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1	SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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5	HELD:
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7	Thursday, November 8, 2012
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9	LOCATION:
10	Council Chambers
11	Scranton City Hall
12	340 North Washington Avenue
13	Scranton, Pennsylvania
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24	CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR – OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1	(Pledge of Allegiance recited and
2	moment of reflection observed.)
3	MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.
4	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
5	MR. MCGOFF: Here.
6	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
7	MR. ROGAN: Here.
8	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.
9	MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.
10	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
11	MR. JOYCE: Here.
12	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
13	MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the
14	reading of the minutes, please.
15	MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
16	PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES FROM THE HARRISON
17	HOUSE PERSONAL CARE HOME IN THE AMOUNT OF
18	\$500.00.
19	MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
20	If not, received and filed.
21	MS. KRAKE: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
22	REPORT, HEARING DATE TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER
23	14, 2012.
24	MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
25	If not, received and filed. Do we have any

clerk's notes tonight?

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No. Mrs. Evans. MS. KRAKE:

MS. EVANS: Do any council members

have announcements at this time?

MR. MCGOFF: Very quickly, we received in our male the Lackawanna County Heritage Valley announces a groundbreaking for the Archbald/Jermyn trail, the newest section of that trail, that's on Monday, November 19, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. It says the Laurel Street trailhead in Archbald, so I'm assuming that they are breaking ground for the -- to put a trail connecting Archbald to Jermyn. I know they are moving in the other direction as well down through in Moosic and Taylor and Old Forge, so when this is completed it will pretty much connect the entire state. That is the grand plan, but that is the newest part of the trail to be opened and if anyone is interested as a runner and utilizing the trails at times, you know, they are great service to and great value to the community. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there anyone else?

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MR. JOYCE: Yes. There will an apple pie sale at the Elm Park United Methodist Church, which is located at the corner of Linden Street and Jefferson Avenue, on November 17. Nine-inch homemade pies will be sold. Orders are required in advance. Regular unbaked pies will be sold for \$10 each. Unbaked pies with no sugar added, which will be made with Splenda, will be sold for \$11 each. Regular baked pies will be \$11 each and baked pies with no sugar added, which will also be made with Splenda, will be sold for \$12 each. place an order for the pies please call 342-8263 and the last date for orders will be November 13. That's all. So hurry up and order your pies if you plan on doing so.

MS. EVANS: The Fraternal Order of Eagles in Scranton will conduct its annual craft fair this Saturday, November 10, beginning at 10 a.m. Various crafts and holiday items will be available for purchase. All proceeds will fund a Christmas party for foster children in our community. For additional information,

please call the club at 961-5495.

The Mary Mother of God parish in North Scranton will hold it's annual roast beef dinner this Sunday, November 11, at Stirna's Restaurant located on West Market Street from noon to five p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of ten. Also, raffle tickets to win a customized NFL jersey will be sold. Come out and enjoy a delicious Sunday dinner with your family.

Church located at 130 North St. Francis
Cabrini Avenue in West Scranton will conduct
it's annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on
Wednesday, November 14, from 5 p.m. to 8
p.m. Takeout dinners will available
beginning at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8.50
for adults, \$4 for children under the age of
ten, and may be purchased at the door. Take
a break from cooking and treat yourself to
this tasty pasta dinner.

Pizza by Pappas will hold its third annual Pancreatic Cancer Awareness fundraiser on Tuesday, November 13 and

1 Wednesday, November 14, at its restaurant 2 located at 393 North Washington Avenue in 3 downtown Scranton. 50 percent of the 4 proceeds will be donated to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. For details call 5 346-2290 or e-mail charity at 6 7 PizzabyPappas.com. 8 Council would also like to thank 9 Mr. Tom Welby for his assistance this 10 evening for broadcasting live tonight's 11 meeting. 12 And finally, city council wishes to 13 congratulate Senator Bob Casey, 14 Mrs. Kathleen Kane and, of course, President Barack Obama on their victories in Tuesday's 15 16 election, and that's it. 17 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS' 18 PARTICIPATION. 19 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker 20 tonight is Liz Hubbard. Mrs. Hubbard is no 21 longer available. Doug Miller. 22 Good evening, Council. MR. MILLER: 23 Doug Miller, Scranton. 24 MS. EVANS: Good evening. 25 MR. MILLER: I'd just like to begin

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once again with Engine 7 letting everyone know it's still not open at this point again jeopardizing the health, safety and well-being of the residents in West Side. And I would like to remind everyone that there will be another townhall-style meeting next Wednesday at 7 p.m. over at Keyser Valley Community Center in regards to the closure of Engine 7 and I would just like to encourage all West Side residents who are affected to please come out and demand that the station is opened and hold Chief Tom Davis and Mayor Chris Doherty accountable for their actions. They have consistently shown time and time again that they do not care and I think they need to be put in their place once and for all and that they need to know we won't tolerate it and we all need to come out full force and protest what they have done.

Onto some of the issues in today's paper dealing with a couple of matters, the first is in regards to the Single Tax

Office, that we have been made aware that the officials will be going around to

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several businesses door to door to ensure that businesses are displaying their business privilege tax, licenses to show that they are paying the tax and they are paying their fair share and obviously reading it this morning it did make me ask myself, you know, if we are going to go out and knock on businesses why not go up the street here and knock on the University's door and go inside and knock on Chick-Fil-A's door, knock on Starbuck's door or Quizno's door and the Mexican restaurant that is up there and see where their licenses are. I'm sure you are not going to find any because they haven't been paying the business privilege tax and I think we need to hold them accountable. We have lost out on millions and millions of dollars for decades because we have allowed them, again, we have allowed them to get a free ride and we haven't done anything about it.

Past councils who have turned a blind eye to this, this administration has turned a blind eye to it and I think now is the time to take action on this, that as

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distressed city that is in jeopardy of falling into bankruptcy is something we don't want to see and we need the revenue and we need it bad and I think now is the time to go up there and hold them accountable for their actions and make sure they are paying their fair share and I'm hopeful that this council will do that.

On the commuter tax, this was also in the paper today, several municipalities are trying to join forces together to protest our proposed commuter tax. had Old Forge who all of a sudden now wants to team up with the Mayfield mayor, I believe his name is Al Chelick, in challenging our commuter tax. Clarks Summit in their meeting wants to now impose their own commuter tax on our residents and, you know, it's just becoming quite frustrating at this point. As you know, I am support of the commuter tax and I understand it's not a likeable tax, and I'm not complaining to be in favor of taxes, believe me, I wish we didn't have to have them at all, but it's part of reality and it is what it is. It's

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part of our recovery plan and we are asking to pay your fair share.

Old Forge all of a sudden now they want to challenge it, they want to make an issue, you know, it's quite frankly frustrating that all of these municipalities are just all coming out of the woodwork in opposition to it. You are utilizing our roads, our bridges, our public safety each and every day by your residents coming into our community, and we are asking you to contribute to it. If you have an Old Forge resident who works in Downtown Scranton and God forbid a tragedy would occur, a fire or we need an engine to respond or one of our police officers to respond, who is paying for that? We are. All we are asking is for their residents to contribute a small fee to I find it only to be fair. utilizing our essential services, there is no reason why you can't contribute a small fee to that. It's not fair to our taxpayers who contribute to it and let them come in and get a free ride. It's for three years. That's all we are asking.

And, you know, Clarks Summit wanting to enact their own commuter tax, let them enact it if that's what they feel they want to do. but as a Clarks Summit councilwoman stated they feel that we are punishing their residents. It's not a punishment, it's paying their fair share. That's all this is. It's not political. If you want to enact a commuter tax go right ahead you've had plenty time, you could have done it years ago. What's stopping you? Go ahead, do it. But we are not making it political. We are not pushing you. It's your fair That's what it is, it's paying your fair share and that's what we talked about with the nonprofits and that's all we are asking on the commuters, we don't need to make this a political issue and that's all for tonight. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Lee Morgan.

MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

MS. EVANS: Good evening.

MR. MORGAN: Can somebody tell me the status of my Right-to-Knows. I did some

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Right-to-Know requests in regard to council and they were sent down to council and I was trying to figure out if somebody can tell me where they stand?

MS. EVANS: I'm not aware.

MS. KRAKE: They were sent to council -- if I may, Mrs. Evans?

MS. EVANS: Yes, certainly.

MS. KRAKE: They were forwarded to council from the business administrator who is the Right-to-Know officer. They do not fall into the Right-to-Know guidelines as far as what the requests were. If Mr. Morgan would like to come into the council office I can discuss that with him and provide him with information that would fall into the Right-to-Know guidelines and maybe perhaps answer the underlying questions within his request.

MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.

MR. MORGAN: Okay, because I am going to follow-up on that, but I think those were the two most important questions that any resident could ask in this city or people opposed to the commuter tax outside

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of the city. It's important to know what happened to these sections of the Home Rule Charter and if they were or weren't used, and I think it's time for the government to stop hiding behind what we have a right to know on what we don't have a right to know, because I think the people outside of city are most certainly correct in opposing the commuter tax.

The obligations of Scranton city government were to protect it's residents and provide services and make sure that the government was functioning the way it should function. Now, some people have come here and asked that, made statements regarding people coming to visit our city. Well, as far as I know there is lots of funds that come in for paving roads and maintenance of bridges and state funding, federal funding and, you know, you have to ask yourself, you know, in my own personal opinion with all of this borrowing be able to sustain it, to be real honest with you, you know. A judge can sit at the hearing and determine if he is going to let the city borrow unfunded debt.

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To be real honest with you, I think everybody can see what's occurring in this citv. It's just a total lack of political leadership, not today but for decades, and now what we are saying to people outside of the city is, well, we only need a little bit of your money. And, you know, you have to ask yourself, you know, on the national level, you know, with the election that's taken place and now them taking about the fiscal cliff that the nation is in I think we haven't been served very well by the political people we have elected. To be bluntly honest, they have done a terrible I mean, the fiasco federally is 40 iob. cents of every dollar has been borrowed. The city, well, I don't know how far we are along that line, but I can tell you that we have siphoned every bit of wealth out of this city we could pull out of it, and then we have a council that talks about nonprofits and in my opinion, look at the junior high school and look at Scranton Lace. They are not going to any benefit fit to the city and that's my contention because

when you invest money it gives you a return. We are trying to salvage buildings and it's great to salvage a building, but we are losing whole neighborhoods. We can all talk about many of the issues and we get no resolution from council on hardly anything.

In my opinion, I see the council as a borrow and spend instrument, an instrument to hold the residents of this city hostage for more tax revenue, for a conduit for special interests. Big money flowing through council for special projects and special people, but the average people in this city they are earning minimum wage and then we turn around and we blame Austin Burke or the Scranton Times, and to be honest with you, that's not where the blame lies.

Now, the council has the power of subpoena and investigation, that's what I would like to know. I'd like to know how many investigations and how many subpoenas council has done since the 70's, not just this council, but all councils. How many special investigations have we had? I think

-- I just think it's really a terrible thing when you have a hard time getting information from your government.

Now, maybe it doesn't fall under the Right-to-Know laws, so then maybe I'll have to go to the Court of Common Pleas and ask them for the right to get this information, but you know something? When you tax residents and you tax their property and you borrow and you borrow and you borrow, you know, it's nice to talk about things taking place in the community, but you know something, sooner or later the way things are going we won't have a community. I grew up here with over 100,000 people, we are down to a little near 70,000. Thanks for your time.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Gerard Hetman.

MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.

MS. EVANS: Good evening.

MR. HETMAN: Gerard Hetman from the Lackawanna County Department of Community Relations. To begin this evening, the franchise currently known as the

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Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Wilkes-Barre Yankees be hosting the big reveal event this coming Wednesday November 14, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Genetti Manor, 1505 North Main Avenue in Dickson City with a line "Come one, come all, let's have a ball." And this is the event, if you notice I said the franchise currently known as, this is the event where the franchise will reveal their new name, the colors, and the logo, new mascot, etcetera, etcetera, basically the whole branding to use a marketing term will be revealed to the public at this event which will feature food, games, live entertainment, face painting, caricatures, inflatables and a whole bunch of other carnival-type attractions and events at this particular event and the chance for the community to come out and be a part of the revealing of the new identity of our local franchise. As a community, everyone is welcome.

And I can say from having been involved with local sports teams and having been to a number of team announcement events

where names or players and the announcement of the franchise in various capacities I have rarely seen an event like this where the public is invited to share in a big moment in local sports history and in local commerce and local infrastructure, it's really something unique. Most of the time you turn the TV on the 5:00 news or you open the news paper the next day and, oh, there is a new sports team coming. Oh, the sports team signed a new person. This is something a little bit different and open to the community so everyone is invited next Wednesday, November 14, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Genetti's to find out whatever the name of the new team is. I have no idea.

MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Hetman, may I just interrupt?

MR. HETMAN: Yes.

MR. MCGOFF: If they choose Trolley Frogs, I promise you that I will never buy a ticket to see this team.

MR. HETMAN: We'll see what happens.

MR. MCGOFF: Trolley Frogs was being suggested.

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MR. HETMAN: I have no insider information. I can neither confirm or deny what the name is about.

MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

MR. HETMAN: We'll have to see on Wednesday. The second item I do actually have a letter on that I can give to council's office, but I would like to share with you about this program, which is from the Lackawanna County Children and Youth Services agency regarding their annual angel program which assists children who are under the care of Lackawanna County Children and Youth to have a memorable Christmas and enjoy Christmas by providing Christmas gifts to children under their care. Last year the program actually assisted more than 1,000 children in Scranton and Lackawanna County in providing Christmas gifts to those children who otherwise may not have a Christmas to remember or Christmas to enjoy in the same capacity.

So the program is run through the Lackawanna County Children and Youth office and the two contacts, just to make you

aware, Gloria Liuzzo, who can be contacted at 570-963-6781, extension 1301, or Lisa Sohara, 570-963-6781, extension 188, and normally they ask for a contribution of approximately \$100 to take care of the gifts and Christmas cheer for each child, but they have modified the program in recent years so that citizens and also community groups, whether it be a church group, civic organization, school group, can contribute as a group or individuals or groups can contribute any amount of funding or you can contribute toys, new unwrapped toys to the program, however people want to chip in. It's flexible and accessible too all.

So I do have a letter regarding that that will I will give to Mrs. Krake or Ms.

Marciano after the meeting and you can share it with anyone in the community you know who may be willing or looking for a good way to participate in serving the community this holiday season. So that's all I have for this evening. Thank you for your time.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there anyone else?

citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, from your literature here you are planning to borrow \$40 million this year? What are we getting for this \$40 million that you planning to borrow? Tell me, is this a portion of the 203-A? What portion are we paying with that \$20 million, what portion of the "B"? What portion of the "C"? No where did I say you were recalling any of that so what are we getting for this \$40

MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,

I don't know exactly how we got into the position we have to borrow \$40 million. I know I made a stink when they borrowed the \$72 million, but at least I got a couple of buildings sitting there that they used the money for. I wasn't happy with the light fixtures, but that's the way life goes.

Does anybody know what portion of these A, B, C, D 73 we're paying?

million? Debt ran up by previous mayors and

councils. This doesn't make sense.

I didn't see anything become recalling the bonds and borrowing money to pay off the bonds, hopefully we can get them

at a lower rate. I don't understand exactly what you are trying to do other than borrow 40 million, and I don't know what affect that's going to have on our tax rate. I just want to ask if you know exactly what it would be.

MS. EVANS: Mr. Sbaraglia, I'm going to address some of that under motions tonight and it will be further explained at next week's meeting.

MR. SBARAGALIA: You are going to go in debt, right? In debt. You are not going to give a blanket thing, in other words, you are going to say we are paying off the interest and actually so much of the debt? When you say portion that doesn't mean much. The portion can be anything, like, you put a portion of cream into your coffee. We want exactly what's going on.

Now, the other debt, I guess the nine million, let's go with rounding off the nine million, that's what we are paying off the unfunded debt that was built up this year, last year, so forth. At least we understand that. You had a 12 percent tax

increase for one portion of it, now you are up for a second portion of it. That interest rate, what was it, 8.9, isn't very favorable to anything. You would be better off with -- way, way better off trying to get a bond issue to cover every darn thing even if you borrow 60 million at least you got 20 years to pay it off or 30 years. These bonds you want to pay off in ten?

At ten years that's like \$4 million per issue. You got the \$1 million for the bond the payment and then you got another almost a million in interest on the one bond that's two. On the second bond that would be another two, which would be in the neighborhood of \$4 million that we are paying for off for the next ten years. That's \$40 million over them 10 years. That effects the tax rate.

I wish I had the audit I can give you a presentation complete on it if I had the figures in front of me, but you don't have it in front of you and we don't have it in front of me. That's the problem with this city and you don't realize you have

been sandbagged on that audit for so long because they don't want us to -- that's why you were in trouble to begin with. If you had them audits in the very beginning when you were making out our dear tax base you wouldn't have had all of that. You wouldn't have had 8.9 million in unfunded for a year.

Now, that's the second year we had the same thing and I guess it would be in the third year, too, except in 19 -- I mean, 2013 is even going to be worse. I don't know exactly what's going on, but when you talk about unfunded debt and paying off a portion of bond issues you tell the people what portion of that bond issue is being paid off and how much is left to be paid off and at what period of time we got to pay it off and other than that we are going to sink into the abyss. I keep saying it, we are sinking into that abyss. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there anyone else?

MR. TALIMINI: Joe Talimini, City of Scranton. I've been a political junkie for over 70 years now and I want to say one

thing about this past election, I worked

East Mountain and think we had better than a

70 percent turnout and I was absolutely

amazed at how great these people were up

there.

I also would like to tell the council that you have been a recipient of many commendations from those people. They said they are very, very pleased with the decorum of this council, the way things are conducted, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera. However, two incidents did arise which I think are worthy of note.

Number one, Mr. Rogan, I would like to address this to you as well. There were at least eight people who came to me during the course of the day. Their relatives were disenfranchised from voting because they have been working on Sandy out-of-state, could not get back in. There was no provision for them to vote. Now, they were told either by PPL or by the contractor they were working for that they could vote in New Jersey or New York, which is where they were working, they were not allowed to vote on

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the Pennsylvania ballot, which I explained to them that's inconceivable that you would be allowed to vote a Pennsylvania ballot in New Jersey or New York, but I think some provision should be there.

This was a unique situation, I realize that. Some provision should be available in the voting act that would allow these people to vote in an emergency like that. They are first responders, there is no question about that. They went over and above what they are expected to do. were working out-of-state because there is no way they could get back. Their relatives came up to me and asked if there is anything I can do about it and I said I can't do anything at all. The election rules are the election rules, but there should be some provision in the election law that says these people could cast an emergency absentee ballot if necessary somewhere along the line.

I would like this council to go ahead, I've already addressed the subject with the Lackawanna County Commissioners, I

would like this council to submit a letter to the state asking for some kind of provision to be made in a situation like this, even though it's unique and probably will never happen again, but if it does they people should not be disenfranchised by working out of state on an emergency situation. And, I mean, for them to send their relatives up to ask that shows you they were really dedicated people. That's number one.

Number two, I was also apprised of the fact that the firehouse we were working at on East Mountain Road is in service, but because of the present situation with traffic they really have a problem. They cannot come across the Harrison Avenue bridge as you know, now they cannot come down Moosic Street, which means that there are -- I don't know how much more response time it would take, Mr. Loscombe could probably address that, but for them to make a circuitous route to go over to a fire outside of their area it's ridiculous.

There has got to be some kind of

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provision made. I don't know what the answer is. I'm not a fireman, I don't know what the answer is, but I know I heard from several firemen that they were really, really concerned about this situation. So whether it's keeping other firehouses open or what, but it's a hazard there is no question about that.

And another thing, I would like to commend a couple of people who did work the polls this year, they were novices, but they came up and worked. One gentlemen who lives on Archer Street, he is the father of six small children, and he took his time and went up and worked that poll from 6:30 in the morning until 9:00 in the evening. another young lady, who happens to be a waitress, on her day off went up and worked another poll. I mean, there are dedicated people in this town, not very many of them. As you know, I've always been complaining about the apathy of the voters in this town, but I can honestly say that I was surprised, I was very pleasantly surprised.

And also, once again, I would like

say that they did compliment ECTV and their coverage of these meetings, and I don't know how many people watch ECTV, but apparently there is an awful lot of people out there and not only have Scranton, but from Clarks Summit, they are from places I have never even heard of in Pennsylvania, but they do watch ECTV. So if there is any funding that's being held up I wish you people would reconsider and make sure that the funding gets to them because they are doing one good job.

And again, compliments to the council, this is not from me, from the voters, they think the decorum here is exceptionally fine and thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you.

MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.

Dave Dobrzyn.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

MR. DOBRZYN: Resident of the city.

Also, I noticed on 6-D it has been my

understanding that the \$178 does not

entirely cover trash removal, and I have a

question as to whether tax exempts could be

charged extra money due to the fact that they do not pay property tax or trash removal. If there is millions of dollars being required to the DPW, I went through subsidized trash removal, it's \$178 per household and then perhaps they should be paying more because they are certainly not paying property tax.

Once again, it's not your issue, but the school district has a shortfall, and my advice that they should start repairing schools and instead of building new ones and maybe their finances will improve.

And somebody from the DPW asked me to make a mention there is a leaf removal this week instead of papers. Pat, is that this week? That's my understanding that --

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ ROGAN: I saw trucks out the other day.

MR. JOYCE: It's my understanding that it is.

MR. DOBRZYN: So don't put your papers out and leave them laying there for two weeks because some people -- like some people do. And I have a question will the

colleges oppose property tax on the business taxes -- taxable businesses within their borders such as restaurants and so forth? I mean, they are opposing the parking tax, so, you know, that's a basically a private business situation practically. And once again I'd like to see them zoned in and if they want to expand any further than they can pay them the whole enchilada.

And I also have a question, I have been reading in the paper if anybody could find out our medical school is constantly on some type of probation because -- and they negotiated with the University and the negotiations seem to fall through and, I mean, this is an instance where the University could be a great help to the city because we have a medical school on academic probation, constantly their need to affiliate with the University and see that we have one a few blocks away I don't see what the problem is. I certainly hope it's not ideologic.

And on this bond issue, I'd like to see some -- I'm going to keep an open mind

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and not going to comment on that greatly this week, but an itemization of exactly what bills are to be paid off so they do get paid off and whoever is going to manage the money is locked in to paying off and using the money that they do. What it was designated for and not shipping money back and forth.

It's concerning when we start borrowing that high of a rating and amount of money, and also keeping in mind that these banks are being handed, major banks are being handed government -- or money from the government, the federal reserve, and every time they downgrade our credit rating they make all of the more money on the interest and it's really ashame because three or four years ago they were on their way to extinction because the government didn't bail them out. We have got nothing for the average city from this bail out. have gotten no where. They get handed money at 1 percent or a fraction of a percent or whatever and then they turn around and they want to charge us an ungodly rate, like 8 or

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9 percent. I mean, what are they afraid of what they are going to pack our city up and move somewhere else? Come on. We are not going anywhere.

And the golden parrot, the election,
I have some information for some people,
money can't buy you love. US Chamber of
Commerce, Carl Roach, save your money the
next time.

And I agree with Joe Talimini, it struck me that we should have in Pennsylvania an absentee ballot for any person that has to work. I used to drive 500 miles a week to work and back and forth and I was packing my tools up and rushing home just to get in on the last half hour of voting. If there was a line there, which there wasn't because it was a little rural town, I would have lost the opportunity possibly to vote, so it's really time that we change -- I read through the Federal Labor Standards Act and some states they release you -- that your employer has to release you for an hour or two or what have you, but here in Pennsylvania there is

1	nothing, supposed to be that the start of
2	the democracy, so thank you and have a good
3	night and for all of these big
4	contributions, thousands of suitcases full
5	of \$20 bills, bawk, bawk, bawk, money don't
6	buy you love. Have a good night.
7	MR. JOYCE: Thank you.
8	MR. DOBRZYN: Oh, and
9	congratulations, Pat, I guess you did pretty
10	good the other day?
11	MR. ROGAN: Yesterday. Thank you.
12	MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else who
13	would like to address council?
14	MR. SLEDENZSKI: Frankie.
15	MR. JOYCE: Hey, Chrissy.
16	Mr. SLEDENZSKI: Jack, you handsome
17	devil, you.
18	MR. LOSCOMBE: Where is your hat
19	tonight?
20	MR. SLEDENZSKI: What's up, Jackie?
21	Jack, for two weeks that it as open, Engine
22	7, somebody told me it opened yesterday. I
23	heard down there. Back open I heard.
24	That's what I have been hearing. Yeah. Hey
25	Frank, next week, buddy, football, what do

1 you think? What do you think? Who do you 2 think? I hope Scranton wins and Abington, 3 too. Good luck. MR. JOYCE: Thanks, Chrissy. 4 Ιs there anyone else would like to address 5 council? 6 7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, 8 Council. Marie Schumacher, resident and 9 taxpayer. 10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening. I'm glad to see 11 MS. SCHUMACHER: that "Wiley Wascal" with the bowtie down 12 there that he came back because he promised 13 14 me some information tonight do you have it? MR. MCGOFF: Yes and no. I'll say 15 16 yes and no. I did get the answers from 17 rental registration and I wrote them down 18 and I should have put them on my hand or my 19 forehead because I left -- but I can give 20 you sort of a synopsis and then I'll give 21 get you the --22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did they -- go 23 ahead. 24 MR. MCGOFF: Right now the total 25 number of -- the total number of properties

in the database is around 1,400, increased from the original by about 100 or more. The total collections up to this point are at about \$40,000 which only -- which is still, and again, I'm trying to remember what was given to me, I believe there is still somewhere around 70 percent of the properties that have not responded.

Now, I will say that the day I was in talking to Mr. Seitzinger about it on his desk he showed me that they had, you know, there were three letters that they had received with the rental registration, you know, revenues included, so it is being actively pursued. The gentlemen that's been doing the rental registration is out every day trying to improve the database -- and please hold Mrs. Schumacher's time I know I'm talking too much, but they are actively working at it, and as for other info --

MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, as I say, the richest source would be go to the county and ask for that list of people who are billed at an address different than the taxable property, and that still has not been done?

1 MR. MCGOFF: Apparently not. 2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Apparently not. 3 That really makes you wonder. MR. MCGOFF: And again, just a quick 4 5 response, we did -- I did talk to the 6 gentlemen with rental registration and we 7 did talk about a mass mailing based on the 8 assessment, you know, from the assessment --9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did anybody contact 10 the Sewer Authority who has the person who 11 was out? 12 MR. MCGOFF: That I did not ask 13 that. 14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Good, he is back, I don't have to go out of order. 15 16 we have the loan -- the loan list from OECD 17 tonight and how many are on it or how many 18 are delinquent? MR. ROGAN: I have two e-mails I 19 20 received from Linda, I didn't get a chance, 21 I was on vacation all last week. I'll get 22 back to you tomorrow morning on that, I'll 23 send you an e-mail, and if I didn't receive 24 it I will contact her. 25 MS. SCHUMACHER: What about the

Pizano Partnership, did you find out whether that was part of the guarantee that -- those properties that are on the market were part of the guarantee for the quarter of a million dollar no interest loan?

MR. ROGAN: Again, I was sifting through the e-mails, I do know I have three replies from Linda, but I didn't get that far down the chain yet.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, okay.

Mr. Joyce, could you explain to me why you are counting on only \$2 1/2 million in commuter tax next year and then \$4 million in each of the following years? What's different?

MR. JOYCE: Yes. Actually this was an issue that was brought up by PEL as well, in the first year they explained to me that collections were usually slow being that the tax is new, the people have to get into the mode of paying it and also that the last quarter most likely wouldn't be collected until the following year, which would translate into \$3 million, but to be on the safe side it would -- PEL suggested that

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\$2.5 million would be realized.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and then what

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is -- whose court is the ball in or just nothing on either side? Nothing?

MR. HUGHES: There is nothing on either side right now.

MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, okay. And then last week I was remiss, I meant to talk -- start off by thanking the DPW because when we had all of that rain they were out doing the streets to get the leaves off so that gutters didn't -- and the storm drains weren't blocked and they were out early and they did a great job.

And then with respect to the basketball or the baseball team, after looking at this list I would go with none of the above personally. Thank you. See you next week.

MR. JOYCE: Thank you very much.

MR. MARTIN: Bob Martin. Bob
Martin, 420 Adams Avenue. First I want to
talk about the engine company. There have
been many people talking about Engine 7
being closed. Well, Engine 4 has been
closed a lot of times, too. They got a
scanner, I don't know, John, maybe you can

answer this, Engine 4 has been browned out but they have been in service sometimes I think I have been hearing on the scanner that they have Engine 4, but they are not full, they still have their times when they are --

MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, that's correct.

MR. MARTIN: -- they are still being browned out. You know, I just wish, and you know, I was talking Janet before she came in, I just wish we could have, you know, those engine companies open all the time because, like you said, we can have as many trucks there, but if you don't have the engine companies it ain't going to matter.

But, you know, somebody had brought that up about the -- you know, Engine 10, and that's going to cause a problem because that Spruce Street complex the -- if I had heard right that might not be fixed until between either March or June of next year. I mean, that -- I don't know if they ever caught that truck, but I'll tell you, they did -- oh, they really ruined that bridge real bad and, you know, the engine companies

are not allowed to go over Harrison, I know they are going to be fixing Harrison Avenue bridge, what 2014 or something like that or is that the truth?

MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, I think the plans are complete and everything and hopefully it will be started next year. I think they were waiting until the Mulberry Street corridor was completed, so to alleviate some of that traffic. We can't drive the fire trucks over there.

MR. MARTIN: Right. I'm happy that all of these new lights are going up and I talked about, you know, I don't know, you know those big little things that they have on top where people are saying that they are going to be taking your picture, but I think I was talking to somebody they are mostly for the synchronization to keep the lights going.

MR. LOSCOMBE: Correct.

MR. MARTIN: And I heard once they get everything in there, you know, that they will have all of those lights at work because I'll tell you I was downtown and

right where the Colts buses and, boy, they had everything blocked up, all of those things that have to be done.

You mentioned about the nonprofits,

I know Attorney Hughes was talking about
this at one time, the schools that are
closed now, okay, there, Bishop Hannon and
stuff, if I ain't mistaken in order for them
to be considered taxable they have to be
closed at least a year. Is that true,
Attorney Hughes?

MR HUGHES: That's what I understand, one year.

MR. MARTIN: One year, because I know Bishop Hannon was closed for awhile, you know, I think we need to, you know, go after that and make up a list and go after and, you know, the taxes and I think and it's just money, money that could be made.

Another thing I want to talk about, I know this is an old issue, did they still ever have plans to -- you know the old railroad, you know how they wanted to open up that railroad station, you know, before you go over the bridge? You know, I think

Mr. Donahue was involved in it and then 1 there was a problem, is there anything going 2 3 on with that at all, do you know? haven't heard anything, right? 4 5 MS. EVANS: No, not heard anything 6 in a very long time. 7 MR. MARTIN: Because really it's an 8 eyesore, you know, but I just wanted to 9 mention that. 10 And finally, I would like to wish Scranton High School good luck in the 11 12 playoffs, even though I wish West Side was 13 in there, I'm a big West Sider, but at 14 least, I mean, they went undefeated. I really think they have a good shot of taking 15 16 the state. And again, good luck to Scranton 17 High School. Thank you very much. 18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there 19 anyone else who cares to address council? 20 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS. 21 MS. EVANS: Councilman McGoff, do 22 you have any comments or motions? 23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, please. First of 24 all, a couple of people that congratulations 25 in the election to, our local legislators I

believe -- well, first Kevin Haggerty, Marty
Flynn and I believe that Mr. Sid Michaels
Kavulich also represents part of the City of
Scranton. Not him or that wasn't changed?
Okay, but anyhow, congratulations to them.

MS. EVANS: If I could interrupt, as you began I realized I left someone out earlier and that would have been Matt Cartwright.

MR. MCGOFF: That was next on the list.

MS. EVANS: For Congress and we give him our hearty congratulations as well.

MR. MCGOFF: And then also I think that we should congratulate Representative Barletta and also Mr. Rogan that he will keep a job in the next four years.

MR. ROGAN: Two years.

MR. MCGOFF: Two years, I'm sorry, but, yes, congratulations to all of the people in the election, and I just would like to make one comment, elections seem to have become -- have gotten away from political ideologies and have come more about demonizing your opponent in the

process and I think it's a sad commentary on where elections have gone and where political process has gone, and I'll put in a plug, I think one of the things that we really need to do is to reintroduce civics education into our schools system because I think that that was taken out and less emphasize placed on it at least in my teaching career the emphasize was removed, but I think it's something that we really need to look into and to reintroduce so that we can get back to the type of political process that we all want and desire.

On the baseball team, I did make a joke about the name, but having been an original ticket holder, season ticket holder, and having also worked at the stadium in the past I am glad to see that the team, whatever the name is, is transforming itself back to a more fan friendly environment. I think that was lacking in the last few years and driven away a number of people, but I'm happy to see that the community is being involved in the process and hopefully the return of the

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Scranton Wilkes-Barre team will be a huge success and attendance will go up. I will say, I have enjoyed my association with the team in the past and I think it's great for the community, for the area, and hopefully this is a success of sort of the second go-around with the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre AAA franchise.

Next, on the agenda tonight is the appointment to the zoning board. I would just like to take a brief moment to explain a little bit the process that we went through to arrive at that. It certainly was a little bit different than what we had done -- what has been done in the past. We received I believe it was seven letters of interest from people who -- seven letter from people who were interested in going onto the zoning board to fulfill the unexpired term of Mr. Wilson, and Mrs. Evans asked if I would review those, and I did, and I contacted the other members of council, suggested two names to everyone. The consensus, the best consensus that was received was the approval of all members of

council for Mrs. Wardell's appointment to that position. I think that the process that we used in doing this is a much better way of appointing people. The zoning board I believe is the only entity to which we have that opportunity. In the past it has been sort of just a selection by one member of council and approved by everyone else. I just thought that this process offered more input of all members of the council and perhaps it's something we can look at for future appointments to the zoning board.

But I would like to prematurely congratulate Mrs. Wardell on her appointment. I believe that we will get consent on her appointment to the zoning board. She is a very concerned citizen and I'm sure that she will do a great job in that position.

Next, I would like to -- we received something about Comcast and it was brought up by one of the speakers, I guess I'm uncertain as to what the status of our contract with Comcast is at this time. I know it was a back and forth thing and then

it just seemed to, I don't know, disappear. 1 MR. HUGHES: I still don't think 2 3 it's executed. MR. MCGOFF: Another thing that is 4 5 probably in limbo somewhere. MR. HUGHES: I don't know if it's 6 ever been executed. I know there was some 7 8 revisions to it and I don't believe it's 9 ever been executed. MS. EVANS: That's correct. 10 MR. MCGOFF: So we are still 11 operating under the prior agreement. 12 13 MS. EVANS: That's correct. 14 MR. MCGOFF: Maybe that's -- I realize that we have been dealing with any 15 16 number of issues, but perhaps as we move 17 forward in 2013 and the budget maybe it's 18 something that we can reopen and sort of 19 I'll say renegotiate something, you know, 20 that's acceptable to all. I think it's 21 something that really needs to be done. 22 And lastly, a mention was made of 23 Chief Davis maybe the last couple of weeks, 24 I will say I'm a friend of Chief Tom Davis 25 and I just think that he is being

misrepresented when people say that he has no concern for this city and for the welfare of the people in the city. You may disagree with his operation of the fire department, that's fine, but to question -- to question his concern for the City of Scranton, this is a man that has spent his adult life basically running into burning buildings and has been highly decorated for it and I think that any statement that he has no concern for this city or the people in it is a misrepresentation of what his life has been and any other things I'll discuss during legislation. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman Rogan, do you have any comments or motions?

MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. And,
Mrs. Evans and Mr. McGoff thanked all the
candidates that ran, but a big thanks go to
the voters. Voter turnout was at record
high for Democrats, Republicans and
Independents all across the country, which
is great to see. I know Mr. Talimini
mentioned he believes it was around 70
percent, I think we all look for the day

when we see 100 percent turnout in the election and that's what's great about our country we get to select our own leaders and there is many other people across the world that wish that they had the privilege.

A few things that I would like to discuss tonight. The first one, and I usually try to not to bring up newspaper articles too much, but this one did rub me the wrong way. As you know, city council did ask the county commissioners to extend the discount period for taxpayers by one month, and it was brought up by myself and others at last week's meeting, and apparently Commissioner Wansack didn't like my statement. So the headline in the paper was, "County Blasts City Over Tax Discount Comments."

Now, just to quote what was said in the paper, it says, "Discount. Rogan and Wansack jab over help." Commissioner Wansack, who we have a difference of opinion on this issue of extending the tax break, I never had a problem with Mr. Wansack personally, but his quote is, "My problem is

with Pat."

Well, that's fine, but it's not a personal battle here, what we are trying to -- we are trying to help our taxpayers. He goes onto say, "When he is saying we are not helping the city he is misinformed. Before he speaks, he should get the facts."

Well, the facts were we received a letter from the majority commissioners stating that they weren't going to extend the discount period. Mr. Wansack then goes onto say that, you know, they have done other things to try and help the city and I never said that he doesn't care about the city or he is not trying to help the city. I don't think -- I'd have to look back in the minutes, but I don't think I mentioned any of the commissioners even by name. I said was I was very frustrated that the commissioners didn't do for us what the city did and the school district did for them with taxes going up on all levels of the government. People need a little bit of help, especially the senior citizens in the community.

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So I am -- I was upset about the article just that it's, you know, it seems that the commissioner thinks that it was a personal thing and it's not. I'm just trying to help the people of this city pay their taxes.

A bright spot on this same issue is I believe we all received this letter today, this came from Patrick O'Malley, who is also a county commissioner, and it says, "Dear Pat, as a Lackawanna County Commissioner, Scranton resident and taxpayer I'm speaking on my own behalf. The City of Scranton requested Lackawanna County to extend the first discount period from February 28, 2013, to March 2, 2013. This is the same option that the City of Scranton and the Scranton School District extended to the county in 2012.

It's my view that this option should be granted to the city. I believe this extension will try to reduce the financial restraints the city dealing with and the potential financial hardships that are being placed on the taxpayers.

We are always talking about intergovernmental cooperation. I believe this would be a big first step in helping our city on the road to recovery."

And he also goes onto say that if there is anything he could to for us not to hesitate to contact him, and I do appreciate that and so we have heard from two of the commissioners and I'm hoping that maybe Mr. O'Brien will come up to the table and step up and say, you know, I agree with Commissioner O'Malley on this one and help out the city residents, and not only the city residents, but also help with the county portion of the tax bill to the city.

All three entities are raising taxes this year, unfortunately. Now, I opposed a lot of what was going on and the idea of extending the discount period really will help a lot of people and, like I said before, it's mostly seniors that are on fixed incomes that have their -- lucky to have their homes paid off in their life, so I hope that there is some movement on that and it is good to hear from Commissioner

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O'Malley and we certainly thank him for that.

Another article in the newspaper that I'll comment very briefly on, the mayor stated in the Saturday article, the Saturday political article, that he conducted a political poll that blamed city council for most of the issues that were going on in the city. I would challenge the mayor to release the results of those polls, number one; and number two, I would also hope that since the mayor, assuming his political action committee paid for it, that that politics would be listed on his campaign finance report if it has to be reported at the end of this year. If not, it would be a violation of election laws.

So I challenge the mayor to release the results of that poll and anyone can say that a poll has been commissioned, but we would like to see the results, because I know myself and many of my colleagues in speaking to numerous residents whenever a poll is conducted you hear about it because you are calling thousands of residents in

the City of Scranton and Scranton is a tight-knit community, so whenever there is one people hear about it.

Next onto a couple of agenda items,

Item 5-B, I will vote to introduce this

legislation tonight, I'm hoping to hold a

public caucus or some informative session on
this.

MS. EVANS: I'm going to address that under motions, but I agree with you.

MR. ROGAN: And again, you know, there is -- and I think Mr. Sbaraglia touched on this also that, you know, for myself I want to look at the benefits of the refinancing first, you know, the cost of the additional benefit for refinancing at a rate that's really going to make a difference and save us some money I think we should do it. If not, I think we shouldn't. So I definitely want some more information on that, but I will vote to introduce it.

As I stated last week, many of the issues setting the tax rates, except for the one that Mr. Joyce stated I believe cannot be changed I will oppose. I do think that

should be done for the budgetary process.

And I will address -- well, I might as well just do it now. I echo what Mr. McGoff said about our new appointee, assuming the votes go the way I think they will, Mary Ann Wardell, to the zoning board. I have known her since I have gotten involved in local politics and she is always very insightful. She has been very dedicated to the city, has run for council, coming to council meetings and I definitely think she will be an asset to that board.

And finally on the issue regarding the liquor permit. Now, at the end of the day when we have to make these decisions we always have to look at the benefit to the community or what it would do to hurt the community. Now, from the residents I have talked to, and I know some other council members have, they oppose it. I am hopeful that if it does pass that you do do what you say you did, you know, you are going to do it, it's not going to become a six-pack store, and I believe that is not your intent, but what the residents and myself

can foresee is a situation where if your original vision doesn't work for your business, obviously you are going to have create revenue somehow and a six-pack store would be perfectly legal under this permit, so I will be opposing that.

And just to add on, the one thing this city does not have a lack of is places to purchase alcohol. You could go down to almost any block in the city and there would be either a corner bar a six-pack store or beer distributor, and there are all different type of permits, but that being said I will be voting "no", as I stated last week, on that legislation. And that is all for tonight. Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. And, Councilman Loscombe, do you have any comments or motions tonight?

MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. I'll make some comments on our legislation when it comes up, but just briefly, I received a letter that they asked me to read from the Keyser Valley Citizens Association, 101 North Keyser Avenue, and this was addressed to

Chief Davis, City of Scranton, on November 8.

"Dear Fire Chief Davis, thank you for attending our West Side fire safety meeting on October 17 sponsored by the Keyser Valley Citizens Association. It was unfortunate that Mayor Doherty did not also attend. As you know, a follow-up meeting was scheduled that evening and will be held on Wednesday, November 14, again, at the Keyser Valley Community Center at 7:00 p.m.

As you know, residents of West

Scranton are very concerned about the 82

percent recent closure rate of its only

firehouse at 1917 Luzerne Street for the

months of July, August and September 2012.

Not only is this quite alarming, West

Scranton residents feel this rate of

brownouts is irresponsible and dangerous on
the part of the City of Scranton.

We again invite you and Mayor

Doherty to attend our follow-up meeting on

November 14 to discuss and review activity

at our Luzerne Street firehouse since

October 17 and into its future. All we can

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ask is that the West Scranton residents get no less fire protection from its Luzerne Street firehouse than any other section of the city. Anything less is unacceptable and considered a liability issue for the city by the residents of West Scranton.

Respectfully yours, Gary DiBileo, president."

And just to add to this, we had some discussion this evening with the bridge closings downtown Engine 10 coming from the mountain, previously if there was something in the Petersburg area would have to come all the way down Moosic Street and go back up Mulberry and over because they are not allowed -- the weight restrictions on the Harrison Avenue bridge prevent us from running any fire trucks over that at this Now we have the Spruce Street complex It's pretty much a logistical closed. nightmare responding to certain areas of the city and with Engine 7 being out in West Scranton a lot of times Engine 7 responds over to that side of town.

So we do have some major issues here

with the closure of the firehouse on Main
Avenue and the closure of the firehouse on
Luzerne Street and another speaker mentioned
brownouts of Engine 4 which is right here at
fire headquarters, the engine company that
protects the downtown, so there is a number
of issues.

And again, more and more residents are getting up in arms and like the letter said the chief was at this meeting, he answered a lot of questions, he did assure them that he would be opening Engine 7, but I don't believe that's happened yet. After that meeting they actually had the news media from Channel 28 actually did a tour of the station on Main Avenue Engine 9 Engine 7 and some issues were resolved by the city. It's still a work in progress and they also did air quality tests that due to scheduling conflicts this week on my part I haven't been able to ascertain whether those reports have come back yet and were able to open those stations to the employees or the public at this time, but we will be following up with that.

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I will be at this meeting next week and hopefully more residents will come out, and this is not just a West Side issue.

Even though it's in West Side and it's Keyser Valley, it is a citywide issue because the more fire stations that are closed in the city the less chance your station in your neighborhood stands to be there. They may be responding to the other parts of town, taking them away for longer periods from your neighborhood, so this is an issue that affects every part of the city.

Everyone should be there to ask questions and voice their opinion and get the correct information, so everyone is welcome, not just the Keyser Valley residents to the Keyser Valley Community Center next Wednesday night, that's November 14th at 7:00 p.m. and hopefully the mayor will also appear and will be able to resolve some issues.

And personally I think one of the biggest issues is the return of the federal SAFER money of \$3 1/2 million that would

have maintained these stations for the next two years. Now, people say what happens in two years? Well, we'll cross that bridge when we get to it, but we had a gift handed to us to protect us that was handed back. It me that's irresponsible and someone has to answer for that it there is a tragedy. But, you know, come next Wednesday ask the questions and hopefully get some answers. And that's all I have at this time.

MS. EVANS: Thank you, Councilman Loscombe. Councilman Joyce, do you have any comments or motions at this time?

MR. JOYCE: Yes, briefly. I just wanted to congratulate all of the candidates who recently ran for election and I know running for election myself it's a very long process and all of the candidates, whether they won or they lost, deserve to be congratulated for their efforts.

To begin tonight I'm going to address the Single Tax Office. Scranton City Council has received notification regarding the amount of funds collected and distributed as of October 31 for all of the

taxes that are collected by the office. To inform, the taxes collected by the Single Tax Office are current real estate taxes, delinquent real estate taxes from 2011 only, earned income taxes from the last quarter of 2011 as earned income taxes for this year, of course, are collected by Berkheimer, the local service tax, the business privilege tax, and the mercantile. Collection and distribution of these taxes are as follows:

For the current real estate tax revenue the Single Tax Office has collected and distributed \$12,032,819.31 as of October 31. During the same period last year, the Single Tax Office collected and distributed \$11,197,165.34. This is an overall increase of \$835,653.79 which is a 7.5 percent increase in revenue collected and distributed.

For delinquent real estate tax collections, the Single Tax Office had collected and distributed \$490,579.10 as of October 31. During the same period last year, the Single Tax office collected and distributed \$582,436.52. This is an overall

decrease of \$91,857.42 which is a 15.8 percent decrease in revenue collected and distributed.

For the local service tax, the Single Tax Office had collected and distributed \$1,178,397.63 as of October 31. During the same period last year, the Single Tax Office collected and distributed \$1,400,330.63, which is an overall decrease of \$221,933.00 which is a 15.8 percent decrease in revenue collected and distributed.

For the combination of the business privilege and mercantile taxes, the Single Tax Office had collected and distributed \$1,776,331.98 as of October 31. During the same period last year, the Single Tax office collected and distributed \$1,568,785.06.

This is an overall increase of \$207,546.92 which is a 13.2 percent increase in revenue collected and distributed.

Secondly tonight, I'm going to address the collection of the delinquent taxes by Northeast Revenue. As one knows, Northeast Revenue collects all delinquent

real estate taxes with the exception of 2011 delinquent real taxes which are collected by the Single Tax Office, as I previously mentioned.

For delinquent real estate tax collection, excluding 2011, Northeast Revenue collected and distributed \$100,511,52 to the City of Scranton for the period ending on October 31. Within these collections, the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 are included. Previously 2004, 2005 and 2006 delinquent tax collections were sent directly to Pennstar Bank to pay for a loan that the Scranton Redevelopment Authority previously defaulted on regarding the advance sale of delinquent taxes.

I have been informed that the remaining balance on the loan owed to Pennstar Bank is now paid off. Therefore, all remaining delinquent tax collections from now on will be distributed directly to the city.

Third tonight, regarding the status of the audit we have received an update from Rossi & Rossi regarding the audit status.

In Rossi & Rossi's January 26 letter, they had stated that in order to issue the December 31, 2011, audited financial statements by May 31st of 2012, the outline of the 2011 audit timeframe must be adhered to, which it was not.

Because the timetable had not been adhered to and because other matters in the BA's Office have taken priority over getting the necessary information to Rossi & Rossi, the completion of the audited financial statements has been delayed. As of October 31, the actual actuarial calculation on the GASBE 45 post-employment benefits that was to be provided by March 31 was not yet received.

After receipt of this information and audit testing is completed, and assuming that the information does not require any further follow-up, Rossi & Rossi will issue completed financial statements and present a draft of the full financial statements for review. From that point, the management and discussion analysis section of the audit report will need to be completed.

In addition, attorney letters have been sent and Rossi & Rossi requests that they respond with an effective date of November 15. Once Rossi & Rossi receives the remaining information that is overdue, along with the attorneys' responses to the audit requests letters, the required city's management and discussion analytical and financial statement and the city's representation letter an exit conference will be held and the audit will be completed.

Fourth tonight, I wanted to briefly discuss the 2013 operating budgets. As everyone knows 2013 is fast approaching and the budget for 2013 as required by the Home Rule Charter shall be sent to council by November 15. In crafting the budget this year accordingly the budget should follow suit with the recovery plan, however, it's not as easy as it seems. There are many important issues to be discussed and we, as a city, have many challenges.

One of the largest challenges is funding the Supreme Court award that was

ruled in the fire and police unions favor.

This will be a cost of approximately \$17 1/2 million dollars to the city.

Secondly, we have a rising pension costs as the minimum municipal obligation for funding pensions is increasing by \$5.1 million this year.

Third, we must address the Scranton Parking Authority, which in the recent year has taken a toll on city finances.

As a council member, my role is simply more than just voting on agenda items as they come by. There is hard work to be done. Knowing this, I am meeting with our business administrator, Ryan McGowan, to discuss the budget tomorrow. In addition, I am meeting with Ryan McGowan and Mayor Doherty over the holiday to discuss the budget further. Once the budget is complete, I am going to ask the administration to appear at council to present the budget to the public.

Tonight I'm making a challenge to my colleagues to come with me to meet with the mayor and business administrator or meet

them personally by themselves to discuss the budget. We must show unity to form the budget and that includes every one of us.

We owe it to the people of Scranton to minimize the tax increase the best way that we can.

And finally tonight, I will comment about Big House Tobacco receiving the transfer of the liquor license. I was on the fence with this issue as some of my colleagues shared a concern that I had as well that this may be a six-pack store. However, after hearing their presentation tonight, after viewing the photos of the establishment and after hearing everything that they had to say, I don't believe that this will be a six-pack store and I do have to believe that this is a well-kept establishment and will be a good business and a good neighbor to the City of Scranton and its residents. And that's all.

MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
evening. I wish to begin by thanking
Harrison House Personal Care Home for it's
\$500 voluntary payment in lieu of taxes to

the City of Scranton. Perhaps other nonprofits will follow the example set by Harrison House and become good neighbors to our city and its taxpayers.

On Monday, November 5, city council office received a proposed ordinance drafted by City Solicitor Kelly for implementation of an amusement tax. It is extremely important that Solicitor Hughes and all council members review this ordinance and submit any revisions or amendments to Attorney Kelly on or before Monday, November 12. The administration hopes to have this legislation included on the November 15 council agenda.

Attorney Kelly tomorrow morning asking for more specific identification of the amusement section on page one of the ordinance. For example, I cannot determine if he intends that high school athletic games, church fundraisers and cancer fundraisers be taxed. The current language is very general and could lead one to believe that such events would, indeed, be

taxed. Thus, there is need for more specific language or definition.

Also, if any council member has suggestions and is interested in developing the 2013 budget he must contact Business Administrator Ryan McGowan and schedule meetings with him and Council Finance Chair Frank Joyce as soon as possible. Councilman Joyce and I just received preliminary drafts of the budget in the last few days and because the administration and council want to work jointly to produce a final draft, we have already scheduled budget meetings. We urge all council members to do the same.

In compliance with the Home Rule
Charter, the 2013 proposed budget will be
submitted to the public and council by
November 15. Since the following Thursday,
November 22, marks Thanksgiving, the budget
will be placed into Fifth Order for
introduction on Thursday, November 29.

Included on tonight's agenda in

Fifth Order for introduction are two pieces

of legislation, Items 5-B and C pertaining

to the second unfunded debt borrowing for

2012 which was recently approved by the Court. The administration submitted both in the form of emergency legislation, but council will vote only on introduction this evening since merely the titles of the ordinances rather than the ordinances themselves were provided to city council and it's solicitor prior to Wednesday, November 7, deadline for publically posting tonight's agenda.

Consequently, Solicitor Hughes did not have the final documents to review and represent to council. As a result, the legislation may proceed to Sixth Order during the November 15 meeting and at this time council may suspend it's rules to place both ordinances into Seventh Order for final approval and adoption.

In addition, I will ask Council
Solicitor Hughes to explain the legislation
publically and respond to any council
members questions at next week's meeting.
Further, council members may contact
Attorney Hughes regarding any questions or
concerns prior to the November 15 council

meeting, and I would ask each council member to keep in mind that we will be asking Attorney Hughes to present the details of this second unfunded debt legislation and refinancing the bond series, and so I would ask that we either keep our comments to a minimum next week or defer our time to Attorney Hughes for his presentation.

Also, on our agenda this evening is a resolution to appoint Mrs. Mary Ann Wardell to the zoning board to fulfill the unexpired term of the late James Williams, Senior. Council members are in agreement with our honorable colleague Councilman McGoff's selection of Mrs. Wardell and we thank all of those individuals who submitted letters of interest.

Mrs. Krake, please send thank you letters to all of applicants as soon as possible and invite each of them to reapply in June 2013 when city council will make appointments to permanent seats of the zoning board.

Next, I spoke with both

Commissioners O'Brien and Tax Collector Bill

Courtright in the last week regarding the city's request for an extension of the discount period for payment of 2013 real estate taxes. Unfortunately, Commissioner O'Brien does not believe the county can agree to the extension because doing so would lead to the inability to make payroll in March 2013, particularly in light of the fact that the county 2013 tax anticipation note will merely fund the months of January and February according to Mr. Durkin.

Mr. Courtright stated that he would direct his solicitor to determine legally whether or not the Single Tax Office can provide an extension for the city and Mr. Courtright will contact me when the determination is made.

Finally, acting police chief Carl Graziano responded to the citizens complaint of the speeding in the 300 and 400 blocks of Cedar Avenue and I would like to read from his correspondence.

"These two blocks are not currently legally posted to issue traffic citations for speeding. However, DPW has been

contacted to properly post these locations.

These two blocks are already some of the most frequently patrolled areas in the city.

The patrol division has been advised of the speeding complaints there and once the signs are in place they can issue speeding

City council thanks Chief Graziano for his timely response to this problem.

citations."

In addition, Mrs. Krake, please send a letter to the police chief regarding daily truck traffic in the Bellevue section of Scranton, which is a mine cave-in area. Residents report that truck traffic has continued for well over a decade despite the adoption of the ordinance in the 1990's prohibiting this. Trucks often pass police cars and are not stopped and cited according to the homeowners. Council requests that Chief Graziano would review the ordinance and recommend any changes that he deems appropriate, if necessary in order that the police department can enforce the law, cite truckers and prevent this daily problem.

And that's it.

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MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. SETTING FORTH ITS INTENT TO ISSUE ONE OR MORE SERIES OF FEDERALLY TAXABLE AND/OR TAX EXEMPT GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY MILLION NINE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,910,000) (COLLECTIVELY, THE "BONDS") PURSUANT TO THE ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, PA.C.S. 53, CHAPTERS 80-82, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT (THE "ACT"); FINDING THAT A PRIVATE SALE BY NEGOTIATION IS IN THE BEST FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE CITY; DETERMINING THAT SUCH BONDS SHALL EVIDENCE NONELECTORAL DEBT OF THE CITY; SPECIFYING THAT SUCH INDEBTEDNESS TO BE INCURRED TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR A CERTAIN PROJECT OF THE CITY CONSISTING OF ALL OR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) FUNDING UNFUNDED DEBT OF THE CITY; (2) REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES A OF 2003; (3) REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION

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BONDS, SERIES B OF 2003; (4) REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION PENSION FUNDING BONDS, SERIES C OF 2003; (5) REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES D OF 2003; AND (6) FUNDING NECESSARY RESERVES AND PAYING THE COSTS AND EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; SETTING FORTH THE REASONABLE ESTIMATED USEFUL LIVES OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT ARE TO BE FINANCED AND REFINANCED BY THE BONDS: ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OR ARRANGEMENT OF THE PRIVATE PLACEMENT OF SUCH BONDS AT PRIVATE SALE BY NEGOTIATION TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYERS AND/OR ACCREDITED INVESTORS; PROVIDING THAT SUCH BONDS, WHEN ISSUED, SHALL CONSTITUTE A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE CITY; FIXING THE DENOMINATIONS, SERIES DESIGNATIONS, DATED DATE, INTEREST PAYMENT DATES, MATURITY DATES, INTEREST RATES, REDEMPTION PROVISIONS, OPTIONAL AND MANDATORY REDEMPTION PROVISIONS (IF APPLICABLE) AND PLACE OF PAYMENT OF THE

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PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS: AUTHORIZING SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO CONTRACT WITH THE PAYING AGENT FOR ITS SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS: SETTING FORTH THE SUBSTANTIAL FORM OF THE BONDS EVIDENCING THE DEBT; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND ATTESTATION OF SUCH BONDS; PROVIDING COVENANTS RELATED TO DEBT SERVICE APPLICABLE TO SUCH BONDS TO THE EXTENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT AND PLEDGING THE FULL FAITH. CREDIT AND TAXING POWER OF THE CITY IN SUPPORT THEREOF: CREATING A SINKING FUND FOR EACH SERIES OF BONDS IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH SERIES OF BONDS. TO THE EXTENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT: DESIGNATING THE PAYING AGENT TO BE THE SINKING FUND DEPOSITARY; PROVIDING A COVENANT TO INSURE PROMPT AND FULL PAYMENT FOR SUCH BONDS WHEN DUE: SETTING FORTH REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER PROVISIONS WITH RESPECT TO SUCH BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS BY SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY (IF APPLICABLE) AND THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS OR ANY OTHER SECURITIES OR INVESTMENTS IN CONNECTION

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WITH THE PROJECT AND THE REFUNDING OF THE PRIOR BONDS: AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO DO, TO TAKE AND TO PERFORM CERTAIN SPECIFIED. REQUIRED, NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTS TO EFFECT THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE PREPARATION OF A DEBT STATEMENT AND BORROWING BASE CERTIFICATE, AND THE FILING OF SPECIFIED DOCUMENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ALL AS REQUIRED BY THE ACT: DECLARING THAT THE DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED BY SUCH BONDS, TOGETHER WITH ALL OTHER INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY, WILL NOT BE IN EXCESS OF ANY APPLICABLE LIMITATION IMPOSED BY THE ACT; AUTHORIZING PROPER OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO DELIVER THE BONDS UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; IF APPLICABLE, SETTING FORTH CERTAIN COVENANTS PRECLUDING THE CITY FROM TAKING ACTIONS WHICH WOULD CAUSE THE BONDS TO BECOME "ARBITRAGE BONDS" OR "PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDS." AS THOSE TERMS ARE USED IN THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED

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(THE "CODE"), AND APPLICABLE REGULATIONS PROMULGATED THEREUNDER: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE AND COVENANTING TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS THEREOF, IF APPLICABLE; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE ESCROW AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE ESCROW AGENT NAMED THEREIN IN CONNECTION WITH THE REFUNDING OF THE PRIOR BONDS; APPROVING THE FORM OF AND RATIFYING THE PREPARATION, USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF A PRELIMINARY PLACEMENT MEMORANDUM AND A PLACEMENT MEMORANDUM BY THE PURCHASER OR PLACEMENT AGENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE MARKETING OF THE BONDS: AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PREPARATION, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ALL OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND THE TAKING OF ALL OTHER REQUIRED ACTION: PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INSOFAR AS THE SAME SHALL BE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

MS. EVANS: At this time I'll entertain a motion that Item 5-B be

introduced into its proper committee. 1 2 MR. ROGAN: So moved. 3 MR. JOYCE: Second. 4 MS. EVANS: On the question? All 5 those in favor of introduction signify by 6 saying aye. 7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 8 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 10 MR. JOYCE: Aye. 11 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes 12 have it and so moved. 13 MS. KRAKE: Attorney Hughes has 14 kindly offered to read this next week for 15 me. 16 MR. HUGHES: I was going to read it tonight, but I forgot. 17 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AUTHORIZING THE 18 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS 19 20 TO LEVY A REAL ESTATE TAX MILLAGE INCREASE 21 FOR A PERIOD OF (10) YEARS DEDICATED TO RETIRING THE UNFUNDED DEBT INCURRED IN 22 CALENDAR YEAR 2012 IN THE AMOUNT OF NINE 23 24 MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS 25 (\$9,750,000.00) AND DIRECTING THE CITY

1	TREASURER TO SEPARATE THE PROPER PORTION OF
2	THE REAL ESTATE TAXES RECEIVED FROM THE
3	SINGLE TAX OFFICE DURING SUCH TEN (10)
4	YEAR PERIOD AND FORWARD SAME TO A SEPARATE
5	ACCOUNT TO SERVICE AND RETIRE THE UNFUNDED
6	DEBT.
7	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
8	entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
9	introduced into its proper committee.
10	MR. MCGOFF: So moved.
11	MR. JOYCE: Second.
12	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
13	those in favor of introduction signify by
14	saying aye.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
16	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
17	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
18	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
19	MR. ROGAN: No.
20	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
21	moved.
22	MS. KRAKE: 5-D. ACCEPTING A SEVEN
23	HUNDRED FIFTY (\$750.00) DOLLAR DONATION FROM
24	SANOFI PASTEUR PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF
25	SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

1	MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
2	entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
3	introduced into its proper committee.
4	MR. ROGAN: So moved.
5	MR. JOYCE: Second.
6	MS. EVANS: On the question?
7	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question,
8	I would like to thank is Sanofi-Pasteur for
9	their continued donations to the police and
10	fire departments in the city. Thank you.
11	MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
12	in favor of introduction signify by saying
13	aye.
14	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
15	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
16	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
16 17	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
17	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
17 18	MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
17 18 19	MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved.
17 18 19 20	MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved. MS. KRAKE: 5-E. APPOINTING MARY
17 18 19 20 21	MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved. MS. KRAKE: 5-E. APPOINTING MARY ANN WARDELL, 629 DEPOT STREET, SCRANTON,
17 18 19 20 21 22	MR. JOYCE: Aye. MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved. MS. KRAKE: 5-E. APPOINTING MARY ANN WARDELL, 629 DEPOT STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER OF THE

29, 2012. MRS. WARDELL'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 1, 2013.

MS. EVANS: At this time I'll entertain a motion that Item 5-E be introduced into its proper committee.

MR. ROGAN: So moved.

MR. JOYCE: Second.

MS. EVANS: On the question?

MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, just on the question, I was the only had one that hadn't spoken on Mrs. Wardell, I echo my colleagues on their comments, Mrs. Wardell has been involved in city issues for many years. She stayed active at meetings and up-to-date on a lot of, like I said, the issues that have been going on. We had several candidates provide us with their letter of interest and I know it was a tough choice, but hopefully, as Mrs. Evans stated, that they will reapply for the next opening as they are all good qualified candidates that were on that list, but I would like to say I support

MR. JOYCE: Likewise.

MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those

1 in favor of introduction signify by saying 2 aye. 3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 4 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. MR. JOYCE: Aye. 6 7 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes 8 have it and so moved. 9 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 65, 10 11 2012 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE 12 COUNCIL NO. 6, 1976 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE 13 (AS AMENDED) IMPOSING A TAX FOR GENERAL 14 REVENUE PURPOSES ON THE TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY SITUATE WITHIN THE CITY OF 15 16 SCRANTON; PRESCRIBING AND REGULATING THE 17 METHOD OF EVIDENCING THE PAYMENT OF SUCH 18 TAX; CONFERRING POWERS AND IMPOSING DUTIES UPON CERTAIN PERSONS, AND PROVIDING 19 PENALTIES", BY IMPOSING THE RATE OF 20 21 THE REALTY TRANSFER TAX AT TWO AND NINE 22 TENTHS PERCENT (2.9%) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 23 2013. 24 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by

title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

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1 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-A 2 pass reading by title. 3 MR. MCGOFF: Second. 4 MS. EVANS: On the question? A11 5 those in favor signify by saying aye. MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 7 8 MR. JOYCE: Aye. 9 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? MR. ROGAN: No. 10 11 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so 12 moved. 6-B. READING BY TITLE -13 MS. KRAKE: 14 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 66, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 7, 1976, 15 16 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) IMPOSING 17 A MERCANTILE LICENSE TAX OF TWO MILLS FOR 18 THE YEAR 1976 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UPON PERSONS ENGAGING IN CERTAIN OCCUPATIONS AND 19 20 BUSINESSES THEREIN; PROVIDING FOR ITS LEVY AND COLLECTION AND FOR THE ISSUANCE OF 21 22 MERCANTILE LICENSES; CONFERRING AND IMPOSING 23 POWERS AND DUTIES UPON THE TAX COLLECTOR OF 24 THE CITY OF SCRANTON; AND IMPOSING 25 PENALTIES", BY IMPOSING THE MERCANTILE

1	LICENSE TAX AT ONE (1) MILL (.001) FOR
2	CALENDAR YEAR 2013.
3	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
4	title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?
5	MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-B
6	pass reading by title.
7	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
8	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
9	those in favor signify by saying aye.
10	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
11	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
12	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
13	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
14	MR. ROGAN: No.
15	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
16	moved.
17	MS. KRAKE: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -
18	FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 67, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE
19	- AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 8, 1976,
20	ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED)
21	PROVIDING FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE BY
22	IMPOSING A TAX AT THE RATE OF TWO (2) MILLS
23	UPON THE PRIVILEGE OF OPERATING OR
24	CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON
25	AS MEASURED BY THE GROSS RECEIPTS THEREFROM;

1	REQUIRING REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF THE
2	TAX AS CONDITION TO THE CONDUCTING OF SUCH
3	BUSINESS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND
4	COLLECTION OF SUCH TAX; PRESCRIBING SUCH
5	REQUIREMENTS FOR RETURNS AND RECORDS;
6	CONFERRING POWERS AND DUTIES UPON THE TAX
7	COLLECTOR; AND IMPOSING PENALTIES", BY
8	IMPOSING THE BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX AT THE
9	RATE OF ONE (1) MILL(.001) FOR CALENDAR YEAR
10	2013.
11	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
12	title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?
13	MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-C
14	pass reading by title.
15	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
16	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
17	those in favor signify by saying aye.
18	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
19	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
20	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
21	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
22	MR. ROGAN: No.
23	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
24	moved.
25	MS. KRAKE: 6-D. READING BY TITLE -

1	FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 68, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE
2	- AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 17, 1994
3	ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED)
4	AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY
5	OF SCRANTON TO ENACT 'A WASTE DISPOSAL AND
6	COLLECTION FEE' FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING
7	REVENUE TO COVER THE WASTE DISPOSAL AND
8	COLLECTION COSTS INCURRED BY THE CITY OF
9	SCRANTON FOR THE DISPOSAL OF REFUSE", BY
10	IMPOSING A WASTE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION FEE
11	OF \$178.00 FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013.
12	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
13	title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?
14	MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-D
15	pass reading by title.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
17	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
18	those in favor signify by saying aye.
19	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
20	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
21	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
22	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
23	MR. ROGAN: No.
24	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
25	moved.

1	MS. KRAKE: 6-E. READING BY TITLE -
2	FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 69, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE
3	- AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 145 OF
4	2007 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE RENAMING THE
5	EMERGENCY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAX
6	("EMST") TO LOCAL SERVICE TAX ("LST") AND BY
7	IMPOSING A WITHHOLDING OF \$52.00 FOR THE
8	CALENDAR YEAR 2013.
9	MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
10	title of Item 6-E, what is your pleasure?
11	MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-E
12	pass reading by title.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Second.
14	MS. EVANS: On the question? All
15	those in favor signify by saying aye.
16	MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
17	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
18	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
19	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
20	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
21	have it and so moved.
22	MS. KRAKE: 6-F. READING BY TITLE -
23	FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 70, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE
24	- TO PROHIBIT TRUCK TRAFFIC WITH
25	CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS OFF LAKE SCRANTON ROAD

FROM ROUTE 307 NORTHEASTERLY TO ELMHURST

BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON, DIRECTING

POSTAGE OF SIGNAGE, AND PRESCRIBING

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by title of Item 6-F, what is your pleasure?

MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-F

pass reading by title.

MR. JOYCE: Second.

MS. EVANS: On the question?

MR. MCGOFF: Yes. While I am in favor of this legislation, as I said last week I think there is a question about construction vehicles doing legitimate work in that area and I may have been remiss in following up on that, but I think that there should be some type of amendment to this to allow for construction vehicles to use that area and I think that should be added to the list of the exemptions.

MS. EVANS: Perhaps that amendment could be drafted by the legal department and then added at a future time. I think a great concern for us now is that due to Hurricane Sandy we are going to see an

1 increase in the amount of material coming into the landfill and I know that the 2 3 residents of the area are very concerned about that increasing the already 4 5 troublesome truck traffic on their streets, so I will be voting "yes" this evening. 6 7 there anyone else on the question? All those in favor signify by saying 8 9 aye. 10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. 11 MR. ROGAN: Aye. 12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 13 MR. JOYCE: Aye. 14 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it and so moved. 15 16 MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to 17 suspend the rules to move Item 6-F to Seventh Order to be considered for final 18 19 passage. 20 MR. ROGAN: Second. 21 MS. EVANS: On the question? 22 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, that is what I'm 23 opposed to, I believe that we have the 24 opportunity to make an amendment and to put 25 it into the legislation and to vote on it

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1	next week. I know while there may be some
2	urgency, I don't think a week on this
3	legislation makes a difference.
4	MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
5	in favor signify by saying aye.
6	MR. ROGAN: Aye.
7	MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
8	MR. JOYCE: Aye.
9	MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
10	MR. MCGOFF: No.
11	MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
12	moved.
13	MS. KRAKE: 7-A. FOR CONSIDERATION -
14	BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
15	ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 70, 2012 - TO
16	PROHIBIT TRUCK TRAFFIC WITH CERTAIN
17	EXEMPTIONS OFF LAKE SCRANTON ROAD FROM ROUTE
18	307 NORTHEASTERLY TO ELMHURST BOULEVARD IN
19	THE CITY OF SCRANTON, DIRECTING POSTAGE OF
20	SIGNAGE, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR
21	VIOLATION THEREOF.
22	MS. EVANS: What is the
23	recommendation of the Chair for the
24	Committee on Public Safety?
25	MR. LOSCOMBE: As Chairperson for

1	the Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
2	final passage of Item 7-A.
3	MR. ROGAN: Second.
4	MS. EVANS: On the question?
5	MR. MCGOFF: Once again, I wish we
6	had waited one week to do this. I obviously
7	am in favor of the legislation and I will
8	look to amending it in the future. Thank
9	you.
10	MS. EVANS: Thank you. Anyone else?
11	Roll call, please?
12	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
13	MR. MCGOFF: Yes.
14	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
15	MR. ROGAN: Yes.
16	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.
17	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.
18	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
19	MR. JOYCE: Yes.
20	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
21	MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
22	Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
23	MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to take
24	File of Council No. 64 - 2012 from the table
25	and place it into Sixth Order for final

1 consideration. 2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second. 3 MS. EVANS: On the question? A11 those in favor signify by saying aye. 4 5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye. 6 7 MR. JOYCE: Aye. 8 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? 9 MR. ROGAN: No. 10 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so 11 moved. 12 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -13 14 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 64, 2012 - APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE 15 CURRENTLY OWNED BY CALANNI'S INC. T/A LITTLE 16 NIKKI'S PASTA HOUSE, 77 FALLBROOK STREET, 17 18 CARBONDALE, PA 18407, LICENSE NO. R-14028 TO PASS RUSH LLC FOR USE AT BIG HOUSE TOBACCO 19 20 OUTLET LOCATED AT 200 GREEN RIDGE STREET, 21 SCRANTON, PA 18509 AS REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD. 22 23 MS. EVANS: As Chairperson for the 24 Committee on Rules, I recommend final 25 passage of Item 7-B.

MR. ROGAN: Second.

MS. EVANS: On the question?

MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question I guess I'll make my comment at this point. I sat here and listened to the gentlemen describe the business, I have never been in there, I have been by there many times, he answered every question that we had and no one came to the meeting afterwards in opposition. I did have phone calls regarding it that were neither for nor against. You know, we are looking to build our tax base in the city and to bring business in. This business is already in a heavily business corridor I just, you know,

But I sat here, as I said and I listened, and I believe all honesty he is trying to do the best for this business in this area based on what he has done in the past three years and I take a man for his word. You know, I was swayed at that point when they described what their intention was and I believe him, and especially after seeing the photos of the property and what

that's something I consider.

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type of business it currently is, so I will be voting in favor of this business. Thank you.

MR. MCGOFF: I'd just like to say I think there is still some uncertainty about the operation and nature of the business and the effect that it will have on the community and I don't believe that those questions were necessarily adequately answered for me.

I would echo what MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff said. I don't think anyone touts that everything will be done legally, but legally this permit you cannot bring a six-pack store, maybe that's not the intent currently, but it can legally go there if this is approved by city council and at the end of the day I usually try to base my vote on what's best for the community and we all know the residents in this neighborhood and the bulk of them I talked to were against it, so I will be voting "no" and, as I stated before, there is isn't a lack of places to purchase alcohol in the City of Scranton.

MS. EVANS: I'll just add quickly to that that surrounding this particular business are bars and beer distributors so if that is the intention of this business I don't know that it would be very successful just, you know, based on those circumstances. The CEO insists that the purpose is not for the sales of six-packs, etcetera, and I do believe that he has established a very productive well-maintained business that has encountered very few if any problems over the past three years.

I, too, spoke with some residents and one was concerned about the transfer of the liquor license, the other two basically had no concern. They really didn't care whether the license would be granted or not because they said the business has never been a problem for them and so I would just ask, as I did during the public caucus, that Mr. Fadden would reach out to those in the neighborhood to alleviate their concerns and I will be voting to approve it. Is there anyone else on the question? Roll call,

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1	please?
2	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
3	MR. MCGOFF: No.
4	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
5	MR. ROGAN: No.
6	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.
7	MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.
8	MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
9	MR. JOYCE: Yes.
10	MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
11	MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
12	Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.
13	If there is no further business,
14	I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.
15	MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.
16	MS. EVANS: This meeting is
17	adjourned.
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CERTIFICATE

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