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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, June 5, 2014

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

- ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT
- PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
- JOHN LOSCOMBE
- JOSEPH WECHSLER
- WILLIAM GAUGHAN
  
- KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

15 MS. CARRERA: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.  
16 MINUTES OF THE NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION  
17 BOARD MEETING HELD APRIL 23, 2014.

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

20 MS. CARRERA: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE  
21 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION  
22 MEETING HELD APRIL 23, 2014.

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

25 MS. CARRERA: 3-C. AGENDA FOR THE

1 NON-UNIFORM MUNICIPAL PENSION BOARD  
2 MEETING HELD MAY 28, 2014.

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

5 MS. CARRERA: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE  
6 SCRANTON FIREFIGHTERS PENSION COMMISSION  
7 MEETING HELD APRIL 23, 2014.

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

10 MS. CARRERA: 3-E. TAX ASSESSOR'S  
11 REPORT FOR THE HEARING DATE HELD JUNE 4,  
12 2014.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?  
14 If not, received and filed. Any clerk's  
15 notes this evening?

16 MS. CARRERA: Nothing this evening.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Ms. Carrera.

18 Do any council members have  
19 announcements?

20 MR. ROGAN: I have one. There will  
21 a fundraiser "Meatballs for Mark." It's  
22 Mark Bucci's medical expense fundraiser, a  
23 pasta dinner held on June 6 from 4 to 7 p.m.  
24 That's at the Moosic United Methodist Church  
25 at 609 Main Street in Moosic, PA. The

1 donation is \$7.00 which includes pasta with  
2 meatballs, salad, dinner rolls, dessert and  
3 beverages. There will also be basket  
4 raffles and 50/50's at the fundraiser.

5 And second, Scranton Street Cats  
6 will be holding a low cost spay and neuter  
7 clinic at the Keyser Valley Community Center  
8 on June 11 and June 24. Anyone who is  
9 interested can call 570-994-5846 or e-mail  
10 EPAPNLIN2009@GMAIL.COM to make an  
11 appointment. Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. Thank you. Flag  
14 Day will be celebrated in downtown Scranton  
15 at Courthouse square this Saturday. The  
16 program is open to the public and will begin  
17 at 1:00. The program will honor the  
18 founding of the United States Army.

19 The Arts on Fire Festival will be  
20 held this Saturday, also, and Sunday at the  
21 Iron Furnaces. On Saturday it will be held  
22 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11  
23 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is free admission. There  
24 will be art, kids activities, music, food  
25 and industrial art demonstrations.

1                   And finally, First Friday will be  
2 held tomorrow evening in downtown Scranton,  
3 please get out and support our local  
4 businesses. Thank you.

5                   MR. MCGOFF: And I'd like also to  
6 mention this week is the week for the Greek  
7 food festival, and I'm not sure what the  
8 name of the church is, the Greek Orthodox  
9 Church on North Washington. For me it's one  
10 of the best events of the year. Great food  
11 and it's the church that is on North  
12 Washington the same corner as Lackawanna  
13 College and the Albright Library,  
14 Administration Building and School District.  
15 It just great food and get there early and  
16 eat a lot.

17                   And I would also like to mention  
18 that tomorrow is the 70th anniversary of  
19 D-Day, June 6, 1944. I would encourage  
20 everyone to seek out a veteran of World War  
21 II and just say thank you. As I said many  
22 times, that generation is a national  
23 treasure and that we are losing little by  
24 little and tomorrow would be a great day to  
25 go out and commemorate their achievements

1 and what they have accomplished, and I also  
2 asked in the back that my trivia question,  
3 if anybody would care to look it up, what  
4 the "D" in D-Day stands for. Just a little  
5 throw out while we're sitting here. That's  
6 all.

7 MS. CARRERA: FOURTH ORDER.  
8 CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION.

9 MR. MCGOFF: First speaker Andy  
10 Sbaraglia.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
12 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,  
13 yeah I had three brother-in-laws that served  
14 in World War II, but unfortunately it's  
15 getting harder and harder to find a vet from  
16 that era because they are all in the grave.

17 I don't think our city's financial  
18 position has improved too much since the  
19 last time I was there. Every time I pick up  
20 the paper we get worse and worse news.

21 Now, I now Boscov claimed he paid,  
22 but I could swear we were paying 108 loans  
23 for Boscov, so if we were paying 108 loans  
24 for Boscov, Boscov was not paying any, and  
25 that wasn't in your money -- 108 loans and

1           you know that. Why the paper brought it up  
2           in great detail I know not. I just hope the  
3           last money that we lent to Boscov went to  
4           Boscov and not the mall partners. Does  
5           anybody remember where that money went? The  
6           last time we lent the money, what was it  
7           about a year ago, 18 months ago, where it  
8           went? Did it go to Boscov or the Mall  
9           Partners?

10                   MR. MCGOFF: I honestly don't  
11           remember.

12                   MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, that's good to  
13           check because if it went to the Mall  
14           Partners he had to intention of the paying  
15           that loan off, so if you lent it to them  
16           that was sort of a bad way to do it. I wish  
17           we had known a little better and paid more  
18           attention to it at that time.

19                   But our financial situation is not  
20           improving. I hope we paid off our TAN on  
21           time like we said we were going to do, so if  
22           we assume the TAN is paid off that at least  
23           resolves some of the financial problem.  
24           With that 22 million that's accruing at  
25           \$100,000 a month that isn't going away. It



1 get worse and worse and I listened to your  
2 financial advisor tacking more onto the wage  
3 tax, push that way up, raise the real estate  
4 tax, sell assets. You didn't need a  
5 financial advisor to tell you that.  
6 Everybody that sat up there knows what  
7 position the city is in. A financial  
8 advisor is not needed. What is needed a  
9 some type of a workable plan.

10 I still favor filing with the  
11 federal Chapter 9 and give us time to reduce  
12 some of these contracts. The contracts with  
13 the city employees run out for another three  
14 years, or two and a half, two and  
15 three-quarter, and you can't change them as  
16 they are written. If you file Chapter 9 you  
17 would be able to negotiate. Everybody  
18 believes they deserve a decent wage and a  
19 pension, but the way it's going we cannot  
20 guarantee any of that other than the fact  
21 that is complete mobilization of the city to  
22 pay more taxes like up in Waverly  
23 proportionate wise. The paper already  
24 pointed we were close, I think we were  
25 ahead.

1                   So any time you vote for a tax  
2                   increase you are actually taking people's  
3                   lives and pushing them backwards. They are  
4                   losing buying power to give to another group  
5                   so 1,000 people is being supported by I  
6                   think 172 or 173 thousand. Those works do  
7                   not work out. The proportional wise will  
8                   not work out. A long time ago they should  
9                   have reached out to our neighboring  
10                  communities and see if we could join them.  
11                  That's what we should have done, but there  
12                  is too much politics in Scranton. Too many  
13                  people that would say, well, a guy from  
14                  Dickson City may come up and not like we are  
15                  doing in Scranton here or Dunmore or  
16                  whatever, but true, that's the only way you  
17                  are going to increase the base. You got to  
18                  take in the surrounding communities in some  
19                  way.

20                  Just like when all of the Boroughs I  
21                  guess joined to form Scranton because that's  
22                  the only survival. We cannot survive with  
23                  the way it's going. There is no way. We  
24                  are going to fall down like a house of cards  
25                  and we don't even need a stiff wind to do

1           it. We are already at a danger and tipping  
2           point and raises taxes really isn't a great  
3           way of doing it.

4                     You are going to make hard  
5           decisions, and I'm looking at you, raises  
6           other people's taxes is not a hard decision  
7           especially when you 12,500 to work with that  
8           we don't have. To lower your standards,  
9           that's a hard decision. Thank you.

10                    MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,  
11           Mr. Sbaraglia. Ozzie Quinn.

12                    MR. QUINN: Good evening. Ozzie  
13           Quinn, Scranton. I just want to announce  
14           that Scranton/Lackawanna County Taxpayers'  
15           Association will meet next Tuesday, June 10,  
16           here in Scranton City Hall, Scranton Council  
17           chambers. The guests are Marcel Lisi, who  
18           is the candidate for D-113, and Melanie  
19           Madeira, who is a candidate for D-114.

20                    I'm against decreasing the funding  
21           for various programs under 6-A and B because  
22           the 2010 audit forewarned that OECD staff of  
23           what was going on and they didn't listen to  
24           it, and if you read the audit, again, I urge  
25           you to read the audit, the finding, it's a

1 mess. It's a mess the way they kept  
2 records. So a good lawyer could easily go  
3 up to a representative of Boscov and say,  
4 "Show me the records."

5 They don't have them. Okay, last  
6 Monday I visited -- I went to the Scranton  
7 Municipal Recreation Authority meeting for a  
8 compromise to offer \$10,000 from the Hill  
9 Neighborhood Association for free swimming  
10 for 541 kids from the Hill Section for  
11 economically disadvantaged under the  
12 Scranton School District free and reduced  
13 lunch program. One child, one student, his  
14 family can't make over \$14,900 for a free  
15 lunch, for a reduced lunch can't make over  
16 \$21,700 and some. I was treated like a  
17 second class citizen. Mr. Maranucci and his  
18 solicitor just like the Hill Section kids  
19 are being treated by the city council, the  
20 mayor.

21 Why? Because I want to read you  
22 something, okay? This is a resolution  
23 passed in 2003 establishing the Nay Aug  
24 boundaries, Nay Aug Pool, their duties  
25 within Nay Aug and whatnot, okay? And in

1 Section I it says, and I repeated this  
2 before in regards to the Scranton Municipal  
3 -- yeah the City Municipal Law Act: "The  
4 city reserves the right to amend this  
5 resolution or any portion thereof from time  
6 to time it shall deem advisable in the best  
7 interest of the promotion, the purpose and  
8 intent of this resolution and effective  
9 administration thereof."

10 That was approved June 2003, okay?  
11 Now, come along 2011, my research, okay,  
12 Resolution 47-2011 approved July 12, 2011,  
13 amending Resolution No. 174, the one I just  
14 read, of 2003 by prohibiting a recreational  
15 authority from charging the city residents  
16 admission fee to the Nay Aug swim complex.  
17 Whereas, Section I, the one I just read, the  
18 city reserves the right to amend this  
19 resolution or any portion thereof from time  
20 to time as it shall deem advisable to the  
21 best interest, the promotion, the purpose,  
22 so and so on. The city reserves a right to  
23 amend the resolution or any portion thereof.

24 That means you people. You could  
25 amend that resolution. You could start

1 right next Thursday and do it, okay? Now,  
2 let me go on and say, this was approved by a  
3 4 to 1 vote, an affirmative vote Mr. Rogan,  
4 Mr. Loscombe, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Evans. A  
5 negative vote, Mr. McGoff. It was  
6 advertised July 8, 2011 in the Scranton  
7 Times-Tribune, however, on July 22, 2011,  
8 Mayor Doherty vetoed it and for some reason  
9 I don't know city council didn't follow-up  
10 to override the veto.

11 Now, was there somebody on city  
12 council that folded? I don't know, and I'm  
13 not blaming anybody, but if they have a --  
14 the only one would know would probably be  
15 Mrs. Evans, she was the chairman who  
16 probably would tell you what was going on,  
17 but you had it there. You had the ball in  
18 your hands and you folded. The council  
19 folded. Don't fold again. You can, you  
20 have the right, you have the law on your  
21 side to change that resolution to amend that  
22 resolution to let those kids swim.

23 You know, Mr. Maranucci he thinks he  
24 owns Nay Aug and he doesn't. So, please, do  
25 something about it, okay, and try to

1 consider changing that resolution at next  
2 Thursday's meeting, okay? Thank you very  
3 much.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Beth  
5 Neihaus.

6 MS. NEIHAUS: Good evening, Council.

7 ALL COUNCIL: Good evening.

8 MS. NEIHAUS: Debbie Neihaus,  
9 Scranton. Well, I haven't been here in a  
10 few weeks, my car was parked and was totaled  
11 by a car that was passing by so without  
12 transportation it's been difficult to  
13 follow-up on a couple of different things I  
14 mentioned last time I was here, but by way  
15 of preliminary comments I, too, really had a  
16 good time at the Armed Forces Day parade  
17 recently, and I know it's been a few weeks,  
18 but it had a respectable crowd and I think  
19 -- I saw a lot of the smiles, a lot of  
20 people really excited about the parade, so I  
21 see good things in that parade's future. I  
22 don't think we need to have massive of  
23 amounts of people, but maybe just a bit more  
24 to make it even more fun.

25 And, also, I mentioned last time I

1 was here about starting a group that would  
2 work with the city on all kinds of projects,  
3 some being very simple, just to beautify  
4 streets, neighborhoods, and other things  
5 that are a little more complicated, and I  
6 met with a young man from the county by the  
7 last name of Minora, I believe, I think. He  
8 was wonderful. He is great. He told me  
9 about the entrepreneurial launch pad, the --

10 MR. MINORA: My nephew Chris.

11 MS. NEIHAUS: Okay, Chris. Great,  
12 great young man. I mean, really went beyond  
13 the call of duty to instruct me on how to  
14 take use of the space that's offered by the  
15 county and very, very helpful in  
16 accommodating and so I absolutely want to  
17 follow up on that, but it's a little hard  
18 for me right now until I get a vehicle.  
19 But, anyway, I look forward to working with  
20 him. He was just -- I can't say enough  
21 about some of the people working for the  
22 county.

23 Now, the reason why I came tonight  
24 is going to mix things up a little bit, has  
25 nothing to do with a lot of the things that



1 I would like to weigh in on, but it's  
2 something that I mentioned I think almost  
3 three years ago initially, and that was I  
4 think I wrote Councilman Loscombe an e-mail  
5 regarding taking a look at our noise,  
6 current noise ordinance in Scranton and  
7 perhaps I think I also mentioned to you a  
8 year later in a follow-up e-mail in 2013  
9 where we stood with that, and I don't even  
10 know if I got a response at that point. I  
11 know the city was having all kinds of the  
12 issues at that point, but in any event, I'd  
13 like to, unless there is a reason not to,  
14 provide and actually read into the record an  
15 ordinance that I found, actually it's a  
16 program, it's a paper, that was drafted by  
17 Elkhart, Indiana, their police department  
18 working with their city council and citizens  
19 on noise and how they addressed noise in  
20 their city and I'd like to read that now.

21 The title of it, "Elkhart, Indiana,  
22 noise ordinance yields drugs and weapons  
23 arrests and pays for itself. Noise is  
24 unhealthy, unnecessary, illegal and  
25 expensive, "and then you have the name of

1 Dick Moore, mayor of Elkhart, Indiana.

2 And I found that on  
3 [www.noisefree.org](http://www.noisefree.org) which is an organization  
4 that tries to I guess end unhealthy noise  
5 and I'll just read it now. "Elkhart,  
6 Indiana, is a town of around 52,000 people  
7 near the University of Notre Dame. It's an  
8 anti-noise success story. The city's  
9 anti-noise program relies on active  
10 enforcement of noise ordinances to reduce  
11 noise. The strict fines from noise  
12 enforcement generate revenues to fund a  
13 noise enforcement officer and anti-noise  
14 publicity. Also, the lessening noise levels  
15 have improved the community's quality of  
16 life and reduced crime."

17 And this is the mayor speaking here,  
18 "In 2008, I told the common council," which  
19 is their city council, "we are determined to  
20 eradicate noise pollution in our city from  
21 boom boxers, broken mufflers, train  
22 whistles, loud motorcycles and other sources  
23 by initiating a zero tolerance noise  
24 ordinance. Police Chief Flipsin and I  
25 recently hired a noise control police

1 officer. In 2009, the officer issued 1,200  
2 tickets generating more than \$273,000 in  
3 fines. In two years noise fines have  
4 generated more that \$400,000."

5 Now, you might think, well, \$400,000  
6 that's not a lot of money, but this is an  
7 example of one area, one aspect of city life  
8 being addressed and raising revenue. If we  
9 could do something like this, look into  
10 other areas where we could improve we could  
11 generate money and that would add up, you  
12 know, things add up.

13 Let me continue, please. May I  
14 continue to finish th is?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Please.

16 MS. NEIHAUS: The fines not only  
17 deter noise and punish noisemakers they also  
18 fund the anti-noise program. Noise fine  
19 revenues have been used to equip two  
20 Mustangs as unmarked police vehicles as well  
21 as produce and distribute public service  
22 announcements on the hazards of noise.  
23 Fines for noise violators in Elkhart are  
24 stiff, \$250 first offense, \$500 second,  
25 \$1,000 third offense, and \$2,500 for a

1 fourth offense. Last year Elkhart's noise  
2 control officer did more drug busts than any  
3 other Elkhart police officer and he was  
4 looking for noise violators not drugs.  
5 Elkhart's experience demonstrates the strong  
6 link between noise, guns, drugs, gangs, and  
7 crime.

8 Elkhart officials are enthusiastic  
9 about the impact of the noise program.  
10 According to the chief, the noise ordinance  
11 has had a positive impact on the city's  
12 quality of life and residents are saying it  
13 has been a great tool to reduce crime. Now,  
14 they go on and they provide -- well, let me  
15 just read what Ted Roiter, Noise Free  
16 America director stated. "Elkhart's  
17 anti-noise program is a model for the  
18 nation. No taxpayer money is involved. The  
19 noisemakers themselves fund the program. If  
20 every community took noise enforcement  
21 seriously crime would be reduced  
22 significantly.

23 So I don't think it's always a  
24 matter of just hiring more boots on the  
25 ground, it's working smarter, not

1 necessarily harder by doing stuff like this.  
2 So I have this and if anybody wants a copy I  
3 would be glad to give it to them. Thank  
4 you.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Doug  
6 Miller.

7 MR. MILLER: Good evening. Doug  
8 Miller, Scranton.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

10 MR. MILLER: I appreciate  
11 Mrs. Neihaus bringing up the idea of a noise  
12 ordinance. I just hope next year when the  
13 tax bill comes out hopefully it won't be in  
14 effect by then because I can expect a lot of  
15 noise throughout the city.

16 But, you know, the reason I'm here  
17 tonight and here for a few weeks and  
18 obviously an awful lot is going on. We have  
19 heard from our illustrious financial advisor  
20 Amaroso who continues to offer, you know,  
21 nothing productive, nothing that we haven't  
22 already discussed or, you know, solutions  
23 that at this point in time just simply  
24 aren't realistic considering the city's  
25 financial stake, and most of all the

1 financial situation that the residents  
2 across the city are in.

3 You know, in regards to the union  
4 settlement, I have a sympathy for these  
5 individuals and I have a lot of respect for  
6 them, but, you know, as speakers have stated  
7 within the last few weeks I think it's time  
8 we finally stand up and let a little reality  
9 set in for once and realize one thing, this  
10 money just simply isn't coming right now and  
11 anybody that thinks it is I just, quite  
12 frankly, think is delusional and we have to  
13 stop lying to ourselves and thinking that  
14 these things are going to happen.

15 You know, selling the Sewer  
16 Authority, it's not a solution. How many  
17 assets have we sold through the years and  
18 what has it done for us? It's provided a  
19 one-time revenue source, the money is there,  
20 we use it, it's gone and we lose an asset  
21 that, you know, a lot of residents through  
22 the years worked very hard for us to be able  
23 to have these assets and to hang on to them  
24 for future generations, but we continue to  
25 give them away.



1           mismanaged the things he had control over so  
2           we are going to listen to his input because  
3           we have an administration that can't come up  
4           with a plan on its own. We need this  
5           character to come in from New York and  
6           basically come and tell us things that we  
7           have already heard from PEL and others,  
8           raise taxes and sell assets. Yeah, I'm glad  
9           he's here.

10                    You know, we had a mayor who ran on  
11           an alleged plan, we have yet to hear it. We  
12           have a council, all we here is, "Oh, we get  
13           along, we work together."

14                    But other than that it's business as  
15           usual, and I asked myself many times what's  
16           changed with this administration as opposed  
17           to the previous administration? It's the  
18           same politics. I had somebody tell me, and  
19           they made a very good point, the only thing  
20           changed with this administration to the  
21           previous administration is the name. Other  
22           than that, it's business as usual in  
23           Scranton. And you know, what I tend to  
24           agree with that because I haven't seen one  
25           -- since January I haven't seen one thing



1           that happened that's been beneficial to the  
2 residents of this city other than the same  
3 old tire silliness and political rhetoric.

4                         And I think it's time we finally  
5 face the fact that, yeah, there is more pain  
6 and suffering down the road, believe me  
7 there is. There is no light at the end of  
8 this tunnel in the near future because we  
9 are dealing with people that are incapable  
10 of implementing plans. We have elected  
11 people who have never taken the time to be  
12 involved. They have run for office, they  
13 have talked a good game, they ran the same  
14 messages as every other candidate, but they  
15 have never taken the time to become involved  
16 and yet we elect these people and at the end  
17 of the day, you know, you have a difficult  
18 time blaming the elected official because  
19 the voter has to look themselves in the  
20 mirror because they went out on election day  
21 and they made a decision to put these people  
22 in the seats they chose to put in here and  
23 so they have to hold themselves  
24 responsibility because ultimately they  
25 punish themselves and they have allowed

1           these things to take place because they  
2           haven't educated themselves on the  
3           candidates and they haven't educated  
4           themselves on what's going on in the city.

5                   And yet, they're the first ones that  
6           stand up and moan and groan when they get  
7           their garbage bill and their tax bill yet  
8           these are the same people that aren't  
9           willing to stand up and do something to help  
10          themselves, and it's very sad.

11                   And I absolutely have zero  
12          confidence in this administration, I have  
13          zero confidence in just about everything  
14          going on here and, you know, we talk about a  
15          SAFER grant, you know, I think that's  
16          comical, too, because we talk about funding  
17          coming from a federal government that  
18          doesn't have any money themselves, and so  
19          there is just no reason to have any  
20          optimism.

21                   But finally, in conclusion, I just  
22          want to let everyone know that I will be  
23          sponsoring and organized a pasta dinner to  
24          benefit free swimming at Nay Aug. It will  
25          take place on Sunday, June 29, at the Villa

1 Maria II, 1610 Washburn Street over in West  
2 Side. It will run from 12 to 6. There is a  
3 \$10 admission fee and I'd encourage  
4 residents across the city to take advantage  
5 of this. In working in coordination with  
6 Ozzie and the Hill Neighborhood Group we  
7 want to ensure that the children have their  
8 luxury and that they are given the  
9 opportunity to swim.

10 And, you know, I appreciate Ozzie  
11 bringing up the ordinance on council having  
12 the ability to abolish that fee, and I hope  
13 you would actually take the initiative  
14 because you have the ability to do it and  
15 give the luxury back to these kids that you  
16 took away, and as Mr. McGoff being the  
17 descending vote when this was initiated, he  
18 now has the ability to put it back on the  
19 agenda and give them a luxury that he and  
20 others took away through the years and give  
21 them what they are entitled since these kids  
22 have to suffer now because we are so  
23 incapable of selling our assets, that we  
24 give them away and can't manage the ones we  
25 have. This is what has to happen. You have

1 the ability to do it, forget the Recreation  
2 Authority, this is our city and we need to  
3 provide the children and the people in the  
4 city with the luxuries that they deserve and  
5 I hope you do it because it's not a laughing  
6 matter, it's not a joke, people have  
7 suffered long enough and maybe finally you  
8 could actually do something productive  
9 instead of continuing to play games. Thank  
10 you.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Bill Jackowitz.

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening.  
13 Scranton City Council. Good evening, Jamie,  
14 Cathene, Cathy, Amil and also Jim Lockwood  
15 from the Scranton Times, he is a regular  
16 here.

17 Swimming topic again for seven  
18 years. I don't think we could ever go back  
19 to free swimming at Nay Aug Park. I would  
20 love to see that, but I do believe city  
21 council can within their authority if they  
22 really wanted to get that swimming fee down  
23 to \$2.50 or \$3 a day from \$5. That much I  
24 do believe. I think if city council really  
25 wanted to punish the issue and wanted to do

1 something to help the kids out in all of the  
2 city, not just the Hill Section, the entire  
3 city, they could get that fee reduced down  
4 to at least \$2.50 or \$3 a day instead of \$5  
5 a day. If you can't get it down this year  
6 then you need to work real hard at it and  
7 get it down next year.

8 Cameras. Whatever happened to the  
9 \$250,000 cameras we bought about five years  
10 ago? There is one on Mulberry Street at the  
11 Turkey Hill. There is one on the five or  
12 six hundred block of Cedar Avenue and  
13 several other ones. That's \$250,000 in  
14 taxpayers' money, whatever happened to those  
15 cameras? Are they still mounted? Do they  
16 work? Are they used for anything or do they  
17 just sit there for pigeon droppings?  
18 Seriously, what happened to those cameras?  
19 And you can answer during motions, please.

20 I would like to have an update, also  
21 during motions, and I would like opinions on  
22 whether the City of Scranton is in better  
23 shape 5 June of 2014 than they were in 5  
24 June 2013. Are we in better shape now  
25 financially, economically across the board,

1 are we in better shape now in 2014 than we  
2 were in 2013?

3 My answer is, I don't think so. I  
4 think we are in worse shape, you know, I  
5 think we continue -- things just -- nothing  
6 ever seems to get accomplished. We have a  
7 lot of meetings, you know, there is a lot of  
8 things going on about the arbitration award,  
9 I don't think the arbitration award should  
10 be kept secret. I think that should be put  
11 out to the public because the public is the  
12 one that has to pay that bill, okay, and it  
13 was caused by the elected officials. That's  
14 who caused it. So someone has to have  
15 answers. We need to know when and where are  
16 we going to get this money? Are we ever get  
17 to get this money? Again, my personal  
18 answer is no. No one will ever loan the  
19 City of Scranton money to pay the police and  
20 fire arbitration awards because I think it  
21 would be a bad bet. We need to know what's  
22 going on. Who are we talking to, how many  
23 banks are involved in this, and what is the  
24 status and progress? And I hope someone  
25 will give that information, maybe not

1           tonight, but maybe next week or a week down  
2           the road because the citizens want to know.  
3           I want to know, okay?

4                         Now, overall, to be quite honest  
5           with you, you know, the city, the country,  
6           the state, everything basically stinks right  
7           about now. We have people who walk away  
8           from a war zone, basically a deserter, being  
9           called a war hero by our administration. He  
10          walked away. He caused indirectly allegedly  
11          six people to be killed in a war, but yet he  
12          is being applauded by our government and our  
13          elected officials.

14                        We have VA Hospitals where vets are  
15          dying. No one is doing anything about that.  
16          We have problems right here in the City of  
17          Scranton, again, I don't think anybody is  
18          doing anything about them. So again, one  
19          word I think it's -- I think the government  
20          and the system right now really stinks.

21                        MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

22                        MR. MCGOFF: Joan Hodowanitz.

23                        MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,  
24          city resident. I read in the Times-Tribune  
25          this week about proposed legislation down in

1 Harrisburg with regard to the distressed  
2 status of the cities and the legislation is  
3 trying to put a cap on the length of time  
4 the city can remain in distressed status.

5 Now, I don't know whether or not  
6 that legislation is going to pass, if it  
7 does pass how soon, but if it did pass I  
8 think that's going to have an impact on  
9 Scranton because we are not going to be able  
10 to continue distressed status indefinitely  
11 which means even without this legislation  
12 the city needs a sense of urgency about its  
13 financial status.

14 As of today, the mayor is completing  
15 five months in office. I would imagine he  
16 had the beginnings of a plan, what he wanted  
17 to do with the city to get it out of  
18 distressed status when he was a candidate.  
19 Certainly having five months in office, the  
20 assistance of Mr. Amaroso, the financial  
21 consultants that he has hired should help  
22 him come up with the beginnings of a plan,  
23 so I would ask him and the city leadership  
24 to tell the public what he intends to do so  
25 that the city ends this year in the black



1 and has a plan to end the distressed status.  
2 I'm a stakeholder. I'm a taxpayer  
3 which makes me a stakeholder in Scranton. I  
4 have neither the desire nor the capability  
5 to lead the city, so I'm here until they  
6 plow me under, okay? I know there are going  
7 to be hard decisions made, by hard I mean  
8 it's probably going to come out of my  
9 pocketbook, my bank account, but I would  
10 rather be told what the plan is than just to  
11 drift on by reading story after story about  
12 how bad things are getting, okay? Even if  
13 you give me a bad plan we can debate it, we  
14 could come up with some better ideas, but  
15 having no plan makes me very paranoid and  
16 I'm too old to be paranoid. It's not good  
17 for my digestive tract.

18 On another issue, today is June 5,  
19 we are now five days late for the city audit  
20 for last year and I'm hoping we don't have  
21 another audit that's published on the  
22 November 22 when the next year's operating  
23 budget was due to city council on the 15th  
24 of November. Let's hope that the audit is  
25 not going to be anywhere near that late.

1                   Also, I'm just curious, anything  
2                   happening at Goodwill?

3                   MR. ROGAN:   Not yet.

4                   MS. HODOWANITZ:  Oh, God.  You know,  
5                   my heart can't take it.  If you ever tell me  
6                   something is happening I'll probably  
7                   collapse at the podium.  Can we just like  
8                   cut them off and cut our losses and maybe  
9                   get some money back?  I mean, just --

10                  MR. ROGAN:  The city didn't put  
11                  any-- the vote that we had, what was it,  
12                  about two or three months ago, it wasn't to  
13                  put any additional city money into the  
14                  project.  The last we heard was Goodwill was  
15                  going through the process of trying to get  
16                  HUD vouchers.

17                  MS. HODOWANITZ:  But either they did  
18                  or they didn't.

19                  MR. ROGAN:  Right.

20                  MS. HODOWANITZ:  I mean, somebody  
21                  should maybe ask them, you know, what are  
22                  you doing?

23                  MR. ROGAN:  I'll check.

24                  MS. HODOWANITZ:  They were able to  
25                  be here in early January, you know, maybe

1           they could come back and give us a six-month  
2           update or something. That's such a shame,  
3           you know, what we did with that.

4                         But I'm one of those people that  
5           would like to hear from Mr. Amaro before  
6           he takes that last plane to New York because  
7           he is in the last month of his contract.  
8           I'd just like to see, you know, what he told  
9           the mayor and the other city officials.  
10          Whether they take it or not, I don't know,  
11          but I think it's time for the mayor to tell  
12          the public what his plan is. I'm ready to  
13          listen. Thank you.

14                        MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

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

17                        MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.  
18          Dave Dobrzyn, resident, all taxes paid, all  
19          fees paid and I'd appreciate that people  
20          that own half a dozen houses in this town  
21          and are delinquent for years in their fees  
22          if they would pay it and maybe we wouldn't  
23          be so financially distressed.

24                        And on this issue with the mall, and  
25          I ask we know how done it, well, who done

1           it. It's important because some day they  
2           might be in another position to do even  
3           worse, so it would be very interesting to  
4           find out who done it on these loans and how  
5           it was done and why the money wasn't  
6           redirected to the right source.

7                         On Mr. Amaroso, once again, we have  
8           an issue with that Sewer Authority. We  
9           don't need to add icing on the cake by  
10          doubling our sewer bill for some hedge fund  
11          manager with a lot of money from an oil  
12          company or whatever. The water company in  
13          Coatsville, Pennsylvania, they pay double of  
14          what we pay, and if I can find my sewer and  
15          my trash fees I would like to remind  
16          everybody that you are getting about two or  
17          three hundred percent higher than my city  
18          taxes, so, you know, it's up to you whether  
19          you want the money or you want to hand it to  
20          somebody else because that is a very bad  
21          idea. I would call it the coup de gras  
22          plan.

23                        On the power lines at Nay Aug Park,  
24          obviously what I heard last week they were  
25          put their illegally, that that section

1           wasn't used before, but now it's used and it  
2           would be interesting to at least see some  
3           kind of account of money coming in, and I'd  
4           like to mention, you know, it seems like  
5           when I pull out of a corner I look up and  
6           down -- or look -- if I'm turning right I  
7           look to my left and I don't see anybody for  
8           a half a block and as soon as I get out they  
9           are there slamming on their horn, and it's  
10          my suspicion that either maybe I'm not  
11          seeing quick enough or there is somebody in  
12          the way or they are speeding, and they are  
13          speeding at, like, on Cedar Avenue maybe  
14          down around Chamberlain at somewhere around  
15          45 miles per hour, which they shouldn't be  
16          doing anymore than 25, and it would be  
17          better at 14 or 15. Yesterday I was on my  
18          way up Harrison Avenue and it kid jumped out  
19          in front of me on the bike. You know, I  
20          wasn't driving, but I was in two cars where  
21          people were hit. A kid ran caddy corner at  
22          North Scranton and ran into the hood of the  
23          car, didn't get hurt very bad, but his  
24          parents were proud enough to sue for  
25          something like \$19,000; and another time I

1           seen a kid's face plastered into the side  
2           door window, he came out of the alley on a  
3           bike and ran into the car and it's not fun.  
4           It's not fun to see somebody going off the  
5           hood, and if your car gets wrecked, well,  
6           but we really need to start doing something  
7           about speeding in this town.

8                       And I saw something alarming on  
9           Hickory Street, I see a bunch of yellow  
10          letters all over the street that was just  
11          recently paved. Jack, you didn't tell them,  
12          did you?

13                      MR. LOSCOMBE: Isn't your name on  
14          there, too?

15                      MR. DOBRZYN: No, I think the name  
16          is the gas company, so I'm hoping that if  
17          they tear everything up now that we have a  
18          nice street that they'll fix it.

19                      And once again, call your  
20          Congressman, call the president, call your  
21          senators, tell them that take their trade  
22          packs and can it because we have two too  
23          unemployed and it's not sufficient to give  
24          yourself absolution by calling them 47  
25          percenters.

1                   And also, I'd like to make a  
2                   mention, I never served in the military, but  
3                   I have been watching a lot of this on the  
4                   vet advocacy, we had the general in charge  
5                   of the VA retire or resign and these vets  
6                   are waiting with phony waiting lists forever  
7                   to get care that they were guaranteed when  
8                   they came -- they signed up, and Bernie  
9                   Sanders introduced a bill from -- a Vermont  
10                  senator, in February and 41 senators  
11                  filibustered against opening 27 new veteran  
12                  service centers and so forth at the cost of  
13                  something like 21 or 26 million dollars and  
14                  they are all crying about their childrens'  
15                  children or something. So give your  
16                  Congressman a call on that, too. Thank you  
17                  and have a good night. By the way, that is  
18                  a local issue because you have problem with  
19                  vets that aren't being serviced here.

20                  MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening.

21                  Marie Schumacher.

22                  MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

23                  MS. SCHUMACHER: I'd like to go back  
24                  to last year in January, I believe it was  
25                  the January 16 caucus, Mr. McGoff, you said

1           you would have the legislation scanned and  
2           sent to members a week before it was put on  
3           the agenda. Did that happen and if it  
4           happened I know last year, going back to  
5           last year, the now Mayor Courtright said he  
6           would be in favor of doing that, posting it  
7           and making that available to everyone, did  
8           that happen?

9                   MR. MCGOFF: We have asked the  
10           legislation be sent to the office by Friday  
11           of the week before the meeting, and for the  
12           most part that has been done.

13                   MS. SCHUMACHER: So if it's scanned  
14           in then wouldn't it be just as easy to put  
15           that on the website so everybody could see  
16           that? For instance, I would love to see the  
17           list of who is losing how much money on 6-A  
18           on the funding for OECD and, you know, it  
19           was on last weeks and if you don't get in  
20           last week, and I didn't get in, I'll call  
21           the office tomorrow, but I think as long as  
22           it's scanned in I don't know why it can't --  
23           whatever is available to council can't be  
24           made available to the general public, but  
25           that's just me.



1                   Next, also in a prior caucus it was  
2                   stated that a proposal had been sent to DCED  
3                   regarding the Court award, has that been --  
4                   have we heard back from DCED at all on that  
5                   or is it still --

6                   MR. MCGOFF: I believe that's still  
7                   in negotiation.

8                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, it's a  
9                   negotiation with DCED or with our  
10                  employees -- or former employees.

11                  MR. MCGOFF: I believe it's a  
12                  negotiation involving all of the interested  
13                  parties.

14                  MS. SCHUMACHER: And is there a time  
15                  when that might be resolved?

16                  MR. MCGOFF: I believe that next  
17                  week there is a meeting in Harrisburg with  
18                  the business administrator and some other of  
19                  the state agencies.

20                  MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay.

21                  MR. MCGOFF: The exact nature of  
22                  that meeting I'm not sure.

23                  MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. And  
24                  last month it was stated that the bondholder  
25                  for the Scranton Parking Authority had been

1 in and that they were interested in  
2 providing capital, they had a lot of capital  
3 to provide to municipalities, is that -- has  
4 anything been done to take advantage of that  
5 as yet that you two know?

6 MR. MCGOFF: I believe Mr. Bulzoni  
7 is working with -- the group was Amback?

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah.

9 MR. MCGOFF: That while it may not  
10 be for this year, that they are looking to  
11 at least negotiate with Amback for future  
12 I'll say TAN and other investment.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank you.  
14 And, Mr. Rogan, it is now getting close to  
15 midyear and I would once again like to know  
16 the status of the Alexander loan with that  
17 sweet interest rate of a half of percent, is  
18 that going to be sustained or when will hear  
19 something about that?

20 MR. ROGAN: I did bring this up in a  
21 meeting, I believe it was about three weeks  
22 ago with Ms. Aebli, that if the legislation  
23 is up and no action is taken it will go back  
24 to the original rate. What has happened is,  
25 and I don't think at that there is anyone

1           who wants to keep it at .5 percent, I didn't  
2           want that rate to begin with, but it's close  
3           to a year that the proposal, this stop gap,  
4           I think council at the time thought it was  
5           fair. What we need to do, and I said this  
6           over and over with these loans, is go  
7           through each one of them and try to work  
8           with if they are businesses who are paying,  
9           making partial payments, try to work with  
10          them when we came, but we can't give away  
11          the farm with a half a percent interest  
12          rate.

13                   I think it will be brought back up  
14                   to city council, not at a half percent  
15                   interest though.

16                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I mean, it  
17                   was stated it was only for six months.

18                   MR. ROGAN: Right.

19                   MS. SCHUMACHER: And the six month  
20                   expires at the end of June.

21                   MR. ROGAN: If the six months  
22                   expires it will go back to the original  
23                   term.

24                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. And  
25                   also, as long as we are talking, I know when

1 the proposal for the trash fee went up you  
2 were in favor of the single bag issue, but  
3 you did not -- you said you had nothing to  
4 back that up on what the price might be per  
5 bag, are you planning to use some of the  
6 council money to do a study on that?

7 MR. ROGAN: Well, I don't know about  
8 if we have the money to do a study, I don't  
9 know how much it would cost, but looking the  
10 other communities, which is something I have  
11 done, I know Old Forge is \$3 a bag for  
12 garbage, other communities are a little bit  
13 higher. It's something I support only  
14 because I think it should be people who use  
15 more should pay more, people who use less  
16 should pay less.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, but we need  
18 to know what that is. I mean, Scranton has  
19 got -- I've got a lot more, but I'll be back  
20 hopefully next week, but also interest and  
21 then I hope we have next week is the yearend  
22 status. We now have five months of the year  
23 with the biggest -- our biggest revenue  
24 items pretty well what should be on a glide  
25 slope by now, so we should have some

1 forecast of where we are going to end the  
2 year and I look forward to hearing that very  
3 shortly. Thank you. Thank you.

4 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.  
5 Mr. McGoff, I don't know if you would  
6 entertain doing something with the fee  
7 structure for the pools in Scranton, but if  
8 you could find a way to introduce something  
9 meaningful, whatever that may be, I think  
10 the residents in this city would really  
11 appreciate that.

12 The other thing I have here tonight  
13 is, you know, for decades coming here if a  
14 couple of the decades, people used to laugh  
15 about these meetings and thought they were  
16 silly, and they really didn't really see the  
17 whole picture and they really didn't  
18 understand a lot, but they thought it was  
19 entertaining, and I think I guess now the  
20 show has ended only we didn't pay admission  
21 going in, but we are paying it coming out  
22 and there aren't many happy people out here.

23 And, you know, I mean, I talked  
24 about bankruptcy for a long, I still really  
25 think it's really the only option. I think

1 the American people have been in a daydream  
2 state for a long time because every branch  
3 of our government is it broken from the top  
4 right down to the very bottom, and I think  
5 the voters and the residents think that, you  
6 know, their vote is just a waste of time,  
7 but if they don't come back to the polls and  
8 do something soon I think our only hope, as  
9 crazy as it might sound, is some kind of  
10 revolution on the ground because that's what  
11 brought us to this country. That's how this  
12 country was founded. We got tired of the  
13 British pounding the whatever you want to  
14 call out of us and some people stood up and  
15 did something about it.

16 And as a Scrantonian when I look at  
17 the debt we are facing and the solutions we  
18 have had and the solutions we have tried and  
19 the troubles ahead of us and then, you know,  
20 my question here is really simple, why  
21 weren't the people who mismanaged this city  
22 for decades prosecuted and put in jail? And  
23 why did it take the federal government so  
24 long to step in on every issue? And then,  
25 of course, who is watching the Feds, but,

1           you know, listening to residents in the city  
2           talk about what's taking place now they  
3           think it's comical. They just don't see how  
4           this can actually take place. You know, how  
5           does a pension fund fall this far behind?  
6           What were the representatives of the union  
7           doing as this was taking place as the city  
8           itself decayed over decades where was  
9           everybody in elective office that were  
10          taking votes and how do they come to the  
11          conclusions that any of these votes were in  
12          the best interest of the residents?

13                        Is it going to be in the best  
14          interest of the residents if we lose firemen  
15          again? I mean, you know, there is a lot of  
16          situations going on in this city even at  
17          times where police officers don't even show  
18          up for hearings. Is it because we don't  
19          have enough police? We have a lot of very  
20          serious problems here and another tax  
21          increase isn't going to be the answer and,  
22          you know, with all due respect to you,  
23          Mr. Rogan, charging \$5 for a bag of gash and  
24          is ridiculous because to be honest with you  
25          the reason we are charging these fees is

1           because we have mismanaged our assets, not  
2           just Scranton, tons of communities, and you  
3           keep coming back.

4                         Give this a little thought, \$20,000  
5           allegedly is the average earning capacity of  
6           a Scrantonian and, you know, I listen to  
7           Mr. Yudichak talk on talk radio here, he is  
8           giving us political talking points instead  
9           of talking about reality. He is talking  
10          about 25 percent of children living in  
11          poverty. Well, why are all of our jobs in  
12          other countries, because if the child is in  
13          poverty then I guess the parents are in  
14          poverty, too? I mean, we have just taken a  
15          country right to its knees, and my question  
16          is are the residents in this country ever  
17          going to stand up to this government and  
18          tell them we can't pay any more and start  
19          prosecuting the people we have elected that  
20          run around dressed funny with suits on and  
21          skirts and blouses and make themselves look  
22          like professionals, but really I won't call  
23          them thieves, but I don't know what to call  
24          them because how can every branch of  
25          government be broken, and how can the



1 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania talk about  
2 being \$50 billion short on state pension  
3 funds? I mean, it doesn't make any sense.

4 People like Doug Miller or  
5 Mr. Gaughan I don't see what kind of life  
6 you are going to have? I mean, where is it  
7 going to lead us to? Where is all of money  
8 going to come from? Why are all of the big  
9 corporations moving their money outside of  
10 the country and contributing nothing to our  
11 society? Because the Congress and the  
12 Senate let them do it. It's not a  
13 Democratic/Republican issue, it's elected  
14 officials who don't serve the people who  
15 elect them. Thank you.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Is there anyone else  
18 who cares to address council?

19 MS. CARRERA: FIFTH ORDER 5-A.

20 MOTIONS.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler?

22 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.  
23 McGoff. In regards to some of the comments  
24 that were made today, I do have some  
25 information we received from the Single Tax

1 Office about at least where our collections  
2 are for our city so far this year.

3 To date on real estate taxes we have  
4 collected \$19,731,000. That's compared to  
5 last year's total of \$12,730,000 which is a  
6 55 percent increase on that number. Our  
7 delinquent real estate taxes are 61.96  
8 percent. Our LST and EMS collections are up  
9 7.84 percent, and our business privilege and  
10 mercantile tax are down a slight 1.48  
11 percent. In light of this economy, I think  
12 that's should be called about even.

13 If you look it as a whole, to date  
14 we have collected \$20 million against the  
15 \$28 million budgeted amount, so as the year  
16 is going on and the collections are coming  
17 in we do have more money. Is it enough? We  
18 don't know that yet.

19 In terms of some of the other things  
20 that people have been saying, I disagree  
21 with a lot of what was said about this  
22 council and the administration not  
23 accomplishing anything yet this year. So  
24 far we have passed a couple of different  
25 pieces of legislation that have helped some

1 smaller business owners here in the city and  
2 protected our people. The administration  
3 has been very successful in communicating  
4 with the neighborhoods, very successful in  
5 communicating through the police department,  
6 very successful communicating with the fire  
7 department.

8 The Business Administrator Office is  
9 being to get the financial house and records  
10 together. We have been able to talk to  
11 several different banks who showed no  
12 interest in dealing with us in the past and  
13 it's June and I would love to say we have an  
14 answer in my briefcase sitting here, but we  
15 don't. We don't have an answer. And we are  
16 working towards it and until we start  
17 working with our budget for next year that's  
18 when there is going to be a plan. There  
19 won't be a plan, I don't see a plan coming  
20 out anywhere towards the end of the summer,  
21 but in working together a lot of people say  
22 that's not a good thing, but how are we  
23 going to accomplish anything if we don't  
24 work together and we are.

25 In terms of the state legislature, I

1 was disappointed in them passing legislation  
2 to say that you have to be done with your  
3 status in a short period of time without  
4 adding any assistance to that, that doesn't  
5 help us at all. I was happy that our local  
6 group of legislators tried to get that  
7 legislation changed and, unfortunately, they  
8 were unsuccessful.

9 But in conclusion, there are things  
10 happening here. I talk a lot of people who  
11 are paying more taxes, but I talked to a lot  
12 of people who are very the progress that is  
13 being made in the city. I think this  
14 council has provided a new face for our  
15 city, I think we have added a professional  
16 atmosphere to our council meetings, and we  
17 are accomplishing a lot, we are working on a  
18 lot and I am proud to be a part of it.

19 Thank you, Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Thank you. Just a  
22 few quick comments. During our caucus we  
23 talked a little bit many of the vacant lots  
24 in the city and the possibility of having  
25 Mr. Koldjeski from the Tax Claim Bureau into

1 a caucus to explain the process of how an  
2 individual would go about purchasing a  
3 property that is adjacent to them. For  
4 instance, I spoke to an individual this  
5 week, and I have to get back in touch with  
6 them and try to help them through the  
7 process, they own a piece of property and  
8 next to them is a lot that's been vacant for  
9 many, many years and that lot is sitting  
10 there it's not paying taxes, and it's  
11 government owned and that land isn't doing  
12 any good for anyone.

13 And if you walk through any  
14 neighborhood in the City of Scranton you  
15 will see these lots everywhere from where  
16 there were vacant buildings that were torn  
17 down or there were fires and some of them  
18 are owned and people are paying taxes on  
19 them, but many, many more are government  
20 owned and vacant lots throughout the city  
21 they don't do anything good for the city or  
22 for the taxpayer. They create blight in the  
23 neighborhoods, we see the high grass, we see  
24 the problems with them, but by giving  
25 residents an opportunity to purchase those

1 properties and improve their property,  
2 adding a pool, adding a driveway, adding  
3 extra land to what they have and have their  
4 kids play that's one thing that we could do  
5 to solve multiple problems in the city at  
6 one time.

7 We will get new revenue once they  
8 are sold. They will get back on the tax  
9 rolls and bring back that tax revenue and  
10 make the neighborhoods a nicer place because  
11 you will have people taking care of that  
12 land instead of the grass growing three foot  
13 high and no one taking care of it.

14 So that being said, Ms. Carrera,  
15 could we please send letter to Mr. Koldjeski  
16 requesting that he attends one of our  
17 caucuses to discuss these issues at his  
18 convenience. I think we all agreed that it  
19 would be good to have him here to hear a  
20 little bit more about the process from the  
21 county end and try to work to make this  
22 process a little bit more easy.

23 Next, regarding the pools, I know  
24 this has been an issue that was brought up  
25 many, many times, about a month ago we sent

1 a letter to the City Engineer John Pocius  
2 requesting the status of the pools and an  
3 itemized list of what needed to be done to  
4 get those pools operational. Could we also  
5 send a follow-up on that to see if there has  
6 been any action taken? I know it a tall  
7 task, there are a number of pools in the  
8 city and a number of parts in each one of  
9 the pools, but I think we really need to see  
10 where each one of these stand and look  
11 towards solutions so we don't have big, you  
12 know, vacant pools sitting there, whether  
13 it's putting in splash parks or doing  
14 something that the children in the  
15 neighborhoods can use.

16 And finally, I spoke to the mayor  
17 today regarding some issues regarding East  
18 Mountain Road. On East Mountain I know  
19 Councilman Wechsler is very familiar with  
20 this road, but on the road there seems to be  
21 a split in the middle when the paving was  
22 laid and it seems to be coming apart and it  
23 seems the solution would be to lay a strip  
24 of tar. I did talk to the mayor about it,  
25 he is going to reach out to the Sewer

1 Authority to see what can be done. I know  
2 when Councilman Reap was on city council he  
3 fought very, very hard to see that project  
4 come to be and it's much nicer driving down  
5 East Mountain Road now than it was prior to  
6 that project, so I think we need to work to  
7 protect that road and keep it in good shape  
8 so we are not going back and spending  
9 another \$10 million in ten years to repave  
10 that road and to repave it, and also on East  
11 Mountain Road I did get an e-mail from a  
12 resident who is requesting that the Sewer  
13 Authority come out and check out the catch  
14 basins.

15 And just a couple of quick comments  
16 on some of the things that were brought up  
17 tonight as far as comparing this council and  
18 this administration to the last council and  
19 the last administration, and as somebody who  
20 was on council during both of those times I  
21 can tell you things get done a lot easier  
22 and a lot smoother now. You may not always  
23 see it, but when it comes to us getting  
24 information before we have to make a vote  
25 all of the city department heads have been



1 much more forthcoming than the previous  
2 administration. That makes it a lot easier  
3 for members of council to make an informed  
4 decision whether it be financial, documents,  
5 whether it be, you know, regarding OECD or  
6 any of our departments it has been much  
7 easier to get answers from this  
8 administration than the previous  
9 administration.

10 And as far as council goes, I know  
11 it's been brought up, but our caucuses have  
12 been very helpful prior to the meetings to  
13 discuss other issues that often times we  
14 haven't been able to discuss on the floor.  
15 The issue of vacant lots, for example, is an  
16 issue that was brought up in the caucus, we  
17 tossed that around and we talked about it.  
18 Our solicitor gave a lot of positive input  
19 on a way to go and we are going to move  
20 forward with that. We are going to have a  
21 meeting with the county and see what can be  
22 done.

23 So I am a lot happier now and I  
24 think things are moving a lot better now,  
25 but as Mr. Wechsler mentioned, budget time

1 is really when you are going to see the  
2 changes. We are going to see how many banks  
3 come to the table for a TAN. Hopefully more  
4 than one or two this year. Maybe, maybe  
5 not, but we are going to see what that  
6 interest rate is, and even more importantly  
7 than the interest rate we are going see what  
8 the fees attached to that TAN are because  
9 the fees on the TAN are something that the  
10 last two years of the previous  
11 administration were outrageous when you  
12 compare ours to the county's, so the city  
13 didn't get into the shape it is in five  
14 months. It's 50 years in the making. We  
15 are hoping it doesn't take at that long to  
16 get out, but things won't change overnight,  
17 but slowly we have been making progress.

18 One piece of legislation up for a  
19 final vote is something that myself and  
20 Council Wechsler and the administration on  
21 to help local bands and bar owners,  
22 exempting them from an amusement tax if they  
23 have a small number of people at their  
24 venue. That's something that -- and bands  
25 contacted me and bar owners contacted

1 Councilman Wechsler and we worked with the  
2 administration to solve that. It's not a  
3 major problem, but to those groups it was,  
4 to the person who runs the corner bar in  
5 West Side and makes his living doing that  
6 that's important to him, and that person  
7 also pays property taxes and pays mercantile  
8 taxes.

9 So there are many of these small  
10 issues that we need to address to help solve  
11 many of the big issues, but I know speaking  
12 for all of us, we are up for the task and we  
13 are all here to do the best we can. That's  
14 all. Thank you.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Loscombe?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you.

17 First of all, I would have to echo the  
18 sentiments of my colleagues who spoke before  
19 me, I agree with their comments,  
20 Mr. Wechsler and Mr. Rogan, so I won't  
21 elaborate on that because it would  
22 repetitious, but just to touch on a couple  
23 of things that were mentioned here this  
24 evening, Ms. Neihaus, the noise ordinance,  
25 that's very good. I know we have been in

1 touch before. I do want to get the  
2 information again from you and sit down with  
3 the police chief. I think we have a much  
4 better opportunity now getting things done  
5 just because of the communication and  
6 everything, too, there is a lot more  
7 cooperation as was stated, but I think this  
8 is a very good idea. More people realize  
9 the noise now as the summer season comes on,  
10 but there are people like yourself that put  
11 up with it year round and, you know, no one  
12 should have to live like that, but if we can  
13 actively enforce this and at the same time  
14 if it would help benefit everyone, so I'll  
15 definitely be getting together with you to  
16 get that information and some contact  
17 information. Perhaps if I meet the chief I  
18 may be able to have you along, too, to  
19 discuss some of these issues, okay?

20 And Mr. Jackowitz had mentioned --  
21 had asked about the cameras. Yes, the  
22 cameras are active, they are being monitored  
23 and actually when I met with the chief last  
24 time he had discussed with me how one of the  
25 cameras on Mulberry Street had helped him

1 with the situation where there was a  
2 gentleman in a vehicle, they were able to  
3 pan on the vehicle and get the information  
4 before a police officer got there and see if  
5 the man was armed and stuff like that. I  
6 guess it was an attempted robbery type  
7 setup, but they are being used and with the  
8 enhancements that will be coming with the  
9 things that we have approved so far with the  
10 expansion of using private cameras that are  
11 already in existence I think as a crime  
12 fighting tool it's another big asset to the  
13 citizens of the city, but they are actively  
14 being monitored by the people at the desk at  
15 police headquarters there, the police  
16 officers there, but if you need any  
17 additional information I would be happy to  
18 provide that.

19 But I think that's about all I have.  
20 Oh, just quickly, Goodwill was mentioned I  
21 was just wondering if, you know, on behalf  
22 my colleagues if we can send a letter to  
23 Goodwill to just ask what their latest  
24 status is and, you know, to update us  
25 because we are a receiving a lot of

1           questions and, you know, it has been a long  
2           process, okay? That's all I have. Thank  
3           you.

4                     MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan?

5                     MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. I  
6           received a letter from the Greater Scranton  
7           Board of Realtors May 30 in support of the  
8           Scranton Abington Planning Association. As  
9           council awaits that legislation to return so  
10          that we can vote on it I would like to read  
11          that letter into the record:

12                    "Dear Mr. Gaughan: The Board of  
13           Directors of the Greater Scranton Board of  
14           Realtors recently heard a presentation from  
15           the Scranton Abingtons Planning Association  
16           regarding the comprehensive plan and land  
17           use map which is prepared by the planning  
18           group McCormick-Taylor.

19                    The presentation was later followed  
20           by a discussion by our Board of Directors on  
21           the plan. Following that discussion, it was  
22           decided that the Greater Scranton Board of  
23           Realtors recommends to the City of Scranton  
24           that they again become an active partner in  
25           this multi-municipal planning effort. To be



1 had comments about a plan or a plan from the  
2 mayor. I had asked that question about what  
3 the plan was from the mayor a few months  
4 ago, what the course of action was and I've  
5 been waiting just as everyone else has been  
6 waiting. I did ask President McGoff when  
7 Mr. Amaroso was supposed to come back to  
8 council and give his final presentation, we  
9 are still waiting on that, so we shall see,  
10 but I understand the anxious feeling of the  
11 residents of the city. We are waiting to  
12 hear what the plan is and what the course of  
13 action is over the next few months, because  
14 as we continue to wait and we continue to  
15 get closer to next year's budget difficult  
16 and tough decisions will have to be made.  
17 And that is all I have. Thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. I do want  
19 to make mention, I should have done this  
20 earlier when we did announcements, that  
21 there is a traffic update for Jefferson  
22 Avenue where the University of Scranton  
23 construction is taking place. It's the 200  
24 block of Jefferson. This Saturday from 6  
25 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. the two right-hand lanes



1 of Jefferson Avenue will be closed so that  
2 it will be one-way traffic north and one-way  
3 traffic south from 6 to 8 a.m. -- or six to  
4 8 p.m. 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. I'm sorry. So,  
5 please, if you are traveling in that area  
6 you can probably expect that there will be  
7 some delays because of the land closures.

8 Also, it's being done so that it  
9 large crane can be brought in that will be  
10 involved in the steelwork for the building  
11 and that crane is supposed to be in place  
12 until August 1. It will not affect street  
13 traffic as such after Saturday, but I am  
14 told that they are going to be changing some  
15 of the pedestrian traffic to accommodate the  
16 crane and the construction that will be  
17 taking place after that time.

18 As far as the plan for the city, I  
19 don't think that there is any secret as to  
20 what the plan is. I think actually it's  
21 pretty simple plan. We need to find -- we  
22 need to negotiate the payment of the  
23 arbitration awards, that's an ongoing  
24 process. We need to find a way to refund  
25 the pensions, that's an ongoing process. We

1           need to do something to stabilize the  
2           parking situation and the parking -- the  
3           situation with the Parking Authority.  
4           That's an ongoing process. We need to find  
5           a way to reduce our debt payments, that's an  
6           ongoing process. All of this aimed at in  
7           the long-term restoring somewhat of the  
8           city's credit rating so that we cannot  
9           operate in the investment community so that  
10          we can work with banks to stabilize the  
11          city's finances.

12                         Now, how we go about doing all of  
13           these things is what I guess constitutes the  
14           integral part of the plan. Again, it's an  
15           ongoing process, it's something that is a  
16           going to take time to complete, I think that  
17           what we are looking at is probably trying to  
18           restore the credit rating within a two-year  
19           period. It's not something that's going to  
20           happen overnight.

21                         And as far as Mr. Amaroso is  
22           concerned, I think, again, we have to  
23           remember that whatever Mr. Amaroso presents  
24           to us is not a guarantee that the city will  
25           follow. He is merely making recommendations

1 and it will be up to the city, the  
2 administration and the council, to determine  
3 which of these recommendations we feel are  
4 best for the City of Scranton.

5 So, yes, is there a little bit of  
6 apprehension waiting for Mr. Amaroso's  
7 recommendations? Yes. But in the mean time  
8 we are not sitting back and just waiting.  
9 There are ongoing considerations, ongoing  
10 negotiations, and hopefully some of the  
11 problems that we have will be solved even  
12 prior to the recommendations of Mr. Amaroso,  
13 hopefully. And that is all I have. Thank  
14 you.

15 MS. CARRERA: 5-B. NO BUSINESS AT  
16 THIS TIME.

17 SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. READING BY TITLE  
18 - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 28, 2014 - AN  
19 ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
20 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF  
21 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO  
22 IMPLEMENT NUMEROUS ACCOUNTING ADJUSTMENTS TO  
23 THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S IDIS SYSTEM FOR  
24 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS BY  
25 DECREASING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS TO

1 ACCOUNT FOR DEFICIENCIES IN THE CITY OF  
2 SCRANTON'S LINE OF CREDIT WITH THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
4 ("HUD") DUE TO UNPLANNED SECTION 108  
5 PAYMENTS BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON IN THE  
6 AMOUNT OF \$1,662,043.98.

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

9 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A  
10 pass reading by title.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

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

14 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

15 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

20 MS. CARRERA: 6-B. READING BY TITLE  
21 - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 29, 2014 - AN  
22 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
23 56 OF 2012 TITLED "AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
24 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF  
25 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO

1           IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR  
2           COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
3           TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
4           BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT  
5           PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY  
6           SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD  
7           BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2013" BY DECREASING  
8           FUNDING FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS TO ACCOUNT FOR  
9           DEFICIENCIES IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S LINE  
10          OF CREDIT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND  
11          URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD") DUE TO UNPLANNED  
12          PAYMENTS IN VARIOUS SECTION 108 LOANS  
13          GUARANTEED BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON IN THE  
14          AMOUNT OF \$1,662,043.98.

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

17                 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B  
18                 pass reading by title.

19                 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

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

22                 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

23                 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24                 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25                 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

3 MR. ROGAN: I make a motion to table  
4 Item 6-A and 6-B per the 30-day public  
5 comment period that OECD is requiring.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

7 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All  
8 those in favor of tabling Item 6-A and 6-B  
9 signify by saying aye.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

11 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

16 MS. CARRERA: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.  
17 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
18 FINANCE -FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL  
19 NO. 23, 2014 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING  
20 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.2229609 ENTITLED  
21 "COMMUNITY SURVEILLANCE NETWORK SYSTEM" FOR  
22 THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS  
23 RECEIVED FOR THE ACQUISITION AND  
24 INSTALLATION OF THE COMMUNITY SURVEILLANCE  
25 NETWORK SYSTEM AT SCRANTON POLICE

1 HEADQUARTERS.

2 MR. MCGOFF: What is the  
3 recommendation of the Chair for the  
4 Committee on Finance?

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

8 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

22 MS. CARRERA: 7-B. FOR  
23 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
24 -FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 24,  
25 2014 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

1 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND  
2 EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION AND IF  
3 SUCCESSFUL A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT THE  
4 FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE BJA FY 14  
5 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT  
6 ("JAG") PROGRAM-LOCAL SOLICITATION IN THE  
7 AMOUNT OF \$23,898.00.

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

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

14 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.



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

3 MS. CARRERA: 7-C. FOR  
4 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -FOR  
5 ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 25, 2014  
6 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
7 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF  
8 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT  
9 WITH THE SCRANTON SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR USE OF  
10 CITY OWNED PROPERTY IN CONNECTION WITH  
11 APPROVED WEST SIDE HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER TEAMS  
12 FOR A THREE-(3) YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL  
13 15, 2014 AND ENDING APRIL 14, 2017.

14 MR. MCGOFF: As Chairperson for the  
15 Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
16 passage of Item 7-C.

17 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

23 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

24 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

1 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

6 MS. CARRERA: 7-D. FOR  
7 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -FOR  
8 ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 26, 2014  
9 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
10 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF  
11 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT  
12 WITH THE SCRANTON YOUTH SOCCER FOR THE USE  
13 OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY IN CONNECTION WITH  
14 APPROVED SCRANTON YOUTH SOCCER FOR A THREE  
15 (3) YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2014  
16 AND ENDING APRIL 14, 2017.

17 MR. MCGOFF: As Chairperson for the  
18 Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
19 passage of Item 7-D.

20 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

9 MS. CARRERA: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION  
10 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -FOR ADOPTION -  
11 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 27, 2014 - AMENDING  
12 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 75, 2012 AN  
13 ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) ENTITLED "AN  
14 ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF  
15 SCRANTON BY IMPOSING A TAX UPON THE  
16 PRIVILEGE OF ATTENDING OR ENGAGING IN  
17 NON-EXEMPT AMUSEMENTS, INCLUDING EVERY FORM  
18 OF ENTERTAINMENT, DIVERSION, SPORT,  
19 RECREATION AND PASTIME, REQUIRING ALL  
20 PERSONS, PARTNERSHIPS, ASSOCIATIONS AND  
21 CORPORATIONS CONDUCTING PLACES OF  
22 AMUSEMENTS; IMPOSING DUTIES AND CONFERRING  
23 POWERS UPON THE TREASURER OF THE CITY OF  
24 SCRANTON; PRESCRIBING THE METHOD AND MANNER  
25 OF COLLECTING THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS

1           ORDINANCE; AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR THE  
2           VIOLATION THEREOF" BY AMENDING SECTION 4.  
3           DEFINITIONS – PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.

4           MR. MCGOFF: What is the  
5           recommendation of the Chair for the  
6           Committee on Finance?

7           MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for  
8           the Committee on Finance, I recommend final  
9           passage of Item 7-E.

10          MR. ROGAN: Second.

11          MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll  
12          call, please?

13          MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

14          MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15          MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

16          MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17          MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

18          MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

19          MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

20          MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21          MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

24                 If there is no further business,  
25                 motion to adjourn.

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MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.

MR. MCGOFF: 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.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER