

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Thursday, October 23, 2014

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

14 Dispense with the reading of the  
15 minutes.

16 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. AGENDA  
17 FOR THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
18 HELD OCTOBER 22, 2014.

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

21 MS. REED: 3-B. CONTROLLER'S REPORT  
22 FOR THE MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?  
24 If not, received and filed. Any Clerk's  
25 notes?

1 MS. REED: No, Mr. McGoff.

2 MR. MCGOFF. Any announcements from  
3 council?

4 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. McGoff I  
5 have one. On Sunday, November 2, the  
6 Deutsch Institute will be having a champagne  
7 celebrity brunch at the St. Mary's Center on  
8 Mifflin Avenue. This year the celebration  
9 will be called "Happy Birthday, Charlie  
10 Brown." Tickets are \$25 in advance and  
11 there will be continuous serving from 9 a.m.  
12 to 1 p.m. Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: I have two as well. The  
14 first one, for a few years now state  
15 representative Marty Flynn has been  
16 conducting a coat drive for the needy in his  
17 office and this year Charlie Newcomb and  
18 Carrie Newcomb got involved with  
19 Representative Flynn to also incorporate a  
20 school uniform drive for underprivileged  
21 children within the school district. They  
22 asked myself and school director Paul Duffy  
23 to help in any way we can as well. So I  
24 wanted to announce that coats, blankets,  
25 uniforms for the needy can be dropped off at

1 two locations, they can be dropped off at  
2 State Representative Marty Flynn's Office on  
3 North Main Avenue in West Side or they could  
4 also be dropped off at Kost Tire in West  
5 Side, and if there is anyone out there that  
6 knows of somebody that is in need of a  
7 jacket or of a school uniform please contact  
8 any one of us so we can get these items to  
9 those who are in need.

10 Secondly, a bit of very good news,  
11 next Thursday at 10 a.m. there will be a  
12 ground breaking ceremony at the North  
13 Scranton Junior High School. This project  
14 will finally get underway. Thank you.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: And I have a few.  
16 Please remember in your prayers the family  
17 of Robert Pugliesi who passed away this  
18 week. Mr. Pugliesi was a former Scranton  
19 police officer. Also, please remember in  
20 your prayers the families of former DPW  
21 workers Allen Wheeler and Richard Kashuba.

22 I received a call from DPW Director  
23 Gallagher. He has a good amount of grass  
24 seed that was given to them that's left  
25 over. If any organization, such as soccer,

1 baseball, football leagues throughout the  
2 city would need grass seed or could use it  
3 for their fields please call Tom Lynch at  
4 570-348-4165 to make arrangements. Thank  
5 you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? Just a  
7 reminder that next week's meeting will be on  
8 Wednesday evening here at the Theatre at  
9 Lackawanna College at the same time, caucus  
10 will be at 6:00 and the meeting will begin  
11 at 6:30.

12 Also, on tonight's agenda the OECD  
13 2015 action plan will be taken from the  
14 table and put into Seventh Order as Item  
15 7-G. Citizens will have an opportunity in  
16 Seventh Order to comment if they wish, and  
17 that's it.

18 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
19 PARTICIPATION.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Joan Hodowanitz.

21 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,  
22 Scranton. I'm not going to comment on Item  
23 7-C I think Marie will probably speak  
24 eloquently to that so you don't need to hear  
25 it twice, but I was very interested this

1           afternoon to hear that West Hazelton has  
2           come out of distressed status under Act 47.  
3           Now, Hazelton is nowhere near the size of  
4           Scranton. It's finances are no where near  
5           as complicated, but, you know, that was a  
6           breath of fresh air to hear that somebody  
7           got out of distressed status, especially  
8           when you consider that in just under 18  
9           months Scranton is going to celebrate its  
10          150th anniversary on April 16, 2016, and I  
11          really hope that we are not in distressed  
12          status when that day comes around, it would  
13          be so nice.

14                   I've also been listening to the news  
15          to see if Governor Corbett has signed the  
16          changes to Act 47, apparently hasn't done so  
17          yet, I don't know how long he has before he  
18          has to make that decision. Assuming he does  
19          sign Act 47 changes, which is what most  
20          newspapers and news organizations feel he  
21          will do, then we are going to have a clock  
22          that's going to start ticking and basically  
23          five years could be extended up to eight  
24          years. If that happens, then one way or the  
25          other, we are coming out of distressed

1 status. Hopefully it won't be on a  
2 stretcher being carried over to a receiver  
3 or to bankruptcy Court. Hopefully, it will  
4 be in good condition somewhat as West  
5 Hazelton's manage to exit and we need to do  
6 that.

7 The other issue that still concerns  
8 me is the upcoming 2015 budget which is due  
9 now in three weeks. That's due to you as a  
10 council on November 15, is it actually going  
11 to come to you on the 13th or will it come  
12 to you the following week because the 15th I  
13 believe falls on a weekend. How will that  
14 go?

15 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not sure and I  
16 talked to the mayor about that, and he was  
17 hopeful that it would be prior to the 15th,  
18 the Friday prior to the 15th.

19 MS. HODOWANITZ: Hopefully that's  
20 good and I would assume --

21 MR. MCGOFF: If not it would be that  
22 following Monday.

23 MS. HODOWANITZ: And as soon as it's  
24 presented to council it will be made  
25 available to public on the city's website?



