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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, May 7, 2015

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT
(Not present)

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff did call me
14 earlier in the week to let me know he would
15 be unable to attend tonight's meeting. He
16 is feeling a little bit under the weather so
17 we wish he gets well soon.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
19 motion to appoint Councilman Rogan as
20 temporary chairperson for the Committee ON
21 Rules.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

23 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
24 those in favor signify by saying aye.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

1 MR. EVANS: Aye.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

3 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
4 have it and so moved. Please dispense with
5 the reading of the minutes.

6 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. AGENDA
7 FOR THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING TO
8 BE HELD MAY 13, 2015.

9 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
10 If not, received and filed.

11 MS. REED: 3-B. SINGLE TAX OFFICE
12 CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON REPORT FOR
13 APRIL 2015-2014.

14 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
15 If not, received and filed.

16 MS. REED: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
17 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE TO BE HELD MAY 27,
18 2015.

19 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
20 If not, received and filed. Do any members
21 of council have any announcements to make?
22 Just one, there will be a motion made to
23 move Item 6-A regarding the LST tax to
24 Seventh Order so if anyone wishes to speak
25 upon that item will be moved from Sixth to

1 Seventh Order. Citizens' participation.

2 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
3 PARTICIPATION.

4 MR. ROGAN: First speaker is Lee
5 Morgan.

6 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

8 MR. MORGAN: You know, from reading
9 in the newspaper here, you know, there is
10 some kind of debate going on with the
11 Recreation Authority about people swimming
12 free up to the age of 12 and I just think
13 that the city should create a supplement for
14 the Recreational Authority in order for them
15 to be able to allow people up to 18 years
16 old to swim for free because evidently it
17 must be a funding problem. Maybe the Rec
18 Authority has a debt or it has costs
19 associated with running Nay Aug Park and I
20 think the city created that Authority and I
21 am all for free swims, but, you know, when
22 people resign from that board and when there
23 is dissent there I just think maybe they
24 don't have the money to run the pool and,
25 you know, it's nice to talk about things for

1 free, and I hope that it does turn around
2 where people up to 18 or everyone in the
3 city can swim for free, but since the city
4 created the Authority I think we need to
5 know what the problem is there. I think the
6 residents need to know what their real
7 hardship there is with the Authority and I
8 think that the city itself should rectify
9 it.

10 I don't think what the problem is
11 because I didn't attend the Recreational
12 Authority meeting, but I do think that when
13 people resign I think there is a real
14 problem there and I just hope we are not
15 masking the problem that's going to come up
16 and grab us later.

17 And the local service tax, you know,
18 I'm not really for increasing that and I
19 really think that the way forward for this
20 city was to cut the budget and that's why I
21 asked Mr. McGoff, I hope he is feeling well,
22 but that's why I presented Mr. McGoff with a
23 request and petition to him to cut the
24 budget by 30 percent because the truth is
25 that this city's budget is much too large

1 for the population base, and we talk about
2 nonprofits all the time and then you watch
3 where the money coming in the government is
4 going to nonprofits anyhow.

5 So I just think that we are wasting
6 our time in a lot of ways. I'm watching all
7 the -- today driving around the city
8 watching all the curb cuts and I'd just like
9 to say that during the Hickey administration
10 myself and about 15 other people were to
11 sent to school by the federal government to
12 build curbs and sidewalks throughout this
13 whole city and maybe Hickey called the
14 program. I just think there has been so
15 many things that the government has tried to
16 do to help this city and I think the city
17 has refused to participate in a meaningful
18 way. We listen for decades as we talked
19 about our rebirth of the city pumping
20 millions and millions of dollars into the
21 downtown and talked about making ourselves
22 attractive to business but, you know, it's
23 pretty hard to make yourself attractive to
24 business when you are competing with the
25 Chinese and the Vietnamese, I mean, that's

1 support the businesses that you are going to
2 be growing in your community, and people who
3 don't have money don't spend it and, you
4 know, we look at now what the state is
5 talking about in regards to the pension
6 problem. They are not going to solve it,
7 they are going to cut somebody else's
8 pension. Instead of solving it 30 years or
9 more when they made the changes they didn't
10 do it and now they are talking about
11 increasing their retirement age or social
12 security because, you know, we just have
13 elected government Democrats and Republicans
14 who have absolutely destroyed our country
15 and our standard of living. It wasn't one
16 or the other, it was both of them.

17 But I am surprised that Bernie
18 Sanders is going to run for president, you
19 know, I would invite a lot of people to
20 listen to what he has to say, and I'm not
21 saying that everything he has to say is
22 truthful, but he was a party member at one
23 time and he left the party, and if you sit
24 there and you listen to the things he says
25 you might learn something. Thank you.

1 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Morgan.
2 Les Spindler.

3 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
4 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
5 homeowner and taxpayer. You know, I keep
6 hearing on the news about this power plant
7 the company wants to bring to Jessup, I
8 guess most people in Jessup don't want it, I
9 say if they don't want it in Jessup let's
10 bring it here. The next meeting have the
11 mayor and some of his administration go up
12 there and say, "We'll take it in Scranton if
13 you don't want it." That's the problem with
14 this area nobody wants progress. Nobody
15 wants anything in their backyard. They
16 think it's terrible. That's why we can't
17 any business or industry to move into this
18 area. Nobody wants anything in their
19 backyard. I'll take it, they can put it in
20 my backyard, I don't care. There is two of
21 them that are going to open within the next
22 year within an hour's drive from here, those
23 towns aren't against it. I think it would
24 be a good idea for the mayor to look into
25 that if Jessup doesn't want it. We need

1 something in this area.

