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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, June 28, 2011

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:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
(NOT PRESENT)

PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

FRANK JOYCE

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce. Mrs.

11 Evans.

12 MR. ROGAN: Mrs. Evans did call our
13 city clerk today that she was not able to
14 make tonight's meeting. Reading of the
15 minutes. Are there any announcements?
16 Dispense with the reading of the minutes, I
17 apologize, it's been awhile.

18 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

19 MINUTES OF THE NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION
20 MEETING HELD MAY 25, 2011.

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

23 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE
24 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 25,
25 2011.

1 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
2 If not, received and filed.

3 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE
4 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
5 HELD MAY 25, 2011.

6 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
7 If not, received and filed.

8 MS. KRAKE: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
9 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE
10 AUTHORITY MEETING HELD MAY 19, 2011.

11 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
12 If not, received and filed.

13 MS. KRAKE: 3-E. 2010 COMBINED AUDIT
14 REPORT FOR THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH
15 AND WELFARE AUTHORITY.

16 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
17 If not, received and filed.

18 MS. KRAKE: 3-F. AGENDA FOR THE
19 NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION FUND TO BE
20 HELD JUNE 22, 2011.

21 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
22 If not, received and filed. Mrs. Krake, do
23 we have Clerk's notes tonight?

24 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Rogan, we do not
25 have any Clerk's notes this evening.

1 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Do any
2 council members have announcements to make?
3 No announcements? Fourth order. Citizens'
4 participation. And the first speaker on the
5 list is Les Spindler.

6 (Mr. Joyce takes the dais and joins
7 the meeting during the reading of agenda
8 items.)

9 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
10 Council, Les Spindler, city resident and
11 homeowner and taxpayer.

12 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

13 MR. SPINDLER: First off, I would
14 like to know if Highland Associates and/or
15 Aker and Associates has done any business
16 with the city in the past and do they very
17 any contracts for the future with the city?
18 And I know one thing for a fact, they did do
19 the police station, so that's one. The
20 reason I bring that up is because according
21 to campaign finances reports in 2009
22 Highland Associates, including Don Kalina,
23 who was a major witness in the
24 Cordaro-Munchack case and Aker and
25 Associates, including PJ McLaine, who was

1 also a major witness, contributed to Chris
2 Doherty's campaign in 2009, and that's
3 according -- that's public information
4 according to campaign finances reports. Now
5 there is no law against that, but if they
6 contributed and got jobs because of that
7 there are laws against that, so I would like
8 to know if they have done any jobs in the
9 city.

10 Moving on, this was brought up last
11 week about the Sewer Authority wanting to
12 raise our rates 47 percent again, I think
13 that's totally ridiculous and I knows Mrs.
14 Evans is working on getting the PUC maybe
15 come in here to have a meeting. I hope we
16 can do that and get a lot of people here
17 interested. There is only so much you can
18 charge people, these people in this city are
19 just taxed out and PPL, you know, their
20 rates, everybody's rates are going up. You
21 get a 1 percent or 2 percent raise on your
22 job and you get a 47 percent raise in your
23 sewer bill, something has got to be done
24 here.

25 Also, last week there was talk about

1 a Sewer Authority employee that used Sewer
2 Authority equipment to do private work and
3 he was eventually fired and he should have
4 been arrested, and that's illegal. I won't
5 mention names, but he was another Doherty
6 crony, and that's why he wasn't arrested and
7 that's why you don't see him in the Doherty
8 newsletter. You don't see anything in the
9 Doherty newsletter a/k/a Times-Tribune if
10 somebody from Chris Doherty's administration
11 is involved. But, yet, every time Super Cop
12 Doherty -- or Super Cop Duffy makes a petty
13 arrest it's in the newspaper, and I just
14 want to clear the air, there was a person
15 arrested the other day by him and the last
16 name is Spindler, it's no relation of mine.
17 I know people are probably thinking that,
18 but, like I said, this guy, the people he
19 arrests aren't menace to society. They are
20 just petty criminals and it's ridiculous the
21 publicity that he gets. When he arrests
22 somebody from the FBI's top ten list then
23 let me know about it, okay?

24 Moving on, last week Mr. McGoff said
25 he wanted some money for a park, I think we

1 have enough parks in this city. There is
2 nothing to do with building these parks, but
3 when it comes to asking for money for pools
4 Mr. McGoff is no where to be found. Kids
5 want to swim, and all Mr. McGoff thinks
6 about is building more parks. I think we
7 are all parked out. Is something funny,
8 Mr. McGoff?

9 MR. MCGOFF: Yeah. Yes.

10 MR. SPINDLER: You know, the last
11 person that was up there that laughed all
12 the time is no longer sitting up there.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Yeah, it is humorous
14 because all I asked for is that we -- that
15 we put a piece of -- something on the agenda
16 for a grant that's already been approved.
17 I'm not asking for anybody to spend anymore
18 money other than to approve and take funding
19 for a grant.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Well, we don't need
21 any more parks.

22 MR. MCGOFF: It can't go anywhere
23 else. Apparently the people on Perry Street
24 -- in that area would like that park, so
25 they do -- maybe they do want a park, maybe

1 it is needed.

2 MR. SPINDLER: Well, let's use --

3 MR. MCGOFF: Have you been there?

4 MR. SPINDLER: Let's use the money
5 for something else.

6 MR. MCGOFF: It can't be used for
7 anything else. That's the whole idea. It's
8 a grant for that specific park.

9 MR. SPINDLER: And there has been
10 stuff like that, there has money like that
11 before that was used for other things. That
12 wasn't used for what it was supposed to and
13 it used for other stuff.

14 Moving on, about a year or so ago,
15 maybe even a little more, I came here and
16 Frank Hartman, who is another member of the
17 Tripp Park Neighborhood Association Crime
18 Watch, came here asking for a stop sign
19 somewhere in-between Dorothy Street and
20 North Rebecca Avenue, and much to my delight
21 last Friday one appeared on the corner of
22 Hawthorne and North Rebecca, which I want to
23 thank whoever was responsible for that.
24 It's been needed for a long time and I came
25 here last year and saying, you know, once

1 you make the turn onto Rebecca from Dorothy
2 Street was a clear shot up to Dickens and
3 was like a racetrack, so I was thrilled to
4 see that stop sign. It's a block from my
5 house, and already I see the difference.
6 People are starting to slow down right at my
7 house a block away, so whoever was
8 responsible for that everybody in Tripp
9 Park, especially that area, really
10 appreciates it. So thanks again, and thank
11 you for your time.

12 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Karen
13 Foster.

14 MS. FOSTER: Good evening,
15 distinguished council members. Karen
16 Foster, West Scranton resident, President of
17 the West Scranton Hyde Park Neighborhood
18 Watch. I'm just here to thank you for
19 bringing the amendment that we proposed a
20 few months ago for Chapter 302, Code of the
21 City of Scranton titled, "Parks and
22 Recreation for adding Article III, "West
23 Scranton Skate park Facility Rules and
24 Regulations." Thank you.

25 MR. ROGAN: You're welcome. Francis

1 Tyson.

2 MR. TYSON: Francis Tyson, resident
3 of Scranton. Thank you for having me here
4 this evening to be able to announce our
5 Fourth of July event, it will be on Monday,
6 this coming Monday, the Fourth of July, it
7 will be at 10:30 a.m. at Nay Aug Park in our
8 usual place. We will be entertained by the
9 stirring music of the Reinhold band under
10 the direction of Ted Ricky.

11 We will also have the parade of
12 flags, all the veterans flags. We are also
13 having presentation of the national colors,
14 the raising of the national colors, a salute
15 to the colors, and a very short speech
16 concerning why we are there for the Fourth
17 of July just to remind everybody exactly
18 what means to everybody in this country, and
19 if council could make it we'd certainly have
20 all members of council and all of the
21 residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Is
22 there any questions?

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you for announcing
24 this, Mr. Tyson? I know many of us have
25 been there the last few years and it's

1 always a very nice event and hopefully the
2 weather will be nice again this year as it
3 was last couple of years.

4 MR. TYSON: I appreciate it. We try
5 to make everybody happy with this event, you
6 know. It's really the very first event of
7 the day for the Fourth of July. We try to
8 get that early in the morning, give
9 everybody the opportunity to earn their hot
10 dogs and all of that stuff in the afternoon
11 and get some good sun. I'm assured, sort of
12 assured, that we are going to have a good
13 day, no rain this year as we have in the
14 past a couple of times, so if everybody from
15 Northeastern Pennsylvania can make it up to
16 Nay Aug Park, we'd certainly like to have
17 you. Thank you.

18 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
19 anyone else would like to address counsel?

20 MR. HUBBARD: Perfect timing. Good
21 evening, Council. Dan Hubbard, lower
22 Greenridge. A few issues tonight, one I'd
23 like to address is you got to love the
24 Scranton Times. Love it. The recent
25 article on the flood still being a bad

1 memory, if anybody knows two days ago was
2 the anniversary of the 2006 flood in lower
3 Greenridge. I'd like to point out a few
4 things: One, lower Greenridge is not the
5 plot. It's not part of the plot, it's not
6 corrected to the plot, it's not a plot at
7 all in any way.

8 So a couple of discrepancies in the
9 article, you know, they went onto say that I
10 understand sections of the plot were
11 flooded, but the article claimed, you know,
12 parts of lower Greenridge were protected
13 while others were not along the area of
14 Gardner Avenue and in the plot. Well,
15 Gardner Avenue is not in the plot, it's in
16 lower Greenridge. The plot was protected by
17 a half-inch levy in this city and the county
18 and the Army Corp of Engineers worked
19 tirelessly to save what was built, which I
20 understand completely. I mean, they have
21 millions of dollars of construction into
22 that levy and it would have been completely
23 washed out if they didn't do what they did
24 to protect it, but for Ray Hayes and the
25 city to kind of say that they were there for

1 the residents of lower Greenridge in this
2 article, it's kind of nauseating. Ray
3 Hayes, in fact, told the fire department not
4 to come into lower Greenridge for I think it
5 was at least almost 24 to 36 hours after the
6 water receded because the river levels might
7 come up again. We didn't receive any help
8 from the city other than the tireless DPW
9 garbage men to worked three to four shifts a
10 day making sure the garbage wouldn't pile up
11 in our neighborhood and help mitigate the
12 stink.

13 But, you know, Ray Hayes and
14 Mr. Dubas, you know, they go onto say that,
15 you know, how they really were there to
16 protect and help the residents of the City
17 of Scranton. I know Mrs. Sachetti was
18 quoted in here saying Ray Hayes was in the
19 neighborhood handing out paperwork for
20 damaged residents and that's patently false.
21 Mr. Hayes and Mayor Doherty drove by in a
22 mini-van really quick with the FEMA
23 representatives and just blew through the
24 neighborhood.

25 We didn't get anything from anybody

1 until after the flood meeting that was held
2 at the high school on the thing July 6 which
3 was almost a week and a half after the
4 actual flood, so I just wanted to point out
5 that, you know, lower Greenridge never got
6 any help during the flood, we didn't get any
7 help before, we didn't get any help during,
8 and we didn't get any help after.

9 The Army Corp did finally finish the
10 levy project so we are now protected, but
11 the inaccuracies in this article, I just
12 wanted to make sure that anybody that read
13 this they understand that in no way did the
14 residents of lower Greenridge receive any
15 assistance from the City of Scranton in any
16 way, shape or form.

17 Secondly, some residents complaints,
18 the 1500 block of Von Storch at the
19 intersection of the 400 and 500 block of
20 Marian Street in lower Greenridge, it's up
21 on the hill there, that field on the 1500
22 block of Von Storch is pretty much becoming
23 a dumping ground. The weeds are three to
24 four feet high and the residents have called
25 my house and did leave a few messages for me

1 to bring this issue up.

2 The 500 block of Marian is riddled
3 with potholes and they just wanted to make
4 sure that the city can get in there and
5 maybe look at cleaning that up a little bit
6 and maybe possibly fencing it. Did you
7 receive something on it?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yeah, I was actually
9 over there the other day, Dan. I took some
10 photos and we are going to process this. I
11 actually did get the debris in there and
12 stuff like that.

13 MR. HUBBARD: You know, for a long
14 time that field was sitting empty. There
15 was some dirt piles in there that whoever
16 owns that property came in and put up a
17 fence and walked away from it and it's just
18 become a dumping ground I know that the
19 several messages that I received I was
20 informed that there is rats in the area,
21 back to the typical summer skunk problem
22 again. They are living in that field there
23 and it is really overgrown.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: It looks almost like
25 an encampment there.

1 MR. HUBBARD: It's kind of getting
2 to be a jungle in there and it's kind of off
3 the lower path of Greenridge, but the
4 residents there still do deserve to have
5 there neighborhood be clean and well-kept.
6 Unfortunately, I have to look at this and
7 from what I was told a lot of the dumping
8 that's going on is not by people that live
9 in that immediate vicinity, they are just
10 people taking advantage of the fact that,
11 you know, when we -- when the county sold
12 the recycling center it became a private
13 institution you can't take things to the
14 recycling. You can't take lumber there, you
15 can't take brush, you can't take weeds, you
16 can't take grass cuttings without having to
17 pay to dispose of it at the recycling
18 center, so that's forcing a lot of people to
19 find areas in the city to just dump whatever
20 they have that they can't get rid of.

21 I personally don't mind going -- I
22 do mind paying, I shouldn't have to pay and
23 then to buy mulch that they ground up my
24 bushes and then resell me the mulch that I
25 had paid to them to make I find it kind of

1 absurd, but I don't mind doing it if it
2 means that it's not going to piled up
3 somewhere and becoming an eye-hazard -- an
4 eyesore and hazard and that area is getting
5 to be fairly out of control this year.

6 So that was my main concern, but I
7 did want to just make sure everybody was
8 well aware of the anniversary of the flood
9 that we are still down in lower Greenridge
10 and lower Greenridge is lower Greenridge and
11 not the plot, and we do have protection now
12 and we are thankful for that. Have a good
13 night.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
16 anyone else who would like to address
17 council?

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening, city
19 council. Bill Jackowitz, South Scranton
20 resident and member of the Scranton
21 Taxpayers' Association. Well, today we had
22 our first free swim at Nay Aug Park. The
23 swim went very well. We had 464 children
24 that we paid for kids between the age of six
25 and 15 for a grand total of \$1,856 is what

1 it cost us today.

2 I received a phone call this morning
3 about 8:30 from Mark Dougher from Parks and
4 Recreation informing me that the Scranton
5 Recreation Park and Recreation Authority
6 denied our request for a reduced amount, so
7 we paid the full \$4 amount.

8 Mr. McGoff, I would ask you, if you
9 would, since you're in charge of -- I
10 guess you're the civil engineering guy and I
11 guess Parks and Recreation, is that your
12 committee?

13 MR. MCGOFF: I guess so, yes.

14 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. I mean, so
15 Parks and Recreation is part of that, if
16 maybe you can intervene, if you would, and
17 ask if the Parks and Recreation Authority
18 would be kind enough to give the Taxpayers a
19 break instead of charging us full amount of
20 \$4 per child. We had 464 children up there
21 today who had a wonderful time.

22 And also you're an advocate for city
23 parks, Nay Aug Park is a city park with the
24 pool and we have two pools closed,
25 Novembrino and Capouse, and I'm asking you

1 if you can intervene for us and maybe sit
2 down and talk with Parks and Recreation
3 and/or the mayor, whoever you need to talk
4 to, because I don't think it's right that
5 the Taxpayers should have pay the full \$4.

6 I spoke with some groups of up there
7 today and they told me that they were going
8 to get a reduced rate, so if other groups
9 can get a reduced rate I surely think that
10 the taxpayers of the City of Scranton and
11 Lackawanna County should get a reduced rate
12 when it comes to swimming. That is a public
13 pool, owned and operated and run by the
14 taxpayers of the City of Scranton.

15 So I'm just asking as a request if
16 you can look into that for us because we are
17 planning on having another event and if we
18 can get a reduced rate it would be greatly
19 appreciated.

20 We had people -- 19 people from kids
21 from the Friendship House up there swimming
22 today. We had a group from Dickson City
23 community group of 65 children today up
24 there. We had a group from -- we even had a
25 group from Tobyhanna, Monroe County, that we

1 helped. If anybody watches the news
2 broadcast today on WBRE and WNEP they did an
3 excellent job of covering it, they
4 interviewed a lot of children, and everybody
5 had a blast, and that's what the summer is
6 all about and that's what the pool is about.
7 In my opinion, it's not about making money,
8 okay? That pool is paid for by the
9 taxpayers. Again, it was very successful.

10 There's a rumor circulating, and I
11 have copies of this, supposedly about a bid
12 agreement that the Sewer Authority made.
13 I'm going to pass out copies of this after
14 I'm finished speaking. If someone can look
15 into this because it seems like they took
16 the highest bid, again, I don't know if this
17 is factual, I don't know if this is
18 truthful, I just know that it's being
19 circulated, that they took out a bid and the
20 lowest bid was 14 million and the highest
21 bid was 17 million and they went with the
22 highest bid. Again, I don't know if this is
23 true, the Scranton Sewer Authority, I'm
24 going to give you copies each of you and if
25 you could check into it.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Jackowitz, we have
2 something in our mail on that.

3 MR. JACKOWITZ: Pardon me?

4 MR. MCGOFF: We have something in
5 our mail on that.

6 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, can we check
7 into that and see if that's accurate or not
8 because the Sewer Authority is about ready
9 to raise the rates. We just had an incident
10 with a Sewer Authority employee who was
11 using government property and government
12 time to do personal work for a friend and
13 himself. Again, if the Sewer Authority
14 wants a rate I think they need to prove
15 themselves as being worthy of that rate,
16 that's just my personal opinion. If this is
17 true, again, I don't know if it is, but if
18 it's true we need to find out because we
19 don't need to be paying \$2.7 million more
20 for something.

21 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Jackowitz, I have a
22 series of a Right-to-Know letters that I
23 will be mentioning in Fifth Order that will
24 be going to the Sewer Authority as well to
25 try find some more information on what's

1 going there over the last ten years.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, well, that's
3 good because, as you know, we just had two
4 county commissioners being convicted. I
5 think there is a lot more going on in this
6 city and in this county, again, just my
7 personal observation and just my personal
8 feelings. I hope one day it all comes to an
9 end and people who are responsible for this
10 are dealt whatever they have coming to them.

11 We can no longer, the taxpayers of
12 Scranton and the taxpayers of Lackawanna
13 County and Northeastern Pennsylvania can no
14 longer tolerate this. It has to come to an
15 end. Nepotism, cronyism, favors, people
16 getting jobs because of who they know, who
17 their family is, what their family last name
18 needs to stop. That's why, again, I see
19 we've got the highest unemployment rate in
20 the state again. This is consecutive.
21 Every single month our metropolitan area has
22 the highest unemployment rate, it has to
23 stop.

24 And again, it was a great day for
25 the kids. It would be nice if we could get

1 some support because \$1,800 is a lot of
2 money to spend for one day for kids to swim,
3 but they enjoyed it so it was worth it and
4 it was all donated money from Lackawanna
5 County and Scranton residents and residents
6 from outside of the city. Thank you.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

8 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
9 anyone else who would like to address
10 council?

11 MR. HUGHES: Bill, there is a letter
12 from Attorney Pisarcik of the law of Laws,
13 Staruch and Pisarcik in Lamoyne,
14 Pennsylvania, that was sent to the mayor and
15 the city council regarding the bid. I don't
16 know if the award of the bid or the
17 recommended award of the bid was to the
18 highest bidder, but there were three other
19 local bidders, Attorney Pisarcik represents
20 C.O. Falter Construction Corporation. Their
21 bid was \$14,569,101. Ronca, who was the
22 fourth bidder, was \$17,183,000, there was a
23 difference of \$2.6 million.

24 I have never talked to Attorney
25 Pisarcik, but there is a letter that was

1 sent to council, it is a public document, if
2 you would like a copy of it you can have my
3 copy and I have a copy at the office I
4 received.

5 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, I'll get a
6 copy after the meeting, but as long as it's
7 been looked into that's all I'm asking for
8 was it to be looked into and it sounds like
9 that's happening.

10 MR. HUGHES: Well, I don't know what
11 council or the mayor could do about it, the
12 Sewer Authority is an independent agency,
13 however, the low bidder would have an
14 action, could file an action if they are the
15 lowest responsible bidder if their bid has
16 been disregarded. That's a legal issue, but
17 supposedly that Roney and Associates the
18 engineering firm for the Sewer Authority
19 recommended that it be awarded to Ronca as
20 the lowest responsible bidder. Other than
21 that, all I know is what's in the letter.

22 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, thank you.

23 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Jackowitz, I will
24 add that to my request as well.

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, thank you.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening.
2 Marie Schumacher.

3 MR. ROGAN: Good evening.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: First, I'd like to
5 make everyone aware since not everyone gets
6 the paper that there is an OECD public
7 hearing next Wednesday, July 6, at 4:30 p.m.
8 It is an opportunity for city residents to
9 participate in the development and
10 implementation of the city's third year
11 action plan, so if you want to you may
12 either attend that meeting or according to
13 public hearing notice you may submit
14 comments by Thursday, August eight, to OECD.

15 On 7-B tonight I have somewhat mixed
16 emotions. I'm not against this grant, but I
17 do have a problem, as I stated before, with
18 nonprofits who do not do essentially any
19 fundraising of their own, they operate
20 totally on government grants, so I look at
21 them as being, you know, really city
22 employees and over which we have no control
23 of the personnel and what they do, but this
24 organization has received money for the
25 Harriet Beecher Stowe project, the Cedar

1 Avenue project, the Elm Street project, two
2 to three million dollars for the
3 neighborhood stabilization program and that,
4 of course, is all to be spent in South
5 Scranton, and that's my biggest objection is
6 according to their 990 they have only had
7 two people or two projects that have not
8 been in South Scranton, one was 16 units in
9 the Cabrini apartments in West Scranton and
10 another was or is coming up down in Luzerne
11 County, and that is one thing I would like
12 to make sure that not -- hopefully, unlike
13 what OECD was doing in that one pot of money
14 that everything got paid of is that none of
15 this grant would see it's way going into
16 another county. And again, we don't have a
17 lot of control over it, but I do think they
18 could spread themselves across the city a
19 little bit better.

20 I would also like someone to comment
21 if they know anything under during motions
22 if anybody has followed up on the status of
23 the capital budget this was supposed to have
24 been received in June.

25 And now I'll finish with a single

1 item and it's going back on BRT Ice. Back
2 on March 8, Solicitor Hughes stated, "One of
3 the things that I have always told council
4 is that any legislation that is submitted
5 the agreement must be attached so it can be
6 reviewed and know exactly what they are
7 reviewing."

8 Now, going back, I'm going to read
9 from the minutes of the April 19 meeting of
10 this year. At the May 18, 2006, council
11 meeting, Mrs. Evans stated, "Good evening.
12 First, I notice that we have held a
13 legislation concerning redevelopers
14 agreement with the Ice Box and the SRA for
15 the interest free payments over 20 years. I
16 believe we are going to have a caucus next
17 week with those individuals to discuss
18 in-depth."

19 That's the end of the quote. Now,
20 presumably the legislation referred to here
21 is a resolution that was forwarded in April,
22 on April 26, 2006, to council by the city
23 solicitor which would sell the property for
24 \$600,000 to be paid in 20-year installments
25 of \$30,000 with no interest. This

1 resolution was tabled and never
2 reintroduced.

3 Midway through the 2006 city
4 council's August recess, a lease was filed
5 with the county Recorder of Deeds for 99
6 years with an option to renew for an
7 additional term of another 99 years, I'll
8 get back to that in a bit.

9 Now, on September 18, 2006, and
10 remember, this following the fact that there
11 was a resolution and filing of the deed
12 begins with Mr. Evans saying, "Yes, Uno
13 Fitness Center currently enjoys K0Z status.
14 Their owners who currently owe our city
15 \$600,000, and I would suggest that we table
16 this loan until such time the owners of the
17 Ice Box would provide the monies owed to the
18 City of Scranton and then we can entertain
19 such a loan to their tenant."

20 Now, remember the deed has already
21 been filed giving them 200 years at a dollar
22 a year. Now, the rest of the colloquy deals
23 with procedural issues, but it ends with the
24 unanimous, unanimous vote, so every member
25 of the council felt that at point in time,

1 now, this is September, that the city was
2 owed \$600,000. I request -- may I finish,
3 Mr. Rogan?

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: However, I
6 requested under the open records statute
7 many things and received them, I might add.
8 One was a copy of Resolution 67 of 2002
9 which set forth the original lease
10 agreement. A memorandum of the lease
11 between BRT Ice and the City of Scranton
12 that changes the terms and one of the ways
13 this is the addendum to the realty tax
14 statement of value on those parcels of the
15 BRT Ice.

16 Number one, this is a transfer of
17 the property subject to a ground lease for
18 198 years which is payable at a dollar a
19 year and \$600,000 at the end of the term.
20 That's the end of a 198 years. According to
21 the present value calculations of Thomas
22 Rainey, CPA, attached hereto incorporated
23 herein by reference the present value is
24 \$23.89.

25 Now, Solicitor Hughes also talked

1 about that and compared it to the buying of
2 Manhattan Island, but my bottom line
3 question is, and hopefully Mr. Hughes is
4 here tonight and he can answer, so my basic
5 question is which agreement is valid, the
6 one approved by city council or the
7 memorandum attached to the lease which as
8 recorded by Council Solicitor Hughes on
9 September 10 results in a remuneration to
10 the city of \$1 a year for 198 years.

11 So if you would allow Mr. Hughes to
12 comment on that later and then I will also
13 ask that you state if you know your
14 intentions for the month of August as a
15 council. Thank you.

16 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

17 MR. ROGAN: Is there anyone else who
18 would like to address council?

19 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
20 Dave Dobrzyn.

21 MR. ROGAN: Good evening.

22 MR. DOBRZYN: Resident of Scranton.
23 First I'd like to thank John for checking
24 out the trash situation that's developing
25 and I'd like to know that if the trash isn't

1 removed by DPW it would be unfair to fine
2 anybody at that time, I'm sure you know
3 that, but hopefully the situation will get
4 corrected.

5 And we really need to clamp down on
6 the way people dispose of the trash in this
7 town. What I'm recommending is if somebody
8 wants to put bags out they should put them
9 out before the morning before the trash is
10 collected and only the morning before, not a
11 day before or whatever because by that time
12 the animals get to it and then the guys from
13 the DPW are left with a half a bag or
14 running around playing litter pick up and so
15 forth, so that's all cash out of our
16 pockets, too, because we are paying the bill
17 for somebody to carelessly throw a bunch of
18 the bags on the ground, so if they insist
19 and doing that I think we should just maybe
20 4:00 in the morning say, like, in my
21 neighborhood it's Friday morning, well, I'd
22 have to between four and seven drop a bag
23 outside and not contaminate my neighborhood
24 with rats and skunks and garbage laying all
25 over the place over my terraces.

1 And on the sewer business, there has
2 been fines levied and so forth by the
3 federal government, so I'd really be
4 interested in hearing from them what's going
5 on with that, possibly a caucus or something
6 that everybody could either view or show up
7 for, and I want to hear from them what their
8 problems are and why they need a 4 to 6
9 percent increase, it's just getting to the
10 point where the electric company is going
11 crazy, the water company is going crazy,
12 everybody is going crazy with their rate
13 increases and it's leaving us in a lurch.

14 I mean, you could say, well, the
15 poor people on a fixed income, well, there
16 were times I wished somebody fixed my
17 income, so I'd really be interested in
18 hearing something about that some day soon.

19 Now, Bill mentioned to me that
20 ECTV's server is down and there aren't going
21 to be any reruns before Saturday or
22 something like that, so if have you anymore
23 information on that you might want to
24 announce it or talk to the people involved
25 with it.

1 Okay, on our medical school, we have
2 been hit in the paper an awful lot and I
3 feel a lot of politicians put that school
4 here and now they don't seem to want to
5 support it, they may not have been the same
6 politicians that put the school here, but at
7 some point we can't afford to makeup the
8 difference, so if you people could contact
9 whoever to anybody involved, federal, state
10 or Representatives Smith and Blake and
11 whoever or even Casey and try and get
12 funding for that school, because if they
13 collapse it's just going to be a big
14 calamity for the area, and it's ashame it
15 gets put here and we wind up taking a hit on
16 the taxes and so forth and then on top of it
17 they pull the carpet after the school is
18 nearly completed. It's just ashame and it
19 shouldn't be. It's a big waste of money if
20 that was the case.

21 Okay, once again, we have more
22 members of Congress that preached against
23 farm subsidies and they get the golden
24 parrot because they accept them very
25 willingly, bawk, bawk. And how about some--

1 when I hear from my national representative
2 how about some tax cuts for job creation and
3 maybe then they deserve the tax cut that
4 they got. Some of them aren't paying much
5 less. They are paying much less than the
6 person of a small gardening business per se
7 or whatever, that guy is paying 25 percent
8 and general elective pay nothing, Exxon pays
9 nothing, so where is it going. Thank you
10 and have a good night.

11 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. You, too.
12 Chrissy.

13 MR. JOYCE: Chrissy.

14 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Jackie.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: What's up, Buddy?

16 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Pat, I got a
17 question for you. Down by my hill, there's
18 a big pothole, Pat. It's a big pothole.
19 Somebody is going to get killed. So you'll
20 take care of that, Pat, this week for me?
21 Make sure you deal with it.

22 MR. ROGAN: Sure thing.

23 MR. SLEDENZSKI: I'm counting on
24 you. Jack, welcome back, Buddy.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thanks, Chrissy. Is

1 there anybody who would like to address
2 council?

3 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

4 MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff, do you have
5 any motions or comments?

6 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, first I'd like to
7 make a motion to appoint Mr. Loscombe as the
8 temporary Chair for Rules.

9 MR. ROGAN: There's a motion, is
10 there a second?

11 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

14 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

15 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

16 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
17 have it and so moved. So ordered.

18 MR. MCGOFF: The second thing I
19 would like to respond to and I will continue
20 to ask that the legislation for accepting
21 the grant for the Perry Street program be
22 put on the agenda. This is a grant that was
23 approved by the state, it was applied for by
24 the city, it is money that is waiting for us
25 to accept. There is no cost to the city.

1 All it is is legislation to accept the
2 funding for this park. Right now what the
3 people on Perry Street are looking at -- or
4 Perry Avenue is a vacant lot. This grant
5 are transform a vacant lot into a playground
6 that can be used by residents of that area.

7 There is absolutely no reason why
8 this legislation should not be on our
9 agenda. If we are really concerned, if
10 there is an insurance concern as we has been
11 stated, then why are we asking the pools be
12 opened? If there is an insurance concern
13 for the parks and pools, as stated about
14 Perry Street, then we should be asking that
15 all the playgrounds and pools be closed and
16 not just hold up legislation on this
17 playground.

18 I think it's a separate issue, we
19 are fighting with the administration over an
20 insurance issue and we are holding the
21 people -- we are holding this project
22 hostage. I think it should be put on the
23 agenda, we should vote on it, we should
24 accept the funding and we should get to work
25 on building that playground, and that's all

1 I have for this evening. Thank you.

2 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. McGoff.
3 I guess first I'll address the few other
4 issues that brought up. I want to
5 congratulate Mr. Jackowitz and the
6 Taxpayers' Association for the Kids Swim
7 Free event that was held today. As he said
8 before, 464 kids did swim for free and they
9 are doing a great job and I'm sure they will
10 continue to do so.

11 Next, Mrs. Schumacher mentioned an
12 August recess. As in the past, I would
13 oppose council taking any recess in August
14 or at the end of the year as was done last
15 year. I would hope that we would come to a
16 vote, that would be done publically like we
17 did when the two weeks are taken off at the
18 end of last year.

19 Next, I believe it was Mr. Jackowtiz
20 mentioned a few weeks ago and a few other
21 constituents have sent e-mails about this,
22 about people wearing, mostly men, who wear
23 their pants very low and underwear hanging
24 out while walking around, and this was sent
25 to me by a constituent and it's from

1 Meridian, Mississippi. The Meridian Council
2 voted 4-1 -- the trend seemed popular among
3 young people, according to the council
4 members, put it would apply to everyone.
5 While Meridian mayor Cherri Barry says she
6 is in favor of the ordinance passed by
7 council, she wishes the city wasn't too
8 forceful in addressing this issue.

9 This is something I think we should
10 looking into doing on city council. I have
11 gotten a lot of complaints about this from
12 residents through the city. I don't know if
13 my colleagues have, and I know,
14 Mr. Loscombe, I know you are the Chair of
15 Public Safety, I would be willing to meet
16 with Chief Duffy, see what he thinks and
17 talk to our attorney and it's just some food
18 for thought moving forward that it's
19 something that would make driving around and
20 seeing people out a little more pleasurable
21 when you don't have to see their underwear
22 when you are driving by.

23 Next, a few citizens' request that I
24 have. The first one is a letter to Chief
25 Duffy asking that bikes patrol the 900 a

1 1000 blocks of Main Avenue as well as Wolff
2 Court. Residents report drug activity along
3 with parking violations, and that it's very
4 tough to pull off the road onto Main Avenue
5 because of parked cars all of the way up to
6 the edge of the road.

7 And the second one is a handicap
8 resident that lives on Doherty Street
9 requesting a handicapped parking sign, I
10 have the address on here, and I just won't
11 announce it on TV.

12 And now onto what's been my biggest
13 pet peeve the last few weeks, the Scranton
14 Sewer Authority. As we all know, two weeks
15 ago I brought the whole issue that has been
16 rumored about an employee being fired for
17 using public property for private use and
18 last week I reported, and so did various
19 media outlets, that it has been confirmed.

20 And I do have some more to say about
21 that, but I wanted to move onto another
22 issue. It seems the more we dig into the
23 Sewer Authority it's like an onion, the
24 deeper you go in the more it smells, how
25 fitting that it's the Sewer Authority. This

1 was a letter that was sent to all of us on
2 council from Laws, Staruch and Pisarcik,
3 it's a law firm out of Lamoyne,
4 Pennsylvania, and it says, "Dear Mayor
5 Doherty and City Council members, we
6 represent the Falter Construction Company,
7 the lowest responsible bidder for the
8 general mechanical contracts on the B & R
9 upgrade projects at the Scranton Sewer
10 Authority. On April 12, 2011, Falter
11 submitted a bid for \$14,569,101 to the
12 Authority for the general mechanical
13 contract for work for the project. Despite
14 the fact that Falter's bid was the lowest
15 responsible bid, we have been advised the
16 Sewer Authority solicitor, Jeffery Belanti
17 that the Authority attends to award the
18 contract to Michael F. Ronca and Sons whose
19 bid was \$17,163,000. This is a difference
20 of \$2.6 million between the two bids."

21 And it's no secret to all of us that
22 have been following the Sewer Authority that
23 rates are going up, and wasteful spending
24 like this is a big part of the reason why
25 these rates are going up. The letter goes

1 on if anyone would like a copy of it I'll be
2 glad to provide that for them.

3 Secondly, still regarding the Sewer
4 Authority, two weeks ago our office sent a
5 letter asking for information about the
6 employee that used public property for
7 private use. We have not received a
8 response, so I have a series of
9 Right-to-Know requests that will be sent out
10 to the Sewer Authority and they are as
11 follows: One, a list of all employees and
12 their salaries of the Scranton Sewer
13 Authority on January 1, 2001.

14 Two, a list of the all of employees
15 and their salaries at the Scranton Sewer
16 Authority on today's date, June 28, 2011.

17 Number three, what is the
18 justification for rate increases over the
19 last ten years? Has increased hiring caused
20 rates to increase?

21 Number four, has any public
22 equipment been used for private work from
23 January 1, 2001, to today's date, 6-28-11?
24 F so, by whom and what disciplinary actions
25 have been taken.

1 Number five, have there been any
2 measures taken to ensure that Sewer
3 Authority property is used only for public
4 projects and not for full profit work? If
5 "yes" please let all steps that were taken.

6 Number six, have any members of the
7 Sewer Authority had knowledge of private
8 work being done using public equipment? If
9 so, what action was taken on the department?

10 And number seven, why wasn't the
11 lowest responsible bidder accepted for the
12 general mechanical contract on the B & R
13 upgrade project. And we will attach this
14 letter for that.