1 MR. MCGOFF: I believe that that's  
2 been the practice in the past.

3 MS. HODOWANITZ: Yeah, I would --  
4 you know, many people are waiting for that  
5 with bated breath. I'm waiting for it with  
6 bated breath, especially since, you know,  
7 the city is doing it without benefit of the  
8 2013 audit. I don't think a lot of the  
9 people understand how important the audit  
10 is, okay? It is a touch stone to make sure  
11 that you get realistic numbers in your 2015  
12 budget, but, you know, if it's going to be  
13 late it's going to be late and God willing  
14 and the creek don't rise next Thursday at 10  
15 a.m. I will be on the top of Greenridge  
16 Street watching that groundbreaking ceremony  
17 and saying hallelujah.

18 MR. ROGAN: I'll see you there.

19 MS. HODOWANITZ: I'll be there.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Ron Ellman.

22 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, my ex-friends I  
23 guess. I wasn't even going to come tonight  
24 to alienate anybody any further, but I like  
25 to watch the Lone Ranger from seven to eight

1 at night, but it will on the 12:30. You  
2 know, whether I show it or not I think I'm  
3 somewhat intelligent like the average  
4 person. I went to Memphis State University  
5 and the University of Tennessee Medical  
6 School in Memphis for x-ray, and when I  
7 finally fulfilled my questions of owning  
8 property I made the mistake of Scranton it  
9 looks like. It just -- as much as I like  
10 the people in the city it's just going -- my  
11 neighborhood is just gone. It's just gone.  
12 You can't imagine what goes on around there.  
13 Yeah, I don't know what the solution is to  
14 it. I fought and fought and fought with a  
15 guy in New York City that is, as I  
16 mentioned, he has a 127 pieces of property,  
17 he lives in New York. He doesn't care one  
18 iota who is going to rent the house across  
19 from me. I even made him an offer to buy  
20 it, but he wants, you know, more, but owning  
21 that property makes me somewhat your boss  
22 and others. Don't like that, do you?

23 Well, when I tried to week to find  
24 out the tax on Mr. -- from the Licensing  
25 Bureau I just was wondering how much of a

1 building permit they paid for the new  
2 college. I got the runaround and Mr. Hinton  
3 refused to return my phone calls. You know,  
4 he should have the common courtesy to answer  
5 a simple phone call. I never went through  
6 this with Mr. Seitzinger and he always told  
7 me that either in person or answered my  
8 phone call. That's common knowledge and for  
9 some reason they won't tell me. I have my  
10 own ideas why.

11 And I must have talked to 12, 15  
12 people at the grocery store like I always  
13 do, and people are just so totally  
14 disappointed that you gave that money to the  
15 banks last week. As much as this city -- as  
16 much pressure there is on a quarter of this  
17 population to pay taxes and all we hear is  
18 it going up and up and up. You have made a  
19 hero out of Mr. Amoroso's report and you  
20 don't listen to what the people out here  
21 tell you, the people that put you in those  
22 seats. It just goes in one ear and out the  
23 other I think.

24 The only reason you state that you  
25 want to have good relations with the banks

1           so we can borrow more. This borrowing is  
2           what we are in trouble for all the time.  
3           There is no way of getting out of it.  
4           Nobody is going to do nothing about  
5           getting -- doing something about the phony  
6           nonprofits. Every single day of the week we  
7           are losing between fires and just  
8           abandonment in tax we are losing our  
9           property. It's just gone. You know, I  
10          don't know pretty soon I don't know what the  
11          Universities are going to do for police and  
12          fire protection and streetlights because we  
13          can't afford it no more. You know, you  
14          people just don't -- you seem to be avoiding  
15          the issue of your children and your  
16          children's children that people talk to me  
17          about briefly. They are not going to be  
18          able to afford to live here. It's sad.  
19          It's sad to me.

20                    You know, I try to be a good citizen  
21                    to try and make up for a lot of my past  
22                    mistakes. You know, like I have said so  
23                    many times I got cars going by my house 60,  
24                    80 miles an hour, and this isn't the police  
25                    -- it's not their fault because I see police

1 cars, when they go by the cars speed up. I  
2 have no curbs, my yard flooded today, I had  
3 to get a shovel and clean up all the stones  
4 and dirt off the sidewalk. My sidewalks are  
5 100 years old and I put pavement on it when  
6 I bought the house. I don't have no curbs.  
7 I'm not getting nothing for my dime with the  
8 people of this city.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.

10 MR. ELLMAN: I thank you for letting  
11 me come up here. Did I give you a headache  
12 tonight?

13 MR. MCGOFF: Not tonight.

14 MR. ELLMAN: Good. I changed my  
15 cologne. I got some good stuff instead of  
16 the Dollar Store. Thank you.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anyone else  
18 who wishes to address council?

19 MR. DOBRZYN: Better watch out I  
20 think that guy just bought a Samurai sword,  
21 Mr. McGoff, you might be using it on that  
22 doll. Okay, I'd like to once again bring up  
23 the DPW, and as we speak it's raining and  
24 last night I walked by a trash can with  
25 three trash cans full of cardboard. Now, in

1 the morning we will be paying for the rain  
2 water that soaks into that cardboard out at  
3 the trash, so I'm so tired of bringing up  
4 recycling, it's time we develop a plan and  
5 maybe I'll put something in writing and have  
6 some suggestions next week because I'm tired  
7 of talking about it, it's been two years.  
8 Ever since the DPW had to work for minimum  
9 wage I have been bringing this up.

10 Now, on that truck deal, I know it's  
11 past, but what happens after the lease is  
12 up? We have to get another lease because we  
13 won't have any trucks if the company recalls  
14 them and if you want to purchase them at  
15 that point you can purchase them. Usually  
16 it's at a ridiculously high price from my  
17 experience in the automotive industry, and,  
18 you know, one of my first jobs in a truck  
19 garage was putting together refurbishing  
20 trucks and it was mostly my boss, my bosses  
21 did that at a small shop. We took  
22 20-year-old MAC trucks, put new  
23 transmissions in them, tore cylinder heads  
24 off and fixed the pistons or whatever was  
25 wrong with them, and people were tickled to

1 death with what they got for their money and  
2 it's really ashamed that we can't continue to  
3 do this because buying new is way more  
4 expensive than fixing in most cases unless  
5 perhaps you can't get somebody to fix them  
6 anyway.

7 And on that Landmark loan deal I did  
8 mention last week that it's probably more  
9 trouble than it's worth not to repay it,  
10 however, it's time to revise the authorities  
11 and the authority of the authorities they  
12 should not be allowed to go behind council  
13 and do whatever they want and then hand you  
14 the bill. I mean, nobody has been hearing  
15 from our previous mayor, rumor has it that  
16 he doesn't live here anymore and, I mean,  
17 maybe it's because he is disappointed in the  
18 way things worked out for him, maybe he  
19 don't want to hear it, Ron Ellman grabbing  
20 him at the supermarket and, you know,  
21 hopefully some day you will be able to walk  
22 out of this office and keep your head up  
23 high and, you know, enough sensible people  
24 will have or will say, "Well, geez, you did  
25 a fairly good job."

1                   But it's up to you, you have what  
2                   three more years? A little more than three  
3                   years, so it's your game from there but it  
4                   is really time to put a stop to authorities  
5                   acting like they are the elected body or  
6                   elected dictators of Scranton. The Parking  
7                   Authority had nothing to say, they would not  
8                   provide information, they would not -- it  
9                   looked like the Kefauvre Commission there.  
10                  It's like, "I pay my taxes," you know, Joe  
11                  Costello back there around 1952.

12                  And I really think it's time that we  
13                  start looking in the bag fee collections  
14                  especially for people that can damn well  
15                  afford them. There are some pretty  
16                  significant names on there. I know one of  
17                  them both parties work for the government so  
18                  you know that income is in excess of 100  
19                  grand a year. They owe \$15,000, they have  
20                  six properties and it's just ashame that we  
21                  are not getting after that because your only  
22                  recourse from there is to borrow some more  
23                  or raise taxes and fees on the otherwise  
24                  paying customers, so it's not acceptable.

25                  And the final message, I'll just



1 take a second, don't trust Harrisburg any  
2 more, please. The PILOTS, Mr. Amoroso, once  
3 again, it just goes on and on and on and we  
4 are getting all of the positive things that  
5 would help the people from the town knocked  
6 out by the courts, and then the new laws I'm  
7 seeing are, oh, we have to go for Court  
8 approval. Well, two-thirds of the county  
9 lives outside of Scranton so it's a no-win  
10 situation for us. Thank you and have a good  
11 night.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Dobrzyn.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,  
14 Council, Marie Schumacher. Tonight you all  
15 have an opportunity to take the easy wrong  
16 over the hard right. Paying back somebody  
17 else's debt, especially when we are in the  
18 shape we are in the city is a terrible  
19 precedent to set.

20 Last week, I read to you the opinion  
21 of a well-respected solicitor on whether or  
22 not we owe this loan. Tonight I'll read you  
23 a second, which is excerpt from the 2012  
24 audit, and it's talking about the Scranton  
25 Parking Authority and it says, "The

1 management agreement," and this is with the  
2 receiver, "Cover single year periods  
3 beginning September 11, 2012. The  
4 agreements are automatically renewed unless  
5 cancelled 60 days prior to the term. The  
6 newly appointed manager provides budgets,  
7 consulting advice, records, collections and  
8 disbursements, operation of parking  
9 facilities, and record retention. Services  
10 not included in the management agreement  
11 that are still the responsibility of the  
12 receiver are structural repairs and  
13 maintenance to parking facilities and all of  
14 other capital expenditures, payment of real  
15 estate taxes of the receivership estate  
16 property, and debt service payments."

17 So this is Mr. Washo's problem, it  
18 is not city council's. It may make it  
19 easier for the city, but again, taking the  
20 easy way instead of the proper and more  
21 difficult way is the proper way to go in my  
22 estimation. What bothers me is you all were  
23 elected to represent the taxpayers, but in  
24 this instance you are picking winners and  
25 losers and you are picking the winner as

1 Landmark Bank. They will get 100 percent of  
2 what they are looking for of what they say  
3 we owe, and the taxpayers are the losers  
4 because we will get to pick up the slack.

5 I'm going back to a meeting, city  
6 council minutes from the 2012. To provide a  
7 brief background, this is from the Finance  
8 Chair speaking, "To provide a brief  
9 background, a \$139,00 increase in real  
10 estate tax revenue results in a 1 percent  
11 real estate tax increase for Scranton  
12 residents. If one does the math --" and  
13 then -- So if one does the math for the \$1.9  
14 million that's in our budget this year for  
15 picking up what the Parking Authority is not  
16 able to pay on their on the debt that the  
17 previous councils have guaranteed, which is  
18 what we actually owe, that alone accounts  
19 for 7.9, make it 8 percent of our property  
20 tax increase. If you take what you are  
21 going to be paying according to the terms  
22 ten years, sinking fund, all of that, it  
23 probably is going to be another 3 percent.  
24 I think that's an awful lot for the  
25 taxpayers to pay especially when you

1           probably noticed in today's paper the social  
2           security increase which a lot of people,  
3           unfortunately, have to try to live is going  
4           to be a grand 1.7 percent and I pretty much  
5           guarantee that the average property taxpayer  
6           that will be more than eaten up by what you  
7           are doing tonight.

8                         Also, I think Landmark was somewhat  
9           shoddy in doing their due diligence for the  
10          loan that -- the money that they loaned to  
11          the Scranton Parking Authority, not to the  
12          city, and I think, again, the terms, I  
13          didn't have a chance to really look at it to  
14          deeply, but it appears to me that we must be  
15          making the assumption that the parking  
16          meters will not be sold, and as far as last  
17          I heard the sale, and if you would please  
18          stop using the fancy monetization, it just  
19          means sale. This is Scranton. Let's say we  
20          are going to sell them and not try to  
21          bamboozle people by monetization --

22                         MR. MCGOFF: It would be a lease as  
23          well.

24                         MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, it could be a  
25          lease.

1 MR. MCGOFF: We are just putting a  
2 dollar value on it, that's what monetization  
3 is.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, their  
5 assumption is they are getting paid from the  
6 parking meter revenue, and they don't have a  
7 thing in there about guaranteeing that you  
8 will not monetize or sell the parking  
9 meters. Again, it's a terrible precedent  
10 and I don't know why the mayor reconstituted  
11 the authority, all that does is add a  
12 solicitor's pay that -- we get to pay that  
13 to and I feel very bad for us city taxpayers  
14 and for the employees because they are not  
15 going to get 100 percent either. This is  
16 probably the only debtor that will get 100  
17 percent and it's 100 percent of a bill that  
18 we don't even owe. The ones that are  
19 guaranteed and the ones that we have to pay  
20 will take a hit and this bank will not take  
21 any hit whatsoever. It's wrong and I hate  
22 to see you vote that way, but thank you.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anyone  
24 else?

25 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.

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MOTIONS.

MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler.

MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. McGoff, I just have a few things this evening. I would like to point to a cooperative effort that was made by the DPW and the Scranton Sewer Authority, they worked together to repair a bad situation that was up on East Mountain Road that we were able to share some equipment and materials between the two agencies and fix a deteriorating situation up there and we are happy that that was repaired before winter set in.

This week I also spoke to city engineer John Pocius. I think we are all familiar with the Green Light Go Program that was talked about last week for the traffic light and signal improvements, the city is putting together an application to participate in that program, the final details are not available yet but the application will be submitted before the due date which is November 17 the city will submit it's application on November the

1 14th.

2 In regards to the leasing of the  
3 garbage trucks, I had the opportunity to  
4 speak to a retired DPW worker who said that  
5 we are -- he is comfortable that we are  
6 doing the right thing by leasing. During  
7 his tenure he was working with the trucks  
8 that were purchased I believe from New York  
9 City and he told me that those trucks were  
10 junk and they were down more than they were  
11 up, so a person directly involved with that  
12 thinks we are doing the correct thing.

13 And the other items I have will be  
14 in motions. Thank you.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes, just a few brief  
17 items, most of my comments will on the  
18 voting portion of the meeting as well. Just  
19 two items I wanted to mention: One, while  
20 I'm certainly glad to see paving in a lot of  
21 the neighborhoods from our OECD program I  
22 did have a resident that contacted me, they  
23 were gone away for -- they went away for  
24 vacation the day before the posting for the  
25 "No Parking" went up. The next day all of

1 the cars in the neighborhood were towed for  
2 the paving. So what I want to look into is  
3 if the city has any protocol for it, and it  
4 wasn't the city that did the paving, this  
5 was all contracted out. What I want to look  
6 into to see if the city has any protocol so  
7 this doesn't happen again. Maybe a week, a  
8 little bit over a week for residents to plan  
9 so they know that the roads is getting paved  
10 on this date, we can't have any parking  
11 there, and I think it will be easier for  
12 residents and for the contractors as well to  
13 be able to plan ahead. I'd hate to see in  
14 this situation somebody that was going to  
15 visit relatives out of town, it was a day  
16 trip, they got a call from their neighbor  
17 saying, "Hey, your car is being towed the  
18 city is paving the road."

19 I don't think that's fair and that  
20 shouldn't happen so that's something I will  
21 be looking into.

22 And finally, I just want to comment  
23 briefly on a letter that we all received  
24 from the University of Scranton, it was  
25 actually addressed to Mr. McGoff, but since



1 we worked hard together on this project I  
2 did want to mention it, this is regarding  
3 the new rehabilitation education center  
4 that's being built and they partnered with  
5 NEPA Alliance to do a comprehensive economic  
6 impact study, and those who aren't familiar  
7 with NEPA Alliance they help a lot of local  
8 businesses with grants, loans, facilitating  
9 different programs to keep current  
10 businesses running into help up start  
11 businesses, trade partnerships, things of  
12 that nature. They are a great group, I have  
13 worked with them on a number of projects.

14 But to sum up this property it  
15 states that the construction and engineering  
16 involved with the new center is estimated to  
17 produce \$87.7 million in economic activity.  
18 Total estimated labor income is \$36.1  
19 million, and the total estimated state and  
20 local taxes are \$3.1 million on this  
21 project. So just seeing a report like this  
22 it really -- it seemed to get men and women  
23 at work on that project when many people are  
24 out of work. It makes all of the hard work  
25 that myself and I know Mr. Councilman McGoff

1 worked very hard on it and we were able to  
2 convince former Councilman Joyce to vote  
3 with us to get this project going, so this  
4 is a good project for the city and we are  
5 glad to see this economic development. We  
6 certainly wish the University would provide  
7 more to us in lieu of taxes, but this is a  
8 good project nonetheless. And that is all.  
9 Thank you.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Evans?

11 MR. EVANS: Thank you. On pension  
12 reform I'm still gathering some information,  
13 I hope to have some more documentation next  
14 week, I think I'm going to make a  
15 recommendation of what I feel the type of  
16 changes we need to the pension reform.

17 On the Quality of life Ordinance  
18 status, I talked to Pat Hinton today and the  
19 ordinance is currently in draft form so  
20 hopefully we will see that in a week or so.  
21 I would point out on the Quality of Life  
22 Ordinance I did some research on Allentown,  
23 they also have a version of this and since  
24 2006 Allentown has been averaging nearly  
25 3,000 tickets annually and approximately

1           \$220,000 yearly in fines. Some years as  
2           many as 5,000 tickets were issued in quality  
3           of life type situations where, you know,  
4           like our ordinances propose to do and many  
5           of those tickets were issued by the  
6           Allentown police officers, and if we combine  
7           the police department, and Chief Graziano  
8           was very much interested in this ordinance,  
9           the possibilities are really endless I would  
10          expect. I don't know about matching those  
11          numbers, but I think we could put a pretty  
12          good dent to it and it could be a large  
13          revenue producer for the city as well as  
14          positive reinforcement of what we need to be  
15          as a city cleaning up some of the blight in  
16          our neighborhoods. So that's all I have for  
17          now.

18                   MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan.

19                   MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. I  
20                   received a few inquiries about the status of  
21                   the Rockwell Avenue Bridge project.  
22                   According our city engineer there was a  
23                   recently held utility coordination meeting  
24                   held on-site. Shop drawings have been  
25                   submitted and approved. There has been tree

1 clearing, fence removal, new detour signage  
2 has been installed, there has been a project  
3 information sign that's been posted,  
4 relocation of a neighbor's tool shed and  
5 they are preparing to construct the  
6 pedestrian bridge. No major work will be  
7 performed at the site from October 1 to  
8 December 31 due to the fact that Legget's  
9 Creek is a wild trout stream.

10 This week I was made aware of some  
11 issues on Froud Avenue with pipes being  
12 blocked by leaves. This affects the water  
13 run off and sends the water into neighbor's  
14 yards and it floods them. I forwarded that  
15 issue to our DPW director so hopefully that  
16 can be taken care of.

17 I attended the Bullshead  
18 neighborhood meeting Tuesday night. I have  
19 a list of requests from residents that we  
20 forwarded to the DPW and police department.  
21 Some of the issues included the stop sign at  
22 the intersection of Phyllo Street and  
23 Providence Road is faded and needs to be  
24 replaced. There are three major potholes at  
25 Langstaff and Stores Court that residents

1 would like filled if possible. Currently  
2 neighbors are filling them with gravel and  
3 they have caused damage to vehicles.  
4 Residents reported that there is no street  
5 sign for Stores Court and would like one put  
6 up if that is possible. An elderly  
7 gentleman who lives at 905 Albright Avenue  
8 is having trouble with water run off  
9 flooding his yard, and in the 2500 block of  
10 Boulevard Avenue there is a catch basin that  
11 residents are reporting is blocked and  
12 causing problem. And finally, residents  
13 would like to request more crime watch signs  
14 in the Weston Field area if that is  
15 possible.

16 And that is all I have this week.  
17 Thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Just once again very  
19 quickly, a reminder that next week's meeting  
20 will be on Wednesday evening, not Thursday,  
21 and it be will held here at the Theatre at  
22 Lackawanna College at the same time, caucus  
23 at 6:00, meeting at 6:30.

24 Also, a reminder that there will be  
25 an opportunity to speak on the OECD action

1 plan which will be taken off the table and  
2 prior to the vote in Seventh Order there  
3 will be another opportunity to speak to the  
4 action plan.

5 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
6 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
7 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND  
8 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ARRIS ENGINEERING  
9 GROUP LTD. TO PROVIDE ARCHITECT/ENGINEER  
10 (A/E) SERVICES FOR PHASE 1 OF A STREET  
11 LIGHTING PROJECT WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF  
12 THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO COMMENCE WITHIN  
13 SEVEN (7) DAYS AFTER THE FINAL EXECUTION OF  
14 THE CONTRACT AND BE COMPLETED WITHIN THIRTY  
15 (30) DAYS AFTER COMMENCEMENT.

16 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll  
17 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be  
18 introduced into its proper committee.

19 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

1 MR. EVANS: Aye.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

3 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The  
4 ayes have it and so moved.

5 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
6 RESOLUTION APPOINTMENT OF JACK LOSCOMBE,  
7 3115 PARALLEL DRIVE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
8 18504, TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. MR.  
9 LOSCOMBE'S EFFECTIVE DATE WILL BE OCTOBER 9,  
10 2014. MR LOSCOMBE WILL BE REPLACING DOMINIC  
11 GEORGETTI, WHO RESIGNED EFFECTIVE AUGUST 28,  
12 2014. MR. LOSCOMBE'S TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH  
13 THE TERM OF MAYOR WILLIAM L. COURTRIGHT.

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

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

19 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.  
21 I'll be voting "no" for this tonight. Not  
22 anything personal against Mr. Loscombe, I  
23 think he would do a good job on the  
24 commission, but I don't feel that it's  
25 proper to appoint someone to a commission

1           who is in litigation with the city.

2           Mr. Loscombe is currently suing the city so  
3           that is why I will be voting "no." Thank  
4           you.

5                       MR. MCGOFF: I'd also like to  
6           mention that there was -- we did investigate  
7           and there is no prescription against  
8           Mr. Loscombe holding this position since it  
9           is not a compensated position.

10                      MR. ROGAN: I would just state I  
11           voted to appoint Councilman Loscombe to city  
12           council I will be voting to appoint him to  
13           the Civil Service Commission. I had the  
14           pleasure of serving with him on council, he  
15           was a great colleague to work with and his  
16           knowledge and expertise of the Fire  
17           Department operations as a retired fireman  
18           and as a former Public Safety Chair of City  
19           Council will be a great addition to the  
20           Civil Service Commission.

21                      MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor of  
22           introduction signify by saying aye.

23                      MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

24                      MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25                      MR. EVANS: Aye.



1 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

2 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

3 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so  
4 moved.

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

6 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
7 54, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE SALE OF TAX  
8 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS  
9 CORNER OF PARK AND TERRACE, SCRANTON,  
10 PENNSYLVANIA, TAX MAP NO. 16806-010-031 TO  
11 THOMAS J. KANE AND MARY M. KANE, 95 LINWOOD  
12 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, FOR  
13 THE CONSIDERATION OF \$1,000.00.

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

16 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A  
17 pass reading by title.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

21 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. EVANS: Aye.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The

1 ayes have it and so moved.

2 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.  
3 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
4 FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION FILE OF THE COUNCIL  
5 NO. 51, 2014 - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT  
6 PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 540 NORTH  
7 REBECCA AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX  
8 MAP NO. 14510-020-003 TO ARNOLD DOMMES, JR.,  
9 NORTH REBECCA AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
10 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, FOR THE CONSIDERATION  
11 OF \$650.00.

12 MR. MCGOFF: What is the  
13 recommendation of the Chair for the  
14 Committee on Finance?

15 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the  
16 Committee on Finance, I recommend final  
17 passage of Item 7-A.

18 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

24 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

1 MR. EVANS: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

7 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION  
8 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION  
9 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 52, 2014 - SALE OF  
10 TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN  
11 AS 532 PRESCOTT AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
12 PENNSYLVANIA, TAX MAP NO. 15710-020-007 TO  
13 JAMES SMITH AND DENISE SMITH, 528 PRESCOTT  
14 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, FOR  
15 THE CONSIDERATION OF \$1,500.00.

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

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

22 MR. ROGAN: Second.

23 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll  
24 call, please?

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

3 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

5 MR. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

11 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION BY  
12 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION FILE  
13 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 53, 2014 - APPROVING THE  
14 ISSUANCE OF A NOTE BY THE PARKING AUTHORITY  
15 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON IN A MAXIMUM  
16 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$4,000,000.00  
17 TO FINANCE THE 2014 PROJECT (AS DEFINED  
18 HEREIN); AUTHORIZING THE PLEDGE OF THE  
19 CITY'S ON-STREET METER REVENUES AS SECURITY  
20 FOR AND THE SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF THE PARKING  
21 AUTHORITY'S 2014 NOTE; AUTHORIZING THE  
22 EXECUTION OF THE PLEDGE DOCUMENTS (AS  
23 DEFINED HEREIN); AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
24 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY TO TAKE OTHER  
25 APPROPRIATE ACTION; PROVIDING FOR THE

1 EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS ORDINANCE AND THE  
2 SEVERABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS; AND  
3 REPEALING ALL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES OR  
4 PARTS OF ORDINANCES.

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

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

11 MR. ROGAN: Second.

12 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Prior  
13 to I'd just want to say that we received  
14 very late today a term sheet that was agreed  
15 upon by the Parking Authority, the  
16 administration and the two banks that were  
17 part of this legislation. While we have not  
18 had a great deal of opportunity to review  
19 the terms, we did -- I did speak with  
20 Mr. Bulzoni, the business administrator, and  
21 also with Solicitor Shrive. We were also in  
22 contact with the bond counsel from the  
23 Parking Authority, Attorney Conaboy, and  
24 that the terms that were agreed upon are  
25 within the parameters of the legislation

1           that was proposed to us. I will say that  
2           all of council was somewhat upset by the  
3           fact that we received this at such a late  
4           notice, but it was the decision of council  
5           that we would keep this on the agenda and  
6           that we would vote on it this evening. I'm  
7           sorry, I just wanted to --

8                         MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,  
9           Mr. McGoff. The comment that I would like  
10          to have is I think in this case the  
11          administration and the city effectively  
12          negotiated the terms of this settlement. As  
13          of Monday, we were not going to have a deal,  
14          we are were going to table this, and in the  
15          course from Monday to tonight we were able  
16          to reach a settlement that is acceptable to  
17          the city and to the bank. It also shows  
18          that we can negotiate when we have to even  
19          though we may not be in the best negotiating  
20          position. I'm very happy of the fact that  
21          the city stood its ground where it was and  
22          we ended up with, like I said, a settlement  
23          that we can deal with.

24                        I'd like to just reecho my comments  
25          from last week, I don't believe that putting

1           this off and not paying it will help us at  
2           all. I believe we have to get these type of  
3           issues settled so we can move forward and  
4           get our financial house in order. Thank  
5           you, Mr. McGoff.

6                     MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

7                     MR. ROGAN: Yes, just regarding this  
8           issue, this is an issue that I put a lot of  
9           time thinking about and spoke to a lot of  
10          people on both sides of this issue, and what  
11          this decision came down to for me was if we  
12          chose not to pay these debts it would be  
13          left for a judge to decide, obviously there  
14          would be hefty attorney fees involved and I  
15          think everyone in the city knows what  
16          Scranton's track record is when it comes to  
17          Court cases. I don't know if we have won  
18          one in my lifetime, so that being said we  
19          can't take the chance of rolling the dice  
20          and leaving it to the courts.

21                    Should the loan have ever been made?  
22           No, it shouldn't have. It should have come  
23           before city council for approval and it  
24           wouldn't have been approved, and I think  
25           part of the reason why this one never came

1 before city council was because there was an  
2 attempt to hide how bad the finances at the  
3 Parking Authority were at that time. The  
4 parking garages in the city, many of them  
5 should have never been built. They were  
6 built on a mountain of debt so much that the  
7 city authority cannot make a profit, can't  
8 even break even never mind make a profit off  
9 these garages.

10 The former mayor, the former Parking  
11 Authority board, and the former director of  
12 the Parking Authority caused this entire  
13 mess by running up debt, building garages  
14 that never should have been built, and  
15 spending money as if it were free. But,  
16 nonetheless, at this point I believe it's in  
17 the best interest of the city to move  
18 forward with the sale of the bad assets of  
19 the Scranton Parking Authority. In order to  
20 move forward with that sale, these items  
21 first need to be taken care of. That's why  
22 I will be voting "yes" on these items, and I  
23 look forward to the city finally being rid  
24 of these assets that we are losing money on  
25 every year. Thank you.



1 MR. GAUGHAN: I just have one  
2 comment, when we talk about who created this  
3 entire mess I think we need to take into  
4 account in 2012 when the previous council  
5 let the city default on the Parking  
6 Authority -- two Parking Authority bonds.  
7 That has not helped at all. In fact, I  
8 believe it's cost the city almost \$5  
9 million. Five million dollars. So that has  
10 not helped, so I think when we talk about  
11 who caused this entire mess we shouldn't  
12 forget that part because that was a major,  
13 major, major, major mistake that we made and  
14 we can't forget that moving forward and  
15 making financial decisions for this city.  
16 Thank you.

17 MR. ROGAN: I don't want to debate  
18 what we did two years ago, but at the time  
19 if we recall city council called in members  
20 of the Parking Authority Board and asked for  
21 financial information. We were provided  
22 with a budget that was literally two pages  
23 and didn't provide any information and at  
24 that time there was no choice. The city  
25 taxpayers could not just keep out handing

1 out checks, handing out checks, handing out  
2 checks without any accountability at the  
3 Parking Authority. Although, some of us may  
4 differ how we got to this point, I think  
5 moving forward we can never let that happen  
6 again and that's something I think we can  
7 all agree upon.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Just one --

9 MR. MCGOFF: Okay.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: I was just going to  
11 say if no matter -- and I followed that in  
12 2012 and I remember the caucus, but just to  
13 bring it down a little bit, if you have a  
14 credit card and you sign that agreement, you  
15 have you a Sears credit card and you charge  
16 I don't know \$5,000 on it and you don't pay  
17 the \$5,000 you are going to get whacked.  
18 That's what happened. When you guarantee a  
19 debt and you guarantee a bond and you don't  
20 pay it you get in trouble and this is one of  
21 the results of that, so that did have an  
22 effect. I just wanted to point that out.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan and I have  
24 disagreed on this since the time that it  
25 took place, the original Landmark loan was

1 to allow the Parking Authority to make good  
2 on its debt payments. When council voted to  
3 basically bankrupt the Parking Authority it  
4 caused them to default in the only on the  
5 Landmark loans but also on the other debt  
6 that they had. Now, whose responsibility  
7 that was is at this point it's a moot point.  
8 It is my feeling that the city, whoever was  
9 at fault, caused the defaulted debt in one  
10 way or another and it's my belief that it is  
11 the city's responsibility to make it right.  
12 I know that there is disagreement with  
13 people, but I think it is the ethical thing  
14 to do as far as the city is concerned.

15 To answer one other question, it is  
16 believed that upon the sale, I'll use the  
17 Scranton term rather than monetization, or  
18 the lease of the garages this debt would be  
19 -- the loan that we are voting on this  
20 evening would be repaid at that time. It is  
21 hoped that this loan will be repaid in full  
22 within a year. That is the purpose of  
23 taking care of these debts. It's like  
24 trying to sell a house that has two liens  
25 against it, it's better to pay off the liens

1 to give you a better opportunity to sell  
2 your house and that's what we are trying to  
3 do with this legislation, and hopefully we  
4 will get to the point where we can monetize  
5 the parking garages and pay off this loan.  
6 It is the intent to do that within, as I  
7 said, within a year. Thank you. Anyone  
8 else?

9 MR. EVANS: Yes. My comments are,  
10 number one, the term sheet meets the  
11 criteria that were laid out in our  
12 legislation, that's the most important  
13 issue. The credit amount or the loan amount  
14 is actually less than, the interest rate is  
15 less than, and term is less than so on that  
16 side of it it's very positive. I feel that  
17 the city administration did a very good job  
18 of getting that to this point.

19 On a going forward basis, this is  
20 about the future, it's about rebuilding our  
21 credibility in the financial community.  
22 That's what this does as well, so for that  
23 reason I'm voting "yes" tonight.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? Roll  
25 call, please. Roll call, please?

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

6 MR. EVANS: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

12 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION  
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION  
14 RESOLUTION NO. 93, 2014 - RATIFYING AND  
15 APPROVING OF THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF  
16 THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF  
17 SCRANTON, ON BEHALF OF AKSHAR LACKAWANNA  
18 STATION HOSPITALITY TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
19 PENNSYLVANIA ACTING THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH  
20 FINANCING AUTHORITY FOR A LOCAL SHARE  
21 ACCOUNT GRANT, PURSUANT TO THE PA RACE HORSE  
22 DEVELOPMENT AND GAMING ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF  
23 \$2,500,000.00 FOR THE PROJECT TO BE KNOWN AS  
24 "LACKAWANNA STATION RESTORATION SCRANTON  
25 PROJECT" LOCATED IN SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

1           AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE  
2           CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO  
3           ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF SUCCESSFUL AND EXECUTE  
4           AND ENTER INTO A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT  
5           CONTRACT AND COMMITMENT LETTER WITH THE  
6           COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA TO ACCEPT AND  
7           UTILIZE THE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF  
8           \$2,500,000.00 AWARDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
9           PENNSYLVANIA FOR SUCH PROJECT.

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

13                   MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the  
14                   Committee on Finance, I recommend final  
15                   passage of Item 7-D.

16                   MR. ROGAN: Second.

17                   MR. MCGOFF: On the question? I  
18                   would just like to comment that while we  
19                   have in the past heard on this project, the  
20                   station, this is a project that I think  
21                   everyone in the city would like to see  
22                   developed. It's right at the gateway to the  
23                   city from West Scranton or to the downtown  
24                   from West Scranton. It's a great property  
25                   that needs to be rehabilitated and developed

1 and become a cornerstone for the downtown  
2 area, so I think that approving this grant  
3 application is a great benefit to that  
4 project. Roll call, please.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

8 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

10 MR. EVANS: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

16 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION  
17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION  
18 RESOLUTION NO. 94, 2014 - RATIFYING AND  
19 APPROVING OF THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF  
20 THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF  
21 SCRANTON, ON BEHALF OF SCRANTON-LTI, LP, 335  
22 ADAMS AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503  
23 TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA ACTING  
24 THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY  
25 FOR A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT, PURSUANT TO

1 THE PA RACE HORSE DEVELOPMENT AND GAMING ACT  
2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$615,000.00 FOR THE PROJECT  
3 TO BE KNOWN AS "LEONARD THEATER ADAMS AVENUE  
4 PROJECT" LOCATED IN SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.  
5 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE  
6 CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO  
7 ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF SUCCESSFUL AND EXECUTE  
8 AND ENTER INTO A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT  
9 CONTRACT AND COMMITMENT LETTER WITH THE  
10 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA TO ACCEPT AND  
11 UTILIZE THE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF  
12 \$615,000.00 AWARDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
13 PENNSYLVANIA FOR SUCH PROJECT.

14 MR. MCGOFF: What is the  
15 recommendation of the Chair for the  
16 Committee on Finance?

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

20 MR. ROGAN: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Once  
22 again, this property is one that has been  
23 sort of undeveloped for many years. It's a  
24 great property. The people applying for the  
25 grant have already done major work at the



1 Leonard Theatre and I think everyone, again,  
2 would be happy to see the completion of this  
3 project, and again, make the Leonard Theatre  
4 a property to be proud of within the City of  
5 Scranton.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: If I could just add --  
7 oh, were you going to --

8 MR. EVANS: Well, my only comment  
9 was that it's a very interesting location  
10 because that part of Adams Avenue, at least  
11 that half of Adams Avenue is sort of our  
12 little version of Greenwich Village and this  
13 is it going to go a long way to even enhance  
14 that even more.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I was just going  
16 to say Councilman Evans and myself were at  
17 the University of Scranton neighbor night  
18 last night and one of the things that was  
19 brought up was The Leonard and the impact  
20 that this theatre will have downtown.

21 Roll call, please?

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

2 MR. EVANS: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

8 MS. REED: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION BY  
9 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION  
10 RESOLUTION NO. 95, 2014 - AMENDING  
11 RESOLUTION NO. 174, 2009 ENTITLED  
12 "AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF THE CITY OF  
13 SCRANTON'S REPRESENTATIVES TO THE TAX  
14 COLLECTION COMMITTEE ("TCC") PURSUANT TO ACT  
15 32 OF 2008" BY REPLACING THE CURRENT  
16 DELEGATES WHO ARE NO LONGER EMPLOYEES OF THE  
17 CITY OF SCRANTON WITH CURRENT EMPLOYEES IN  
18 THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.

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

22 MR. ROGAN: Second.

23 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll  
24 call, please?

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

3 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

5 MR. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare  
10 Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted.

11 MR. ROGAN: I make a motion to take  
12 File of Council No. 44, 2014, from the  
13 table.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

15 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All  
16 those in favor signify by saying aye.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

18 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

19 MR. EVANS: Aye.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

21 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The  
22 ayes have it and so moved. Item 7-G, which  
23 is now on the agenda is the OECD 2015 Action  
24 Plan that was tabled for a 30-day public  
25 comment period. If anyone would like to

1 address council on File of Council No.  
2 44-2014 you may do so at this time. Thank  
3 you.

4 MS. REED: 7-G - PREVIOUSLY TABLED -  
5 FOR CONSIDERATION - BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
6 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - FILE  
7 OF COUNCIL NO. 44, 2013 - AUTHORIZING THE  
8 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE  
9 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY  
10 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED  
11 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND  
12 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE  
13 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)  
14 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)  
15 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG)  
16 PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY  
17 1, 2015.

18 MR. MCGOFF: What is the  
19 recommendation of the Chair for the  
20 Committee on Community Development?

21 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the  
22 Committee on Community Development, I  
23 recommend final passage of Item 7-G.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

25 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes, very briefly. I  
2 would just like to thank Linda Aebli and the  
3 entire staff at OECD for doing a great job  
4 of putting together this years action plan.  
5 In the past, those of you that follow  
6 council, there have been numerous amendments  
7 to the action plans. This year as funds  
8 each year become even more restricted, this  
9 year it was already allocated in a manner  
10 that was satisfactory to council with a  
11 strong emphasis on two of the most important  
12 programs that we use these funds for, number  
13 one, which is neighborhood police patrols;  
14 and number two, which is neighborhood  
15 paving.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? Roll  
17 call, please?

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

23 MR. EVANS: Abstain.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

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MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

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

MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

MR. MCGOFF: Meeting adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER