

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Thursday, June 29, 2017

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:

JOSEPH WECHSLER, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

TIM PERRY

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE - SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

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

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

16 CONTROLLER'S REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING MAY 31,
17 2017.

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

20 MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
21 RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD JUNE 6,
22 2017.

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

25 MS. REED: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S

1 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD JUNE 28, 2017.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
3 comments? If not, received and filed.

4 MS. REED: 3-D. CHECK RECEIVED IN
5 THE AMOUNT OF \$61,797.13 FROM THE SCRANTON
6 HOUSING AUTHORITY, WHICH IS PAYMENT IN LIEU
7 OF TAXES FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

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

10 MS. REED: 3-E. MINUTES OF THE
11 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND WELFARE
12 AUTHORITY'S REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 18,
13 2017.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
15 comments? If not, received and filed.

16 MS. REED: 3-F. SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA
17 HEALTH AND WELFARE AUTHORITY'S COMBINED
18 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
19 DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS'
20 REPORT.

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

23 MS. REED: 3-G. MINUTES OF THE
24 SCRANTON FIREFIGHTERS PENSION COMMISSION
25 MEETING HELD MAY 17, 2017.

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

3 MS. REED: 3-H. MINUTES OF THE
4 NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION BOARD MEETING
5 HELD MAY 17, 2017.

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

8 MS. REED: 3-I. MINUTES OF THE
9 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
10 HELD MAY 17, 2017.

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

13 MS. REED: 3-J. MINUTES OF THE
14 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 17,
15 2017.

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

18 MS. REED: 3-K. AGENDA FOR THE
19 NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION BOARD MEETING
20 HELD JUNE 21, 2017.

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

23 MS. REED: 3-L. MINUTES OF THE
24 SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR
25 NOVEMBER 29, 2016, JANUARY 31, 2017,

1 FEBRUARY 28, 2017, MARCH 28, 2017 AND APRIL
2 25, 2017.

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

5 Do any council members have
6 announcements at this time?

7 MR. ROGAN: I have one. The Fellows
8 Park Sunday concert series will continue on
9 July 2. The Frost will be playing. This
10 will begin at 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. On July 4
11 the Fortunes will be playing. Again, these
12 concerts are from 5 to 7 p.m. at Fellows
13 Park in West Side. It's a free community
14 summer series. Bring chairs or a blanket
15 and they will be held rain or shine. Thank
16 you.

17 MR. WECHSLER: This evening an
18 executive session was held regarding pending
19 litigation.

20 Next Tuesday, July 4, City Hall will
21 be closed in observance of the holiday. DPW
22 crews will not be working that day. Refuse
23 and blue recycling will be one day behind
24 next week.

25 The television recycling program has

1 ended as of June 26. DPW crews are still
2 working on the remaining TVs that were on
3 the list that were called into the dispatch
4 office. To date, over 700 televisions have
5 been collected and I would like to thank
6 Director Gallagher and the DPW crews for all
7 of their efforts to making this a successful
8 program.

9 Next Thursday, July 6, council will
10 hold a work session with the Business
11 Administrator to discuss the issuance and
12 refunding of the city's general obligation
13 bonds which is Item 5-B on tonight's agenda.
14 A work session will be held in the
15 Governor's Room commencing at 4:30 p.m.

16 Also, 5-B and 5-C, a public hearing
17 will be scheduled for next Thursday, July 6,
18 to hear testimony from each liquor
19 transfers. They will be held at 5:30 and
20 5:45 p.m. prior to the council meeting.

21 Downtown Scranton business
22 celebrates independence week July 1 through
23 July 7. Locally owned businesses in
24 downtown Scranton will take over Scranton
25 Tomorrow's Instagram account in celebration

1 of independence week. Scranton Tomorrow
2 will give downtown businesses it's Instagram
3 login to post pictures and promote
4 businesses. The takeover takes off on July
5 1 with posts from businesses located on
6 North Washington Avenue, Wyoming Avenue and
7 Penn Avenue. Wednesday, July 5, will
8 feature businesses from Adams Avenue and
9 Linden Street. Thursday, July 6, will
10 feature businesses on Lackawanna Avenue,
11 Spruce Street and Center Street.

12 Independence week is a national annual
13 campaign celebrating July 4 to engage local
14 businesses and citizens in celebrating
15 entrepreneurial spirit and the freedom the
16 local businesses embody. Independence week
17 is also an occasion to recognize small
18 businesses contributions to the community
19 and to affirm citizen's roles in shaping
20 their community's future.

21 For more information contact Leslie
22 Collins at Leslie@Scrantontomorrow.org or
23 you can call at 570-963-1579. We all
24 encourage and celebrate our independent
25 business owners of the city. Please take

1 the opportunity to support them during this
2 week.

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

5 MR. WECHSLER: Fay Franus.

6 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus. Are you
7 gentlemen familiar with the Section 66-194,
8 the City Administration Code? I just handed
9 that to you. Are you familiar with it? Did
10 you know it's about -- I'll read it.

11 "Professional Services Contracts. The City
12 of Scranton will publically advertise for
13 professional services when the payment for
14 such is expected to exceed the threshold of
15 \$19,400 in one calendar year. Professional
16 services shall include any profession or
17 occupation which requires the issuance of a
18 license to practice that profession or
19 occupation within the Commonwealth of
20 Pennsylvania. All contracts must be
21 reviewed and approved by the city solicitor
22 and sign by the mayor and the control or
23 their designated substitutes and attested to
24 by the city clerk."

25 Now, here's my question, are these

1 professional services, do you realize that
2 anything over \$19,400 must come in front of
3 council for approval? Pardon me?

4 MR. EVANS: Yes.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

6 MS. FRANUS: Well, then why did the
7 mayor and Attorney Shrive hire Attorney
8 Abrahamsen without bringing this matter
9 before the Court? He received \$20,000 a
10 month for ten months. Why didn't this not
11 come in front of city council?

12 MR. GAUGHAN: I don't know. That's
13 a good question.

14 MS. FRANUS: Has anybody ever asked
15 the mayor this?

16 MR. GAUGHAN: I have asked for
17 several documents and after reading the
18 newspaper apparently there is no
19 documentation so I'm not sure. I mean, I
20 still have additional questions about that,
21 but I don't know to be honest with you.

22 MS. FRANUS: Well, in my opinion,
23 these are only my opinions, but I think they
24 will bear truth in time. I think this is
25 the mayor and Attorney Shrive just wanted to

1 try and hide the facts here and scrutinize
2 and hide all of this stuff. I mean, sneak
3 it through so to me it's very illegal. So
4 would you consider contacting the Attorney
5 General on this, make him aware of this
6 illegal activity by Ned Abrahamsen and their
7 law firm? I mean, I know you have, but I
8 think this is an illegal matter. He did not
9 come -- he got paid. He was paid this money
10 illegally and nothing was done. What do you
11 intend to do about it? Any of you intend to
12 do anything about this? If not, then I
13 would say you are complicit. I mean, how
14 can you sit there knowing something is done
15 illegally, didn't come in front of council
16 for approval against the city code and you
17 are not going to do anything about it?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, to be honest
19 with you I don't know if it was, in fact,
20 illegal. I mean, I planned on asking our
21 solicitor, Mr. Minora, how they were able to
22 do that and I don't know. That's why I will
23 be asking that question, but I don't know
24 that it was illegal.

25 MS. FRANUS: Well, it wasn't right.

1 If nothing else, he should be brought in
2 here, the mayor should be brought in here,
3 Jason Shrive to be brought in here to answer
4 these questions in front of the people. I
5 mean, that's our money and he did everything
6 behind closed doors. He didn't even -- he
7 wasn't even aware that the city paid him.
8 He thought the Sewer Authority paid him. I
9 mean, he is out of touch with reality this
10 mayor.

11 And the sewer money, the deals that
12 I read about in the paper today that paying
13 down the debt, from my understanding I
14 believe that the mayor has already paid some
15 of these debts down from the sewer sale.
16 Well, I thought he wasn't able to do that.
17 Isn't there a statute or something that says
18 that that can't be done until the Sewer
19 Authority is completely absolved? And the
20 Sewer Authority is not absolved and yet some
21 of these debts were paid down? How is that
22 possible? Another in my opinion illegal
23 happening between the mayor and the sewer
24 deal with the lawyers and everything else
25 that he deals with in the city. So I'd like

1 to see you make a motion though about the
2 Attorney General. Could you ask, Bill?
3 Could you please ask --

4 MR. GAUGHAN: I plan on asking in
5 motions when it gets to my turn.

6 MS. FRANUS: Can I ask Attorney
7 Minora?

8 MR. GAUGHAN: I guess you would have
9 to ask Councilman Wechsler.

10 MS. FRANUS: Could you tell me how
11 you understand it when the mayor and
12 Attorney Shrive did not come in front of
13 city council for something that the city
14 code said they must for something over
15 \$19,400 and they did not?

16 MR. MINORA: Accepting everything
17 you say as correct, and I don't know that is
18 it --

19 MS. FRANUS: Well, I read in the
20 code in the city.

21 MR. MINORA: I'm talking about the
22 contract itself, accepting what you said is
23 correct, which I don't know to be true or
24 not true, then a contract like that probably
25 should have come to council. It's an

1 open-ended contract. It doesn't say it's a
2 \$150,000. It says \$20,000 a month. It
3 might be a contract for one month. It might
4 be a contract for two. In this case it's a
5 contract for 12, but as contracted it was
6 for one month only. It was a month-to-month
7 so that's a \$20,000 contract so I'm not sure
8 what you are saying is correct that should
9 have come before council because it ended up
10 to be more than the \$94,000 (sic).

11 MS. FRANUS: It's not 19,000 for a
12 year --

13 MR. MINORA: Let me finish, it's
14 really a question in the contracting at the
15 beginning of the contract what is the value
16 of the contract? It's \$20,000. It may turn
17 out to be more, but it's a \$20,000 contract,
18 and I think that's what the solicitor and
19 the mayor are going to say, and I'm not sure
20 that -- I haven't looked to see whether
21 that's correct or not correct, but I think
22 it is.

23 MS. FRANUS: Even if were correct
24 it's still over \$19,400 and that's for one
25 whole year and he got \$200,000 for ten

1 months.

2 MR. WECHSLER: I think the best
3 thing for us would be to --

4 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

5 MR. WECHSLER: The best thing for us
6 would be to have Solicitor Minora contact
7 Solicitor Boyles to find out because
8 Abrahamsen does have a professional services
9 contract with the city for the labor. He
10 does have a professional services contract
11 with the city for labor that has been
12 approved by council.

13 MS. FRANUS: But this was for the
14 sewer deal. I'm only referring about the
15 sewer deal.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Correct. But he does
17 have a professional services contract for
18 other issues.

19 MS. FRANUS: But am I wrong in
20 saying --

21 MR. WECHSLER: No.

22 MS. FRANUS: -- separate contract for
23 the sewer deal --

24 MR. WECHSLER: Correct.

25 MS. FRANUS: -- for \$200,000?

1 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, it may also have
2 something to do with the fact he was paid by
3 the Sewer Authority not by the city.

4 MS. FRANUS: He was paid by the
5 city?

6 MR. WECHSLER: Well, that's still
7 under question.

8 MR. EVANS: That's the question.

9 MS. FRANUS: I'm sorry, he was hired
10 by the city, I don't know who paid him.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Right. He was hired
12 by the city, but he may have been paid by
13 the Sewer Authority so I don't know if that
14 has something to do with it.

15 MR. FRANUS: But he was the city
16 lawyer hired by the city then I think he
17 would have to the go by the City
18 Administrative Code.

19 MR. WECHSLER: I don't disagree with
20 you, but we will have Solicitor Minora --

21 MS. FRANUS: Maybe you can get that
22 answer, too.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

24 MS. FRANUS: Thank you much.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Les

1 Spindler.

2 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
3 Council. Les Spindler. City resident and
4 homeowner and taxpayer. Councilmen Perry, I
5 was here two weeks ago and thanked you for
6 getting that hole filled up on Dorothy
7 Street and you said, oh, you didn't do
8 anything, you just got in touch with the
9 people, at least you took the initiative to
10 get in touch with the people. I have been
11 coming to these meetings for many, many
12 years and asked for things to be done, no
13 council people took the initiative like you
14 do so I think you do deserve credit.

15 MR. PERRY: Well, thank you, but
16 I'll tell you I work with these guys all the
17 time, not just on Thursday evenings but
18 through e-mails, through talking, and there
19 is a lot of activity going on by everybody
20 here, especially the people in our office
21 every week. So it's a definitely not a
22 one-man band by any means, but I'll take the
23 compliments when I get them because they are
24 not often, so thank you.

25 MR. SPINDLER: I have another

1 problem down -- it's not directly the same
2 area, down by the ball field, at the end of
3 Elizabeth Street it's a dead end that runs
4 into the field, there is a drainage ditch,
5 at the end of that drainage ditch there is
6 another storm drain, there is no lid on the
7 storm drain. There is like a metal rim that
8 goes around it, but there is like a 15-inch
9 -- approximately a 15-inch opening. Some
10 young child could fall into that.

11 MR. PERRY: I mean, I'm familiar
12 with Elizabeth Street but not that end of
13 it. Do you know was it ever there? Has it
14 been missing?

15 MR. SPINDLER: Oh, yeah, it's been
16 there a long time I just noticed recently
17 that there is no --

18 MR. PERRY: Missing.

19 MR. SPINDLER: -- there is no cover.
20 I think that's a real safety hazard. I
21 don't know who would have to be contacted
22 with that?

23 MR. PERRY: We'll put that in a
24 motion for you.

25 MR. SPINDLER: A young child could

1 easily fall down there.

2 Okay, next, I watched the news last
3 Thursday night after the town hall meeting,
4 saw some highlights and, Councilman Gaughan,
5 you were totally out of control. I mean,
6 you set a bad example for council people in
7 this city. You were told to leave, you
8 didn't leave until some larger gentleman
9 started heading towards you and you blame
10 the mayor for everything. Whatever the
11 mayor said that night you wouldn't have been
12 happy with. You said he played politics
13 appointing people to the Sewer Authority,
14 every mayor appoints people to the Sewer
15 Authority. Where were you when Chris
16 Doherty was appointing his friends to the
17 Sewer Authority? Where were you when Chris
18 Doherty was putting all his friends and
19 relatives into the Sewer Authority? He put
20 more people in the Sewer Authority for jobs
21 that they didn't exist than any other mayor
22 ever did. Where were you? No where to be
23 found, but every little thing this mayor
24 does you find fault with it. You are a
25 hypocrite.

1 Okay, in the paper today it said
2 some of the money is being used to pay down
3 some of the debt. I think we are in much
4 better shape right now than we were four
5 years ago. Our bond rating is better than
6 the Doherty administration's bond rating
7 ever was and we are paying down some of the
8 debt. I don't know if the sale was good or
9 not, but I was one that was totally against
10 receivership, if the Sewer Authority wasn't
11 sold we would be under receivership, I don't
12 want my taxes raised 125 percent. The
13 receiver can come in and raise taxes as much
14 as they want, council and the mayor couldn't
15 do anything. That's not what I would want
16 and I don't think a lot of people in this
17 city would want that either.

18 Next thing, this has nothing to do
19 with city business, but kudos to Governor
20 Wolf for signing into law tougher laws
21 against animal cruelty. I have been
22 complaining about that for years that animal
23 cruelty laws are not nearly as strict as
24 they could be, people get a slap on the
25 wrist, now they are going to do jail time.

1 I think that's a great law and kudos to the
2 mayor -- to the governor, I'm sorry, not the
3 mayor.

4 Lastly, I brought this subject up a
5 few months ago about Princeton University
6 using their nonprofit status and I asked
7 council to look into it and I've still yet
8 to hear anything, that's one thing I mean
9 about things that I bring up that might be
10 good for the city and council doesn't look
11 into it. I think that's a real serious
12 thing. If we could get the University to
13 contribute more than they are I think that
14 would be great. Why isn't council looking
15 into this? President Wechsler, can you
16 answer that?

17 MR. WECHSLER: We haven't reviewed
18 it. It's a --

19 MR. SPINDLER: What are you waiting
20 for?

21 MR. WECHSLER: It's an issue of the
22 county, the school board and the city. It's
23 an issue that's combined with everyone.

24 MR. SPINDLER: Well, Princeton
25 University lost a lawsuit, I don't know why

1 this council or the law department can't
2 look into it. Can't you get in the touch
3 with the law department and have them look
4 into it?

5 MR. WECHSLER: We have a pretty full
6 plate with other matters.

7 MR. SPINDLER: You don't think
8 that's important?

9 MR. WECHSLER: I do think it's
10 important --

11 MR. SPINDLER: -- to get the
12 nonprofits to contribute more?

13 MR. WECHSLER: -- but have you seen
14 our agenda of what we have to accomplish?

15 MR. SPINDLER: I think this is
16 probably more important than anything on the
17 agenda tonight.

18 MR. WECHSLER: I disagree.

19 MR. SPINDLER: If the University
20 could contribute more than the what 100 and
21 some thousand they contribute every year,
22 which is nothing, that's important. It
23 seems like you don't want to take the burden
24 off of the taxpayers. Maybe that's why you
25 weren't reelected. Thank you for your time.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Bob Bolus.

2 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.
3 Bob Bolus. Just briefly, I'd like to say a
4 remembrance to L.A. Tyrone from WILK that
5 passed away and I think we owed him a lot
6 because he always treated each and every one
7 of us fairly whenever we went on his talk
8 show, he will be sorely missed.

9 Getting down to business tonight,
10 has the Sewer Authority been dissolved and
11 all bonds paid?

12 MR. WECHSLER: No.

13 MR. BOLUS: Pardon?

14 MR. WECHSLER: No.

15 MR. BOLUS: Okay, so the Sewer
16 Authority is still in existence?

17 MR. WECHSLER: The Sewer Authority
18 is in existence to close outstanding
19 business.

20 MR. BOLUS: Okay, back in, let's see
21 here, December 1 meeting of 2016, an
22 Ordinance No. 68, city council authorizing
23 the City of Scranton to approve the request
24 of Scranton Sewer Authority to terminate
25 it's existence upon the payment and the

1 discharge of all outstanding bonds by
2 Scranton Sewer Authority. Have all of bonds
3 been paid?

4 MR. WECHSLER: That I don't know.

5 MR. BOLUS: Okay. Well, let me tell
6 you what the problem is here if that's not
7 been the case and they have not fully
8 complied with the act or out of existence
9 filing they can't have given the City of
10 Scranton or Dunmore a dime, not even a
11 penny, because if they did it would be
12 illegal under No. 5712, money of the
13 Authority that can only be used by the
14 Authority under that ordinance and I'll read
15 it to you: "Prohibition. Prohibition.
16 Money of the Authority may not be used for
17 any grant, loan or expenditures for any
18 purpose other than the service or project
19 directly related to the mission or purpose
20 of the Authority as set forth in the
21 articles of incorporation or in the
22 resolution ordinance established in the
23 order --" excuse me, "The Authority under
24 Section 5603 relating to method of
25 incorporation."

1 In other words, what this tells us
2 the money can only be used for the Sewer
3 Authority and Sewer Authority projects only.
4 What's happened here is the city and
5 everybody under ordinance 68 filed
6 certificate for nonexistence they would pay
7 all of their bonds and clear up their mess.
8 They can't give a dime if there is not an
9 out of existence filed and bonds not paid
10 off. This is something council should have
11 known if they paid attention when approving
12 the December 1 of '16 meeting under what I
13 already read, the Rules of Council. What
14 you have done and what everybody has done,
15 Mr. Gaughan, I'm going to lay this on you
16 because when we had the meeting with the
17 Sewer Authority where you blasted at the
18 mayor and told to sit down and then come
19 back blasting again, very unprofessional and
20 you called it a circus. My friend, you were
21 the circus ring leader there, okay? You
22 weren't there representing us as a
23 Councilman as you kept barking out, you were
24 there representing yourself as a private
25 citizen because in order to represent

1 yourself as a councilman you needed two our
2 people there to make a forum to come there
3 and say anything.

4 Mr. Evans made statements, there
5 were more questions than answers, I didn't
6 see anybody else get up there and speak.
7 We, the public, did and if you had taken
8 time, you bitch about transparency, and read
9 the asset purchase agreement as I have maybe
10 you wouldn't be yelling so much you want
11 transparency because you should have all
12 read this agreement prior to signing a sale
13 agreement of the Sewer Authority assets to
14 the gas and water. You put the cart before
15 the horse, now you're yelling you want
16 transparency. You can't ask for something
17 you didn't comply with.

18 Now, the big issue is, and your
19 solicitor is sitting right here, have you
20 taken the money illegally from the sale
21 because under the ordinance the Sewer
22 Authority had to be dissolved before they
23 could give you one dime. And if you didn't
24 do that, gentlemen, I strongly suggest each
25 and every one of you, including the mayor

1 and all of the high-priced lawyers that
2 represented us for millions of dollars
3 better seek counsel because I believe you
4 have done something illegal by accepting
5 that money, and had no right to get it.

6 And I'm going to give you one more
7 other thing here, and I want to read this to
8 you for a second. The Auditor General of
9 the Commonwealth shall have the right to
10 examine the books, accounts and records of
11 any Authority. He doesn't need your
12 permission. He doesn't need to be asked
13 here. This is black and white his job.
14 Right now there is the potential of a
15 criminal crime that happened, but it must be
16 done by the Auditor General first and then
17 he can pass it on if he finds something was
18 wrong. This is a very serious issue in this
19 city because you got money you are not
20 entitled to and if that's the case the
21 Auditor General, black and white right here,
22 that's his responsibility, and I'm
23 forwarding the letter to him to come in area
24 on behalf the citizens of the City of
25 Scranton to investigate as the auditor

1 General the taking of money that we believe
2 under your own statements right now stating
3 that the Sewer Authority has not been
4 disbanded you have taken illegal money,
5 gentlemen.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

7 MR. BOLUS: So I caution you,
8 Mr. Gaughan, when you want to come out, all
9 due respect --

10 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

11 MR. BOLUS: -- get your ducks in a
12 row before go representing us and barking
13 out. And, Mr. Wechsler, you would have
14 learned this in the past if you weren't so
15 arrogant in shutting people up.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

17 MR. BOLUS: Because the most
18 important thing you will learn in life,
19 sir --

20 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Bolus --

21 MR. BOLUS: -- respect is earned and
22 not commanded. You work for us.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

24 MR. BOLUS: We sure as hell don't
25 work for you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

2 MR. BOLUS: And that's why you got
3 kicked out of this seat because you didn't
4 respect the people.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

6 MR. BOLUS: Don't ever thank me,
7 because I never want thank you from somebody
8 --

9 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Bolus, thank you.

10 MR. BOLUS: -- who was totally
11 incompetent to sit in that seat.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

13 MR. BOLUS: Because I just read what
14 you did wrong as the president, you put this
15 whole city in jeopardy, big mouth. Pay
16 attention when you are speaking.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus,
18 but you should take some advice that you
19 just gave Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. BOLUS: Pay attention when
21 people speak to you --

22 MR. WECHSLER: Bill Jackowitz.

23 MR. BOLUS: -- and maybe you'll learn
24 something, so far you haven't.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
2 Scranton City Council. Good evening, Kathy.
3 Good evening, Council Stenographer, Lori and
4 Amil and Mark back there on the camera, good
5 evening to all you of. Bill Jackowitz,
6 South Scranton resident. So far \$43 million
7 from the Sewer Authority sale from the way I
8 understand it is being used to pay down
9 debt; is that correct?

10 MR. WECHSLER: I don't know the
11 exact number that you are using, but, yes.

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, 43 million.
13 Now, after that debt is paid down we are
14 still going to owe 103 million. We are
15 still \$103 million in debt after we pay this
16 \$43 million. Where are we going to get the
17 rest of the money from considering we sold
18 our assets or released all of our assets?
19 Where are we going to get \$103 million from,
20 does anybody have any thoughts on that idea
21 or has anybody looked into the matter?

22 MR. WECHSLER: The idea is that the
23 interest rates are low so we will be making
24 payments against that debt.

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: I understand that,

1 but how long is it going to take to pay down
2 \$103 million?

3 MR. WECHSLER: I would imagine --

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: When you don't have
5 any revenue coming in from -- -

6 MR. WECHSLER: But that's quite
7 long-term debt.

8 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, I mean, you
9 know, we have been suffering.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Every city has debt
11 there are no cities that --

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: Well, yeah, but they
13 don't have \$103 million.

14 MR. WECHSLER: I don't know about
15 that. I disagree with you on that.

16 MR. JACKOWITZ: I don't know too
17 many cities that -- and I have lived in a
18 lot of cities --

19 MR. WECHSLER: Cities have more debt
20 than you think.

21 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, the town hall
22 meeting basically went the way I said it was
23 going to go, the mayor was sitting up on the
24 stage by himself with his bottle of water
25 and he was asking the -- and answering the

1 questions, the problem was he didn't have
2 very many answers, and the second thing is
3 he made a big mistake when he went to the
4 audience and started asking the people in
5 the audience the answers to the questions.
6 Big mistake. He should never have done
7 that. We didn't elect those attorneys who
8 were sitting in the audience, we elected
9 Mayor Bill Courtright and he was the one who
10 was sitting up there and drinking his water
11 and he is the one who should have been
12 answering all of the questions.

13 Okay, Abrahamsen's deal, what do you
14 get for a \$50,000 campaign contribution?
15 You get there is no letter of the engagement
16 detailing the scope of the work to be
17 performed by the firm, no any formal
18 contract available for review. There is no
19 specific documentation of what services
20 Abrahamsen provided while being paid a flat
21 fee of \$20,000 a month. The rate which adds
22 up to \$200,000 over 10 months was calculated
23 by Courtright and Shrive who believed it to
24 be a reasonable amount for the work in the
25 entirety Shrive said. That's what you get

1 for making a \$50,000 campaign contribution
2 to the mayor's campaign.

3 Again, going back to the town mall
4 meeting, I'm sorry to say there really
5 wasn't very much to be proud of. I mean,
6 the mayor sat up there and he just didn't
7 have the answers. I mean, it was his idea
8 to have the town mall meeting, he was the
9 one who suggested having it, you would think
10 he would have at least come in prepared
11 because he had to have known a lot of the
12 tough questions and he was asked a lot of
13 tough questions by a lot of people, I think
14 there were 19 speakers and he was asked a
15 lot of tough questions, but he didn't have
16 the answers and he is the mayor. He is the
17 grand chief of the City of Scranton, as the
18 grand Chief is supposed to be on top of
19 everything. I mean, he didn't even know who
20 hired Abrahamsen. I mean, he didn't know
21 anything at all about the closing deals on
22 the Sewer Authority. He just didn't know
23 anything. I mean, I hate to say that, but
24 it was kind of an embarrassment as a citizen
25 to sit there and watch my mayor struggle

1 that way because he just didn't have it. He
2 was not on his game that day. Thank you.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Ron Ellman.

4 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council. Hard
5 act to follow after tonight's here. Reminds
6 me of the old days a little bit. I really
7 feel embarrassed of this council. You are
8 not the council that was elected for the
9 people of this city. You are letting us
10 down by leaps and bounds. I just find it
11 unconscionable that all five of you went
12 ahead and gave this \$3 million grant to this
13 contemptible school that has taken millions
14 of dollars off our tax roll forever to
15 repair a building that they took off the tax
16 rolls three years ago. What is your
17 thinking? How can you do this to the people
18 of this city?

19 Like, last week I said everywhere
20 you look there is money needed. There is
21 the kids swimming, the swimming pools
22 themselves, the streets, curbs, every place
23 in this city there is a -- you could have
24 put \$3 million dollars to use, you give it
25 to this lousy contemptible school, like I

1 him, he is a complete waste. You can't find
2 anything for the people of this city that he
3 has done one thing, not one thing for the
4 people of this city. All he does is run
5 around here and make commitments that he is
6 not even supposed to.

7 I keep hearing the word on Fox News
8 this week about collusion. What do you call
9 Mr. Amoroso and the relationship with Mr.
10 Bulzoni to get the \$3 million grant? If
11 that's not collusion I don't know what it
12 is. You have had these people lead you guys
13 around the nose. They have destroyed this
14 city. I just -- it's just unbelievable
15 what's going on and nobody seems to care.

16 I watched last week the meeting on
17 television, I couldn't get down there, I
18 found you just hypocritical. You let all of
19 this happen to the people of this city then
20 have you a big show at the last minute
21 against the mayor. The mayor just seems to
22 be a, I don't know -- I like Bill, I have
23 known him a long, long time, but he is not
24 mayor material. He might be some day, but I
25 don't find him mayor material and when you

1 see in the paper who can contributes and who
2 supports him you can see those people don't
3 want change. We have to have change around
4 here. I won't see it. Some of these people
5 out here that come to the meetings won't see
6 it, but you have forgotten about the young
7 people of this city. Like my two boys they
8 don't want to live here.

9 Let me say something real quick on
10 another vein, two weeks ago Roseann found
11 three dead squirrels and a dead skunk in my
12 backyard that somebody had evidently put out
13 some poison, one of my neighbors. How
14 somebody could be so low life to poison --
15 to do this is it's just inconceivable. The
16 lady behind me puts out little bunch of
17 peanuts. For 12, 15 years I put out a
18 little box of -- summer, winter, in the rain
19 and snow I put out a pound of peanuts every
20 day and there is only like four or five
21 squirrels come, we are not overridden, and
22 somebody poisoned them. You know, people
23 like this just belong -- they should rot in
24 hell. Thank you.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Joan Hodowanitz.

1 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
2 Scranton resident and taxpayer. Tomorrow is
3 June 30, do you know where your 2016
4 independent audit is?

5 MR. EVANS: Well, we were told on
6 Monday that it's supposed to be here so
7 we'll find out tomorrow.

8 MS. HODOWANITZ: Well, I will come
9 slumming tomorrow and I'll be looking in
10 nooks and crannies. Hopefully it will be
11 here. Has there been any more information
12 from the Attorney General about your request
13 for him to come down and look at the sewer
14 sale?

15 MR. WECHSLER: I will make some of
16 mention it in comments.

17 MS. HODOWANITZ: How about the
18 infamous, notorious Knowel's insurance list
19 that needs to be amended for the last three
20 months? Remember?

21 MR. WECHSLER: No update on that
22 either.

23 MS. HODOWANITZ: Say again?

24 MR. WECHSLER: No update on that.

25 MS. HODOWANITZ: Oh, good, God.

1 Let's hope they are not paying to insure the
2 Scranton Public Library for the seventh
3 year.

4 I wasn't able to attend the Pension
5 Board meetings on May 17, I had a scheduled
6 conflict, but, fortunately, all of their
7 minutes were provided in this week's backup
8 and it was very interesting reading because
9 it all focused on the RFP for the third
10 party administrator and the fact that the
11 original RFP did not detail the duties of
12 the third party administrator. Do we have
13 any status on when that is going to be rebid
14 so we can take a look at what they are
15 asking for?

16 MR. WECHSLER: They are still
17 evaluating the best way to get it back out
18 there.

19 MS. HODOWANITZ: Still contemplating
20 their navels, are we?

21 MR. WECHSLER: No, it's so important
22 they are trying to get it right.

23 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okey-dokey. Well,
24 there are other cities and communities that
25 have that function, I mean, it's like one

1 ringy dingy, two ringy dingies.

2 Okay, interesting article in the
3 paper yesterday, ruling could impact tax
4 case against city. An unrelated case Court
5 says Home Rule Charters don't supercede
6 state limits. So what I want to know is the
7 event a lawsuit goes against the city with
8 regard to this cap on taxes, does the city
9 have a Plan B?

10 MR. WECHSLER: I would guess not at
11 this time.

12 MS. HODOWANITZ: Has anyone tried to
13 quantify how bad it would be if the lawsuit
14 goes against the city? I mean, how much
15 money are we looking at taking a hit on?

16 MR. ROGAN: I have looked into the
17 numbers a little bit and it would be a
18 disaster and, unfortunately, real estate
19 owners would be the ones that would be hurt
20 the most.

21 MS. HODOWANITZ: I think it will be
22 wise for the administration to be looking at
23 a Plan B. It may not come to pass, but one
24 would want to be ready.

25 Scranton School District, on June 26

1 the Scranton School District gets adult
2 supervision. They are now on the Department
3 of Education's financial watch list. What
4 bothers me is the fact that we tend to say
5 -- PEL is saying that, you know, our
6 financial health is improving yet you cannot
7 separate Scranton School District out from
8 the city's overall financial health.

9 Another thing we need to have discussion on
10 is what's going to happen with things like
11 our credit rating and everything else. I
12 don't think that the outside world says,
13 okay, there is Scranton, the school district
14 is not something we have to worry about,
15 there needs to be some discussion on that
16 because that's going to impact the entire
17 city and taxes, and taxes. You know, just
18 because we have three taxing authorities
19 doesn't mean that, you know, we have three
20 checking accounts. It all comes out of one
21 pot for me.

22 And I was very impressed to see all
23 of the minutes of the solid waste advisory
24 committee. Does anybody know when the next
25 meeting is, I think the last one was May 30?

1 They do some good work.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: I'm not sure.

3 MS. HODOWANITZ: If we could ever
4 find that out in the future council meetings
5 if that could be publicized somehow. I
6 understand they meet at the Electric Life
7 building, Scranton Life building or whatever
8 that is across from the courthouse, but some
9 very interesting things came out and I see
10 some of the panel members and board members
11 Gene Barrett, Bernie McGurl, some really
12 smart people and Joyce Hatala, so I would be
13 interested in observing their meetings and
14 seeing what they have to say. A lot of it
15 hinges on storm water management, by the
16 way, they may be ahead of the power curve.

17 And reassessment, I was at a county
18 meeting yesterday, and that was an exciting
19 experience, but what bothered me was this
20 morning's editorial, "New low in political
21 cowardess. "

22 Well, I agree with Times-Tribune in
23 favoring the assessment, I can't understand
24 why our discussion of this issue has to get
25 down to loaded emotional language. We are

1 going to need in the near future a lot of
2 discussions and debates on this issue so we
3 are going to need facts, not epithets, not
4 accusations, you know, not calling this one
5 a political coward and making those kinds of
6 accusations and I hope you as city council
7 will support and propose some of these
8 information discussions because you have
9 called for reassessment. Thank you.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Marie
11 Schumacher.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher.
13 Who has the Parks and Recreation Department?

14 MR. GAUGHAN: That would fall under
15 the Public Works so that would be me.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: I have a complaint,
17 I attended an event at Nay Aug Park on
18 Saturday night, nobody here last week
19 mentioned it. I don't think most people
20 knew. It was totally embarrassing. We had
21 Jim Sturr, who travels the United States,
22 well-known, and the turnout was pathetic and
23 the people that I know that were there heard
24 about it word of mouth because they did some
25 research on it. And, plus, at the end, of

1 course, it did start to rain and that chased
2 a lot of people away or maybe just at least
3 to their cars, but I believe that is the one
4 where Geisinger has their -- pays for the
5 fireworks. It was a beautiful fireworks
6 display. Very few people got to see it.
7 Why don't we hear about that? I look at the
8 front page, the home page of the city and,
9 my goodness, all of the west side events are
10 in there. I mean, is that, you know,
11 because the mayor lives there and the rest
12 of us don't count? I mean, seriously. Why
13 are those events that we are -- the
14 taxpayers are paying for not on the website?

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Don't know, I'll find
16 out. I know in the past they used to
17 promote it pretty heavily.

18 MR. EVANS: Was that one of the
19 Wednesday series or that was separate?

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: That was separate.
21 And there is nothing about Wednesdays
22 either. I don't know --

23 MR. EVANS: I attended several of
24 those concerts.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: It's pathetic is

1 what it is. Nothing short of it. Why do we
2 waste the money?

3 MR. EVANS: I agree.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Somebody tell me
5 5-G, I didn't bring up my agenda.

6 MR. EVANS: 5-G, SAPA.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Does the next item
8 "H" will that fully cover the comprehensive
9 plan that you are asking for there or --

10 MR. EVANS: No.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- are we going to
12 have kick anything in?

13 MR. EVANS: Yeah, we are going to
14 kick in about one-third.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: I think it's
16 \$19,000 --

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: That's the next
18 one.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, that's our
20 match.

21 MR. EVANS: That's authorizing, you
22 know, the continued cooperation agreement.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: Where does that
24 appear in our budget for 2017?

25 MR. EVANS: That's probably going to

1 come out of professional services probably
2 already in there. So, yeah, it will be
3 one-third will be anticipated.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: When we get the
5 budget this year could we get a list of the
6 backup instead of just a big chunk of money
7 for professional services, that would be
8 helpful?

9 MR. EVANS: We can ask.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Now, again, Joan
11 brought up the article that was in the paper
12 yesterday, and yesterday -- also, yesterday,
13 I should say at the County Commissioners'
14 meeting when the Chief of Staff gave his
15 presentation he talked about a decision that
16 had been challenged by one of the minority
17 commissioners in the past and, again, this
18 is the critical one, the Court upheld the
19 County's authority to change it's
20 predetermined ratio and, in addition, stated
21 that the limitation upon millage in the Home
22 Rule Charter is preempted by state statute
23 and is, therefore, invalid. Now, that's
24 two.

25 I don't know what our attorneys do

1 they don't check case law, but which brings
2 me -- speaking of our lawyers, our lawyer on
3 this case is apparently Kevin Conaboy,
4 special counsel representing the city in
5 this tax lawsuit, how much is he getting
6 paid? How much have we paid out so far? I
7 know there has been a couple of hearings.

8 MR. EVANS: I'll check that.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Maybe you could
10 find that out.

11 MR. WECHSLER: I believe he works
12 for the Abrahamsen firm so I believe he is
13 being paid under the Abrahamsen firm
14 contract.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, what you
16 believe, I would like that verified and I
17 would like --

18 MR. WECHSLER: Yeah, I hear you. I
19 hear you.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- to know what the
21 contract is and the whole thing. Then I'd
22 like to go back to the Scranton Parking
23 Authority, I have been reading the report
24 that was done due diligence on the sale of
25 or leasing of those assets, and I'm going to

1 read -- maybe next week because it's too
2 long to keep you, but let me just read you
3 this so you can think about it and I'll come
4 back on what my point is next week. There
5 is an article that Mr. Lockwood wrote awhile
6 back. "A firm owned by Marketplace at
7 Steamtown, owner John Basalyga, will receive
8 \$348,000 a year for decades in monthly rent
9 by the nonprofit firm to which Scranton
10 wants to lease parking garages. The rent to
11 Steamtown 300, LLC, will help pay for
12 capital projects and maintenance costs taken
13 on by Mr. Basalyga's firm associated with
14 the parking spaces that the Nonprofit
15 National Development Counsel will lease and
16 manage. It's among the many complex details
17 in the stacks of paperwork that make up
18 Mayor Bill Courtright's parking monetization
19 plan.

20 This rent is on top of the \$4.5
21 million upfront payment that the city will
22 pay to Steamtown 300 for use of those 500
23 spaces at the mall and for Steamtown 300 to
24 no longer undercut the city garages in the
25 monthly parking market. The city will also

1 sell the Electric City garage for \$1 to
2 Steamtown 300 owned by John Basalyga and pay
3 \$2.85 towards it's \$5.1 million renovation
4 of that garage. Mr. Basalyga's firm will
5 lease the Electric city garage back to --"

6 MR. WECHSLER: I don't want to rude,
7 but I have to stop you. Otherwise --

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: That's fine.

9 MR. WECHSLER: -- everybody else
10 would want extra time.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, everybody
12 else seems to have extra time tonight, but
13 that's okay.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: You had your five
15 minutes and then another minute.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'll be back next
17 week talking about the Electric City and the
18 agreement. Thank you.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Lee
20 Morgan.

21 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
22 Lee Morgan, not that it matters that much.
23 You know, there is a lot of things that I
24 have on my mind today, but I just hope that
25 the republican party puts somebody up that

1 can run because, you know, somebody called
2 me today and they weren't very nice to
3 Mr. Stange because they didn't think he was
4 going to bring somebody on board because of
5 his relationship with -- allegedly with
6 Mr. Rogan, that you were his best man so I
7 guess you must be good friends. I find that
8 extremely troubling because this city really
9 needs a change in direction.

10 And, you know, if the comments that
11 Mr. Bolus made tonight about Statute 5612
12 are correct then you have committed a crime.
13 It's a terrible thing, and the lack of
14 knowledge about the things that are taking
15 place in our government, and I very rarely
16 see you publically ask your solicitor even
17 one question, and I believe that when the
18 PEL talks about where the city is
19 financially I find it comical because I'm of
20 the opinion that the city is going to lose
21 the tax case and the city is going to lose
22 the double pensions case. I remember the
23 double pensions because I was here and I
24 watched the discussions taking place around
25 them, and then unless I'm wrong, I mean, the

1 city turned around and refilled all of those
2 positions so the city didn't save anything,
3 and to be bluntly honest we have had one
4 incompetent council after another here and
5 you are just another one and it's really
6 pathetic that, you know, people have to live
7 like this in the city, and I believe that
8 the county commissioners are right when they
9 say that the reassessment should go back to
10 the public to let them decide what should
11 take place because I don't think there
12 should be a reassessment and I don't think
13 there should be increases in taxes either.

14 I think what needs to take place is
15 this city needs to cut it's budget, and if
16 it needs to lay people off or do whatever it
17 needs to do that's what needs to take place.
18 If the city needs to change a designation
19 from a Class 2-A city to a three city, let
20 them do so, because you know something, it's
21 time for the city to realize one thing we
22 have had incompetent leadership for a long
23 time and that may not change but the amount
24 of income that people have in the city is
25 changing. It's becoming less and less all

1 of the time. Our standard of living in this
2 country is dropping like a rock. The people
3 sent a very strong message to Washington and
4 I think the Democrats and the Republicans in
5 power understand that, you know, the
6 American people are just at the end of the
7 rope and when you look what the governor and
8 our state legislature have done to us look
9 at the pension debts and all of the
10 silliness they have created. Just
11 ridiculous. I mean, I don't see how anybody
12 that we have elected could actually say they
13 represent us with all of the deals.

14 You know, I'm not interested if an
15 elected official can smirk in my face as he
16 is stealing my pay out of my paycheck every
17 week, I'm not interested in that, I'm
18 interested in how well our government is
19 being maintained, and to be honest with you
20 it's not. People are afraid of their
21 government. They are not participating in
22 government, they are in fear of it. And,
23 you know, they've reached the point where
24 like our forefathers reached a point where
25 they just weren't in fear of their

1 government anymore and they fought the
2 biggest and the most powerful country in the
3 world and freed us from them.

4 So you know what you have to ask
5 yourself, how long will the American people
6 allow their assets to be sold, their
7 standard of the living to be diminished and
8 the political shenanigans that take place
9 across this country. It's amazing. It's
10 just thoroughly and completely amazing how
11 -- you know, as a child I grew up here, I
12 never thought the city would look the way it
13 does now and, you know, now we got a mayor
14 talking about building a splash park and the
15 city is bankrupt. There is no other way
16 around it.

17 And, you know, when you talk about
18 -- initially there were discussions about
19 the Sewer Authority being monetized to meet
20 pension requirements, and now it turns out,
21 well, no, we didn't want to go into
22 receivership, but, you know, the people who
23 don't think that in the end when all of the
24 buildings and all of the smoke clears the
25 state is going to march in here and they are

1 going to do whatever they have to do, and
2 with all of our assets gone and with
3 everything gone what we have we
4 accomplished? Nothing except making people
5 in this city poorer and poorer and more
6 disgusted with their government, and when
7 you look at the amount of the people that go
8 to the polls every day in this city look at
9 yourselves because you are the one that
10 makes them determine whether they are going
11 to vote or not. Think about it.

12 MR. UNGVARSKY: City council, I'm
13 Tom Ungvarsky. At your last meeting a
14 councilman asked for a resolution -- sorry,
15 he made a motion to call in an applicant for
16 the Sewer Authority. He wanted him to come
17 and make a statement about his
18 qualifications. The motion died for lack of
19 a second. Apparently no council member
20 wanted to ask any questions or find out
21 anything about this person. It seems like
22 it's the pattern that this council follows.
23 You ask no questions, you don't investigate
24 so you have your backside covered.

25 I noticed that at the mayor's

1 meeting, the town mall meeting, that only
2 one council member asked any pertinent
3 questions. Where were the other four?
4 Aren't you interested? What happened here
5 in this city? I doubt it, but I hope this
6 next council that comes in will take more of
7 an interest in the City of Scranton.

8 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
9 Dave Dobrzyn, resident and once again off
10 the elevator for free parking authority
11 paying out the wazu, personally I think
12 until they fix that elevator it should be
13 free just like it is at the mall because
14 nobody pays there anyway. They agreed not
15 to compete, but, okay.

16 Once again, with our trash bill, you
17 hear a lot of complaints and so forth, well,
18 for my trash I don't think \$300 is terrible,
19 however, we have too many bills due at the
20 end of the winter. We have winter heating
21 bills, I have taxes, my own taxes, federal
22 or state taxes or something like that, we
23 always deduct in excess from our paychecks
24 so the point being that it's just too many
25 things hitting you in the spring and it's

1 too hard to take advantage of that discount
2 even, which was nice to be able to do that.
3 And, once again, on the trash bill I talked
4 to a newbie in my neighborhood owned by an
5 out-of-town landlord probably given it away
6 telling people that my driveway is public
7 parking and he said, "I'm not going to
8 bother to recycle."

9 Okay. You know, not going to bother
10 to recycle, how about a hotline that we
11 could call if you find out that someone is
12 paying their \$300 fee because I'm sick and
13 tired of hearing about it. On the pay to
14 throw, once again, I expect that people are
15 not going to pay they are just going to
16 throw. They are going to throw it wherever
17 they can get away with it and then you have
18 that final easy chair that just falls apart
19 and you want to get rid of it what are you
20 going to have to pay to get rid of that? So
21 there is some things to think about.

22 We have too many single-minded
23 studies in this town. We arrive at one
24 conclusion, that conclusion is before we
25 ever even conduct the study. It's derived

1 with the idea in mind of coming up with a
2 conclusion. It's a pigeon hole, and might
3 have asked this last week but I didn't and
4 it was mainly on the sewer, you know, a
5 couple of years ago I started talking to a
6 guy down the street who used to stop at the
7 store together and buy lotto tickets and
8 things and it struck me that he liked to buy
9 a few too many and he owed a \$700 back in
10 his sewer bill, \$700 back sewer bill, and
11 they were threatening to shut his water off
12 and I'm wondering if a large portion of that
13 escrow money isn't sitting in unpaid sewer
14 fees and is the water company going to
15 participate in helping us collect it because
16 it's turn off the water if you are not
17 paying your sewer bill.

18 And another question I had, and I
19 probably could get it out of -- I hope he
20 shows up again, Mr. Foley, why was the
21 federal upgrade worthless because if we
22 weren't paying for that, I doubt if we are
23 going to get paid for that in the future and
24 it's just a shame that 10 or 12 million
25 dollars is poured into that and it's not --

1 it's not just money up in smoke.

2 As far as the pensions, my advice is
3 don't promise any tax breaks. We may not
4 have increases, I hope not, but the fire and
5 police have to be paid and that's all there
6 is to it and currently the best idea is to
7 pay up Wall Street and not make anymore
8 obligations to Wall Street because they are
9 basically sharks. They are loan sharks and
10 that's all there is to it.

11 So thank you and have a good night
12 and don't forget if you are truly unhappy
13 with your candidates Dubcheff for dictator.
14 Tyranny any equality for everyone. Thank
15 you. And, by the way, that's with my left
16 hand; right, Pat?

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

19 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Perry?

20 MR. PERRY: I have a couple of
21 things today. The very first thing I want
22 to do is as a city councilman I just want to
23 give my big heartfelt condolences to Richard
24 Johnson's family, he passed away last week.
25 I was personally in shock when I found out

1 the news. It's very sad to lose somebody
2 who was willing to put themselves out there
3 as the way someone puts themselves out, and
4 not only that that person was here to just
5 make everybody's life better. It's a loss
6 not only to his immediate and distant family
7 but also to the whole community so I was
8 very saddened by the sad news and all of my
9 love to his family in t his very, very dire
10 time.

11 Secondly, to address Mr. Spindler's
12 question on Elizabeth Street, the drain
13 situation, Mrs. Reed, if we could send
14 something down to DPW just to check out that
15 situation. I'm not really familiar with
16 that end of the Elizabeth Street, but it
17 sounds like something a little bit smaller
18 than manhole size storm drain that's missing
19 grate that was once there and it was taken
20 off for cleaning, it wasn't put back, I'm
21 not sure.

22 Third, this is something that I know
23 Councilman Gaughan and myself have made a
24 couple of requests for and that is for the
25 safety of the residents in the Minooka

1 section of the city, particularly
2 Birney Avenue in the 29, 27, 2800 block area
3 where it shifts it's a racetrack. I have
4 lived there my whole life, I know it to be
5 so. I know we sent some correspondence out
6 to Chief Graziano in the past about some
7 things, some solutions, and he has responded
8 back to us.

9 One thing I would like to send to
10 Chief Graziano and Mr. Pocius on behalf of
11 myself and Councilman Gaughan is a request
12 for a crosswalk somewhere in the 2900 block
13 of Birney Avenue. There is McDonough Street
14 and Burke Street. They both flank a section
15 of the city that lead immediately down to a
16 little league and a softball park and on the
17 other end of that street is the Barrett Park
18 and it's the only field and park in this
19 area of the city so they are going to be
20 crossing that street to get there, there is
21 just no two ways about it and there is no
22 safe way to cross that street. This is the
23 street that I brought up last month that
24 doesn't have a stop sign or streetlight for
25 about two miles. There is a light at Cherry

1 Street and Cedar and that street runs right
2 to Birney Avenue and doesn't have another
3 stoppage for traffic until Davis Street and
4 it is just -- it's very dangerous to put it
5 mildly, and there is a number of accidents.
6 I don't need a traffic study done there
7 because I know how many accidents, it would
8 definitely qualify for something.

9 So I'm hoping that since there is
10 ballfields and parks very close there that
11 would qualify us for some kind of crosswalk
12 in that part of the city in the 2900 block
13 of Birney Avenue.

14 And, lastly, not like, as
15 Mr. Wechsler said, our agenda and the work
16 that we have in the city is very heavy right
17 now, there is a lot going on, but I did
18 touch on something that was near to my heart
19 and that's the reassessment that's been in
20 the news lately. It appears that the
21 reassessment for Lackawanna County, which in
22 my opinion is long overdue, is going to be
23 put on the ballot in November for the
24 residents and citizens of Lackawanna County
25 to vote for. That wouldn't have been my

1 first choice on how to do that, but with
2 that said it's done. I do have -- I do have
3 an issue with that that I hope to help
4 alleviate and address. The problem I have
5 with that is there is four months of lead
6 time to the election and I'm afraid of
7 misinformation leading up to that time to
8 maybe deter people from voting yes on this
9 proposition that's going to be on the
10 ballot, and the reason is because we have
11 no -- we have no concrete proof on what's
12 it's going to cost, all we have is what we
13 paid for a partial assessment that ended in
14 2009, and now there is that -- well, I don't
15 think I could substantiate it, I think it
16 was kind of just basically pulled out of the
17 air.

18 So if they start -- you know, if
19 numbers start surfacing on what the
20 reassessment is going to cost that's going
21 to scare people away from voting for this
22 and RFP's aren't going to be given out for
23 this until after the election once it's
24 voted on, if it's voted on for and that's
25 kind of after the fact.

1 So if the council doesn't have any
2 objection to this, I would like to send a
3 request to the County Commissioners asking
4 for them to submit RFP's for assessment and
5 then release the results of that before the
6 election so we have some kind of concrete
7 proof on what this is going to cost us. I
8 think that is going to be one of the biggest
9 issues on a yes or no vote for the citizens
10 and I think they are going to need that
11 information ahead of time, not wait until
12 after the fact. So, again, if there is no
13 objection to that I would like to make that
14 request for the county.

15 And I'm going to reserve all other
16 comments for agenda items. That's all I
17 have.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Perry.
19 Mr. Rogan?

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes, just two items I'm
21 going to talk about. Over the last -- since
22 we didn't meet last week, over the last two
23 weeks there have been a number of
24 developments on the double pension issue.
25 First to talk a little bit about an action

1 that I personally have taken, as you
2 probably read in the newspaper I did file a
3 lawsuit against the Pension Board for the
4 double pension issues and this came out of
5 many reasons but, first of all, frustration
6 and the lack of answers and the lack of
7 progress on this issue. To be extremely
8 clear, the lawsuit and in addition the
9 second issue I'm going to talk about, which
10 is subpoenas, do not target the recipients
11 of the double pensions in any way. I think
12 we all agree that many of the people who
13 received the double pensions were offered
14 something they believed was valid.

15 We will see what the state police
16 investigation shows as to how that actually
17 transpired, but the reason for filing the
18 lawsuit was two-fold, one out of frustration
19 for the lack of the answers; and, secondly,
20 if this lawsuit is successful, unlike many
21 of the other items that have been explored,
22 this will actually put money back into the
23 pension fund without it coming from the
24 taxpayers. The pension fund and the city
25 have errors and omissions insurances that we

1 pay quite a bit of money for and because
2 this appears to be an error or omission and
3 not criminal from consulting with various
4 attorneys they have advised me that it's a
5 very strong case and there is a very good
6 likelihood of being successful.

7 If it is successful, any proceeds
8 will be deposited directly into pension
9 funds and that's more money that won't have
10 be put in by the taxpayers. As I mentioned
11 in the paper, just to reiterate, I
12 personally will not gain anything whether
13 the suit wins or losses, all the proceeds
14 will go into the pension matching fund. So,
15 again, as I mentioned I am doing that as a
16 private citizen, but I will continue to give
17 updates as that progresses as much as
18 possible.

19 Secondly, also, regarding the double
20 pension scandal, I had some very good news
21 yesterday thanks to Attorney Minora's hard
22 work the state police agreed to turn over
23 their investigation on this issue to city
24 council. I'm go to turn it over to Attorney
25 Minora to address the public on that a

1 little bit and then I'll have some more
2 comments.

3 MR. MINORA: Yes. We subpoenaed
4 records and the state police through their
5 solicitor moved to quash the subpoena based
6 on an act, the acronym which is CHRIA, which
7 is Criminal History Records and
8 Investigative Act and it keeps all of those
9 documents privileged and they are not to be
10 distributed except to other law enforcement
11 agencies for the purpose of law enforcement
12 that's the CHRIA, what the CHRIA Act is for.
13 It has a limited, very limited release
14 ability for the state police to release any
15 information in situations of hardship
16 without going into that. Counsel for the
17 state police, Attorney Runkus, and I
18 discussed that and I explained to him the
19 purpose that we wanted to use this for and
20 he was agreeable to submitting an order to
21 the Court releasing the investigative report
22 but with limitations. He is going to
23 officially draft the order and then he and I
24 will review it and try and accomplish both
25 of our purposes, his to comply with CHRIA

1 and ours to determine the facts behind the
2 investigation that may not be available to
3 other people.

4 Now, that being said, the actual
5 investigative report and some of the
6 material in there will not be allowed to be
7 made public. It will remain CHRIA material,
8 but the information may be used by us to
9 craft legislation that would prevent a
10 double pension problem as occurred in the
11 past.

12 I can't tell you the outcome of the
13 drafting of the order yet, it hasn't begun,
14 but I will apprise council as we go on that.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Attorney
16 Minora, and thank you for all your hard work
17 on this. I know this has been something we
18 are been working on for over, geez, well
19 over a year at this point since this scandal
20 broke.

21 MR. MINORA: Can I add one more
22 thing?

23 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

24 MR. MINORA: The issue of whether or
25 not we have the right to issue subpoenas was

1 never addressed not even by counsel for the
2 state police. They relied exclusively on
3 CHRIA so that issue still is out there.

4 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

5 MR. MINORA: Thank you.

6 MR. ROGAN: As I mentioned, since
7 this scandal broke I have devoted much of
8 the majority of my efforts of being on
9 council into this issue and really there is
10 two main items that I would like to have
11 addressed: Number one, which,
12 unfortunately, because of the some of the
13 limitations with these documents will not be
14 addressed is informing the public on the
15 who, what, why and when this transpired.
16 Unfortunately, because of those limitations
17 it seems that much of that won't be able to
18 be released. I am going to continue to work
19 with Attorney Minora following up in
20 agreement with the state police on how much
21 can be released to the public. It was my
22 goal to have as much available as we can. I
23 would like to be able to turn it all over,
24 but we do have to stay within the laws that
25 Attorney Minora just mentioned.

1 But, secondly, and the second goal
2 and really the more important goal is to
3 prevent something like this from ever
4 happening again. In review of these
5 documents and crafting legislation if
6 needed, following the review of these
7 reports to put controls in place to prevent
8 something like this from ever happening
9 again.

10 So I am very encouraged over the
11 last few weeks the actions that have
12 transpired and I'm looking forward to diving
13 into it and reading these reports. More to
14 come on that as well in the coming weeks.

15 Secondly, regarding reassessment,
16 Councilman Perry hit on this and I'm going
17 to talk a little bit more, as everyone who
18 watches the meetings here tends to know I am
19 a staunch supporter of reassessment because
20 I believe the residents of Scranton are
21 overtaxed compared to those outside of the
22 city. Although some of my colleagues may
23 disagree, most of them support the
24 reassessment they may disagree with me, I'm
25 actually happy that the commissioners did

1 put this on the ballot. I may be in the
2 minority in wanting a reassessment, I may be
3 the majority, but we will find out in
4 November.

5 One concern I do have, and the
6 Scranton Times hit on this in today's paper,
7 is that there is a lot of misinformation
8 about reassessment out there, particularly
9 by Commissioner Cummings, which I know
10 myself and Commissioner Evans -- or
11 Councilman Evans have rebutted much of that
12 over the last few weeks, but we will
13 continue to educate the public as much as we
14 can and I do like the idea that one of the
15 speakers mentioned of having some sort of
16 session, an informative session of how a
17 reassessment would impact the residents of
18 Scranton, and I think, you know, educating
19 the public is going to very important on
20 this because there is so much misinformation
21 out there.

22 In my review of some of the current
23 assessments and disparities in the city, I
24 think a reassessment will be a huge game
25 changer for the city. It would bring tax

1 relief to many, and more importantly it
2 would bring tax fairness to all, that it's
3 not fair that there are people paying a
4 thousand dollars in taxes and there is
5 others paying 4,000 for houses that are
6 similar sizes and similar neighborhoods.

7 I'll save my other comments for
8 agenda items. Thank you.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Rogan.
10 Mr. Evans?

11 MR. EVANS: Thank you. First of
12 all, my condolences as well to the Johnson
13 family. I didn't know Mr. Johnson, but I
14 certainly respected him for entering the
15 political arena as well as all he has done
16 for the community.

17 As far as last week's town hall
18 meeting with the mayor, for the record, all
19 of us attended the meeting last week. I did
20 appreciate the fact that the mayor took the
21 time to face the music, as the saying goes.
22 I thought the Power Point presentation was
23 well developed, although, it would have been
24 more appreciated and appropriate if it was
25 presented in January rather than June.

1 I still feel there is a disconnect
2 between mayor and the city council when it
3 comes to the sewer deal. I understand the
4 need for the deal, I supported it, but it
5 has been a lack of transparency and a lack
6 of information post-closing that continues
7 to be the problem and the town hall meeting
8 sadly did nothing to change that perception.

9 At the meeting, the mayor defended
10 the in-house audit by the Sewer Authority
11 versus an independent audit by the Auditor
12 General. In my opinion, that is not
13 defensible position. Only a true
14 independent audit from an outside third
15 party will be satisfactory.

16 Additionally, if I remember
17 correctly, the Power Point presentation
18 referenced approximately \$12 million that is
19 not accounted for because the deal took;
20 longer than expected and that the money was
21 spent on mandated items and work that was
22 fully documented. Since we have been asking
23 for that information for over six months, it
24 was quite a revelation that the information,
25 according to the mayor, was fully

1 documented. So I would like to send a
2 letter to the mayor to clarify his statement
3 and ask that he provide that documentation
4 as soon as possible.

5 And on the reassessment, the
6 decision by the county commissioners to put
7 the issue of reassessment on the ballot in
8 November is at it's core a copout.
9 Commissioner Notarianni was politely right
10 when he said, "There is too much
11 misinformation circulating about
12 reassessment for it to be successful at a
13 ballot box."

14 In my opinion, the commissioners
15 that voted for the referendum not only know
16 that, they are counting on that. With that
17 said, I know reassessment is the right thing
18 to do for Scranton and for all of Lackawanna
19 County. Tax equity should always be the
20 primary objective of any elected official.
21 If given the proper information, I truly
22 feel that the voters will look past the
23 wrong information they have consistently
24 been provided over the last few months.

25 I'll continue to voice be a voice

1 for the reassessment every chance I get and
2 for it's passage in November, and if this
3 referendum doesn't pass, well, ironically we
4 will have a do-over in two years, it's
5 called an election. That's all I have for
6 now.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Evans.
8 Mr. Gaughan?

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you, just a
10 few comments. First, as my colleagues did,
11 I'd like to express my condolences to the
12 family of Richard Johnson who passed away
13 unexpectedly recently. Mr. Johnson was a
14 candidate for Scranton City Council who I
15 got to know personally on the campaign
16 trail. He was a gentleman. He cared about
17 the City of Scranton. He leaves behind a
18 wife and three children and he will be
19 sorely missed.

20 I had mentioned this in the past and
21 I just want to bring it up again, we had a
22 caucus tonight with the city solicitor
23 regarding a clerical contract and I really
24 appreciated the city solicitor coming in and
25 giving us some background and some pertinent

1 information on something we are going to
2 vote for final passage. I would hope when
3 someone from the administration comes in to
4 discuss legislation that is important, that
5 is on our agenda for final passage that we
6 would hold those caucuses out in council
7 chambers with the television cameras
8 running.

9 Next week, we are having a work
10 session in the Governor's Room regarding the
11 money that we are going to be spending from
12 the sale of the Sewer Authority. Again, I
13 would like to request that we hold this in
14 council chambers so that people can see
15 what's going on for no other reason that I
16 really do believe that the reason that the
17 cameras are here is so that people can say
18 their government in action and can see
19 what's going on and understand the issues.
20 Often times, it's very difficult to explain
21 everybody in great detail, that's why when
22 someone from the administration comes I do
23 appreciate that they would explain
24 everything but I do think there is an added
25 benefit from having the television cameras

1 here, again, so that people can see their
2 government and their legislative branch in
3 action. So I would hope that next week we
4 would have that in here, rather than in the
5 Governor's Room.

6 Just a few citizen's concerns I
7 would like to speak about for a moment, we
8 have been dealing with a few issues in the
9 2600 of Stafford Avenue so we have been
10 working with the city planner and the DPW on
11 that. We did submit a request for the 100
12 block of West Mountain Road a storm drain is
13 blocked. Neighbors in that area would also
14 like additional lighting for the road, it's
15 very dangerous at night.

16 I received several concerns, in
17 fact, a woman was here months ago about the
18 Greenridge senior apartments off of Dickson
19 Avenue. They received a tax abatement from
20 the City of Scranton, Clover Management was
21 the corporation back in 2012, I have spoken
22 to several residents who live in these
23 apartment buildings they have many concerns,
24 it's concerning me greatly so I have been in
25 contact with our solicitor, Mr. Minora, on

1 what kind of the actions these people can
2 take so we will continue to investigate and
3 explore that.

4 Just an update on the street
5 lighting, this project is nearly complete.
6 As of June 19, the report we received there
7 were 40 fixtures left to retrofit throughout
8 the city. The company that was do the
9 project is still progressing through
10 completion of addressing outages that arose
11 during construction. Most of the outages
12 that have been reported were due to blown
13 fuses and they are working diligently to
14 correct these issues. I think overall this
15 project has been extremely successful and
16 I'd like to thank the administration and
17 city council, my colleagues, for being a
18 part of that.

19 I have also received several
20 concerns from residents regarding a Service
21 Line Warranties of American company sending
22 out letters to residents in the city
23 offering water service line covering and use
24 the city's logo and contact information.
25 Specifically, elderly residents are

1 concerned that this may be a scam and they
2 don't understand why this company is using
3 the city's logo.

4 I would like to provide some
5 clarification on this. The city did
6 actually enter into a contract with this
7 company to partner with them a few years
8 ago. Basically, the deal was that the
9 company could use the city's logo and
10 information as long as the city gets part of
11 the profit. If you already have coverage on
12 your Pennsylvania American Water or another
13 company you don't need to entertain the
14 letter, you don't need to respond to it, you
15 can simply throw it away, but I do
16 understand the confusion unless some people
17 think it would be a scam, I don't think it
18 was explained why well enough by the city.

19 Again, I'd like to make a request
20 that the city put the demolition and
21 condemnation list on the city's website if
22 possible and update them regularly.

23 Regarding the town hall meeting, and
24 I'll just spend a minute on this because I
25 people are getting sick of hearing me talk

1 about the Sewer Authority deal, but I would
2 agree with what Mr. Evans said, there is
3 definitely a disconnect between the mayor
4 and city council. And for those of you who
5 attended the town hall meeting, you know, I
6 was the first person to get up and speak and
7 when I was standing at the podium -- or
8 before I was standing at the podium it was
9 explained by the moderator that the mayor
10 would have five minutes to respond to each
11 question from the audience. I was under the
12 assumption that four speakers there was no
13 time limit on how many questions you could
14 ask, but understanding that you should be
15 respectful and keep your comments and your
16 questions so that everybody has a chance,
17 there was only two hours to speak. Once I
18 got into my questions, I was cut off, told
19 that my five minutes were up and then I was,
20 you know, getting screamed at by the
21 moderator and told to sit down. I
22 eventually did sit down and an elderly
23 gentlemen got up and yielded his five
24 minutes to me so I got back up. I got
25 screamed at again.

1 It didn't play that way on
2 television, but I would like to say that,
3 you know, my passion here is -- you know,
4 this isn't about me, it's not about Mayor
5 Courtright, this is about getting the
6 answers for the ratepayers. This is about
7 protecting the ratepayers. That's why I'm
8 so passionate about this whole thing and if
9 we look at it, as Mr. Evans had pointed out,
10 the mayor and his administration and the
11 Sewer Authority Board have created this
12 mess, this misinformation, this confusion.
13 This could have been taken care of months
14 ago of and then we have a town hall meeting
15 after the fact that I believe was poorly
16 run.

17 So there remains many additional
18 questions, one of them, and it was brought
19 up by a speaker before, and I'd like to ask
20 Solicitor Minora to research the following:
21 How did the city hire Ned Abrahamsen without
22 a contract to work on the Scranton sewer
23 Authority deal as special counsel. I have
24 several concerns here based on the
25 information revealed in the Scranton Times

1 article this past week.

2 I'd like know specifically how did
3 the mayor and Jason Shrive when he was city
4 solicitor come up with the \$200,000 figure
5 to pay Mr. Abrahamsen. In the newspaper
6 they explained that they calculated it to be
7 a reasonable amount for the work it
8 entailed. I'd like to know how did they
9 calculate that? Was it based on percentage,
10 what work did it entail? We received
11 invoices, but we didn't receive any backup
12 for those invoices. It was just one line
13 saying \$20,000 a month. Was it based on at
14 all on an hourly rate? And how would they
15 know at that point what work was going to be
16 required?

17 You know, my concern here is that
18 they negotiated on behalf of the city and
19 just threw out a number of \$200,000 and felt
20 that that was the good deal. How did they
21 arrive at this figure? I'm still confused
22 and having hard time understanding this
23 whole set up.

24 I'd also like to know was there a
25 letter from Mr. Abrahamsen, any

1 correspondence detailing what exactly he
2 would be doing, a letter from the city
3 saying that he was hired between the city
4 and the Sewer Authority, and is there any
5 documentation at all other than the invoices
6 with nothing on them, as I mentioned, that
7 we received? So I would like to ask
8 Solicitor Minora if this was done properly,
9 did it have to come before city council,
10 because I do think there is a great deal of
11 confusion on that.

12 As Mr. Evans said, at the town hall
13 meeting the mayor explained they have a full
14 accounting of how the \$12 million was spent.
15 I would agree with Councilman Evans that I
16 like to request again that detailed
17 documentation and specifically what mandated
18 work was performed. We have been asking for
19 this for six months, I don't understand the
20 hesitation to give us that information.

21 Also, the mayor, after I was cut
22 off, said that he would be willing to meet
23 with me to answer any additional questions
24 which I do have. I would like to invite him
25 to a public caucus in council chambers so

1 that the public could attend if he would be
2 willing so that we could clear all of this
3 up once and for all.

4 I continue to believe, as Mr. Evans
5 had mentioned, that an outside agency, the
6 Auditor General, the Attorney General, needs
7 to examine this deal very closely to ensure
8 that every penny was spent properly, legal
9 and ethical guidelines were followed, and
10 this deal was done with the best interest of
11 the ratepayers in mind. And that's all I
12 have this week. Thank you.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
14 Gaughan. In regards to the request that we
15 sent to the Attorney General, we did receive
16 correspondence this week, it has been
17 forwarded to another division within the
18 Attorney General's office. I spoke to Tom
19 Donahue from the Attorney's office today who
20 just wanted a little clarification as to
21 what we were actually seeking them to do.
22 He wanted to make sure that our letter did
23 not represent any indication or expectation
24 or desire to have an investigate it from a
25 criminal standpoint. You know, as we

1 submitted the request we made it
2 specifically to say that we did not
3 anticipate that there was criminality
4 involved with this transaction.

5 He is going to review with this in
6 mind on looking at it from a non-criminal
7 standpoint, perhaps a consumer protection
8 standpoint and see what the Attorney
9 General's Office can do with this. He did
10 mention to me though that the Consumer
11 Advocate which is part of the Attorney
12 General's Office did protest the sale of the
13 Sewer Authority at the PUC hearing and their
14 protest was that the water company was
15 paying too much for the Sewer Authority that
16 was there protest, so in light of all the
17 questions that we hear that the city didn't
18 get what they were expecting, the Consumer
19 Advocate thought the water company paid too
20 much, so it's interesting that they are on
21 the record for that and we'll see where this
22 travels.

23 I also said to Mr. Donahue we still
24 would prefer the Auditor General coming in,
25 we still think that is the best way to go at

1 it. From listening to what one our speakers
2 said tonight, if the Auditor General has the
3 authority to step in without being asked I
4 would ask him tonight to do it tomorrow
5 morning. If this is something the Auditor
6 has a right to do, once again, I would
7 request him to do it tomorrow morning
8 because we went through all of the questions
9 on council asked for the past few months, we
10 went through the town hall meeting, and
11 still tonight we are still asking the same
12 questions, so if the Auditor General does
13 have the ability to come in and audit that
14 authority without a request from us or from
15 Dunmore or from anywhere else, I would ask
16 them to do that immediately if you could.

17 In terms of the reassessment, the
18 decision to have the item placed on the
19 ballot in November is progress, slight
20 progress, but it is progress. I do believe
21 the fact that council has kept this in the
22 forefront was a factor in the commissioners
23 deciding to put this on the ballot.

24 I would offer Scranton City Council
25 in the fall to be a focal point and location

1 for sides pro and con to come and represent
2 themselves at city council. You know, we do
3 have the forum here. I would seek to see
4 that maybe we would have a specific caucus
5 for the pro side or negative side, but I
6 would encourage people to come out and use
7 our podium because Scranton will be the one
8 that will benefit the most if reassessment
9 is completed.

10 I did have a couple of calls this
11 week in terms of gutters that are clogged on
12 East Mountain on Birch Street and on Birney
13 Avenue and I have also had a few calls about
14 South Webster Avenue that there was a mud
15 situation there that needs some special help
16 from DPW.

17 In regards to the work session that
18 we are going to have next week, this was
19 something that was started, Mr. McGoff
20 started this a few years ago, the work
21 session format in the Governor's Room from
22 speaking to my other colleagues the majority
23 of people prefer that the work sessions be
24 held in the Governor's Room. Our guests
25 that come here prefer to use that as the

1 place they would like to come. The work
2 sessions are open to the public. The
3 information that is generated there has been
4 shared with anyone and, once again, as I
5 repeated since I'm on city council and I've
6 been council president the information is
7 important to get the answers and we have
8 been able to do that.

9 This evening we had our caucus with
10 Solicitor Boyles in our chambers, that's
11 because those questions were specific
12 questions asked by city council members. We
13 submitted the questions in advance to her so
14 she could be prepared and I thought she did
15 a very professional job this evening on
16 presenting those answers, answered all of
17 our questions that we had submitted, got us
18 the information and we can do an intelligent
19 vote this evening.

20 Once again, the caucuses are open.
21 Anyone that wants to come to a caucus is
22 welcome to come. Mr. Lockwood or some other
23 representative from the Times is there every
24 week. Once again, I believe that the
25 purpose of the caucuses is to get

1 information for council members that we can
2 use for our information and they are public
3 and Mr. Lockwood is available to get that
4 information out. That's all I have.

5 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
6 AN ORDINANCE - APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A
7 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE CURRENTLY OWNED BY
8 SCANLON, INC. T/D/B/A AS DUNMORE BREW HOUSE,
9 1400 WHEELER AVENUE, DUNMORE, LACKAWANNA
10 COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, LICENSE NO. R-1172 TO
11 NEPALI KITCHEN, LLC FOR USE AT 732 PROSPECT
12 AVENUE, SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY,
13 PENNSYLVANIA AS REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA
14 LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

15 MR. WECHSLER: 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. EVANS: Second.

20 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
21 those in favor of introduction signify by
22 saying aye.

23 MR. PERRY: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. EVANS: Aye.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
3 ayes have it and so moved.

4 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
5 AN ORDINANCE - APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A
6 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE CURRENTLY OWNED BY
7 JOAN HUDAK T/D/B/A SEVEN SISTERS TAVERN, 814
8 SUSQUEHANNA AVENUE, OLYPHANT, LACKAWANNA
9 COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, LICENSE NO. R-3527 TO
10 CFM BEER BRICK, LLC FOR USE AT 337 WEST
11 MARKET STREET, SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY,
12 PENNSYLVANIA AS REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA
13 LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

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

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. EVANS: Second.

19 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
20 those in favor of introduction signify by
21 saying aye.

22 MR. PERRY: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. EVANS: Aye.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
2 ayes have it and so moved.

3 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
4 AN ORDINANCE - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY
5 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA
6 COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, SETTING FORTH ITS
7 INTENT TO ISSUE ONE OR MORE SERIES OF
8 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY IN THE
9 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
10 FORTY-ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$41,000,000)
11 PURSUANT TO THE ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
12 OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, KNOWN
13 AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, 53
14 PA.C.S., CHAPTERS 80-82, AS AMENDED AND
15 SUPPLEMENTED (THE "ACT"); FINDING THAT A
16 PRIVATE SALE BY NEGOTIATION IS IN THE BEST
17 FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE CITY; DETERMINING
18 THAT SUCH BONDS SHALL EVIDENCE NONELECTORAL
19 DEBT OF THE CITY; SPECIFYING THAT SUCH
20 INDEBTEDNESS IS TO BE INCURRED TO PROVIDE
21 FUNDS FOR A CERTAIN PROJECT OF THE CITY
22 WHICH CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING: (1)
23 CURRENTLY REFUNDING THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING
24 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES B OF 2003;
25 AND (2) PAYING THE COSTS AND EXPENSES

1 OF ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; SETTING FORTH THE
2 REASONABLE ESTIMATED REMAINING USEFUL LIVES
3 OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT ARE TO BE
4 REFINANCED BY THE BONDS; ACCEPTING A
5 PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF SUCH BONDS AT
6 PRIVATE SALE BY NEGOTIATION; PROVIDING THAT
7 SUCH BONDS, WHEN ISSUED, SHALL CONSTITUTE
8 GENERAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY; FIXING THE
9 DENOMINATIONS, DATED DATE, INTEREST PAYMENT
10 DATES, MATURITY DATES, INTEREST RATES AND
11 REDEMPTION PROVISIONS (IF APPLICABLE) AND
12 PLACE OF PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF AND
13 INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS; AUTHORIZING
14 SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO CONTRACT
15 WITH THE PAYING AGENT FOR ITS SERVICES IN
16 CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS; SETTING FORTH THE
17 SUBSTANTIAL FORM OF THE BONDS EVIDENCING THE
18 DEBT; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND ATTESTATION
19 OF SUCH BONDS; PROVIDING COVENANTS RELATED
20 TO DEBT SERVICE APPLICABLE TO SUCH BONDS TO
21 THE EXTENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT AND PLEDGING
22 THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT AND TAXING POWER OF
23 THE CITY IN SUPPORT THEREOF; CREATING ONE OR
24 MORE SINKING FUNDS IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH
25 BONDS, TO THE EXTENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT;

1 DESIGNATING THE PAYING AGENT TO BE THE
2 SINKING FUND DEPOSITARY; PROVIDING A
3 COVENANT TO INSURE PROMPT AND FULL PAYMENT
4 FOR SUCH BONDS WHEN DUE; SETTING FORTH
5 REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER PROVISIONS WITH
6 RESPECT TO SUCH BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE
7 EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE INVESTMENT
8 AGREEMENTS BY SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY
9 (IF APPLICABLE) AND THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN
10 U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS OR ANY OTHER
11 SECURITIES OR INVESTMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH
12 THE INVESTMENT OF PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS AND
13 THE REFUNDING OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING
14 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES B OF 2003;
15 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING SPECIFIED OFFICERS
16 OF THE CITY TO DO, TO TAKE AND TO PERFORM
17 CERTAIN SPECIFIED, REQUIRED, NECESSARY OR
18 APPROPRIATE ACTS TO EFFECT THE ISSUANCE
19 OF THE BONDS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION,
20 THE PREPARATION OF A DEBT STATEMENT AND
21 BORROWING BASE CERTIFICATE, AND THE FILING
22 OF SPECIFIED DOCUMENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT
23 OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ALL
24 AS REQUIRED BY THE ACT; DECLARING THAT THE
25 DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED BY SUCH BONDS, TOGETHER

1 WITH ALL OTHER INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY,
2 WILL NOT BE IN EXCESS OF ANY APPLICABLE
3 LIMITATION IMPOSED BY THE ACT; AUTHORIZING
4 PROPER OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO DELIVER THE
5 BONDS UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
6 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; SETTING
7 FORTH CERTAIN COVENANTS PRECLUDING THE CITY
8 FROM TAKING ACTIONS WHICH WOULD CAUSE THE
9 BONDS TO BECOME "ARBITRAGE BONDS" OR
10 "PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDS," AS THOSE TERMS ARE
11 USED IN THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986,
12 AS AMENDED (THE "CODE"), AND APPLICABLE
13 REGULATIONS PROMULGATED THEREUNDER;
14 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF BOND INSURANCE
15 (IF APPLICABLE) AND SETTING FORTH THE
16 PROVISIONS, IF ANY, REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED
17 BY THE BOND INSURER; AUTHORIZING THE
18 EXECUTION OF A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE
19 CERTIFICATE AND COVENANTING TO COMPLY WITH
20 THE PROVISIONS THEREOF; AUTHORIZING THE
21 EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE ESCROW AGREEMENTS
22 BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE ESCROW
23 AGENTS NAMED THEREIN IN CONNECTION WITH THE
24 REFUNDING OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL
25 OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES B OF 2003, IF

1 NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE; APPROVING THE
2 PREPARATION, USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF A
3 PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND AN
4 OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY THE PURCHASER IN
5 CONNECTION WITH THE MARKETING OF THE BONDS;
6 SETTING FORTH THE CITY'S INTENT TO PROVIDE
7 FUNDS TO REFUND THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING
8 FEDERALLY TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION PENSION
9 FUNDING BONDS, SERIES C OF 2003 AND THE
10 CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY TAXABLE GENERAL
11 OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES D OF 2003;
12 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE
13 ESCROW AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY
14 AND THE ESCROW AGENT NAMED THEREIN IN
15 CONNECTION WITH THE REFUNDING OF THE CITY'S
16 OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY TAXABLE GENERAL
17 OBLIGATION PENSION FUNDING BONDS, SERIES C
18 OF 2003 AND THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY
19 TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES
20 D OF 2003; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ONE
21 OR MORE INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS BY SPECIFIED
22 OFFICERS OF THE CITY (IF APPLICABLE) AND THE
23 PURCHASE OF CERTAIN U.S. TREASURY
24 OBLIGATIONS OR ANY OTHER SECURITIES OR
25 INVESTMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE

1 INVESTMENT OF MONEYS WHICH WILL BE USED TO
2 REFUND THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY
3 TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION PENSION FUNDING
4 BONDS, SERIES C OF 2003 AND THE CITY'S
5 OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY TAXABLE GENERAL
6 OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES D OF 2003;
7 PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME
8 EFFECTIVE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE
9 PREPARATION, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ALL
10 OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND THE TAKING OF
11 ALL OTHER REQUIRED ACTION; PROVIDING FOR
12 SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR
13 THE REPEALING OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF
14 ORDINANCES INSOFAR AS THE SAME SHALL BE
15 INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Could you repeat
17 that? At this time, I'll entertain a motion
18 that Item 5-D be introduced into its proper
19 committee.

20 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

21 MR. EVANS: Second.

22 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
23 those in favor of introduction signify by
24 saying aye.

25 MR. PERRY: Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

2 MR. EVANS: Aye.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

6 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
7 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
8 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO
9 REALLOCATE A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM
10 THE SALE OF THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY TO
11 REFUND AND REFINANCE THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING
12 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES B OF 2003;
13 AND REFUND THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL
14 OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES C AND D OF 2003.

15 MR. WECHSLER: 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. EVANS: Second.

20 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
21 those in favor of introduction signify by
22 saying aye.

23 MR. PERRY: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. EVANS: Aye.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
3 ayes have it and so moved.

4 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
5 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
6 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO GRANT A
7 SPECIAL ENCROACHMENT PERMIT TO ANOTHER TIME
8 RESTAURANT, LLC D/B/A AV RESTAURANT TO
9 OPERATE OUTDOOR SEATING IN FRONT OF ITS
10 RESTAURANT AT 320-322 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON,
11 PENNSYLVANIA.

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

15 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
25 ayes have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-G. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO
3 EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE
4 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION FOR THE
5 PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF A
6 MULTI-MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY THE
7 CITY OF SCRANTON AND THE ADJACENT
8 MUNICIPALITIES OF THE BOROUGHES OF CLARKS
9 GREEN, CLARKS SUMMIT, DALTON, DUNMORE AND
10 THE TOWNSHIPS OF GLENBURN, NEWTON, SOUTH
11 ABINGTON, WAVERLY, AND WEST ABINGTON.

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

15 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
19 This legislation is simply extending one of
20 the amendments in this intergovernmental
21 cooperation agreement to review and amend
22 the zoning and other land use ordinances
23 that would have ended on November 20, 2017,
24 so by us voting on this, this is going to
25 extend it for the two-year review period, an

1 additional two years expiring on November
2 20, 2019.

3 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
4 introduction signify by saying aye.

5 MR. PERRY: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. EVANS: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

11 MS. REED: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
12 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF
13 LACKAWANNA TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A GRANT
14 ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON AS A
15 PARTICIPANT IN THE SCRANTON-ABINGTONS
16 PLANNING ASSOCIATION.

17 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
18 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
19 introduced into its proper committee.

20 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

21 MR. EVANS: Second.

22 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
23 those in favor of introduction signify by
24 saying aye.

25 MR. PERRY: Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

2 MR. EVANS: Aye.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

6 MS. REED: 5-I. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
7 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF
9 SCRANTON TO SIGN AND SUBMIT THE PENNSYLVANIA
10 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (“PENNDOT”)
11 APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL FOR
12 THE INSTALLATION OF THE SOLAR POWERED TWO
13 SIDED RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACON
14 SYSTEM, NEW CROSSWALK AND SIGNING. THE
15 LACKAWANNA HERITAGE VALLEY AUTHORITY (LHVA)
16 PLANS TO HAVE THESE INSTALLED AS PART OF
17 THEIR SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ALONG
18 BROADWAY STREET AND LACKAWANNA RIVER
19 HERITAGE TRAIL INTERSECTION.

20 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
21 entertain a motion that Item 5-I be
22 introduced into its proper committee.

23 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24 MR. EVANS: Second.

25 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All

1 those in favor of introduction signify by
2 saying aye.

3 MR. PERRY: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. EVANS: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

9 MS. REED: 5-J. FOR INTRODUCTION -
10 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
11 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
12 AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH JAMES MORAN
13 BY AND THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL PAYMENTS D/B/A
14 RENTALORDINANCE.COM TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT
15 OF LICENSING, INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS WITH
16 THE CITY OF SCRANTON RENTAL REGISTRATION
17 DATABASE COMPILATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
18 FOR A THREE (3) YEAR PERIOD FROM THE DATE OF
19 EXECUTION WITH AN OPTION FOR A ONE (1) YEAR
20 RENEWAL EXTENSION.

21 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
22 entertain a motion that Item 5-J be
23 introduced into its proper committee.

24 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

25 MR. EVANS: Second.

1 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

3 I think what we should do here is bring this
4 company in for additional explanation. The
5 legislation was pretty thorough but I do
6 have some concerns, the biggest one is if we
7 do contract with this company, and this is
8 my understanding of the legislation, I could
9 be wrong, but landlords will have to be pay
10 an additional fee on top of the fee they
11 already have to pay to the city to register
12 their property, and I believe it's a \$8 fee.
13 Well, while minimal, I mean, I think we are
14 doing enough damage to people who have
15 property in the city already, so that's a
16 concern of my mine.

17 The other concern is that within the
18 legislation it says that the this company
19 will use different databases to create their
20 own database to go through with the
21 compilation and management program, so the
22 obvious question is why can't the city just
23 do this and what databases will this company
24 be using. I did not see that in the
25 legislation. So I think there needs to be

1 further clarification for this, and if
2 possible I would like to invite this company
3 in to a caucus so that they can explain it
4 further. Thank you.

5 MR. ROGAN: Also on the question,
6 two responses and an answer on the first
7 one, I reviewed -- and there was only two
8 bidders. I reviewed both of these bids
9 extensively, the additional fee does not
10 apply to landlords who register. This is to
11 seek out those are not who are not doing --
12 not registering their units.

13 And, secondly, there are a couple of
14 different things that I did like about this
15 bid versus the other bid, one was the cost.
16 The other firm which actually does our
17 vacant property registration, foreclosure
18 registration, but their fee was I believe
19 \$25 per unit for registration, so the cost
20 at that point almost makes rental
21 registration, you know, not even worth it
22 because of the cost of issuance but this
23 firm does seem pretty reputable. They seem
24 to do a good job with their proposal and I
25 do think -- I certainly don't have a problem

1 with having, you know, some additional items
2 answered.

3 But on the second point Mr. Gaughan
4 brought up, on the database I think the city
5 has proven itself time and time again inept
6 in being able to put together a competent
7 list of rental properties within the city.
8 We saw it just last time the city did send
9 out notices to scores of people who didn't
10 even have multi-units so I have stated since
11 day one that that needs to be done by a
12 private firm so I'm hoping that once and for
13 all this will be addressed.

14 MR. EVANS: Yes, on the question, I
15 would assume that after the three-year
16 period, or actually every year, that that
17 list belongs to the city it doesn't belong
18 to the entity that's developing it, and I
19 think you are right the \$8 or the \$12 fee
20 that are additional, these are all on new
21 registrants that haven't registered so far
22 this year that have ignored us I think
23 pretty much for the last 25 years, so these
24 are people that haven't paid and haven't
25 registered their properties as of yet.

1 But I do agree, it's good to get
2 some of these things flushed out with the
3 participants and see what his plans are and
4 see how he is going to handle it with some
5 of the time frames he is doing, but as far
6 as the legislation it's long overdue. I
7 have asking for this for quite a long time
8 so I'm happy that we are at this point where
9 we're finally moving ahead and getting the
10 information we finally need to make this
11 program work properly.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: And I just want to add
13 one thing, the other concern I have, and I
14 hope this will be fleshed out, it says that
15 the administrator will work with city
16 employees assigned to the rental
17 registration program to create greater
18 efficiencies and better uniformity in
19 managing the program. You know, I
20 understand that, but my concern here is that
21 that should really be the job of the
22 director and I wonder if this is a
23 management problem. There is several things
24 in here, and again, this needs to be fleshed
25 out further, but there are several things in

1 here that I think the city could do on their
2 own and they don't need a third party to
3 come in and do it, but again, we'll have
4 these conversations over the next week or
5 so. Thank you.

6 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
7 introduction signify by saying aye.

8 MR. PERRY: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

10 MR. EVANS: Aye.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
13 ayes have it and so moved.

14 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. NO
15 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

16 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
17 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -
18 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 104,
19 2017 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
20 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO
21 ACCEPT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON
22 THIS QUITCLAIM DEED CONVEYING TITLE TO THE
23 CITY OF SCRANTON, THE FORMER CSM SAMUEL P.
24 SERRENTI U.S. ARMY RESERVE CENTER (USARC)
25 LOCATED AT 1801 PINE STREET, SCRANTON,

1 LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA 18510 AS
2 MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED
3 HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

4 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
5 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
6 passage of Item 7-A.

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

8 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, just on the
10 question. Very briefly, because we have
11 discussed this over the last three weeks or
12 so, I will be voting "no" as I voted "no" on
13 other similar pieces of legislation in the
14 past. It still has not been determined, in
15 my opinion, whether or not the city has the
16 fiscal resources to maintain a building and
17 a property like this. I also am concerned
18 about future maintenance on the building,
19 there has not been an analysis as far as I'm
20 concerned on how much this will cost in the
21 future and, again, you know, I understand
22 the Police Department's desire to do this, I
23 think it is actually a good idea if, you
24 know, we didn't have the budget problems and
25 the issues that we have maintaining the

1 properties, the equipment and the facilities
2 that we already have, so all be voting "no".
3 Thank you.

4 MR. EVANS: On the question, I'm
5 going to continue to press for the sale of
6 the Ash Street firehouse and once that's
7 sold to put that money in a special account
8 to pay the recurring costs of this building
9 for the next decade at least, so that's
10 something we need to continue to work on as
11 well.

12 MR. PERRY: Yes, on the question. I
13 did have follow-up conversation with Mayor
14 Courtright and that is indeed the plan to
15 use the assets from the sale of the Ash
16 Street Firehouse and put it into a sole
17 account for the ongoing upkeep and use of
18 the this facility.

19 MR. EVANS: Good.

20 MR. ROGAN: Not to belabor the
21 point, but I do want to point out that the
22 cost of acquiring and maintaining this
23 building is less than building a pole barn
24 structure just to maintain the equipment we
25 currently have housed in it. I would also

1 note that after reviewing the property and
2 going through a tour with some of my
3 colleagues it was in much better condition
4 than many of us thought it was going to be,
5 so I think it would be a good asset
6 requirement for the city.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Yeah, I do believe
8 the responsible thing to do right now is
9 take care of our current equipment to make
10 sure that it's protected. We have a lot of
11 value there and taking possession of this
12 site will allow us to protect that
13 equipment.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please?

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

16 MR. PERRY: Don't we have to -- yes.
17 Sorry.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

19 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

21 MR. EVANS: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby

1 declare Item 7-A legally and lawfully
2 adopted.

3 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
4 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
5 ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 105, 2017
6 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE
7 CODE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON CHAPTER 439
8 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE VI:
9 RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT PROGRAM, BY
10 MAKING CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO SECTIONS
11 439-68. PERMIT APPLICATION, SECTION 439-69.
12 RESPONSIBILITY OF PERMIT HOLDER, SECTION
13 439-70. DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR, FEE,
14 AND SECTION 439-71. VIOLATIONS AND
15 PENALTIES, IN ORDER TO BRING THE CODE UP TO
16 DATE.

17 MR. WECHSLER: What is the
18 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
19 Committee on Public Safety?

20 MR. PERRY: As Chairperson for the
21 Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
22 final passage of Item 7-B.

23 MR. ROGAN: Second.

24 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

1 I'm going to be voting against this
2 legislation as well for a few reasons. The
3 biggest one is there is a \$5 fee for
4 contractors who are working in areas of the
5 city that have permit parking. A \$5 fee I
6 don't think is too much, too burdensome, but
7 I do think that it does not make much sense
8 to charge the contractor a \$5 fee for
9 working in an area where there is permit
10 parking. What I think should occur is when
11 the contractor comes to pull a permit and he
12 explains or puts in the documentation that
13 he is working in an area where there is
14 permit parking they should just give him the
15 permit if he is going to be there -- if he
16 is going to be there temporarily.

17 The other thing is he then has to go
18 down to the police department from what I
19 understand to pull that permit so I just
20 think this kind of a bureaucratic issue,
21 it's complicated, it's involved and I think
22 it's unnecessary. Thank you.

23 MR. ROGAN: I'm also be voting "no"
24 for pretty much the same reasons. I can
25 agree that it's -- especially for \$5 that

1 it's so much of a hassle and it's more
2 effort than it's worth to accomplish. The
3 goal of being allowing contractors to park
4 in permit zones when they are working in a
5 permit zone, such as the Hill Section, the
6 simple solution to me is to have them put a
7 copy of the permit on the dash of the
8 vehicle outside of the house they are
9 working on. I don't like the idea of giving
10 a temporary permit where they can go
11 wherever they want, but, you know, just
12 simply putting a copy of that permit in
13 their dash in front of the house they are
14 working on seems like a very simple fix for
15 me.

16 MR. EVANS: On the question, while I
17 agree with my colleagues, I have to say that
18 this is partially because some contractors
19 were getting tickets because they were just
20 parked in front of a house and they
21 shouldn't have gotten a ticket because their
22 name was on the side of the truck. Common
23 sense would dictate that they are working
24 there, but common sense doesn't always
25 prevail.

1 The chief originally wanted a \$15
2 fee and I discussed it with him and got it
3 down do a \$5 fee. As much as I hate fees, I
4 support this and got a reduction in actually
5 what it would be. Also, I think that what
6 we are talking about doing makes sense as
7 far as what Councilman Gaughan and Rogan
8 said, but I dont' think we are there yet so
9 maybe we can get there at some point where
10 we can be more efficient and have it
11 included as part of the permit process, but
12 like I say we are not there yet so we just
13 have to go along with this for the time
14 being.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Yeah, I believe it's
16 something that's going to have to be
17 monitored and reevaluated for it's
18 effectiveness and as we talk about fees and
19 their effectiveness I think this is
20 something that is a classic see if there is
21 a need here or a better way to do it.

22 MR. PERRY: Yeah, this fix is one of
23 the deeds at hand, but it might create a
24 hassle on the other end, but it's certainly
25 not asking that once we get in shape it and

1 live with we can go ahead and adjust and
2 make better as needed. So I'll be voting
3 "yes" for this.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please?

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

6 MR. PERRY: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

8 MR. ROGAN: No.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

10 MR. EVANS: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
15 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully
16 adopted.

17 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
18 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
19 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 167, 2017 - A
20 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
21 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND
22 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KUHARCHIK
23 CONSTRUCTION FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
24 TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPLACEMENT AT NORTH MAIN
25 AVENUE AND PARKER STREET.

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

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

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

11 MR. PERRY: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

15 MR. EVANS: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
20 declare Item 7-C legally and lawfully
21 adopted.

22 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
23 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
24 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 168, 2017 - A
25 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

1 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND
2 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WITMER PUBLIC
3 SAFETY GROUP, INC. D/B/A/ OFFICER STORE FOR
4 2017 AMMUNITION FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
5 POLICE DEPARTMENT.

6 MR. WECHSLER: What is the
7 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
8 Committee on Public Safety?

9 MR. PERRY: As Chairperson for the
10 Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
11 final passage of Item 7-D.

12 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

16 MR. PERRY: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

18 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
25 declare Item 7-D legally and lawfully

1 adopted.

2 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION
3 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
4 RESOLUTION NO. 169, 2017 - A RESOLUTION -
5 APPOINTMENT OF GOPAL B. PATEL, 939 QUINCY
6 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PA 18510 AS A MEMBER OF
7 THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY
8 EFFECTIVE JUNE 7, 2017. MR. PATEL WILL BE
9 REPLACING PATRICK J. HUGHES WHO RESIGNED MAY
10 15, 2017. MR. PATEL WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED
11 TERM OF PATRICK J. HUGHES, WHOSE TERM IS
12 SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON JANUARY 4, 2022.

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

16 MR. ROGAN: Second.

17 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

19 I'm going to have to vote against this
20 appointment tonight, this is nothing
21 personal against Mr. Patel, I'm sure he is a
22 gentleman and has the best intentions, but
23 last week I made a motion to invite
24 Mr. Patel in to a public caucus and ask him
25 questions about the Scranton Sewer

1 Authority, the transaction between the Sewer
2 Authority and Pennsylvania American Water,
3 and most importantly whether or not he would
4 support inviting the Auditor General in to
5 audit the transaction.

6 Mr. Patel, who attended his first
7 meeting abstained from all of the votes
8 which I disagree with, I don't think that's
9 acceptable, and then he did not -- obviously
10 did not vote on the Auditor General coming
11 in, which I think is unacceptable and I
12 don't think it's in the best interest of the
13 ratepayers or the taxpayers of Scranton and
14 Dunmore. So, again, this is nothing
15 personal against Mr. Patel, but I do think
16 we should have invited him in because of all
17 of the things going on over the past six
18 months with the sale of the Scranton Sewer
19 Authority. Thank you.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please?

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

22 MR. PERRY: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

24 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

1 MR. EVANS: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

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

8 MS. REED: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION
9 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
10 RESOLUTION NO. 170, 2017 - A RESOLUTION -
11 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
12 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO EXECUTE
13 AND ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
14 AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SCRANTON CLERICAL
15 WORKERS AND LOCAL LODGE NO. 2462
16 AFFILIATED WITH DISTRICT 1 OF THE
17 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS AND
18 AEROSPACE WORKERS, AFL-CIO IN ACCORDANCE
19 WITH THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF A
20 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH AN
21 EFFECTIVE DATE OF JANUARY 1, 2016 AND
22 RATIFIED BY THE MEMBERSHIP.

23 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
24 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
25 passage of Item 7-F.

1 MR. ROGAN: Second.

2 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

3 MR. EVANS: On the question, as far
4 as this being a good four-year contract I
5 would agree it holds the line on pay
6 increases and a great certification process
7 for housings inspectors which is long
8 overdue. It also creates job descriptions
9 where none existed before, so from that
10 perspective it's probably a good contract,
11 but to veer off on a philosophical tangent
12 for a moment, sometimes contracts are not
13 about what happens within that four-year
14 window of the contract it's beyond that.
15 The fact that there is no language that
16 addressed an optional defined contribution
17 pension plan for existing employees or
18 language that required all new hires to be
19 part of a defined contribution plan or a
20 401-K plan simply means that this important
21 conversation has now been postponed for four
22 more years.

23 It is vital that every contract that
24 the city negotiates provides a framework
25 that goes beyond the contract period to

1 control legacy costs such as pensions. As
2 we begin to exit Act 47, I fear we have
3 missed this opportunity. However, we
4 learned tonight that in our caucus this
5 evening that the Class 2A city designation
6 as reared it's ugly head again is silent on
7 defined contribution pension plans.
8 Therefore, as written, we may not be able to
9 offer a 401-K type of plan to city employees
10 currently employed.

11 So I would ask Attorney Minora, and
12 I would now get off the subject here, but
13 while we are on, if Attorney Minora could
14 review the section of Class A Code with the
15 intent of how to go about fixing this, so we
16 can go ahead and start looking forward.

17 I discussed this last week at the
18 PEL meeting, they had a public meeting about
19 getting 401-K plans for the non-union
20 employees, so I think that's something we
21 need to look at it and make it happen sooner
22 than later. I'll probably vote for this
23 only because it's not in here in the
24 language because they couldn't put this in
25 the language, but I would prefer if we knew

1 this before we could have did something
2 about it and maybe, you know, had this taken
3 care of well before final ratification of
4 this contract.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
6 I will be voting for this contract tonight.
7 I would like to thank the clerical employees
8 for agreeing to take no raise for the first
9 two years of this contract. I don't agree
10 with everything in here, but I believe that
11 overall it's a fair contract for both the
12 city and the employees and one that's falls
13 within the Pennsylvania Economy League's
14 expenditures limits.

15 MR. ROGAN: Echoing some of the
16 items my colleagues mentioned, I would like
17 to commend the city and the negotiating team
18 for negotiating this contract, especially
19 the fact, as Councilman Gaughan mentioned,
20 it's actually no pain increase for three
21 years. There is a bonus in the third year,
22 but these employees are going to go two
23 years without a pay increase, a small bonus
24 in year three and a small raise in year
25 four. So that does mirror what many in the

1 private sector have been experiencing as
2 well.

3 I wish the city were in a much
4 better financial position where raises could
5 be afforded to be given out every year, but
6 my position on pay increases has been pretty
7 well-known over the years so I will support
8 this contract.

9 MR. PERRY: Yes, on the question.
10 In any kind of contract negotiations you
11 know it was handled correctly when both
12 sides walk away without everything they
13 wanted, and I'm going to say that that is
14 one of the cases here. It is city friendly
15 and there is also some things that will
16 definitely help out our clerical union
17 employees and that goes to both parties that
18 handled the negotiations. To Councilman
19 Rogan's point, the salaries are well under
20 control and dare I say under private
21 standards as far as the cost of living
22 increases, but then on the other side to
23 Mr. Evans' point there were pensions and
24 health care that remain.

25 So, like I said, both parties didn't

1 get everything they wanted, but it was
2 enough for both teams to leave the table
3 happy.

4 MR. WECHSLER: I think the important
5 think here to take note of is that this
6 contract was negotiated. Both parties sat
7 down at the table, discussed their ideas,
8 shared ideas, it took awhile to get it
9 completed, but I think it's a testament to
10 the commitment of the administration and of
11 our unionized employees that they can come
12 to a financial agreement that keeps them
13 working, keeps them paid, but also does not
14 become a burden to the taxpayers. We were
15 able to avoid any arbitration and I think
16 it's representative of a new attitude that
17 exists in the city between management and
18 our work force that they want to make
19 Scranton succeed financially and I do
20 congratulate both parties for doing that.

21 Roll call, please?

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

2 MR. EVANS: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby

7 declare Item 7-F legally and lawfully

8 adopted.

9 MS. REED: 7-G. FOR CONSIDERATION
10 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
11 RESOLUTION NO. 171, 2017 - A RESOLUTION -
12 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
13 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
14 SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MEDTRAK
15 SERVICES, LLC, A MISSOURI LIMITED LIABILITY
16 COMPANY ("MEDTRAK") AND THE CITY OF SCRANTON
17 ("CLIENT") TO PROVIDE PHARMACY BENEFIT
18 MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

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

22 MR. ROGAN: Second.

23 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

24 Roll call, please?

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

1 MR. PERRY: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

3 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

5 MR. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
10 declare Item 7-G legally and lawfully
11 adopted.

12 Before we adjourn, I would like to
13 remind everyone that next Thursday council
14 will hold a work session with the business
15 administrator to discuss the issues
16 underlying the city's general obligation
17 bond. That work session will held in the
18 Governor's Room commencing at 4:30 p.m.

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

21 MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

22 MR. WECHSLER: 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