15 And when I ran for council in 2007
16 and Mr. Joyce and Mrs. Evans in 2009, one of
17 the things we pledged to do was to cut
18 government waste and this seems to me to be
19 one of the worst examples of government
20 waste. The people ought there are
21 struggling every day just to pay their
22 bills, sewer rates are going up, and then we
23 see this garbage going on.

24 So, Mrs. Krake, I will give that to
25 you and I have a copy for both of our

1 reporters that are here tonight, and that is
2 all. Mr. Loscombe, do you have any motions
3 or comments?

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you,
5 Mr. Rogan. I have several issues, I'm not
6 going to pinpoint them exactly, I'll pass
7 them onto Mrs. Krake to forward you, but the
8 issue that Mr. Hubbard had reported before,
9 I was out there and took some photos and met
10 with the neighbors and I do have that packet
11 to go with a letter to the appropriate
12 departments.

13 Several areas where there is
14 overgrown lots, typical this time of the
15 year, and some hazardous sidewalks. Another
16 issue is, and I'm just came across another
17 one and there is probably more in the city,
18 is swimming pools that have been left filled
19 and unattended for several years creating a
20 hazardous situation. So we'll have to pass
21 those onto our LIPS inspectors, and I have
22 an issue with some garbage that was not
23 picked up and I will be passing that on,
24 also, to get that taken care of. I do have
25 several others, but it's mostly overgrown

1 lots, potholes, the usual typical stuff.

2 Next, I, too, would like to
3 congratulate Mr. Jackowitz and the whole
4 group on the free swim for the children. I
5 thought that was excellent, 464 children
6 able to swim. I just -- I don't understand,
7 and I think maybe we could request from the
8 Recreation Authority, something that
9 Mr. Jackowitz mentioned that struck me that
10 they do give reduced rates for certain
11 groups. I would like to know if that is the
12 case and why didn't the taxpayer group
13 receive a discounted rate as other large
14 groups do.

15 And let's see here, that just brings
16 me on we will be -- we discussed this last
17 week, we will be voting to appoint another
18 person to the Recreation Authority and I
19 think it was stated last week by Mrs. Evans
20 and I actually agreed with her on the
21 situation that the Recreation Authority does
22 not seem to realize what they are there for,
23 for the people and for the children they are
24 working for, and it's disappointing. They
25 won't come to a public caucus, they refuse

1 to be on TV here. Yes, they have meetings,
2 but they are held at Weston Field and not
3 everybody can see and view them. We request
4 that they come here at least once or twice a
5 year, which hasn't happened, but it just
6 seems that they've made a lot of decisions
7 that weren't in the best interest of the
8 taxpayers and this also not getting a
9 reduced rate when they do give group reduced
10 rates for the swimmers was also another slap
11 in the face to the taxpayers.

12 So I am also on -- I believe it is,
13 pardon me, I was trying to see where it was
14 here, on 7-A, I will be voting "no" again as
15 I did last week on the appointment to the
16 Recreation Authority. I think the
17 Recreation Authority has to come around and
18 be more amenable to the taxpayers.

19 And to top that off, speaking of
20 groups helping the taxpayers and working for
21 the city I, too, would like to congratulate
22 the West Side West Scranton Hyde Park crime
23 Watch, Karen and Mike Foster, and the whole
24 organization. For what they have been
25 doing, I mean, it's phenomenal just in the

1 amount of time that they have been there
2 it's blossomed into so many projects and so
3 many different things and tonight on 5-B we
4 will be amending Chapter 332 of the Code of
5 the City of Scranton to have some rules and
6 regulations for the skate park facility, and
7 they have taken that over and they are
8 policing it and cleaning it up, and it's
9 just another project that the West Side
10 residents should be proud of and I know we
11 are proud of it, and I'd like to see this
12 happen all over the city, but thanks to fine
13 people like the group from the West Side
14 Hyde Park Crime Watch, keep up the good work
15 and this is a great idea. We do need rules
16 and regulations to be followed and thank you
17 for your persistence on it, and I would be
18 voting in favor of that without a doubt.

19 And lastly, I also have a
20 Right-to-Know request as follows: I would
21 like a breakdown of the \$187,475 on the cost
22 of the Scranton Redevelopment Authority
23 related to the Redevelopment Authority of
24 the City of Scranton's line of credit loan
25 and security agreement between the SRA and

1 the Pennstar Bank which was dated December
2 20, 2007, on the sale of the delinquent
3 taxes for the years 2004, 2005, 2006, in the
4 amount of \$2,296,570 and the settlement
5 sheet for the distribution of the \$187,475.
6 This was the loan that was in default for
7 over one and a half million that we are on
8 the hook for, and I would just like the
9 Right-to-Know to see what the breakdown of
10 the costs were for this here, and I'll pass
11 this on to you after the meeting, Mrs.
12 Krake, and I believe that's all I have.
13 Thank you.

14 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. And before
15 you go, Mr. Joyce, actually you mentioned
16 the authorities, there was one thing I
17 forget with my Right-to-Know, Mrs. Krake, I
18 know that Mr. Barrett is the Right-to-Know
19 officer for the Sewer Authority, could we
20 also send it to all of the Sewer Authority
21 members, I believe Liz Randall, Mr. Renda,
22 and I don't know the other ones, but just so
23 everyone -- they have a copy, and I'm sure
24 they know what's going on and, you know,
25 they are part of the problem as well.

1 MS. KRAKE: Right.

2 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Joyce?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: If you pardon me, I
4 forgot one item. I do have a letter from
5 Bill Courtright, who formerly sat in my seat
6 here, now he is the Collector of Taxes,
7 regarding his concern on the Linden Street
8 bridge and it was written to the mayor and
9 says, "I'm writing in regard to the closed
10 Linden Street Bridge between Ninth and
11 Seventh Avenue. Being an elected official
12 having received numerous phone calls about
13 the closed bridge, I am compelled to write
14 this letter. One of the two arteries
15 pumping traffic from downtown into West
16 Scranton, the most populated of our
17 neighborhoods, is blocked. I hope we can
18 agree that quick, correct repairs to reopen
19 the Linden Street bridge traffic are an
20 immediate concern.

21 I'm also uneasy with the safety
22 issues developing at the intersections of
23 the Seventh Avenue and Linden Street and
24 Seventh Avenue and Lackawanna Avenue where
25 extra traffic, sudden lane changes, and the

1 school crossing offers challenges to public
2 safety.

3 The administration of Mayor James
4 Connors was the last to modernize the Linden
5 Street bridge. They used a co-mixture of
6 federal, state and local funds. Our local
7 share was 5 percent of the total costs.

8 Finally, Mayor Doherty, I ask a
9 meeting be arranged with you and PennDOT,
10 district engineer in Dunmore, Scranton City
11 engineer, the appropriate rail officials,
12 the contractor for the lastly repairs and
13 any federal or state officials needed to
14 effect positive results. I appreciate the
15 cooperation of all individuals and agency in
16 reopening the Linden Street Bridge.

17 Sincerely, William L. Courtright,
18 Collector of Taxes."

19 And I do have to agree totally with
20 Mr. Courtright on this. I had mentioned
21 last week that I had sought a meeting with
22 PennDOT and due to unforeseen circumstances
23 the meeting was not scheduled until the 6th
24 of July, but this was one of my issues that
25 the closing of the Linden Street bridge and

1 the apparent lack of any progress on it.

2 But what peaked my interest even
3 more was the condition the West Lackawanna
4 Avenue bridge. You know, I have taken
5 photos of the sidewalks, I have taken photos
6 of underneath the bridge, and I'll tell you,
7 there was an inspection done by PennDOT last
8 year and the city apparently has 24 months
9 or two years to repair the issues, so we are
10 gone by almost a year right now, but I'll
11 tell you, what I saw, and we are going to
12 have to presented to our engineer, he should
13 have a copy of the engineering report from
14 PennDOT, but it's a scary situation.

15 If we lose both of those arteries to
16 West Side our closest is Luzerne Street or
17 the expressway to get to this side of town
18 and it's a scary situation.

19 And also, I mean, my concern with
20 seeing the traffic back up over the West
21 Lackawanna Avenue bridge adding excess
22 weight to that bridge and the fact that
23 there is no left turning lane causing
24 traffic to back up even further, that's one
25 of the issues I want to discuss with

1 PennDOT, but I could get to somebody prior
2 to my meeting I will. I don't think it's
3 something that should sit much longer
4 because I am worried about that bridge,
5 also, just from seeing the -- you see the
6 sidewalks on that bridge, but there is a lot
7 happening underneath, too, and one of the
8 piers on that bridge is actually pushed out
9 considerably, so we're in a bad position
10 there.

11 Now, the west Lackawanna Avenue
12 bridge from what I understand is a city
13 bridge, the Linden Street bridge, I believe,
14 belongs to the state, so we have to, you
15 know, work with the state, all and all
16 around anyways they do our bridge
17 inspections, but I will be updating you more
18 on this, as I, you know, meet with these
19 individuals. I had hoped to meet with them
20 by this meeting, tonight's meeting, but due
21 to circumstances the earliest that they had
22 available for me was July 6, which is the
23 day after next week's meeting.

24 But if for some reason I'm able to
25 get into the contact with anybody in the

1 mean time I will address these issues next
2 week, but I will contact Mr. Courtright,
3 too, because I share his concerns, and
4 that's all I have. Thank you.

5 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe
6 and Mr. Courtright for writing that letter
7 and as you were speaking, I travel that way
8 a lot being a West Sider, and God forbid if
9 a police car or fire truck has to get up
10 there as well and especially if that bridge
11 went down.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Exactly. I mean, we
13 have discussed -- one of the things that
14 started us on west Lackawanna Avenue Bridge
15 was the lights being out. Well, apparently
16 the reason the lights are out are not
17 because they need bulbs changed or anything
18 because of that shifting on the bridge and
19 the twisting there's a conduit that goes
20 through there and I have got photos that's
21 actually pinched off the electrical conduit,
22 and the only way to put lights back on there
23 now is to run a temporary exterior conduit,
24 so we have to get something done and
25 something done pretty soon.

1 MR. ROGAN: That's for sure.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

3 MR. ROGAN: And I just received a
4 note that the ECTV server is down. There
5 will the be replays until Friday or Saturday
6 of this meeting, but live programming is
7 still on the air. And, Mr. Joyce, thank you
8 for patiently waiting for myself and
9 Mr. Loscombe. You have any motions or
10 comments?

11 MR. JOYCE: I do. First thing I'd
12 like to do tonight is take the time to
13 congratulate Mr. Jackowitz and the entire
14 Scranton/Lackawanna County Taxpayers'
15 Association for their efforts in putting
16 together the Kids Swim Free project. I'm
17 happy to say that I did make a donation to
18 this project and I'm very glad that I was
19 able to at least give some unfortunate
20 children an opportunity to swim at Nay Aug.

21 Also, I'd like to recognize Mr. and
22 Mr. Foster on their efforts with the West
23 Side Hyde Park Crime Watch Group. I
24 actually had the opportunity to attend one
25 of their meetings this past month and it was

1 very informative, it's very well-organized,
2 they have done a tremendous job with
3 gathering community support with outreach
4 programs, with working with Chief Duffy as
5 well as other officers and they are an asset
6 to the West Side Neighborhood and they
7 should be commended.

8 In other matters, the city did
9 receive, and I know I announce this once a
10 year, 888 money. And for those of you who
11 don't know what 888 money is, the tax office
12 distributes 888 money to the city every
13 year. 888 dollars are -- it's basically a
14 tax that's levied on individuals who work in
15 the city that live in a community that do
16 not pay municipal taxes. For instance, if
17 you don't pay a wage tax and you live in "X"
18 township and you work in the City of
19 Scranton you would pay I believe it's 1
20 percent tax to the city. The city received
21 \$409,882,09 in 888 money this year and that
22 consists of \$362,508.04 from 2010 as well as
23 \$47,374.05 from years 2004 to 2009, and I'd
24 like to thank Mr. Courtright as well as his
25 staff for providing such an elaborate

1 breakdown of those back due funds as well.

2 Mrs. Krake, I had a question for
3 you, I put in a few requests regarding the
4 status of our audit and has Mr. McGowan
5 responded to any of those requests to date?

6 MS. KRAKE: We have not received a
7 response.

8 MR. JOYCE: Okay. I just wanted to
9 make note of this because it's getting to be
10 quite troubling being that the Home Rule
11 Charter dictates that we are supposed to
12 have a completed audit by May 31 of every
13 year and we have been receiving
14 correspondence from Rossi & Rossi, our
15 independent auditor, on a very consistent
16 basis. And just to read some of the latest
17 correspondence that they sent to us on June
18 21, and they sent this to our business
19 administrator as well as to the mayor and to
20 city council:

21 "Dear Ryan, our January 26, 2011,
22 letter to you we state that in order to
23 issue the December 31, 2010, audited
24 financial statements by May 31st of 2011 the
25 outline for the 2010 audit timetable

1 contained in the letter must be adhered to.

2 As of June 20, 2011, the following
3 is a list of open items that were to be
4 completed by March 15, 2011, that have not
5 been completed. Obviously, the further you
6 get behind in providing the required
7 information to us, the longer it will take
8 for us to complete the audit," which is very
9 logical.

10 Here is stop of the open items:
11 Final adjusted general fund trial balances
12 as of December 31, 2010, and copies of the
13 supporting work papers. Copies of any state
14 audit reports issued in 2010 up to 2011.

15 Also, the Redevelopment Authority of
16 the City of Scranton's December 31, 2010,
17 audited financial statements and the Parking
18 Authority of the City of Scranton December
19 31, 2010, audit financial statements.

20 Also, they mentioned that the
21 following memos have been issued and
22 responses have not been provided, and I'll
23 read off the dates of some of these memos
24 that were sent by Rossi & Rossi that
25 responses have not yet been provided for:

1 May 6, OECD loan questions. May 20,
2 administrative compensated absences. May
3 20, clerical compensated absences. May 25,
4 DPW compensated absences. June 7, Workers'
5 Comp Fund Penn Security account. June 9,
6 approved wages. June 10 FNCB, First
7 National Community Bank, excalibur escrow.
8 June 14, special city's traffic planning and
9 design. June 16, Section 108 loans. June
10 16, accounts payable, negative balances in
11 OECD. June 16, OECD bank accounts. June
12 20, drawn down requests.

13 With this in mind, it's very vital
14 that a completed audit is not only finished
15 on time, but if it's going to be late it
16 should be done as soon as possible and in
17 order for the auditors to complete the job
18 that they are to do it's obvious by their
19 correspondence that I just read that there
20 are many outstanding items, and I'm not up
21 here to sit and belittle or demean the BA's
22 Office or the administration by any means,
23 all I'm asking for is a simple status
24 report. If the information -- if there is
25 workflow backup in the office and the

1 information isn't going to be provided for a
2 month or a month and a half, we want to
3 know.

4 So with that in mind, can you please
5 resubmit administrator's office and a copy
6 to Mayor Doherty as well.

7 Also, Mrs. Krake, last week I had
8 sent a request for the mayor as well as
9 business administrator, Ryan McGowan, to
10 meet in city council chambers to discuss
11 budget matters and fiscal issues both in the
12 current year and for the 2011 or 2012
13 upcoming year and I haven't seen that in our
14 mailboxes that they have responded to that
15 letter; correct?

16 MS. KRAKE: They have not responded
17 to your request on that either.

18 MR. JOYCE: And I also find that
19 very unfortunate. One of my colleagues,
20 Mr. McGoff, has stated in the past that the
21 administration and council need to work
22 together and I think that this is clear
23 proof that we are reaching out to the
24 administration. We met with the
25 administration privately, at least myself

1 and Councilwoman Evans did, and I think it's
2 time that the administration meets with us
3 in the public eye so that the public could
4 know what is going on in the city as far as
5 financial issues are concerned.

6 So, Mrs. Krake, please send that
7 request one last time. If it's not
8 answered, I will try in a different method
9 of hopefully drawing the mayor as well as
10 the BA into council to discuss those issues.

11 I have a few citizens' requests for
12 the week. Saturday afternoon I had the
13 opportunity to travel down to the Pinebrook
14 softball field with some of the members of
15 the league that play there on Sunday. As
16 you know, as you may know, I made a request
17 last week on behalf of the softball players
18 in the league to the Department of Public
19 Works Bureau of Parks and Rec if they could
20 assist the league with transporting dirt
21 down to the field and also pull the field
22 back every back. As one knows, the league
23 pays a \$1,500 fee to the city every year for
24 usage of the field and I requested a copy of
25 that contract last week to determine who

1 exactly is responsible for doing what at the
2 field.

3 Well, on Saturday I was prompted to
4 come down by the field by some members due
5 to their opinion that since I made a request
6 for the field to be pulled back, basically
7 raked so that the surface would be even, it
8 only got worst. Apparently, someone from
9 the city came down to the field and when
10 they were working on the field they took a
11 very large chunk of dirt off the third
12 baseline so the only thing that was left
13 showing were rocks and the liner of the
14 field that's under the dirt which helps
15 during the rainy weather as far as dealing
16 with drainage issues.

17 Because of the condition of the
18 third baseline, members of the softball
19 league as well as myself raked dirt from the
20 vicinity of the where the dug out area would
21 be by the fence to replace the hole that was
22 made in the field by the city.

23 Mrs. Krake, did Mr. Brazil respond
24 to the request from our office last week
25 regarding the assistance of the DPW to

1 transport field surface to the Pine Brook
2 field?

3 MS. KRAKE: No, he did not.

4 MR. JOYCE: Okay. With that in
5 mind, if you could please contact him
6 tomorrow and ask him the status of that
7 because this is a city park and it's
8 maintained by the city. If you were to --
9 if you are a Scranton resident and you
10 travel down to Pine Brook field they have a
11 very nice playground, basketball court and a
12 field that is in deplorable shape. I don't
13 know when the last time actual surface or
14 dirt surface was laid down on the softball
15 portion, but if it's so rough that you could
16 actually see the lining of the irrigation
17 system, I think that's pretty bad.

18 Also, just to give you a snapshot of
19 what the field looks like, there are trees
20 hanging over parts of the outfield, so if
21 you get a fly ball to deep center field it
22 might hit a tree and you will probably get
23 into an argument determining whether it's a
24 home run or not, but anyhow, this is
25 something that should be amended and taken

1 care of very swiftly as there is not too
2 much time left in the softball season.

3 Secondly, several residents had
4 reported to suspicious activity taking place
5 at night and at other various points of the
6 day at the 1400 block of Manilla Place,
7 especially directly on the corner.
8 Residents fear that drug activity may be
9 taking place in their neighborhood and they
10 provided me with a license plate number of
11 the vehicle that was often nearby when
12 suspicious acts occur.

13 And, Mrs. Krake, I will provide that
14 license plate number to you and if you could
15 forward that to Chief Duffy it would be much
16 appreciated, perhaps he can go over there
17 and check on the situation.

18 Also, residents residing on West
19 Gibson Street have informed me of ongoing
20 problems with condemned house located at
21 1406 West Gibson. Residents residing around
22 the area have also circulated a petition
23 that the home be demolished. It is my
24 understanding that this home has been
25 condemned for over a year and has become

1 quite an eyesore in the community. In
2 addition to this, this home was a haven for
3 police complaints in the past and for
4 condemnation as some of the residents in the
5 area provided me a list of police records,
6 visits to the house, for various
7 disturbances over the past three-year period
8 from 2007 to 2010. And just to give you an
9 idea, there were over 20 police complaints
10 in that short three-year span, so this is a
11 nuisance property that was condemned and now
12 it's become blight and it's become quite an
13 eyesore, so if you could please contact
14 Mr. Seitzinger and ask him for a status
15 update on this property. Also, ask him if
16 in the future this property will be
17 scheduled for demolition.

18 Residents have also reported
19 overgrown weeds and grass at the corner of
20 Jackson Street and South Hyde Park Avenue.
21 Mrs. Krake, could you please forward this to
22 Mr. Seitzinger as well.

23 Residents on Price Street have
24 reported that there is overgrown grass in a
25 vacant lot located adjacent to 1913 Price

1 Street. From speaking with residents, it's
2 their understanding that the lot is owned by
3 an out-of-town resident and needs attention
4 as it's become a haven for various rodents
5 and creature. Mrs. Krake, if you could
6 please add this to the letter to
7 Mr. Seitzinger.

8 And also residents of Luzerne Street
9 have reported overgrown grass and weeds in
10 the plot of land adjacent to the Luzerne
11 Hotel as well as the corner of Luzerne and
12 15th Street. Mrs. Krake, please add this to
13 the letter to Mr. Seitzinger.

14 Finally, our office received a
15 request regarding a health concern located
16 at a property in Scranton, which I will not
17 mention at this time just because of privacy
18 issues, however, I will also provide you
19 with this and if you could send this over to
20 Mr. Seitzinger for him to address as well
21 and it would be greatly appreciated. That's
22 all I have for tonight.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
24 Mrs. Krake.

25 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AMENDING CHAPTER

1 332 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON
2 TITLED PARKS AND RECREATION BY ADDING
3 ARTICLE III "WEST SCRANTON SKATE PARK
4 FACILITY RULES AND REGULATIONS".

5 MS. ROGAN: At this time I'll
6 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
7 introduced into it's proper committee.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

9 MR. JOYCE: Second.

10 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
11 those in favor signify by saying aye.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

14 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

15 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
16 have it and so moved.

17 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AMENDING FILE OF
18 COUNCIL NO. 52, 2010, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED
19 "GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2011" BY
20 TRANSFERRING \$20,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
21 01.401.13090.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
22 OPERATING EXPENSES - CONTINGENCY) TO ACCOUNT
23 NO. 01.060.00000.4201 (LAW DEPARTMENT
24 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES) TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO
25 COVER VARIOUS ATTORNEY FEES.

1 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
2 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
3 introduced into it's proper committee.

4 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

6 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

7 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Mrs. Krake, I
8 would like to request a complete breakdown
9 for professional services in the law
10 department, this will include the names of
11 the attorneys and the law firms and other
12 services provided as well as the dollar
13 amounts for those services.

14 The city needs to stop hiring law
15 firms or any vendor for that matter before
16 the funding is in place. If an account is
17 depleted of funds, the administration will
18 hire an attorney knowing that even if the
19 money is not approved for a transfer the
20 attorney or any vendor for that matter will
21 take the city to Court just to get paid.

22 We want the city to have the money
23 in place first and when the money is
24 available and then and only then they should
25 have the ability to hire a vendor to do the

1 work. The administration simply is
2 circumventing the budgetary process. City
3 council and the city controller's office
4 when they do not adhere to these fundamental
5 rules, you know, they really need to start
6 paying more attention and this is something
7 that should happen in a government that
8 cooperates with each other, and this is
9 something that is sorely needed from the
10 administration at this time.

11 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the
12 question? All those in favor signify by
13 saying aye.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

16 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

19 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. SALE OF TAX
20 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN
21 AS SHORT AVENUE, TAX MAP NO. 13420-020-028,
22 SCRANTON PENNSYLVANIA, TO CARMEN SAITA, 517
23 GREENBUSH STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
24 18508, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$1,000.00.

25 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll

1 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
2 introduced into it's proper committee.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

4 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

9 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
11 have it and so moved.

12 MS. KRAKE: 5-E. APPOINTING DOMINIC
13 GEORGETTI, 2906 COLLIERY AVENUE, SCRANTON,
14 PENNSYLVANIA 18505 AS AN ALTERNATE NO. 2
15 MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR
16 THE CITY OF SCRANTON. MR. GEORGETTI WILL
17 FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF STEVEN BARTNICKI,
18 WHOSE TERM EXPIRES ON JUNE 1, 2013. MR.
19 GEORGETTI'S TERM WILL COMMENCE ON JULY 2,
20 2011 AND EXPIRE ON JUNE 1, 2013.

21 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
22 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
23 introduced into it's proper committee.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

25 MR. JOYCE: Second.

1 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

2 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Even though this
3 is not my zoning appointment, I would like
4 to make a comment that I do know
5 Mr. Georgetti, I have met him before, I have
6 had the opportunity to discuss many
7 different issues with him and I find him to
8 be a very honorable man, and I firmly
9 believe that he will make the right
10 decisions in the best interest of the
11 taxpayers.

12 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the
13 question? All those in favor signify by
14 saying aye.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

17 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

18 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19 have it and so moved.

20 MS. KRAKE: 5-F. APPOINTING CHARLIE
21 SPANO, 718 STAFFORD AVENUE, SCRANTON,
22 PENNSYLVANIA 18505 AS AN ALTERNATE NO. 1
23 MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR
24 THE CITY OF SCRANTON. MR. SPANO WILL FILL
25 THE EXPIRED TERM OF RAY DOMINGUEZ, WHOSE

1 TERM EXPIRES ON JULY 1, 2011. MR. SPANO'S
2 TERM WILL COMMENCE ON JULY 2, 2011 AND
3 EXPIRE ON JULY 1, 2013.

4 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
5 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
6 introduced into it's proper committee.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

8 MR. JOYCE: Second.

9 MR. ROGAN: On the question?
10 Mr. Spano was my appointee, I have known
11 Mr. Spano for a very long time. He was a
12 teacher for many years, he also worked for
13 the census and he was on the planning
14 commission. Very, very qualified for this
15 position and he cares deeply about the
16 community. The last -- on the tenth
17 anniversary of September 11, I believe it
18 was the ninth anniversary of September 11
19 and many of the years Mr. Spano holds a
20 ceremony at McDade Park, it's very nice
21 ceremony, he is a very civic-minded
22 individual and I'm sure he will do a great
23 job for the zoning board. Anyone else on
24 the question? All those in favor signify by
25 saying aye.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

3 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
5 have it and so moved.

6 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

7 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 40,
8 2011 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE
9 DISBURSEMENT FROM THE SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT,
10 AS ESTABLISHED BY FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
11 14, 2011, ENTITLED "URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION
12 GRANT REPAYMENTS ACCOUNT".

13 MR. ROGAN: You've heard reading by
14 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

15 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-A
16 pass reading by title.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

18 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
19 those in favor signify by saying aye.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

22 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
24 have it and so moved.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: At this time I would

1 like to make a motion to suspend the rules
2 and move Item 6-A into Seventh Order for
3 final passage.

4 MR. ROGAN: There's a motion of the
5 floor, is there a second?

6 MR. JOYCE: Second.

7 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: On the question, this
9 ordinance was set to transfer funds from the
10 Urban Development Action Grant or RE-RE
11 account, also known as the RE-RE account, to
12 provide funding for lifeguards and pool
13 chemicals in order that the Novembrino swim
14 complex could be opened as soon as possible
15 for use during the 2011 summer season.

16 MR. ROGAN: Anybody else on the
17 question? All those in favor of the motion
18 signify by saying aye.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
23 have it and this will be moved into Seventh
24 Order.

25 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR

1 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
2 FOR ADOPTION-RESOLUTION NO. 35, 2011-
3 APPOINTMENT OF DANNY J. DAVIS, 275 LEWIS
4 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, AS A
5 MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION
6 AUTHORITY. MR. DAVIS WILL BE REPLACING SAM
7 CHERRA, JR. WHOSE TERM WILL EXPIRE JUNE 17,
8 2011. MR. DAVIS'S TERM WILL EXPIRE JUNE
9 17, 2016.

