

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Thursday, October 8, 2015

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  
(Not present)

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  
2 moment of reflection observed.)

3 MR. ROGAN: 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. GAUGHAN: I make a motion to  
14 appoint Councilman Rogan as 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 MR. GAUGHAN: I make a motion to  
25 appoint Councilman Wechsler as temporary

1 chairperson for the Committee on Community  
2 Development.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

6 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

7 MR. EVANS: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
10 have it and so moved. There will be a  
11 motion to suspend council rules to move Item  
12 6-A into Seventh Order for final passage.  
13 If anyone would like to speak on this  
14 particular piece of legislation, you need to  
15 do so during citizens' participation. This  
16 is being done at the request of DPW Director  
17 Gallagher. This is regarding the purchase  
18 of salt, road salt. He was concerned just  
19 with last year we did have an early  
20 snowstorm and he just wants to be prepared  
21 and have that piece of mind that if there is  
22 a storm we will have sufficient salt for the  
23 roads.

24 Do any council members have  
25 announcements to make? I have a couple.

1 Please note that city hall will be closed on  
2 Monday, October 12, for the Columbus Day  
3 holiday. DPW will be off that day and  
4 refuse collection will be delayed by one day  
5 next week.

6 And, finally, an executive session  
7 was held this evening prior to the meeting  
8 regarding contract negotiations.

9 Does anyone else have announcements?  
10 Dispense with the reading of the minutes.

11 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. TAX  
12 ASSESSOR'S RESULTS REPORTS FOR HEARING DATES  
13 HELD SEPTEMBER 9 AND SEPTEMBER 16, 2015.

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

16 MS. REED: 3-B. SINGLE TAX OFFICE  
17 CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON REPORT FOR  
18 2015-2014 YEAR TO DATE SEPTEMBER 30, 2015.

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

21 MS. REED: 3-C. BREAKDOWN OF THE  
22 ELIGIBLE SALARIES FOR THE LIQUID FUELS  
23 ACCOUNT FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST AND  
24 SEPTEMBER, 2015.

25 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?

1 If not, received and filed.

2 MS. REED: 3-D. AGENDA FOR THE BOARD  
3 OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING TO BE HELD OCTOBER  
4 14, 2015.

5 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?  
6 If not, received and filed.

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

9 MR. ROGAN: Our first speaker  
10 tonight is Tom McCafferty.

11 MR. MCCAFFERTY: Good evening,  
12 Council. My name is Tom McCafferty,  
13 Scranton resident. I'm here to speak  
14 tonight about a shining light we have in  
15 North Scranton by the name of Jimmy Hughes.  
16 If you don't know Jimmy Hughes, you will by  
17 the end of tonight. Jimmy Hughes has swept  
18 a 50 to 70 block radius of North Scranton  
19 for the past 20 plus years. Back in 1989,  
20 on April 8, Jimmy had a massive stroke which  
21 left him paralyzed on his right side, he  
22 still does not have use of his right arm.  
23 That did not stop Jimmy from doing what he  
24 does. You can see him, especially this  
25 week, Monday and Tuesday in Providence

1 Square where he has swept everything up and  
2 down North Main Avenue and Market Street,  
3 and he does this on a continuous basis.  
4 Jimmy has such great pride in North  
5 Scranton.

6 A couple of months back the Scranton  
7 Times ran an article on Jimmy about what he  
8 did. I decided I think we need to take it  
9 one step further so on October 19 from 6 to  
10 8 p.m. at Stirna's restaurant on 120 West  
11 Market Street we will have a Jimmy Hughes  
12 appreciation party. It is just a party for  
13 the people to come out and to say thank you.  
14 We all drive by, we immediately waive when  
15 we see him, but I said to myself I don't  
16 think I've ever seen him and said thank you.

17 You come home from that day at work  
18 and you come up in front of your house and  
19 you don't see your spot in front of your  
20 house swept you see the entire block swept  
21 on both sides up and down. It's such a  
22 great relief to know that you have someone  
23 in the neighborhood that cares that much  
24 about North Scranton.