2 Last week I just caught some of the
3 meeting and I heard a speaker mention that
4 she wants the mayor to have town hall
5 meetings, well, I think that would be a
6 waste of time, I don't know why we need town
7 hall meetings, we can't even get people to
8 attend council meetings. I have been coming
9 to these meetings for 13 years now, people
10 coming here is a lot less than when I
11 started attending these so I don't know how the
12 speaker expects people to come to town hall
13 meetings. Where was the speaker the last
14 administration when myself and a bunch of
15 other people were trying to get the mayor to
16 attend council meetings? At least Mayor
17 Courtright has kept his promise to attend
18 council meetings. He has attended more
19 meetings in 16 months than Mayor Doherty did
20 in 12 years, so I think he has kept his
21 promise in that way, and I think the mayor
22 is doing an incredible job. He got
23 contracts with the fire and police. If
24 Mayor Doherty did that we wouldn't be in the
25 situation we are now.

1 We have banks talking to us, banks
2 wouldn't talk to us when Chris Doherty was
3 the mayor, so I think we are moving in the
4 right direction, people just have to have
5 patience. Mayor Courtright was left a mess
6 to take care of and it's not going to happen
7 overnight so people just have to be patient.

8 Lastly, I want to talk with the Rec
9 Authority changing the swimming age from 18
10 to 12. As Mr. Quinn said, I think that's
11 discrimination and I still have the deed
12 with me now that I have brought for years
13 and years and years saying that the Nay Aug
14 Park shall be free to the public forever.
15 And my dear friend and former city council
16 solicitor, Mark Walsh, God rest his soul, he
17 agreed with me. Mark was on this as council
18 solicitor when I brought this up years and
19 years ago, mark looked at the deed and I he
20 agreed with me, it shouldn't -- there should
21 be free swimming.

22 And I'm told now that the Authority
23 has a \$23,000 debt from 2013 for the Doherty
24 administration for pool supplies. I'd like
25 to know what happened to that \$23,000.

1 Whose pockets did that end up in? So, yeah,
2 I think there should be free swimming for
3 everybody. I think cutting age off at 12 is
4 definitely discrimination and I don't know
5 how -- where the money came from before
6 Mayor Doherty took office because there was
7 no charge for swimming when he -- before he
8 took office. He put the slides in and
9 started charging money. The money has got
10 to come from somewhere, but I don't think it
11 should come from the people that want to
12 swim. That's I have tonight. Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Spindler.
14 Joan Hodowanitz.

15 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodawanitz,
16 city resident and taxpayer. I did attend
17 the mayor's state of the city address last
18 Friday. Just as an aside, I hope what he
19 gives his next address that he will be in a
20 different venue, hopefully in the evening,
21 hopefully in a large auditorium like
22 Scranton High School where there would be
23 adequate parking for anyone who wants to
24 attend and I would like to see it broadcast
25 by ECTV, even if has to be a taped delay.

1 That would be good. It is on the city's
2 website both video and text for anybody who
3 wants to review it.

4 I know many of the councilmen were
5 there and you may recall his opening comment
6 that the state of the city was strong and
7 very solid and getting stronger every day.
8 He was very optimist throughout the address,
9 you knew to expect that from the mayor, and
10 there have been improvements since he became
11 mayor 16 months ago. Certainly it's a
12 pleasure to see the absence of animosity
13 between city council and the mayor's office
14 and that is it a major improvement.

15 But I got to say what I said to Jim
16 Lockwood when he called me about the address
17 and that is show me the math. Show me the
18 math to justify his optimism. One part of
19 his address he said, I quote, "We've
20 bargained with the unions to achieve savings
21 for our city's budget, to bring in new
22 revenues and to sure up the pension funds."

23 I think the one major change in the
24 pension funds, per se, was the fact that the
25 police and firefighters who would now be

1 making a 6 percent contribution as of 2016.
2 I have a question, does anyone know do our
3 public safety workers, police and
4 firefighters, DPW, do they have withholding
5 for security and Medicare?

6 MR. ROGAN: The new hires do. In
7 the past they did not. That changed
8 somewhere along the lines.

9 MS. HODOWANITZ: Do you know when
10 approximately that changed?

11 MR. ROGAN: I don't know the date
12 offhand, but I do know some of the older
13 retirees, and maybe some of the older active
14 members at the time did not pay into
15 Medicare or did not pay into social
16 security.

17 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay, because that
18 casts their pensions into a different light.
19 You can understand in some regards, you
20 know, if they are not going to have a social
21 security to fall back on as a safety net at
22 all or if they have not been paying into
23 Medicare they would have to pay out, but you
24 got to remember that the ordinary worker in
25 Scranton pays 6.2 percent withholding for

1 social security and 1.545 percent for
2 Medicare for a total of 7.65 percent on
3 every paycheck and we just -- those of us
4 who have worked in Scranton just suck that
5 right up, and that's considered normal.
6 That's considered normal.

7 We are not going to know the impact
8 of the new labor contracts until the State
9 AG's Office publishes its next audit and
10 that won't be until next summer and we'll
11 see what the impact has been and whether or
12 not it's helped us get those pension plans
13 out of the severely distressed status. I
14 personally don't think it's going to make
15 that much difference.

16 Maybe selling the Scranton Sewer
17 Authority or monetizing it or the Parking
18 Authority will help, but they are so
19 severely distressed you are going to need
20 quite a windfall to make any kind of change.

21 I also want to thank Mr. Frank
22 Joyce, this week he apparently completed the
23 2013 municipal audit and financial report
24 which goes to the state. That was the audit
25 that was due to the state last April 1, so

1 that's complete and now they are going to
2 start working on the 2014 audit so better
3 late than never but he has done good work.
4 That's all I have this week.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

6 MR. ROGAN: Thank you very much. Is
7 there anyone else who would like to address
8 council?

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
10 Council, Marie Schumacher.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Speaking of show me
13 the money, the article in yesterday's paper
14 about the rental fees being in question
15 jogged my memory again of something I wanted
16 to follow up on. According to the budget
17 figures for the trash, our \$300 trash fee,
18 the landfill is budgeted at roughly 1.8
19 million, the DPW department is roughly 2
20 million, but yet the revenue from the \$300
21 is pegged at 6.9 so where -- I can
22 understand that the Treasurer's Office maybe
23 puts a bunch in because people come in to
24 pay there, but is it really closer to a two
25 to one ratio of costs to revenue? I would

1 really like to know where -- what the other
2 accounts are. If you could tell me next
3 week if there are other accounts that are
4 taking into consideration I would appreciate
5 that and what they are.

6 And then Joan talked about
7 discrimination, and I would also like to
8 know what percent of the police quality of
9 life tickets that have been issued have been
10 written by the HUD funded community police
11 in low moderate income because I think -- I
12 think a case could be made that's also
13 discriminatory to the low moderate income
14 people so I would like that if somebody --
15 who is police?

16 MR. WECHSLER: I am. The problem
17 with that question is that's where those
18 officers work, they work in the low to
19 moderate area income, they can't go in
20 another area so all of the tickets that
21 those officers write will be in the low to
22 moderate area.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: But other police
24 officers can write them and that's why I'm
25 asking what that split is.

1 MR. WECHSLER: There will be a
2 disparity because of the contracted --

3 MR. SCHUMACHER: Okay, yeah,
4 understand that. Thank you. And now on 6-A
5 I think a week isn't really much it's, you
6 know, seven lousy days, but the fact that
7 the administration chose to put the revised
8 recovery plan on the back burner to deal
9 with the two MOU's was their choice so now I
10 think it's disingenuous for them to come and
11 say, now, run this through because you
12 people have really run a lot through Sixth
13 and Seventh Order, probably maybe record
14 setting even, so I think that one should
15 remain and go through and wait until next
16 week.

17 And then speaking of the revised
18 recovery plan, there are many items that are
19 due, some immediately upon adoption of the
20 revised recovery plan one of which -- or two
21 of which are Act 47 grant assistance, can
22 you tell me -- anybody tell me the status of
23 those two grants? Could somebody find out?
24 One is to review the feasibility and provide
25 options for the creation of the Municipal

1 Solid Waste Collection Authority or Combined
2 Purpose Authority, and the other was to
3 review the feasibility and the creation of a
4 storm water management authority, so if
5 somebody could follow-up on those that would
6 be nice.

7 And, just a second, and then the
8 payroll preparation tax, the coordinator PEL
9 is supposed to be providing the city
10 analysis, does anybody know when that's to
11 be received?

12 MR. EVANS: That's is being worked
13 on so we should get that hopefully over the
14 next few weeks.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. There
16 is also an item for the verification of the
17 property exempt from taxation status. Now,
18 Mr. Evans, you volunteered to do that?

19 MR. EVANS: I know, I'm still
20 waiting for my call.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: And it went
22 nowhere, what is the plan then to do that?

23 MR. EVANS: I'll bring that up at
24 the PEL meeting, because I want to press for
25 that again because I'm ready, willing and

1 able to start that process any time they
2 want.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. And
4 then on pensions, just I have been attending
5 the last couple of the meetings and
6 depending on how this comes out, I know the
7 library employees and the Single Tax Office
8 are members of the clerical union, but when
9 that doubling of the pensions offer, and the
10 health care for life I believe was also
11 included in that, they were not included and
12 they pay the same amount in and I also think
13 that was unfair and could possibly be
14 subject to a suit at some point as well so,
15 again, I'd ask Mr. McGoff to start giving us
16 regular updates on the mandates and I hope
17 that he follows through on that.

18 And one quick, Mr. Rogan, do you
19 have any idea when you are going to get me
20 that OECD data? Do you have it tonight?

21 MR. ROGAN: Would you like it in
22 writing or you want me to just read it off.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: You could read it
24 off, that's fine. Thank you.

25 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.

1 Dave Dobrzyn, resident and taxpayer. Once
2 again your last chance people out there in
3 TV land that up there and back there, call
4 Congress, call the president, and tell them
5 that Transpacific partnership is
6 unacceptable. It only causes a loss of jobs
7 and, loss of income and stagnant wages.
8 First number for Congress, you just ask for
9 the senator or representative that you are
10 looking for, 1-202-224-3121. The White
11 House is 1-202-456-1111. You might want to
12 mention that with all of the goings on in
13 various cities and strike and rioting.
14 Maybe if these people had jobs in the future
15 they wouldn't be acting the way they do and
16 they wouldn't be underfoot all day, getting
17 in some kind of trouble. If you are tired
18 of no jobs, call that number. If you tired
19 of high property taxes and high local taxes,
20 call that number. If you are a tired of
21 threats to your retirement, call that
22 number, and if you are tired of -- I
23 repeated myself, no jobs, call that number.
24 It's a serious threat, it's less money going
25 into the federal government, it's less money

1 going into the social security, and it gets
2 smaller and smaller every year so it's only
3 a matter of time until the cuts come down.

4 Now, last week a mention was made
5 about how nice the people trying to buy
6 garages and how optimistic they are, well,
7 if I was getting a 50 for a 20 I would be
8 optimistic, too. The sewer bond rating I
9 might add is the only, probably the only
10 good bond rating in the whole city so that's
11 something to think about before it starts to
12 become the worst bond rating in the city.

13 It's summer again and a lot of the
14 people are really exceeding the speed limit
15 by possibly as much as double, so something
16 to consider. If you want to a few fines,
17 don't fine somebody because somebody tossed
18 some liter on their front lawn, find
19 somebody who runs somebody over.

20 I also mentioned in prior meetings
21 KOZ exit analysis, did it cost us dollars?
22 And there was a KOZ moved out after ten
23 years on Lackawanna Avenue and there is
24 \$200,000 a year hole in the Parking
25 Authority budget. We built things to

1 accommodate them and now they're gone so we
2 get to pay the \$200,000 a year out of the
3 city coffers I guess.

4 Trash fees, how about if they round
5 up some of those delinquent trash fees and
6 put it in pensions? It's a shameful the way
7 they are left go year after year and I was
8 late with one, my closing I missed it and my
9 credit rating was mucked up for seven years.

10 Condemnations, allow people to
11 remove personal items from their house if
12 their house is condemned or a relative's
13 house is condemned like a mentioned last
14 week. That's unacceptable to have somebody
15 -- the only thing she has to remember her
16 mother by is a Bible and the house is full
17 of her personal possessions.

18 And on the rule suspension business,
19 some times I have trouble with my own
20 writing I should have been a doctor but, you
21 know, a mistake was made on the 25-year
22 pension for police and somebody didn't catch
23 it somewhere, and once again we keep talking
24 about suspending rules and I do have a
25 serious concerning on that issue with the

1 EMT tax and that is this, if we try to
2 collect it back to the beginning of the year
3 are we putting the monkey wrench in the gear
4 box. I was a mechanical all my life and I
5 know better not to leave my monkey wrench
6 laying where it could fall into the gear box
7 so, you know, it's just ashame.

8 And I have, once again, a book I
9 brought, I've read this several times, "Free
10 Lunch. How the Wealthiest Americans Enrich
11 Themselves at Government Expense and Stick
12 you with the Bill" and I would recommend
13 everyone trying to read that. And, by the
14 way, a little quote for Pat and Mr. Gaughan,
15 back in the 60's the word was don't trust
16 anybody over 30. Have a good night. Thank
17 you.

18 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council. How is
19 our dough boy?

20 MR. WECHSLER: The boy is in
21 storage.

22 MR. ELLMAN: Well, if four rooms of
23 stainless steel disappeared he can. Nothing
24 was ever done about the stainless steel.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Well, right now he is

1 in the Steamtown Museum so that's federal.

2 MR. ELLMAN: That's just a way. I
3 was introduced by Judge O'Malley to that
4 room so I have a personal remembrance of it.
5 Mr. Minora, if I may, can I ask you a
6 question?

7 MR. MINORA: You can ask.

8 MR. ELLMAN: When I sit down you can
9 let me have it, is there any way legally
10 possible that people can pay into an escrow
11 like I've heard or a legal account like
12 Proposition 13 was in California in this
13 city? You can think about it, I'll sit down
14 you can look it up, and I got one other
15 question --

16 MR. MINORA: Right.

17 MR. ELLMAN: How can Mr. Amoroso be
18 paid by Lackawanna College and that not be a
19 conflict of interest on everything he does?
20 What if Mr. Evans, if you don't mind me --
21 the society or group of realtors gave money,
22 a sum of money to represent them while he is
23 sitting up there this isn't right. It's not
24 a -- it seems like it's a simple conflict of
25 interest to me. I was wondering if anybody

1 on council ever saw the results of that
2 telephone poll of Amoroso and who paid for
3 it? It was a -- they talked to you about
4 ten minutes a company that his company
5 hired, you know, unless their results were
6 shameful I don't see why they weren't
7 released to the public somehow.

8 I had some things on my mind but I
9 wasn't going to fight with you all tonight
10 like I usually do. One thing that I would
11 be for the Jessup power plant except for one
12 thing because that's the future, it's all
13 the water they need. Tens of millions of
14 gallons of water have already been used up
15 by all of the fracking. Pennsylvania is
16 supposed to be the second highest water rate
17 in the country and we will be buying water
18 from other states before it's all over.
19 Every summer there is no water in the rivers
20 around here, the lakes. They are being used
21 up for fracking, and that brings to mind I
22 saw where there is four companies interested
23 in the Sewer Authority. You know that if it
24 goes the rates will skyrocket on top of all
25 of the other expenses people are incurring

1 and the taxes going up and everything you
2 people can get your hands on is being taxed
3 in this city. That you just can't allow
4 that.

