Mr. McGoff are lucky to be here because there was 200,000 flyers on both sides axis and allies that lost -- that was the death toll of World War II 200,000 for Vietnam.

Now, I mentioned a few weeks ago on paving and I'm glad to see that a lot of it is done, but a thought occurred to me why there is no coordination beforehand, and I have wonder if I had a company, maybe I own the gas company and somebody else, the water company had to do work, if I ran in there and did the pave -- my repairs at the same time I have a slight suspicion that maybe I would be asked to chip in towards the repairs and that's why they all don't get coordinated. I was just wondering about that and it's just a food for thought.

And I also mentioned on the delinquent trash fees, certainly I don't know how far back it can go, but for this year anyone being delinquent that has the ability to pay is totally unacceptable. I just paid mine so -- in full. I don't need

a forget it later and whatever and then one day I came down a few years ago and forgot my checkbook, so I couldn't pay it, well, then the next day somebody is in my face saying, well, you have to pay a late fee. It's like grrr.

And I'd like to see something discussed with this that some day at the end of this year if somebody is delinquent we have to start collecting on it. It's not acceptable to keep raising it up and certainly I can see that this council and this mayor has had everything dropped in their lap and there wasn't a lot of cooperation from last several years but therein again some issues like the parking authority what do you do with somebody that won't answer your questions? I don't know.

And I'd like to also mention please get out and vote this year. If people know you are you not going to vote they don't have to be concerned about what you think.

And on this audit Joan put an idea in my head with staff, we do need more staff in the city, especially we could have

possibly even have our own collections and so forth where, you know, you call up and, hey, you know you're two months late or three months late with your fees or whatever what's the problem and trying to prod people to start contributing that really should sometimes it's somebody living on \$850 a month on social security and sometimes it's people living on \$150,000 and they want gas for their motorboat or something so that's not acceptable.

And I'd just assume see the lien put against the house and left riding until the house was sold, but if they don't have the ability to pay but somebody that does have the ability to pay has no business taking advantage year in and year out of that.

And hopefully the audit will be a little more timely, because the last several years it's just gotten worse and worse and worse. It wasn't -- even at budget time it wasn't even available.

And, okay, I can't let this one go,

Jenny Beth Martin, tea party darling, 400

grand a year, good work, Jenny. She only

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contributes 5 percent of the money she takes in to tea party candidates, which won't break my heart if they don't win the election. Thank you and have a good night.

And don't forget to bawk, bawk.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Is there anyone else who wishes to address council?

MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, Council. Marie Schumacher, city resident and taxpayer. I do plan to get finally to my blight abatement even though I have other things and I go too long, but I want to start tonight with something that's been stuck in my craw since two weeks ago, which is the vote on the PFM contract. I would like to take a minute again to read Section 613 of the Administrative Code and I would like someone to explain if -- first of all, state whether you believe your vote was legal; and two, how it complies with this section of the Administrative Code and perhaps Mr. Minora can provide his counsel.

It says, "No money shall be paid out of the City Treasury expect upon appropriate

necessary previously made by council and upon warrant pursuant thereto which warrant shall explicitly state the purpose for which the money is to be drawn.

No work shall be hired to be done, no materials purchased, no contracts made and no order issued for the payment of any monies in any amount which will cause the sums appropriated to specific purposes to be exceeded.

Council may make supplemental appropriations for any lawful purpose from funds on hand or estimated to be received within the fiscal year and not appropriated to any other purpose.

Such supplemental appropriations shall be considered by council as an ordinance amending the annual budget. The business administrator shall have the power to authorize the transfer of any unexpected balance of any appropriation item or any portion thereof within a department, but if it is between departments then the business administrator shall be make such transfer with the approval of council."

1 There was no appropriation, there 2 was no budget and yet you all voted, all 3 five of you, voted to approve this contract. Now, please tell me if you really 4 5 believe that is legal and in compliance with the Administrative Code? 6 7 MR. MCGOFF: Do you want a response 8 to this now? 9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes, I do. MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I do. 10 MS. SCHUMACHER: And does Mr. Minora 11 12 agree that if you would ask him. MR. MCGOFF: You are asking --13 14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes, I'm asking both of you actually. 15 MR. MCGOFF: Well, okay, I will 16 17 answer because I'm the one that voted. 18 MS. SCHUMACHER: All five of you voted for it. 19 MR. MCGOFF: I understand that. 20 21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And then the 22 Administrative Code is not law, it is to be 23 adhered to, it's just a menu for which 24 people are allowed to pick and choose? Is 25 that --

MR. MCGOFF: Are you going to allow me to answer?

MS. SCHUMACHER: Yep. Yep.

MR. MCGOFF: I have been trying to.

I believe that it was a legal vote because any appropriations or any amount of monies paid to PFM would be done so in 2015.

Therefore, there was no need for a budget item in 2014 -- since there was no budget item in 2014.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, two comments on that. Number one, it's not -- there is no appropriation for it and there is no guarantee of next year's, and the other is that the mayor had the opportunity to amend the budget and as explained in this code you could have shifted money from some place else, but you chose not to so onto blight. Very disappointed, I might add.

Act 90 on blight abatement has been in existence since October 27, 2010. 2010 was also the year that council then had a special session on blight, and I would like to know why we have not availed ourselves of any of the new powers. There were six new

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Municipalities can take property powers. owners to Court to seek judgments against an owner's assets. Municipalities may deny permits to owners of the buildings that are in code violation. Municipalities may deny permit to owners of buildings that are behind in taxes. Municipalities may deny permits to owners of buildings that are behind in other municipal accounts. Municipalities may deny these permits until all existing violations are remedied. Out-of-state property owners may be extradited back to Pennsylvania to be charged with property related violations.

We certainly have enough blight to go around and I was very pleased. I did speak to this -- to prior councils that one of the local municipalities finally enacted an ordinance to actually use this law. Now, why have we not used any of these pours?

MR. MCGOFF: Again, my answer would be that we have not had the staff to do so. That we have a continually cut -- we have a continually cut staffing through the course of the past year and that it's practically

impossible to keep up with all of the ordinances and all of the fees and all of the other things that are going -- that were the responsibility of city hall, and you supported most of those cuts and that would be my answer.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes, I did support the cuts, we are in -- I'll be back in two weeks. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anyone else who wishes to address council?

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

MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler?

MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,

Mr. McGoff. Today I had the opportunity to speak to Tom Lynch and Dennis Gallagher and they were able to inform me that the repairs to Nay Aug Park are going to be able to be made so the problem at the park will be corrected at Nay Aug, which is good news.

To touch on the question about the audit, from working with Mr. Bulzoni there is a shortage of staff in the Business

Administrator's Office, and it's no fault of

anyone else, but there are some people that are ill in that office.

And part of the problem with bringing help in or assistance this from off the street is our computer system is quite antiquated and it's kind of particular to our situation here so it's not as easy as someone might have great accounting but not with our system and that's part of our problem and we are in the process of upgrading it, so hopefully as we move forward things will move a little smoother.

And that's all I have today. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

MR. ROGAN: Yes, just a few very brief points. I would also like to extend my condolences to Councilman McGoff on the loss of his father.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: As a veteran,

Mr. McGoff's father, the Armed Forces parade is this weekend at 11 a.m. downtown, and I know some of the others mentioned it already. I look forward to attending the

parade, as I do every year, and I hope more people will. It is a little bit frustrating that when you go down for St. Patrick's parade, which is another great event in the city, the streets are lined. You literally can't walk a block during the St. Patrick's Day parade, but we should have actually better attendance for the Armed Forces parade to honor our veterans, so I hope we'll have good attendance this year. I encourage everyone to meet downtown at 11 a.m. this Saturday and I look forward to being at the parade.

Also, it was mentioned Tuesday, the 20th is election day. It's a very important election that everyone get out and votes. There are elections for governor, state senator, representative, lieutenant governor, and there is also a ballot question on the future of Lackawanna County government. And as noted, normally in a primary only Democrats or Republicans can vote, but because of the ballot question Independents and third party members can vote, so everyone can vote in this primary

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election. So it's very important that everyone gets out and votes.

And just one brief comment on a legislative matter on the agenda for this week, the SAPA legislation is up for a vote I will vote "yes" to introduce this week. it. As I have mentioned many times, I do have a lot of reservations about this legislation, but it will be hopefully introduced tonight and at that point we could hear input from other members of the community. I wouldn't want to vote against it in introduce because I do think the residents have a right and all of our colleagues do as well, so I will vote to introduce it. It will be then tabled for input from other agencies and other governmental bodies and at that point it will be brought up again.

 $\label{eq:solution} \mbox{So that is all I have for tonight.}$ Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Loscombe?

MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you.

Mr. McGoff. I, too, would like to issue my condolences to you and your family and we'll

keep you in our prayers.

Tonight on 5-C Mr. Rogan just mentioned that we will be introducing SAPA. I will be looking at it again with fresh eyes, but I will vote to introduce it, and again, maybe some questions will be answered to, you know, change my mind from the last time. I'm looking forward to reviewing it again and hearing some fresh opinions, so we I will be voting to introduce that.

As far as the blight as

Mrs. Schumacher mentioned Act 190, you know,
we have been advocates for fighting against
blight here for the past several years, and
I do agree we should use every tool
available. We are under a new
administration now, I think we will be
looking it at a little harder moving
forward.

There are a couple of issues, again, it's staffing at this point. We did, you know -- we had a few people that are out sick that are in some two very important positions and we have been pretty much focusing our efforts on getting our

financial situation straight and, you know, much to the dismay of some of these other issues, but I do believe that, you know, working through OECD and current different things we will pursue the blight situation more in the future but, unfortunately, right now it's more of a financial issue trying to get things straightened out here.

And again, I hope everyone goes to the parade Saturday, the veterans parade, we wouldn't be here and have a right to vote if it wasn't for our veterans who fought for our freedom, so please remember them on Saturday, and that's all I have this evening. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.

MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Yes, I just have a few comments. First, I'd just echo the sentiment of my colleagues by saying I'm very sorry for your loss on your father, Mr. McGoff.

Also, May 19 to May 23 the DPW is scheduled to sweep streets in North Scranton from Lemon Street to Parker Street,

including all avenues and streets.

I would also like to echo my colleagues' comments about reminding people to vote this Tuesday, May 20, which is election day. It's very, very important that everyone gets out and votes. The last election I think we had 20 some percent of the population vote which is -- which I can't understand. Everyone needs to get out and vote.

And I would just like to quote

Abraham Lincoln, I saw this quote today and
I thought it was funny and made a lot of
sense. Our former president Abraham Lincoln
said, "Elections belong to the people. It's
their decision. If they decide to turn
their back on the fire and burn their
behinds, then they will just have to sit on
their blisters."

So it's very, very important that everybody gets out and votes.

Finally, the police department is conducting a parking study in the 900 block of Prescott Avenue. I mentioned this last week that the residents up there were having

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problems with the on-street parking, so they are conducting -- the police department is conducting that study and we should get an answer by the end of next week.

And I will be making the rest of my comments on Item 5-C, which is the introduction of the SAPA plan. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. First of all, thank you to everyone for the condolences on the passing of my father. certainly was of the greatest generation and I would encourage anyone that knows of any World War II vets or people who have lived through that experience to search them out and thank them. They are, and I have said it before, they are the true national These are people who lived treasurer. through the great depression, through World War II, came back and raised families and have produced, you know, the country that we have. So, please, you know, as I said, go out and thank these people, they deserve it.

One other just brief item, and somebody brought it up, Mr. Hetman brought up about by bicycle safety helmets, as the

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weather improves one of the things that we will see is a number of people riding bicycles and motorcycles. Please, as you are driving please be careful and be aware. Most accidents that occur with bicycles and motorcycles are caused by or people saying that they simply did not see them, so just be aware that there will be more cycle traffic on the city streets and throughout and please be careful. And that is all.

5 - B . FOR INTRODUCTION -MS. REED: AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 26, 2013, AN ORDINANCE, ENTITLED AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 22, 2006, ENTITLED "AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE DESIGNATION OF PARKING SPACES FOR CERTAIN CITY OF SCRANTON PERSONNEL IN AND ALONG DIX COURT, THE PARKING AREA IN THE REAR OF CITY OF SCRANTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND A PARKING LOT ALONG MULBERRY STREET ADJACENT TO SCRANTON FIRE HEADQUARTERS, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ENFORCE THE PARKING DESIGNATIONS AS REFLECTED IN THE ATTACHED SCHEMATIC" BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL PARKING SPACE BEHIND

1	SCRANTON FIRE HEADQUARTERS AND REDESIGNATING
2	CERTAIN PARKING SPACES TO REFLECT THE
3	CHANGE IN WHICH SOME CITY OF SCRANTON
4	PERSONNEL CURRENTLY PARK AS REFLECTED IN THE
5	ATTACHED SCHEMATIC.
6	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
7	entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
8	introduced into its proper committee.
9	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
10	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
11	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
12	those in favor of introduction signify by
13	saying aye.
14	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
15	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
16	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
17	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
18	MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
19	ayes have it and so moved.
20	MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
21	A RESOLUTION - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF
22	SCRANTON LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,
23	ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.
24	MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
25	entertain a motion that Item 5-C be

introduced into its proper committee.

MR. ROGAN: So moved.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

I would just like to make a few comments about SAPA. First I would like to commend Mayor Courtright and his administration for sending this legislation down to city council. In the past few months I have made comments concerning our economic development plan for the city, among other things. I think SAPA, while not a fix all for every problem that we have is a definite step in the right direction and blueprint that we can use for the future of this city.

I just want to first mention a few important aspects of SAPA. The first thing, the SAPA plan shall not infringe on any lawful rights granted to any member, municipality that said member retained prior to its participation in this association.

All decisions relative to participating in this plan now and in the future are the sole opinion of the elected

leadership of the each member municipality.

Each member community will continue to

maintain it's own Zoning Hearing Board.

Each member community reserve the rights to withdrawal from this SAPA plan at any time.

And finally, the autonomy of each and every member community shall be permanently protected and maintained.

I think those are important points because what I heard when SAPA came in the caucus was people were a little nervous that we wouldn't have a zoning board, the zoning board would carry no weight. That is not true. The zoning board still carries weight as does the planning commission.

I know that SAPA had been brought up before council in 2010 and since that time I have heard many comments about it, some comments always begin with, "Oh, you know, the Abingtons have something to do with this. Well, they must be up to something. This can't be good for Scranton, they probably just want to dump everything on us and keep their places immaculate."

And that's the truth. That's what I

have heard from various people throughout
the city when this comes up. I think its
time to look past that mentality and see
this plan for what it is and that is a
blueprint for the future of Scranton and one
in which we work together with other
municipalities for the betterment of this
area.

This plan is, as I said, not a quick fix for our problems, but it at least acknowledges the fact that Scranton should be the center of economic development in this area.

There are three main reasons why I will be supporting in plan. Number one, increased opportunity for economic development. Number two, increased funding for the state; and finally, number three, opportunity to increase the tax base within the city.

We have recently witnessed a departure of several significant businesses from the downtown. While the SAPA plan alone cannot prevent or halt this trend, the plan emphasizes the need to reduce sprawl

and in-fill the city. The SAPA plan allows participating municipalities to share land use requirements, which means Scranton could better attract new or relocating businesses. The plan can give the city a way to facilitate economic development based on the coordinated and comprehensive strategy rather than every municipality competing for tax revenue, which is a huge problem in this area.

SAPA puts a strong emphasis on Scranton being the center of economic development in the region. A healthy, vibrant urban center in Scranton is key to the overall vision of this plan.

We also know that the city is in dire financial straights. Anything we can do to save money or create opportunities for new funding must be considered. If Scranton adopts this plan, if we as city council adopt this plan, we will be eligible for additional grant monies from the state and it also saves us from expending money on required planning updates.

According to Sandy Campbell,

community planner from DCED, which is the Department of Community and Economic Development, communities that participate in a multi-municipal state plan receive priority consideration for some state agencies. PennDOT, DCED, and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, among others, give priority consideration for grants to communities involved in comprehensive plans.

Projects such as the Elm Street project in South Scranton, the Main Street project in the downtown and the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority Trail project would have a better chance of obtaining grants from the state.

Should we as council reject this
SAPA plan, we would then need to pursue our
own comprehensive plan. In 1993, Scranton's
single comprehensive plan costs
approximately \$100,000. The SAPA plan would
relies on the city's comprehensive plan
thereby avoiding the costs associated with
updating or creating a new city plan. The
only costs requirement for Scranton for

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implementation of the SAPA plan would be \$200 a year for dues.

Finally, the city has long needed to update their zoning ordinances. Adopting the SAPA plan would make us eligible for state funding to defray the costs of that update.

Finally, SAPA offers a framework to increase our tax base. No one would disagree that we need more people and more businesses in the city if we are to continue to receive the same services without burdening those least able to afford it. Most of the target growth areas in the plan are in existing urban areas. By keeping rural areas more rural, and urban areas more urban, it saves the Abingtons from spending money developing the infrastructure to support sprawl while attracting money to Scranton by directing businesses to where the infrastructure already exists.

In closing, I strongly urge my
fellow council members to support SAPA so
that we can begin to take a step in the
right direction. This plan provides a much

needed blueprint for the future. It allows us to work together towards a shared vision. It is a framework for the future of Scranton that anticipates and accommodates opportunities for focused growth in the city. And that is all I have. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? It should be notes that, as was indicated, this will probably be introduced and then it will be tabled and there is a 45 day waiting period before it can be put back on the agenda. During that waiting period, it would have to be reintroduced and I believe into the planning commission and zoning and so on so there is plenty of opportunity for input from the community prior to another vote on whether we adopt SAPA or not.

All those in favor of introduction signify by saying aye.

MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

MR. ROGAN: Aye.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved.

MR. ROGAN: I would like to make a 1 2 motion to table Item 5-C until all public 3 notifications can be made. 4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 5 MR. MCGOFF: On the questions? those in favor of tabling Item 5-C signify 6 7 by saying aye. 8 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. 9 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. 12 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The 13 ayes have it and so moved. 14 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING A DONATION OF A 15 16 USED COMMERCIAL GRADE STOVE, COMMERCIAL 17 GRADE STAINLESS STEEL SINK AND WORK ISLAND FROM 18 TITAN TREE SERVICE PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF 19 20 SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR INSTALLATION AT 21 FIRE HEADQUARTERS. MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll 22 23 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be 24 introduced into its proper committee. 25 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 2 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? A11 3 those in favor of introduction signify by 4 saying aye. 5 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. MR. ROGAN: Aye. 6 7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? 9 The 10 ayes have it and so moved. 11 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 12 13 18, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE 14 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO LEASE 15 16 AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS LITTLE LEAGUE, 17 TEENER LEAGUE, MISS-E LEAGUE, AND JUNIOR 18 FOOTBALL LEAGUE ASSOCIATIONS FOR USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY IN CONNECTION WITH APPROVED 19 LITTLE LEAGUE, TEENER LEAGUE, MISS-E LEAGUE, 20 21 FARM LEAGUE, T-BALL LEAGUE AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE 22 ACTIVITIES FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD 23 COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2014 AND ENDING APRIL 24 25 14. 2017.

MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by 1 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure? 2 3 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A 4 pass reading by title. MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 5 MS. MCGOFF: On the question? 6 A11 7 those in favor signify by saying aye. 8 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. 9 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. 12 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The 13 ayes have it and so moved. 14 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 19, 2014 - AN 15 ORDINANCE - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING 16 17 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229607 PA LOCAL 18 GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT TRUST ("PLGIT") ENTITLED "PLGIT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS" 19 FOR DISBURSEMENT AND TRACKING OF THOSE FUNDS 20 21 FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PURPOSES. 22 MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by 23 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure? 24 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B 25 pass reading by title.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 1 2 MS. MCGOFF: On the question? A11 3 those in favor signify by saying aye. 4 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. 5 MR. ROGAN: Aye. MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 6 7 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. 8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The 9 ayes have it and so moved. MS. REED: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -10 11 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 20, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE - TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM FUND 06 12 CAPITAL PROJECTS CASH-PLGIT 2003 BOND WHICH 13 14 FUNDS AND ACCOUNT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR THE CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS, AND ABOLISHING 15 AND CLOSING SAID ACCOUNT AND TRANSFERRING 16 17 THE FUNDS REMAINING IN SAID ACCOUNT TO A 18 NEW SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT LISTED BELOW. 19 MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by 20 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure? 21 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-C 22 pass reading by title. 23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 24 MS. MCGOFF: On the question? A11 25 those in favor signify by saying aye.

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1	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
2	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
3	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
4	MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
5	MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
6	ayes have it and so moved.
7	MS. REED: 6-D. READING BY TITLE -
8	FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 21, 2014 - AN
9	ORDINANCE - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING
10	SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229608 ENTITLED
11	"ACT 47 GRANT" FOR THE RECEIPT AND
12	DISBURSEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
13	BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) GRANT FOR FINANCIAL AID
14	UNDER AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF MUNICIPALITIES
15	FINANCIAL RECOVERY ACT, ACT 47 OF 1987, AS
16	AMENDED.
17	MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by
18	title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?
19	MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-D
20	pass reading by title.
21	MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.
22	MS. MCGOFF: On the question? All
23	those in favor signify by saying aye.
24	MR. WECHSLER: Aye.
25	MR. ROGAN: Aye.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 2 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. 3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The 4 ayes have it and so moved. MR. WECHSLER: I make a motion to 5 suspend the Rules and move Items 6-B, C and 6 7 6-D to Seventh Order for final passage as 8 was requested by the business administrator. 9 MR. ROGAN: Second. MR. MCGOFF: On the question? 10 11 those in favor of moving Item 6-B, C and D 12 into Seventh Order for final consideration 13 signify by saying aye. 14 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. MR. ROGAN: Aye. 15 16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 17 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. 18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The 19 ayes have it and so moved. 20 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7 - A . FORMERLY 6-B, FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE 21 COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE 22 23 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 19, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE -24 CREATING AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY 25 ACCOUNT NO. 02.229607 PA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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1	INVESTMENT TRUST ("PLGIT") ENTITLED "PLGIT
2	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS" FOR DISBURSEMENT
3	AND TRACKING OF THOSE FUNDS FOR CAPITAL
4	IMPROVEMENT PURPOSES.
5	MR. MCGOFF: What is the
6	recommendation of the Chairperson for the
7	Committee on Finance?
8	MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
9	the Committee on Finance, I recommend final
10	passage of Item 7-A.
11	MR. ROGAN: Second.
12	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
13	call, please?
14	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.
15	MR. MCGOFF: 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 declare
24	Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
25	MS. REED: 7-B, FORMERLY 6

MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, just a clarification, I indicated prior to citizens' participation that anyone that wishes to speak on these could do so during citizens' participation.

MS. SCHUMACHER: But you hadn't moved them. I think that's illegal, too, but --

THE COURT: 7-B, FORMERLY 6-C, FOR

CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 20,

2014 - TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM FUND 06

CAPITAL PROJECTS CASH-PLGIT 2003 BOND WHICH

FUNDS AND ACCOUNT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR

THE CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS, AND ABOLISHING

AND CLOSING SAID ACCOUNT AND TRANSFERRING

THE FUNDS REMAINING IN SAID ACCOUNT TO A

NEW SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT LISTED BELOW.

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

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

MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Ro11 2 call, please? 3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler. MR. MCGOFF: Yes. 4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan. 5 MR. ROGAN: Yes. 6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe. 7 8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. 9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan. MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. 10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff. 11 12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare 13 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted. 14 MS. REED: 7-C - FORMERLY 6-D - FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -15 16 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 21, 17 2014 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL 18 CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229608 ENTITLED "ACT 47 GRANT" FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF 19 THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) 20 GRANT FOR FINANCIAL AID UNDER AND BY THE 21 AUTHORITY OF MUNICIPALITIES FINANCIAL 22 23 RECOVERY ACT, ACT 47 OF 1987, AS AMENDED. 24 MR. MCGOFF: What is the 25 recommendation of the Chair for the

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1	Committee on Finance?
2	MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
3	the Committee on Finance, I recommend final
4	passage of Item 7-C.
5	MR. ROGAN: Second.
6	MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
7	call, please?
8	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.
9	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
10	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.
11	MR. ROGAN: Yes.
12	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.
13	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.
14	MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.
15	MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.
16	MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.
17	MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
18	Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.
19	If there is no further business,
20	I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.
21	MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.
22	MR. MCGOFF: Meeting is adjourned.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPF OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER