

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HELD:

Thursday, December 18, 2014

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here. Dispense with
14 the read of MINUTES.

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. AGENDA
16 FOR THE NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION
17 MEETING HELD DECEMBER 10, 2014.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. REED: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE
21 SCRANTON FIREFIGHTERS PENSION COMMISSION
22 MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2014.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
24 If not, received and filed.

25 MS. REED: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE

1 NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION MEETING HELD
2 NOVEMBER 12, 2014.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
4 If not, received and filed.

5 MS. REED: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
6 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
7 HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2014.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
9 If not, received and filed.

10 MS. REED: 3-E. TAX ASSESSOR'S
11 RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATES HELD
12 DECEMBER 3RD AND 4TH, 2014.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
14 If not, received and filed.

15 MS. REED: 3-F. CONTROLLERS REPORT
16 FOR THE MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2014.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
18 If not, received and filed. Anything from
19 council, any announcements? I would like to
20 just make note that on tonight's agenda
21 there are two items that we will suspend the
22 rules to move to Sixth and Seventh Order,
23 one is the listed as 5-A -- or 5-B, excuse
24 me, which is the tax anticipation note for
25 2015, that's accompanied by an emergency

1 certificate and if passed in Fifth Order it
2 will be moved to Sixth and Seventh Order for
3 final passage.

4 Also, item 6-A, which is the
5 contractor's licenses and fees, there will
6 be a motion to move that to Seventh Order
7 for final passage. That will also be a
8 public comment period prior to Seventh Order
9 if anyone wishes to speak to those two items
10 in particular.

11 Also, just two items of note.
12 First, the Friends of Connors Park
13 Association is planning to place a veterans
14 memorial at Connors Park and to help fund
15 that what they are doing is they are -- part
16 of the memorial involves a flag pole and
17 sort of a pathway around a brick path and
18 what they are doing is they are selling
19 bricks that would be inscribed with
20 veteran's name or whatever it was that you
21 felt was appropriate for the memorial. I do
22 have some forms here. The bricks are being
23 sold at \$65 a piece or two for \$100. If you
24 are interested, you can contact it's Bob
25 Gattens and the phone number is 570-561-7584

1 and I'm going to ask if ECTV will also run
2 this, you know, the promo and the contact
3 number, okay?

4 And the second thing, I attended a
5 presentation or an announcement today at the
6 vacant East Scranton Junior High School or
7 what was the Madison Grade School, and the
8 announcement was that it was a three-part
9 project among Greenspace Properties, who are
10 the owners of the property, Hilderbrand
11 Learning Centers and the University of
12 Scranton. What is going to happen it's
13 going to be converted by Greenspace
14 properties into a childhood learning center
15 on the first floor and 24 apartments on the
16 second and third floor for graduate students
17 at the University of the Scranton.

18 The University is leasing the
19 building from Greenspace so that it will
20 continue to be a taxable property and not a
21 property of the University of the Scranton,
22 but it's sounds like a great renovation for
23 that building, which has been vacant for I
24 believe about 13 years. I actually taught
25 in that building for a year so I do know

1 that it does need some renovation. And that
2 is all.

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

5 MR. MCGOFF: Gerard Hetman.

6 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.
7 Gerard Hetman from Lackawanna County's
8 Community Relations Department. Good to see
9 you as always.

10 To begin this evening, on Tuesday
11 afternoon, November 25, the Lackawanna
12 County Commissioners along with our state
13 senator and representatives from Lackawanna
14 County as well as management from Colts, the
15 County of Lackawanna transit system, met
16 with the Pennsylvania Secretary of
17 Transportation in Senator Blake's office in
18 the state capital in Harrisburg. The topic
19 of the meeting was to address the paybacks
20 that are due from Colts to the Pennsylvania
21 Department of Transportation. Many of us
22 are aware of the situation and the topic of
23 the meetings was centered on trying to find
24 a solution where an agreement could be
25 reached between Colts and PennDOT with the

1 assistance of the commissioners and our
2 state senator, again representatives, where
3 the agreement would allow Colts to make
4 payments in a fashion where the state would
5 be made whole and would be fully reimbursed
6 for the monies that were overpaid in
7 previous years, while at the same time
8 reaching a solution that would allow as much
9 of Colts current service to continue
10 uninterrupted during that cycle.

11 Shortly after Colts proposed their
12 changes over the last few months our
13 offices, as I'm sure possibly your offices,
14 and I know the offices of, again, of our
15 state officials were flooded with visits,
16 e-mails, phone calls, and letters from
17 Colt's riders, their families, and folks in
18 the community who use that service and we
19 saw from that that all of the service is
20 very important, particularly Saturday
21 ridership. And some of us if we don't ride
22 the bus on Saturdays often we think of that
23 as a recreational amenity on Saturdays, but
24 the reality that we saw is that the riders
25 who ride Saturday very often do that to go

1 to work, to get groceries and essentials, to
2 visit relatives or friends, some of whom may
3 be infirmed that they way not be able to
4 reach during the week so the Saturday
5 service is a lifeline for many, and that was
6 very much a topic of discussion during that
7 meeting.

8 And I was fortunate to be present at
9 that meeting in an observer's capacity and I
10 believe I can report, and I think all of the
11 officials there would reiterate my feelings,
12 that the meeting was productive. There was
13 very much a reciprocal tone of cooperation
14 between the secretary and his staff as well
15 as all of the elected officials and their
16 staff in the room. I don't have any
17 anything new to report on that situation
18 since the meeting, but as Colt's and PennDOT
19 officials work forward I'll be certain to
20 report any developments that come up as soon
21 as they happen, and again, we hope to see a
22 situation reached -- a solution reached in
23 the situation we, again, the state is able
24 to be made whole for the overpayments, and
25 Colt is able to keep as much service as

1 possible going forward.

2 Also, on a Christmas note for the
3 holiday season, the Electric City Trolley
4 Museum, just two items to note, their
5 trolley rides with santa, which have been
6 going on for the month of December, are
7 still taking place this weekend. The
8 trolley departure time is 10 a.m., 11 a.m.,
9 12:30 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. from
10 the Electric City Trolley Museum on Cliff
11 Street in Scranton on the grounds of
12 Steamtown. Reservations are required and
13 they can be made by calling the Trolley
14 Museum at 570-963-6590.

15 And also, the Trolley Museum for the
16 remainder of the month running through
17 December 31 is the annual festival of trees
18 exhibit, and I mention this because the
19 museum is open every day during the month
20 except for Christmas Day from 9 a.m. to 4
21 p.m. each day, and during the week actually
22 from the December 22 through the 31st, so a
23 little more than a week, there is a special
24 \$2 admission charge for everyone that
25 attends the museum. Normally there is a few

1 different prices for admission, but for
2 those days, again, September 22 to the 31
3 all of admission to the museum is \$2
4 regardless of age or anything else. So
5 again, if anyone has any questions about
6 that they are welcome to call the Trolley
7 Museum 570-963-6590.

8 And then also on a last
9 Christmas-related note, on behalf of the
10 commissioners we would like to thank
11 everyone who attended the Lackawanna
12 Heritage Valley santa train stops,
13 particularly the last stop on the line here
14 in downtown Scranton, which this year was
15 moved to the Steamtown National Historic
16 site due to the ongoing construction on the
17 State Office Building parking lot. The
18 rough count that we had from the National
19 Park Service rangers was approximately 600
20 people came out to Steamtown that day for
21 free to see santa come in on the train, and
22 it was a great atmosphere, just a fantastic
23 afternoon, and the crowd, this is my third
24 year of being on the committee to plan that
25 event. The crowd was absolutely

1 astonishing. It was a great atmosphere and
2 many families, individuals, people of all
3 ages and shapes and sizes were there and it
4 was a great atmosphere, we hope to see it
5 grow in future years, so our thanks to
6 everyone who attended that.

7 And just lastly, I'd like to thank
8 council, as well as your staff and all city
9 officials for your cooperation this year. I
10 do have to leave after my remarks this
11 evening to speak to your counterparts in
12 Clifton Township, who had a rescheduling of
13 their meeting from their normal time, but I
14 will try to return actually when their
15 meetings lets out for the remainder of the
16 meeting if you're still in session. But
17 again, on behalf of the commissioners,
18 thanks to each of you for your cooperation
19 this year and we hope to see cooperative
20 things happen next year between the City of
21 Scranton and Lackawanna County. So thank
22 you, gentlemen, and ladies.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Hetman.

24 MR. HETMAN: Thank you. And have a
25 Merry Christmas and great holiday season.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: You, too.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Paula Yaugi.

3 MR. YAUGI: Mr. McGoff, and members
4 of Council, thank you for giving me this
5 opportunity to speak. My name is Paula
6 Yaugi. My brother, Fred Yaugi, lived on
7 Beach Street in Scranton and he died
8 unexpectedly the beginning of August, and I
9 have spent the last few months cleaning his
10 house out and I sold one car and he has a
11 BMW that I cannot drive, it's a standard
12 shift, and we had it parked in his driveway
13 covered because it's a convertible top and
14 we were afraid of it getting ruined in the
15 winter, and on Wednesday night, December 3,
16 at 9 p.m. I received a call from a neighbor
17 of my brothers that there was a ticket on
18 his BMW. Mind you, the BMW was covered and
19 it was parked in his driveway. The ticket
20 from Scranton Permit, Inspections and
21 Licensing Division and it was marked "Junk
22 and Abandoned" and it would towed within 48
23 hours if not removed. It was in his own
24 driveway.

25 I did not sleep at all that night.

1 I couldn't get over that night to see the
2 ticket, and in the morning I called the city
3 and I spoke to Mr. Jack Liptai, an
4 inspector, and he met me at my brother's
5 house, and here is the ticket, and it got
6 ruined because of the rain, and it's marked
7 "Junk and Abandoned" and it would be towed
8 within 48 hours and the time it was ticketed
9 was 12:15. I was at my brother's house
10 until 12:20 that morning and nobody knocked
11 on the door to ask. And so Mr. Liptai was a
12 true gentleman and he called the office and
13 he spoke to the person and said that this
14 should never have been ticketed.

15 And I am wondering how that could
16 be? How this person, you can't even read
17 her name but he said it was a female
18 inspector that was off that day, the fourth,
19 how she could ticket without picking up and
20 looking that it was a sticker, that it was a
21 legal sticker. I had the car inspected in
22 September. It was the registration was due
23 in September, I had a sticker, and I thought
24 maybe somebody took the sticker off. It was
25 there, the inspection sticker was on the

1 windshield, and I saw it in the paper on
2 your agenda in 7-A that you are going to be
3 looking at the quality of life and
4 violations and I cannot believe that the
5 person that inspected did not even take the
6 time to pick up the cover and see that it
7 was legal, and I wonder how this could
8 happen.

9 So as not to be harassed all winter
10 with this issue, I had the car moved to a
11 heated garage over the weekend. Please be
12 sure of what you are ticketing. The city
13 has enough problems than to do this to legal
14 vehicles and I'm wondering how this can
15 happen, because I drive Harrison Avenue,
16 it's one of the few streets I travel, and
17 you don't know a car is abandoned until you
18 see it all winter long covered with snow and
19 flat tires and this was in my brother's
20 driveway. How could that happen?

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Myself and Councilman
22 Evans just actually had this conversation a
23 few moments ago that there needs to be
24 policies and procedures in place so that
25 over zealous inspectors or whoever don't go

1 on a ticketing spree for no reason and, you
2 know, it's a problem. I, myself, have heard
3 from different people throughout the city
4 that they have had issues, also. So I think
5 it should be looked into.

6 MS. YAUGI: Well, I just hope
7 whatever you are going to do decide that you
8 take into consideration that was a private
9 driveway, it was a legal car, it was
10 covered, and I'm wondering did she get a
11 call from someone? There is a bar across
12 the street and I know they have parked in
13 his driveway, they have blocked his
14 driveway, he had to have a sign put up "No
15 Parking," but they still did so maybe
16 because the BMW was in the middle of the
17 driveway they couldn't park in there and so
18 somebody from the bar called and reported
19 it. We don't know. But what made her go on
20 personal property? Does she drive the city
21 and did she get a call, that's what I would
22 like to know?

23 MR. GAUGHAN: I think that maybe you
24 should have a meeting with Director Hinton
25 from the Department to make sure that this

1 doesn't happen again.

2 MS. YAUGI: I should have a meeting?

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, I mean, I think
4 that -- I don't know, did you contact him or
5 you talked to --

6 MR. YAUGI: No, I talked to
7 Mr. Liptai, he is the one that came to my
8 brother's house.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Do you know if the
10 director of the department is aware of this
11 issue?

12 MS. YAUGI: I don't know. He
13 called. He called his office and he told
14 them the situation and that it shouldn't
15 have been ticketed and that was the end of
16 it.

17 MR. EVANS: Well, he will be aware
18 tomorrow.

19 MS. YAUGI: Pardon me?

20 MR. EVANS: He will be made aware
21 tomorrow morning.

22 MS. YAUGI: Okay. I'll be glad to
23 give you my phone number.

24 MR. EVANS: If you can.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Give it to Ms.

1 Marciano, please.

2 MS. YAUGI: Thank you very much.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Leanne Theoni.

4 MS. THEONI: Good evening, Council.
5 I'm here to speak to you tonight to possibly
6 shed some light on how the choices you make
7 as a council negatively impact your
8 residents. I was born in North Scranton,
9 raised in West Scranton and I'm not a
10 homeowner raising my children in South
11 Scranton. Our house, which my husband and I
12 purchased in 2005, is a modest,
13 three-bedroom, two bath, brick ranch on a
14 quiet street. Our taxes on this 1600 square
15 foot ranch total \$5,200 when you combine
16 school and property taxes. Meanwhile, on
17 our block other taxpayers have bills half as
18 much. The properties I mentioned have
19 larger lots and more square footage, but our
20 bills don't compare.

21 In addition to this tax bill, my
22 husband and I contribute \$5,100 to the
23 city's wage tax so if you haven't been doing
24 the math allow me. \$5,200 in total tax,
25 \$5,100 in wage tax makes for a grand total

1 of \$10,300 a year. \$10,300 each year, which
2 is roughly 7 percent of our income that goes
3 to this city and municipality.

4 And what do I get for it? Every
5 time I take my children to the park I have
6 to do a quick sweep to make sure my children
7 aren't playing amongst hypodermic needles,
8 trash, litter, or the one time at Connell
9 Park four gentlemen were smoking marijuana
10 while my kids were on the slide. Luckily my
11 husband cajoled me into calling the police
12 instead of approaching them like I initially
13 intended.

14 You sit up here and you go about
15 your business while the educated people flee
16 the city. What's left for my children?
17 They will sit next to a classmate whose
18 parents are not raised in this city, were
19 not taught the sense of pride that
20 generational Scrantonians have known for
21 decades. The poor choices of many have
22 created a renter society where no one has
23 any real attachments to our neighborhoods
24 and when I tell people I want to move to a
25 surrounding neighborhood out of the City of

1 Scranton I hear, "Taxes won't be any better
2 up there."

3 But I can guarantee you I won't be
4 paying \$10,300, and I can guarantee you I
5 will be surrounded by families that take
6 pride in ownership, and I can guarantee you
7 that I won't have to worry about my son or
8 my daughter picking up something dangerous
9 at a park. Do something admirable, do
10 something for your residents who when given
11 the opportunity to purchase their very first
12 home picked Scranton because they couldn't
13 imagine raising their children or their
14 family anywhere else. Do something quick
15 because I will soon be saying "I used to
16 live in Scranton."

17 Thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Theoni.
19 Les Spindler.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
21 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
22 homeowner and taxpayer. It's been awhile
23 since I have been here, my work schedule
24 wouldn't allow me to get here in time, now
25 it's a little different every other week

1 maybe.

2 As I said, I couldn't get here to
3 talk about the budget, but I just wanted to
4 make a couple of comments about it, I know
5 it's too late. You know, everybody was
6 criticizing the mayor because taxes are high
7 and other stuff was raised and this and
8 that, but nobody said it was going to be
9 easy, the mayor was left with a mess. He
10 came into a mess which was 12 years in the
11 making. We had 12 years of mismanagement by
12 the previous administration and I think the
13 mayor is doing the best he possibly could.
14 I don't like paying higher taxes, but his
15 hands are tied. We had to raise taxes to
16 try and raise some money until other revenue
17 sources come in, but I'm not happy, but we
18 got to grin and bear it, we got to try and
19 help the city out, and for anybody that
20 thought that the city would turn around in a
21 year they are very naïve I hear people
22 coming up here and criticizing the mayor
23 because, you know, he is not doing anything,
24 you know what, I said it as soon as he was
25 elected people have to be patient. As I

1 said, you are not going to turn around 12
2 years of mismanagement in one year. It
3 might take 12 more years to do, but I think
4 the mayor is doing a heck of a job, and I
5 heard one person come up here and say he
6 thinks he should resign. That's the most
7 ridiculous thing I ever heard in my life,
8 after one year asking a mayor to resign, but
9 that's all I have to say on that.

10 I am disappointed that the commuter
11 tax wasn't enacted because I'm one person
12 that thinks we should have it and any
13 Scranton resident I think that comes up here
14 and talks against it I don't think they want
15 to the city to do well, maybe they should
16 move somewhere else if they are not happy.

17 And on that note, you know,
18 everybody else wants us to help them, all of
19 the other communities around there, but when
20 comes time to help us, they don't want to do
21 it. An example, two weeks ago there was a
22 tragic explosion in Dunmore where a woman
23 lost her life, the next day in the paper I
24 saw a Scranton fire truck right there at the
25 scene. You know, we were helping other

1 communities out, no other communities want
2 to help us out when we need help, so let the
3 people that don't want to pay the commuter
4 tax remember that, and the people who live
5 in the city talk against it. Let them move
6 to Dunmore and Dickson City or whatever if
7 they don't like it here.

8 Again, about the budget,
9 Mr. Gaughan, you said you didn't vote for it
10 because you wanted concessions made by
11 unions, whether you know it or not the
12 unions made a huge concession. They had a
13 Supreme Court order award over \$40 million,
14 they are taking half of that. That's a huge
15 concession. And also, they have been very
16 patient, they could probably own half the
17 city by now, but they chose to wait and
18 wait, you know, they are waiting until they
19 get their reward, so saying they didn't make
20 concessions that a totally wrong statement
21 and maybe the mayor will talk to them, right
22 now isn't the time. Like I said, they are
23 being very patient and they are letting the
24 city off the hook.

25 Next thing, I was glad to see I

1 think it was in yesterday's paper that the
2 city is getting a \$5 million loan to pay
3 towards that Supreme Court award and I think
4 that's a step in the right direction and I
5 think that shows that the mayor is doing a
6 good job because in the previous
7 administration the banks they wouldn't look
8 at us to loan us money anymore. Now we are
9 getting a loan and I think the banking
10 community sees that we are trying to turn
11 the corner here.

12 So for all of the naysayers, like I
13 said, I think in his first year the mayor
14 did as good as job as possible. I know that
15 anybody could have done a better job, and
16 like I said, I think getting this \$5 million
17 loan I think that proves it, and I think the
18 future is bright and I think he surrounded
19 himself with a lot of good people. People
20 come here and criticize BA Bulzoni, I know
21 Dave Bulzoni, I worked with him for a long
22 time, he is a very smart man, and I think he
23 was one of the best hires the mayor would
24 have made.

25 Lastly, one reminder, I have worked

1 at the Bob Bolus Christmas dinner, I think
2 this is like my 12th year now I volunteered,
3 it's a very rewarding thing, and that is a
4 week today, next Christmas day, I know there
5 is a notice outside so everybody that wants
6 to volunteer just show up at St. Patrick's
7 at noon next Thursday and I'll be there for
8 the 12th year in a row.

9 Other than that, I want to wish
10 everybody, all faiths, happy holidays and
11 happy new year and we'll see you next year.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
13 Mr. Spindler.

14 Joan Hodowanitz.

15 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
16 Scranton taxpayer. Gentlemen, all I want
17 for Christmas is the 2013 city budget. Is
18 it soup yet?

19 MR. MCGOFF: Budget or audit?

20 MR. HODOWANITZ: The budget. I'm
21 sorry, the audit, I stand corrected. The
22 audit, where is it? You remember that
23 historical document we are supposed to have
24 seven months ago? Any progress? Because I
25 know this is your last meetings for the year

1 so ou won't convene again until January.

2 MR. MCGOFF: I have not heard
3 anything recently.

4 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. Next topic,
5 PFM Financial Advisory Services. Last
6 April, council approved a resolution to
7 grant them a contract from March of 2014 to
8 March of 2018. At that time they weren't
9 factored into the 2014 budget so it was
10 determined that their fees for the year 2014
11 would be deferred until 2015. My question
12 is basically do we have an estimate of how
13 much they have charged per bill? How many
14 billable hours and what their total fee will
15 be for 2014 that would apply to the 2015
16 budget, and I want to verify are those
17 monies falling under the line item
18 "Professional Services in the BA's Office"?
19 is that where that money is going to be for
20 2015?

21 MR. MCGOFF: The only thing I know
22 for sure is that there is a fee for
23 financial advisory in the TAN at \$29,000 and
24 that will be taken out of the proceeds of
25 the loan.

1 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. And the next
2 item is the pensions. The first thing, the
3 MMO that's due on December 31, the minimal
4 municipal obligation payment, has the
5 administration determined whether or not
6 they will pay the minimum amount or are they
7 going to fall short?

8 MR. MCGOFF: It will be short.

9 MS. HODOWANITZ: They can't use any
10 money from that \$5 million loan or anything
11 else, the TAN, anything? It would seem to
12 me that if I knew, and this is a fixed cost
13 that they are going to have every year, the
14 MMO, so they know this is coming every year,
15 we knew from last year what happened when we
16 missed paying that we ended up paying
17 \$185,300 in interest for a late payment, so
18 we know there is a consequence for missing
19 that payment, okay? Yes, there are many
20 other fixed payments that the city has, but
21 certainly there has got to be a way of
22 prioritizing these obligations, including
23 the MMO, so that if you have to pay one late
24 you choose one that's not going cause you an
25 extra cost, like interest. I don't

1 understand. We knew this was going to be
2 coming, how we could end up missing it a
3 second year in a row while we didn't put a
4 pile -- put aside a pile of money for that
5 purpose. I don't know, maybe I'm just well
6 enough educated. Is there a reason that I'm
7 missing?

8 MR. MCGOFF: Only that there is a
9 revenue shortfall and the choices are we
10 could pay the MMO and miss maybe three
11 payrolls, which is not going to happen.

12 MS. HODOWANITZ: I wouldn't
13 recommend that either, but we knew about
14 this from January 6 when the mayor took
15 office, so I wonder if it's going to happen
16 three years in a row, I hope not.

17 And finally, the pensions
18 themselves, the Times-Tribune has been doing
19 a series of articles on the pensions and the
20 pension problem, and I'm very interested to
21 read about the 1978 state law which trumps
22 all municipal laws apparently that puts us
23 behind the eight ball in that we cannot stop
24 the pensions of convicted felons after the
25 fact, and I understand, you know, the way

1 the law was written why that happened, but
2 two things we have to look at, we have to
3 look at our local ordinances involving
4 pensions and the state law, and if need be
5 and they have to be modified, changed or
6 rewritten we need to start looking at doing
7 that for the future, you know? I just don't
8 think it's right, you know, that we should
9 pay a penny to a convicted felon. It's just
10 not right. It sends the wrong message. I'm
11 all for paying extra taxes for those public
12 officials and servants who have served
13 honorably, but not one sent to a convicted
14 felon. That's all I have to say.

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

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
18 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,
19 I'm not going to mention the pensions
20 because I have been doing it for 12 years.
21 I know more about the pensions and what
22 happened than any of you up there, I think I
23 told you more reasons. When we first came
24 out, I'm not going to really get into it, I
25 wish Brian Reap had kept on council, that's

1 all I got to say. He is the only one that
2 ever made sense up there.

3 Let's go with the quality of life.
4 You know what the great impudence of the
5 quality of life in Scranton is? City
6 government. You are the problem that the
7 quality of life is declining in the city.
8 Every time you raise taxes you lower the
9 standard of living of everybody in the city.
10 Now, you have some type of that 12,500 I
11 guess cushions you a little, but it doesn't
12 cushion us, and you have done everything you
13 could to destroy the city.

14 Many times people came before you
15 not as a nose on your face, but as a
16 suggestion, suggestion that should have been
17 looked into instead of tossed away. The
18 secret of Scranton, the only survival of
19 Scranton is regional government, you got to
20 look at that. Not the Abingtons. Abingtons
21 only means money coming to a certain
22 individual with grants, but has nothing to
23 do with the city itself. You have got to
24 reach out to your surrounding communities,
25 not over the mountain. It's the only way

1 you are going to survive. You are not going
2 to -- you are already reaching out, but you
3 are reaching out in their pockets. The
4 right to work tax going up to \$156, it's got
5 a fancy name to it, but it's a right to work
6 tax, and you got to look at it as a right to
7 work tax and not give it a fancy name. You
8 try to do everything to sweet water it.
9 That's not the way to do it. You got to
10 tell the people what's happening.

11 I couldn't do nothing, I told the
12 people vote with your brain instead of your
13 name or party, did they listen? No. This
14 is why we are where we are now. People did
15 not use good judgment when they elected
16 people. They like the name, Gatelli and
17 Fanucci are gone because they didn't like
18 their names, but their policies are the same
19 as yours people, and that's the bad part of
20 it are the policies that are in trouble, not
21 the name. You got to look at an individual
22 as an individual, what he believes in and
23 what he works for, but people didn't vote
24 that way, they voted Democratic party
25 because that's the way they vote. Mr. Rogan

1 had to run as -- was a Republican, had to
2 run as a Democrat, he got elected. That's
3 not right, they should have elected Mr.
4 Rogan as a Republican because he believed in
5 that philosophy, but unfortunately people
6 don't do that.

7 And where we are now has taken many
8 years to go and many years many people have
9 come to this podium and told me what was
10 going to happen and I blame a lot on the
11 Times for ridiculing a lot of people,
12 calling them a Legion of Doom. Believe me,
13 they weren't here to profess doom, they
14 loved Scranton or they wouldn't have come
15 and wasted all their time to come before
16 you, they would have just moved out.

17 A lot of people in this city are
18 disgusted with the government, and I don't
19 blame them, whether they are going to change
20 or not I have no idea, but I tell you one
21 thing a lot of people are going to lose
22 their homes. And any time you quicken the
23 way you can process homes or really do
24 anything to the people, we don't have to
25 have all of these Draconian laws, whether a

1 thing like calling this quality of life, we
2 are not Nazi Germany. We don't tell the
3 people over there that we are taking you out
4 to a beautiful place to live and you can
5 spread yourself. We are Scrantonians. We
6 know that we have to keep our yards clean or
7 cut our grass or do whatever it requires to
8 make your neighborhood liveable. We don't
9 need oppression, and that's what your people
10 are, you are the most oppressive council
11 that ever sat there, and there is no way to
12 look at it. I keep telling everybody your
13 government is your enemy. Your weapon is
14 your vote. Thank you.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

17 MR. QUINN: Good evening, Ozzie
18 Quinn, president of the Hill Neighborhood
19 Association. First, I want to concur with
20 Councilman Evans in regards could 7-F. I,
21 too, was on the planning commission and that
22 is spot zoning and I remember the old zoning
23 ordinance, it looked like it made a mess out
24 of the whole neighborhoods of the City of
25 Scranton because they allowed spot zoning.

1 Once you start something, you change the
2 whole zoning so I concur with Mr. Evans on
3 that.

4 The other thing has the city council
5 received or you aware of the Scranton
6 Municipal Recreation Authority's audit?
7 Have they given a copy of an audit yet, is
8 it completed? I know last summer I asked
9 for a copy and they gave me a balance sheet
10 and they said they were doing an audit it's
11 December now. The reason I'm concerned
12 about it, you know, we got to raise money
13 for kids swimming free, okay, Kids Swim
14 Free, and you people, the council, set a
15 line item for swimming, okay? And I want to
16 see just the Recreation Authority's audit to
17 see is there money in there for chemicals,
18 how much money is in there, you know, and
19 whatever because are they any findings
20 whatever, okay?

21 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Quinn, I might
22 suggest you see one of the members from the
23 Recreation Authority, Shawn McAndrew is
24 here, and he has been a regular attendee at
25 our meetings. You want to talk to him after

1 the meeting, he is right in the front row.
2 He would probably have a little more insight
3 on that than we would.

4 MR. QUINN: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. ROGAN: You are welcome.

6 MR. QUINN: Okay, I want to talk
7 about the quality of life ordinance. I want
8 to commend Councilman Evans for bringing
9 that forward to the City of Scranton. The
10 research that he done and, you know, up in
11 the Hill Section neighborhood we are for it
12 because there is over 500 absentee landlords
13 in the Hill neighborhood and it's not really
14 a policing. You know, there is people who
15 own their properties and keep up their
16 properties and they try to keep the value of
17 their properties up, and the fact is that
18 they are a lot of people that do not care,
19 okay? It's like Police Chief Carl Graziano,
20 the broken glass theory. If there is a
21 broken window someplace and if it's not
22 fixed it continues and pretty soon you got
23 blight and you got crime. Somebody throws a
24 piece of paper on the ground, pretty soon
25 the next person throws a piece of paper on

1 the ground, and what you have you just have
2 neighborhoods that are blighted, and I think
3 had is going to be what's an exterior
4 situation where it's exterior more or less
5 looking at what's happening in the
6 neighborhoods and try to eliminate this
7 blight, and there is a lot of blight. Take
8 a walk around. I walked around with
9 Mr. Evans and Mr. Hinton, you know what?
10 People had their laundry out on the hedges
11 drying their laundry. People put their
12 laundry drying on the front porch, you know?
13 They put couches and other household
14 furniture on the front porch. I mean,
15 that's ridiculous and there has got to be
16 some approach to it.

17 Now, in order to respect the other
18 homeowners that live in there and in the
19 area it's got to pass, and I appreciate it
20 the other council looking at and hopefully
21 you will pass it tonight. Thank you on
22 that, okay?

23 Now, streetlights in the Hill
24 Section, you know, there is no one, I mean,
25 this is going on for months and months and

1 months, we have seven streetlights out, and
2 people are saying, "When is my streetlight
3 going to be get fixed?"

4 All right? Now, in all due respect
5 if that contractor has too much of a
6 workload with his private contract then it
7 should be -- somebody else should do it,
8 okay? There is no doubt about it, okay?
9 Now, I looked at Allentown, and Allentown
10 has a population of 100,000 population
11 persons, and you know who is doing their
12 streetlight repairing? The maintenance,
13 traffic maintenance department, and there is
14 no reason, you know, why the City of
15 Scranton, we have a cherry picker, why the
16 City of Scranton DPW traffic maintenance
17 cannot do the work of an outside contractor.

18 You know, as a matter fact, we
19 should look at a lot of outside contracts
20 that a lot of the in-house -- could be done
21 in-house by the employees. A little elbow
22 grease is all it takes, okay? I really hope
23 that you look at that contract for the
24 streetlights and try to something about,
25 this is not my opinion, this is a proposal,

1 okay, and I hope you look at it from the
2 standpoint of a proposal, and I would
3 appreciate that.

4 And again, I thank Councilman Evans
5 for what he has done in bringing that to the
6 City of Scranton and I'm sure it will work
7 out, you know, it's just a matter of fact
8 that a lot of people get concerned, but I'm
9 glad that they are getting concerned because
10 now I think we are going to end a lot of
11 that blight that's going on in the city that
12 shouldn't be happening. Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Quinn, if I could
14 just mention with the street lighting, and
15 IU agree with you that it's one of the
16 things that probably can be done better
17 in-house than contracted out, if residents
18 recall when we had the firm before Joyce was
19 awarded the contract we had the same issue
20 where initially when they first were awarded
21 the contract you would submit the pole
22 number and the light number and it would get
23 fixed in a matter of a week, and then Joyce
24 then -- you know, they took forever, forever
25 and switched to Joyce and initially they

1 were very successful with getting the lights
2 put in and I think all of us on council have
3 encountered problems where people have
4 submitted requests and, you know, sometimes
5 over a month to get a light bulb fixed,
6 which certainly isn't acceptable.

7 MR. QUINN: We recently had a rash
8 of car break-ins in the Hill Section in the
9 areas where three or four of the lights were
10 out, you know, and obviously it accommodates
11 the criminals when the lights are out and
12 it's ashame. Thank you very much.

13 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

15 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
16 Doug Miller, Scranton. I really had no
17 intentions of coming down tonight, but after
18 listening to some of the previous residents
19 this evening I thought a lot of good points
20 were made early on in the meeting. I caught
21 the tail end of Mr. Sbaraglia. Also, heard
22 from a woman that came forward speaking on,
23 you know, the amount of taxes that she pays
24 and how she is a very concerned about the
25 future for her children in this community

1 and I really hope that this council actually
2 paid attention to those statements because I
3 thought that she pretty much summed up the
4 state of this city within those five minutes
5 that she was up at this podium.

6 You know, we talk about the
7 taxation, we talk about blight and, you
8 know, tonight we have a quality of life
9 ordinance on the agenda and, you know,
10 quality of life right now in general, you
11 know, isn't too good. As we look around the
12 city is pretty much dead at this point and
13 that's reality. Unfortunately, we haven't
14 allowed reality to set in. A lot of us are
15 still in this delusional fairytale world
16 that we are getting somewhere and we are
17 not.

18 You know, it's nice to talk about
19 quality of life and to go through the
20 neighborhoods and punish people for not
21 keeping their properties intact and, believe
22 me, I understand there are some homeowners
23 out there and property owners who do neglect
24 their properties for unfortunate reasons,
25 but for the most part there are a lot of

1 people out there who make every attempt to
2 upkeep their property and to keep that
3 quality of life, you know, up in a positive
4 manner, and then there are those who just
5 simply can't do it because we have a
6 government who has continued year after year
7 after year to come forward and suck the life
8 out of them, suck them dry. You did it
9 again this year with your budget, you did it
10 last year, and you are just going to
11 continue to do it, and so it's nice to go
12 around and slap people on the wrist and tell
13 them you better get your property up to code
14 or else, and then in the same token come
15 forward and say, "I'm going to raise your
16 taxes 57 percent, 16 percent, we are going
17 to triple the LST, we are just going to make
18 your life a living nightmare, just nothing
19 but misery."

20 And that's where we are at right now
21 in this community, and as we get set to ring
22 in 2015 there is not one optimistic thing
23 that we can look at right now. You know, a
24 statement was made that, you know, perhaps
25 if our elected officials don't get their

1 acts together they should consider
2 resigning. That's not an absurd statement
3 to make, that's where we are right now and
4 we have every right to come forward and make
5 that statement because right now we have
6 people in place that don't have an ability
7 to lead. They are bought and paid for.
8 They are paid puppets. They represent
9 special interests. They are not looking out
10 for the residents of this community because
11 if they were there things would be a lot
12 different right now, we would certainly be
13 singing a much different tune than we
14 currently are.

15 This council didn't make any attempt
16 whatsoever to look out for the residents of
17 this city. You looked out for special
18 interests and you looked out for those
19 control you, quite frankly, and you may not
20 like to hear those statements but that's
21 reality. And it's just really sad, you
22 know, when you hear people come forward and
23 share their stories and what's really sad is
24 we have a government that just turns a blind
25 eye, falls on deaf ears time and time again,

1 and that's why this city just really isn't
2 going turn around any time soon because we
3 don't take these issues serious. You know,
4 the solution is always taxation and we are
5 forcing people, we are giving people every
6 reason to want to get the heck out of here.
7 My generation, forget it, they are gone. I
8 guess I'm the only nut that stayed around
9 and a few handful of others that decided to
10 stay around, but there is no opportunity
11 here and there is not going to be any
12 opportunity because we don't have any
13 leadership in the city.

14 You know, look around, downtown, no
15 jobs, neighborhoods are falling apart, it's
16 easy to blame the homeowners, is it really
17 the homeowners we should be blaming or
18 should we be blaming our government? I
19 think we really need to look in the mirror
20 as we head into the new year and,
21 unfortunately, we lack any creative thought
22 in our government. You know, we listen to
23 these consultants that come forward with
24 their suggestions and their solutions and
25 claim to have all of these grand plans, we

1 listen to all of the plans, we haven't had
2 one work yet because we keep relying on
3 people that they don't live here.
4 Mr. Amoroso really know what's going on
5 around here? I don't think he does. Why
6 was he brought here to begin with? We
7 really never got an answer to that question.
8 Who really did recommend Mr. Amoroso and why
9 was he here? Why did we elect a mayor? Why
10 did we elect five members to sit up on this
11 council? Do we have an answer to that? We
12 don't because we just keep kicking the same
13 can down the road and we expect a different
14 result.

15 And to basically sum up the holiday
16 season for this city it's pretty bleak, we
17 are on life support and the only question we
18 have to ask ourselves right now is when do
19 we pull the plug and when do we march down
20 to the courthouse with a bankruptcy petition
21 because that's where we are right now.

22 Thank you and I wish the residents of this
23 city Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

1 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.
2 Bob Bolus, Scranton. There is a question I
3 have on 7-F, and I agree with Mr. Evans I
4 don't think we should be doing spot-type
5 planning or zoning within the city. I think
6 Geisinger needs to come forward, put a
7 comprehensive plan of exactly what's going
8 to go on and what they intend to do, not
9 take a facility just because they bought it
10 at an auction and just wait until they throw
11 some at the dartboard and decide what they
12 are going to do with it. Everybody else
13 once you set a precedent you are going to
14 live that from now and forever throughout
15 the city because you will not be able to
16 deny any citizen or any business coming into
17 this city to make a change once you set that
18 precedent without having a comprehensive
19 plans of exactly what they are going to do
20 and go through the proper procedure through
21 zoning, meetings, council to verify and have
22 citizen participation what's going to happen
23 in their city? So I would is that you table
24 this tonight until you have a solid concrete
25 foundation of what's going on there because

1 what they are doing is just wrong. You
2 can't just do what they are doing.

3 Tomorrow Mr. Rogan may want to put
4 something up that he tried once before,
5 okay, you can come in and tell them, "I want
6 a spot zoning permit" and they can't deny
7 it, so don't start a precedent that you are
8 going to regret down the road, so that's
9 where you got to start there.

10 The other thing that I had a
11 question on is 7-A, an ordinance adopting
12 the quality of life and violations and
13 tickets. I mean, quality of life takes on
14 many, many facets, so if we are going to do
15 something in an ordinance that says quality
16 of life let's be specific. Air quality,
17 which means protecting us from the landfill
18 if goes to a higher elevation from airborne
19 carcinogens, it's quality of life. Traffic
20 studies within the city, noise abatement
21 along the highways. And we could go on and
22 on and on, potholes in the city that
23 somebody could break your leg in. It's all
24 part of quality of life. Better insurance,
25 lower taxes, more input from the public,

1 more legislative changes that increase the
2 tax base and decrease the tax rate. Take
3 the stress off people, stress is part of
4 quality of life. So I can go on and on,
5 financial burdens, quality of life, so this
6 should be tabled until you make a
7 comprehensive quality of life program and
8 process that covers a multitude of things
9 not just a few specifics or change
10 determination quality of life, make it an
11 ordinance that's specific to what you are
12 looking to. Condemnation, blight, whatever
13 that may be, but don't call it quality of
14 life, change the definition.

15 The other thing I have here is a lot
16 of the issue happened in the city you passed
17 the budget, but you know, gentlemen, we have
18 come here and spoke and spoke, I listened to
19 the young lady before what they are paying,
20 what I'm being paying for a church and a
21 hall that I bought, was being torn down and
22 purchased by the city for a \$1 when the city
23 was going to tear it down, spent how many
24 thousands or hundreds of thousands of
25 dollars to demolish it, make it a parking

1 lot and then sell it to a local magistrate
2 for \$2 that already had a deed prepared but
3 never filed it, was upset because we bought
4 it all and I paid \$35,000, it's assessed at
5 a half a million bucks. We had development
6 plans for it, I have let the kids play free
7 for Holy Cross Hall since the day I bought
8 it, haven't paid a dime to me, yet I got to
9 pay the taxes on the property because of the
10 prejudice against me for doing what we did
11 to buy it and we didn't sell it or allow an
12 underhanded deal to go on in the City of
13 Scranton, and we are paying the price, but a
14 major development we were going to do there
15 has been cancelled, and who did it hurt? It
16 hurt the people in the city because we are
17 not going to invest in other capital
18 improvement in the city under the tax base.

19 You could have a passed a 1 percent
20 fee across everybody in this city, which
21 would have included the nonprofits and
22 KOZ's, but what happened is it was
23 neglected, you went and punished all of the
24 people out here but you didn't punish and
25 make accountable those that aren't paying

1 their fair share, but yet you are asking, as
2 General Kane says, the regular people are
3 being made to pay because they didn't defend
4 themselves. That's what a council does,
5 that what's our legislative body does. You
6 are the defense. You are the money people
7 that General Kane and other people have the
8 wherewithal to that defend themselves, but
9 the people here can't do that.

10 So I would look at the budget again
11 or look at modifications to put a 1 percent
12 fee, call it a quality of life fee, perfect.
13 Quality of life covers many things and you
14 could use the money in many other areas,
15 reducing taxes, reducing things. I proposed
16 a casino to this town, and it was viable and
17 it could happen, but Mr. McGoff called it
18 Herculean. It wasn't any part on council's
19 part but writing a letter, we were doing the
20 investing in it and we were investing in the
21 future of the City of Scranton, but instead
22 of putting the rails on a positive line you
23 put the sale on the railroad to a
24 destruction, which is going to include a
25 bankruptcy because you are never going to

1 borrow to get out of debt. You are going to
2 kill this city. Put a fee on us and start
3 making people pay.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

5 MR. BOLUS: I'd like wish you each,
6 and all of the people out here, a Merry
7 Christmas, and remember our dinner that I
8 have on Christmas Day is held at St. Pat's
9 and everybody is invited. Thank you.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
11 council, Marie Schumacher. First off, is
12 there any member of the council who would
13 like to take up my challenge to tell me how
14 we are going to get from the 2015 budget to
15 no unstructured debt within three years? No
16 takers, huh? I didn't think there would be.

17 Is there collateral on this TAN --
18 for this TAN?

19 MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry?

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Is there collateral
21 for this TAN.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Just a general
23 obligation.

24 MR. ROGAN: The taxes would be
25 collateral.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Well, and a lockbox.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, if I'm
3 reading the raw materials, raw figures that
4 Mr. Evans provided to me last week rather
5 than the statistics I'd asked for, I would
6 like to note that it appears the median
7 sales price of Scranton homes has fallen
8 from \$87,000 down to \$72,000. That sort of
9 screams for reassessment, and I guess I'll
10 dovetail that into what irritated me the
11 most this morning.

12 First, I'd like to thank the
13 Scranton Times-Tribune for the work they did
14 on the pension situation, but this one that
15 said, "Officials --" this is referring to
16 Scranton, Scranton officials -- "Are
17 watching pension bills."

18 I don't think you guys were elected
19 to watch, I think your job is to call our
20 representatives in here and ask them what
21 they are going to do to help this city, and
22 in conjunction with that you might be able
23 to get them to pass legislation, since we
24 are the only 2A city and we are 40 percent
25 of the county, to allow Lackawanna County to

1 do what is done in Northern Virginia, which
2 is not spend \$8 million every time you have
3 to do a reassessment, it's based on actual
4 market values and we don't have to spend a
5 lot of money unless somebody wants to help
6 their buddy at Century 21 or whatever those
7 companies are the come in and do that, take
8 a picture and then decide from that, it's
9 sort of worthless in my estimation. A lot
10 of other things go, a lot of things don't
11 get reported, but I think one of your top
12 things for next year should be call our
13 legislators in and set them down here and
14 tell them what you think they need to do for
15 us, not just watch. Get your bag of popcorn
16 and watch, that's not acceptable, I'm sorry.

17 And now I also was shocked tonight,
18 it seemed to me if my recollector is working
19 that one of the problems or things that was
20 stated during the fiasco about the taxes not
21 being enacted properly for this year was
22 that the taxes were -- the tax rates were
23 supposed to be voted on by Congress --
24 or Congress, yeah, wrong location, sorry, by
25 the council before the end of this year, and

1 these rates are not on the agenda tonight
2 and it's my understanding this is the last
3 meeting of the year, did I hear incorrectly
4 or is what we are supposed to do enact all
5 of those rates before the end of this year?
6 Maybe during Fifth Order, because I do want
7 to get to the so-called quality of life
8 legislation.

9 I think this is terrible. I fear
10 that it's just yet another way to grab money
11 from the property tax owners so you don't
12 have to raise the rates. Quality of life
13 means different things, people want
14 different things in their yards. I think
15 maybe the only people who will benefit from
16 this are fence makers and installers because
17 I have a bunch of questions maybe you could
18 answer on this legislation, and I can see
19 people go by.

20 For instance, I went by Mr. Rogan,
21 the lot that he bought that was up for a
22 cell tower. I drove by there, it appears
23 that two-thirds of that is cut, and the back
24 third is brambles and --

25 MR. ROGAN: There is a property

1 adjacent. There is two vacant lots next to
2 one another.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yours does not go
4 back to the one behind? I'll bring the map
5 next year, but first of all, going to -- may
6 I continue for just a few? Accumulation of
7 rubbish, it says, "All exterior property and
8 premises, the exterior, shall be free from
9 any accumulation of waste, trash, rubbish or
10 garbage."

11 Does that mean you can't have a
12 composter? The county gives them away but
13 now we can't have a composter in our yard?

14 On Item 16, what's free speech? I
15 can't put a sign in my yard if I want to
16 state something? I think you are treading
17 on my free speech.

18 Snow removal, this is crazy, must be
19 removed within four hours of cessation of
20 the said snow and ice falling? I mean, God
21 forbid you are on a trip and it snowed what
22 do you do? You get a \$150 ticket or
23 something? That's crazy. And how about the
24 city properties, will the city properties be
25 likewise assessed a violation if they don't

1 do their own sidewalks?

2 On 18, all containers must be stored
3 in the rear of every property so said
4 containers are not visible from the public
5 right-of-way. Where is the rear? Now, I
6 own a corner property, 25 percent extra I
7 pay in taxes, and where is my backyard? Is
8 it visible from any corner? I think that
9 is -- that is my right. There are just so
10 many, this one though is my best one,
11 "Shrubs and bushes. Bushes and shrubs on
12 all premises and exterior properties shall
13 maintained and kept in good order."

14 Would somebody please define good
15 order? It's not in your -- and I think --
16 and one more and I leave promise I'll leave,
17 which is back on definitions, which is the
18 public officer, it says, "Any police
19 officer, authorized inspector or public
20 official designated by the city to enforce
21 city ordinances."

22 I think if you going to go ahead
23 with this, and I strongly recommend that you
24 not go ahead with this, it's going to turn
25 in a disaster and neighborhoods fights I'm

1 pretty sure, but this will -- I think it
2 should contain a clause that any change in
3 who is designated to enforce these should
4 come before -- should come before council
5 and I think --

6 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: I think the police
8 should be doing their job on people who are
9 running lights and there is nothing about
10 cars parked on sidewalks forcing disabled
11 people out into the street.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

13 MR. EVANS: Can I offer one
14 clarification?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

16 MR. EVANS: Can I offer one
17 clarification while we are on the subject on
18 of quality of life? If you want me to talk
19 about it later? Every law that's in the
20 quality of life ordinance already exists.
21 Everyone that Ms. Schumacher just recited
22 already exists. All the quality of life
23 ordinance does is package them into one
24 ordinance and streamline the process for
25 enforcement, it's that simple. This is no

1 new laws that were written, there is no new
2 additions that were written, all it does is
3 streamline the process. Thank you.

4 MR. UNGVARSKY: Good evening, city
5 council.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

7 MR. UNGVARSKY: I'm Tom Ungvarsky.
8 I see we have another emergency on the
9 agenda, I guess it's getting to be regular
10 anymore. Tonight in Seventh Order is the
11 quality of life, that means it's been voted
12 on twice. All five of you have had two
13 chances to explain to the people what the
14 quality of life is. All of these codes are
15 already on the books, all's you are doing is
16 applying fines to them. Last week it was
17 brought out a few amendments were put on the
18 quality of the life, I noticed that the only
19 thing that was read off was numbers and the
20 amount of the fine. It seems strange to me
21 that you couldn't describe what each one was
22 instead of reading off all of the numbers.
23 Let's face it, the only thing this is
24 designed to do is enhance the revenue for
25 the City of Scranton.

1 What will happen in the future is
2 will you will one neighbor pitted against
3 the other and reporting this or that or
4 didn't get the garbage can in time, my
5 recommendation is if you don't vote it down
6 to table it until you get a better idea of
7 what the people feel about this. I wish all
8 a Merry Christmas and Merry Christmas to
9 Chrissy.

10 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
11 Dave Dobrzyn, resident, taxpayer, property
12 owner. Ours ears are probably ringing now
13 on this 7-A, but I have some concerns. I
14 don't know if that I am inept on the
15 computer, but I tried to find a copy of the
16 ordinance so I could read it, I just found
17 out of Marie Schumacher I can go down to the
18 library and pay 25 cents a page for the
19 ordinance, which I may do, it may be too
20 late. I don't even know what the ordinance
21 entails so please table it until what time
22 that our IT Department starts to get
23 ordinances that could seriously impact
24 somebody, a resident of Scranton, on-line.
25 I pay \$176 a month for Com service and, you

1 know, it's like certain things just don't
2 exist. I'm little concerned about certain
3 things on it, yeah, four hours is -- suppose
4 you are in work and it finishes snowing at
5 9:00 in the morning, by 5:00 in the
6 afternoon you are up for \$150 fine, Pat, and
7 I'm sure you got home after 5:00 most days,
8 you know? What if people are disabled or
9 there is some kind of problem? More often
10 than not, I had a big snowblower and we
11 worked with other neighbors, a heart
12 patient, a retiree and two diabetics to
13 clear the snow out of half of the court and
14 what happened the DPW came and we had a wall
15 as high as this podium pushed in front of
16 the Court and my wife missed work on Friday,
17 it snowed on Wednesday.

18 I mean, you know, is that -- another
19 time somebody from the city blew a bunch of
20 ice and snow up on our sidewalk after we had
21 run the snowblower and they laughed at us
22 and drove away. Ha, ha, ha. A lady next
23 door left her house because she was making
24 \$8.50 an hour at Shift's, that's where
25 empathy comes in, and some of the neighbors

1 got together and she was a little sloppy,
2 you know, but at any rate now the house is
3 abandoned and when the inspectors came up on
4 the property they didn't have it clear
5 whether it was my property they were
6 complaining about, which they really didn't
7 have anything to complain about period, and
8 started screaming at my dog to shut up. He
9 was on leash, he was licensed, that was his
10 job. I always want a dog that barks when
11 some stranger is on the property. He barks
12 when the newspaper hits the back porch at
13 4:00 and I don't mind. Don't mind one bit.
14 Good boy.

15 It's just that we can't get it
16 on-line. I mean, some are straight forward,
17 I mean, Mr. Gaughan is back 7-B, that's
18 straight forward, I mean, I don't have to
19 know anything about that, I can see it, his
20 parents are buying a lot and I can say buyer
21 beware when you get that tax bill, young
22 man. It might eat up your salary up there,
23 if they don't have any specific use for the
24 lot or it's undersized or unconstructable
25 like mine is it doesn't have a -- I often

1 wish I could just leave it behind and go
2 back to the city and abandon it and stop
3 paying the taxes on it, but with my luck
4 somebody connected will buy it up and put a
5 bunch of breaker rock on it and park a
6 couple diesel trucks there and idle them
7 until doom's day.

8 I'll make it quick, but it's time we
9 start to have empathy. You know, a young
10 married person shouldn't buy a house
11 immediately, 50 percent of marriages break
12 up within a short amount of time, not 50
13 percent, but probably half of that, 50
14 percent, break up in a short amount of time,
15 and they have a default and you have car
16 loans and everything else and two people out
17 on the drunk.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: I hope my wife isn't
19 watching this, Mr. Dobrzyn, we just got
20 married.

21 MR. DOBRZYN: What's that?

22 MR. GAUGHAN: I said I hope my wife
23 isn't watching this meeting, she is going to
24 start to get nervous.

25 MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah, hey, we prudent,

1 you know? I was glad for 25 years for a
2 landlord in some cases because I couldn't
3 afford a house, interest rates were 15
4 percent in the late 70's and it was silly to
5 buy a house.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Dobrzyn.

7 MR. DOBRZYN: Okay, one final,
8 oppression starts in your home town. If you
9 want a constitutional reprieve go to the
10 Supreme Court and make sure you have \$5
11 million in your pocket to do it. Thank you
12 and have a great night.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
15 to address council?

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

18 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler?

19 MR. WECHSLER: First of all, I'd
20 like to wish happy holidays to all of those
21 celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanza.

22 Just a few comments on some of the
23 agenda items. Last week I talked about that
24 we were disappointed that we did not make
25 our complete MMO payment this year, but on a

1 brighter not this year the TAN did come in
2 at an exceedingly lower rate than it did
3 last year, we will experience considerable
4 savings base on the deal that we got. I
5 would also like to publically thank council
6 solicitor Amil Minora and city solicitor
7 Jason Shrive for not taking any fees that we
8 were entitled to that were associated with
9 the TAN. It's a considerable savings for
10 the city and I do respect them greatly for
11 their contribution and to help this along
12 here.

13 From talking to Business

14 Administrator Bulzoni the Parking Authority
15 default still haunts us, it precludes us
16 from having more banks interested in it
17 because the process of our default comes up
18 every time. Hopefully in a few years the
19 steps that we have taken this year to
20 correct that default will start to pay
21 benefits.

22 Listening to the speakers tonight, I
23 sympathize with someone who has purchased a
24 home in the city and is trying to make a go
25 of it. I had the same problem 30 years ago.

1 It's tough starting out, but the part of
2 thing that we have to realize is it's not
3 just the city, the county taxes you and
4 especially the Scranton school district is a
5 significant portion of your taxes. We are
6 trying to here to keep them as -- tax
7 increases as small as possible. I
8 think your comments were heartfelt and I
9 have great interest in helping you out with
10 that, but I also think you should take your
11 message to the school district and to the
12 county. Since council is here and we are
13 the only elected public officials that face
14 public and listen to your concerns every
15 week and we appreciate them, I encourage
16 more people to come down and speak. It
17 shows a commitment that you have to your
18 neighborhood and I respect that and I will
19 do anything I can to help you with your
20 problems, short of lowering your taxes.

21 But, unfortunately, we hear comments
22 here tonight why didn't you pay the MMO?
23 Well, we didn't pay the MMO because we
24 didn't have enough revenue? Why did you
25 raise taxes? We need more revenue. This is

1 a cycle. Some of the arguments and comments
2 that we are here tonight don't jive. We
3 can't do more with less, so that the amount
4 of the taxes that we collect are going to
5 towards hiring inspectors. We are trying to
6 add additional firemen -- I'm sorry,
7 policemen to help with the problems in your
8 neighborhood, but it goes hand-in-hand, we
9 need revenue to do this.

10 Just one last comment, and like I
11 said we hear a lot of things here, and one
12 thing that I don't agree with is that the
13 City of Scranton is dead. Financially we
14 are almost dead, but the city itself is not
15 dead. Just take a look at two people that
16 came here tonight to make comments, good or
17 bad, to me that means that there is still
18 hope for the city and people are trying to
19 make things work.

20 Mr. McGoff read a letter today about
21 neighbors in South Side who have adopted
22 Connors Park on their own. No one asked
23 these people to do that, they are making a
24 serious contribution to their neighborhood
25 out of their pride and their desire to make

1 their neighborhood better. Now, you tell me
2 if that's an example of a dying city and I
3 tell you that you are wrong. I'll tell you
4 that are you wrong. You know, the elected
5 officials we have a difficult job, and we
6 ran for it and we asked for it, and I keep
7 hearing that the wrong people got elected.
8 Well, I'll tell you what, I'd rather sit
9 with these guys here who are out working in
10 the neighborhoods all the time taking
11 citizens' complaints, trying to get your
12 lights lit, trying to get your potholes
13 fixed, we are doing it and we might not be
14 the best elected officials, but we did make
15 a commitment. We went out, we knocked on
16 doors, we went to spaghetti dinners, I don't
17 know who else would have been chosen. We
18 had great candidates when myself and
19 Mr. Rogan and Mr. Gaughan ran. There were
20 great candidates out there. We were
21 selected. I don't know anybody else who was
22 out there while we were running that would
23 do much different than what we are doing
24 here. They all shared the same commitment
25 to the city and that's what we are doing. I

1 again, I'd just like to wish everybody a
2 happy holidays. I have some more comments
3 and we go into the legislation. Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

5 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Just a very
6 brief comments, I'd like to start with the
7 TAN as well and I echo much of what
8 Mr. Wechsler just said thanking our city
9 solicitor and our council solicitor for
10 choosing not to take fees that they were
11 entitled to for their work on this TAN.

12 Just a highlight some of the
13 comparisons, and I'd also like to thank
14 Mr. Bulzoni for attending our caucus earlier
15 and the mayor for working so hard to get
16 this to us, I remember sitting in meetings
17 last year and I think Mr. McGoff remembers
18 as well what the concern was is the city
19 going to get a TAN to make payroll the
20 beginning of the year. Luckily that's one
21 concern that we won't have this year.

22 Just some of the comparisons, and
23 I'm not going to go through them all, I just
24 want to hit some of the main points, and the
25 TAN -- the breakdown that Mr. Bulzoni

1 provided us with is very helpful because it
2 doesn't just -- if you just look at the
3 interest rate alone it can be rather
4 misleading. Now, the interest rate is lower
5 this year, but the fees are significantly
6 lower. All in the costs of issuing the 2014
7 TAN was \$787,149. Fees and interest, all
8 in. The all in amount for the 2015 TAN the
9 cost is \$471,685, so just by looking at
10 those numbers there is about a \$316,000
11 savings year over year.

12 As the business administrator
13 reported to us, it's not as good of a deal
14 as other cities are receiving or as school
15 districts are receiving, but it is a step in
16 the right direction, and there were more
17 banks interested in year, which anyone who
18 understands anything about the finances the
19 more you have -- when you have more people
20 looking to bid on more you will get a lower
21 rate which did hold true this year, so I
22 thank the administration for all of their
23 hard work on this and hopefully next year we
24 will be able to report again that there were
25 -- we are making progress in the right

1 direction.

2 Next, a couple of the issues that
3 were brought up, the quality of life, which
4 is one that was brought up by many of the
5 speakers, and one of the examples that
6 Mr. Evans uses actually when he first told
7 us about it, and I think this is a helpful
8 example on why we are packaging these
9 nuisance laws into one ticket is that
10 enforcement has been issue. For instance,
11 one of the issues that Mr. Evans mentioned
12 was some individuals -- there currently is a
13 law in the city that you can only place your
14 garbage on the curb the night the day before
15 pick up, and there were individuals that
16 were putting their garbage out six days
17 before pick up, and in the summer with
18 animals that can become a problem. Bags
19 ripped open, it makes a mess on your street
20 and it's not nice to look at and it's not
21 nice in the neighborhoods.

22 Now, in the past what would happen
23 if somebody wanted to report that they would
24 call city hall, they would talk to a city
25 inspector and a letter would go out in the

1 mail telling that person to clean up and
2 they had so many hours to do it, I think it
3 was two or three days. By the time that
4 expired, those three days, the letter was
5 sent out, you know, all of the time that
6 went through the seven days has passed and
7 the garbage men were there and they picked
8 it up. So it's a recurrent -- things like
9 this are a recurrent problem every week that
10 couldn't be addressed because of the lengthy
11 nature of issuing this type of citation.

12 The quality of life ordinance
13 basically is like a parking ticket, it can
14 be written on the spot and handed to the
15 individual, where as in the past it was done
16 through a very lengthy process through the
17 Licensing and Inspections Office, so we are
18 hopeful that this will cut down on some of
19 these issues and make it easier for
20 inspectors to do their jobs.

21 And also, as mentioned, there has to
22 be discretion by the inspectors without
23 question. The example that was brought up,
24 nobody should be ticketed for having a
25 licensed car in their own driveway. That

1 certainly should never happen. Mistakes do
2 happen and luckily Mr. Liptai was able to
3 correct it in this situation, which is a
4 good thing that it did work out, but
5 discretion does have to be used.

6 The same thing with the snow
7 ordinance. I don't -- you know, I know
8 Mr. Dobrzyn mentioned, you know, my job I
9 work a 9 to 5, I drive about an hour back,
10 if snow were to stop at 10 in the morning it
11 wouldn't be feasible for somebody who works
12 9 to 5 to have their snow cleared within
13 four hours, but I think there is a
14 reasonable expectation that, you know,
15 sidewalks in the neighborhood should be
16 cleared when it snows.

17 Now, there are exceptions, people
18 that go on vacations, people that God forbid
19 are in the hospital, and I think most of our
20 city inspectors are compassionate enough and
21 have enough common sense to work through
22 those issues, and that's what needs to
23 happen.

24 That being said with the quality of
25 life, it's not perfect and there are, as I

1 mentioned last week, there are other items
2 that I would like to add to it to make it
3 even better, to target panhandling,
4 vagrancy, loitering, these smaller issues
5 that can lead to bigger issues.

6 As Mr. Quinn mentioned, our police
7 chief believes in the broken windows theory
8 where if you have a neighborhood where
9 buildings are getting dilapidated they are
10 going to continue to move in that direction.
11 On the other hand, when you have
12 neighborhoods where things are progressing
13 and moving in the right direction that will
14 continue to go in that direction, so that's
15 why I am hopeful that this will work. I
16 thank Councilman Evans for all of his work
17 on it and inviting me to sit it in on a
18 couple of the meetings.

19 Two final issues, the streetlights
20 were brought up again and this was a
21 frustration of mine, a lot of times
22 residents will contact us on council and we
23 can enter in on-line, a lot of times I send
24 them to our city clerk and she will enter
25 them for Joyce and send it to the DPW, but

1 they have been -- Joyce Electrical has been
2 much slower in the last few months
3 especially than in previous years so, Mrs.
4 Reed, could we please send a letter to Joyce
5 Electrical asking what type of time frame
6 residents should expect from the time they
7 report a light being out until the time it's
8 repaired? Just so we know what kind of time
9 frame residents should expect.

10 And finally, I would like to wish
11 everyone out there a very Merry Christmas
12 and a Happy Hanukkah, and a Happy New Year
13 as well. Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Evans.

15 MR. EVANS: Thank you. Some further
16 clarification on the quality of life
17 ordinance, I think the four hours is a typo
18 and it should be 24 hours, so we are going
19 to take a look at that. The second part of
20 it is the fines that are currently in place
21 are sometimes doubled and tripled what the
22 quality of life ordinance calls for. So
23 it's not a money grab. We are trying to
24 make it a little bit simpler for the
25 enforcement side of it, quicker, have it

1 done in a timely manner because as
2 Councilman Rogan has explained the process
3 before takes a long time to get to the end
4 result and sometimes we never get there, you
5 have to go through the Magistrate's Office
6 and all of those other things.

7 So again, we are streamlining the
8 process, we are consolidating ordinances
9 into one ordinance and the fines are
10 actually one-third less than most of the
11 fines that are currently in place for some
12 of these ordinances.

13 Now, onto my favorite subject,
14 pension reform. As most people have been
15 following the issue already know, I have
16 been calling for, suggesting, asking,
17 cajoling, recommending and expecting pension
18 reform since I first sat in this seat on
19 council. In fact, at the November 20 city
20 council meeting I proposed the following
21 actions to bring about long-term stability
22 to the pension plans:

23 1. To freeze the entrance into the
24 existing plans for all city employees
25 immediately.

1 2. All new hires should have one
2 option, that is a 457-B plan, only available
3 to municipal and state employees, the plan
4 is similar to a 401-K plan that have been
5 implemented in the private sector for
6 decades.

7 3. All non-union employees should
8 be transferred to a 457-B plan.

9 4. As we know, over 50 percent of
10 the police and fire pensions are disability
11 pensions. We have a systemic problem that
12 must be fixed through ordinance.

13 5. The 2015 budget allows for \$5
14 million to be paid toward the court award
15 union employees. Any future payments should
16 be made directly to the pension funds of the
17 effected union members.

18 I'd also like to make a few comments
19 on the series of articles on city pensions
20 over the last week in the Scranton Times.
21 After thoroughly reading the information
22 presented, if anything it is my hope that we
23 can finally agree the goose that laid the
24 golden egg, like Elvis, has left the
25 building. That only drastic radical change

1 in the way we do business can change our
2 future. I find the articles both
3 enlightening and disturbing.

4 One single, undisputable fact we are
5 paying \$5.2 million towards the disability
6 pensions and comparable cities are paying
7 approximately 10 percent or less of that
8 amount is absolutely shocking. At this
9 point I'm not interested in playing the
10 blame game, however, I am interested in see
11 how we respond to this information. I would
12 hope to see an ordinance from the
13 administration that addresses and correct
14 the deficiencies in the current system and
15 most likely contributed to this situation
16 and if must include, among other things, a
17 reexamination clause. Our taxpayers are
18 running out of patience and it is urged to
19 see real reform real soon.

20 And on that positive note, if I may,
21 I would like to wish everyone a very Merry
22 Christmas, happy holidays and a very
23 prosperous new year, and to my colleagues it
24 has been a pleasure serving with all of you
25 this year and I look forward to a very, very

1 interesting 2015. Merry Christmas.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. I
4 would just like to first update everyone on
5 the Rockwell Avenue bridge project. Site
6 work has been completed to start
7 installation of the new pedestrian walkway
8 bridge. The superstructure of the temporary
9 walkway bridge should be installed on
10 Tuesday, December 23, per PennDOT. The
11 pedestrian walkway should be functioning by
12 the first of the year after the walking
13 surface, safety fence, and approaches are
14 complete. The contractor will apply a
15 non-slip paint application to the plywood
16 walking surface of the pedestrian bridge to
17 address icy, winter issues. Due to the
18 temperature constraints this will have to be
19 performed indoors prior to field
20 installation.

21 The contractor has agreed not to
22 work on Christmas Eve and December 26 in
23 order not to disrupt any of the neighbors
24 who may have Christmas parties planned.

25 After the pedestrian bridge is in

1 place and available for use, demolition on
2 the existing bridge can proceed as stream
3 restriction will allow after the first of
4 the year. So that's an update on the
5 Rockwell Avenue bridge project.

6 In regards to the many concerns that
7 I have heard over the past few weeks about
8 the Keystone landfill expansion, I would
9 just like to reiterate my opposition. The
10 people of our region have spoken loud and
11 clear. They do not want the landfill to
12 expand. They are concerned, as am I, about
13 the impact the landfill expansion will have
14 on our health and our environment. I have
15 to wonder 50 years from now what the future
16 generation will think about the mountain of
17 garbage towering over our region. Will this
18 be a place where families want to buy a home
19 and raise their children? We have to ask
20 ourselves what kind of world that we want to
21 live in. We can either accept the way
22 things are or we can fight to change them,
23 and I think that we should fight to change
24 them.

25 Ultimately, the State Department of

1 Environmental Protection will decide whether
2 or not to approve the landfill expansion. I
3 would ask my colleagues if we, as a council,
4 can send a letter to DEP expressing our
5 opposition to the expansion and asking them
6 to reject the current proposal, if everyone
7 would be in agreement?

8 MR. MCGOFF: I think that personally
9 if we included "As currently constituted", I
10 would be in favor of that letter.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Do we need a motion?

12 MR. MCGOFF: Any opposition.

13 MR. EVANS: No.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Please.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Secondly, just to
16 piggyback what Mr. Evans spoke about, I'm
17 sure everyone has read the articles
18 concerning Scranton's pension crises over
19 the past few days. I am extremely alarmed
20 and concerned over decisions and abuses in
21 the past that have greatly contributed to
22 our pension distress. It is very clear that
23 we must act immediately to reform our
24 pension ordinances. Stringent safeguards
25 must be put in place to avoid cases of fraud

1 and abuse. I would respectfully ask that we
2 as a council, along with our solicitor,
3 immediately begin a full review of all
4 policies, protocols and ordinances in order
5 to identify the necessary revisions that
6 ensure greater accountability and oversight
7 of the pension process. Once we have
8 finished our review, we should provide our
9 revisions to the administration and work
10 with them to begin placing this on the
11 agenda for introduction as soon as possible.
12 We ask our citizens to make sacrifices and
13 live within their means every year at budget
14 time, and I think it is time for our
15 government to practice what it preaches.

16 I would like to end by wishing
17 everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New
18 Year. Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: First of all,
20 Mrs. Theoni and I are friends, former
21 colleagues, she did warn me at one point in
22 time that she was coming to yell at me, and
23 I appreciate the comments. I think all of
24 us on council sympathize with Mrs. Theoni
25 and the problems that she stated. I know

1 that it is all of our hopes that we can
2 resolve some of these issues. We are
3 residents and taxpayers as well. We want to
4 see a better Scranton.

5 One of the issues that Mrs. Theoni
6 brought up was about the parks and the
7 condition of the parks throughout the city.
8 That is a problem. One that we really do
9 need to address, and I'm not making excuses,
10 but it is a condition of the economic
11 condition of the city and the personnel of
12 the city. We simply at times don't have the
13 wherewithal to take care of the parks that
14 we have.

15 I think that that is something that
16 we have spoken about on council, you know,
17 what can we do to make the things better. I
18 think that one of the blueprints that we are
19 looking at is what's happening at Connors
20 Park. Kind of -- it may be a bad term, but
21 neighborhood control of the parks where the
22 maintenance and supervision of the parks are
23 in the hands of the community, of that
24 neighborhood, and perhaps that would much as
25 we do with little league fields, you know,

1 turn it over to the community. Let them,
2 you know, operate the parks. I think that
3 that will go a long way to improving the
4 situation there.

5 As far as the other issues, again,
6 it's a process, and certainly we are looking
7 forward to trying to resolve many of the
8 issues that we spoke of.

9 As far as the quality of life
10 ordinance, I have sat here for 8 years and
11 listened to complaints about properties that
12 were unkempt, about neighbors, about
13 individuals that refuse to be good neighbors
14 who wouldn't take care of their properties,
15 who were doing things that were in violation
16 of the law, we wanted to do something about
17 that. Our response was to provide an
18 ordinance that would make the enforcement of
19 our already existing statutes easier to
20 enforce and make it maybe a little more
21 stringent so that people would be concerned
22 about violating the law, and the response
23 has been complaints about our attempt to
24 resolve that. I don't understand why people
25 are opposed to this. It makes no sense.

1 All we are trying to do with the quality of
2 life, whether you like the title or not, the
3 purpose of the ordinance is to make the
4 communities better, to try and improve our
5 neighborhoods. And it's not, as I said last
6 week, if we never collected a dollar from
7 this and everyone in the city obeyed the
8 ordinances, I would be a happy person. I
9 think everyone else would be as well. This
10 isn't an attempt to grab money, it's an
11 attempt to make our city better, and I
12 applaud my colleagues for pursuing this and
13 I think it's something that is going to be
14 beneficial to the city.

15 And one last thing, just an
16 announcement that I failed to mention
17 earlier, the University of the Scranton is
18 holding it's sixth annual community
19 breakfast, Christmas breakfast, on Christmas
20 Day from 8 to 11 on the third floor of the
21 DeNaple's building. This breakfast is free
22 of charge for anyone who wants to -- who
23 does not want to be alone on Christmas
24 morning. That's Christmas morning from 8 to
25 11, the third floor of the DeNaples

1 buildings sponsored by the University of
2 Scranton, and that's it.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: I have one. I
4 apologize, I failed to mention this earlier.
5 The streetlight time frame was brought up
6 about when someone makes a complaint and how
7 long it takes for Joyce Electrical to get
8 out to the scene, I also was receiving a lot
9 of complaints and our office did check into
10 it, we talked to Joyce Electrical and the
11 time that you submit a complaint to them
12 about a streetlight that's out it will take
13 them 10 to 14 days to get out there and fix
14 the light, and the last time that we checked
15 they were backed up considerably but they
16 are trying to get out as if as they can.

17 MR. ROGAN: Thanks, Mr. Gaughan, and
18 that's the issue. They are -- I don't know
19 if the one you are requesting are typically
20 taking much longer than that and, you know,
21 if they can't get them done in a reasonable
22 timeframe I think we should either look at
23 another contractor or possibly doing it
24 in-house.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: The only I think issue

1 we have doing it in-house, and I think the
2 reason that we contracted out was because we
3 don't have enough DPW personnel now as it
4 is, so I think that would -- I mean, I think
5 if you went to the DPW director or the guys
6 down there they would probably tell you that
7 they don't have enough -- they are having
8 problems, you know, taking care of the parks
9 and everything else.

10 MR. ROGAN: It would be something
11 next budget time we could look at if it's
12 more cost effective to add a position for
13 streetlights and, you know, other sign
14 repairs. I know it's only one person doing
15 all that work currently.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Right.

17 MR. MCGOFF: We're good?

18 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
19 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND
20 SALE NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN MILLION DOLLARS
21 (\$13,000,000.00) PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, TAX
22 ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON
23 KNOWN AS THE TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE SERIES
24 2015-A AWARDED TO AMALGAMATED BANK;
25 ESTABLISHING THE FORM OF SUCH NOTE;

1 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL TO
2 PURCHASE THE NOTE; AWARDING AND AUTHORIZING
3 THE NEGOTIATED SALE THEREOF TO SAID BANK;
4 PROVIDING SECURITY FOR SUCH NOTE; MAKING
5 CERTAIN COVENANTS IN RESPECT OF SUCH NOTE;
6 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN OFFICIALS
7 TO DELIVER A CERTIFICATE AS TO TAXES AND
8 REVENUES TO BE COLLECTED, TO CAUSE TO BE
9 MADE THE FILINGS REQUIRED BY LAW, TO EXECUTE
10 AND DELIVER THE NOTE, TO RESTRICT THE USE OF
11 THE PROCEEDS OF THE NOTE; AND TO TAKE SUCH
12 OTHER ACTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR
13 DESIRABLE. (EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE ATTACHED)

14 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
15 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
16 introduced into its proper committee.

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

19 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? I
20 would just like to say that the reason for
21 the emergency certificate is that the TAN is
22 needed to meet certain expenses in the early
23 days of January. If we were to push this
24 off until January to approve, we would
25 probably miss a payroll or two and rather

1 than do that the emergency certificate was
2 attached so that we could have this issued
3 first of January.

4 MR. EVANS: I make a motion to
5 suspend the rules to move Item 5 --

6 MR. MCGOFF: We have to vote on it
7 first. All those in favor of introduction
8 signify by saying aye.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. EVANS: Aye.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

15 MR. EVANS: Now I make a motion to
16 suspend the Rules to move Item 5-B to Sixth
17 and Seventh Order to be considered for final
18 passage based on the attached emergency
19 certificate.

20 MR. ROGAN: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
22 those in favor signify by saying aye.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. EVANS: Aye.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

4 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
5 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
6 69, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF
7 COUNCIL NO. 155, 1999, AN ORDINANCE
8 PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATING
9 OF CONTRACTORS DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF
10 SCRANTON INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
11 GRANTING OF PERMITS AND FEES FOR SAME
12 PROVIDING PENALTIES AND RIGHTS OF APPEAL TO
13 UPDATE AND INCREASE THE ANNUAL LICENSE AND
14 TEST FEES BY AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS
15 AND/OR PARTS OF SECTIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AS
16 LISTED BELOW.

17 MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by
18 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

19 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
20 pass reading by title.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

22 MS. MCGOFF: On the question? All
23 those in favor signify by saying aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

1 MR. EVANS: Aye.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
4 ayes have it and so moved.

5 MR. EVANS: I make a motion to
6 suspend the Rules to move Item 6-A to
7 Seventh Order to be considered for final
8 passage.

9 MR. ROGAN: Second.

10 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?
11 Again, this is being moved to Seventh Order
12 since the fee structure that's included in
13 here is part of the 2015. It is necessary
14 to approve this now so that those fees can
15 be begin to be assessed as of January 1.

16 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
17 signify by saying aye.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

19 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

20 MR. EVANS: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

24 MS. REED: 6-B - FORMERLY 5-B -
25 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.

1 70 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE
2 AND SALE NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN MILLION
3 DOLLARS (\$13,000,000.00) PRINCIPAL AMOUNT,
4 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF
5 SCRANTON KNOWN AS THE TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE
6 SERIES 2015-A AWARDED TO AMALGAMATED BANK;
7 ESTABLISHING THE FORM OF SUCH NOTE;
8 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL TO
9 PURCHASE THE NOTE; AWARDING AND AUTHORIZING
10 THE NEGOTIATED SALE THEREOF TO SAID BANK;
11 PROVIDING SECURITY FOR SUCH NOTE; MAKING
12 CERTAIN COVENANTS IN RESPECT OF SUCH NOTE;
13 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN OFFICIALS
14 TO DELIVER A CERTIFICATE AS TO TAXES AND
15 REVENUES TO BE COLLECTED, TO CAUSE TO BE
16 MADE THE FILINGS REQUIRED BY LAW, TO EXECUTE
17 AND DELIVER THE NOTE, TO RESTRICT THE USE OF
18 THE PROCEEDS OF THE NOTE; AND TO TAKE SUCH
19 OTHER ACTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR
20 DESIRABLE. (EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE ATTACHED)

21 MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by
22 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

23 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B
24 pass reading by title.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

1 MS. MCGOFF: On the question? All
2 those in favor signify by saying aye.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. EVANS: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

9 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
10 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
11 DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE
12 COUNCIL NO. 64, 2014 (AS AMENDED) - AN
13 ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND
14 VIOLATIONS TICKET PROCESS IN THE CITY OF
15 SCRANTON.

16 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
17 recommendation of the Chair for the
18 Committee on Community Development?

19 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the
20 Committee on Community Development, I
21 recommend final passage of Item 7-A.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

23 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

24 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. McGoff, just
25 one comment on this, I have been involved in

1 the neighborhood movements since the
2 mid-90's and the biggest complaints in the
3 neighborhoods is blight, and the biggest
4 complaint with blight is the frustration
5 that the city has not done anything to
6 improve the condition, and Mr. McGoff said
7 and Mr. Evans says and all my colleagues
8 have said, we are trying to do something.
9 The effort here is to make these laws that
10 are currently on the books more enforceable.
11 The goal is not to raise money, but without
12 the fines there is no hammer to this law, so
13 I am -- if I could vote twice I would. This
14 is an ordinance that we need, and I know
15 that the neighborhood groups are excited
16 about this and hopefully this will go a long
17 way in helping correct our blight problem.

18 MR. ROGAN: I would just like to
19 add, and I really want to hammer this home
20 that Councilman Evans mentioned and it's a
21 really good point, these ordinances are
22 already on the books. We are not creating
23 new laws. We are trying to create a simpler
24 way for it to be enforced, and as Councilman
25 Evans mentioned some of the fines, many of

1 the fines were actually reduced from what
2 they were previously read in at law as, so
3 anyone who is saying this is just a point to
4 get money certainly is incorrect. We
5 wouldn't be reducing fines if it was, you
6 know, a ploy to bring revenue in the city.

7 MR. EVANS: One final comment I
8 would like to make, I would like to thank my
9 fellow councilmen for their continuing
10 support for this ordinance and after tonight
11 the ball shifts to enforcement so I'm
12 confident that Director Hinton and Chief
13 Graziano will implement the quality of life
14 ordinance in a consistent, fair and
15 equitable manner. Thank you.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please?

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

22 MR. EVANS: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
2 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

3 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
4 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION -
5 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 65, 2014 - SALE OF
6 TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN
7 AS 94 CRANE STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
8 TAX MAP NO. 16620-010-008 TO JOHN GAUGHAN
9 AND MARIE GAUGHAN, 99 CRANE STREET,
10 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, FOR THE
11 CONSIDERATION OF \$2,500.00.

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

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

18 MR. ROGAN: Second.

19 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
20 call, please?

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

24 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

1 MR. EVANS: Yes.

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Abstain.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

7 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
8 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION
9 - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 66, 2014 - AN
10 ORDINANCE DEDICATING THE GREENWAY ALONG
11 LEGGETT'S CREEK IN NORTH SCRANTON TO BE
12 KNOWN AS "DONALD AND EDITH MCLANE LEGGETT'S
13 CREEK GREENWAY".

14 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
15 recommendation of the Chair for the
16 Committee on Public Works?

17 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
18 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
19 passage of Item 7-C.

20 MR. ROGAN: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
22 call, please?

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

3 MR. EVANS: Yes.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
8 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

9 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
10 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION -
11 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 67, 2014 - AMENDING
12 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 177, 1994 ENTITLED
13 "AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 52, 1903,
14 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) RELATING
15 TO DOGS, THE LICENSING OF, AND DOG POUND
16 THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR A FUND AND
17 REGULATING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR THE
18 TREATMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF
19 HYDROPHOBIA," AS AMENDED BY FILE OF THE
20 COUNCIL NO. 13, 1963, INCREASING LICENSE
21 FEES BY AMENDING SECTION 1(A) TO CHANGE THE
22 FEES OF THE CURRENT DOG LICENSES FOR ALL
23 DOGS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS ALONG WITH THE
24 TIME FRAME OF A DOG LICENSE.

25 MR. MCGOFF: What is the

1 recommendation of the Chair for the
2 Committee on Finance?

3 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
4 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
5 passage of Item 7-D.

6 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

12 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

14 MR. EVANS: Yes.

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

20 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
21 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION -
22 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 68, 2014 - AMENDING
23 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 98, 2009 ENTITLED
24 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
25 NO. 242, 2003, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FILE OF

1 THE COUNCIL NO. 155, 1999, AN ORDINANCE
2 PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATING
3 OF CONTRACTORS DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF
4 SCRANTON INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
5 GRANTING OF PERMITS AND FEES FOR SAME;
6 PROVIDING PENALTIES AND RIGHTS OF APPEAL BY
7 INCREASING THE COST OF PERMIT FEES IN THE
8 CITY OF SCRANTON" BY ESTABLISHING A NEW
9 PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE.

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

13 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
14 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
15 passage of Item 7-E.

16 MR. ROGAN: Second.

17 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
18 call, please?

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

22 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

24 MR. EVANS: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
4 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

5 MS. REED: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION
6 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
7 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 62,
8 2014 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 74,
9 1993, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED "CITY OF SCRANTON
10 ZONING ORDINANCE OF 1993", BY CHANGING THE
11 ZONING MAP DESIGNATION OF THE JOHN J.
12 AUDUBON SCHOOL FROM R-1A (MEDIUM LOW DENSITY
13 RESIDENTIAL) TO INS-G (GENERAL
14 INSTITUTIONAL) IN THE CENTRAL PLANNING AREA
15 IN THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE CITY OF
16 SCRANTON.

17 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
18 recommendation of the Chair for the
19 Committee on Community Development?

20 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the
21 Committee on Community Development, I
22 recommend final passage of Item 7-F.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

24 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question, I

1 would like to apologize for being unable to
2 make it to the caucus on this item earlier
3 today, but I do appreciate the
4 representatives from Geisinger coming in the
5 first time we looked at this and hearing
6 from them and hearing from residents the
7 first time around this week as we tie up the
8 loose ends on some of the legal issues with
9 this, and I spoke to some of the neighbors
10 and I know some are on both sides but I
11 think we all agree that this property would
12 be better off developed than left vacant so
13 we are glad to see this moving in the right
14 direction.

15 MR. MCGOFF: I would just like to
16 comment on some of the statements that were
17 made during the public hearing, first of
18 all, this was never a residential property
19 to start with. It was a property that was
20 off the tax rolls, it was a school. The
21 site is basically an institutional site.
22 And as far as I know property values around
23 it I don't understand the argument, I can't
24 see how a vacant school buildings adds value
25 to your property as opposed to a developed

1 piece of land. And so I think this is a
2 good project, it is something that's I
3 believe good for the city and good for that
4 neighborhood. Roll call, please?

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

8 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

10 MR. EVANS: No.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
15 Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted.

16 MS. REED: 7-G. FOR CONSIDERATION
17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
18 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 110, 2014 -
19 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
20 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
21 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND
22 VALERO FLEET SERVICES TO SUPPLY (REGULAR)
23 UNLEADED GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL FOR THE
24 PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31,
25 2015 FOR CITY VEHICLES.

1 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
2 recommendation of the Chair for the
3 Committee on Public Works?

4 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
5 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
6 passage of Item 7-G.

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

8 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
9 call, please?

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

15 MR. EVANS: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
20 Item 7-G legally and lawfully adopted.

21 MS. REED: 7-H. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
22 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION
23 - RESOLUTION NO. 111, 2014 - AUTHORIZING THE
24 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
25 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT BETWEEN

1 THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND SANTARELLI AND SONS
2 OIL CO. INC. TO DELIVER LOW SULPHUR DIESEL
3 FUEL FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH
4 DECEMBER 31, 2015 TO THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
5 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AT 101 WEST
6 POPLAR STREET.

7 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
8 recommendation of the Chair 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-H.

13 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

19 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

21 MR. EVANS: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

24 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare

1 Item 7-H legally and lawfully adopted.

2 At this time, as we move to Item 7-I
3 and J, if there was anyone who would like to
4 speak to those two items now in Seventh
5 Order please come to the podium. No one?

6 MS. REED: 7-I -FORMERLY 6-A - FOR
7 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
8 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 69,
9 2014 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 155,
10 1999, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE
11 LICENSING AND REGULATING OF CONTRACTORS
12 DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON
13 INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANTING OF
14 PERMITS AND FEES FOR SAME PROVIDING
15 PENALTIES AND RIGHTS OF APPEAL TO UPDATE AND
16 INCREASE THE ANNUAL LICENSE AND TEST FEES BY
17 AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS AND/OR PARTS OF
18 SECTIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AS LISTED BELOW.

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

22 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
23 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
24 passage of Item 7-I.

25 MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
2 call, please?

3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

8 MR. EVANS: Yes.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
13 Item 7-I legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. REED: 7-J - FORMERLY 6-B - FOR
15 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
16 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 70 -
17 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE NOT TO
18 EXCEED THIRTEEN MILLION DOLLARS
19 (\$13,000,000.00) PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, TAX
20 ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON
21 KNOWN AS THE TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE SERIES
22 2015-A AWARDED TO AMALGAMATED BANK;
23 ESTABLISHING THE FORM OF SUCH NOTE;
24 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL TO
25 PURCHASE THE NOTE; AWARDING AND AUTHORIZING

1 THE NEGOTIATED SALE THEREOF TO SAID BANK;
2 PROVIDING SECURITY FOR SUCH NOTE; MAKING
3 CERTAIN COVENANTS IN RESPECT OF SUCH NOTE;
4 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN OFFICIALS
5 TO DELIVER A CERTIFICATE AS TO TAXES AND
6 REVENUES TO BE COLLECTED, TO CAUSE TO BE
7 MADE THE FILINGS REQUIRED BY LAW, TO EXECUTE
8 AND DELIVER THE NOTE, TO RESTRICT THE USE OF
9 THE PROCEEDS OF THE NOTE; AND TO TAKE SUCH
10 OTHER ACTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR
11 DESIRABLE. (EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE ATTACHED).

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

15 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
16 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
17 passage of Item 7-J.

18 MR. ROGAN: Second.

19 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
20 call, please?

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

24 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. EVANS: Yes.

MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
Item 7-J legally and lawfully adopted.

And prior to adjournment, as my
colleagues have said I'd like to wish
everyone a blessed Hanukkah, Merry
Christmas, Happy Kwanza the a meaningful
Festivus for the rest of us. Motion to
adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

MR. MCGOFF: Meeting adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER