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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, February 11, 2016

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:

- JOSEPH WECHSLER, PRESIDENT
- PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
- WAYNE EVANS
- WILLIAM GAUGHAN
- TIM PERRY
  
- 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. WECHSLER: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Here. Dispense with  
14 the reading of the minutes.

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

16 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
17 MEMBERS OF SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD  
18 JANUARY 4, 2016.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any  
20 comments? If not, received and filed.

21 MS. REED: 3-B. BERKHEIMER REPORT  
22 JANUARY 2016 FOR LACKAWANNA TAX COLLECTION  
23 DISTRICT.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any  
25 comments? If not, received and filed.

1 I have one announcement, city hall  
2 will be closed on Monday, February 15, in  
3 observance of President's Day. The DPW,  
4 however, will be working that day. Refuse  
5 and recycling collection will follow the  
6 regular schedule next week. Do any other  
7 councilmen have announcements?

8 MR. EVANS: I have one.  
9 #HistoricScranton will be holding be a  
10 cocktail party fundraiser on Thursday,  
11 February 18, at PJ's Pub at the Hilton in  
12 Scranton conference center starting at 5:30.  
13 It's Leadership Lackawanna and the City of  
14 Scranton's historic architectural review  
15 board or the HARB is working together to  
16 create a publically accessible on-line  
17 resource for Scranton's protected properties  
18 and promote the work of the HARB, efforts to  
19 promote Scranton's rich architectural  
20 history. So hopefully people can join in  
21 for that great fundraiser.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: I have one, also. Due  
23 to the extreme cold forecasts this weekend  
24 St. Anthony's Haven, Catholic Social  
25 Services, will be opening at 6:30 p.m. on

1 February 11, 12, 13 and 14. Scranton Police  
2 and the Community Intervention Center have  
3 been informed and Lackawanna County has  
4 issued their code blue with shelter  
5 information on it's website, and that is at  
6 600 Wyoming Avenue and 409-411 Olive Street,  
7 Scranton. Thank you.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else?

9 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
10 PARTICIPATION.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Joan Hodowanitz.

12 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,  
13 city resident and taxpayer. As of today,  
14 the 2014 audit is 256 days late. I went  
15 around the building today and stopped at the  
16 City Clerk's Office, Controller's Office,  
17 BA's Office and the Mayor's office. No one  
18 could tell me when it will be completed.  
19 The most I got from the BA's Office was, "We  
20 are working on it."

21 I note that tonight's agenda is  
22 relatively thin, and I'm disappointed not in  
23 council's action, but in the fact that the  
24 administration is still waiting for them to  
25 send forth their reform legislation that

1           they promised us last year, particularly  
2           with the regard to items like rental  
3           registration and the pension plans.

4                         And speaking of the pension plans,  
5           it looks like the news is not too good. Did  
6           you all check the stock market at 4 p.m.  
7           when it closed?

8                         MR. ROGAN: It wasn't good.

9                         MS. HODOWANITZ: Yeah, it closed at  
10          15,660 points, that means since the market  
11          started up in January 4 it was down 1,764  
12          points or 10.1 percent for the year. As you  
13          recall, the pension plans assume a rate of  
14          return on their stock market portfolio of 8  
15          percent per year. 2015 their rate of return  
16          was .39 percent and so far the market is  
17          down 10 percent this year, so that does not  
18          bode well for them making money off of the  
19          stock market, and I think we have the 50/50  
20          split between equity and bonds.

21                         I noted a Times article on the 5th  
22          of February about the future of the state  
23          pension agency uncertain. They are talking  
24          about the public employee retirement  
25          commission. This is the agency that

1 calculates the actuarials that form the  
2 basis of state aid to municipalities for  
3 their pension funds, but if you don't have  
4 this commission funded because there is no  
5 state budget, you are not going get any  
6 state aid. Now, there's a possible fix if  
7 the Auditor General's Office takes over this  
8 function, but right now it's uncertain  
9 whether or not Scranton will be getting  
10 their 2016 state aid to their pension funds  
11 and I wonder if the administration is  
12 thinking about how they are going to fill  
13 the hole if that develops because the city's  
14 budget assumes that significant package they  
15 get every year from the state for their  
16 pension funds. Last year it was \$2.2  
17 million, so I hope they are what-iffing a  
18 plan if this aid falls through.

19 And, also, remember there is the  
20 ongoing lawsuit that some of these receiving  
21 double pensions are suing the city to be  
22 able to continue receiving double pensions  
23 for the rest of their lives. Very  
24 interesting, so I have a feeling that the  
25 pension plans are not in good shape. Remind

1 people that the next Composite Pension Board  
2 meeting is Wednesday, February 17, at 10  
3 a.m. in this chamber. It is not televised  
4 so anybody that has nothing better to do  
5 might want to come down there and see what's  
6 going to happen to your tax dollars because  
7 that is probably what's going to force us  
8 into receivership if anything does.

9 Speaking of the Times, they had an  
10 excellent article on the 7th about Scranton  
11 having the highest tax burden in Lackawanna  
12 County and, oh, guess what, we also have the  
13 lowest median earnings for workers at a  
14 whopping \$22,095, so not only do our workers  
15 make the least amount of money, we pay the  
16 highest tax burden. Isn't that a winner.

17 And, also, I'd like to bring to your  
18 attention that the December controller's  
19 report is still not on the website. I  
20 pointed that out to the controller's office  
21 in the hope that someone will make that  
22 happen.

23 And, finally, the Sewer Authority  
24 sale, if that comes to pass I hope that the  
25 city does not put a penny into the pension



1 funds until they have done some genuine  
2 pension fund reform, because we need it.  
3 Thank you.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Jerry  
5 Reidenbach. How you doing? Jerry  
6 Reidenbach, a Scranton resident. I'm here  
7 to find out, I was at the last meeting,  
8 about the water issue I'm having. I was  
9 wondering did anybody hear about back from  
10 anybody about it?

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Mr. Reidenbach, we had  
12 sent a letter to Dennis Gallagher, the DPW  
13 director and asked for a response in writing  
14 and we have not heard anything yet.

15 MS. REIDENBACH: Well, everybody  
16 here seen the pictures I showed you, did  
17 everybody? Do you agree there is a problem  
18 with it?

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

20 Mr. EVANS: Yes.

21 MS. REED: Does everybody agree  
22 there is definitely a problem? If that was  
23 in front of their house --

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes --

25 MR. REIDENBACH: See, I don't know



1 don't know because I'm not an engineer and  
2 I'm not the DPW director, that's why I spent  
3 sent the letter, with all due respect, and  
4 we do not get a response to it.

5 MR. REIDENBACH: Here we go with the  
6 DPW director Dennis Gallagher, all right?  
7 He is not a city engineer. The city  
8 engineer will not come out. What is the  
9 reason were? All right, anybody knows water  
10 rolls down hill. Dennis Gallagher sees  
11 this, water rolls downhill. The alley is  
12 pitched. Then he sees the lot next door, he  
13 wants you to take it below the alley.  
14 Anybody knows the water is going to run into  
15 it so he caused another problem. Like, I  
16 don't know why you actually pay these  
17 people, they don't know what they are doing.

18 Can you actually tell somebody to  
19 grade a lot towards your house? Would you  
20 actually do that? Anybody up here?

21 MR. ROGAN: No.

22 MR. REIDENBACH: Would they answer  
23 me?

24 MR. WECHSLER: We are not engineers,  
25 Mr. Reidenbach.

1 MR. REIDENBACH: Would you ever  
2 grade a lot towards your house where the  
3 water goes there?

4 MR. WECHSLER: Unfortunately, our  
5 opinion is our opinion and Mr. Gallagher is  
6 the one in charge of the city and Mr.  
7 Pocius--

8 MR. REIDENBACH: He made an opinion  
9 that wasn't his that should have been  
10 through a city engineer, true? So he  
11 actually stepped above what he should have  
12 did. He should have contacted the engineer,  
13 the engineer should have got ahold of the  
14 people, the right people. It's not for him  
15 to say this, remove it. So he caused  
16 another major issue.

17 So what I would like done, can you  
18 get ahold of him again, you set a reasonable  
19 amount of time. What's a reasonable amount  
20 of time? Don't you think 30 days is a  
21 reasonable amount? It only took him two  
22 weeks to get down there and take the speed  
23 bumps out, now he can't back to you guys in  
24 30 days? Like I said, I want a curb in the  
25 alley, something done for a one-way to

1 control the traffic, everybody tries to go  
2 through the light, which the speed bumps  
3 were put there for a reason. Then, like, I  
4 don't know, I guess you could do whatever  
5 you want in the City of Scranton. You could  
6 put curbs in yourself on city property, you  
7 don't need a permit, do whatever you want in  
8 the city, nothing is enforced, which is  
9 really ashamed, you know? And here I'm  
10 having this problem and I can't even get a  
11 city engineer to come down and look at it.

12 MR. EVANS: Do we know if we sent a  
13 copy of it to Mr. Pocius on the letter?

14 MS. REED: I'll check.

15 MR. EVANS: We'll send a letter to  
16 the city engineer and ask for a response  
17 from him.

18 MS. REED: I tried to call him the  
19 one day and they said, "Oh, he can't talk to  
20 nobody."

21 Well, if you have a problem -- does  
22 the city pay Mr. Pocius?

23 MR. EVANS: Well, yeah, I'd like to  
24 at least have his determination of what the  
25 problem is and get that on the record.

1 MR. REIDENBACH: I think, Wayne, you  
2 were the one that told me he didn't want to  
3 come down and look at it.

4 MR. EVANS: Well, he told me he  
5 looked at it with Mr. Gallagher, but I'm not  
6 sure -- -

7 MR. REIDENBACH: Well, can I request  
8 a meeting then of Dennis Gallagher,  
9 Mr. Pocius, a couple of you guys --

10 MR. EVANS: Sure you can request  
11 that, but we don't control Mr. Gallagher or  
12 Mr. Pocius as far as what they do and when  
13 they don't do.

14 MS. REED: Well, he is being paid by  
15 the city and that and you have a problem so,  
16 like, it seems like a comic around here.  
17 Seriously it does. You know, it's like  
18 Hatchy Malachy. You got (unintelligible) in  
19 front of the DPW and you can't get nothing  
20 to.

21 MR. EVANS: In the short term, we  
22 are going to send a copy to Mr. Pocius and  
23 ask for his opinion on what is taking place  
24 there.

25 MR. REIDENBACH: What is the opinion

1 about?

2 MR. EVANS: Well, that's what we  
3 want. We want to hear from the city  
4 engineer.

5 MR. REIDENBACH: Oh, yeah. We want  
6 not an opinion, we want a resolution to the  
7 problem.

8 MR. EVANS: Well, that's what we are  
9 looking for. Exactly. We are looking for a  
10 solution.

11 MR. REIDENBACH: All right. Any  
12 idea how long that will take to get back?

13 MR. EVANS: Well, I am sure we can  
14 get the letter out probably within a day or  
15 two, you know, probably by tomorrow or  
16 Monday.

17 MR. REIDENBACH: All right. So  
18 probably in a week you will get it?

19 MR. EVANS: Hopefully.

20 MS. REED: Okay. I'll be in touch.  
21 Thank you.

22 MR. EVANS: Thanks, Jerry.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Fay Franus.

24 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.  
25 Mr. Wechsler, I'd like to ask Mr. Evans

1 something for me if he would get the figures  
2 from Dave Bulzoni the garbage fee, what went  
3 in, what went out. What we paid, what we  
4 had to pay to operate it.

5 MR. EVANS: Okay, I'll work on that  
6 for you, Fay.

7 MS. FRANUS: Would you get that for  
8 me by next week?

9 MR. EVANS: I'll be out of town  
10 starting tomorrow morning, Fay, so I'll try  
11 to see what I can do while I'm out of town.  
12 I won't be back until Thursday.

13 MS. FRANUS: You won't be until  
14 Thursday?

15 MR. EVANS: I'll be back for the  
16 meeting, but I won't be back, you know,  
17 until that day.

18 MS. FRANUS: But you could probably  
19 call and --

20 MR. EVANS: Yeah, I'll make an  
21 effort to get the information.

22 MS. FRANUS: Thank you.

23 Mr. Wechsler, last week you said to Marie  
24 Schumacher that she shouldn't say anything  
25 about Dave Bulzoni. Well, she had a right



1 to her opinion, just like I do, and  
2 everybody has a right to come here and say  
3 --

4 MR. WECHSLER: You have a right to  
5 an opinion, but you don't have a right to  
6 make accusations that aren't proven.

7 MS. FRANUS: She said, "I wondered,"  
8 and I have proof and I'm going to read it  
9 right now.

10 MR. WECHSLER: If this is an  
11 accusation that I feel is not --

12 MS. FRANUS: What you feel and what  
13 we say is not necessarily -- -

14 MR. WECHSLER: Well, unfortunately,  
15 Ms. Franus, I'm running the meeting so I'm  
16 not going to allow you to make accusations  
17 against anyone that aren't substantiated.

18 MS. FRANUS: I'm substantiating  
19 them, okay?

20 MR. WECHSLER: Let's see.

21 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

22 MR. WECHSLER: I said, "Let's see."

23 MS. FRANUS: Yeah, let's see. This  
24 is the lawsuit, this is from Landmark Bank.  
25 Landmark Bank said, "Landmark was unable to

1 secure either a guarantee for the city or an  
2 approval of the proposed lien on the garage  
3 revenues."

4 That's the \$3.2 million the Landmark  
5 Bank sued the city for. Dave Bulzoni signed  
6 this saying that "I, Dave Bulzoni, hereby  
7 verify that I authorize to make this  
8 verification on behalf of Landmark Bank that  
9 I have read the foregoing complaint and that  
10 everything is true." Signed Dave Bulzoni.  
11 So it's true.

12 Now, I want to if onto something  
13 else and, like I said, we have a right to  
14 our opinions and you cannot stop us from  
15 freedom of speech. You can try. You don't  
16 have that right.

17 MR. WECHSLER: You are correct. You  
18 have you a right to your opinion.

19 MS. FRANUS: That's right and you  
20 can't stop me from expressing it.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Correct.

22 MS. FRANUS: Even though you think  
23 you can, you can't.

24 MR. WECHSLER: No, I do not.

25 MS. FRANUS: Now, I want to read the

1 minutes from the meeting. Marie Schumacher  
2 said, "Mr. Wechsler, we went over the budget  
3 in 2015, did we end with a surplus or a  
4 deficit?"

5 And you said, Mr. Wechsler,  
6 "Actually, you can ask the questions to me  
7 and I'll decide which ones I will answer or  
8 not."

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: So you are saying  
10 you are not going to answer that?"

11 "MR. WECHSLER: I want to hear the  
12 question."

13 Well, she asked you the question.  
14 "We have agreed before that the questions  
15 should be submitted in writing," and Marie  
16 went on to say that she asked in writing  
17 since November and never got an answer.

18 Now, I wrote a letter to the editor  
19 in the paper, and started off with that  
20 sentence, "I'll decide what questions I will  
21 answer and which ones I won't. This was a  
22 shocking and unacceptable response of  
23 arrogance of Scranton City Council President  
24 Joe Wechsler."

25 That's what I wrote to the Scranton

1 Times in the editorial. They left that out  
2 on purpose. Then they also wrote, and they  
3 left this out, "Either Mr. Wechsler has hung  
4 an iron curtain of secrecy between the city  
5 council and the people or he lacks the  
6 ability to officially do his job. Both have  
7 dismal consequences for the taxpayers who  
8 elected council to serve and represent  
9 them."

10 Now, so here's another thing I feel,  
11 the newspaper cherry picks the facts in  
12 order to protect the elected officials in  
13 favors and, therefore, decides what  
14 information the public receives. The  
15 newspaper seems to have it's own agenda that  
16 could hurt, not help our city and community  
17 by censoring the truth.

18 Now, we are quite fed up, every one  
19 of us, and maybe people have come to me and  
20 said this and many people have come to many  
21 others and said this, that we're sick and  
22 tired of us asking questions month after  
23 month and you refusing to get us answers  
24 saying, "We'll check into it, we don't know  
25 or put them in writing."

1                   It's crazy. It's totally uncalled  
2                   for. We are the taxpayers, we are paying  
3                   your salary, and you have a right to get  
4                   those answers for us instead of keep on  
5                   snowballing us here. It's so blatant that  
6                   you don't want us to know the truth or  
7                   what's going on. Now, we have a right, I  
8                   don't know what makes you think we don't  
9                   have a right to these answers. Just like  
10                  this garbage fee, I have been asking for  
11                  over a year for these figures and I'm still  
12                  getting nothing. Still getting nothing.  
13                  Why? Why must we put a Right-to-Know and  
14                  waste 30 days for a response when you could  
15                  call downstairs or upstairs to Mr. Bulzoni  
16                  in three seconds get those figures for us at  
17                  that next meeting, at every meeting past,  
18                  but you refuse to do it. Why do you refuse  
19                  to do this?

20                  MR. WECHSLER: Sometimes we don't  
21                  get the answers either.

22                  MS. FRANUS: Did you even request?

23                  MR. WECHSLER: We ask occasionally  
24                  the questions that we need to --

25                  MS. FRANUS: I didn't ask that. Did

1           you ask Mr. Bulzoni for the figures on the  
2           garbage fee?

3                   MR. WECHSLER: No, I did not.

4                   MS. FRANUS: Well, see, then why not  
5           since we have been asking this for a year?  
6           Why not have you asked? Why? You know we  
7           want to know. Why don't you ask?

8                   MR. WECHSLER: Personally the  
9           questions that you are asking I don't see  
10          the point in asking.

11                  MS. FRANUS: Why don't you see the  
12          point in asking when we want to know -- tell  
13          me why, because we know we pay so much  
14          money, \$300. Clarks Summit has a senior  
15          citizen discount up there. Why don't we  
16          have a Right-to-Know what we pay and what  
17          the City paid out.

18                  MR. WECHSLER: You do have a right  
19          to know.

20                  MS. FRANUS: So how come you can't  
21          get us that information?

22                  MR. WECHSLER: Because the proper  
23          channel is for you to file a Right-to-Know.

24                  MS. FRANUS: That is not the proper  
25          channels.

1 MR. WECHSLER: It is the best  
2 channel.

3 MS. FRANUS: Oh, no, it's not. Why  
4 isn't the best channel for you to call Mr.  
5 Bulzoni and get those figures for us as  
6 citizens who you are supposed to be  
7 representing? Why do you say we should get  
8 a Right-to-Know and wait 30 days. Even  
9 after the 30 days we still don't know?

10 MR. WECHSLER: If don't think you  
11 can get it from the Right-to-Know, why do  
12 you think you are going to get that to us?

13 MS. FRANUS: Because you are the  
14 council president and Mr. Evans is the  
15 Finance Chair. I would think they would  
16 definitely give it to you, but you should  
17 ask first and find out. Maybe you might be  
18 surprised and all of these questions that we  
19 ask me might get answers if you bothered to  
20 take the time to ask the people we want to  
21 know from. You get me sick. You are a  
22 disgrace for a president.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Ron  
24 Ellman.

25 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council. Ron

1 Ellman. For all of these taxpayers out  
2 there, if you go by the mayor's office you  
3 get one of these ten cent pens. That will  
4 probably be about all you can get for  
5 thousands of dollars worth of taxes you pay  
6 year in and year out.

7 And, Mr. Perry, you remember we  
8 talked about your letter.

9 MR. PERRY: You are not getting to  
10 hit me in the head with you, are you?

11 MR. ELLMAN: You let me down, son.  
12 You joined this -- I just don't know how to,  
13 you know, there is a difference between  
14 being mad and just being disappointed. I  
15 asked you to be your own man, just like you  
16 said in this letter. You just joined in  
17 council of four on this Bulzoni. There is a  
18 man \$90,000 not paying any taxes, not doing  
19 nothing for the city, if you look on the  
20 computer he hasn't done nothing earth  
21 shaking. Three years he has been lying with  
22 no intentions of buying a house here and  
23 everybody just keeps falling for it. What  
24 if I said I'm just going and pay my taxes  
25 and see how long I can get away with it, you



1 know? In a couple of short weeks there is a  
2 sheriff's sale. They got a sheet. I know  
3 you have seen it, it's like this, isn't it?  
4 Hundreds and hundreds of houses just here in  
5 the city going to be on that sheriff's sale.  
6 Maybe if Bulzoni was here for three years  
7 and paid some taxes maybe just one out of  
8 hundreds and hundreds of those people  
9 wouldn't have lost the most precious thing  
10 they'll own. You are a nothing council.  
11 You just don't care about it. The people  
12 out there don't know that there is nobody  
13 controls you guys. There is nobody oversees  
14 council. The council has unlimited powers.  
15 My son looked it up on the computer and  
16 explained it to me. There is no  
17 qualifications. Nothing. When you do  
18 something nobody can contest it. That's not  
19 right. That's not good business. That's  
20 why we don't have a Sewer Authority anymore.  
21 Pretty soon that's why we won't have \$96  
22 million. It would be dropped in that big  
23 money pit. Useless. That's not good  
24 business if you ask me. While I'm on the  
25 Sewer Authority, any of you people that

1 dabble, if you have any money left to dabble  
2 in stocks and bonds. A friend of mine in  
3 Little Rock told me on the phone to buy all  
4 of the American Water stock I could afford  
5 because it's going to skyrocket after you  
6 finish getting rid of our most precious  
7 asset here. You know why? Because there is  
8 nothing in that agreement they can't put  
9 surcharges on. They will surcharge the  
10 people of this city so bad you have to go  
11 down to Wal-Mart or Price Chopper to use the  
12 toilet before they are thrown with us. There  
13 is just no reason for the way this council  
14 has run this city. There is. There is one  
15 reason just because you just don't what's  
16 going on with the people. A third of the  
17 people of this city you just have no  
18 interest in, no interest in the  
19 neighborhood. Go down Luzerne Street. It  
20 is so torn up you can ruin a car trying to  
21 drive down Luzerne Street. All of this new  
22 pavement on North Main the sewers are two or  
23 three inches down. Nobody cares. They were  
24 paved. They'll never come back and the same  
25 happened to North Main Street. It's hard

1 to, like I said, between being disappointed  
2 and just being totally disgusted with you  
3 people that's why implore you people out  
4 there April 1 start going down to the Tax  
5 Assessor and ask for a tax reduction because  
6 there is sure plenty of reasons to get it.  
7 My friends, we are now paying the price for  
8 putting these people -- making the mistake  
9 of putting these people in this position  
10 they are in. It's just -- it's just a  
11 sadness to so many people to see this city  
12 go the way it is.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Ellman.

15 MR. ELLMAN: That's your letter.  
16 That's your credibility to the people of  
17 this city.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,  
19 Mr. Ellman.

20 Dave Dobrzyn.

21 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.  
22 Dave Dobrzyn, resident and taxpayer. On  
23 that trash issue, once again, every week  
24 it's up as to who should pay what and,  
25 please, I had an idea pop into my head last

1 week how about if we do come up with a  
2 reduced rate for seniors and people with low  
3 volume of trash a regulation barrel that  
4 they could maybe buy off of the DPW or  
5 something because this bag business is just  
6 insufferable. It gets drug around by feral  
7 cats, skunks, squirrels, and it's all over  
8 the courts and it looks horrible, and that  
9 way you would have a general idea of how  
10 much trash you had to remove every week, the  
11 maximum amount. You won't have somebody  
12 getting a nice break and then having 15 bags  
13 sitting out there from their relatives or  
14 whatever because I actually do suspect that  
15 in some cases when I walk doggy through the  
16 courts that Wayne Evans always yells at me  
17 when my dogs water the flowers so I walk  
18 through the Court.

19 Okay, I had an idea on that fair  
20 housing last week, too. You know, we are n  
21 for FHA loans that never get handed out,  
22 well, at least it creates a middle class  
23 job, you know, turning down the  
24 applications. And bankruptcy is also an  
25 issue and if we at all followed the news of

1           what happened in Flint, Michigan, with the  
2           water, they took corrosive river water  
3           instead of generally purified water from the  
4           lakes and it ate out the lead in the pipes  
5           and now you have cases of lead poisoning and  
6           all kinds of stuff and that's something to  
7           consider. A lot of the reason we are in the  
8           position we are in is because of the state's  
9           advice for the last 12 years or so, and they  
10          just like to make them come in and run  
11          things some more and make them all the  
12          worse, so be careful what you wish for.

13                   And, also, on trash I put a little  
14          note here maybe with this recycling business  
15          you guys could get in touch with the church  
16          leaders and stuff and maybe if they preach  
17          hellfire and brimstone for not recycling  
18          they could make some sense to somebody. You  
19          know, we have to reach out because I see a  
20          lot of recycling just going into the trash.  
21          Tons of it.

22                   And a little sermon, what is  
23          socialism? The fire department doesn't ask  
24          you if you are an upstanding citizen or pay  
25          taxes? If you are getting beaten up on the

1 streets, the police don't ask if you pay  
2 taxes or you're an upstanding citizen. If  
3 you have kids they can go to public  
4 education basically free of charge and not  
5 charge for anything. Some schools, many  
6 schools are better than others. Social  
7 security is socialism. Medicare is  
8 socialism. S-chip, they actually took  
9 proximate 20 percent -- they took the excess  
10 off of Blue Cross years back and put it into  
11 the S-chip program while people were paying  
12 that maybe didn't have jobs or were disabled  
13 in paying up on their medical policies, it  
14 was taken and given to somebody else, they  
15 didn't get a rebate. Paving roads, that's  
16 socialism. Bridges, building bridges,  
17 that's socialism. And, finally, tax  
18 exemptions are socialist to an extent. We  
19 give somebody a tax exempt or a tax  
20 exemption and it's money out of somebody  
21 else's pocket that goes into somewhere else  
22 and so the American public more or less  
23 needs to decide whether they want to be a  
24 third world me or mildly socialist. Thank  
25 you and have a good night.

1 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
2 citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian.  
3 You seem to be contemplating doing away with  
4 the business privilege tax and the  
5 mercantile tax. Actually, unless they are  
6 making over a million dollars that tax is  
7 nothing. You to really make a lot of money  
8 before it hurts you. After all, it's only  
9 one dollar per thousand. That means for a  
10 million dollars you would have to have  
11 paying the tax of about \$1,000 on a million,  
12 but the poor working stiff look what he is  
13 paying, 2.4 on everything he has. Don't cry  
14 about the mercantile business, they are  
15 getting away fairly good unless they are  
16 making big bucks, and then with any brains  
17 they move out of the city, but you have to  
18 make big bucks before it hurts you.

19 People are hurting for what you are  
20 doing to them. Don't worry about the rich,  
21 worry about the average citizen. There is  
22 where your concern should be. Like I say,  
23 as long as they are making under \$100  
24 million, I mean, under a million they have  
25 no problems. The taxes aren't that great.

1           It's when you start getting up into the high  
2           amounts, but the poor guy making \$22,000 and  
3           owns a house in Scranton I don't know how we  
4           can even afford it. He is paying almost 18  
5           or 20 percent of his wages to the city. I  
6           didn't do it, I should have done the math on  
7           it to tell you exactly how much that poor  
8           guy is paying. I remember what I paid but,  
9           like I say, I was making big bucks so I  
10          didn't care. Like I keep telling you, I  
11          wanted to keep my mother and grandmother in  
12          their homes. You seem to want to take them  
13          away, put them in a nursing home maybe,  
14          that's your agenda. Why do you think we  
15          stood by and never came down here crying  
16          about the 2.4 or 3.4, whatever you want to  
17          say, in the wage tax? Because we knew what  
18          we are doing with the wage tax. We knew we  
19          were keeping our grandmothers and mothers in  
20          their homes because the real estate tax was  
21          low so they can pay to keep them in the  
22          homes, but things got out hand and they are  
23          out of hand.

24                    You got to realize \$22,000 is  
25                    nothing. Your policemen probably start at,



1           what do they start at about 32 or 33  
2           thousand? Look how much higher they are  
3           starting than the average worker and we got  
4           a thousand people under the pension plan  
5           that are active -- or inactive. 1,000  
6           people that means 1 out of 72 people in  
7           Scranton are on the dope (sic) in some many  
8           way or another, and that 22,000 they can't  
9           afford it. You wonder why people don't want  
10          to move into Scranton, I can tell you why  
11          they don't want to move into Scranton  
12          because of the high taxes. Every day we  
13          read in the paper where people up the line  
14          are starting to complain, and I don't blame  
15          them. They had nothing to do with the  
16          inaction of the council or the mayor for  
17          past grievances. They had nothing to do  
18          with it, but you want them to pay for, and  
19          don't tell me EMS tax or whatever you want,  
20          a service tax, it's a right to work tax.  
21          That's what it is. If you don't work in  
22          Scranton you don't have to pay. It's a  
23          right to work tax and no one should have to  
24          pay for a right to work tax and no business  
25          should have to pay a business privilege tax.

1           That is not called for. We should be glad  
2           to have them into the city and then take a  
3           share of the taxes like we do on everything  
4           else, but no one should have to pay to work  
5           in Scranton or open the business in  
6           Scranton. That's ludicrous and that's the  
7           way you act. You're so concerned about the  
8           thousand people on the payroll or past  
9           payroll. Believe me, a time is coming where  
10          you are going to have to throw them to the  
11          dogs and that's not right. Everyone that  
12          worked should get a pension and a decent  
13          salary. I believe in that and always will,  
14          but you are making it impossible for them to  
15          get that done.

16                   MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Anyone  
17                   else?

18                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie -- I thought  
19                   you wanted to say something there. Marie  
20                   Schumacher, city resident and taxpayer. I  
21                   would like to start tonight with my reading  
22                   a letter that was published Monday in the  
23                   Scranton Times-Tribune because if any of you  
24                   are representing me and a lot of people like  
25                   me you need to know the answers to the

1 questions that I asked and so I'd like to  
2 read it into the record right now.

3 "One, will Pennsylvania American  
4 Water be allowed to seek Public Utility  
5 Commission permission to raise rates or any  
6 deviation from the current long-term control  
7 plan as documented by a consent decree  
8 entered into on January 31, 2013? Is that  
9 1.9 in plain English, is that 1.9 protected  
10 or if they decide to do something that's not  
11 in that control plan that's in effect now --

12 MR. EVANS: My understanding it's  
13 protected, but we don't have all of the  
14 details yet but as of now that's my  
15 understanding.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I would like  
17 you to get them and share them with us.

18 MR. EVANS: Well, yeah, when we get  
19 them.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: But, yeah, the  
21 clock is running, it's 90 days so, you know,  
22 I'll get back to that clock running to in a  
23 minute.

24 The next is will Pennsylvania  
25 American have the authority to charge

1 ratepayers for processing all storm water  
2 and if so what will be the ratepayers' fee?  
3 If the city establishes a storm water  
4 authority how will the property owners fees  
5 be established and what will be the cost?

6 Are elected officials refusing to  
7 publically answer citizens' questions so  
8 there will be no conflict -- so there will  
9 be conflict-free city council meetings to  
10 gain the respect of financial community? I  
11 mean, you know, God forbid anybody goes to  
12 Wall Street and sees something sitting on a  
13 desk that's lets people know how a lot of us  
14 feel.

15 And, finally, precisely how will the  
16 proceeds of the Sewer Authority sale be  
17 expended and what will be the impact on the  
18 current and future operating budgets of the  
19 city? Recall if all of the proceeds went in  
20 we wouldn't even get the pensions up to 50  
21 percent so we are still going to be  
22 distressed and we need the answer to those  
23 questions.

24 Now, the other -- last week I read a  
25 bunch of things that I accused of inaction

1 and I still do. They were in the revised  
2 recovery plan and there was a whole -- there  
3 was a whole slew of them in the 2015/2016  
4 time frame that are to be completed but were  
5 not completed and the clock is running. I  
6 mean, here we are in the middle of February  
7 and the year will slip away very fast, so I  
8 would like to know in particular is anything  
9 being done, is there any action on the  
10 validation of the nonprofit property tax  
11 exemptions?

12 MR. EVANS: As you know, I'm the one  
13 that actually had that put into the recovery  
14 plan and as far as a I know there has been  
15 no action on it and I have asked over and  
16 over again when that will happen, I will ask  
17 again. I'll send a letter to the  
18 administration asking when they are going to  
19 move on that because I'm a firm believer  
20 that's something that we need to do.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: As am I. Then,  
22 back in December, early December, when you  
23 were voting on the budget, Mr. Wechsler, you  
24 had this to say, "We already put things into  
25 place to be more efficient in collecting our

1           refuse tax. Keeping track of who paid, who  
2           didn't pay, so there is lot of things going  
3           into 2015 that may put us in better shape  
4           for 2016. But, like I said again, just to  
5           repeat, there is no way we are going to be  
6           able to tax our way out of this problem and  
7           we are at that point of no return right  
8           now."

9                        So the year for collection ended for  
10           the refuse fee I believe the last day of  
11           September, so what percent paid the tax last  
12           year?

13                      MR. WECHSLER: I don't have all of  
14           the information yet, we only have through  
15           September.

16                      MS. SCHUMACHER: When we will be  
17           able to obtain -- when the percent that paid  
18           and I would also like to know how many liens  
19           have been placed.

20                      MR. WECHSLER: We'll have to check  
21           with Treasurer Beck.

22                      MS. SCHUMACHER: And the cost --  
23           pardon?

24                      MR. WECHSLER: I'll have to check  
25           with Treasurer Beck.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: Please do. You  
2 think you might have something for next  
3 week?

4 MR. WECHSLER: Perhaps.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: And when I was  
6 thinking about the tax or the garbage fee  
7 and fee, Fay brought it up tonight again,  
8 and I have been doing some work on it, but,  
9 you know, it strikes me as not very fair  
10 that the fees went up as high as they did  
11 and all of the items that are recycled are  
12 things that we pay, that we buy. We pay to  
13 have them taken away. I think that money  
14 that is the revenue from that resale of our  
15 recyclables should go into that fund to  
16 offset what we are paying for that --  
17 seeking a fee instead of going all over  
18 because if we pay for it it's sort of like  
19 charging us twice.

20 MR. EVANS: I agree with that. I  
21 agree with that. In caucus I even mentioned  
22 that, that we should be rewarding people  
23 that recycle instead of trying to penalize  
24 the people that don't, and I agree with what  
25 you are saying.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: I mean, there are  
2 weeks I feel just like throwing it in the  
3 trash so --

4 MR. EVANS: Yeah. Exactly.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Is there anyone else?

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

8 MOTIONS.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Perry, do you  
10 have any motions or comments?

11 MR. PERRY: No, I have nothing at  
12 this time.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Mr.  
14 Rogan?

15 MR. ROGAN: Two very brief items. I  
16 want to try to make a point to mention this  
17 a few times in the year. The City of  
18 Scranton through the Office of Economic and  
19 Community Development is currently taking  
20 applications for the Homebuyer's Program  
21 funded through the U.S Department of Housing  
22 and Urban Development. The Homebuyer's  
23 Program helps qualified buyers to purchase  
24 homes in the Scranton by providing a subsidy  
25 of one-half of the down payment maximum not



1 to exceed \$7,000 or 10 percent of the  
2 purchase price of the home, whichever is  
3 less, and closing cost assistance and up to  
4 \$5,000 maximum \$12,000 total assistance for  
5 anyone looking to purchase a home within the  
6 city. The home must be one unit and buyers  
7 must use it as their principal residence and  
8 cannot own any other property. The home  
9 cannot be condemned and the property must be  
10 up to city code on the day of closing.

11 You will be required to take  
12 homebuyer counseling classes. The family  
13 income guidelines are not to exceed the  
14 following: For a single person the income  
15 limit is \$32,450. For a family of four it  
16 increases to \$47,300. For a family of six  
17 it goes up to \$54,900, and for a very large  
18 family of eight it goes up to \$62,450.

19 The federal government sets certain  
20 requirements for the programs. The  
21 requirements include maximum purchase  
22 prices, income limits, homebuyer  
23 requirements, and resale conditions. For  
24 more information you can contact OECD at  
25 570-348-4216. And, again, this is an

1           excellent program for anyone out there  
2           looking to buy a home for the first time and  
3           if you follow through these income  
4           guidelines you could save a significant  
5           amount of money at the purchase.

6                        Secondly, we received a packet from  
7           one of the attorneys who is representing  
8           some of the members of the unions that  
9           received double pensions in the past. How  
10          much of what's in this packet we were  
11          allowed to talk about I don't know, so I'm  
12          not going to talk about what is enclosed in  
13          here too much, but what I do want to talk  
14          about is the double pensions scandal in  
15          general. It has been well over a year and  
16          we still have no idea how these double  
17          pensions were illegally awarded.

18                       A year ago I brought up the idea of  
19          having either subpoenas or having  
20          voluntarily requesting key players in that  
21          pension scandal to come in to testify in  
22          front of this city council. I still believe  
23          that is something that needs to be done. At  
24          the time, my colleagues wanted to wait to  
25          see to the results of state police

1 investigations, a year has passed and we  
2 still have not heard anything. I am hopeful  
3 that my colleagues will consider my request  
4 to have this type of hearing.

5 Millions of taxpayer dollars were  
6 squandered and are continuing to be wasted  
7 and now it looks like some of the recipients  
8 of the double pensions it seems at no fault  
9 of their own are now going to join the city  
10 through legal proceedings, which one way or  
11 another the city is going to be on the hook  
12 for legal fees, whether it's the city  
13 solicitor's time or whether it's an outside  
14 solicitor who is hired to handle these  
15 cases. I firmly believe that an arrangement  
16 needs to be made where if the recipients of  
17 the double payments, first and foremost,  
18 nobody else receives a double payment and  
19 have been; and, secondly, even if it's a  
20 token payment of one dollar per month that a  
21 payment plan needs to be set up to start  
22 refunding the city this money that was  
23 mistakenly given out, so I hope my  
24 colleagues will consider that request  
25 regarding either subpoenas or a hearing to

1 get to the bottom of this issue. And that  
2 is all for tonight. Thank you.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

4 Mr. Evans?

5 MR. EVANS: Thank you. I just want  
6 to make a brief comment on the Serrenti  
7 building because I saw the article in the  
8 paper the other day and I though it was  
9 interesting. I was not encouraged by the  
10 preliminary report on the building and while  
11 we are waiting for the cost estimates to  
12 come in I think it's a good idea and in our  
13 best interest maybe to start looking for a  
14 plan B for the building and the site if the  
15 city does chose to accept it.

16 Council President Wechsler and I  
17 have discussed a couple of options  
18 informally and if the numbers don't work for  
19 the proposal from the administration I think  
20 it would a great opportunity to do something  
21 that all sides will be happy with along with  
22 the property owners in that neighborhood.

23 As Councilman Gaughan stated, at  
24 this time we cannot afford a potential money  
25 pit and if it turns out that all we are

1           trying to do is put a square peg in a round  
2           hole then we must recognize that and move on  
3           from this project. So I'm looking forward  
4           to the cost analysis and the real numbers  
5           and then we'll go from there. That's all I  
6           have for tonight.

7                       MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Gaughan?

8                       MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. Thank you. A  
9           prebid meeting was held this week for the  
10          city's paving project and I'm told that it  
11          was very well attended so that's a good sign  
12          as we forward to the paving program in the  
13          spring.

14                      I received a draft of -- a proposed  
15          draft of the revised recycling ordinance I  
16          talked about last week and it's been roughly  
17          27 years since we have looked at a recycling  
18          ordinance and revised it. It's a much  
19          needed update. The city needs a new  
20          ordinance in order to apply for grants for  
21          equipment from the DEP so I am reviewing  
22          that and we'll have an update hopefully next  
23          week.

24                      I received an e-mail this week from  
25          a gentlemen associated with the American

1 Lung Association. The ALA has been working  
2 along with Nay Aug playground to make it  
3 smoke free and provide signage under the  
4 "Young Lungs at Play" program. As we all  
5 know, secondhand smoke is dangerous and  
6 deadly accounting for at least 38,000 annual  
7 deaths in the United States and over \$1  
8 million illnesses in children. As I go  
9 around some of the city parks over the last  
10 few years, I personally noticed unsightly  
11 cigarette butts littered on sidewalks and  
12 grass in some of our parks.

13 Posting adequate signage at our  
14 parks will provide an opportunity to educate  
15 the community about our tobacco free policy  
16 and prevent children's exposure to  
17 secondhand smoke in outdoor public play  
18 places. In order for the signage to be  
19 placed at parks throughout the city, I  
20 believe we would need to pass legislation  
21 instituting an outdoor tobacco free  
22 ordinance at city parks, and we discussed  
23 this briefly in caucus tonight and I asked  
24 our solicitor, Mr. Minora, to review sample  
25 ordinances and investigate this matter

1 further and hopefully we will have something  
2 further on that next week, but it is  
3 something that I think is a good thing and  
4 it will promote the health and safety of the  
5 public and our city. And that's all I have  
6 this week. Thank you.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Gaughan. Just a couple of items, following  
9 up on what Mr. Evans spoke about the Serinty  
10 Center, regardless of what happens there  
11 there are two problems that must be settled  
12 either way. Number one, the police  
13 department has over a million dollars worth  
14 of equipment that needs to be protected  
15 either there or in another facility so  
16 that's something that has to happen either  
17 way.

18 Number two, we owe the residents  
19 that live around the Serinity Center some  
20 type of resolution to that property. I  
21 don't think we could do it justice if we do  
22 not take that site or if we do take the  
23 site. Those neighbors have to be considered  
24 in what happens here. I don't think turning  
25 that property down and leaving it just to

1           deteriorate is an option at this time, so  
2           hopefully we will be able to come up with a  
3           plan that satisfies both the needs for the  
4           police department and fire department and  
5           also addresses the problem of the abandoned  
6           property there.

7                         Number two, in regards to the  
8           comments hat Councilman Rogan gave,  
9           personally myself I still don't believe it's  
10          time for council to be begin an  
11          investigation. The state police, it's an  
12          ongoing investigation, the state police are  
13          professionals, and I think that they have a  
14          better handle it on that I ever would have  
15          as an investigator.

16                        Attorney Minora, just as a question  
17          what type of subpoena power does council  
18          even have?

19                        MR. MINORA: Our charter says we  
20          have subpoena power. There is case law,  
21          however, that says we do not simply because  
22          of the way it was enacted when we first  
23          adopted the Home Rule Charter. I'd have to  
24          pull that case for you, but I think there is  
25          a dubious question about whether we actually



1 have subpoena power or not.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Could you investigate  
3 that just so we are prepared at the end of  
4 this investigation if nothing has resulted  
5 we may want to follow-up with what Mr. Rogan  
6 has suggested?

7 MR. MINORA: I will.

8 MR. WECHSLER: That way we will know  
9 where we stand. As of right now, I don't  
10 consider myself a qualified investigator to  
11 ask questions under a subpoena in terms of  
12 what happened and what not.

13 And in terms of the litigation, the  
14 United States of America is a litigious  
15 state. Unfortunately, everyone has their  
16 right to their date in Court and until those  
17 Court hearings are settled I don't believe  
18 there is much that we can do except continue  
19 or support, as you brought up, to conclude  
20 the investigation and to come up with some  
21 solution. I agree with you that it's not  
22 fair and some people are receiving double  
23 pensions at the sake of the other people  
24 that don't receive the pension. I do  
25 believe this is something we have to keep

1 after and hopefully we can bring it to a  
2 resolution that satisfies all of us and the  
3 taxpayers.

4 MR. ROGAN: I would just add, and I  
5 didn't elaborate on too much, but I'm not so  
6 much saying we need to investigate as far as  
7 whether there was a criminal act or -- that  
8 is for the law enforcement to decide, that's  
9 not -- certainly not a function of the  
10 council and I definitely wouldn't think that  
11 is, but having the key players in this  
12 double pension scandal to come in to have  
13 the opportunity to ask them questions is  
14 something I think we owe the taxpayers.  
15 Whether we have a legal authority to do a  
16 subpoena or not, we can still ask for them  
17 to come in and if they chose not to answer  
18 they chose not to answer, but at least we  
19 can tell the taxpayers that we tried  
20 everyone we can to find out what's going on  
21 and as a taxpayer myself I want to know what  
22 happened. I don't think there is any of us  
23 on this body or in this room that knows how  
24 this happened that all of these millions of  
25 dollars were given away. Personally I think

1 something criminal occurred along the way  
2 but, again, that's for law enforcement to  
3 determine.

4 We have to determine best practices  
5 in the future, so on the City's end if it  
6 was a mistake, then a mistake like this  
7 isn't made. It's millions of dollars that  
8 could have been used for many other things  
9 or millions of dollars that would have  
10 remained in the pension fund and possibly  
11 reduce our MM0 or would have grown through  
12 the years. It's just frustrating that so  
13 much time has passed with no resolution and  
14 no answers, and that was just the point I  
15 was getting at, but I'm not saying that we  
16 should take over the state.

17 MR. WECHSLER: I agree with you,  
18 Mr. Rogan, I think as you talk about pension  
19 reform and as we go forward with discussions  
20 they are going to be very important in how  
21 we set up our work with the administration  
22 in setting up any new reforms in the pension  
23 plan, and I agree with that and the  
24 frustration is shared by everyone. Thank  
25 you. That's all I have.

1 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
2 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF KATHRYN A.  
3 BORER, 3222 DOUD AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
4 PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, AS A MEMBER OF THE  
5 PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
6 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 4, 2016. MRS. BORER WILL  
7 BE REPLACING MARTIN KENEHAN WHOSE TERM  
8 EXPIRED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND WHO HELD OVER  
9 UNTIL JANUARY 21, 2016 WHEN HE SUBMITTED HIS  
10 LETTER OF RESIGNATION. MRS. BORER'S TERM  
11 WILL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2020.

12 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll  
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be  
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All  
18 those in favor of introduction signify by  
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The  
25 ayes have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
2 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF MARTIN J. TURI,  
3 25 FOREST GLEN DRIVE, SCRANTON,  
4 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE  
5 PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
6 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 4, 2016. MR. TURI WILL  
7 BE REPLACING THOMAS SCHUSTER WHO RESIGNED  
8 EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2015 AND WHOSE TERM IS  
9 SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2018. MR.  
10 TURI'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31,  
11 2018.

12 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll  
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be  
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All  
18 those in favor of introduction signify by  
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The  
25 ayes have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. NO  
2 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

3 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
4 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR  
5 ADOPTION RESOLUTION NO. 8, 2016 -  
6 APPOINTMENT OF GENE P. TESEROVITCH, 1541  
7 THACKERY STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
8 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE  
9 SCRANTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE  
10 JANUARY 26, 2016. MR. TESEROVITCH WILL BE  
11 REPLACING TIMOTHY PERRY WHO RESIGNED  
12 EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 18, 2015. MR.  
13 TESEROVITCH WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF  
14 MR. PERRY WHOSE TERM IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE  
15 ON FEBRUARY 4, 2020.

16 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for  
17 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
18 passage of Item 7-A.

19 MR. ROGAN: Second.

20 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?  
21 Roll call, please?

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

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MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

MR. EVANS: Yes.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby  
declare Item 7-A legally and lawfully  
adopted.

Before we adjourn, just next week  
will back to our normal schedule, I kind of  
like this one. It isn't bad. Motion to  
adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

MR. WECHSLER: This 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.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
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