

COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON

HELD:

Tuesday, February 18th, 2020

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

WILLIAM GAUGHAN, PRESIDENT

KYLE DONAHUE, VICE PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN

MARK MCANDREW

JESSICA ROTHCHILD

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

KEVIN HAYES, COUNCIL SOLICITOR

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

3
4 MR. GAUGHAN: Roll call, please.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

8 MR. MCANDREW: Present.

9 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

10 DR. ROTHCHILD: Here.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Here. Mrs. Reed,
15 please dispense with the reading of the
16 minutes.

17 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. CHECK
18 RECEIVED FROM COMCAST IN THE AMOUNT OF
19 \$257,172.59 FOR QUARTERLY FRANCHISE FEE.

20 3-B. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM
21 THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY DATED
22 FEBRUARY 5, 2020 REGARDING THE FINAL FLOOD
23 HAZARD DETERMINATION FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

24 3-C. CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO MR.
25 JOHN BASALYGA, MARKETPLACE AT STEAMTOWN DATED

1 FEBRUARY 12, 2020 REGARDING THE ELECTRIC CITY
2 GARAGE.

3 3-D. TAX ASSESSOR'S REPORT FOR
4 HEARING DATE TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 26,
5 2020.

6 3-E. MINUTES OF THE HISTORICAL
7 ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD MEETING
8 HELD JANUARY 9, 2020.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Are there
10 any comments on any of the Third Order items?
11 If not, received and filed. Do any Council
12 members have any announcements at this time?

13 MR. MCANDREW: I'd like to say
14 something. I'd like everybody to know that up
15 in the balcony here we have the Boy Scouts from
16 St. Ann's over in West Side for their
17 Communication Badge tonight.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Anyone
19 else? I have three announcements. First, as
20 you could hopefully see, a new timing device
21 has been installed at the podium. I had
22 mentioned this over the last few months,
23 actually back into last year it was a goal of
24 mine and I think of Council's to increase
25 transparency in terms of public participation

1 at our meetings.

2 So speakers will continue to have
3 five minutes to address Council. Public
4 participation as all of you know is a very
5 important part of our meeting.

6 The green light at the podium will
7 indicate the start of your five minutes, then
8 the yellow light will display and blink
9 continuously when two minutes of time remain.
10 At one minute of time remaining the yellow
11 light will then stay fixed and the red light
12 will indicate that the five minute time limit
13 has been reached.

14 This will provide speakers an
15 opportunity to finish their statements and
16 thoughts without the interruption of the bell.
17 And, you know, since I've been on Council, one
18 of the things that has kind of irked me is the
19 fact that someone would be in the middle of a
20 thought and then you would get the bell. And
21 it would often times throw people off.

22 If you look at other City Councils,
23 other public chambers throughout the State of
24 Pennsylvania and the country, courtrooms
25 throughout the country, they all have timers

1 like that. So I thought that that was
2 important. And I think it's a sign that
3 Council is continuing to invest in these
4 chambers in transparency in public
5 participation.

6 So once you see the yellow solid
7 light, you will know that you are nearing the
8 five minute time limit. And, of course, there
9 is a timer there -- a timer below the Council
10 dais where you'll be able to see exactly how
11 much time you have left.

12 One thing I also wanted to remind
13 everyone of is if you ask Council a question
14 and you would like an answer right then and
15 there and we can provide you with that answer,
16 that will be part of your five minutes. If you
17 would like to continue to speak, of course,
18 that's your right and you would like Council to
19 respond in Fifth Order, please just let us know
20 that so that we can accommodate that request.

21 The other thing I wanted to mention
22 in terms of investing in the chambers is
23 Mrs. Reed has been in contact with the
24 gentleman that is in charge of the sound system
25 in chambers. I know I've mentioned this

1 before.

2 But one of the issues in these
3 chambers is that when there is a public meeting
4 here and there's people that are presenting,
5 it's often times difficult to hear if you are
6 out in the audience. It's often times
7 difficult to hear Council members speak when
8 you're up at the podium.

9 And I think one of the reasons is
10 because the speakers are behind you and not in
11 front where they should be. So that is being
12 looked at and hopefully will be addressed
13 within the next few months.

14 The second announcement I have, I
15 have been communicating with the City's
16 Business Administrator, Patrick Sheridan
17 regarding the city wage tax. And as it has
18 been past practice as the former Business
19 Administrator paid the wage tax during his
20 employment with the City, Mr. Sheridan will
21 honor that commitment as well.

22 Also I wanted to make note that next
23 Tuesday, February 25th at 5:45 p.m., Council
24 will meet in an executive session with Stevens
25 and Lee to discuss a matter of litigation.

1 Mrs. Reed?

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

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. The first
5 speaker tonight is Joan Hodowanitz.

6 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
7 City resident and taxpayer. This afternoon I
8 happened to go to a hearing at the Hilton
9 Conference Center with a number of state
10 legislatures and the topic was local government
11 and taxation. Kyle was there.

12 And Mayor Cagnetti gave testimony as
13 did County Commissioner Domenick. There were
14 one or two representatives from the School
15 Board. But their testimony was written. They
16 did not give oral testimony.

17 I was kind of disappointed in the
18 fact that this was not better advertised. We
19 should have seen a lot more public officials
20 and citizens attending. But hopefully any time
21 that happens again we'll be able to advertise
22 it better.

23 So just in hearing Mayor Cagnetti's
24 comments, she talked briefly about unfunded
25 mandates like stormwater management. So we

1 shall see where that will end up.

2 With regard to the audit, are you
3 going to have that in the newspaper, the
4 summary of revenues and expenditures? Is that
5 coming up?

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, that's required.

7 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. And have you
8 set a time for public caucus with Rainey and
9 Rainey and members of the administration?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Mrs. Reed, as far as I
11 know we have not heard from Rainey and Rainey
12 yet? No, we have not heard.

