

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Thursday, June 19, 2014

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN LOSCOMBE

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

15 MS. REED: 3-A. COMPARISON OF CITY
16 FUNDS DISTRIBUTED FROM THE SINGLE TAX OFFICE
17 FOR THE YEARS 2013 AND 2014.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
19 If not, received and filed. Any Clerk's
20 notes?

21 MS. REED: Nothing, Mr. McGoff.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Reed.
23 Any council members have announcements at
24 this time?

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes, I have one. Street

1 Cat Scranton will be having two low cost
2 spade neuter clinics on July 29 at the
3 Keyser Valley Community Center and previous
4 to that at Ms. D's on Washington Avenue.
5 Anyone who would like to make an appointment
6 or has any questions can call 570-994-5846
7 or e-mail EPAAon-line2009@gmail.com.

8 And anyone who attends the July 16
9 clinic at Mrs. D's please be sure to check
10 out their food. They have some delicious
11 food over there. Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

13 MS. REED: Fourth order. Citizens'
14 participation.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Our first speaker is
16 Spencer Jahnke. I don't know if I
17 pronounced that correctly. If not, my
18 apologies.

19 MR. JAHNKE: Close enough. How are
20 you doing, members of Council. My name is
21 Spencer Jahnke from the 900 block of
22 Prescott Avenue. First, I'd like to thank
23 DPW for clearing up the obstruction on the
24 stop sign at the corner of Myrtle and
25 Jefferson. The first three weeks I lived in

1 the Hill, I'm not going to lie, I honestly
2 did not know there was a stop sign there.
3 But the problem I have to bring up here is
4 we have a problem with the internet not only
5 here in the City of Scranton but also across
6 the United States as a whole. As some may
7 know, we are locked into two companies, both
8 Verizon and Comcast. We also have Frontier
9 which is a -- they use Verizon lines so I'm
10 just going to use Verizon there, and they
11 have non-compete clause with the city,
12 Comcast does. My problem there is that we
13 have bigger and better companies that could
14 bring internet to the City of Scranton at
15 lower costs faster speeds, but because of
16 the Comcast no compete clause we cannot get
17 these companies in.

18 So I would like to more or less
19 bring up a solution that we start building
20 our own fiber optic network here in the city
21 so that not so much that we have another tax
22 on individuals, but they have the option of
23 whether or not to use the big companies like
24 the Verizons and Comcast or we could use our
25 own fiber optic network where we can bring

1 in our own revenue and supply faster more --
2 just better internet service to the citizens
3 of Scranton, so within the next few weeks
4 I'd like to keep bringing up the issue.

5 MR. MCGOFF: My recommendation would
6 be that if -- and I assume you are serious
7 in this venture?

8 MR. JAHNKE: Yes, sir.

9 MR. MCGOFF: That you contact the IT
10 Department in the City of Scranton with your
11 ideas. I'm a neo-luddite. Technology is
12 pretty foreign to me, so you could speak all
13 you wanted about fiber optic networks and so
14 on and honestly it would not be meaningless,
15 but certainly I would not understand it as
16 well as the IT Department for the city.

17 MR. JAHNKE: Okay.

18 MR. MCGOFF: And you can probably
19 get that phone number, I don't have it
20 offhand, but if you were to call the City
21 Clerk's Office or to call that mayor's
22 office they could give you that number and
23 you could speak with the members of the IT
24 Department.

25 MR. JAHNKE: Okay. And while I

1 still have a minute here I'd like to ask the
2 members of council here whose idea was it to
3 go on vacation during the month of August?

4 MR. MCGOFF: Whose idea?

5 MR. JAHNKE: Yes.

6 MR. MCGOFF: It's actually in the
7 Home Rule Charter and the Home Rule Charter
8 was adopted in 1980 something.

9 MR. ROGAN: I believe it says
10 council may recess.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Well, but it's been
12 something that's in the Home Rule Charter,
13 it's been something that's been done on a
14 regular basis.

15 MR. JAHNKE: All right, but why have
16 you decided to recess while we are hundreds
17 of millions of dollars in debt?

18 MR. MCGOFF: It's a decision that
19 was made by the members of council. I'm
20 sure each of us may have different reasons,
21 I personally am going to be on vacation for
22 most of the month of August.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: And I think another
24 big issue to that is it gives our staff an
25 opportunity to catch up on filings and

1 everything in the office because it's going
2 24 -- you know, seven days a week for the
3 full year, so that's their opportunity, they
4 don't have to put a council agenda together.
5 It gives help an opportunity to give the
6 legislation filed and the recorded and
7 scanned and whatever they have to do.

8 MR. JAHNKE: But if you are in
9 recess you can't do that stuff; correct?

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Our staff is here
11 full-time. They are still here Monday until
12 Friday.

13 MR. WECHSLER: And we are not taking
14 a month off being councilmen, we do council
15 business every day. It's not that we just
16 work on Thursdays. The fact that we are not
17 here for a meeting, we'll still be out doing
18 council business and it just gives us an
19 opportunity, I know myself plan my vacation
20 for that time. I'm here every Thursday
21 during the course of the year. If something
22 comes up, we can reschedule a meeting. It
23 just gives a little bit of flexibility for
24 our personal lives, which we do have, even
25 though we're still on council.

1 MR. JAHNKE: All right.

2 MR. ROGAN: I would just say
3 everyone knows how I feel about this issue.
4 When I ran for city council back in 2007
5 unsuccessfully it was on eo the big issues
6 that I felt it was wrong that council didn't
7 meet in the month of August. I thought it
8 was wrong for previous councils and I think
9 it's wrong under this council and it's, you
10 know, it's one day a week for the meeting
11 and Mr. Wechsler is correct, much of what
12 council does is outside of this chambers,
13 but for one month, 1/12 of the year not one
14 piece of legislation can be voted on or
15 could be introduced or can be passed to help
16 make the City of Scranton a better play, and
17 the city is in tough shape now and there are
18 a lot of issues that need to be addressed.

19 If you look -- if you take say take
20 the past say 24 years the city has been
21 distressed and council recessed every August
22 during that 24 years that's two full years
23 wasted where not one thing could have been
24 voted on and introduced to help the people
25 of Scranton. That's why I think council

1 should meet for the month of the August. I
2 will always support it, I always will.

3 MR. JAHNKE: I appreciate you,
4 Mr. Rogan, voting to keep council going
5 during the month of August.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

7 MR. JAHNKE: Thank you.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Ozzie Quinn.

9 MR. QUINN: Good afternoon. I don't
10 know if this mic is on, people were talking,
11 about. Marie, can you hear that? She can't
12 hear me.

13 First I'd like to say the Hill
14 Neighborhood Association will meet next
15 Wednesday, June 25, at 7 p.m. at Immaculate
16 Conception Church Hall, 800 Taylor Avenue.
17 Police Chief Carl Graziano will be the
18 speaker. Council is invited to attend.

19 The next thing is Kids Swim Free.
20 We are still looking for funding, raising
21 funds to help kids swim free from the Hill
22 Section who are in need of assistance, and
23 also, anyone has any funds that they can
24 donate, any money they can donate send it to
25 the Hill Section HNA, 419 Prescott Avenue,

1 Scranton, 18510.

2 Unfortunately, the zoning board
3 turned down -- turned down the Hill Section
4 neighbor's petition and a HNA letter last
5 week opposing a neighborhood parking plan in
6 our neighborhood. A petition signed by more
7 than 50 residents opposing the parking plan
8 in the vicinity of the former Barman Factory
9 at 970 Ridge Avenue at the end of the 1500
10 block of Ash Street was ignored by the
11 zoning board at the June 12, 2014, hearing.

12 The neighbors opposed the parking
13 plan for the convection of the former
14 factory into 12 apartments. The developer,
15 who is an absentee landlord, proposes to
16 convert the factory into apartment as an
17 insidious parking plan for 18 cars which
18 will ingress and egress at the dogleg at
19 both the end of the 900 block of Ridge
20 Avenue and the end of the top of the 1600
21 block of Ash Street. If anybody has ever
22 been up there, at Penn Security Bank where
23 you go down the hill towards Heil's, the
24 dogleg, they plan to come out on the Ash
25 Street side there, okay?

1 The parking plan for the tenants
2 cars is located on the vacant irregular
3 shaped lot where a house was demolished.
4 Also, HNA wrote a letter to the Zoning Board
5 for the Zoning Board supporting the
6 neighbors, however, the Board would not
7 allow the neighbors to read the letter at
8 the zoning hearing. It was a slap in the
9 face to the membership of the HNA and the
10 neighbors. The Board voted to approve the
11 parking plan 3 to 2.

12 A variance is a permitted violation
13 of a zoning ordinance. That's what a
14 variance is. In order to have a variance
15 approved, the variance must meet five
16 criteria. The HNA and the petitioners
17 believe that two of the three -- two of the
18 five criteria have not been met as written
19 in the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code
20 as follows:

21 That such unnecessary hardship has
22 not been created by the applicant. We feel
23 the applicant/developer was aware that a
24 variance for parking would be required for
25 the construction of a multi-unit dwelling

1 structure, therefore, the applicant
2 developer inflicted a hardship upon himself.

3 Two, that the variance will not
4 alter the essential of the neighborhood or
5 district in which the property is located
6 now substantially or permanently impair the
7 appropriate use of development of adjacent
8 property nor return to the public welfare.
9 We feel that it's going to have a big impact
10 on the public welfare in that area.

11 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Quinn, did you bring
12 these concerns up at the zoning meeting?

13 MR. QUINN: You know, last week my
14 grandson graduated from high school at the
15 zoning meeting and I couldn't bring them up,
16 okay, but they were brought up by Anthony
17 Ruscelewicz who is representing the -- he
18 took my letter and had the petition of more
19 than 50 people and he brought it into the
20 hearing and spoke and brought it and entered
21 into the hearing.

22 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

23 MR. QUINN: You know, again, people
24 don't win, you know? In addition to a
25 safety concern, the HNA requested the letter

1 to stop allowing absentee Hill Section
2 developers convert businesses and commercial
3 entities into multi-housing units in the
4 Hill Section. The HNA have addressed for
5 the past years the blight and drug related
6 episodes emanated from diverted structures
7 we got a lot of them, okay?

8 Last paragraph, a PennDOT highway
9 occupancy permit on state roads is required.
10 Although Ash Street isn't a state road, the
11 HNA doubts if it were a state -- the state
12 would approve it because of the safety
13 reasons. And myself being on the Planning
14 Commission I'm well aware of that I don't
15 think they would either. The HNA and the
16 more than 50 petitioners request Mr. Gaughan
17 and the city engineer, John Pocius, to meet
18 with the HNA and petitioner representatives
19 on site to see for themselves that a
20 variance should have not been approved by
21 the Zoning Board.

22 I would appreciate if you can meet
23 with us, Mr. Gaughan, and ask Mr. Pocius
24 where we could show you this dogleg. It's
25 going to be ingress and egress, 18 parking

1 spots on that and that's unbelievable how it
2 was approved. I can't understand, beyond my
3 comprehension how that was approved. And
4 once you see that dogleg and where you see
5 where we are going to come in and out, you
6 are going to say, "Woah." There is a blind
7 spot, it's going to be -- it's going to
8 cause a terrible accident, so I'd appreciate
9 it if you would -- at your convenience if
10 you can get in touch with me, okay?

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah.

12 MR. QUINN: I'll convey it to
13 Mr. Ruscelewicz, okay? Thank you very much.
14 Appreciate it.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Doug Miller.

16 MR. MILLER: Good evening. Doug
17 Miller, Scranton. I'd just like to respond
18 to some of the statements that I made last
19 week. I understand -- I wasn't here during
20 motions, but I understand that some of my
21 statements were rebutted during motions by
22 Mr. Loscombe in terms of my characterization
23 as I was quoted in the newspaper of saying
24 we are raiding the Workers' Comp Fund.

25 Let me just clarify a little bit of

1 what I said last week and how I still think
2 it's a completely asinine idea. We all know
3 we owe the unions a lot of money, 20 some
4 million dollars, that's not even including
5 the interest. That's grows every day, so I
6 think we can all agree one thing, gentlemen,
7 we don't have that money; correct? Do we
8 have \$21 million at this time? Do we?
9 Okay.

10 Okay, now we want to go ahead and we
11 want to borrow \$5 million, okay. We are
12 asking the state for permission to use the
13 Workers' Comp Fund as collateral. The
14 collateral, okay? So let's define what
15 collateral is, and while we define what the
16 collateral is let's take a look at the
17 city's history of loans and how we have a
18 history of repetitively defaulting on the
19 loans and so that's where the "collateral"
20 comes into play.

21 So we want to borrow \$5 million that
22 we don't have, so before I even go any
23 further let me ask this question, we borrow
24 \$5 million, gentlemen, where is the \$5
25 million coming from to pay back that loan,

1 do we know? Okay, so we don't know.

2 Okay, so where our collateral comes
3 into play and let's, you know, with the
4 expression on your face unless you have an
5 answer, do we know where the \$5 million is
6 coming from?

7 MR. MCGOFF: I'm aware of the
8 proposal that's being made, yes.

9 MR. MILLER: Well, where is the
10 money coming from to pay the loan back?

11 MR. MCGOFF: It's a proposal that's
12 being made from the state.

13 MR. MILLER: Could you please share
14 that with the public?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Not at this time.

16 MR. MILLER: Why is that?

17 MR. MCGOFF: Because it's still in
18 the negotiation stage.

19 MR. MILLER: Well, I just think
20 that's deceptive and deceiving the public.
21 There is no transparency.

22 MR. MCGOFF: It's not deceiving
23 anyone.

24 MR. MILLER: Well, you know, I asked
25 the question, I think the public has the

1 right to know where the money is coming
2 from. We are taking out a \$5 million dollar
3 loan, money we don't have, yet again we
4 continue to borrow, borrow and borrow to pay
5 back and it's just a repetitive effect that
6 gets us nowhere, and you know darn well we
7 are going to default on the loan because we
8 have a history of it. So you mean to tell
9 me all of a sudden miraculously we are going
10 to come up with \$5 million without putting
11 the screws to the people by raising taxes,
12 obsessively raising fees like we have done
13 in the past.

14 So, you know, you can shake, you an
15 snicker, I mean, that's fine, really, I
16 understand how are you as an individual, so
17 you could roll your eyes all you want at me
18 it really doesn't affect me, I understand
19 you have a lack of professionalism, so I'm
20 going to shy away from that, but I know it's
21 comical, Mr. McGoff, and believe me, it's
22 just as comical to me, too, coming here and
23 addressing you every week, but believe me, I
24 don't know do it for you.

25 I just feel that the public should

1 know how we are paying this loan back and I
2 think they should know that and, quite
3 frankly, when it comes to the collateral,
4 yeah, in the sense we are looking at
5 collateral, we are tapping into the
6 Workmens' Comp Fund and I just think it's a
7 real troubling thing, and so you can twist
8 my words all you want, but because the city
9 has a history of defaulting on loans you
10 know darn well that when it comes time to
11 pay the piper they want their money, and how
12 are they going to get it? They are going to
13 reach into that collateral, which is the
14 Workmens' Comp Fund and that's why it's a
15 completely ludicrous thing to do. And the
16 fact that we have a proposal, I can't wait
17 to hear this grand proposal, I really can't.
18 We have a lot of wonderful proposals and we
19 see where they have taken us, so it's just
20 ridiculous and, you know, it just goes back
21 to, you know, the frustration, the lack of
22 the transparency in the government, again
23 nothing has changed. We can't get answers
24 to simple questions.

25 You know, I come here this evening,

1 second week in a row, as you know, miniscule
2 as it sounds a simple thing as going to wash
3 my hands we can't even put soap in the soap
4 dispensers in the city in city hall. I
5 mean, are things that bad that we can't even
6 refill the soap dispensers? We can't keep
7 the lights on on the Electric City sign, all
8 of a sudden we just woke up one day and
9 realized that. I noticed that the last six
10 months, I just haven't addressed that.

11 So no swimming pools, you know, the
12 list goes on and on. We can't maintain our
13 streets. You know, now we have to give
14 federal funds back because we are so
15 incompetent and inept that we can't keep
16 simple accounting. I mean, it's just
17 completely frustrating and we can't get
18 answers. Everything is a joke. You know,
19 we are treated with disrespect.

20 You know, the gentleman this
21 evening, I agree, should we meet in August?
22 We probably should. Have there been times
23 in the past on special instances or certain
24 situations where we have had, you know,
25 special meetings of council, that's

1 happened, but why even have these meetings
2 when nothing productive even happens. We
3 talk and talk and talk, what comes out of it
4 other than we all know we can work together
5 and get along. Other than that, business as
6 usual. It's pathetic.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mr. Miller, I just
8 wanted to correct the record, I was the one
9 that, as you stated, discussed the
10 collateral, but I didn't mention any
11 speaker's name. That was the newspaper. I
12 just said one of our speakers.

13 MR. MILLER: Oh, no, I know you
14 didn't mention me by name, I just want to
15 clarify what I was trying to say was that
16 knowing the city's history on how we have an
17 inability to pay things back, my fear is
18 that, you know, I just have scary feeling
19 that it's going to backfire on us, and that
20 that Workmen's Comp Fund is going to be
21 jeopardized and that's not what I want to
22 see happen. I want to see the plan, this
23 miraculous plan Mr. McGoff won't share with
24 us, let's see it and how we are coming with
25 the \$5 million.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Miller.

2 MR. MILLER: That's a lot of money.

3 Yeah, you're welcome.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Gerard Hetman.

5 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.

6 Gerard Hetman from the Lackawanna County
7 Community Relations Department, good to see
8 you as always.

9 To begin this evening, I'd just like
10 to discuss the details on a popular program
11 that comes up each year at this time, one we
12 received many questions on. In cooperation
13 with the Pennsylvania Department of
14 Agriculture, the Lackawanna County Area
15 Agency on Aging will be distributing farmers
16 market nutritional program vouchers
17 beginning later this month at each of the
18 senior centers located within Lackawanna
19 County. This is a program that provides
20 eligible seniors with up to four vouchers
21 valued at \$5 each to be redeemed for the
22 purchase of fresh fruits and produce at
23 local farmers markets in Lackawanna County.

24 In order for seniors to qualify they
25 must be Lackawanna County residents, 60

1 years of age of older, and must meet certain
2 income specific guidelines, those being
3 their household income for the year must not
4 exceed \$21,590 for a one-person household,
5 \$29,101 for a two-person household, or
6 \$36,612 for a three-person household.