5 Mr. Gaughan, if I were you
6 politically I would just disassociate myself
7 with these other four gentlemen. They are
8 dinosaurs like I am politically. There is
9 enough young people in this city, educated
10 people and people interested enough in to
11 try to get with it. Instead of -- you're
12 getting a bad name by association because
13 all they do is tax, tax, tax. We have been
14 replaced, just everything is going wrong in
15 this city. See, you people don't talk to
16 anybody. I might sit at the bar during the
17 day, but I hear these things from
18 professional people. You don't pay no
19 attention when I tell you what they tell me
20 at the grocery store, but I'm telling you
21 some professional people think of it, the
22 city is going to pot. It doesn't have any
23 leadership. The Amoroso plan, like I said,
24 time and time again the Amoroso plan it
25 didn't do nothing last year for the city,

1 it's not going to do nothing this year for
2 the city, it's not going to do nothing next
3 year for the city, it's just taxation. You
4 need somebody to come in here with some
5 leadership for this city immediately. Thank
6 you.

7 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
8 anyone else who cares to address council?

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

11 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Wechsler, do you
12 have any motions or comments?

13 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Rogan,
14 just a few. The other night I attended the
15 wrap up meeting for the 150th kickoff
16 celebration at Scranton Tomorrow. They
17 reported that that day at the event there
18 was over 2,000 people in attendance at the
19 mall. The mall was full of the people all
20 day long and from speaking to the management
21 at the mall they had a very good day sales
22 wise in the few stores that remain there, so
23 the idea that's being kicked around about
24 the type of Reading terminal or some type of
25 marketplace in the city seems to have a

1 little bit of life to it. I think the key
2 to this was that the Scranton Tomorrow had
3 brought in a lot of local entertainment
4 groups especially schools and dance schools
5 and things like that, so the families came
6 out and supported and I think if -- you
7 know, if we look at events like that while
8 the mall is down to fill it up on certain
9 occasions I think it will go far to bring
10 some life to the city. So, once again,
11 congratulations to Scranton Tomorrow for the
12 great kickoff event.

13 In regards to the mayor's state of
14 the city address, my work schedule prevented
15 me from attending that meeting. I agree
16 with Ms. Hodowanitz that for all people to
17 attend I think that meeting should be in the
18 evening so we can get a better attendance,
19 but basically I did agree with lot of the
20 remarks that the mayor had made. I do
21 believe that the council and the mayor had
22 been working towards a common goal. We
23 don't necessarily agree on steps to reach
24 that goal, but we have been able to keep
25 those differences focused on those issues

1 and move ahead together as we make some
2 progress.

3 The one question that I saw in the
4 newspaper this week was that, and I'd like
5 to welcome them to our city staff, Scranton
6 added three new policemen this week to help
7 us fight crime and to keep our good record
8 that we have. Speaking to Chief Graziano
9 today just to mention that these officers
10 are going to start at a rate of \$37,937 per
11 year, which is 60 percent of the current
12 patrolman's salary and it will take them
13 five years to reach the current level of a
14 patrolmen, so when we talk about have we
15 seen any results from the new labor
16 contracts to me this is a concrete result of
17 those new contracts. The savings over the
18 course of the first few years will allow us
19 to put more police on the streets and will
20 also allow us to pay them at a lower cost to
21 the city, so I'm happy about that, so that's
22 all I have tonight, Mr. Rogan.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Wechsler.

24 Mr. Evans, do you have any motions
25 or comments?

1 MR. EVANS: Yes, I do, thank you. I
2 hadn't planned on talking on this issue, but
3 since it was in the news again I thought I
4 might give it a shot. The rental
5 registration ordinance, as you may know
6 several months ago the mayor's committee on
7 blight met for the first time. As it turns
8 out, that was also our last meeting.
9 Despite repeated efforts by Councilman Rogan
10 and myself to get it back on track after
11 several cancellations we still haven't had
12 our second meeting. There area a lot more
13 issues to tackle so we need to get those
14 meetings scheduled again.

15 Ironically, the one and only topic
16 of conversation at this first meeting was
17 the rental registration ordinance.
18 Actually, I felt the meeting went well and
19 that consensus was reached on several years.
20 One, the ordinance should be revised and
21 create a simpler, more user friendly
22 ordinance for all involved; two, the fees
23 should be reduced; and three, the actual
24 registration should be outsourced to the
25 third party vendor.

1 My personal conclusion and the
2 benchmarks for any legislation that should
3 come before city council should also include
4 the following: The \$150 per structure fee
5 should be removed. The per unit fee should
6 be reduced to somewhere between \$25 and \$40
7 instead of the current \$50 and especially to
8 be limited to every other year.

9 Also, the annual registration should
10 include a colored sticker that will be
11 displayed at the registered property and
12 must be visible from the exterior. A new
13 sticker will be issued annually with the
14 registration. This will allow for License
15 and Inspections Department to immediately
16 know if the properties is registered. If
17 there is no sticker or it is not visible the
18 property owner will be fined.

19 And finally, and this is not open
20 for negotiation as far as I'm concerned, the
21 actual registration must be done by a third
22 party vendor. Despite their best efforts, I
23 estimate that the city has registered only
24 25 percent of all rental units. There may
25 be 10,000 units or more in the city and we

1 currently have approximately 2,500
2 registered. So what we have is 25 percent
3 paying a higher fee to compensate for the 75
4 percent that are not registered.

5 The rental registration process has
6 been ongoing for the last 15 years so to
7 have only 25 percent registered after that
8 long is not fair to the landlords who have
9 registered and paid, the taxpayers who
10 expect an efficient government for their tax
11 dollars, and even those that are currently
12 trying to do the registration without the
13 tools to complete the task. That is not
14 necessarily a reflection on this
15 administration, this is something that has
16 been going on far too long and it is time to
17 turn the process over to a professional
18 company with the ability and resources to
19 get us close to 100 percent registration and
20 compliance as possible. It is quite simple,
21 with dramatically more landlords paying the
22 fee, the fee can be reduced dramatically.

23 Another byproduct of the increase to
24 the amount of units registered would be a
25 large increase in the trash fee collection.

1 As more rental units come out of the
2 shadows, it is not unreasonable to expect
3 that a large number of those units are not
4 paying the garbage fees. Even if we pick up
5 an additional 2,000 trash fees out of the
6 estimated 7,500 currently unregistered
7 units, that will mean an additional \$600,000
8 to the city, and maybe with more people
9 paying that fee we can find a way to
10 actually reduce, I said reduce, the trash
11 collection fees for our taxpayers or at
12 least find a way to reduce the fee for our
13 senior citizen property owners.

14 I know it's a novel approach and
15 concept, but efficient government can reduce
16 costs, increase revenue and therefore reduce
17 fees so common sense should never be viewed
18 as our enemy and when it is presented to us
19 we should embrace it. That's all I have.
20 Thank you.

21 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Evans.
22 Mr. Gaughan, do you have any motions or
23 comments?

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. I
25 forget to mention two things in the

1 beginning of the meeting, the first, the
2 Scranton Police Department is having a
3 pancreatic cancer network breakfast buffet
4 Friday, May 8, from 6:30 a.m. to 12 noon.
5 It is \$10 per person and it will be held at
6 the Trolley's Bistro at the Hilton Scranton
7 and Conference Center, tickets are available
8 at police headquarters or at the door.

9 Also, I'd like to remind everyone
10 again that this Saturday, May 9, the
11 Scranton Notre Dame Club and Greenridge
12 Neighborhood Association are organizing a
13 clean up of Crowley Park for 9 a.m. to 1
14 p.m. and all are welcome and encouraged to
15 participate.

16 The street sweeper is scheduled to
17 be in the Tripp Park section, Dickens Street
18 to Gibbons Street from May 11 to May 15.

19 The residents of North Scranton have
20 requested a street sign on Leach Avenue be
21 replaced. It is seriously faded and covered
22 by trees. Council forwarded this request a
23 few weeks ago and the DPW reported that it
24 will be taken care of.

25 There was a question last week about

1 the legislation concerning the levy system
2 and using a contractor to cut the grass and
3 maintain the levy, our office did inquire
4 with DPW Director Gallagher and he gave the
5 following response:

6 "The department is continuing with
7 the practice of the contracting with an
8 outside company to maintain the levies.
9 They feel it's the most efficient practice
10 considering the length of the levy, which is
11 both sides from Parker Street to an area
12 behind the South Side hopping Center. Also,
13 the company has all of their own necessary
14 equipment for which the city doesn't need to
15 maintain. They are only two city employees
16 in flood control."

17 I have asked for a meeting with DPW
18 Director Gallagher to discuss this and a few
19 other ideas and issues and I'll update
20 everyone as we move forward.

21 I did speak briefly in the caucus
22 about something that I am very interested in
23 pursuing, and I think my colleagues were on
24 board with this after speaking to them in
25 the caucus. The question since I have been

1 on council when I have talked to residents
2 has been how our government can connect with
3 citizens better, how can government be
4 innovative, engaging and cost effective and
5 it's my firm belief that Scranton needs to
6 be more user friendly, more citizen
7 friendly. There is a great thin that's
8 going on across the United States, one
9 specific example I'd like to talk about is
10 in Boston, Massachusetts, and it's
11 application that you use on your phone. I
12 brought this up about a year and a half ago
13 and we did have a meeting on it, but it
14 didn't really go anywhere for a number of
15 different reasons, however, I'm hoping that
16 we can bring it back up again and somehow
17 get this off the ground.

18 The application that they are using
19 in Boston is called Citizens Connect and
20 it's the City of Boston's award winning
21 effort to empower residents to be the city's
22 eyes and ears. You can alert the City of
23 Boston to neighborhood issues such as
24 potholes, damage signs, and graffiti among a
25 number of different things. The end result

1 is this application and Citizens Connect is
2 something like the digital equivalent of
3 listening to a police scanner. To watch the
4 app in action is to see both the city's
5 inhabitants as they go about their daily
6 business and the Boston government as it
7 responds to citizen needs. Citizens report
8 clogged storm drains, excessive jackhammer
9 noise, illegal trash dumping and faulty
10 streetlights complete with pictures.
11 Reported cases then go directly into the
12 city's work order cue for resolution and
13 users are informed how quickly the case will
14 be closed. When cases are resolved the date
15 and time of the resolution is listed
16 providing users with a sense that the city
17 is on the job.

18 I think that it would be beneficial
19 to the City of Scranton to look into doing
20 this and creating an app that people can use
21 on their iPhones or their Android devices.
22 I think it would be beneficial to our
23 citizens and our different departments
24 throughout the city. Technology is not
25 going anywhere and I think that we need to

1 be a part of that movement moving forward.
2 One of the ideas that we discussed in the
3 back that I think would be really helpful is
4 to have a contest with the University of
5 Scranton, University of Marywood and
6 Lackawanna to develop this app, a City of
7 Scranton application that all citizens can
8 use if they have a cell phone, so that is
9 something that I will be pursuing along with
10 the help of my colleagues and hopefully I'll
11 be able to update as you we move forward on
12 that. And that is all I have for this week.
13 Thank you very much.

14 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.
15 Just a few items to bring up tonight, like
16 Mr. Wechsler my work schedule I wasn't able
17 to make it to the state of the city but I
18 did speak to the mayor both prior to and
19 after the address and I agree with much of
20 what was said. We are making a lot of
21 progress in the city, a lot of it people
22 don't see on a daily basis, but there are a
23 lot of things going on and as the next few
24 budgets come through the residents will be
25 able to see that progress, and my hope is

1 that within the next few years you will see
2 the large tax increases that we have had the
3 last few years decrease and eventually
4 become some tax cuts and that can only be
5 done by a council and a mayor working
6 together and some innovative ideas, much as
7 what Mr. Evans mentioned that we are working
8 on regarding the rental registration to
9 increase compliance and lower the fee. The
10 same needs to be done with many programs and
11 I am optimistic that we will get those done.

12 Secondly, I know some questions were
13 brought up from the podium regarding the
14 Caper which lists the OECD activities for
15 the year and I will provide you this in
16 writing as well. The activities listed in
17 the Caper included in the list based on the
18 applicable job creation information as the
19 heading states. The annual reporting also
20 offers further breakdown of these jobs as
21 job title information as HUD requires. The
22 list is not a comprehensive list of open
23 loans, rather a listing of those activities
24 that have ongoing job creation status and of
25 those that have created jobs in that

1 particular year that have now satisfied or
2 exceeded their requirement to create
3 full-time jobs.

4 And finally, and I apologize that
5 I'm reading this off of my phone, I did have
6 a hard copy of it on my desk but I forgot to
7 bring it with me today, in recent there has
8 been much national media attention on police
9 departments, not necessarily in Scranton,
10 but across the country and I do feel that in
11 many cities across the industry the police
12 officers have been getting a bad rap,
13 specifically, by the national news media.
14 So I did feel compelled to send this letter
15 to Chief Graziano, and I will read it for
16 the public as well:

17 "Dear Chief Graziano: Recently, law
18 enforcement officers across America have
19 been under attack by the media for racial
20 profiling and excessive use of force when
21 dealing with my minority groups. You and I
22 know that all police officers do not fall in
23 this category and many have been wrongfully
24 accused of such heinous acts. Fortunately,
25 the Court's will decide guilt or innocence

1 and not the media.

2 With that in mind, I feel as though
3 it is of the utmost importance that I extend
4 a heartfelt thank you to the men and women
5 of the Scranton Police Department who
6 proudly protect our city under your command.
7 Law enforcement is not an easy job. While
8 those who have opted for this career know
9 before making the commitment they are,
10 indeed, faced with many types of unknown and
11 unpredictable situations which daily put
12 lives in jeopardy.

13 The recent violence in neighboring
14 cities such as Wilkes-Barre highlights the
15 importance of having a well-trained police
16 force of dedicated men and women who are up
17 to the daily challenges that face them. I
18 firmly believe that safe neighborhoods are
19 one of the key components to Scranton's
20 recovery process.

21 In spite of the negative media
22 attention heaped on law enforcement as a
23 whole, I thank each and every one of the
24 officers of the Scranton Police Department
25 for being part of the solution and not part

1 of the problem.

2 Sincerely, Pat Rogan."

3 And that is all for tonight. Thank
4 you.

5 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
6 RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF
7 THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
8 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
9 APPROPRIATENESS FOR MAC SIGN SYSTEMS, 232
10 SOUTH SHERMAN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA
11 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF FRAMEWORK TO BE 5'
12 WIDE BY 12' HIGH IN A BLACK MATTE FINISH FOR
13 FOUR (4) BANNER FRAMES, THREE (3) BANNERS
14 ARE 5'X13' AND ONE (1) BANNER IS 4'X6'
15 INSTALLED FLUSH TO THE BUILDING IN EXISTING
16 MORTAR JOINTS AT 420 NORTH WASHINGTON
17 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

18 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
19 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
20 introduced into its proper committee.

21 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

22 MR. EVANS: Second.

23 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
24 those in favor of introduction signify by
25 saying aye.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

2 MR. EVANS: Aye.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

4 MS. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
5 have it and so moved.

6 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

7 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
8 95, 2015 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF
9 THE COUNCIL NO. 79 OF 2015, AN ORDINANCE
10 AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 145 OF 2007
11 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE RENAMING THE
12 EMERGENCY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAX"
13 ("EMST") TO LOCAL SERVICE TAX ("LST") AND BY
14 IMPOSING A WITHHOLDING OF \$52.00 FOR THE
15 CALENDAR YEAR 2015 AND THE SAME SHALL REMAIN
16 IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT ANNUALLY THEREAFTER
17 BY INCREASING THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX
18 WITHHOLDING FROM \$52.00 TO \$156.00 FOR THE
19 CALENDAR YEAR 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR AN
20 EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION FOR ANY PERSON WHOSE
21 TOTAL EARNED INCOME AND NET PROFITS FROM ALL
22 SOURCES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY IS LESS THAN
23 \$15,600.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2015, UNDER
24 AND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT,
25 ACT 511 OF 1965, P.L.1257, 53 P.S.§6924.101

1 ET.SEQ., AND THE MUNICIPALITIES RECOVERY
2 ACT, ACT 47 OF 1987, P.L.246, 53
3 P.S.§11701.101 ET.SEQ. AND THEIR RESPECTIVE
4 AMENDMENTS, EFFECTIVE RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY
5 1, 2015. THIS TAX IS EXPECTED TO GENERATE
6 APPROXIMATELY FOUR-MILLION TWO-HUNDRED
7 EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE-HUNDRED
8 (\$4,287,500.00) DOLLARS IN REVENUE IN
9 CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

10 MR. ROGAN: You've heard reading by
11 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

12 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Chairman, I move
13 that Item 6-A pass reading by title.

14 MR. EVANS: Second.

15 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
16 those in favor signify by saying aye.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

18 MR. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
21 have it and so moved.

22 MR. EVANS: I make a motion to
23 suspend the rules to move Item 6-A to
24 Seventh Order for final passage.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

1 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
3 I would be voting tonight to move this along
4 because I understand the need for it and the
5 ramifications of delaying this have been
6 explained in detail by PEL and the
7 administration. However, I will say that
8 pushing legislation through in less than
9 three weeks is frustrating and not a good
10 way to govern. The reason that this has
11 become an emergency and timeliness issue is
12 because the mayor decided to negotiate
13 contracts in order to avoid the revised
14 recovery plan which in turn was held up for
15 weeks. I am hoping that this doesn't become
16 a habit for this administration. I am
17 hoping that we don't get to a point that we
18 are forced to continue to cut short our
19 legislative process because of intentional
20 actions and delays on the part of Mayor
21 Courtright. Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor
23 signify by saying aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

25 MR. EVANS: Aye.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

2 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
3 have it and so moved.

4 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
5 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 98, 2015 - AN
6 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
7 58, 2014, AN ORDINANCE "ENTITLED GENERAL
8 CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2015" BY CREATING A
9 NEW REVENUE ACCOUNT NO. 01.331.33121 QUALITY
10 OF LIFE ENFORCEMENT TICKETS.

11 MR. ROGAN: You've heard reading by
12 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

13 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Chairman, I move
14 that Item 6-B pass reading by title.

15 MR. EVANS: Second.

16 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
17 those in favor signify by saying aye.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

19 MR. EVANS: Aye.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
22 have it and so moved.

23 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
24 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR
25 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 143, 2015 -

1 APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT TIMLIN, 325 WARREN
2 STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, AS A
3 MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON REDEVELOPMENT
4 AUTHORITY. MR. TIMLIN WILL BE REPLACING
5 JACK EMILIANI WHO RESIGNED EFFECTIVE APRIL
6 1, 2015. MR. TIMLIN WILL FULFILL THE
7 UNEXPIRED TERM OF MR. EMILIANI WHOSE TERM IS
8 SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 14, 2017.

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

12 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

13 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
14 call, please?

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

18 MR. EVANS: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

22 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
23 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 144, 2015 - APPOINTMENT OF
2 JENNIFER HERMAN, 127 SOUTH MERRIFIELD
3 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, AS A
4 MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION
5 AUTHORITY. MS. HERMAN WILL BE REPLACING
6 DANNY J. DAVIS WHO RESIGNED EFFECTIVE APRIL
7 7, 2015. MS. HERMAN WILL FULFILL THE
8 UNEXPIRED TERM OF MR. DAVIS WHOSE TERM IS
9 SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 17, 2016.

10 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chairperson
11 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
12 final passage of Item 7-B.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

14 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
15 call, please?

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

19 MR. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

23 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
24 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MR. REED: 7-C, FORMERLY 6-A, FOR

1 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
2 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 95,
3 2015 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 79
4 OF 2015, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FILE OF THE
5 COUNCIL NO. 145 OF 2007 ENTITLED "AN
6 ORDINANCE RENAMING THE EMERGENCY AND
7 MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAX" ("EMST") TO LOCAL
8 SERVICE TAX ("LST") AND BY IMPOSING A
9 WITHHOLDING OF \$52.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR
10 2015 AND THE SAME SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE
11 AND EFFECT ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY INCREASING
12 THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX WITHHOLDING FROM
13 \$52.00 TO \$156.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR
14 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM
15 TAXATION FOR ANY PERSON WHOSE TOTAL EARNED
16 INCOME AND NET PROFITS FROM ALL SOURCES
17 WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY IS LESS THAN
18 \$15,600.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2015, UNDER
19 AND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT,
20 ACT 511 OF 1965, P.L.1257, 53 P.S. §6924.101
21 ET.SEQ., AND THE MUNICIPALITIES RECOVERY
22 ACT, ACT 47 OF 1987, P.L.246, 53
23 P.S. §11701.101 ET.SEQ. AND THEIR RESPECTIVE
24 AMENDMENTS, EFFECTIVE RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY
25 1, 2015. THIS TAX IS EXPECTED TO GENERATE

1 APPROXIMATELY FOUR-MILLION TWO-HUNDRED
2 EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE-HUNDRED
3 (\$4,287,500.00) DOLLARS IN REVENUE IN
4 CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

5 MR. ROGAN: What is the
6 recommendation of the Chair for the
7 Committee on Finance?

8 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
9 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
10 passage of Item 7-C.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

12 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
13 call, please?

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

17 MR. EVANS: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
22 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted. If
23 there is no further business, I'll entertain
24 a motion to adjourn.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Motion to adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Meeting adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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