10 MR. ROGAN: What is the
11 recommendation of the temporary Chair for
12 the Committee on Rules?

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: As temporary Chair
14 for the Committee on Rules -- since I'm
15 voting in the negative would I recommend
16 final passage? Okay. I would recommend
17 final passage of Item 7-A.

18 MR. JOYCE: Second.

19 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: On the question,
21 basically I stated it during comments, I
22 have nothing against Mr. Davis, I wouldn't
23 know Mr. Davis if he was sitting here
24 amongst us, but I do have an issue with the
25 Recreation Authority, and I stated all of

1 that prior on my comments and that's where I
2 stand.

3 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the
4 question?

5 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Last week, I voted
6 to move this into Seventh Order for final
7 vote. Mr. Davis had submitted his resume
8 and I did review his resume and I do find it
9 to be impressive. However, I have it up
10 here tonight and I heard Mr. Jackowitz as
11 well as other folks speaks about the Kids
12 Swim Free Program and how the -- there was
13 no allotment for a reduced rate as is done
14 for many other groups, and also I have some
15 concerns about lack of the transparency in
16 the Recreational Authority.

17 I did some research and went back
18 through all of my notes since the time I
19 have been on council and there hasn't been
20 one time where the Authority agreed to meet
21 in this public forum, and there has been
22 very little to minimal or no communication
23 from the Authority regarding what these
24 requests of council.

25 Therefore, with that being said, I

1 think this Authority would be better off
2 disbanded, and with that in mind I will not
3 vote for Mr. Davis tonight.

4 MR. ROGAN: I would just reiterate
5 what I said last week, I agree if there was
6 a vote in front of us right now to disband
7 the Authority I would vote "yes", but the
8 proper way to go about that is by voting on
9 disbanding the Authority, not by voting down
10 Mr. Davis' appointment, so as many of my
11 colleagues said I don't know Mr. Davis
12 either, I read over his resume, it does seem
13 impressive. I can't say anything bad about
14 him. I will vote "yes", you know, it's
15 upsetting. I usually agree with Mr. Joyce
16 and Mr. Loscombe on a lot of issues, it
17 seems we can't get together on these
18 appointments though. You guys voted for Stu
19 Renda and Ryan McGowan, I voted against
20 them, and we are the opposite on this one as
21 well. Anyone else on the question? Roll
22 call, please.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

5 MR. JOYCE: No.

6 MR. ROGAN: Attorney Hughes, in the
7 event of a tie, I believe the "no" is
8 correct?

9 MR. HUGHES: Yes, the motion does
10 not pass.

11 MR. ROGAN: Okay. I hereby declare
12 Item 7-A defeated.

13 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
15 FOR ADOPTION-RESOLUTION NO. 36, 2011 -
16 RATIFYING AND APPROVING OF THE EXECUTION AND
17 SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE
18 CITY OF SCRANTON, ON BEHALF OF UNITED
19 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
20 CORPORATION (UNCDC), TO THE PENNSYLVANIA
21 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
22 DEVELOPMENT FOR A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT,
23 PURSUANT TO THE PA RACE HORSE DEVELOPMENT
24 AND GAMING ACT, FOR THE PROJECT TO BE KNOWN
25 AS THE CEDAR AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING

1 REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE LOCATED IN
2 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA AND AUTHORIZING THE
3 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
4 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO EXECUTE AND
5 ENTER INTO A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT
6 CONTRACT AND COMMITMENT LETTER WITH THE
7 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA TO ACCEPT AND
8 UTILIZE THE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
9 \$225,000.00 AWARDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH
10 OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR SUCH PROJECT.

11 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the
12 Committee on Community Development, I
13 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

14 MR. JOYCE: Second.

15 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
16 call, please?

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

24 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare

1 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

2 MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
3 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR ADOPTION-
4 RESOLUTION NO. 37, 2011 (AS AMENDED) -
5 APPOINTING CARRI NEWCOMB, 230 NORTH CAMERON
6 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A
7 MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR
8 THE CITY OF SCRANTON. CARRI NEWCOMB WILL
9 REPLACE NANCY REEDY WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE
10 30, 2011. CARRI NEWCOMB'S TERM WILL
11 COMMENCE ON JULY 1, 2011 AND EXPIRE ON JUNE
12 30, 2016.

13 MR. ROGAN: What is the
14 recommendation of the temporary Chair for
15 the Committee on Rules?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: As temporary
17 Chairperson for the Committee on Rules, I
18 recommend final passage of Item 7-C, as
19 amended.

20 MR. JOYCE: Second.

21 MS. ROGAN: On the question? I
22 would just like to say I believe this is
23 Mr. Loscombe's pick, it was an excellent
24 choice. I know the Newcomb family very well
25 and I'm sure she will do a great job on the

1 zoning board. Roll call, please?

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

5 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

9 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
11 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted -- as
12 amended, legally and lawfully adopted.

13 MS. KRAKE: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR ADOPTION-
15 RESOLUTION NO. 38, 2011- APPOINTING
16 STEVEN BARTNICKI, 425 PRESCOTT AVENUE,
17 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 AS A MEMBER OF
18 THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF
19 SCRANTON. MR. BARTNICKI WILL REPLACE DAVID
20 CARDEN WHOSE TERM EXPIRES ON JULY 1, 2011.
21 MR. BARTNICKI'S TERM WILL COMMENCE ON JULY
22 2, 2011 AND EXPIRE ON JULY 1, 2016.

23 MR. ROGAN: What is the
24 recommendation of the temporary Chair for
25 the Committee on Rules?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: As temporary
2 Chairperson for the Committee on Rules, I
3 recommend final passage of Item 7-D.

4 MR. JOYCE: Second.

5 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

6 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Mr. Bartnicki is
7 my appointment to the zoning board, he is
8 very a well-educated individual. He is a
9 graduate of the Penn State and also pursuing
10 a master's degree at the University of
11 Scranton. He is also a teacher in the
12 Scranton school district. Mr. Bartnicki I
13 actually appointed him as an alternate as my
14 first appointment to the zoning board as a
15 council member and since that time he has
16 done an excellent job when called. He
17 shares a common vision with the current city
18 council, and I firmly believe that he will
19 continue to do a spectacular job for the
20 City of Scranton as a full-time zoning board
21 member.

22 MR. ROGAN: And I would agree with
23 Mr. Joyce's comments. I've also know
24 Mr. Bartnicki for quite a few years and I'm
25 sure he will also do well on this zoning

1 board. Is there anyone else on the
2 question? Roll call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

11 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
12 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

13 MS. KRAKE: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION
14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
15 FOR ADOPTION-RESOLUTION NO. 39, 2011-
16 APPROVING THE FINANCING BY THE
17 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA
18 HEALTH AND WELFARE AUTHORITY OF CERTAIN
19 CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE
20 WRIGHT CENTER MEDICAL GROUP, P.C., A
21 PENNSYLVANIA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION;
22 DECLARING THAT IT IS DESIRABLE FOR THE
23 HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF
24 THE CITY OF SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY,
25 PENNSYLVANIA, AND THE AREA SERVED BY THE

1 WRIGHT CENTER MEDICAL GROUP, P.C. TO HAVE
2 THE PROJECTS PROVIDED BY AND FINANCED
3 THROUGH THE AUTHORITY; DESIGNATING THE
4 MAYOR OF THE CITY, OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, THE
5 PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY
6 COUNCIL, AS THE PERSON TO ACT ON BEHALF OF
7 THE CITY COUNCIL AS THE "APPLICABLE ELECTED
8 REPRESENTATIVE" WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE
9 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED;
10 AUTHORIZING SUCH MAYOR OF THE CITY OR THE
11 PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY
12 COUNCIL OF THE CITY TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS
13 ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY AS
14 SUCH "APPLICABLE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE";
15 AND AUTHORIZING OTHER NECESSARY AND
16 APPROPRIATE ACTION.

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

20 MR. JOYCE: Second.

21 MS. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
22 call, please?

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

5 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
7 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

8 MS. KRAKE: 7-F, FORMERLY 6-A, FOR
9 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
10 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 40, 2011 - AN ORDINANCE
11 - AUTHORIZING THE DISBURSEMENT FROM THE
12 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT, AS ESTABLISHED BY FILE
13 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 14, 2011, ENTITLED "URBAN
14 DEVELOPMENT ACTION GRANT REPAYMENTS
15 ACCOUNT".

16 MR. ROGAN: What is the
17 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
18 Committee on Finance?

19 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
20 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
21 passage of Item 7-E.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

23 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the question,
25 I explained the ordinance before that it was

1 to provide for lifeguards and pool chemicals
2 for Novembrino pool, and I would just like
3 to add that since council has provided the
4 funding it will now be up to the mayor to
5 determine if there will be swimming at the
6 Novembrino Swim Complex this summer. I hope
7 he acts -- I hope he responds affirmatively
8 and expeditiously so that the children of
9 West Side will enjoy some swim time this
10 summer. And, unfortunately, we didn't have
11 the same situation in Pine Brook, it was
12 just a matter of filling the pools there,
13 I'm sure we would have done that, but there
14 is much more work to be handled in that
15 area, and that's all I have.

16 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the
17 question? Roll call, please?

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

25 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

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MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted. If
there is no further business, I'll entertain
a motion to adjourn.

MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Meeting 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