7 Senior must also present proof of address
8 such as driver's license or a utility bill
9 as well as proof of age, such as a driver's
10 license or birth certificate, when redeeming
11 their vouchers.

12 Now, each senior center in
13 Lackawanna County does have a specific day
14 of when seniors can go and renew vouchers
15 and they can go to any senior center in
16 Lackawanna County, so a Scranton resident
17 doesn't have to necessarily go to the
18 neighborhood senior center, they can go
19 anywhere.

20 But the dates of the distribution,
21 and all of these distribution dates begin at
22 9 a.m. on the dates specified for the senior
23 centers in Scranton. The West Side Senior
24 Center will have their day on Monday, June
25 30. The downtown senior center on

1 Wednesday, July 2. The South Side senior
2 center on Monday, July 14, and the Jewish
3 Community Center on Wednesday, July 16.

4 Again, residents can come beginning at 9
5 a.m. and need to bring proof of their
6 residency in Lackawanna County and also
7 proof of their age to redeem the vouchers.

8 If residents cannot come in person,
9 they can appoint a proxy to come and pick up
10 the vouchers for them, but that person does
11 need to notify the Area Agency on Aging in
12 advance of the pickup date.

13 For more information on the program
14 in general, on how to appoint a proxy or any
15 or questions, seniors and their relatives
16 can contact the Lackawanna County Area
17 Agency on Aging at 570-963-6740. That's
18 570-963-6740.

19 Also, the Penn State extension of
20 the master gardening program in Lackawanna
21 County will conduct an open house at the
22 Plow and Heart at the Shoppes at Montage on
23 Saturday, June 28, from noon to three p.m.
24 There will be various demonstrations,
25 exhibitions and giveaways relating to

1 gardening, landscaping and all forms of
2 horticulture that the master gardeners
3 practice and enjoy. For more information on
4 the program call 570-963-6842 or e-mail
5 LackawannaNG@PSU.EDU.

6 And lastly, the 2014 Lackawanna
7 County 3-on-3 basketball tournament is set
8 for August 1st through the 3rd on the first
9 two blocks of Wyoming Avenue, the 100 and
10 200 blocks. It will be the third straight
11 year that the tournament is held in downtown
12 Scranton and we received great feedback on
13 this from the participants, residents and
14 business owners downtown in that area.

15 Cost of registration is \$90 per team
16 or \$75 if registration is complete before
17 July 1. That includes t-shirts for each
18 team member and also a three-game guarantee
19 for each team, and there are teams for boys
20 and girls, men and women, from age third
21 grade up through adult open divisions.

22 For more information or to register
23 visit the Lackawanna County website at
24 www.Lackawanna County.org or contact the
25 Lackawanna County Convention and Visitors

1 Bureau at 1-800-22-Welcome or 570-496-1701.

2 That's all we have for this evening.

3 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

4 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Hetman, if you would
5 be able to e-mail that information for the
6 vouchers?

7 MR. HETMAN: Sure. I can give you a
8 paper copy after the meeting.

9 MR. ROGAN: Oh, even better. Thank
10 you.

11 MR. HETMAN: Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Dave Dobrzyn.

13 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
14 Dave Dobrzyn, resident.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

16 MR. DOBRZYN: And all taxes and fees
17 paid, I'd appreciate if people with the
18 money would do the same. Also, I'd like to
19 mention on that issue that if we have people
20 that are unable to pay and qualify for
21 reverse mortgages and so forth that I can
22 the city should adopt a program to help
23 steer these people sooner than have them
24 wind up in the tax upset sale and some
25 shiester grabs her house out from under her

1 for a couple of hundred bucks or a couple of
2 thousands dollars. We really need to look
3 into this and I would like to see some
4 activity on it and then possibly you people
5 won't be up against it so much for money.

6 Once again on speeding, Mr. Gaughan
7 is mentioned it last week, and I read an
8 article in the paper, maybe Jack could help
9 us out in the near future with this, I
10 understand that the Scranton Police
11 Department has a laser technology that can
12 set speed traps or people going ridiculous
13 rates of the speed. I no sooner walked out
14 of here, I parked over on Adams last week
15 and they must have been doing 40 miles an
16 hour by the time I was at the corner of the
17 Adams and Mulberry. They had just come from
18 a red light. So it's all fun and games
19 until you see a bloody face staring at you
20 through your windshield. I don't want to
21 run over somebody's dog or feral rabbit that
22 lives in the backyard let alone a person.

23 Also, on those vacant lots, I'd
24 appreciate some activity with them, maybe we
25 can get Mr. Koldjeski in here and get some

1 better justice because at the current
2 situation if you buy a vacant lot that's not
3 even developable you are probably going to
4 pay for it every five or six years once over
5 again, and that's if you paid a going rate,
6 so it's needed.

7 And I was happy to hear about May
8 Aug electric from Pat last week, the PPL
9 with the power lines, and don't take the
10 first offer, find out what the farmers are
11 getting out of it when they run across their
12 land and stuff because they should be paying
13 a considerable amount of money. Who knows,
14 maybe we could have kids swim free.

15 A few weeks ago, I don't know if you
16 remember whether it was Andy Sbaraglia or
17 Mr. Jackowitz asked about a loan from
18 Boscov's and as I remember it Boscov's had
19 expanded in an unwise fashion, Al Boscov had
20 to come back from retirement and Governor Ed
21 Rendell was on it so that was probably
22 three, three and a half years ago. Boscov
23 was loaned \$2 million from the city to get
24 his financial house in order and that may be
25 where the loan that was being asked about

1 that nobody seemed to remember.

2 I remember seeing Mayor Doherty on
3 television and he said, What do you want me
4 to do? If I don't grant this money it's a
5 good chance that the mall will be closed
6 within six months."

7 So even Ed Rendell, and I think they
8 got about \$20 million from the state or
9 something like that to refinance their shops
10 and decide what they wanted to keep and
11 close.

12 On Comcast, it was brought up again,
13 and in your -- that Triple Play, XFINITY
14 type deal it's regulated and it's like \$35,
15 \$40 a month, and here we take a little bits
16 of money as a percentage or whatever and my
17 bill is \$176 month. I pay more for internet
18 and phone service and television that -- the
19 cheaper channels are the ones that I don't
20 watch, I watch all of the documentaries, so
21 if I want them I have to pay 80 bucks a
22 month instead of 20 or 21, and it's just
23 ridiculous how much money they charge.

24 Once again -- oh, also, I just
25 wanted to mention quick, grills, if you are

1 grilling with charcoal don't start a fire,
2 put it after it's no longer attended and you
3 can actually save the charcoal and dry it in
4 the sun.

5 And don't forget, call your
6 congressmen and tell them no more trade
7 packs. Bawk, bawk. Higher wages mean more
8 taxes coming in so it is a local issue.
9 Thank you and have a good night. Don't
10 forget to bawk, bawk again.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
13 to address council?

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
15 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I
16 have to disagree with Mr. Rogan, I'd like to
17 see you take six months off. To me the best
18 government is the least government, but
19 let's get on with something in here.

20 Let's go down to your "B" under your
21 motions, you got a little thing in there,
22 why are we exempting educational parking?
23 Your thing here, education, you want me to
24 read it for you?

25 MR. MCGOFF: I just didn't hear you,

1 I'm sorry.

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah, educational
3 parking, you are exempting it from your "B"
4 under motions, why? If the University or
5 anyone else is charging for parking why
6 aren't we getting our fair cut of them? Why
7 are you exempting them? Here it is. One it
8 says here, definition by adding an exemption
9 of educational parking. I assume that's the
10 University, they don't want to pay, they are
11 suing and we don't want to fight or somebody
12 got something to do with the University.
13 Why are we exempting them? I asked you, of
14 course you don't probably know.

15 MR. MCGOFF: My assumption is, as
16 you said, that they -- because of the
17 lawsuit and it's been difficult to enforce
18 so that --

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: I hope it's that or
20 I hope somebody isn't getting a cut of the
21 action that the city should be getting.

22 Okay, let's go down to something
23 else. Let's go into your legislation for
24 your parking. Please explain to me what you
25 mean by non-parking. You have metered

1 parking and non-metered parking. What are
2 they saying there? I don't want to see a
3 mess like you did with tax on amusement
4 because there is no -- there is no amusement
5 in Scranton. Casey has struck out. This is
6 Mudville again. What is it and what do you
7 consider non-metered parking.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: 15-minute parking
9 spots, 30-minute parking spots where there
10 is no meters.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Or parking at a
12 house?

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: No, no, no.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: You have to read it
15 and make sure because you made a lot of
16 mistakes with your quick action.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: This is strictly
18 downtown business district anyway.

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: It doesn't say that.
20 You have to read your complete legislation.
21 If I had it, I could bring it down, but
22 unfortunately I didn't take it. But when it
23 said non-metered parking that meant a lot.
24 It could have meant there or it could mean a
25 lot more. It's a broad curb. If you put

1 it -- if that legislation says, "Only within
2 central city" or something I can understand
3 it, but I don't have the legislation and I
4 wish when you do read it you read it with
5 that and you give a lot of different
6 interpretation to what is meant by
7 non-metered parking because the last time it
8 came up I brought it up, too, and that was
9 maybe two or three years ago.

10 That I thought was a little worse
11 because I think the idea was people to go
12 out and ticket cars outside of the city -- I
13 mean, outside the meeting part of the city,
14 central city. In other words, if you were
15 parked the wrong way or something, which was
16 the job of the police department, but I read
17 that there and it seemed like that was in it
18 and I just hope it's not that same little
19 piece of legislation.

20 I'm a stickler for that, just like
21 the deal with the parking at the University
22 or anywhere else. Everyone else has to pay,
23 but the University doesn't. You have to
24 take that into account. These kids are
25 paying for that parking and we should get a

1 percentage of it, there is no question about
2 it. What has to do with education, I can
3 understand that, but when you talk about all
4 of those other little things that run in
5 there, you know, I mean, their bookstore
6 they make money on that, we should get a
7 part of the business. It should come under
8 the mercantile tax. You got to start
9 cracking down on the University and any
10 legal way you can do it or anyway. We can't
11 afford it. We can't afford what's
12 happening.

13 I understand what the collateral
14 thing was, collateral was just something
15 that says maybe we can borrow at a lower
16 rate. That's all that was for. Of course,
17 had we failed we can never take that, but I
18 know we could borrow at something other than
19 9.1 percent, but I don't know. I don't know
20 how far down the line we are. I know the
21 state is trying to come up with some kind of
22 a bailout for it, but I don't know.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
25 to address council?

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
2 Council. Marie Schumacher, city resident
3 and taxpayer.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Before I hit the
6 hay last Thursday night I did send in the
7 questions and I did hear from Mr. Gaughan,
8 who is not able to respond for personal
9 reasons within his family this week, but I
10 would like to hear the answers from --

11 MR. WECHSLER: I'll do it during
12 comments?

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Pardon?

14 MR. WECHSLER: I will do them during
15 comments?

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Mr. Rogan?

17 MR. ROGAN: I have a few as well and
18 I'll also mention them under motions.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. If I have
20 any questions then I have to wait until next
21 week to do them. Well, back to the agenda
22 tonight, I have the same comments on 5-Bb
23 and concerns as Mr. Sbaraglia regarding
24 exempting the educational exemptions. It's
25 not just their students they charge, but

1 they also charge for special events they
2 have, which is not necessarily educational.
3 At least those should be taxed if the
4 private contractors are going to be taxed in
5 my opinion.

6 And 5-C is there a change in the
7 fees of the actual dollar fees from the
8 former legislation that's being amended or
9 that is proposed being amended? File of
10 Council No. 79 of 2012?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Not that I know.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: I haven't seen the
13 current -- I just got the packet this
14 evening, but it was several weeks ago we
15 were in discussions, excuse me, about the
16 fees and that and there were at that time,
17 which I haven't had a chance to look at it,
18 which I was going to look now, but they did
19 discuss stepping the fees down a little bit,
20 some of them were a little bit prohibitive
21 tive for smaller businesses and that, and
22 also I think there was one forgiveness, but
23 now there is two. At one time there was
24 three so --

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, yeah, what

1 was discussed and what's in the legislation
2 I would like a definitive on what is in
3 legislation.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Maybe that could be
6 provided next week. There will be three
7 readings. If not, maybe I can get into the
8 office or get it e-mailed to me.

9 On 5-F there was some really very
10 interesting information provided in
11 tonight's caucus and after listening to that
12 I would very much like to hear the BA defend
13 the administration's choice as it certainly
14 seems far better than the choice that's
15 being asked for in the resolution and
16 because I think it reflects not only
17 attitude of the city towards it's consumer
18 of its services, but also on the selection
19 process and the individuals who are making
20 those, so I hope you will vote tonight to
21 table that piece of legislation until we can
22 have that, hear from the BA on why the
23 administration thinks that Pango is better
24 than Mobile Now.

25 And anyone know whether the gift of

1 software we received from the state several
2 months back is installed or when it will be?
3 Okay, another letter.

4 And anything more on Mr. Amaroso?
5 The date of his contract are winding down,
6 do we know if that's going to be extended or
7 if there is going to be the format of the
8 report, since it was a private entity that
9 -- the contract was issued by the ownership
10 of the Chamber of Commerce or will the
11 public be privy to that?

12 MR. MCGOFF: I don't know that I
13 have an answer to your specific question, I
14 do know that Mr. Amaroso has -- we are not
15 negotiating, but trying to find a date when
16 Mr. Amaroso can make a presentation to
17 council. There are a couple of dates
18 mentioned, some of them were -- we were
19 unable to be here and so we are trying to
20 work on a date. It will probably be in
21 early July that the final -- his final
22 recommendations would be presented to the
23 council.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you and,
25 Mr. McGoff --

1 MR. MCGOFF: As far as the contract,
2 since the contract was not with us I have no
3 idea what is going to happen once that is
4 terminated or --

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Completed. Okay, I
6 believe you mentioned a date specific for
7 the receipt of the 2013 audit report a
8 couple of the weeks back and I didn't make
9 note of it, can you tell me again what -- or
10 tell everybody what that date was?

11 MR. MCGOFF: I don't remember saying
12 that.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Maybe I misheard.
14 Is there a date --

15 MR. MCGOFF: The only thing I
16 remember saying is that I thought that we
17 would be closer to an audit by the end of
18 the summer than -- or sooner than we have
19 had in the past. I was thinking end of the
20 summer, I may be wrong.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and if I may
22 just slip one more in here, the Act 47 there
23 was an article in the paper today if perhaps
24 during motions you all could say, you know,
25 whether you communicated with Senator Blake

1 and what you think of the proposal and what
2 was in the paper today, and other than that
3 I will return next week. Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who wishes
5 to address council?

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

7 MOTIONS.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Maybe before we go to
9 individual motions maybe as a response to
10 Ms. Schumacher's question about the Act 47
11 proposals made by Senator Blake and others
12 to council, I'll respond that I know that
13 the administration was hoping and has been
14 lobbying with Senator Blake to have the LST
15 increased, and that I would that would
16 become a integral part of any, you know,
17 financial arrangements moving forward.

18 The administration and I personally
19 would be in full support of those amendments
20 made by Senator Blake. I think it would go
21 a long way to helping the city move from the
22 distressed status that we are in towards a
23 recovery. That's my own feeling and anyone
24 else that wants to weigh in at this time.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Well, I have been

1 speaking to Senator Blake about this since
2 last year as well, and it was one of the
3 things that he thought that he could help us
4 with in the city. I think it's another
5 option for our city to increase some
6 revenues, and I also think it's something
7 that is, as said in the paper today, it's a
8 uniform and fair tax and it does not have to
9 stigma of the commuter tax. It's just
10 something that's already on the books.
11 Although it is increase, there is something
12 that people are familiar with this tax and
13 know what it goes for so I'm very happy to
14 hear that Senator Blake is being successful
15 in this effort and I hope that it comes to
16 pass.

17 MR. ROGAN: I would just comment
18 two-fold, as far as Act 47 reforms go
19 anything that is sent -- passed through the
20 state is just an option for the city, so
21 personally I would welcome, you know, a
22 broad group of reforms that would give the
23 city more options and more tools to get out
24 of distressed status.

25 Specifically on what was mentioned

1 in the paper, obviously nobody ever wants to
2 raise any taxes, and me more so than others
3 as I'm always against raising taxes wherever
4 I can be, but the one thing I do like about
5 this fee is it's not going on the backs of
6 the senior citizens and the homeowners once
7 again. It would be paid for by people like
8 me who are still working. That is one thing
9 that I do like about it that tax or others.

10 But I think the thing that Senator
11 Blake could really do to help, which he
12 hasn't, is to sign onto Senate Bill 76 which
13 would eliminate property taxes for the
14 school portion of your bill. That would be
15 help the City of Scranton and the residents
16 of Scranton more than any Act 47 reform that
17 can be passed.

18 But specifically on the reforms,
19 hopefully it will be a broad package that
20 passes and then at the end of the day the
21 decisions will be left to the mayor and to
22 city council to decide what to adopt and
23 what not to adopt, just like Mr. Amaroso's
24 report. It will just be a recommendation,
25 it won't be anything that has to be adopted,

1 but that's all how I feel about it.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? Thank
3 you. Mr. Wechsler?

4 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,
5 Mr. McGoff. In regard to the questions that
6 were asked last week, I do have some answers
7 and then some are still waiting for. One of
8 the questions was the number of trash bills
9 that were mailed in 2014 compared to 2013.
10 In 2013 there were 20,713 garbage bills
11 mailed. In 2014 there was 20,479.
12 According to Treasurer Wayne Beck, the list
13 has been scrubbed of some empty properties
14 and some properties that have been
15 demolished so that's why the number has
16 decreased.

17 Another question was the number of
18 the bills at the end of May that were paid
19 in full compared to 2013 and 2014. In 2013
20 they were 12,525 bills either partially paid
21 or fully paid. The reporting system right
22 now does not distinguish between full and
23 partial payments, but that's something we
24 are going to hope to get into next year. In
25 2014, the total paid to date was 10.709. I

1 think that reflects a couple of different
2 things that the bills are made a little
3 later, and we did increase the forgiveness
4 time that people have to pay the bill.

5 The question in regards to landfill
6 costs, that's something that I'm still
7 working on getting an answers and working
8 with Mr. Bulzoni.

9 Parking meter revenue received from
10 January through May '13 and '14, in 2013 the
11 city received \$364,468, and in 2014 to date
12 we have received \$467,541.

13 In regards to the number of
14 businesses paying mercantile tax, the 2013
15 total was 2,635. Right now it's anticipated
16 that that amount of payers should remain
17 about the same. That office also is going
18 through and upgrading a new computer system
19 and when we asked this question the exact
20 data was not available.

21 In regards to a yearend forecast, I
22 cannot say that there will be a specific
23 yearend forecast available by the end of
24 July. We are always going through the
25 numbers and preparing actuals to projected,

1 that's something that we are doing and we
2 will continue to do that and report as best
3 as we can. If there is a report that will
4 have to come from the Business
5 Administrator's Office, it will not come
6 from the city council.

7 This week I attended a few
8 neighborhood meetings I attended a Bulls
9 Head Neighborhood Association meeting the
10 other night. They raised some concerns
11 about the some damage that's being done to
12 the top of the levy system by quad riders.
13 They are up and down the bank and they road
14 the bank. This is it something that we have
15 to carefully about because the city is
16 required to maintain those levies. We are
17 audited by the Corp of Engineers and we must
18 have it audited in acceptable shape to
19 continue to being certified and also to have
20 them help us out so I would ask that every
21 effort be made by the Scranton Police, I
22 know the quads are hard to pursue, and
23 actually you are not allowed to pursue them,
24 but I understand that the quad riders can be
25 cited if they are filling up at gas station

1 and don't have the proper permits on the
2 their vehicle so I was hoping that the
3 something the police department could also
4 do as well.

5 Last night I attended the South
6 Scranton crime watch meeting and, you know,
7 we talk about things for kids to do in the
8 summer, this group along with the United
9 Neighborhood Centers is running some free
10 events at Connors Park. They are going to
11 have something every day -- I'm sorry,
12 almost every day during the week. On
13 Tuesday it will be art in the park, which is
14 a 12:30. On Wednesdays they will have
15 reading and other activities at the park.
16 They will also have some special bike safety
17 days and kids nutritional education.

18 One of the questions though that was
19 raised while I was at the meeting was when
20 Connors Park was built there was a sprinkler
21 system installed at the facility and due to
22 the fact that some of the remnants of the
23 former foundation of the building that were
24 there the sprinkler system was not allowed
25 to be submerged before below the frost level

1 so right now some of that is damaged. The
2 way the water system works there is you
3 can't turn water on without turning it on
4 for the whole sprinkler system, so the group
5 is requesting that the city come over and
6 just do a repair that would turn off the
7 water running into the sprinkler system and
8 allow the users of the park, especially
9 during this program, that they could have
10 some water at the facility because they have
11 some events that require water.

12 And one other thing I would like to
13 mention, one of the speakers said tonight
14 talking about developers of some projects,
15 the developer of the Hill Neighborhood
16 project is not an absentee landlord. The
17 developer of this project has done several
18 projects throughout the city, that night at
19 the zoning board he had a presentation where
20 he doing another project at Marshall school.
21 This developer has done projects throughout
22 the city and I think we do him a disservice
23 calling him an absentee landlord because h
24 is not. He lives in the city, he has
25 businesses in the city, and you can disagree

1 or agree with the project, but I don't think
2 calling him an absentee landlord does him
3 any service. Thank you, Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

5 MR. ROGAN: Yes. First a couple of
6 responses to issues that were brought up.
7 Our office has been in contact with Mr.
8 Koldjeski regarding the vacant lots
9 throughout the city and trying to set up and
10 talk to him about possibly setting up a land
11 back or a different program to make it
12 easier for neighbors to buy vacant lots next
13 to them so they could use it to improve
14 their land, put in gardens, pools,
15 driveways, etcetera, so that something I
16 think all of us on council are looking
17 forward to, and because they're so prevalent
18 throughout the city so if you can get those
19 property back on the tax rolls and get them
20 so they are working for the people in the
21 neighborhoods.

22 Next, just in response to a few
23 other items --

24 MR. MCGOFF: I believe Mr. Koldjeski
25 is coming is it next week?

1 MS. REED: Right.

2 MR. ROGAN: Next Thursday.

3 Regarding a couple of questions that were
4 posed, Ms. Schumacher asked me about OECD
5 loans. I did speak to Attorney Hickey
6 regarding those, specifically Alexander's,
7 that's something we are going to continue to
8 work on, and the status of the park I'm
9 still waiting on a reply so I'll get back to
10 you on that one.

11 Also, I'll bring up I guess the
12 zoning issues. I think our zoning board in
13 the city by and large has done a great job
14 being objective and trying to do what's
15 right for the city as a whole and for
16 neighborhoods. At times it may not always
17 be the popular thing to do, but as
18 Mr. Wechsler mentioned, both of these
19 projects are being done by a very reputable
20 developer and I know in my neighborhood I
21 live a few blocks from the Marshall School
22 and that sat vacant for a few years not
23 bringing in any tax revenue as a school
24 district property. Now, that property will
25 be sold to the school district, put back on

1 the tax rolls and developed in a desirable
2 way that the neighbors wanted, so I am
3 hopeful that both projects will come out in
4 a good way for the neighborhoods and for the
5 city.

6 Onto another neighborhood/zoning
7 issue, I was contacted today from a few
8 people from the South Scranton Neighborhood
9 Watch regarding 929 Cedar, which for those
10 in the area it's the old Pennswood Manor.
11 Back in 2011, I did speak about this issue a
12 few times on city council, what had happened
13 is there were new developers that took over
14 that property and they were trying to
15 convert it into a halfway house. At that
16 time, bear were me, I'm just reading from my
17 notes here, they did go to the zoning board
18 and were denied a variance. They appealed
19 to the Court of Common Pleas and were once
20 again denied a variance and they are now
21 appealing on a state level for a variance,
22 so this is multiple times they have been
23 denied a variance to operate a halfway house
24 right in the middle of a residential
25 neighborhood in South Side, and I come to

1 find out that this company Cedar Residence,
2 which is the name of the halfway house at
3 929 Cedar, I come to find out today that the
4 Lackawanna County Commissioners entered into
5 a contract to reimburse this halfway house
6 in the middle of South Scranton.

7 And I do have a copy of e-mail that
8 was sent to the Commissioners Office. I'm
9 hopeful that, one, they will reconsider that
10 decision. The last thing South Scranton
11 needs is a halfway house in the middle of a
12 neighborhood; and secondly, I did send these
13 into our city clerk and we are going to look
14 at it to see what could be done as far as
15 the violation of the zoning because the
16 variance has never been approved. It was
17 denied at the initial level and denied at
18 the appeal level, and it is pending at the
19 state level. Whether they hear it or not,
20 it's up to them, but a variance has never
21 been granted to operate this halfway house
22 and I know the residents in South Scranton
23 are very concerned.

24 I know that area very well when it
25 was a nursing home, there weren't any

1 problems there. It was senior citizens who
2 needed care and provided jobs for that
3 community and provided care for the seniors.
4 Now that the neighbors are very concerned,
5 especially the neighbors with children at
6 this halfway house, so this is an issue that
7 I will continue to work on, I'm hopeful that
8 it will be resolved in a way favorable for
9 the residents of South Side and Scranton and
10 I hope that the county commissioners
11 reconsider their decision to subsidize this
12 halfway house with taxpayer dollars. And
13 that is all for tonight. Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Loscombe?

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you. Just
16 to address a couple of things that were
17 mentioned this evening, on 5-B, our motion
18 for the parking, I'm not sure, this is the
19 first I saw that amendment in there, and I
20 do have a questions for the solicitor as far
21 as educational, and again, it could have
22 been dealing with a lawsuit that was
23 currently pending, but, you know, I would
24 let that ride and continue with the way it
25 was. It just seems like an additional lost

1 revenue to us from entities that are
2 charging the revenue, so I would like to --
3 I will vote for introduction this evening on
4 that, but I would like to discuss it with
5 the solicitor a little further.

6 Next is on the alarms. As far as
7 the charge section for the alarms, and it is
8 significantly better than it was for the
9 consumer, it was never meant to penalize,
10 but it was meant to offset some of the costs
11 of responding to multiple false alarms, and
12 it's a two-stage set up. The fire alarm
13 charges are a bit different than the police
14 charges because the fire department responds
15 with more manpower and more equipment and
16 naturally there are far more police false
17 alarms, too, so it's sort of offsets there.

18 But the new setup for fire
19 department alarms is the first and second
20 false alarm there is no charge. The third
21 and fourth false alarm is \$250 charged.
22 Fifth false alarm \$500 and the sixth and
23 subsequent false alarms are \$1,000 each, and
24 this is within a calendar year just to make
25 that clear. That was the fire department.

1 On the police department side, the
2 first and second false alarms there are no
3 charge. The third and fourth false alarms
4 will be \$100 each. The fifth false alarm
5 \$250, and the sixth and subsequent false
6 alarms will be \$500 each. Again, that's in
7 a calendar year.

8 And there are exceptions. Alarms
9 caused by testing failure or repair of
10 telephone lines, the entity shall be
11 responsible for notifying their alarm
12 company prior to testing, but sometimes
13 that's not possible, but, you know, the
14 administration will work with that. An
15 alarm caused by an act of God such as
16 earthquakes, floods, windstorm, thunder or
17 lighting. Those are exceptions.

18 And there is one other I would like
19 to discuss with the solicitor because we
20 have had an incident just recently that I
21 brought to his attention, it's a small
22 business, and three times during the evening
23 it started with midnight the police were
24 called to their business so they ended up
25 getting a fine because it was a third call,

1 but, unfortunately, they weren't able to get
2 ahold of their alarm provider, every time
3 they reset it would go and two hours later
4 it ended up to be a faulty alarm so the with
5 the statement from the alarm company that,
6 you know, it was a malfunctioning alarm or
7 whatever I think we could work on something
8 with that, too, so we are not penalizing the
9 small business because in this case he said,
10 "They couldn't even rob \$500 worth of stuff
11 from me, I might as well turn my alarm off."

12 Well, this is not to do that either,
13 you know, we want everybody to be safe and
14 we want everybody to use their alarm system
15 so we understand there are circumstances and
16 the administration and police chief did work
17 with this business on that as they are with
18 other businesses, but what has caused the
19 problem with nuisance alarms were, you know,
20 they set alarms where they are easily
21 accessible to children or they have the same
22 problem over and over. You know, I know
23 back in the day hospitals when they used to
24 use a spray treatment in the patient's room
25 they were supposed to cover the detector and

1 rather than take the time to do that, they
2 would spray it and then the alarm they
3 respond.

4 You know, so there is a lot of
5 little things that have to be ironed out
6 here, but I think for the most part they
7 made a little bit better, because there were
8 some hefty fines on the old ordinance, so I
9 think with a little tweaking here and there
10 it should benefit everybody, but I urge
11 nobody to turn their alarms off because, you
12 know, at what price is a life, and that's
13 all I have on the alarms.

14 Now, I have come complaints about,
15 as we all do, potholes on the roads and
16 stuff like that, well, we have potholes and
17 we have craters and I have run across a
18 couple of craters that have been sitting for
19 awhile and I know there is probably many
20 more but these are two that I have run
21 across, and I'll get the information, we
22 could pass it onto our Department of Public
23 Works, but the 100 block of South Rebecca
24 Avenue there is a pretty significant crater,
25 and the 300 block of South Webster another

1 significant crater there.

2 And speaking of roads and driving
3 around, I have mentioned at this podium
4 every time a new paving project came up or
5 we are going to bid out paving that
6 somebody, either the engineer or the
7 contractor ought to reach out to the
8 utilities and find out if they have any
9 forthcoming work in those areas before they
10 did the final blacktopping and it falls on
11 deaf ears. I don't know what happens, but
12 it continues. We have got brand new paved
13 streets in the city and not even a month,
14 South Grant Avenue the 100 block the Sewer
15 Authority already dug two holes in there, it
16 wasn't paved a month ago. It's never going
17 to be the same as if it was paved the first
18 time.

19 Now they have markings on the 100
20 block of South Van Buren Avenue, and it is
21 the Sewer Authority, they haven't cut it
22 yet, but it's obvious they are. I would
23 like to send a letter to the Sewer Authority
24 to find out what their anticipation is as
25 far as -- because some of these roads we

1 have on our paving list they may be putting
2 new sewer lines in under this Chesapeake
3 plan and it's just ashame that the taxpayers
4 are paying for the blacktop at a high price
5 and they may have a nice smooth road for a
6 week or two and then it's back to the old
7 ways. It's get frustrating for me, I can
8 imagine the people that live on all of these
9 streets.

10 So we to get this coordinated and
11 who in the administration will do it, we
12 have to find out. But it frustrates me as I
13 know it does others. And also, I mean, on
14 the 700 block of Prescott I notice markings
15 on the pavement there in the pavement, and
16 I'm sure it's all over, so before any more
17 paving are done on new black top I think we
18 need a meeting between maybe utilities and
19 their planning on doing it, they should have
20 to repave the whole street. I mean, this
21 should be part of our policy, but something
22 has to done. Emergencies I could
23 understand, but these are not emergencies.

24 I know manhole covers were paved
25 over and I know there are still some

1 complaints in these neighborhood about
2 sidewalks that are dug up, concrete
3 sidewalks where they threw back top patch
4 there and grass was torn up so there is
5 still a lot of issues and, you know,
6 hopefully we can get together on that and
7 work those issues out, and that's enough on
8 the streets.

9 But just to go, as was mentioned,
10 5-F about the contract for self-parking. As
11 one of our speakers mentioned, we did have a
12 presentation from the other bidder prior to
13 our meeting, it was a public caucus and I
14 welcome Pango to also appear and explain
15 their things and our business administrator.
16 I have some questions and, you know, I look
17 back at the history and, unfortunately, I
18 have been involved in the parking issue here
19 for some time trying to get things done, and
20 I'm one to blame for the Parking Authority
21 defaulting, and if I had to do it tomorrow I
22 would do it all over again because we would
23 be paying a lot more today if we didn't put
24 a stop to it. Naturally, there is still a
25 lot of things that have to be straightened

1 out there, but if you remember the history
2 under the past administration we had Central
3 Parking taking care of the garages, that's
4 who the banks put in charge of it. Now, all
5 of a sudden a contract comes by us to give
6 them the on-street set up. No discussion,
7 no bidding, nothing like that.

8 It was this council that pushed to
9 have that bid out and guess what, we got a
10 lot better deal when was bid out and it
11 ended up going to Republic Parking, who
12 seems to be doing a great job, we have no
13 complaints, we have heard no complaints
14 about that and the city is benefiting from
15 it. Had we just accepted that other
16 contract on their recommendation without
17 questions, we would be paying more and
18 making less right now. So I think it's good
19 to discuss some of these issues.

20 With this Pango situation right now,
21 Pango never came before city council, that
22 contract, it was never bid out. That
23 contract was given out by the past
24 administration without our knowledge or our
25 approval or our vote. Is it a nice program?

1 Certainly for those who utilize it they all
2 say it's a great program, nothing against
3 it, but just the way it came in this town
4 and proceeded and I think we are making the
5 same mistakes now because four bidders bid,
6 apparently the administration said two of
7 them didn't have all of the credentials, so
8 it was narrowed down to two, Pango and
9 Mobile Now I believe it was, the people that
10 spoke to us today, and I had some questions
11 because I had, again, researched all of this
12 stuff for the past several years. New
13 companies are coming on board, stuff like
14 that. I had some questions, I discussed it
15 with the people from Mobile Now and tonight
16 was the first time I actually met any of
17 them. I haven't spoken to anybody from
18 Pango or met with them, I hope to see them
19 and that they can answer some of these
20 questions, but I think this is a lot of
21 things in their contract that end up costing
22 the end user and not benefiting the citizens
23 or the city as much as some of the things
24 that were presented by the other contractor.

25 You know, there has been several

1 issues, not all of them were brought up this
2 evening, and there may be more than are
3 presented, but I just think a fair shake for
4 everyone, not just cart blanch saying, yeah,
5 he said it's okay, so we all question
6 everything here, we should and in this
7 particular case I'm questioning disapproval
8 and, you know, I don't think at this time
9 all of my questions are answered and I don't
10 think at this time I can give a vote either
11 way.

12 And with that said, and I don't
13 think I will, but I would like to ask for a
14 motion to be table this until we hear from
15 the other entities, until we hear from our
16 Business Administration and our -- and the
17 Pango people.

18 MR. ROGAN: Is that a motion?

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

20 MR. ROGAN: I'll second.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

22 MR. MCGOFF: A motion has been made
23 to table, and I do not have the -- a motion
24 has been made to table 5-F. On the
25 question?

1 MR. ROGAN: I stated during the
2 caucus, and I don't have a problem with
3 introducing it this week and tabling it next
4 week or tabling this, but, do think there is
5 some more discussion that needs to take
6 place.

7 Just for background, this was bid
8 out and it came down to two bidders, Pango
9 and the other one I believe this looks like
10 Mobile Now, and on the face of it, it
11 appears Pango is the lowest bidder, but
12 Pango some other fees and different items in
13 their proposal that seems Mobile Now
14 doesn't.

15 I would just like to get all the
16 information before we take a final vote
17 that's why I agree with Councilman Loscombe.
18 I don't have a horse in the race either way,
19 I just think we need to make the best
20 decision for the city.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, personally I
22 don't think we should table it. I don't
23 know see why we don't vote to introduce it
24 and then get all of the information during
25 the week. We have a letter here from

1 Mr. Bulzoni dated May 30 explaining why he
2 chose Pango over Mobile Now and we knew this
3 was going to be on agenda, I just don't
4 understand why the questions weren't asked
5 to Mr. Bulzoni within the past week or he
6 was notified or Mobile Now went to him with
7 their concerns. That's just my thoughts on
8 that.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: If I may, may I add
10 to that? Unfortunately, I just received the
11 hard copies yesterday of the bids so I
12 didn't have all week to review them. I did
13 have some questions and I presented them
14 today and they were happy -- I mean, I did
15 discuss some issues that I had about 15
16 cents and that. It's a lot more than a
17 nickle and dime here and there, believe me,
18 folks.

19 We went through the Central Parking/
20 Republican Park situation and, you know, the
21 Business Administrator, God bless him, I
22 think he is doing a hell of job but his
23 hands are full. He is working here until
24 midnight some nights. I don't think he can
25 make a decision on everything or review

1 everything. You know, we work full time,
2 too, and unfortunately, this is only a two
3 vote scenario, tonight and next week.
4 Unfortunately, I won't have the opportunity
5 during this next week because of my work
6 schedule to have the opportunity to get some
7 of these issues straightened out, so I was
8 hoping that they would appear at one of our
9 caucuses before the meeting or whatever, but
10 I don't think one week is going to hurt
11 anybody tabling it because right now Pango
12 is under an agreement to continue service
13 until that contract is it awarded.

14 And, ultimately, it could be Pango,
15 it could be this other company. I'm not
16 saying I favor one over the other, I want
17 what's best for the people in this city and
18 we are charging -- I want to know what's
19 best for them and what benefit it's going to
20 be for our city and our citizens and I have
21 a number of the questions and I just -- you
22 know, I have a question about the way this
23 came about in the beginning and I believe,
24 if I'm not mistaken, I mentioned this to the
25 administration a couple of months ago that

1 this contract was running out, but I don't
2 know if they are aware of it because it
3 would have automatically renewed with Pango
4 had they not bid it out. That was in their
5 policy.

6 And believe it or not, if that
7 automatically renewed, the fees would have
8 been more, not less. It didn't -- they
9 didn't drop their fees until we put them up
10 to competition, which rightfully so, that's
11 what happens. But, you know, there is a lot
12 of questionable tactics on how this business
13 came here, and I have a lot of things that
14 were brought to my attention that still
15 don't pass the smell test and that's the way
16 I feel.

17 MR. ROGAN: I would just add one key
18 point that Councilman Loscombe just
19 mentioned is by tabling it for a week or two
20 weeks it's not going to hinder the current
21 services of the downtown parking. It's not
22 a deadline where if this isn't passed in two
23 weeks you won't be able to pay by phone. If
24 council wanted to table it for three months,
25 which isn't what we should do and isn't what

1 we are going to do, the current service
2 would continue, so I think this is one of
3 the rare situations where we do have the
4 time to make sure that this -- that we are
5 getting the best deal that we can and it may
6 turn out Pango is the best deal, and if they
7 are I'll be the first one to vote for it.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: I agree.

9 MR. ROGAN: So I don't see any harm
10 in, you know, taking a step back and
11 listening to either -- listening to both
12 companies, I think that would be certainly a
13 fair thing to do, and the Business
14 Administrator as well.

15 MR. WECHSLER: I just think that can
16 be done after we take this vote. There is
17 nothing that's forcing us if we do introduce
18 this tonight to vote on it next week. There
19 is a time that it can be delayed again, and
20 I also would like to have more information.
21 Sitting in a 20-minute caucus and having a
22 presentation without any data provided to
23 you, just somebody talking to you, it was a
24 fine presentation, but we have not heard
25 Mr. Bulzoni has taken the information from

1 Pango and has provided us with a some of
2 that. Also, with some of the information
3 from the other bidder I think introducing
4 now is not improper for me, but the final
5 vote will be have to be taken after we have
6 assembled all of the information provided by
7 both the bidding parties and the Business
8 Administrator.

9 MR. MCGOFF: I will add that just
10 timeline on this, first of all, discussions
11 with Pango and discussions about renewing
12 the contract have been considered since the
13 new administration came in. I personally
14 have talked a number of times with Business
15 Administrator Bulzoni and discussed the idea
16 of putting this out for proposals. The
17 proposals were opened May 23. Mr. Bulzoni's
18 recommendation came to us May 30, so we are
19 talking, you know, two full weeks that we
20 have had these -- his recommendation, more
21 than enough time if there were concerns that
22 could have been answered by the Business
23 Administrator.

24 I'm inclined to agree with
25 Mr. Wechsler that there is no need to table

1 this, that had there been, you know, serious
2 questions or there are serious questions,
3 but some of these could have been answered
4 prior to this evening. Also, Mobile Now
5 making a presentation when this is on the
6 agenda for a vote seems to be a little bit
7 late, you know, to do, but we will consider
8 what they have said and I personally am in
9 favor of voting on this evening.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: If I may just add a
11 little more. Mr. McGoff, when I discussed
12 this with you several days ago you were
13 going up to see Mr. Bulzoni and I asked you
14 if possible if he could attend our meeting
15 with these people to answer the questions.
16 I don't know how you made out, obviously he
17 didn't come to our meeting --

18 MR. MCGOFF: He is out of town.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Okay. Two weeks ago
20 he made his decision, again, we are not in
21 city hall seven days a week, five days a
22 week, eight hours a day. We all have
23 full-time positions, plus we have families
24 and graduations, everything going on.
25 Obviously I didn't have the time, and I

1 didn't have a copy of this, I didn't have
2 the time to come over here and sit and read
3 it, I had a copy yesterday. It was the
4 first I was able to go over every detail in
5 there. I'm not God, it takes me time to
6 decipher things. I had some questions
7 previously, and some of them were answered.
8 I have questions that are concerning
9 everyone here, and again, I'm not faulting
10 Mr. Bulzoni or anyone --

11 MR. MCGOFF: No one said you are.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: But I'm not going to
13 always go by someone's opinion. He hasn't
14 been involved in parking before other than
15 loaning the parking authority some money at
16 one time, but that was it. I went to the
17 people that we have dealt with for five
18 years now trying to get this parking
19 situation straightened out and it's been an
20 effort for five years. If we didn't make
21 Central Parking, make that bid come to us
22 over the parking garages -- or the
23 off-street parking, Central Parking was
24 getting the contract, so all I'm saying is
25 what's it going to hurt to postpone it for a

1 week, get all the answers, get the facts out
2 and go from there? Their other contract
3 will continue if we put this off for a year,
4 so I don't know what the fear is in
5 postponing it for another week or so.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? All those
7 in favor of tabling Item 5-F signify by
8 saying aye.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Opposed?

12 MR. WECHSLER: No.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

14 MS. MCGOFF: No. Mr. Wechsler, I'm
15 sorry?

16 MR. WECHSLER: No.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Motion is defeated.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: That's all I have.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, just -- I just
22 took issue, was a little astonished, I just
23 want to make sure I heard you right,
24 Mr. Loscombe, when you said you would vote
25 -- when you voted to default on the bonds

1 for the Parking Authority you said you would
2 do that all over again?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: I certainly would. I
4 certainly would.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: I just want to make
6 sure that's on the record.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: It was on the record
8 when I voted on it.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, again, because
10 in my opinion and in the opinion of many
11 people who have far more financial expertise
12 than I do that is one of the reasons that we
13 are in the position that we are in. That is
14 why we have no credit rating because of that
15 vote.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: We had no credit
17 rating prior to that.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Counsel, please, that's
19 not pertinent to tonight's agenda.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, I just wanted to
21 make sure, I was a little taken aback by
22 that.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'll repeat it, I
24 would the vote the same way again.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: For the record.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay, from June 23 to
3 June 27 the street sweeper is scheduled to
4 be in the upper West Scranton area, St.
5 Ann's Street to Rundell Street, including
6 all streets and avenues.

7 I apologize to anyone I haven't
8 gotten back to via e-mail or telephone. My
9 grandmother, Helen Trently, passed away this
10 past weekend so it was a very difficult week
11 for my family. She was a driving force
12 behind my campaign for city council. She
13 was very involved in Democratic politics in
14 Scranton throughout her life and was a great
15 inspiration to me. She raised 11 children
16 and was one tough Irish woman. I will miss
17 her very much. And that is all I have.
18 Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.
20 First, I'd like to comment on something that
21 one of the speakers spoke or talked about
22 and that is the proposal that was made by
23 the city to Bureau of Labor and Industry.
24 The proposal that was made to the Bureau of
25 Labor and Industry had to do with reducing

1 the -- I'll read from the proposal. "The
2 Department of Labor and Industry requires
3 the city to maintain a minimum reserve
4 funding level of 75 percent of total
5 discounted liabilities."

6 What the city proposed to them was
7 to reduce that, reduce that to 60 percent.
8 We are currently funding above the 75
9 percent limit anyhow. They are asking if
10 they would reduce that to 60 percent, which
11 would free up approximately \$5 million that
12 would then be used as cash collateral for a
13 loan to pay part of the arbitration award.

14 These are ongoing negotiations with
15 the lending institution and with the Bureau
16 of Labor and Industry. There is no proposal
17 to council of any kind. The city is waiting
18 on the decision from Bureau of Labor and
19 Industry. If they were to approve this
20 reduction in funding level in the reserve
21 funding, that money would then be put into a
22 separate account to be used as collateral.
23 It would not go into the general fund, it
24 would not go anywhere else. That amount
25 would be reduced as the loan was being paid

1 off and it would be restored to its full 75
2 percent level at the time that the loan
3 would be repaid. That was a presentation
4 that was made, kind of a summary of the
5 presentation that was made to the Bureau of
6 Labor and Industry.

7 As I said, when there is either
8 approval or disapproval from the Bureau of
9 Labor and Industry and the proposal is made
10 to the city then we will discuss it here.
11 As of now, there is no proposal before
12 council, therefore, to speak on anything
13 would be superfluous because we simply do
14 not have anything to speak to.

15 When, in fact, that information is
16 made available, it will certainly be made
17 available to the public through council.

18 I would just a brief apology on
19 tonight's agenda or about tonight's agenda,
20 number one, some of the legislation was I'll
21 say late in being presented to us. We had a
22 somewhat short notice on some of the
23 legislation that was on the agenda. Also,
24 usually questions that we may have about the
25 different pieces of legislation are answered

1 during our caucus, but both Mr. Bulzoni and
2 Attorney Shrive are unavailable this evening
3 and so we could not ask those questions of
4 them; and also, there was a lengthy
5 presentation during our caucus which also
6 prevented us from asking questions about the
7 legislation or discussing it in caucus.

8 Since most of -- since all of this
9 legislation that was questioned is in Fifth
10 Order, we will do our due diligence and
11 provide some answers to those questions
12 during the coming week so that we are better
13 prepared for the next -- at the next meeting
14 to deal with those pieces of legislation.

15 And that's all I have for this
16 evening. Thank you.

17 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION- AN
18 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
19 30, 2012 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING
20 A TAX FOR GENERAL REVENUE PURPOSES ON
21 OPERATORS OF PARKING SPACES AT THE RATE OF
22 FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) UPON EACH PARKING
23 TRANSACTION AND ESTABLISHING ANNUAL LICENSE
24 PROCEDURES AND FEES AND PROMULGATING THE
25 RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING RULES AND

1 REGULATIONS ON PARKING TRANSACTIONS PURSUANT
2 TO THE LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT 53 PA. C.S.A.
3 6901 ET SEQ. BY AMENDING SECTION 1.
4 DEFINITIONS BY ADDING THE EXEMPTION OF
5 EDUCATIONAL PARKING; AMENDING SECTION 3.
6 ANNUAL LICENSE BY CHANGING THE ANNUAL
7 LICENSE AT A FEE OF ONE (\$1.00) DOLLAR PER
8 SPACE TO A FLAT FEE OF FIFTY (\$50.00)
9 DOLLARS PER YEAR; AMENDING SECTION 5.
10 RETURN AND PAYMENTS BY CHANGING MONTHLY TO
11 QUARTERLY AND IN ADDITION TO CITY ADD OR THE
12 CITY'S DESIGNEE AND AMENDING SECTION 6 TO
13 ADD A DESIGNEE TO THE OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF
14 THE PARKING TAX.

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

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

20 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

21 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. McGoff, one thing
22 I would like to comment on this, I would
23 like the designee of the collector of this
24 tax to be the Single Tax Office. The Tax
25 Office has capacity and this is something

1 that they should be able to add to their
2 duties.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? All those
4 in favor signify by saying aye.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

9 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
10 eyes have it and so moved.

11 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION-
12 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
13 NO 79, 2012 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE "REPEALING
14 ALL PRIOR ORDINANCES REGARDING FINES TO BE
15 IMPOSED FOR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS'
16 RESPONSES TO FALSE ALARMS IN THE CITY;
17 ESTABLISHING FINES TO BE IMPOSED FOR THE
18 ACTIVATION OF AN ALARM DEVICE WHICH IS
19 DETERMINED TO BE A FALSE ALARM BY THE POLICE
20 DEPARTMENT OR FIRE DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING
21 THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF SAID
22 FINES; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR
23 VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE" BY AMENDING
24 CERTAIN SECTIONS, ELIMINATING A SECTION,
25 RENUMBERING AND ADDING A NEW SECTION TO

1 PROVIDE FOR A GRADUATED FEE STRUCTURE AND TO
2 INCREASE COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OF SAID
3 SERVICE CHARGES AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPEAL
4 PROCESS.

5 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
6 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
7 introduced into its proper committee.

8 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

10 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
11 those in favor of introduction signify by
12 saying aye.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

14 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

17 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
18 ayes have it and so moved.

19 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION-
20 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
21 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
22 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT
23 WITH WEST SCRANTON LITTLE LEAGUE FOR USE OF
24 CITY OWNED PROPERTY FOR A ONE (1) YEAR
25 PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2014 AND ENDING

1 APRIL 14, 2015. PER SECTION 9 OF THE LEASE
2 AGREEMENT THE WEST SIDE FALCONS JUNIOR
3 FOOTBALL TEAM WILL ENTER INTO A THIRD PARTY
4 AGREEMENT WITH THE WEST SCRANTON LITTLE
5 LEAGUE FOR USE OF THE LACKAWANNA LITTLE
6 LEAGUE FIELD FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY THROUGH
7 NOVEMBER 2014 AS SPECIFIED IN THE LEASE
8 AGREEMENT.

9 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
10 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
11 introduced into its proper committee.

12 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

14 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? I
15 would like to comment that this lease
16 agreement was one that was agreed to by the
17 directorships of the interested parties, it
18 was not something that was formulated by the
19 City of Scranton, it was an agreement
20 formulated by those directorships and agreed
21 to by them and now presented to us for a
22 vote.

23 All those in favor of introduction
24 signify by saying aye.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

6 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION- A
7 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF SEAN MCANDREW,
8 821 NORTH GARFIELD AVENUE, SCRANTON,
9 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE
10 SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION AUTHORITY.
11 MR. MCANDREW WILL BE REPLACING COLLEEN
12 GLEASON, WHO RESIGNED JUNE 10, 2014. MR.
13 MCANDREW'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31,
14 2017.

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

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

20 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question, I
22 would just like to congratulate Mr. McAndrew
23 for his appointment. I know him very well.
24 He is a neighbor of mine and a friend. I
25 know he will do an excellent job as a member

1 of the Recreation Authority. Even as soon
2 as being appointed he already reached out to
3 me and we are going to trying to work
4 together on some projects so looking forward
5 to have him on board.

6 MR. MCGOFF: And his resume was
7 submitted --

8 MS. REED: Correct.

9 MR. MCGOFF: -- to Council. All
10 those in favor of introduction signify by
11 saying aye.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

16 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
17 ayes have it and so moved.

18 All those in favor of introduction
19 signify by saying aye.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
25 ayes have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION- A
2 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
3 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND
4 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PANGO MOBILE
5 PARKING A/K/A PANGO USA LLC TO PROVIDE
6 METERED AND UNMETERED PARKING PAY-BY-CELL
7 SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON FOR THE
8 PERIOD OF FOUR (4) YEARS FROM JUNE 1, 2014
9 THROUGH MAY 31, 2018.

10 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
11 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
12 introduced into its proper committee.

13 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

15 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question. I
17 did vote to table this and I also did
18 mention during the caucus that I don't have
19 a problem with introducing it. I would hope
20 that if we don't have the answers to these
21 questions that it will be tabled next week
22 so we can have Mr. Bulzoni, at his
23 convenience, and have representatives from
24 Pango and try to be sure that we are right
25 and we have the best deal for the taxpayers

1 and for the city.

2 MR. WECHSLER: I agree, Mr. McGoff,
3 if we do not have the proper information I
4 will also vote to table this next week.

5 MR. MCGOFF: And I will make every
6 effort to have Mr. Bulzoni provide answers
7 to the questions that are posed prior to our
8 meeting.

9 All those in favor of introduction
10 signify by saying aye.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

12 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

14 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

16 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
17 moved.

18 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. NO BUSINESS
19 AT THIS TIME.

20 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
21 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
22 DEVELOPMENT -FOR ADOPTION RESOLUTION NO. 59,
23 2014 - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
24 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
25 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF

1 APPROPRIATENESS FOR BARTUSH SIGNS, 302 NORTH
2 WASHINGTON STREET, ORWIGSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
3 17961 TO FABRICATE AND INSTALL ONE SINGLE
4 SIDED INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED SIGN; SIGN
5 CABINET WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OF WELDED
6 ALUMINUM ON A SUB-FRAME WITH ROUTED
7 GRAPHICS; GRAPHICS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OF
8 PLEXI-GLASS MATERIAL; INTERNAL ILLUMINATION
9 WILL BE GENERATED BY HIGH OUTPUT FLUORESCENT
10 TUBES; SIGN CONSTRUCTION WILL BE
11 APPROXIMATELY 2'X 12' AND WILL BE MOUNTED
12 OVER THE ENTRANCE OF THE UNIT AT 532
13 LACKAWANNA AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

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

17 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
18 Committee on Community Development, I
19 recommend final passage of Item 7-A.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Is there a second?

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. Sorry.

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

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

2 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

10 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
11 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION
12 RESOLUTION NO. 60, 2014 - AUTHORIZING THE
13 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
14 TO EXECUTE RIGHT OF ENTRY FOR CONSTRUCTION
15 AGREEMENTS WITH PROPERTY OWNERS LOCATED
16 SURROUNDING THE WEST LACKAWANNA AVENUE
17 BRIDGE INCLUDING AMERCO REAL ESTATE CO.,
18 OLDE GOOD THINGS, INC., SCRANTON
19 REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND ERWIN T. KOST,
20 FOR THE PURPOSES TO CONDUCT ENGINEERING,
21 SURVEYING AND INSPECTION ACTIVITIES FOR
22 VISUAL INSPECTION AND TO CONDUCT TESTING OF
23 THE CONDITION OF THE CONCRETE ON THE WEST
24 LACKAWANNA AVENUE BRIDGE.

25 MR. MCGOFF: What is the

1 recommendation of the Chair for the
2 Committee on Public Works?

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

6 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

12 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

20 If there is no further business,
21 I'll take a motion to adjourn.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.

23 MR. MCGOFF: This meeting is
24 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER