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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Monday, September 17, 2018

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:

PATRICK ROGAN, PRESIDENT
(No present)

TIM PERRY, VICE PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

KYLE DONAHUE

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE - SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. PERRY: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan. (Not
13 present.)

14 MR. PERRY: At this time we have a
15 proclamation for Mary Ann Kitlas and if Ms.
16 Kitlas would like to come forward in front.

17 **WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**
18 **SCRANTON** is desirous of honoring **"MARY ANN**
19 **KITLAS"** for 50 years of service to the City
20 of Scranton; and

21 **WHEREAS, "MARY ANN KITLAS"** is
22 married to Ron Kitlas, who also worked for
23 the City of Scranton and retired after 17
24 years of service, and they are the parents
25 of Rhonda Gillette and Katie Kitlas. Mary

1 Ann and Ron, who have been married for over
2 47 years, are the doting grandparents of two
3 granddaughters - Ella and Amelia; and

4 **WHEREAS, "MARY ANN"** started her
5 career in the Law Department on September 9,
6 1968 as Senior Stenographer under the
7 direction of former City Solicitor Harvey
8 Gelb during the administration of Mayor
9 James J. Walsh and remained there for 16
10 years; and

11 **WHEREAS, "MARY ANN"** held the
12 position of Assistant City Clerk for twenty
13 years under the direction of former City
14 Clerks Frank Naughton, P. James Wintermantel
15 and Jay Saunders where she dedicated herself
16 to that office and served with numerous City
17 Councilpersons; and

18 **WHEREAS, "MARY ANN"**, a lifelong
19 resident of Scranton, is currently the
20 Project Administrator for the Department of
21 Parks and Recreation; and

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that
23 on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018**, Scranton City
24 Council wishes to congratulate **"MARY ANN**
25 **KITLAS"** for her unwavering dedication and

1 commitment to the City of Scranton on every
2 level for so many years and for instilling
3 her exemplary professionalism and work ethic
4 in her children and grandchildren.

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this
6 Proclamation be made a permanent part of the
7 Record of this Council, as lasting tribute
8 to "**MARY ANN KITLAS.**"

9 MS. KITLAS: I would like to thank
10 everyone at city council, Lori Reed, Kathy
11 Carrera, my husband and my daughter for
12 coming, my boss down there, thank you ever
13 so much, I really appreciate this. It's an
14 honor and a pleasure and I enjoy my work, my
15 job. I love meeting everybody, it's a
16 different day every day and I just hope the
17 Lord is good to me and gives me a few more
18 years.

19 MR. PERRY: Thank you. Thank you
20 very much.

21 (Members return to dais.)

22 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
23 motion to appoint Councilman Perry as the
24 temporary Chairperson for the Committee on
25 Rules.

1 MR. EVANS: Second.

2 MR. PERRY: On the question? All
3 those in favor signify by saying aye.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

5 MR. EVANS: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

7 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
8 have it and so moved.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
10 motion to appoint Councilman Evans as
11 temporary Chairperson for the Committee on
12 Public Safety.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

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

16 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

17 MR. EVANS: Aye.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

19 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? So
20 moved. Dispense with the reading of the
21 minutes, please?

22 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. TAX
23 ASSESSOR'S REPORT FOR HEARING DATE TO BE
24 HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2018.

25 MR. PERRY: Are there any comments?

1 If not, received and filed.

2 MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
3 RESULTS REPORTS FOR HEARING DATES HELD
4 AUGUST 29 AND SEPTEMBER 5, 2018.

5 MR. PERRY: Are there any comments?
6 If not, received and filed.

7 MS. REED: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE
8 SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION AUTHORITY
9 MEETING HELD AUGUST 6, 2018.

10 MR. PERRY: Are there any comments?
11 If not, received and filed.

12 MS. REED: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
13 RESCHEDULED MEETING OF THE LACKAWANNA COUNTY
14 LAND BANK HELD AUGUST 15, 2018.

15 MR. PERRY: Are there any comments?
16 If not, received and filed.

17 MS. REED: 3-E. AGENDA FOR THE
18 BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING HELD
19 SEPTEMBER
20 12, 2018.

21 MR. PERRY: Are there any comments?
22 If not, received and filed.

23 Do any council members have any
24 announcements at this time?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I have one.

1 Sunday, September 23, 11 a.m. on courthouse
2 square in downtown Scranton will be the
3 United States of America Vietnam War
4 Commemoration. Each living veteran who
5 served at any time on activity due in the
6 United States Armed Service regardless of
7 location during the period of November 1,
8 1955, to May 15, 1975, is eligible to
9 receive one Vietnam lapel pin on behalf of a
10 grateful nation. Again, that's Sunday,
11 September 23, 11 a.m., courthouse square
12 downtown Scranton. Thank you.

13 MR. PERRY: Thank you. FOURTH
14 ORDER. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION.

15 (The following speakers offered
16 public comment: Norma Jefferies spoke on
17 city business and matters of general
18 concern. Joan Hodowanitz spoke on city
19 business. Ron Ellman spoke on matters of
20 general concern. Marie Schumacher spoke on
21 city business. Dave Dobrzyn spoke on
22 matters of general concern.)

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

25 MR. PERRY: Mr. Donahue, anything?

1 MR. DONAHUE: No, I have nothing at
2 this time.

3 MR. PERRY: Mr. Evans.

4 MR. EVANS: Thank you. First of
5 all, as we discussed last week and earlier
6 tonight, Arcadis, the company that is doing
7 our storm water study, has accepted our
8 invitation to appear at a work session.
9 They will be sending representatives to a
10 session to be held at 4:30 p.m. October 1 in
11 the Governor's room. We expect the work
12 session will an informative discussion on
13 not only where they are with the study
14 currently, but also the process so far in
15 developing the study, so I would remind
16 everyone that the public and the press, as
17 always, is invited to attend.

18 A brief follow-up comment on the
19 coffee shop lease, while my position is
20 clear as far as city employees leasing city
21 property for a business it simply is not the
22 right thing to do in my opinion. I did want
23 to say something about the idea in general
24 really. I continue to be in favor of a
25 coffee shop going in that building.

1 Privatization in these instances is actually
2 the right thing to do and Mr. Hinton should
3 be at some level applauded for bringing this
4 idea forth. Thinking outside the box is
5 something that has been in short supply
6 within the confines of this building for
7 many, many years and when someone like
8 Mr. Hinton actually shows an entrepreneurial
9 spirit, something that I've chided this
10 government to embrace since I have been on
11 city council that maybe we should recognize
12 that.

13 Also, during the council meeting of
14 July 30 of this year I requested the
15 administration to create a local buying
16 policy for purchasing and procurements and
17 after discussing this with B.A. Bulzoni I'm
18 comfortable that this is actually in place
19 and working as intended.

20 Also, at that time, I suggested that
21 we need to continue to look at existing
22 policies with an eye toward enhancing and
23 expanding our local small business
24 community. Again, why is this important?
25 Well, locally owned businesses will always

1 play a central role in a healthy city. They
2 have been and continue to be engines of
3 opportunity by creating jobs and providing
4 pathways to the middle class for many of our
5 residents. So my next suggestion for a
6 policy shift to help the local and small
7 business community and owners is to create a
8 policy or policies that decrease the amount
9 of red tape for small businesses as well as
10 to somehow engage the small business owner
11 the way they should be. This is, of course,
12 another offshoot from our idea session since
13 the last one that was held.

14 In most cities, and Scranton will
15 fit this category, small business owners
16 face complex city regulations, licensing and
17 permit processes and more. The small
18 business owner is left to navigate a
19 government bureaucracy that is certainly not
20 user friendly with no one to help. I would
21 suggest that the city using existing
22 manpower create a role within the government
23 that might be called a small business
24 navigator, someone that can help the local
25 and small business owner, the new

1 entrepreneur, the small developer and others
2 to navigate the city's rules and regulations
3 related specifically to growing small
4 business ownership and encouraging
5 incremental development. This would save
6 the small business owner and the developer
7 time, expense and energy that would be
8 better devoted to growing their business,
9 but the companion policy to this is the
10 reduction in red tape. I challenge the
11 administration to begin this process by
12 fully reviewing the processes and lack of
13 processes in those departments that have
14 effect our small business community the most
15 and streamline those policies, rules and
16 regulations at every opportunity.

17 So in the coming weeks and months I
18 will revisit this request while continuing
19 to offer other ideas for policy changes for
20 the city to review, but to me it's pretty
21 simple we are either business friendly or we
22 are not. Currently, the answer is
23 emphatically we are not. We can change that
24 but first let's see if anyone answers the
25 call. And that's all I have for tonight.

1 Thanks.

2 MR. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Evans.

3 Mr. Gaughan, any motions or comments?

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you.

5 First, I just want to congratulate Mary Ann
6 Kitlas who we gave a proclamation to tonight
7 for 50 years of service working for the City
8 of Scranton. It's unbelievable, I think,
9 for anyone to work that amount of time
10 anywhere so I just want to again
11 congratulate her on 50 years and thank her
12 for her dedication to the city.

13 I attended, along with Councilman
14 Donahue, a neighborhood meeting in west
15 Scranton last week and I do have several
16 issues that I'm going to forward over to
17 Mrs. Reed. One of the things that came out
18 of this meeting, and we talked about this in
19 the caucus with Mr. Bulzoni, was that the
20 city definitely needs a more strategic plan
21 to combat blight and other problems
22 throughout the city. As I sat there and
23 listened to residents in west Scranton and
24 in the issues that they had, there needs to
25 be better communication between the city and

1 all neighborhood groups throughout Scranton
2 and all residents throughout Scranton. We
3 need to have a clear and solid plan and I
4 think one of the things that we can do is
5 use technology to make our government more
6 efficient.

7 Mrs. Jefferies mentioned reaching
8 out to the young people in the community, I
9 am attending a meeting this Friday with the
10 University of Scranton government affairs
11 group with their students to listen to what
12 they have to say and hopefully build off of
13 that we will be having idea session with not
14 only the University of Scranton students but
15 hopefully all young people throughout the
16 city to listen to their ideas and what they
17 think -- what issues they think are
18 important.

19 We did send letters last week for a
20 caucus on the recent flooding and several
21 questions about the emergency management
22 situation in the city, we did not hear
23 anything back on that yet, and that's all I
24 have this week. Thank you.

25 MR. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.

1 I only have a couple of things to talk
2 about. The one is an update from last week,
3 we received from Mr. Pocius -- there was a
4 speaker who had a question about a sign and
5 incorrect tonnage labeling a bridge over on
6 Elm and Railroad, I believe. There was a
7 discrepancy with the nine ton sign, it
8 didn't jive with the other one. The nine
9 ton sign is actually for Eynon Street so
10 anybody familiar with that section how is
11 kind of veers off and why it's there. That
12 nine ton is for actually the Eynon Street
13 bridge -- or the Eynon Street -- yeah, going
14 up Eynon Street.

15 Audit update, I know Mr. Evans gave
16 a quick update on the audit, but, yeah, as
17 Mr. Bulzoni explained it us on odd number
18 years there is a requirement for retirees to
19 submit medical invoices, and so it was just
20 a fact of collecting all of those invoices,
21 putting them all together and then putting
22 them on the sheet. As I understand it, and
23 as Mr. Bulzoni understands it, there is a
24 draft ready to go it just hasn't been
25 presented to him yet. So he said he is

1 going to keep us up-to-date on that and
2 hopefully we have what we need in the very
3 near future.

4 And, finally, I'll talk a little bit
5 about the street signs since it was brought
6 up a couple of times. There is something on
7 legislation, it's a very important step but
8 it's a beginning step of how we are going to
9 tackle our street sign problem in the city.
10 The company that we'll be voting on is it
11 runs a software program, they are going to
12 basically get in their car and map the city
13 street by street, and not just our street
14 signs but also all our traffic signs and
15 look for anything that needs to be, you
16 know, effected, replaced, missing because
17 there is it some streets that don't have any
18 and then once we get that information in
19 then it will be up to us to formulate an
20 attack plan, so we are not at the attack
21 plan yet we are just right now we think we
22 found a company that is willing to do the
23 work for us and it will be voted on here
24 tonight and funding for that is going to be
25 coming from our liquid fuels, but that's

1 what I have right now. Thank you.

2 MS. REED: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE
3 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
4 TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION
5 BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
6 AND, IF SUCCESSFUL, A GRANT AGREEMENT, AND
7 ACCEPT THE FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE
8 BJA FY 18 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
9 GRANT ("JAG") PROGRAM-LOCAL SOLICITATION IN
10 THE AMOUNT OF \$21,053.00.

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

14 MR. EVANS: So moved.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

16 MR. PERRY: On the question?

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question,
18 I just want to say this legislation is just
19 another example of our police department
20 going above and beyond to be what I consider
21 one of the most transparent police
22 departments in the state and possibly in the
23 country. A couple of months ago we voted on
24 funding so that the police department could
25 get body cameras. This legislation they are

1 going for grant money so that when a officer
2 has to unholster his or her weapon they are
3 going to have cameras actually on their
4 weapons so that it records because according
5 to the legislation in some situations the
6 recording with the body cameras may be
7 secured when they go to draw a weapon, so I
8 just want to commend Chief Graziano. On my
9 five years on council they have really gone
10 above and beyond to be transparent and to
11 use technology to be extremely efficient.
12 Thank you.

13 MR. EVANS: I would concur with
14 that. I continue to be impressed by Chief
15 Graziano and his staff and how much they go
16 after these grants, especially grants like
17 this that increase transparency and they are
18 not afraid of it. They are not afraid of
19 technology, they embrace it, and we are all
20 better for it.

21 MR. PERRY: Yeah, I agree. JAG
22 funding since I have been here I have seen
23 this come through many times and it's
24 funding that's out there and I know the City
25 of Scranton puts that to good use for things

1 that we need that normally we wouldn't be
2 able to have. You know, there wasn't that
3 long ago that not every officer had a taser
4 while on duty and to me that's just a
5 dangerous situation to have for both the
6 officer and the citizens because it leaves
7 to very other limited things to do that's
8 non-lethal when it comes to a push comes to
9 shove situation so that was one of the first
10 steps that we got and every since then there
11 has just been so many other tools that they
12 have been putting in their tool box to help
13 serve the people and this is just one of the
14 latest. So, again, it's fantastic.

15 All those in favor signify by saying
16 aye.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

18 MR. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

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

23 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
24 27, 2018 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE
25 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE

1 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
2 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED
3 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
4 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
5 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
6 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)
7 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG)
8 PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1,
9 2019.

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

12 MR. EVANS: I move that Item 6-A
13 pass reading by title.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

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

17 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

18 MR. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

22 MR. DONAHUE: I would like to make a
23 motion take a table Item 6-A to comply with
24 the 30-day public comment period as required
25 by HUD.

1 MR. EVANS: Second.

2 MR. PERRY: There's a motion on the
3 floor to table Item 6-A, on the question?
4 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

6 MR. EVANS: Aye.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

8 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
9 have it and so moved.

10 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
11 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 28, 2018 - AN
12 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
13 125, 2017, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "GENERAL
14 CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2018" BY TRANSFERRING
15 \$50,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
16 01.401.17040.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
17 EXPENDITURES-OPEB TRUST FUND) TO ACCOUNT NO.
18 01.401.10110.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
19 EXPENDITURES-SHADE TREE COMMISSION) TO
20 PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL TREE
21 MAINTENANCE COSTS AND THE PREPARATION OF A
22 BASIC PLAN ON HOW TO DEPLOY ADDITIONAL TREES
23 IN THE DOWNTOWN SECTION OF THE CITY.

24 MR. PERRY: You've heard reading by
25 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

1 MR. EVANS: I move that Item 6-B
2 pass reading by title.

3 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

4 MR. PERRY: On the question? All
5 those in favor signify by saying aye.

6 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

7 MR. EVANS: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

9 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
10 have it and so moved.

11 MS. REED: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -
12 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 29, 2018 - AN
13 ORDINANCE - ACKNOWLEDGING THE ADOPTION BY
14 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OF THE
15 PENNSYLVANIA FIREWORKS LAW, ACT 43 OF 2017,
16 ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE FIREWORKS LAW
17 PROHIBITS THE IGNITING OR DISCHARGE OF
18 CONSUMER FIREWORKS ON PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
19 PROPERTY WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PERMISSION OF
20 THE OWNER, PROVIDING THAT THE CITY OF
21 SCRANTON DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION FOR
22 ANYONE TO IGNITE OR DISCHARGE CONSUMER
23 FIREWORKS ON THE STREETS OR SIDEWALKS OF
24 THE CITY OF SCRANTON OR PROPERTY OWNED BY
25 THE CITY OF SCRANTON INCLUDING, WITHOUT

1 LIMITATION, ALL OF THE CITY OWNED PARKS AND
2 PUBLIC BUILDINGS; DIRECTING THAT THE CITY OF
3 SCRANTON PROVIDE CERTIFIED COPIES OF THE
4 ORDINANCE TO ALL MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGES
5 WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR A REPEAL OF
6 INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE
7 SEVERABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING
8 THAT THE ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN
9 ACCORDANCE WITH PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

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

12 MR. EVANS: I move that Item 6-C
13 pass reading by title.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

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

17 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

18 MR. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

22 MS. REED: 6-D. READING BY TITLE -
23 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 30, 2018 - AN
24 ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
25 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A DEED

1 OF EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN THE
2 CITY OF SCRANTON ("GRANTOR") AND THE
3 PENNSYLVANIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
4 ("GRANTEE") GRANTING TO THE
5 PENNSYLVANIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY THE
6 EASEMENT, RIGHT OF WAY AND RIGHTS AS ARE SET
7 FORTH BELOW WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPERTY,
8 WHICH DEED OF EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF WAY ARE
9 ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A".

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

12 MR. EVANS: I move that Item 6-D
13 pass reading by title.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

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

17 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

18 MR. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

22 MS. REED: 6-E. READING BY TITLE -
23 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 31, 2018 - AN
24 ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
25 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND

1 ENTER INTO A PERMANENT EASEMENT AGREEMENT
2 AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT BETWEEN
3 THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND LACKAWANNA HERITAGE
4 VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR REAL ESTATE OWNED BY
5 THE CITY OF SCRANTON AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED
6 IN EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO.

7 MR. PERRY: You've heard reading by
8 title of Item 6-E, what is your pleasure.

9 MR. EVANS: I move that Item 6-E
10 pass reading by title.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

12 MR. PERRY: On the question? All
13 those in favor signify by saying aye.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

15 MR. EVANS: Aye.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

17 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
18 have it and so moved.

19 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
20 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -
21 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 67, 2018 -
22 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
23 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
24 CONTRACT WITH HIGHLAND ASSOCIATES TO PERFORM
25 THE CITY OF SCRANTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING

1 FACILITIES CONDITION ASSESSMENT.

2 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson
3 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
4 final passage of Item 7-A.

5 MR. EVANS: Second.

6 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll
7 call, please?

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

9 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

11 MR. EVANS: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

15 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare
16 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

17 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
18 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
19 RESOLUTION NO. 68, 2018 - APPOINTMENT OF
20 ROBERT J. MORRIS, 648 WALES STREET,
21 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18508 AS THE
22 ALTERNATE NO. 2 MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF
23 ZONING APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.
24 MR. MORRIS WILL FILL THE ALTERNATE NO. 2
25 POSITION THAT WAS VACATED BY ROBERT GATTENS

1 WHEN HE BECAME A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD
2 BY RESOLUTION NO. 56, 2016. MR. MORRIS WILL
3 FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MR. GATTENS WHICH
4 EXPIRES ON JULY 1, 2020.

5 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for
6 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
7 passage of Item 7-B.

8 MR. EVANS: Second.

9 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll
10 call, please?

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

14 MR. EVANS: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

18 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare
19 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

20 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
21 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
22 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 69, 2018 -
23 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
24 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
25 GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO

1 THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ("DCED") FOR A LOCAL
3 SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT (GAMING FUNDS) MONROE
4 COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$464,239.00 FOR A
5 PAVING PROJECT IN THE FAWNWOOD HEIGHTS
6 DEVELOPMENT IN WEST SCRANTON.

7 MR. PERRY: What is the
8 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
9 Committee on Public Works?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
11 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
12 passage of Item 7-C.

13 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

19 MR. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

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

25 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION

1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
2 RESOLUTION NO. 70, 2018 - AUTHORIZING THE
3 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
4 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KS
5 ENGINEERS, P.C. FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
6 TRAFFIC SIGN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

7 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson
8 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
9 final passage of Item 7-D.

10 MR. EVANS: Second.

11 MR. PERRY: On the question?

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
13 You know, we have now the past few years
14 been discussing this quite a lot and that is
15 a fact that we all get requests from people
16 throughout the city about a faded street
17 sign or a faded stop sign. Mrs. Jefferies
18 compiled a list herself and did a great job
19 throughout the Hill Section, but we
20 recognized, and I give the administration a
21 lot of credit because they recognize that we
22 needed to do something different. We have
23 now one full-time person and one part-time
24 employee in our sign department where years
25 ago I believe we had multiple people, it was

1 a full staff. So they have been doing a
2 great job at trying to keep up with all of
3 the different requests that come in for
4 faded street signs and stop signs and other
5 signs throughout the city.

6 So this is a necessary investment on
7 behalf this council and this administration
8 and our DPW to give them better equipment,
9 to make sure that they are efficient and
10 it's an investment in our city. I think of,
11 you know, when I'm looking at this
12 legislation the broken windows theory. When
13 there is one broken window on the block and
14 one house that's blighted that's spreads,
15 criminals start to come into your
16 neighborhood. Same thing could be said, I
17 think, of faded street signs and stop signs
18 that are hanging over or on the ground.
19 People in the neighborhoods notice that. So
20 that's one thing.

21 The second thing is from a public
22 safety perspective. You know, as Mrs.
23 Jefferies correctly pointed out multiple
24 times here if you are not from the city and
25 you are trying to navigate sometimes it's

1 very difficult when you can't see a street
2 sign. Even at night it's difficult
3 sometimes. I find myself stopping and
4 almost getting into an accident trying to
5 find out where I'm going. So I think that
6 this legislation and this program is going
7 to correct that. Basically what this
8 company will do is create a state of the art
9 inventory system for the DPW, so they will
10 go around, if anyone has ever seen the vans
11 that Google Earth employees throughout
12 really the country, this company will send a
13 van with GPS enabled cameras. They will go
14 throughout every mile of the city. We have
15 two 263 center line miles of roadway and
16 they will take photographs, real time
17 photographs of every single street sign or
18 lack thereof and stop sign in the City of
19 Scranton and then they will come back, they
20 will create a report that will go to the DPW
21 and we will have an actual inventory.

22 They are going to provide training
23 for our employees, they are going to provide
24 a database for our employees so that in the
25 future when a sign, a street sign or a stop

1 sign or any sign for that matter gets
2 replaced there will be a log of that. So
3 this is going to make our DPW much more
4 efficient and it's going to give our
5 employees the tools that they need to do
6 their job and because they do do an
7 absolutely wonderful job with all of the
8 requests that come in.

9 So, as I just mentioned before when
10 we spoke on the legislation about the police
11 department, this is another example of the
12 city using technology to be more efficient.
13 If you look in the backup legislation at all
14 of the cities that this company works with
15 one example is Camden, New Jersey, I think
16 they have roughly 75 or 76,000 people
17 similar to the City of Scranton, this
18 company has a great track record.

19 Mr. Bulzoni, the business
20 administrator, was in our caucus earlier and
21 he gave us a complete rundown of all of the
22 different people that he spoke to about this
23 including PennDOT.

24 So, again, I want to commend my
25 colleagues for their support for this. I

1 want to commend Mrs. Jefferies and the
2 public for putting up with this issue for
3 quite a long time. I think that this
4 legislation and this company will solve a
5 problem that we have been facing for quite
6 some time in the city. Thank you.

7 MR. EVANS: On the question. You
8 know, many times when things fail in
9 government the cause is systemic, and I
10 talked about this many, many times, not
11 necessarily employee related. So what this
12 is going to do is, this traffic management
13 system is going to create and put in place a
14 system that would allow our employees to be
15 successful and allow street signs to be put
16 up in a relatively quick fashion when they
17 are reported and keep that system in place
18 and monitor it and know exactly what's going
19 on. We don't right now. We get a phone
20 call, they write it down on a piece of
21 paper, they probably put it up on a bulletin
22 board but, you know, they are woefully
23 understaffed, as Councilman Gaughan, said.
24 We have basically one and a half employees
25 in charge of all of the signs in the city,

1 so we need to do better so the first thing
2 we can do is put a system in place that will
3 allow them to be successful, so I'm very
4 happy to be moving this from Seventh Order
5 to completion and finally get this process
6 started.

7 MR. PERRY: Yeah, on the question,
8 this is really going to take us into, you
9 know, basically even though we are 18 years
10 late into the new millennium as far as how
11 to take care of street signs and really
12 anything in the city of this size. I
13 compare this a lot to the streetlight
14 project we had a couple of years ago where
15 we had a company come in and just give us a
16 nice overhaul. It took us a little bit of
17 investment, but that investment is going to
18 pay off over long-term, I believe this will,
19 too. Once we get this up and running street
20 signs will be get replaced when it's time
21 almost instantaneously because we will know
22 about it, we'll have it tracked and we'll
23 know the date they went in, how long they
24 were there and we'll get a nice flow to this
25 and it really will have the poor

1 understaffed people in DPW to handle this.

2 Roll call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

6 MR. EVANS: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry

10 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare

11 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION

13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR

14 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO 71, 2018 -

15 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

16 CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE A

17 GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON

18 POLICE DEPARTMENT TO THE PENNSYLVANIA

19 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC

20 DEVELOPMENT (DCED) FOR A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT

21 GRANT (GAMING FUNDS-MONROE COUNTY) IN THE

22 AMOUNT OF \$70,003.00 TO BE USED FOR THE

23 CANINE UNIT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CANINE

24 VEHICLE AND A DUAL PURPOSE CANINE.

25 MR. PERRY: What is the

1 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
2 Committee on Public Safety?

3 MR. EVANS: As temporary Chairperson
4 for the Committee on Public Safety, I
5 recommend final passage of Item 7-E.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

7 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll
8 call, please?

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

10 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

12 MR. EVANS: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

16 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare
17 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

18 If there is no further business,
19 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

20 MR. EVANS: Motion to adjourn.

21 MR. PERRY: Meeting adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
5 notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
6 above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
7 and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
8 ability.
9
10
11

12 _____
13 CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
14 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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