13 MS. HODOWANITZ: Yeah, don't pay
14 them until they answer. That ought to get
15 their attention. I recall I mentioned last
16 week that February 28th is the deadline for the
17 filing of objectives to the tripling of the LST
18 tax. Has anyone considered a Plan B if that is
19 not approved? That will be a major hole in the
20 budget.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, I don't know
22 that there would be a Plan B to be honest with
23 you because that would really devastate our
24 budget. I'm not sure where else you would get
25 that revenue from to be honest with you.

1 MS. HODOWANITZ: Last week also
2 Marie Schumacher was asking some questions.
3 And some of the -- one of the comments she made
4 was that initiatives from last year were
5 getting dropped out of sight. And one of them
6 was what is the status of the renovations to
7 City Hall?

8 Has that been put on a back burner?
9 Or is that being worked on and has any kind of
10 decision been made?

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, so we -- I had
12 Mrs. Reed reach out to our City's grant writer
13 because it was my understanding that the City
14 had applied for a grant from the state. I
15 believe it was a RACP grant. I don't think we
16 received it the first round. What we're trying
17 to find out is if we were going to reapply for
18 that.

19 So we haven't heard yet -- back yet
20 on exactly on what the deal with that is. But
21 we will -- when we do I will update the public.

22 MS. HODOWANITZ: I hope it doesn't
23 drag out too long. I read in the paper that
24 the county is suing Mr. Basalyga about the
25 leaks in the Electric City Garage that affected

1 the Government Center, which brings to mind the
2 issue have we committed him to a caucus for
3 updates to repairs to that garage? And if so,
4 are you going to invite the Commissioners?

5 MR. GAUGHAN: We did not schedule a
6 caucus. We sent a letter to Mr. Basalyga
7 asking him for, you know, several pieces of
8 information within a 30-day period.

9 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. And this
10 morning I attended the opening of the bids for
11 Ethics Board Solicitor. They did receive three
12 bids and the Law Department is working on that.
13 But my question to you is, you should have
14 received in writing from the Business
15 Administrator the adjustments to the political
16 contribution limits. Have you received that
17 yet?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: We have not received
19 that yet. When we do, I will make that a part
20 of the Third Order.

21 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. But don't
22 let that drag out too long because it's
23 overdue.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Um hum.

25 MS. HODOWANITZ: Thank you.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. The next
2 speaker is Patricia Nestor.

3 MS. NESTOR: Patricia Nestor,
4 taxpayer. Thank you for looking into the
5 grants for the pool on Penn Ridge. I watched
6 the meeting last week on YouTube. So I know
7 you're doing a good job because that needs
8 attention.

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes. We're working
10 on it. And I have some meetings set up. Very
11 excited to find a solution for that.

12 MS. NESTOR: I saw you're looking
13 into to find a way to have college students
14 stay in Scranton after graduation. And one of
15 my tenants just graduated from Marywood. And
16 he was looking for a job in his profession that
17 he went to school for. And he couldn't find
18 one.

19 So he just took a regular full-time
20 job. If he found a job out of the area I would
21 have lost him as a tenant. But he couldn't
22 find anything in his field. But the problem
23 with the students is cost of living.

24 The rent is high in Scranton. And I
25 know for students they are not renting

1 apartments. They are renting rooms in a house.
2 And I know someone who is a landlord and when I
3 was looking to rent a three bedroom, he's like
4 get three students. You could charge them 800
5 a piece and they pay out of their student
6 loans.

7 They don't care. You know, they're
8 not thinking of the future where they're going
9 to spend 15 years paying back that money with
10 interest. So when they graduate, they need to
11 find affordable housing. They are not getting
12 loan money anymore plus they have the loans
13 coming in.

14 And if they don't get the great job
15 and just get a regular job, they can't afford
16 what they were paying in college. So the rent
17 is what's going to keep people because my
18 tenant, I inherited my house. And my mom was a
19 nice old lady and only charged him 400 a month
20 including utilities.

21 So that's what he's being charged
22 because he has loans and he can't afford
23 anymore. So I'm not making any money off of
24 him. This is my act of charity. So that's
25 something. And I saw on Facebook today that

1 the Mayor is looking for submission ideas for a
2 new flag for Scranton. I'm just saying we
3 don't need a new flag. I like the old one. I
4 didn't authorize it. That's it. Have a good
5 night.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: All right. Thank you
7 very much. Have a nice night. The next
8 speaker is Ron Ellman.

9 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council. I
10 guess that we should thank the Lord that we
11 have two such distinguished commissioners like
12 we're blessed with at this time that are so
13 concerned about the dilemma 24 years into the
14 future that they want us to suffer the pain of
15 it now.

16 You know, it's something to stand
17 right here and know some of these people out
18 there watching this are on the verge of losing
19 the most cherished thing in the world, their
20 homes. I don't know -- and I imagine some of
21 you encounter them over a period of time like I
22 do at the store all the time.

23 It's a great sadness what's
24 happening in this City. 11 percent tax
25 increase, that's unnecessary at this time. I

1 know when this happened that the schools --
2 it's just almost in a total utter collapse, our
3 school system. And it's not being addressed
4 properly. Miss Finan was sent up here to do
5 something about it. She just caved in. She
6 joined them. I guess she can't lick them, join
7 them.

8 I had a lady last week I was at
9 Price Rite. She was complaining about school
10 lunches. She told me they are very, very
11 expensive. She said, "I get a voucher." I
12 said, "If you get a voucher, what are you
13 complaining about?" "It's the amount of money,
14 she said, that the school lunches are."

15 I said, "You get food stamps because
16 I see your green card. And you get vouchers.
17 People like me are paying for part of this
18 somehow. I said, what are you complaining
19 about? I said, why don't you take your food
20 stamps to the school board and tell them you
21 want to pay for your kid's lunch with them?"

22 You know, she had a fit. She said,
23 "You're taking food out of my children's
24 mouth that way." I said, "Well, you're taking
25 money out of my pocket your way." You know,

1 there's no winning with some people.

2 You know, Jessica, nobody has
3 addressed these phoney nonprofits since Miss
4 Evans attempted. Maybe they need another lady
5 to try to get something done about all of these
6 phoneys. You know, don't go to Lackawanna
7 College because they told her to go to hell.
8 They weren't giving a dime.

9 There's a couple hundred properties
10 have taken futurewise millions off our tax
11 rolls forever. Not a thing's being done about
12 it. Real quick, when I was walking my dog last
13 week at Nay Aug, a man told me -- I don't know
14 exactly what I'm getting at but he said there's
15 a plan for the City's electric bills for the
16 schools and so forth.

17 And he said the lights at Nay Aug
18 are on that plan for the parking lot. And I
19 don't think that's right. The park is supposed
20 to be closed at night. Why should we pay for
21 the lights even if it's on the school plan he
22 tried to get over with me. And one other thing
23 about -- in all of these years that I've talked
24 to people I've had a dozen I know complain
25 about Geisinger's insurance is so poor.

1 They said they send you places that
2 they can't get to. I thought maybe something
3 can be done about that. I like your clock.
4 It's a good idea, yeah. Whose was it?

5 MR. GAUGHAN: We've been talking
6 about it for a year so it was --

7 MR. ELLMAN: Lee Morgan told me it
8 was his idea. I wish I thought of it. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: You could take credit
11 for it. Thank you. Next speaker is Lee
12 Morgan.

13 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council,
14 Lee Morgan. The first thing I have here is
15 there is some discussion going on about the
16 flag for the City. And really, we don't need
17 to solve that problem. We really need to solve
18 a problem of overtaxation in the City and
19 cutting the budget.

20 Now, somebody came here last week
21 and asked how do you cut the budget by 30
22 percent? Well, that's a very simple thing to
23 do. You take it. You open it. You look at
24 it. You see where every line item, every penny
25 in that line item is spent and you make cuts.

1 The City's problem is it's overtaxed
2 its people for so long that it thinks it has a
3 right to just keep taking forever. And like
4 the City said, there's no limit to all the
5 money we can take because we're a home rule
6 community. That's how arrogant our government
7 is. It really is.

8 And that's why we threw the British
9 out of this country because they thought they
10 could tax us the same way. But this City
11 government is just totally beyond belief
12 because it takes grant money and wastes it like
13 the City pools for one.

14 But you know the most amazing thing
15 is that the City collects a franchise fee.
16 They raised \$250,000. But the question from
17 that should be, why isn't that money used to
18 fund the City's access channels?

19 You know, maybe in Fifth Order you
20 could answer that question. And when we talk
21 about stormwater and paying for it, it was
22 funded. It was part of the Scranton Sewer
23 Authority. There was a part of that -- money
24 was collected to maintain the storm basins and
25 to take care of that problem.

1 So maybe you could answer that
2 question in Fifth Order. And while we're at
3 that, right? Maybe you could tell the City
4 residents where the 500 parking spaces are
5 they paid for under the previous administration
6 in Fifth Order.

7 Because, you know, in my opinion, a
8 lot of money was stolen in this City through
9 the government, the renovations of a couple
10 buildings down on Lackawanna Avenue, 25 million
11 dollars gone. Where? Okay? And you have to
12 ask yourself, well, why would the state
13 government do that?

14 Well, because everybody is in on the
15 take. And the only people that aren't in on
16 the take are the people in the neighborhoods
17 because the political parties themselves, the
18 Democrats and Republicans, they're inherently
19 corrupt.

20 They're only interested in taking
21 care of the party. And that's the problem here
22 because we forgotten how to take care of the
23 residents. When somebody gets up and they talk
24 about the school district, the children in the
25 school district are receiving meals. And, you

1 know, that's a good thing.

2 But somebody's got to ask why are
3 these people living in poverty? Why? And why
4 does the City itself look like it does? Why
5 are we putting apartments in buildings in the
6 downtown because there is no real use for them.
7 So we're taking all the people we can out of
8 the neighborhoods.

9 And we're not investing any money in
10 the neighborhoods. Where are the curbs and the
11 sidewalks? Where is the investment in the
12 neighborhoods? You know, you got children in
13 this community that grow up and die of heroin
14 overdoses. But they had no playground
15 programs.

16 And the little bit they had came
17 through a nonprofit because they are used as
18 tools to win elections. And when you take a
19 look at the Scranton School District, let's be
20 honest with ourselves. We elect people. We
21 have some people on this Council. And we have
22 somebody in the Mayor's office. They could
23 have solved those problems over there. No,
24 they didn't do that. They ran out of there.
25 And too many people have run out of there.

1 Now, I put my name in for one of
2 those seats because I was going to show them
3 what you do with a law book and an ink pen.
4 And I'm a truck driver. The sad part is, we
5 elect people that have no ability to lead. And
6 it's not going to change until the people get
7 tired of it.

8 We're selling senior citizens' homes
9 for pennies. And we're telling people come
10 here. But when you look at what the Chamber of
11 Commerce is doing, everybody can come here and
12 live for ten years for free.

13 I mean, come here, invest a little
14 bit of money and don't pay anything while we
15 bleed the residents completely dry and
16 everybody puts their suits on. And you know
17 the other thing, I think the Mayor should come
18 here and speak at the end of the meeting, not
19 come into the meeting, say a couple things and
20 leave.

21 Because you know what we need in
22 this community? Answers and tax cuts. And we
23 don't need the City government funding a court
24 battle to continue to tax us over the top of
25 the tax caps because you think that you are

1 entitled to tax us as much as you want.

2 That is not the way it should be.

3 The Constitution isn't something we should live
4 by. It's something that our government should
5 live by. And when people learn that and stand
6 up for themselves, this country will change.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. There is
8 no one else listed on the sign-in sheet. Would
9 anyone else from the public like to speak?

10 MS. JEFFRIES: Good evening, Norma
11 Jeffries, City resident. And I won't say that
12 I wasn't planning on talking tonight, but I
13 wasn't. But I did get a response to some of my
14 questions from last week. So I just felt that
15 not only myself but other City residents should
16 also know that when they park downtown like Mr.
17 Donahue had said, that time travels with you
18 with the -- per license plate.

19 So as you move from parking meter to
20 parking meter as long as you're under your two
21 hours, it seems that you're not going to get a
22 ticket. So I just hope that that's not the
23 case because if I get a ticket, I will put it
24 on one of your desks, you know, with the
25 ticket. So I do appreciate those responses.

1 The other questions that I had --
2 and I have to digest the information that I got
3 back before I speak about it. But it was about
4 the K and S Company and the agreement and thank
5 you for that information whoever gave that to
6 me.

7 But I do have to digest that
8 because, you know, just in scanning it, it just
9 raises more questions for me. So I will be
10 speaking about that at a later date. But as
11 far as the parking meters are concerned, I did
12 have a chance to -- this wonderful color
13 document that was passed out by the parking --
14 I always get their initials mixed up the NDS or
15 whatever their company name is.

16 And it's a very colorful document.
17 But I didn't know if anyone really digested it.
18 And I don't know if we could digest it because
19 once I start reading something and there's an
20 error, it loses credibility with me.

21 So on this -- well, there's no page
22 numbers for one thing. And I think that's just
23 very inefficient for someone to put out a
24 document with no page numbers. So the thing on
25 here on the page that is new on-street kiosk

1 system, this particular page there's two errors
2 that I think are on this page.

3 So I don't know if any of you
4 guys -- anyone -- I'm sorry, Jessica, for
5 saying guys. But if any of you up there read
6 this and if you saw the same errors that I
7 saw -- I don't know. But to me, you start to
8 lose credibility because right away I think
9 then if there's -- those words are wrong, I
10 could pick up the words.

11 But I can't pick up the numbers. So
12 if they are putting numbers in there we have no
13 idea if the numbers that they are quoting in
14 their presentation is really -- are really
15 valid. So, you know, I looked at it and I
16 thought I did a lot of presentations in my
17 career and my boss would have had a fit for,
18 number one, if I put a presentation out with no
19 page numbers.

20 And then, number two, if I didn't
21 put the correct information out, you know, I
22 wouldn't have lasted too long in my career to
23 have retired from my career of presentations.
24 So I say that because I just think you need to
25 look at those numbers. I don't know if the

1 numbers are right or not. I hope you saw the
2 same errors that I saw.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, I -- Mrs.
4 Jeffries, I believe they are just grammatical
5 errors. But I'm going to have Mrs. Reed
6 forward them to Dave Trevisani from NDC and ask
7 him to address those and double-check the
8 snapshot of the budget that was put in to make
9 sure those numbers are correct.

10 MS. JEFFRIES: Any way that we can
11 confirm that the numbers that they're using in
12 their presentation are correct -- any of those
13 numbers weren't transposed?

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, I will ask him
15 to confirm that those are, in fact, the correct
16 numbers.

17 MS. JEFFRIES: Okay, because they
18 will be back I think if I made a note in my
19 folder here, they'll be back for another
20 presentation quarterly they are supposed to
21 present to us.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Quarterly. We don't
23 have a defined date yet; do we, Mrs. Reed?
24 They usually contact us to let us know. But,
25 yeah, they will be back quarterly.

1 MS. JEFFRIES: Okay. That was the
2 main thing I just wanted to let everyone know
3 that you can travel about the City as long as
4 you are within your timeframe of -- that
5 follows your license plate, not the other.
6 Okay? Thank you. Have a good night.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Thank you
8 very much. Would anyone else like to address
9 Council?

10 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Dave
11 Dobrzyn, resident, taxpayer. On those
12 speakers, if you've ever been out to a rock and
13 roll concert or anything, the band is always
14 behind the speakers. And the speakers are
15 pointed at the audience. So obviously you are
16 having problems with microphones and feedback
17 and all of that stuff, maybe the columns --
18 mount them on the columns or something.

19 Once again, our 30 percent cut. We
20 have minimum manning for police and fire. I
21 never wanted a job myself that I always had to
22 be on the job, you know? If you're a fireman
23 and you're sitting around and maybe watching a
24 race or -- a car race or a football game or
25 something on a Sunday and a big fire gets

1 started, guess what? If you had three or four
2 beers, you're probably drunk on the job then,
3 you know, if you're showing up for work
4 intoxicated.

5 So a lot of those people -- public
6 responders, our first responders they're owned
7 by their jobs. And, you know, furthermore, we
8 have 36 percent tax exempt and many justifiably
9 so. But the point being that the state does
10 not compensate for that. And I keep
11 emphasizing that.

12 There is a recent article in the
13 Times this week, 20 million dollars less for
14 the same demographics as another city school
15 system. So I would contend that a lot of our
16 problems aren't that -- lots of money is being
17 wasted. Yes, we've had some problems. But
18 everybody has problems.

19 And we lost in court with public
20 employees, you know, with minimum manning.
21 How do you cut 30 percent out of the budget
22 when every last dime is spent and a large
23 portion of it on wages and so forth?

24 And once again, now I had a question
25 last week. And I think I verified it with the

1 Electric City and the former Mellon building.
2 And they were also turned down by the City
3 zoning for their project with the Electric City
4 because the apartments are basically like
5 bedroom, you know, you'd be lucky if you could
6 have a hot plate in there and fit a bed inside
7 with the size with a small refrigerator or
8 something.

9 So we don't need any more. So it's
10 time to head that off at the pass. What's done
11 is done. They may get their tax exemption for
12 those buildings. But it's time to repeal the
13 type of legislation that went through here in
14 the last year where somebody can buy up a
15 building and put a couple of bucks into it and
16 have a free ride. We just can't afford it.

17 And a lot people are right. These
18 old grannies and gramps and stuff, they don't
19 have the money to shell out to compensate for
20 reduced taxes for some big landlord agency or
21 land holding agency.

22 And once again on the public
23 works -- Department of Public Works, I would
24 love to see what it costs to have a crew show
25 up at everybody's front door keeping in mind

1 that that could all be divided equally. But
2 how much money does it cost before any trash is
3 removed to just have -- keeping in mind that
4 they have to come every week to see if you have
5 trash to be removed whether it's one bag or
6 four bags.

7 And at least see if this -- what it
8 costs because I think a lot of people would
9 change their attitude if they realized that
10 most of the money if not all from that \$300 or
11 270, whatever it is, is actually -- is
12 actually -- what it costs to show up at their
13 door.

14 And it must be very expensive for
15 trucks and maintenance and insurance and
16 la-di-da. Thank you. Have a good night.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Have a
18 nice night. Would anyone else like to address
19 Council?

20 MR. COYNE: Tom Coyne. Members of
21 Council, first of all, thank you for getting
22 back to me on the tipping fees. I appreciate
23 that. I'm glad that it came back in a really
24 timely manner. I do appreciate when I get a
25 response quickly to a question. I think that

1 is a wonderful thing.

2 Not from your wheel house, but I
3 wanted to put forward in travelling to a photo
4 shoot this weekend as a matter of fact, went
5 across the Philadelphia area. And right now in
6 the Philadelphia area it's either 8 or 11
7 separate schools are putting in for -- trying
8 to put in an emergency declaration with the
9 State of Pennsylvania.

10 The reason why is because of lead
11 and asbestos contamination. The teachers have
12 been protesting it and some of the schools have
13 been closed down there. But what they have put
14 forward is they are trying to get together and
15 push forward to the State of Pennsylvania to
16 put an emergency declaration in because if an
17 emergency declaration is put in and accepted by
18 the state, that allows the school district
19 themselves to tap into the state's Rainy Day
20 Fund and take care of all of the situations
21 immediately.

22 So if the City of Philadelphia has
23 these set -- it's either 8 or 11 schools with
24 the same situation up here of asbestos and
25 lead, someone should be communicating or school

1 board I have to wait until the beginning of
2 next month to talk to them, but someone should
3 get the ball rolling to go. We're in the same
4 situation too. And if you can get that Rainy
5 Day Fund opened up so we can get immediate
6 funding from the state under an emergency
7 resolution.

8 It is silly to wait on it and spin
9 and try and figure out how to get funding and
10 how to take care of it when if you could get
11 together as a group of teachers, Philadelphia's
12 issue may help to solve our issue as well.
13 That's it. Thank you.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you very much.
15 Would anyone else like to address Council?

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher.
17 I have been looking at our numbers and I don't
18 like what I see, especially for the future. So
19 I would like to know what is our plan if the
20 511 appeal is not successful?

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, you know, to be
22 honest with you and this is just my opinion. I
23 don't know that there is another plan at this
24 point because if you lose the Act 511 case, I
25 just don't know how you make up that revenue.

1 I don't know where else the revenue
2 comes from. It's such a large portion of our
3 budget.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: I understand that.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: So I guess the --

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: But we haven't been
7 providing for it in the event either. So, I
8 mean, but that's the history. But now we have
9 an opportunity when they go to court to see if
10 at least -- get a triple LST tax.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: I mean, you know,
12 you're cutting off your nose to spite your
13 face. If the City loses the Act 511 case, the
14 money's got to come from someplace. That's the
15 honest answer.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: I know where it
17 comes from, trust me.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Um hum.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: But I don't know
20 what we're doing about looking -- for instance,
21 did Mary Dempsey leave a report? Did she get
22 the information she asked for when you had the
23 caucus here on the 4th of December regarding
24 what she thought were outrageous medical costs?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Councilman Donahue can

1 answer that.

2 MR. DONAHUE: I'm actually getting
3 into that now. I'm setting up a meeting with
4 the City Solicitor to go through all of our
5 healthcare expenditures because I have to set
6 up a meeting with the --

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: You personally?

8 MR. DONAHUE: I am, yes.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: And what experience
10 do you have in that?

11 MR. DONAHUE: In what? Health
12 insurance? I have been in contact with Mary
13 Dempsey about --

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: You have?

15 MR. DONAHUE: Yes. Yes, and also
16 other insurance brokers in the region.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Have we considered
18 hiring her and I don't know --

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, here's the --
20 and not to interrupt you but we don't have an
21 HR Director yet. They are soliciting for an HR
22 Director. That would be the job of the HR
23 Director. That would be the job of the legal
24 department for the City.

25 It wouldn't be Council's job to go

1 and mine through all types of healthcare
2 information. I think what Councilman Donahue
3 is referring to is that he's trying to go
4 through and get more information on the
5 healthcare costs so he can update Council and
6 the public.

7 And that is something that was left
8 off from former Councilwoman Dempsey who had
9 raised that question during that caucus.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: And we have a lot
11 of other loose ends as I brought up before. Do
12 we know yet whether we're going to go for a
13 payroll tax or are we going to stick with
14 the --

15 MR. GAUGHAN: No, we haven't gotten
16 a definitive answer from the administration.
17 And right now I don't think it looks too good
18 because the school district has made it pretty
19 clear that they're not going to be in favor of
20 it for a number of different reasons.

21 I believe there was an article in
22 the newspaper that Dr. Finan from the school
23 district did not think that it was a good idea.
24 They were concerned about, you know, not having
25 enough money.

1 MR. DONAHUE: So the school district
2 will come up short one quarter. So I know
3 Senator Blake is working on trying to find
4 money from the state -- I'll get into that then
5 in Fifth Order on payroll.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. But there
7 are other things. This building, you know what
8 year -- what month was it last year that this
9 building was in terrible disrepair and
10 nothing's been done to it? Would this building
11 even pass if somebody from the fourth floor
12 came through?

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, our options are
14 limited. I don't know where else we would go
15 or where else the City government will go. I
16 think when we had this conversation months and
17 months ago, the thought process then was for
18 the City to apply for a RACP grant through the
19 state which I don't believe we received the
20 funding the first round.

21 I mentioned before you came tonight
22 that Mrs. Reed is in contact with our grant
23 writer and some other officials in City Hall to
24 get an update on whether or not the City's
25 applying for the second round of the RACP grant

1 money.

2 Obviously we would not have the
3 ability or funds to do a full rehab with just
4 City dollars. We would need help from the
5 state.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: What about
7 stormwater? When are we going to get back to
8 making a decision on stormwater?

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, we wouldn't be
10 able to make a decision until we get a report
11 from the company that was hired by the City I
12 think a year or two ago. We're waiting for
13 Mr. King the City planner who is going to have
14 a conversation with the Mayor and then was
15 going to -- agreed to come to a caucus and give
16 us a full update.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: And when do we
18 expect that?

19 MR. GAUGHAN: I don't know. We
20 haven't heard from Mr. King yet.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Can you follow up
22 and maybe get a -- speaking of that, Mr. King
23 is really wearing three hats at the present
24 time. When are we going to advertise -- the
25 City going to advertise for the vacancies that

1 are around like the zoning officer?

2 MR. GAUGHAN: I don't know. That
3 would be a function of the administration. I
4 don't know.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: You don't care to
6 ask the administration?

7 MR. GAUGHAN: No, it's not that we
8 don't care to ask. It's that I'm assuming that
9 they're -- where they just put out for the HR
10 Director. They put out I believe for the fire
11 chief. I'm assuming -- I don't know if it went
12 out yet to be honest with you. We can find
13 that out. But I'm assuming if there is an open
14 position they'll advertise for it.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. My time is
16 up. Thank you.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Have a
18 nice night. Would anyone else like to address
19 Council?

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

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Councilman Rogan, any
23 comments or motions?

24 MR. ROGAN: Just one brief comment.
25 I wasn't planning on bringing this up today but

1 it was brought up a couple times from the
2 podium, and I actually had a few people text me
3 about it as well.

4 The idea of redoing the City flag
5 which I do agree the City flag probably isn't
6 the most appealing that could be out there.
7 But frankly, I think it's a waste of time and a
8 waste of money to be dealing with that at this
9 point in time, especially that there is so many
10 City vehicles that have the City logo on there
11 and the cost of changing them out would be --
12 again, it wouldn't be a huge number.

13 But it's money down the drain.
14 There's bigger things the City needs to be
15 worrying about, a litany of them were mentioned
16 at the meeting tonight. But one that's really
17 concerning me is we're sitting here we're in
18 the middle of February, and we still haven't
19 gotten a proposal from the administration on
20 what their plan is for the garbage fee.

21 We've heard that they're not going
22 to pursue the idea that former Mayor Evans
23 wanted to pursue for the \$250. We still don't
24 have legislation on the books for a garbage
25 fee.

1 It hasn't been introduced and those
2 bills have to go out shortly. So if everyone
3 agrees, I would like to send a letter to the
4 administration asking for a status update on
5 where those bills stand and what the plan is.
6 People are asking me if the discount is going
7 to continue. Obviously, I hope it does.

8 Personally I was partial to the \$250
9 in the tax system that Mayor Evans proposed.
10 Obviously, that's not going to happen this year
11 or -- we're in the middle of February. It's
12 just too late. But I would like to see that
13 implemented in future years.

14 I think it's a more fair way to do
15 the process and it would give everyone a break.
16 Again, we're sitting here in the middle of
17 February. There is still no resolution on
18 this.

19 You know, the City logo issue to me
20 is a waste of time to discuss it. So that's my
21 comments on that. And that is all for tonight.
22 Thank you.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Councilman
24 McAndrew, any motions or comments?

25 MR. MCANDREW: Yes. I would just

1 like to congratulate a couple people tonight.
2 So I would first like to congratulate West
3 Scranton's Boys Basketball Coach Jackie Lyons
4 on his 500th win. Coach Lyons has been a
5 devoted coach, mentor for our kids on and off
6 the court.

7 Secondly, I would like to
8 congratulate West Intermediate boys 8th grade
9 basketball team for their division
10 championship. That's all I have.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Dr.
12 Rothchild, any motions or comments?

13 DR. ROTHCHILD: No, nothing at this
14 time. Thank you.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Councilman
16 Donahue, any motion or comments?

17 MR. DONAHUE: Just to respond to
18 Miss Schumacher's question about payroll prep.
19 I know that Senator Blake is looking at finding
20 money to sort of bridge the gap because there
21 would be a quarter gap especially in the school
22 district.

23 You know, we're also looking into
24 ways to bridge our gap that we would have --
25 that the City would have. And we're also

1 looking at, you know, if we pass it in -- if we
2 can pass it in July, could we make it effective
3 January 1st? I know that's one of the issues
4 with the school district is that you'd sort of
5 be collecting -- if you were to make it
6 effective July 1st, you would be collecting two
7 taxes in one year.

8 So I know we're looking at those
9 issues and we're working through them. I go to
10 our PEL meetings every day or every week and
11 that's one thing that's brought up. And we
12 also, you know, we communicated with our shared
13 services. And that's also something we've
14 brought up there too. And that's all I have.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Just a few
16 items. First, I mentioned this at the top of
17 the meeting and I would just like to mention it
18 again. I did have a conversation or -- and
19 received an e-mail from Pat Sheridan who is the
20 Business Administrator. And he stated that in
21 response to our conversation if tradition has
22 been that the Business Manager pays the city
23 wage tax even though it's not owed I will honor
24 that commitment.

25 Second, I want to provide an update

1 that Council received from the Moretti Law Firm
2 who is doing the gas card audit. I'd like to
3 read into the record the e-mail received
4 Thursday, February 13th from Arthur Moretti,
5 the CPA who is doing the gas card audit.

6 Dear Mrs. Reed, I just want to give
7 you an update on where I am with the gas card
8 audit for all activity from April, 2016 through
9 March, 2019. After receiving additional
10 information on Fire Chief DeSarno, I had to
11 revise my report with additional relevant
12 findings.

13 On February 7th, 2020, I provided
14 the administration with my revised report on
15 Fire Chief DeSarno's self-audit. With regard
16 to the final report, I am still receiving
17 additional information from the City which will
18 extend my review period and estimated date of
19 final report.

20 I will provide you an anticipated
21 date once I receive the remaining information
22 and meet with the administrative staff for a
23 final review. To reiterate, we are still on
24 budget with the proposed costs that I provided.
25 And our fees will not exceed the estimate.

1 I hope this information addresses
2 your needs. If you have any questions, need
3 any additional information or like to discuss
4 in person, please do not hesitate to contact
5 me, Arthur Moretti.

6 Mrs. Reed, the only thing I would
7 ask is that you reach out to Mr. Moretti and
8 let him know that when the report and the audit
9 is finalized I would appreciate and request
10 that he come in to a public caucus and present
11 his findings to Council, similar to when we had
12 the audit exit conference with Kohanski and
13 Company.

14 The second thing I wanted to mention
15 in terms of the Sign Program, as most people
16 are aware the City engaged with a firm -- and I
17 know Mrs. Jeffries had brought it up numerous
18 times to analyze our Sign Program to come up
19 with a method to replace the signs, a database.

20 We did reach out to Mr. Gallagher to
21 give us an update on that. I would like to
22 read through that for a moment. The overall
23 assessment of our traffic signs concluded that
24 the reflectivity of the signage was not optimal
25 with many signs needing replacement such as

1 stop signs, one way signs, and the City DPW has
2 been working on these issues.

3 Mr. Gallagher wanted to note that
4 this program is not just a street Sign Program
5 but a traffic signage assessment and
6 replacement program. So it's not just the
7 street signs. It's also stop signs and
8 everything else.

9 As I've noted in the past and he
10 noted to us, it is a two-man crew that is
11 responsible for our Sign Program. So they're
12 replacing, even making the signs as applicable.
13 It is taking them a little time. They are
14 working methodically throughout the City.

15 A side note that he did want
16 mentioned to Council was that the bucket truck
17 needed repair. So he's waiting for
18 temperatures to increase before sending someone
19 up in a bucket truck as needed for street sign
20 replacing. But long and short of it is the
21 program is under way. It is working. And so
22 far I think it's been a success.

23 One of the things I believe that you
24 had asked, Mrs. Jeffries, was about the grant
25 that the City was supposed to receive. And,

1 Mrs. Reed, if we can find out from Maggie Perry
2 from the police department if the City received
3 the multimodal grant that is mentioned in the
4 proposal with K and S Engineering.

5 Just to kind of piggyback on what
6 Councilman Rogan said, I had asked Solicitor
7 Hayes who has a meeting with Solicitor Eskra
8 each week before the Council meetings to make
9 them aware that, you know, it was my concern
10 that we have not received the legislation for
11 enacting the garbage fee.

12 Solicitor Hayes, did you get any
13 indication from Solicitor Eskra on when we
14 would be receiving that legislation?

15 ATTY. HAYES: Councilman, the City
16 Solicitor reported to me that the resolution --
17 or that was passed last year by Council had
18 language which indicated that the \$300 garbage
19 fee would continue -- would be for the year
20 2019 and continue thereafter.

21 And because of that language, they
22 didn't think it was necessary to have
23 additional legislation unless they were
24 amending that -- the schedule and the fee.
25 They do not intend on doing so.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay.

2 ATTY. HAYES: My understanding is
3 they are not going to be sending us legislation
4 because the \$300 garbage fee is going to
5 continue with the same discount schedule.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Good. Thank
7 you.

8 MR. ROGAN: If I could just jump in,
9 one followup, I guess. Since Attorney Eskra
10 has been City Solicitor all of these years, my
11 question would be why the past five, ten years
12 as long as I've been on Council have we done it
13 annually when it's had that language? So --

14 ATTY. HAYES: My understanding is
15 when she reviewed -- she reviewed the language
16 of the resolution, she just didn't feel it was
17 necessary because it has the -- it says will
18 continue thereafter unless amended.

19 So because they are not doing an
20 amendment, I don't think that they felt it was
21 necessary. But I don't know why they did it in
22 the past.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: And the other thing I
25 want to mention too about lowering the garbage

1 fee from 300 to 250, great idea in concept.

2 But the honest answer here is that the previous
3 administration, first of all, didn't present
4 Council with any proposal.

5 And from what I understand it was a
6 half-cocked idea to begin with because as I
7 mention sitting here at that table December 4th
8 in front of PEL, in front of the previous Mayor
9 and the previous Business Administrator, there
10 was a ton of holes in that proposal.

11 One of which was if you rolled the
12 garbage fee into the real estate tax bill,
13 there would be people, for example, who if they
14 had a garage -- just a garage on their property
15 on a single parcel, they would be getting a
16 garbage bill for a piece of land in which they
17 did not produce any garbage.

18 There was other concerns that we had
19 that were never addressed in terms of
20 businesses in the City already paying for a
21 private hauler also now having to pay \$250
22 garbage fee. So in theory, it's great to lower
23 the garbage fee. But the proposal has to be
24 complete. And it has to be presented to
25 Council that way. So unfortunately, that will

1 not happen this year.

2 Another thing I wanted to ask,
3 Mrs. Reed, if you could find out from the
4 administration if they have any intention of
5 installing GPS across the City vehicle fleet
6 and where did we exactly leave off with this
7 from the prior administration?

8 When the whole gas card fiasco was,
9 you know, came to light in the newspaper and
10 came to our attention, I know that City
11 officials met with Verizon back in September of
12 last year. And they were at that time
13 seriously discussing equipping every City
14 vehicle or the City vehicle fleet with GPS,
15 which in my -- I had brought that idea up
16 because, quite frankly, I think you could avoid
17 a lot of this back and forth if you just do
18 what every other or most other private
19 companies do equip the vehicles with GPS, not
20 to track employees necessarily; but you can
21 become much more efficient in terms of gas
22 usage and everything else.

23 So if you could, Mrs. Reed, find out
24 where they left off with that and if that's
25 still a viable alternative. Miss Schumacher

1 brought up the civilian parking enforcement.
2 There is a line item in the budget that details
3 where you could find how much money was
4 generated from the civilian parking
5 enforcement.

6 Revenue through the end of
7 September, 2019 was \$102,225. And that was
8 budgeted last year at \$100,000. We also sent
9 Miss Schumacher the policy that Scranton Police
10 Department has that Chief Graziano had given to
11 us in regards to reimbursable overtime.

12 As I mentioned, the City Hall rehab
13 project, we had inquired with the
14 administration regarding where we are at in the
15 grant process. Someone else brought up -- I
16 think Mr. Morgan brought up, you know, the ECTV
17 and the public access channels. They get their
18 funding through the Comcast franchise fee.

19 We get a check I think quarterly
20 from Comcast and almost all of that money goes
21 to funding our public access channel. And that
22 is all I have.

23 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
24 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
25 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND

1 ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT
2 WITH UFBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLP FOR LABOR COUNSEL
3 FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
5 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced
6 into its proper committee.

7 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

8 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question,
10 I just want to mention two things. So in
11 reviewing this legislation I had raised two
12 issues within the past few days with Solicitor
13 Hayes who had raised it with the
14 administration.

15 The first issue was back in 2018
16 when the City had reupped -- or put out an RFP
17 for legal services and the firm Abrahamsen,
18 Conaboy and Abrahamsen had received -- or was
19 awarded that proposal. I had made an issue out
20 of the fact that there was an Attachment E
21 provided in the bid documentation.

22 And that was an attachment called or
23 noted as disclosures by current contractors.
24 And basically what that was at that time was
25 that the contractor or the firm would provide

1 the names and titles of all individuals within
2 the company or the firm and any campaign
3 contributions that they gave not only to City
4 officials but also to any officials in the
5 state.

6 So there was an issue back then with
7 it not being filled out correctly. Eventually
8 it was filled out correctly. This time around,
9 I noticed that the attachment was not included
10 in the bid documentation. So I had asked
11 Solicitor Hayes to raise the issue with the
12 administration which he did and the Ufberg Law
13 Firm is going to provide us that information
14 prior to final passage next week, which we will
15 include in Third Order on our agenda.

16 The second issue that I had raised
17 was former Councilwoman Dempsey is an attorney
18 with the Ufberg Law Firm. In the Home Rule
19 Charter, Section 307 it states no Council
20 person shall hold any other compensated City
21 office or employment during the term for which
22 he is elected to Council and no former Council
23 person shall hold any compensated appointed
24 City office or employment, nor shall he act as
25 paid consultant to the City until one year

1 after the expiration of the term for which he
2 was elected to Council. So Solicitor Hayes is
3 researching this issue, correct?

4 ATTY. HAYES: That's correct.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: So we should have, you
6 know, final determination on that next week.
7 Again, you know, just doing our due diligence,
8 this Council, making sure that that is not an
9 issue. And that's all I have on 5-B. Anyone
10 else on the question? All those in favor of
11 introduction signify by saying aye.

12 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

13 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

15 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
17 ayes have it and so moved.

18 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
19 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
20 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY
21 OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN TO GRANT
22 AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN/GRANT FROM THE CITY
23 OF SCRANTON'S BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY LOAN TO
24 GRANT PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 150.46 IN AN AMOUNT
25 NOT TO EXCEED \$70,000.00 TO FANCY PARSLEY, LLC

1 TO ASSIST AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
3 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be introduced
4 into its proper committee.

5 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

6 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All
8 those in favor of introduction signify by
9 saying aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

13 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
15 ayes have it and so moved.

16 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. No
17 business at this time.

18 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
19 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
20 DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 17,
21 2020 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
22 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON
23 TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN
24 FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
25 ADMINISTRATION-REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM, PROJECT

1 NUMBER 009.500.5, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
2 THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/00 DOLLARS (\$30,000.00)
3 TO RITZ HOSPITALITY, LLC TO ASSIST IN AN
4 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
6 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
7 Committee on Community Development?

8 DR. ROTHCHILD: As Chairperson for
9 the Committee on Community Development, I
10 recommend final passage of Item 7-A.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Is there a second?

12 MR. MCANDREW: Second.

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

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

18 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

20 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

22 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
25 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

1 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
2 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -
3 RESOLUTION NO. 18, 2020 - APPROVING, IN
4 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL
5 REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED, A PLAN
6 OF FINANCING OF THE SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH
7 AND WELFARE AUTHORITY AND DECLARING THAT IT IS
8 DESIRABLE FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF
9 THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON FOR
10 THE SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND WELFARE
11 AUTHORITY TO UNDERTAKE A PROJECT FOR HOWARD
12 GARDNER MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCE CHARTER SCHOOL.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
14 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
15 Committee on Finance?

16 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
17 Committee on Finance, I recommend final passage
18 of Item 7-B.

19 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

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

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

23 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

25 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

2 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
7 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

8 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
9 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
10 RESOLUTION NO. 19, 2020 - AUTHORIZING
11 APPOINTMENT OF STEPHANIE L. BRESSLER, PH.D,
12 1402 EAST GIBSON STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA
13 18510 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS,
14 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 29, 2020. DR. BRESSLER WILL
15 BE REPLACING JOAN HODOWANITZ WHO RESIGNED
16 EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 25, 2019. DR. BRESSLER WILL
17 FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF JOAN HODOWANITZ
18 WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE AUGUST 31, 2022.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
20 Committee on Rules, I recommend final passage
21 of Item 7-C.

22 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
24 call, please.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

3 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

5 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
10 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

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

13 MR. DONAHUE: Motion to adjourn.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: This meeting's
15 adjourned. Thank you. Have a nice night.

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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 taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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