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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, October 15, 2015

LOCATION:

Council Chambers  
Scranton City Hall  
340 North Washington Avenue  
Scranton, Pennsylvania

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

(Not present)

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: I make a motion to  
14 appoint Councilman Rogan as the temporary  
15 Chairperson for the Committee on Rules.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

19 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

20 MR. EVANS: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

24 One brief announcement, there was an  
25 executive session held this evening

1            regarding possible litigation prior to the  
2            caucus. Please dispense with the reading of  
3            the minutes.

4            MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. MINUTES  
5            OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF  
6            SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD SEPTEMBER  
7            14, 2015.

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

10           MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S  
11           RESULTS REPORTS FOR HEARING DATES HELD  
12           SEPTEMBER 23 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2015.

13           MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?  
14           If not, received and filed.

15           Do any council members have any  
16           announcements at this time?

17           MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. Rogan, I  
18           have one. Just to repeat what was said last  
19           week, on Monday, October 19, there will be a  
20           Jimmy Hughes Appreciation Day that will be  
21           held in North Scranton. That appreciation  
22           party will take place at Stirna's. The  
23           hours of the party are 6 to 8 p.m. There  
24           will be light fare with a cash bar and the  
25           donation is \$10, all proceeds to benefit the

1 American Heart Association.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: And I have one. I  
3 just want to send my sincere condolences to  
4 the family of Sister Adrian Barrett who  
5 passed away this week. Her legacy is one of  
6 compassion and understanding. She was a  
7 champion for the poor, those without a  
8 voice, and those who suffered. She brought  
9 light to those who often lived in darkness.  
10 Her work for the people of Scranton will  
11 never be forgotten. Thank you.

12 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else?

13 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
14 PARTICIPATION.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening.  
16 Marie Schumacher.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: On agenda items,  
19 first, on 7-A during motions I would like to  
20 know how much will be left in the City's  
21 total Racehorse Development and Gaming Act  
22 allocation if this grant is approved and  
23 granted.

24 On 7-C, I would like to know what  
25 Mrs. Boyle's qualifications are for the

1 position of assistant business  
2 administrator, and while on the topic of Ms.  
3 Boyle, will she be retaining her law career  
4 as well as the two positions in this  
5 resolution? I ask this as Mrs. Boyle not  
6 only attended the September Scranton Sewer  
7 Authority meeting, but also voted on agenda  
8 items and signed legal documents before she  
9 was approved by city council. She also  
10 announced at the meeting that she would be  
11 leaving early because -- the 12:15 meeting  
12 early as she had to represent a client in  
13 Court at 1 p.m. and I would like to know  
14 whether this practice will continue during  
15 her city employment.

16 I also wonder whether her Scranton  
17 Sewer Authority votes and signatures are  
18 valid as she had not received final council  
19 approval and if those actions were legal  
20 then I would like to know why the council  
21 bothers putting such sprinkling of holy  
22 water, if you will, items on the agenda.

23 7-D, what are Mr. Hughes areas of  
24 expertise for this appointment to the Sewer  
25 Authority at this critical time of

1 determining the Authority's future?

2 And now onto the balance of my  
3 comments. Mr. Rogan, last week you first  
4 asked me to submit my questions in writing,  
5 is there a paper back there? I've lost one,  
6 but I would like to say to you that those  
7 comments in writing, questions are available  
8 in the minutes of last week's meeting which  
9 are available on-line.

10 MR. ROGAN: The Rules of Council  
11 state that any requests from the public  
12 should be issued in writing.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: They are in  
14 writing.

15 MR. ROGAN: From the person  
16 requesting it.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: And continuing, I  
18 would like to remind you, also, that you are  
19 elected officials. The business  
20 administrator is not an elected official, he  
21 is here to do his job and any of those items  
22 that I asked about would not be -- since  
23 they were status items there would be no  
24 document in place that I would assume you  
25 would know about it if there were they would

1 justify a Right-to-Know request, so that  
2 would be a futile avenue and I really am  
3 rather astounded and disappointed that you  
4 -- nobody on this council, despite the fact  
5 that those were all questions based on the  
6 revised recovery plan that you approved in  
7 February of 2015 and nobody knew the  
8 answers. I just would think somebody on  
9 council would be following up on those  
10 things and we're going to within four  
11 meetings you are going to have a new budget  
12 and I think we have a right to know what the  
13 status of those items are frankly.

14 And then another one that I  
15 recollect, I don't know if I have all of the  
16 numbers correctly since my notes are  
17 missing, but I have a question on the way we  
18 are negotiating the Scranton Sewer Authority  
19 monetization. It's been advertised -- or  
20 not advertised, but reported in the  
21 newspaper that our mayor and the  
22 administration, therefore, would be happy  
23 with \$50 million. Well, about the same time  
24 that statement was made one of their  
25 financial reports was published in the paper



1 and it said they have \$120 million worth of  
2 assets and they had 60 -- I believe it was  
3 \$69 million of long-term debt of which \$60  
4 million of those is already covered and will  
5 be recovered through the fees that they  
6 charge us ratepayers, so \$50 doesn't seem  
7 like a good figure to settle on or to  
8 advertise that, hey, I'd be happy with \$50  
9 million when you have got all of that money  
10 out there. I will be back next week, good  
11 Lord willing. I'm off to the school board,  
12 I'll be back.

13 MR. ROGAN: Joan Hodowanitz.

14 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,  
15 resident and taxpayer. I wholeheartedly  
16 agree with Attorney Mulligan's letter to the  
17 editor on Sunday, October 11, in which he  
18 urged city council to enact legislation  
19 requiring sites similar to the Sandone  
20 Warehouse to provide the city with an  
21 emergency preparedness plan so that  
22 firefighters and other first responders  
23 would have access to the layout of the site  
24 facilities and an inventory of all the  
25 hazardous materials.

1                   Now, you discussed in caucus this  
2                   very issue and you are correct that there is  
3                   a federal OSHA requirement that mandates  
4                   such preparedness, and you also made mention  
5                   of the fact that you weren't sure whether or  
6                   not this requirement was being met. I think  
7                   this needs to be a city priority considering  
8                   the number of warehouses and facilities in  
9                   city limits that may have hazardous  
10                  materials into which the fire department  
11                  would have to respond in case of a fire, we  
12                  don't want to be sending firefighters and  
13                  other first responders into a situation  
14                  where they are at risk more than they have  
15                  to be.

16                  Also, Marie termed it last week, the  
17                  issue of the Greenridge goop, that black  
18                  liquid that was released through the City's  
19                  sewer system, I saw in the Times-Tribune  
20                  that apparently it a petroleum-based liquid,  
21                  but we don't know the source where it came  
22                  from. My question is how has this incident  
23                  impacted those parties who have expressed an  
24                  interest in acquiring the Scranton Sewer  
25                  Authority?

1                   Now, if I wanted to buy a house and  
2                   they are asking top dollar and I find out  
3                   there was a black liquid of unknown content  
4                   in the basement you better believe if I  
5                   bought it, I would not be paying top dollar  
6                   so I would like to know how in the  
7                   negotiations for the Sewer Authority this  
8                   event is playing out because I can't believe  
9                   they are not aware that this has happened.

10                   I'm also very concerned about the  
11                   number of pedestrian injuries and fatalities  
12                   in downtown Scranton over the last few  
13                   years. As you may know, on October 4,  
14                   Loretta Kapinski, a resident of the Jermyn  
15                   Hotel, was killed at the intersection of  
16                   Wyoming and Lackawanna Avenue. Now, there  
17                   was another pedestrian killed in that same  
18                   intersection by a bus not many years ago and  
19                   then there was a resident I believe of  
20                   Mulberry Towers that was in a wheelchair  
21                   that was killed at the intersection of  
22                   Mulberry and North Washington not many years  
23                   ago. Then there was another incident of a  
24                   pedestrian killed at the intersection of  
25                   North Washington and Linden not many years

1 ago. My point is we have this invested \$5.6  
2 million with PennDOT on these wonderful  
3 traffic signal systems, which I'm not sure  
4 was ever properly synchronized. The intent  
5 was to make the flow of traffic better for  
6 motorists and businesses and hopefully the  
7 safety of pedestrians, but I don't think  
8 it's working and I think that's something  
9 that the city should be looking at and I  
10 think council should be pushing the mayor  
11 for some answers. This shouldn't be higher  
12 math. If the traffic signals are working  
13 you would know it, but you got a lot of  
14 elderly in downtown Scranton who move  
15 slowly, some of them are trying to cross the  
16 street with the aid of a walker and they  
17 cannot sprint across the street if the light  
18 changes before they have made it across. We  
19 used to have a Director of Public Safety,  
20 which we got rid of in 2010. Mayor Doherty  
21 said he could give those functions to his  
22 deputy mayor. I don't think that you can  
23 parse out those responsibilities to the fire  
24 Department, the police department, DPW, I  
25 think you need to relook at the entire

1 issue. Mr. Wechsler, I believe public  
2 safety is your bailiwick? I would like you  
3 to look at that as we approach the 2016  
4 budget. I think this is a worthy  
5 expenditure of tax dollars.

6 MR. ROGAN: Gerard Hetman.

7 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council,  
8 Gerard Hetman from Lackawanna County's  
9 Community Relations Department. To begin  
10 this evening, in accordance with the  
11 Lackawanna County's Home Rules Charter early  
12 this afternoon Lackawanna County  
13 Commissioners presented their tentative 2016  
14 general fund budget for public review, and  
15 if you follow along with the handouts that I  
16 have provided, our top sheet contains our  
17 annual quick reference budget graphic that  
18 goes over some of the key points in the 2016  
19 budget, typically that big item on top is  
20 the one most folks comment on that being  
21 will be no county tax increase for the  
22 county property millage rate for the 2016  
23 budget as projected.

24 Our second sheet is our annual  
25 budget message which breaks down some of the

1 budget figures in a little bit more detail  
2 in an easy to read format, so if you follow  
3 through with me I'll skip around a little  
4 bit but I will go in order, just a little  
5 bit abbreviated from what you see there.  
6 Important features in the budget are as  
7 follows:

8 First, the 2016 Lackawanna County  
9 general fund budget includes no tax  
10 increase. The county tax rate will stay the  
11 same as it is now at 57.42 mills.

12 Secondly, the county is renewing  
13 it's commitment to economic development in  
14 the 2016 budget. Beginning in 2013, the  
15 county includes programs that included the  
16 nationally recognized SBA Loan Fee Waiver  
17 Program, the Community Re-invest Grant  
18 Program, and the Permit Fee Waiver Program.  
19 The 2016 budget renews funding for these  
20 programs.

21 Third, the 2016 budget provides  
22 resources for the annual surveillance fee  
23 imposed by a bond insurer as a condition of  
24 past borrowing. This fee will be assessed  
25 until we are able to restore the County's

1 investment grade rating. Eliminating the  
2 surveillance fee continues to be on this  
3 administration's top priorities. We are  
4 currently engaging rating agencies with the  
5 hope of restoring our investment grade  
6 rating, and if successful, we will eliminate  
7 the annual surveillance fee. Something we  
8 hope to do over the next few months to a  
9 year. It is an ongoing process with many  
10 variables. We hope to see progress on that  
11 very soon.

12 Also, by completing its fourth  
13 consecutive financial audit in a timely  
14 fashion under the terms of its bond  
15 indentures, the County generated a modest  
16 operating surplus during 2012, and  
17 significant surpluses in 2013 and 2014,  
18 which resulted in an accumulated fund  
19 balance totaling \$11.1 million as of  
20 December 31, 2014. The County anticipates  
21 another moderate surplus during 2015 with a  
22 projected fund balance of \$11,21,295 as of  
23 December 31, 2015, despite being hit with  
24 many unbudgeted expenses during the 2015  
25 fiscal year. This is viewed positively in

1 the eyes of the rating agencies. However,  
2 the surplus for 2016 and it's exact estimate  
3 is not guaranteed because of unexpected  
4 expenses that could arise at any time.

5 As another indicator of financial  
6 stability, the County's pension fund was  
7 funded at more than 80 percent as of the  
8 most recent valuation date.

9 To turn over onto the County debt  
10 portion of the address, the County continued  
11 to follow its policy of refinancing debt  
12 wherever possible at lower interest rates to  
13 produce savings to the county without  
14 extending the term of the debt.

15 And also just to touch on human  
16 services area, a pretty much a focus with  
17 the ongoing state budget stalemate. Human  
18 services continue to be a hallmark of the  
19 services offered by county government. In  
20 spite of the State's budge crises, the  
21 county has continued to provide a high-  
22 level of community service programs at no  
23 additional cost to the taxpayers. In  
24 addition to the human service programs at no  
25 additional cost to the taxpayers. In



1 addition to the human service programs,  
2 emergency response, the Court system,  
3 corrections, and other vital functions  
4 performed by the county government provides  
5 the majority of the County's 2016  
6 expenditures. The Courts and corrections  
7 alone comprise approximately 40 percent of  
8 the County's total anticipated 2016  
9 expenditures.

10 Lastly, just some hard numbers. The  
11 2016 general fund budget totals \$110,  
12 263,499, which includes a fund balance of  
13 \$11,211, 2915. Combine that with our  
14 capital budget, our debt service fund and  
15 our special purpose funds budget the total  
16 of all County funds' budgets for 2016 is  
17 projected to be \$180,735,840.

18 I should note that the budget is  
19 very voluminous, it is over 100 pages long  
20 and it can be read on the County website at  
21 [www.lackawannacounty.org](http://www.lackawannacounty.org) in PDF format.

22 And the last, if you follow along at  
23 the bottom, according to the County's Home  
24 Rule Charter the Commissioners will host  
25 four public budget hearings on the 2016

1 budget, the first being Tuesday, October 20,  
2 at 11 a.m. in the Commissioner's conference  
3 room, the sixth floor of the County  
4 Administration Building, 200 Adams, in  
5 Scranton. The second is Wednesday, October  
6 21, 6:30 p.m. in the Mayfield Borough  
7 Building, 739 Penn Avenue in Mayfield and  
8 lastly on Thursday, October 22, 4:30 p.m. at  
9 the Moosic Borough Building, 715 Main Street  
10 in Moosic and Thursday, October 22, 6:30  
11 p.m. at the Spring Brook Township Building,  
12 66 State Route 307, Spring Brook Township.  
13 The public is welcome to attend and comment  
14 and ask questions on the budget in any of  
15 these four areas.

16 And if Council, or any members of  
17 the audience has questions on the budget  
18 tonight I will be happy to take them. Of  
19 course, there are many moving parts to it,  
20 so if it's not an answer that I can provide  
21 immediately I will be happy to check with  
22 our rep from the finance staff and provide  
23 them with the information.

24 MR. ROGAN: I just have comment, and  
25 we discussed this in our caucus earlier, I

1 noticed that -- and the County seeking no  
2 tax increase is certainly something that is  
3 very good news, I noticed that a historic  
4 surplus is mentioned, and in this news  
5 letter her and Council will be sending a  
6 letter to the County Commissioners  
7 requesting that because of this historic  
8 surplus that reassessment is looked at.  
9 It's something that the City of Scranton  
10 certainly needs and the County as a whole.

11 MR. HETMAN: Sure.

12 MR. ROGAN: And that letter will be  
13 forthcoming from us.

14 MR. HETMAN: Very good. Just to  
15 follow up on that, I will certainly let the  
16 Commissioners that the correspondence will  
17 be coming, and because that deals with a  
18 very specific policy issue that would  
19 require legislation, I always encourage this  
20 body and others to put those requests in  
21 writing just so we have them as a matter of  
22 record, so we do welcome that and I will let  
23 the Commissioners know it will be  
24 forthcoming.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

1 MR. HETMAN: Thank you, ladies and  
2 gentlemen.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

4 MR. ROGAN: Lee Morgan.

5 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

7 MR. MORGAN: The first thing I have  
8 here today, you know, I took the time to  
9 read the articles about the candidates for  
10 council, the three candidates, and I have to  
11 say that in all reality Mr. Perry talks  
12 about waiving the wage tax for a certain  
13 amount of time for people who move into the  
14 city and this city can't even pay its bills  
15 now and that's not to criticize him but, you  
16 know, is there any vision in these  
17 candidates? You know, Mr. Evans, you spoke  
18 about not monetizing the parking garages and  
19 the Sewer Authority if you didn't have some  
20 kind of plan to save the pension plan, well,  
21 that pension plan in all reality isn't  
22 salvageable, okay, and to be quite blunt and  
23 honest we have been in this distressed  
24 status for so long that it's beyond  
25 ridiculous, and I when I see the things that

1           this council does and I read them in the  
2           newspaper like Lackawanna College buying the  
3           building across the street, on the one side  
4           of our mouth we are going talk about how we  
5           are going to get the nonprofits to pony up  
6           and help pay, and the council is funding  
7           them. Take a look at, you know, Mr.  
8           Wechsler what you supported about giving  
9           rental vouchers to the North Scranton  
10          project. It's absolutely ridiculous.

11                         We have created a country that is so  
12           impoverished and so beaten down by people  
13           who, I don't know actually have the ability  
14           to think? I mean, I'm just wondering  
15           because the county is talking about having a  
16           surplus and they're heavily in debt. I  
17           mean, read the article, look at the city,  
18           look at the state, look at the feds, they  
19           are over the top of the gross domestic  
20           product. And then they are saying to  
21           seniors, well, we are not giving you a cost  
22           of living this year because, you know,  
23           because I guess inflation is under control  
24           since the price of gas went down, but if you  
25           have ever gone to the grocery store the

1 American dollar has no buying power.  
2 Absolutely zero. None. Because we have  
3 elected a lot of people that are very silly.  
4 They are really good at putting up yard  
5 signs and they are really good at  
6 one-sentence lines that voters run into the  
7 election polls and vote with.

8 You know, the truth of the matter  
9 is, like, when I petitioned Mr. McGoff to  
10 cut the budget by 30 percent it wasn't a  
11 pipe dream. I brought up the pension  
12 situation when Mr. Rogan was running with  
13 the super majority and they laughed and  
14 thought maybe he should have an a yard sale  
15 or a rummage sale. It wasn't make believe,  
16 because you know what, I don't waste my time  
17 talking about things I don't know about  
18 because I'm not trying to impress anybody  
19 and I really don't care when people think  
20 about what I say or anything else for that  
21 matter because I don't run off half-cocked  
22 with illusions, and the truth of the matter  
23 is they've created so much damage to our  
24 city by electing that didn't understand that  
25 the neighborhoods are falling apart and we

1 keep funding the downtown. People are  
2 borrowing to pay their property tax. We've  
3 got elected officials in Harrisburg that are  
4 playing games with the House Bill to get rid  
5 of school taxes. It's utterly ridiculous.  
6 Other states have gotten completely away  
7 from property taxes because to be honest  
8 with you it's an antiquated system that  
9 won't support the complex state, real  
10 simple.

11 And when you look at the election  
12 that's taking place now I don't know who is  
13 going to win, you know, maybe Hillary will  
14 come out on top on the Democratic side but  
15 only because Barry Sanders did so poorly in  
16 presenting the arguments about how important  
17 it was to protect national security and,  
18 Mr. Trump, he lit the Republican side of the  
19 ballot on fire. Bush's numbers are so bad I  
20 think he is embarrassed to go home because,  
21 you know, something the people finally see  
22 it for what it is. The people we elect they  
23 aren't representing us in all reality.  
24 Sometimes I wonder who ask this council  
25 represent honestly.

1                   Okay, you can't say out of one side  
2                   of your mouth that the nonprofits have to  
3                   pony up and out of the other side of the  
4                   mouth fund. The same thing with Harrisburg  
5                   does with them, okay? And when you walk  
6                   around this city and see all of the kids on  
7                   free lunch, doesn't it register that maybe  
8                   the city is in such a very severe decline  
9                   and the poverty rate is so high that maybe  
10                  something real needs to be done besides  
11                  giving away the parking garages that were  
12                  built with the people's money, okay, and the  
13                  Sewer Authority, okay, which is whose bond  
14                  were paid off? It's just nobody is paying  
15                  top dollar. We are just stealing off our  
16                  own people and lying to them, but the suits  
17                  do look good, gentlemen. Thank you.

18                  MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

19                  MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there  
20                  anyone else who would like to address  
21                  council?

22                  MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
23                  citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I  
24                  know you are not going to do nothing to try  
25                  to recover that three million that you



1 misappropriated, but I wish you had at least  
2 spent a little energy to find out who caused  
3 it. True, we may not get the money back,  
4 maybe them people can't pay, but Scranton is  
5 run like a family. If you ever realize  
6 everybody you hear, even council, every time  
7 Mr. McGoff supported Mr. Evans as a friend,  
8 another family member, look at the pension  
9 plan, the pension plan was run like a  
10 family, how do I put it, a charity best way  
11 to describe it. That's what's wrong with  
12 Scranton, it's run like a family and  
13 Mr. Bolus was right it should be run like a  
14 business.

15 Mr. Evans is committed to lowering  
16 his taxes with his plan to do away wit the  
17 mercantile and business privilege taxes, but  
18 he is also committed to raise our taxes,  
19 which he stated. What do we expect in the  
20 coming year? Heartaches. More and more  
21 heartaches. People got to realize Scranton  
22 is being run by a family, a family of  
23 politicians are running the city, getting  
24 votes and that's what's wrong. The best  
25 candidate that comes before you should be

1 voted for, but you don't. You go by a party  
2 line or by a name. This is why Scranton is  
3 falling apart. Even the recovery plan you  
4 realize they only want to sell the Sewer  
5 Authority and not the storm drains, and the  
6 storm drains need about \$150 million  
7 probably or close to it to bring it up to  
8 code so they don't want it. Anybody that  
9 bids on it don't want it.

10 The parking garages are a failure so  
11 they want the parking meters because the  
12 parking meters bring in about a million and  
13 a half dollars a year that the City of  
14 Scranton don't, but you think all of these  
15 sales are going to help the people of  
16 Scranton? They are not. They are not going  
17 to do a darn thing.

18 The trouble is the nonprofits and no  
19 matter what you try to do you got to get  
20 them on board and they are not on board. I  
21 told you before a long time ago, split the  
22 costs of the police and fire departments  
23 that are going to paid for safety, either  
24 for the fire and the police. Everybody in  
25 this city pays a portion of the taxes to

1 support them and as a fee, and then the  
2 nonprofits would have to pay it, too. Was  
3 that ever looked into? No. Why shouldn't  
4 they?

5 What do I expect from you people,  
6 nothing but higher taxes. I told you that  
7 in the very beginning when you sat there.  
8 That's all I expect from you is higher  
9 taxes. You are doing a darn thing to do  
10 anything to lower taxes or hold the line on  
11 taxes, and that's the sad thing.

12 Wondered why Mr. Bolus offered  
13 \$5,000 to anybody who would run, you should  
14 offered about \$10,000 maybe they would have  
15 got somebody to run, but I don't the  
16 solution no producer will be amends, other  
17 than getting more help from the nonprofits,  
18 and since you are not willing to do it, you  
19 are not willing to try to get our --  
20 anything of that \$3 million back into our  
21 coffers. You are supporting a system that's  
22 utterly corrupt, and that's the sad thing  
23 about it.

24 If you look at who is working for  
25 the city, the county and the state you would

1 find a lot of relations, because it's one  
2 happy family. Maybe that's a good idea if  
3 you want votes, but it's really not a way to  
4 run the city, state, or the county and I'm  
5 sorry for the poor people, I'm up in age.  
6 My time has coming to an end, I know that.  
7 I don't have far too look, I could just look  
8 at the obituaries every day and look at my  
9 age group and they are popping up more and  
10 more, so I know it's going to happen to me,  
11 but I feel sorry for anybody that has  
12 children in this city. If possible, I told  
13 you before, get out. Sell your house if you  
14 can and get out of the city and hope for  
15 best.

16 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave  
17 Dobrzyn, resident. Taxes paid, fees paid,  
18 dog license. Still a pain in the neck  
19 probably. Once again, call your congressmen  
20 and senators in Washington at  
21 1-202-224-3121, and both senators and tell  
22 them to can it under trade agreements. And,  
23 also, the White House 1-202-456-1111.

24 I'd like to clear up, every time I  
25 get into a debate on this I get reminded

1           that Bill Clinton was big on trade packs, I  
2           never voted for Bill Clinton, but also now  
3           Obama has jumped ship and, unfortunately,  
4           the Democrats own it once they do.

5                         Also, on schooling, once again, I  
6           had an article here last week about how  
7           people are trying to pay off student loans  
8           when their kids are already due to go to  
9           college, and I'd like to mention 6 percent  
10          of retirees are having as much as 15 percent  
11          of their retirement, social security,  
12          garnished because they were foolish enough  
13          to think that they were going to launch a  
14          new career at approaching 60 years old or  
15          whatever and it didn't work out, so enough  
16          of that. I'll try and put it to sleep until  
17          after the election.

18                        On this double pension, I also agree  
19          that we should take all attempts to find out  
20          who was responsible and get it out to the  
21          public because anyone that's responsible for  
22          that type of debacle really isn't competent  
23          for public office. You don't belong there  
24          and I suspect it was to get rid of employees  
25          that they didn't exactly like or didn't feel

1           that it was on their side and on 7-A, the  
2           grants, in a way I have to object. We got  
3           Amoroso, Lackawanna gets a grant --

4                   MR. GAUGHAN: Mr. Dobrzyn, real  
5           quick, just to correct you, not to interrupt  
6           you, but we are not giving them a grant,  
7           they are just applying for it. The city is  
8           just administering it so it doesn't come out  
9           of our coffers or --

10                   MR. DOBRZYN: Well, I want that to  
11           be considered because last summer now I  
12           brought up about how people were being cut  
13           off from water services in Detroit at owing  
14           \$150. The golf course country club owed  
15           \$500,000. The sports stadium owed over  
16           \$100,000, and here these poor jerks owing  
17           \$150 have their water shut off.

18                   Now, in Scranton, I don't know how  
19           it is in Detroit, but if LIPS got word of  
20           that, that I had no water service, they  
21           could come up and put a pink slip on my  
22           house. I can't even go in and get my old  
23           guitar out of that house. Now, I probably  
24           would just kick the door in and say, "To  
25           hell with it," but, you know, it's really I

1 think I have got somebody's ear and they  
2 asked Mr. Amoroso about that and it is true.  
3 I don't state these things unless I can  
4 prove they are true. The 6 percent that was  
5 MSNBC and so was the Detroit MSNBC was my  
6 source.

7 And on candidates I would also  
8 suggest please stop suggesting tax and fee  
9 breaks on special interests. It's just you  
10 can't raise taxes fairly on somebody else  
11 and then turn around and cut somebody else's  
12 taxes or fees. If you did any research in a  
13 DPW you would probably find out that 80  
14 percent of the cost of picking up trash is  
15 the crews and the trucks and the buildings  
16 and the infrastructure involved and the  
17 fuel. They have to go through your  
18 neighborhood irregardless of whether they  
19 pick up a five-pound bag or a 20-pound bag  
20 so the tipping fees are -- yeah, they are --  
21 they are a factor, but the rest of the  
22 people have to be paid to do. It's not a  
23 job I would ask for anyway even if I were to  
24 able to do it I would find something else.

25 And also on this traffic on Wyoming

1 Avenue and Lackawanna Avenue, that is a  
2 death trap over there because people can  
3 turn and just a couple of seconds people can  
4 turn when there is a green and also a walk  
5 sign. We need a three-way stop there that  
6 can get people across the street, even if we  
7 have it on an intermittent basis, but you  
8 are going across the street and somebody got  
9 the right to turn and it's not good, several  
10 people have been killed there already.  
11 Thank you and have a good night.

12 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there  
13 anyone else who would like to address  
14 council?

15 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.  
16 MOTIONS.

17 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Wechsler, do you  
18 have any motions or comments?

19 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, thank you,  
20 Mr. Rogan. Since last meeting I have been  
21 working with the City Treasurer's Office and  
22 Northeast Revenue Service in an effort to  
23 monitor the collection of delinquent garbage  
24 fees. NRS has done a very job of reviewing  
25 the list and consolidating it so it can be



1 collected. In September 2014, council  
2 passed legislation that allowed NRS to begin  
3 issuing and collecting liens beginning in  
4 January of 2015. In May of 2015, myself and  
5 other council members began encouraging the  
6 administration and NRS to begin using this  
7 tool.

8 In August, NRS announced the time  
9 frame for the lien filing. The process  
10 included a courtesy letter and a certified  
11 letter to all property owners of 2011 and  
12 2013 unpaid refuse fees and provided them  
13 with a 30-day period before filing the lien.  
14 For the property with a letter that was  
15 returned and not accepted another first  
16 class letter was mailed. If there was no  
17 response after that letter, a lien may be  
18 filed after ten days.

19 As a result of this mailing, the  
20 lien letters, \$460,000 from unpaid refuse  
21 bills from 2011 to 2013 have been received.  
22 In addition, the actual lien filing process  
23 has started with unpaid records being  
24 transferred over to Mary Rinaldi, Clerk of  
25 Judicial Records.

1 I would like to congratulate the  
2 administration and NRS for starting this  
3 process. We saw immediate dividends of  
4 filing the liens. This \$460,000 came in  
5 before one lien was issued. I am continuing  
6 to find out how many properties there are  
7 that do have delinquent fees and what the  
8 total dollar value is of those liens.

9 Unfortunately, this process is only  
10 for 2011 through 2013. The prior years of  
11 unfunded and unpaid garbage bills remain  
12 uncollected and I would encourage council  
13 and the administration to pursue ways to  
14 begin liening those properties as well.  
15 It's my understanding that liens become  
16 assets once they're filed. That would allow  
17 the city if they are interested in perhaps  
18 packaging those liens for purchase and to  
19 get some of this money back so that I'm very  
20 encouraged that this process has begun.

21 In regards to Item 7-A, just a  
22 general comment, the RFA grant are a state  
23 program. There is no specific funding for  
24 the City of Scranton, no specific funding.  
25 Any entity can apply for one and it's very

1 interesting for us is that the ones that  
2 come through the city we are going to be  
3 paid a fee for bringing them money in so I  
4 would encourage and hope that any of the  
5 projects that we have put through would be  
6 approved for funding. Thank you.

7 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Evans, do you have  
8 any motions or comments?

9 MR. EVANS: Thank you. As far as  
10 the audit prep is concerned, Rainey &  
11 Rainey, who is doing the audit prep, has  
12 completed the liquid fuels, workers' comp,  
13 debt service and pension fund and they are  
14 sending info to complete each fund as they  
15 if. Cash and accounts accruable are done so  
16 at this point it looks like about 90 percent  
17 completed with the audit prep.

18 I was encouraged today when I saw  
19 the article in the newspaper about the  
20 newest tenant at the Steamtown Mall, is it  
21 Crunch gym?

22 MR. ROGAN: Yup.

23 MR. EVANS: Crunch Gym. Clearly  
24 it's is a business that's going to bring  
25 some positive activity to the mall and

1 positive activity brings more positive  
2 activity, of course. The other thing I  
3 heard was, and this may be true, I'm going  
4 to try to check with Mr. Basalyga, ut I  
5 understand that he may be removing those  
6 glass mirror windows, they are not windows,  
7 it's like glass mirrors off the bridge and  
8 replacing them with windows so that would  
9 really open up the bridge in the downtown  
10 for the first time since the mall was built  
11 so now people inside can see the outside and  
12 people outside can see inside so I think  
13 it's going to be a positive net effect for  
14 downtown.

15 On a similar discussion, a lot of  
16 people have talked about the Reading Market  
17 Terminal for the mall even prior to it being  
18 purchased. To those that who may not know,  
19 within the City of Easton there is a project  
20 being developed called the Easton Public  
21 Market. This is being developed by the  
22 Greater Easton Development Corporation, a  
23 nonprofit that owned the company, but with  
24 the full support of the City of Easton  
25 through a grant and a bond issue. This is

1 the kind of public/private partnership that  
2 we need to look at for City of Scranton.  
3 The Easton Public Market is a 16,000 square  
4 foot space in downtown Easton, when built  
5 out it is expected to be home to at least  
6 vendors, some of them that were already  
7 signed on are a butcher, a seafood vendor,  
8 produce vendor, vendors of primarily local  
9 goods. A brewery or brew pub, a yarn  
10 outlet, a coffee and tea store and several  
11 on-the-go-type food vendors, so I think it's  
12 going to be a great model for a similar  
13 project in downtown Scranton. Now, would  
14 the Mall at Steamtown be the right location?  
15 I think that's something we need to talk  
16 about and take a look at and see what Mr.  
17 Basalyga thinks, but I think it really has  
18 great potential and I actually have a call  
19 into Mr. Basalyga looking for some feedback  
20 on his behalf.

21 I have also been in contact with the  
22 director of the Greater Easton Development  
23 Corporation, he has agreed to provide me  
24 with a tour of the facilities so next week  
25 or the week after I'll be heading down to

1 Easton to take a look at that and after that  
2 visit I'll report back to council. That's  
3 all I have. Thank you.

4 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Gaughan,  
5 any motions for comments?

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you, just a  
7 few. Before the meeting I received a  
8 complaint from a resident about tractor  
9 trailer traffic on River Street in South  
10 Scranton. The resident wanted to know why  
11 tractor trailer traffic is banned on Moosic  
12 Street but not on River Street. Apparently,  
13 it's created quite a problem up there so I  
14 will try to follow-up with Chief Graziano  
15 and get an answer for that person.

16 I did receive this week complaints  
17 about the 200 block of Cabrini Avenue, two  
18 homes on that block overgrown weeds, garbage  
19 everywhere, a lot of problems in that lot so  
20 I will be forwarding that to the Licensing  
21 and Inspections Department.

22 I have update on the progress being  
23 made at the North Scranton Junior High  
24 School. Construction crews are on site  
25 every day, interviews are being conducted

1 for residential units and move in should  
2 begin in December and January. A grand  
3 opening is being planned after the new year  
4 sometime after the holidays, so very  
5 encouraging news on that front.

6 I mentioned last week, and I  
7 discussed it in caucus, about receiving  
8 complaints concerning pave cut issues  
9 throughout the city. I did speak with our  
10 DPW Director Mr. Gallagher today and he did  
11 assure me that the ordinance is being  
12 enforced and we did talk about some of the  
13 areas that I have concerns about and that  
14 were given to me by some residents, so we'll  
15 continue to follow up on that front.

16 I asked for an update several weeks  
17 ago on revenue that has been collected with  
18 the new civilian parking enforcement  
19 program, \$300,000 was the amount that was  
20 expected to be collected. The program, if  
21 you remember, was launched on March 27 of  
22 this year. As of October 8, the total  
23 revenue received by the city has been  
24 \$113,250. The civilian parking tickets  
25 issued to date are \$8,080, including 1,148

1           warnings that were issued for wrong way  
2           violation, and I'd like to thank Chief  
3           Graziano for this information.

4                        I was extremely pleased to learn  
5           that a well-attended meeting was held this  
6           week in the Poconos aimed at reviving a  
7           Scranton to New York City passenger train  
8           service. The potential economic impacts of  
9           high speed rail service in our city would be  
10          tremendous. As it stands now we are only  
11          connected to New York City by one congested  
12          and dangerous highway and a few commercial  
13          bus lines leaving us clamoring for another  
14          way. High speed rail service would promote  
15          economic development by creating jobs and  
16          boosting tourism which, as we know, we  
17          desperately need. It would also promote  
18          environmental stewardship and infrastructure  
19          rehabilitation.

20                       In addition to providing Scranton  
21          with a viable transportation alternative to  
22          a heavily congested interstate, the high  
23          speed rail project would improve access to  
24          jobs by linking our region with New York  
25          City and New Jersey business hubs. I want



1 to thank our Congressman Matt Cartright to  
2 try and reinvigorate this whole project. If  
3 my colleagues would be in agreement I would  
4 like city council to send a letter to  
5 Congressman Cartright, State Senator John  
6 Blake, State Secretary of Transportation  
7 Leslie Richards, and federal transit  
8 administration acting administrator Theresa  
9 McMillan pledging our support and urging  
10 them to commit permanent funding for this  
11 project.

12 I did send an e-mail and I discussed  
13 it with Councilmen Evans to Gerry Cross from  
14 PEL asking for an update on all items in our  
15 recovery plan and the progress that is being  
16 made as Mrs. Schumacher has asked for the  
17 past few weeks. Mr. Cross did respond that  
18 he should have something at this week's PEL  
19 meeting so hopefully he will have that and  
20 able to move on that.

21 In the caucus tonight we did discuss  
22 the letter that Mr. Mulligan had sent all of  
23 us as president of the Greenridge  
24 Neighborhood Association concerning the  
25 emergency preparedness plan for buildings in

1 the city that store hazardous materials such  
2 as tires and oil and this is all regarding  
3 the Sandone tire fire, so we are discussing  
4 it in our caucus and we are committed to  
5 making sure that we do move on this item and  
6 make sure that we have all of the warehouses  
7 in the city and old buildings in the city  
8 have plans and the firemen and police en in  
9 our city know what kind of things are being  
10 stored in there so we don't run into that  
11 problem again, so we will be discussing this  
12 as we move forward. Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Just two  
14 brief comments tonight. One that I did  
15 mention when Mr. Hetman was speaking,  
16 regarding the county budget we are certainly  
17 all happy that there is no tax increase this  
18 year, but there is a dire need for  
19 reassessment in Lackawanna County. For  
20 instance, just taking a look at some of the  
21 assessments and comparing them to properties  
22 within the city I know of a two-unit  
23 property in South Scranton with a total tax  
24 bill of less than \$1,000. Just a few blocks  
25 over is a similar two-unit with a tax bill

1 of over \$3,000. Now, obviously there is  
2 something wrong with this picture. I  
3 encourage everybody to go on the County's  
4 website and take a look at your tax  
5 assessment and your tax bill and compare it  
6 to your neighbor's because the tax system in  
7 Lackawanna County currently is very unfair.  
8 There is no standard calculation for land.  
9 There are many lots in the city that are  
10 being taxed at a higher rate than other lots  
11 that are larger in size which certainly  
12 makes no sense when you are talking just on  
13 the land tax.

14 On the improvements, there is a  
15 little more room to negotiate down there  
16 because there is one house might have maybe  
17 much further improved than another house,  
18 the number of fireplaces in the home,  
19 different items are used in that calculation  
20 when it was done 40 years ago, but there is  
21 a dire need for a reassessment within  
22 Lackawanna County to have a fair tax system.

23 Through the last 40 years since the  
24 last assessment took place, just take a look  
25 at how neighborhoods are changed and how

1 properties have changed and all of the  
2 changes within -- specifically within the  
3 city but in the county at large so in order  
4 to have a fair tax it's something that  
5 desperately needs to be done.

6 And the other item Mr. Evans touched  
7 on just briefly is Crunch Fitness who has  
8 announced they will opening a 30,000 square  
9 foot facility within the mall and the  
10 archway in the bridge over Lackawanna  
11 Avenue, and I believe I have been told the  
12 same thing that Councilmen Evans was that it  
13 will be an open plan whereas if you are  
14 driving down you will see an active gym  
15 right on top of the mall in that area and  
16 those in the gym can look down and see the  
17 city, so it's something that we are  
18 definitely looking into, we looking forward  
19 to seeing it opening.

20 They are looking at a March 2016  
21 opening, they will be hopefully taking  
22 applications at the end of this year so  
23 that's very good news for the mall and for  
24 the city.

25 And finally, a number of people

1 brought up to the double pensions again, and  
2 I agree. We need to find out how these were  
3 awarded. I have in the past asked Attorney  
4 Minora to reach out to the state police who  
5 was conducting the investigation to get a go  
6 ahead for council to conduct our own  
7 hearings and possibly subpoena key members,  
8 people that were involved with the pensions  
9 being awarded at that time. It's something  
10 that I'm certainly not going to give up on.  
11 Obviously, we have to let the state police  
12 do their job, hopefully there will be an  
13 answer as to when they are done  
14 investigating or a report may be released  
15 now as was the case with the tax office.  
16 Whether something criminal or not criminal  
17 happened that's certainly not the job of  
18 city council to investigate, that's the job  
19 of law enforcement, but how and why millions  
20 of taxpayer dollars were wrongly given out  
21 certainly is a function of city council and  
22 that's something I'm hoping that we can take  
23 up in the very near future, and that is all  
24 for tonight.

25 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION - A

1 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF PEDRO L. ANES,  
2 900 JAMES AVENUE, SUITE 5216, SCRANTON,  
3 PENNSYLVANIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN  
4 RELATIONS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER  
5 16, 2015. MR. ANES IS BEING APPOINTED TO A  
6 THREE (3) YEAR TERM THAT WILL EXPIRE ON  
7 SEPTEMBER 16, 2018.

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

11 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

12 MR. EVANS: Second.

13 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All  
14 those in favor of introduction signify by  
15 saying aye.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

17 MR. EVANS: Aye.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

21 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
22 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF LISA J.  
23 STANVITCH, 1813 SWETLAND STREET, SCRANTON,  
24 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN  
25 RELATIONS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER

1 23, 2015. MS. STANVITCH IS BEING APPOINTED  
2 TO A THREE (3) YEAR TERM THAT WILL EXPIRE ON  
3 SEPTEMBER 23, 2018.

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

7 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

8 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

12 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

13 MR. EVANS: Aye.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

17 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
18 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
19 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND  
20 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH D.G. NICHOLAS  
21 COMPANY TO PROVIDE THE CITY BULK OIL  
22 DELIVERED FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2016  
23 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016.

24 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll  
25 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be

1 introduced into its proper committee.

2 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

3 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

7 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

8 MR. EVANS: Aye.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

12 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
13 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
14 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND  
15 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KEYSTONE QUARRY,  
16 INC. TO PROVIDE THE CITY 2000 TON (MORE OR  
17 LESS) ANTI-SKID SAND FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER  
18 25, 2015 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2016.

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

22 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

23 MR. EVANS: Second.

24 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All  
25 those in favor of introduction signify by



1 saying aye.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

3 MR. EVANS: Aye.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

7 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

8 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
9 123, 2015 - AN ORDINANCE - CLOSING AND  
10 VACATING A PORTION OF JONES COURT, BETWEEN  
11 BEECH STREET AND MAPLE STREET.

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

14 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Chairman, I move  
15 that Item 6-A pass reading by title.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

19 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

20 MR. EVANS: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

24 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -  
25 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 124, 2015 - AN

1           ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 92,  
2           1994 (AS AMENDED) ENTITLED "ESTABLISHING A  
3           RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT PILOT PROGRAM FOR  
4           CERTAIN ELIGIBLE RESIDENTIAL AREAS AS  
5           DEFINED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN POWERS  
6           AND DUTIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR OF SAID  
7           PROGRAM WHO SHALL BE DESIGNATED BY THE  
8           MAYOR; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION  
9           OF THE SAID ORDINANCE", BY DELETING THE 700  
10          BLOCK OF MONROE AVENUE FROM THE STREETS  
11          DESIGNATED AS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
12          PERMIT PARKING PROGRAM AND THAT PERMIT  
13          PARKING SIGNS BE REMOVED FROM THE 700 BLOCK  
14          OF MONROE AVENUE.

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

17                 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Chairman, I move  
18                 that Item 6-B pass reading by title.

19                 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

22                 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

23                 MR. EVANS: Aye.

24                 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

25                 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
3 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -  
4 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 196, 2015 -  
5 RATIFYING AND APPROVING OF THE EXECUTION AND  
6 SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE  
7 CITY OF SCRANTON, ON BEHALF OF LACKAWANNA  
8 COLLEGE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
9 ACTING THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING  
10 AUTHORITY FOR A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT,  
11 PURSUANT TO THE PA RACE HORSE DEVELOPMENT  
12 AND GAMING ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$434,175.00  
13 FOR THE PROJECT TO BE KNOWN AS "STREET AND  
14 FAÇADE IMPROVEMENTS AT 401 ADAMS AVENUE AT  
15 LACKAWANNA COLLEGE" LOCATED IN SCRANTON,  
16 PENNSYLVANIA. AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
17 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY  
18 OF SCRANTON TO ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF  
19 SUCCESSFUL, AND EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A  
20 LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT CONTRACT AND  
21 COMMITMENT LETTER WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
22 PENNSYLVANIA TO ACCEPT AND UTILIZE THE GRANT  
23 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$434,175.00 AWARDED BY THE  
24 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR SUCH  
25 PROJECT.

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

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

7 MR. ROGAN: Is there a second?

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

9 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

10 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. Rogan, I  
11 will be abstaining from this vote.

12 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else? Roll call,  
13 please.

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

15 MR. EVANS: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

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

21 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY  
22 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR ADOPTION -  
23 RESOLUTION NO. 197, 2015 - AMENDING  
24 RESOLUTION NO. 167, 2015, A RESOLUTION  
25 ENTITLED "AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

1 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO GRANT A  
2 SPECIAL ENCROACHMENT PERMIT TO THE 16TH  
3 WARD, LLC TO OPERATE AN OUTDOOR RESTAURANT  
4 AT 306 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA"  
5 IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE DIMENSIONS OF THE  
6 OUTDOOR SEATING AREA TO COMPLY WITH THE  
7 PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD  
8 REGULATIONS.

9 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chair for  
10 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
11 passage of Item 7-B.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

18 MR. EVANS: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

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

24 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 198, 2015 - APPOINTMENT OF  
2 JESSICA L. BOYLES, ESQUIRE, OF SCRANTON,  
3 PENNSYLVANIA, TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF  
4 HUMAN RESOURCES/ASSISTANT BUSINESS  
5 ADMINISTRATOR EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015.  
6 ATTORNEY BOYLES WILL BE REPLACING REBECCA  
7 MCMULLEN WHO TOOK ANOTHER POSITION WITH THE  
8 CITY.

9 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chair for  
10 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
11 passage of Item 7-C.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

18 MR. EVANS: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

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

24 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 199, 2015 - APPOINTMENT OF  
2 PATRICK J. HUGHES, 15 FAWNWOOD DRIVE,  
3 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF  
4 THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY  
5 EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015. MR. HUGHES WILL  
6 BE REPLACING JESSICA L. BOYLES, ESQUIRE WHO  
7 RESIGNED SEPTEMBER 29, 2015. MR. HUGHES  
8 WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF ATTORNEY  
9 BOYLES, WHOSE TERM IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON  
10 DECEMBER 31, 2016.

11 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chair for  
12 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
13 passage of Item 7-D.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

19 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: Yes.

21 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

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

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

MR. WECHSLER: Motion to adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: This meeting is  
adjourned.



C E R T I F I C A T E

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2  
3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
5 notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the  
6 above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true  
7 and correct transcript of the same to the best of my  
8 ability.  
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12 CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
13 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER  
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