25 So I'm asking everybody if they can

1 just take a couple of hours out of their  
2 time on October 19, again, 6 to 8 p.m., it's  
3 \$10 donation at the door. There will be  
4 some light fare and it's a cash bar. All  
5 proceeds will go to the American Heart  
6 Association as Jimmy's choice, that's where  
7 he wanted it to go. There will be some  
8 basket raffles there, but that's just  
9 besides the point, it is just to come out  
10 and to say thank you. I left a poster in  
11 your office next door and gave Mr. Wechsler  
12 a smaller copy of it so he can just remind  
13 everybody next week because I won't be able  
14 to be here.

15 So we would hopefully, truly like to  
16 see everybody out. The response has been  
17 tremendous, but as you all know as  
18 politicians when you run parties until they  
19 come into the door you can't bank on it, so  
20 we are just hoping everyone comes out on the  
21 19th just to show their support and to say  
22 thank you, Jimmy.

23 If you have any questions, I'd be  
24 glad to answer them. If not, thank you very  
25 much.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: I would like to thank  
2 you I think on behalf of council for being a  
3 part of this and I see Mr. Hughes almost  
4 ever day and his work is amazing.

5 MR. MCCAFFERTY: Thank you very much  
6 and have a good night.

7 MR. ROGAN: Joan Hodowanitz.

8 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,  
9 city resident. With regard to Item 5-H,  
10 it's the settlement agreement between the  
11 city and the Teamster's Local 229. I was  
12 looking at the backup and apparently the  
13 city is going to pay a \$1,000 bonus to all  
14 regular full-time and part-time employees  
15 formally employed by the Scranton Parking  
16 Authority. Can someone tell me how much  
17 money we are talking about, how many  
18 employees this involved?

19 MR. ROGAN: We are actually going to  
20 introduce this legislation tonight and  
21 immediately table it until we can have a  
22 meeting set up with Attorney Abrahamsen.

23 MS. HODOWANITZ: I would like to  
24 know how much money you are talking about  
25 and what account you are going to take that

1 from.

2 With regard to the 2016 operating  
3 budget which is due to you in no more than  
4 five weeks now, I'm still concerned about  
5 the administration's ability to come up with  
6 realistic numbers for 2016 when you consider  
7 the following: The city may fall short of  
8 it's \$4.2 million goal for the local  
9 services tax that was tripled to \$156.  
10 Rental registration fees are still stuck in  
11 escrow thanks to an ongoing lawsuit. We  
12 still don't really know the status of  
13 delinquent real estate and garbage fee  
14 collections. We may incur another interest  
15 payment if we fail to pay the minimum  
16 municipal obligation at the end of the year.  
17 We still don't know what's going to happen  
18 with double pension payments for 28 retirees  
19 and that may be a cost. The city is being  
20 sued by the firefighter and police pension  
21 boards for retiree raises as of January 1 of  
22 this year. What are we going to do if we  
23 lose those lawsuits? And what is the status  
24 of the our efforts to monetize the Parking  
25 Authority and the Sewer Authority?

1 I ask this because of that recent  
2 incident with that liquid black, noxious  
3 ooze that was found in the -- underneath the  
4 Dunmore and Greenridge and the sewers, where  
5 as I look at it the creature from beneath  
6 Greenridge. How is that going to impact any  
7 parties that are interested in picking up  
8 the Sewer Authority? You know, I mean, that  
9 may color your negotiations with those  
10 parties, and what is the status of the  
11 City's efforts to obtain a bond for the \$24  
12 million Court award to the unions? That  
13 still has to be paid.

14 Having said all of that, I do want  
15 to raise one issue for you to consider as  
16 part of the budget process. After that  
17 incident with the liquid ooze and the  
18 Sandone Warehouse fire, it's apparent to me  
19 and to some other citizens that we have some  
20 safety issues in the city and they have to  
21 be factored into the budget process. Years  
22 ago we had a Director of Public Safety, it  
23 used to be Ray Hayes, and retired at the end  
24 of 2009 and his position was eliminated from  
25 the 2010 budget, but Mayor Doherty's intent

1 is for his functions to be picked up by a  
2 deputy mayor. Well, I don't believe we have  
3 a deputy mayor, but I think the city should  
4 rethink those functions in that position.  
5 There is such a thing as being pennywise and  
6 pound foolish and we have two big red flags  
7 this year, you know, that ooze and that  
8 Sandone warehouse fire that maybe we don't  
9 have the proper handle on some safety issues  
10 that concern the entire city and go beyond  
11 just the Fire Department or just the Police  
12 Department so I think you ought to discuss  
13 that with the administration. Somebody has  
14 got to be looking at that before we look at  
15 some long-term liability issues.

16 And, finally, what is the status of  
17 the 2014 independent audit? I haven't seen  
18 a single status from S&B and Company and I  
19 recall being told months ago that they were  
20 going to provide us updates. Does anybody  
21 know anything about it, how the audit is  
22 going, when it will be completed? Nothing?

23 MR. ROGAN: We haven't received  
24 anything.

25 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay. Well, I can

1 look it up in the minutes when I was told  
2 that, but somebody needs to be kicking on  
3 the mayor's door and the BA's door to see  
4 what's going on with that, okay, because  
5 that provides a lot of information to drive  
6 the budget process and the two cannot be  
7 done independently. Thank you.

8 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Les  
9 Spindler.

10 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,  
11 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and  
12 homeowner and taxpayer. Picking up on the  
13 Sandone Tire fire, the last two times I was  
14 here I mentioned about firefighter John  
15 Rivers who is a hero, saved four  
16 firefighters' lives, I said I think the city  
17 should give him a proclamation and none of  
18 you up there said a word. Do any of you  
19 have an opinion on that?

20 MR. ROGAN: I agree that he is a  
21 hero, and I think he deserves a  
22 proclamation, but if we do a proclamation  
23 every time for every -- you know, every time  
24 a firefighter or police officer does a great  
25 job, because they do it every day, we would

1 be doing it every week.

2 MR. SPINDLER: I understand that,  
3 but this person saved four lives. You don't  
4 see a public safety person saving four  
5 lives, and I have been coming here many  
6 years and I have seen proclamations given  
7 out for a lot less than that. He saved four  
8 lives, I think he definitely, not only does  
9 he deserve a proclamation, I think he  
10 deserves a day in his Honor by the city.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Spindler, I spoke  
12 to one of his colleagues just yesterday and  
13 it is something that's being worked on right  
14 now.

15 MR. SPINDLER: Well, he definitely  
16 deserves it. Something else, I was reading  
17 in the paper today, I had a candidate for  
18 council, he gave all of his issues in the  
19 paper and everything, Councilmen Evans, when  
20 you got this position you said you were just  
21 going to fill out the term you weren't going  
22 to run again and now I guess you are  
23 running.

24 MR. EVANS: Um-hum.

25 MR. SPINDLER: I guess you are just

1 a typical politician, you don't tell the  
2 truth and I hope everybody remembers that on  
3 election day.

4 MR. EVANS: That's your opinion.

5 MR. SPINDLER: It's a lot of  
6 people's opinions.

7 MR. EVANS: We'll see.

8 MR. SPINDLER: Politicians don't  
9 tell the truth all the time and, like I  
10 said, I hope people remember on election  
11 day.

12 Lastly, this isn't a forum for this,  
13 but I want to get this issue out to the  
14 public because a lot of people watching  
15 this, I'm disgusted with this teacher's  
16 strike and their President Rose Mary Boland  
17 and the t-shirts they are wearing they say,  
18 "Standing up for public education."

19 Well, if they were standing up for  
20 public education they would be in a  
21 classroom right now not walking the picket  
22 lines. All they want is give, give, give,  
23 they don't want to give anything back to the  
24 people. They don't care about the  
25 taxpayers, they don't care about the

1 students, they don't want their kids playing  
2 football. These student athletes bust their  
3 butts all summer so they can play football  
4 in the fall and just because of those  
5 selfish teachers they are not allowed to  
6 play football and I think it's wrong. These  
7 people get ever holiday without pay, they  
8 get two and a half months in the summer off,  
9 the only job around here I know that does  
10 that and every time you contract runs out  
11 they strike. I think they are wrong and  
12 selfish and I just hope a lot of people are  
13 listening to this and maybe make a fuss and  
14 get this thing brought to an end because the  
15 only ones being hurt here are the students.  
16 The teachers are going to get their money,  
17 but the students have to go probably until  
18 the end of June they'll have to go to school  
19 and that's not right. Like I said,  
20 especially for student athletes that really  
21 bust their butts it's not fair for them.  
22 Like I said, the teachers just think about  
23 themselves, they don't care about anyone  
24 else. That's all I have. Thank you.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Ron Ellman.

1 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council. As a  
2 taxpayer, I can't hold back my total disgust  
3 of this whole school problem and I  
4 understand both sides of it. These overpaid  
5 prima donas they won't pay for nothing, they  
6 want everything free. Tell me if I got  
7 something wrong, we got 10,000 students,  
8 right? We got renege 880 teachers and 110  
9 assistant teachers. 880 teachers, that's 12  
10 students per teacher with about 110  
11 assistants that's about ten students a  
12 teacher. What do we get all of these  
13 teachers? We got, like, five, six hundred  
14 teachers and we don't need them. It must  
15 cost 25, 30 million dollars a year. What is  
16 all of this -- it just falls on the  
17 taxpayers and nobody is ever happy.

18 On the other hand, it's easy to see  
19 the teacher's union trying to get something  
20 accomplished with this new superintendent.  
21 They couldn't have found a worse choice if  
22 they tried. It was my understanding that  
23 she was just one of four secretaries on the  
24 school board or some kind of job like that  
25 in Atlanta, just nothing but crooked

1 politics that brought her up here and this  
2 loathsome demand of hers to live outside of  
3 the city is just a kick in the teeth for  
4 taxpayers. To me, the people that live and  
5 work in this city know it best, it looked --  
6 look who is running the city. Three  
7 complete failures that haven't accomplished  
8 one thing, Amoroso and Cross and Bulzoni.  
9 None of them may taxes, house taxes, school  
10 taxes, none of them seem concerned about the  
11 welfare of the people in this city. I know  
12 and I say it over and over again, you guys  
13 are just out of touch with what goes on in  
14 the city and I think today's paper or  
15 yesterday's paper there was a letter from a  
16 Mr. Kohut and Mr. Nemo writes very good  
17 letters, I just have to agree with them, I  
18 don't know if you read them or not. There  
19 is so many people have given up luxuries to  
20 stay in their houses, and here no one seems  
21 to be suffering and making these ridiculous  
22 choices of higher taxes and Mr. Bulzoni with  
23 those crocodile tears he wants to avoid more  
24 tax hikes, but he is not do nothing to avoid  
25 them. The only thing I ever hear is to sell

1 the last two productive pieces of income  
2 that the city has.

3 Well, you people, I'll give you  
4 credit, you sure know how to spend money  
5 anyway. Last week I told you that I'm on  
6 your side and I am, it just doesn't seem  
7 like you are on my side or the people's side  
8 of the city. What am I getting for my tax  
9 dollars? I HEAR that once or twice, three  
10 times a week when I talk to someone. The  
11 people in this city aren't getting much. We  
12 got -- I get people very offended, but I'm  
13 very happy with Mr. Courtright's deal with  
14 the police and the firemen because they do  
15 an excellent job as far as I'm concerned and  
16 between myself and my neighbor I've had  
17 enough of the police are on the first basis  
18 name with me and everybody that has come has  
19 just been as professional, you just couldn't  
20 ask for more professional people and the  
21 same years ago when the house burnt down and  
22 the firemen were just excellent. They were  
23 just there and they did such a good job and  
24 that's why I have experience with both of  
25 them. I have no complaints with brother

1 Bill settling it with him, even it wasn't  
2 the best thing for taxpayers. Thank you  
3 very much.

4 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mary  
5 Gaughan.

6 MS. GAUGHAN: Good evening. My name  
7 is Mary Gaughan and I'm a current city  
8 resident. As a follow-up as what Don  
9 McCafferty said, I can certainly attest to  
10 seeing Jim Hughes sweep the streets for  
11 decades. I would like to ask that the mayor  
12 and council make October 19 Jimmy Hughes Day  
13 and have a proclamation because he certainly  
14 needs to be recognized and he gives all of  
15 the money that he raises to the American  
16 Heart Association so that strokes can be  
17 prevented.

18 On another note, we had a tragedy  
19 this week, as we all know, a woman was  
20 killed crossing the street. Now, her death  
21 was ruled accidental, but as I walked through  
22 the streets of Scranton I wonder how many  
23 people think they are at the Pocono 500 and  
24 if you are trying to cross the street in the  
25 crosswalk on Lackawanna Avenue be careful

1           because the signs mean nothing to people.

2                         And with respect to the Sandone tire  
3           factory or burn, I wonder if the zoning  
4           should look into the other warehouse I  
5           believe that's across the street. Perhaps  
6           zoning should not allow someone to have that  
7           type of a warehouse, I guess they did not  
8           have sprinklers, I really don't know.

9                         And another thing is that I think  
10           that the city should try to do something  
11           like have fight for blight Sunday or  
12           something for two hours and sweep the  
13           streets of all the cigarette butts. And the  
14           other night when I left here last week after  
15           the meeting I saw Kevin Shaughnessy, and he  
16           is in charge of the county Parks and  
17           Recreation. There he was looking at the  
18           streetlights to make sure that they were  
19           going to be lit for the -- there was an  
20           event the next date, and I also was down in  
21           town with they had the Race for the Cure and  
22           I saw his crew do an excellent job all  
23           around the courthouse, even though they are  
24           county employees they are cleaning the  
25           streets of the city and I think it's a very

1 nice thing to see.

2 And another thing, as a devil's  
3 advocate, as the University of Scranton is  
4 my alma mater, but somebody posed a question  
5 to me and I wonder if there is an answer,  
6 the University has a cafeteria or something  
7 or I don't know if they are Fortune 500  
8 companies, but Subway, Chick-fil-a, the  
9 University must be charging them rent, and  
10 why is it that the city couldn't look into  
11 that particular building being non-tax  
12 exempt and being on the tax rolls? Thank  
13 you very much.

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

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
18 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,  
19 are you planning to hold hearings on the  
20 Pension Board and the money paid out to  
21 people who aren't supposed to get it? The  
22 kangaroo court they held between themselves  
23 has no bearing. It's up to you to find out  
24 the answer. \$3 million were  
25 misappropriated. You can't cover that up.

1           Whoever did it has to be held responsible.  
2           Somebody gave the order. That man has to be  
3           pointed out and the only way you can do that  
4           is to hold hearings. If not, ask the courts  
5           to appoint a special prosecutor to look into  
6           it. That's your job to protect the people  
7           of Scranton and if misdeeds are done and you  
8           know about it you are all held liable for  
9           it, so somewhere along the line you got to  
10          do it whether you want to or not. Whether  
11          you are going to step on people's toes or  
12          not. The important thing is who ordered  
13          that done. It was strictly political so  
14          someone in top of politics has to give the  
15          order and it's up to you to find out who it  
16          is and point the finger at them and hold him  
17          responsible for the \$3 million we lost and  
18          that's not even how much we lost because the  
19          interest we lost, too. You know what's  
20          going to happen in the two more years. What  
21          are you going to do in 2017? You are going  
22          to sit there and cry? You know what's going  
23          to happen with the pensions, that has to be  
24          addressed and the only way you can address  
25          it is either hold a hearing yourselves or

1 asking the Courts to hold hearings, maybe a  
2 special prosecutor. Somewhere along the  
3 lines it has to be.

4 Now, you changed the way you were  
5 supposedly going to advertise bids to save  
6 the city money supposedly, what does the  
7 state law or federal law say about notice  
8 for contracts? It has to be on something  
9 that has the greatest amount of  
10 distribution. I don't think your website  
11 has it, and I don't think you even made a  
12 study of you how many people are on  
13 computers or on your website, so if ain't  
14 going to advertise on your website, you are  
15 going to continue to advertise in the paper.  
16 I have no doubts that's going to be done and  
17 the main reason you did it was strictly  
18 political.

19 The city is going to be looted of  
20 all of its assets. You are going to give  
21 out contracts, hundreds of contracts and in  
22 the end you are going to call in for a  
23 receiver. I just hope when that time comes  
24 somebody is held accountable, not saying you  
25 are elected and can't be held accountable.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

3 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.  
4 Dave Dobrzyn, resident, taxes and fees paid.  
5 Once again, call Congress at 1-202-224-3121,  
6 ask for whether Senator or Congressmen you  
7 want to speak to and leave the message that  
8 it's time to forget about trade packs.  
9 Also, the president 1-202-456-1111.

10 I have here an article, I don't know  
11 it anybody sees it in the paper, but it  
12 reads, "Generational Hit. College Debt  
13 Traps Parents and Kids." So it sounds awful  
14 intelligent when somebody says you can go to  
15 school and you can do this and you can do  
16 that, but just imagine yourself being tossed  
17 at 50 years old or 55 years old right back  
18 to where you were when you walked out of  
19 high school because that's about all you  
20 have going for you and it's really ashame.  
21 Sometimes you have to be careful what you  
22 say, a little parable, we were in a  
23 restaurant about three or four days after --  
24 our favorite restaurant three or four days  
25 after my wife's plant closed and Governor

1 Corporate (sic) had just been there and  
2 Governor-to-be Corporate, the saying of the  
3 day was, "Yep, a Hilton (sic) don't want to  
4 work, up, a Hilton don't want to work," and  
5 well, my wife when she heard that that was  
6 the last time we ever ate our favorite  
7 restaurant. We had to find a new favorite  
8 restaurant so, the point is that it sticks  
9 in people's mind, when you read about this,  
10 did you -- did anybody see this? It was I  
11 think Tuesday's paper, yeah, Tuesday's  
12 paper, but it has a full analysis of how bad  
13 financial shape that people are after they  
14 attend years and years of college and fail  
15 to makeup the income and that the wages are  
16 stagnating for college graduate.

17 So now back to city business, and  
18 that is city business because we are part of  
19 America, we are not just the island of  
20 Scranton, nation state of Scranton. Taxes  
21 on my house in the last 14 months have gone  
22 up about \$75 a month, so I refinanced in  
23 2014 and if they reduced them it to \$421 a  
24 month and now they are up to \$494 a month,  
25 so easy come, easy go. At least I have a

1 porch to sit on this summer.

2 And, you know, a lot has been said  
3 about these teacher's strikes and I would  
4 like to point out that it's not only the  
5 teacher's union, it's time we start to get  
6 on it. I got the impression when I attended  
7 on Audubon that there is never a school that  
8 they didn't want to close and build a new  
9 close so it's both sides. It's the school  
10 board, too. And somebody said, well, as  
11 long as somebody connected with school  
12 board, well, it's for the kids, but, you  
13 know, what's the point if you can't even  
14 afford to pay the teachers to come in and  
15 teach.

16 And another thing, years back Valley  
17 View School District spent more on their --  
18 renovating their sports stadium and they had  
19 books falling apart, people in South  
20 Scranton had no books last year, I don't  
21 know where Judy Gatelli changed, but, oh,  
22 she was ripping one night down there at the  
23 school board because those kids didn't have  
24 books. I wish she had shown that kind of  
25 stamina when she was on council and not

1           fallen on her sword so many times for  
2           somebody else.

3                   And ECTV is still on so it would be  
4           interesting -- I'd love to see if council  
5           could kind of prod that administration and  
6           start getting that straightened out that  
7           they can get some money in and hopefully  
8           have a wage.

9                   And on the double pensions, I'll  
10          make this fast, I agree, I don't think you  
11          can collect the back money, but at this  
12          point they should stop, they shouldn't be  
13          paid any more. I don't see how you could  
14          collect \$94,000 out of 74-year-old person,  
15          it just won't work. Thank you and have a  
16          good night.

17                   MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there  
18          anyone else who cares to address council?

19                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening.  
20          Marie Schumacher. I have a couple of quick  
21          items before I get back to the revised  
22          recovery plan tracking and first is did  
23          anybody follow up on my request to get the  
24          DEP reports on what the measurements were  
25          and what was measured in both the Sandone

1 fire tire and the Greenridge goop?

2 MR. GAUGHAN: We sent a letter for  
3 the incident in Greenridge, but we didn't  
4 send anything for Sandone tire.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I hope you  
6 would add that. I'll bring the toxic stuff  
7 that's in tires next week with me then  
8 because we really need to know that.

9 Then I notice on the report tonight  
10 on the real estate taxes that we are now  
11 lagging, although, it showed a 17.3 percent  
12 increase, the budget increase at 18.99 so we  
13 are now behind on the real estate as well.

14 And then maybe, Wayne, you can tell  
15 me this, where in the budget did the Court  
16 awards go for the fire and police? It used  
17 to be in Court awards and it was dropped in  
18 this year's budget, where is it in the  
19 budget?

20 MR. EVANS: I'm not sure, I'll check  
21 it out for you next week.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Okay,  
23 back to the revised recovery plan. The  
24 debt -- there was a requirement after -- let  
25 me just read it, it's easier. "Unless

1 otherwise provided in an overall debt  
2 management strategy prior to September 30,  
3 2015," did we have overall debt management  
4 strategy prior to September 15? Yeah,  
5 September 30 of this year 2015?

6 MR. EVANS: Not that I'm aware of.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Maybe you could get  
8 follow-up on that. And then it called for  
9 review of other city assets and said the  
10 city shall assess the feasibility of  
11 divesting any city asset that is not  
12 directly related to the provision of the  
13 vital and necessary services. These assets  
14 may include real property, apartments or  
15 other rental properties, unused buildings,  
16 recreational assets and rolling stock.

17 I'm a little confused about why you  
18 went ahead with the possible procurement of  
19 Serenity with that kind of a mandate that  
20 you have in your revised recovery plan that  
21 you approved last year, and then I hope you  
22 would also follow up, again, I noted the  
23 rebidding of the roofing on the Engine 10  
24 bar to see if another location the money  
25 might be better used if it was at -- the

1 whole thing was moved it another location  
2 like with access for that Meadow Avenue or  
3 307 where there is currently property  
4 available.

5 Payroll preparation tax, from what  
6 we have discussed before when I asked about  
7 the status of that, that is dead?

8 MR. EVANS: No, that study is  
9 ongoing.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: When will it  
11 complete, in time for the 2016 budget?

12 MR. EVANS: I hope so, but I'm not  
13 sure at this point. That was being done  
14 through PEL.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, because,  
16 yeah, it does say for the 2016 and 2020  
17 budget that's a requirement.

18 MR. EVANS: Yeah.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Employee benefits  
20 and health care, there was supposed to be a  
21 major review of health care insurance and  
22 related programs and buyers and advisors and  
23 administrators, the review was to be  
24 completed as soon as practical, but no later  
25 than 180 days after the adoption of this

1           2015 revised recovery plan which was  
2           February of last year but I haven't heard  
3           anything about this, is this something  
4           that's already been accomplished and we just  
5           haven't learned about it?

6                   MR. EVANS: There has been some  
7           negotiations and improvements with that, I'm  
8           not sure if the whole things has been  
9           accomplished.

10                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, next one, big  
11           one. Verification of property exempt from  
12           taxation status.

13                   MR. EVANS: Nothing done on that.

14                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Are we going to do  
15           something?

16                   MR. EVANS: I hope so.

17                   MS. SCHUMACHER: It says "shall" it  
18           doesn't say --

19                   MR. EVANS: Maybe.

20                   MS. SCHUMACHER: -- "should."

21                   MR. EVANS: Should. No, I agree.

22           And that was my idea and that was my  
23           suggestion so I'm very hopeful that  
24           somewhere along the line gets embarked upon.

25                   MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I know you

1 had, I mean, is anybody even talking about  
2 it?

3 MR. EVANS: Well, we will talk about  
4 it, I'll bring it up again at the next PEL  
5 meeting to find out exactly where they are  
6 going with this. In the plan, obviously, we  
7 want to see it get done.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Next, restructure  
9 of the city staff advisors, has that been  
10 completed or initiated.

11 MR. EVANS: I know that's something  
12 that BA Bulzoni has been working on so I'll  
13 find out the status on that as well.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'll be back and  
15 hopefully maybe I can complete next week, if  
16 not I'll --

17 MR. ROGAN: Ms. Schumacher, can you  
18 please provide those in writing? I know  
19 there is a lot of questions.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, you have the  
21 revised recovery plan, they are all -- all  
22 you have to do is review that and see which  
23 ones haven't been done.

24 MR. EVANS: I think what we should  
25 go back to is the matrix that we've talked

1 about and see if we can't get a matrix  
2 developed and bench marks. That way a lot  
3 of these questions will be answered on an  
4 ongoing basis.

5 MR. ROGAN: Is there anyone else who  
6 cares to address council?

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

8 MOTIONS.

9 MR. ROGAN: Councilmen Wechsler, do  
10 you have any motions or comments?

11 MR. WECHSLER: Not too many this  
12 week. I would just like to take the  
13 opportunity to thank everyone who supported  
14 my family this week on the passing of my  
15 mother-in-law, Gloria Jaworski. The  
16 outpouring of support for her was  
17 outstanding. My mother-in-law was an  
18 outstanding woman herself, raised three  
19 children on her own and never once took one  
20 dime from the state so I would just like to  
21 once again thank everyone for their support.

22 And just one other thing, I'd also  
23 like to thank DPW for finishing the  
24 temporary repair of East Mountain Road.  
25 Last week they did some patching and this

1 week they followed up with some tarring on  
2 that to help us get through the winter, so I  
3 do appreciate the fact that that did get  
4 done before the snow came along. That's all  
5 I have.

6 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Councilman  
7 Evans, do you have any motions or comments?

8 MR. EVANS: Yeah, a couple of quick  
9 comments. We sent a letter to DPW I guess  
10 on the leachate issue and wait for a  
11 response from that. I'd like to add that if  
12 we can and send a letter to Colleen  
13 Connelly, who is DEP's community relations  
14 coordinator to make sure she does get back  
15 to us if there is a final report and the  
16 that's probably in the letter.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: It says just to keep  
18 up-to-date on all matters.

19 MR. EVANS: All right. That's fine.  
20 I'd like to talk about something different,  
21 pay-to-play politics. That got everybody's  
22 attention. Anyway, this is something that  
23 we rail on quite a bit but we rarely act on.  
24 To that point, the city council of the City  
25 of Allentown yesterday passed an

1 anti-pay-to-play law that limits the  
2 awarding of contracts to political donors.  
3 The law states that anyone who gave more  
4 than \$250 to city politicians they are not  
5 allowed for getting contracts greater than  
6 \$2,500. So I would like to ask my  
7 colleagues they concur if we can send a  
8 letter to the mayor and the law department  
9 advising that we are very interested in  
10 pursuing this legislation, something like  
11 this anyway, and they should immediately  
12 review the Allentown law and present  
13 something similar to that before city  
14 council in the near future. It's clearly  
15 time to take a proactive approach on this  
16 horrendous topic, so if that's all right I  
17 would ask that we send a letter to the mayor  
18 if everybody agrees with that?

19 MR. GAUGHAN: I would be in  
20 agreement, but I would just like to review  
21 the ordinance first.

22 MR. EVANS: Actually, what we are  
23 looking for is the administration and the  
24 law department to review it as well as our  
25 solicitor and us as well.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Sure.

2 MR. ROGAN: I would agree with what  
3 Councilmen Gaughan said, while I know the  
4 Scranton School District had a similar  
5 policy, it was enacted but it was never  
6 really enforced and didn't seem to work so I  
7 think we should compare, you know, the  
8 differences between the two before making a  
9 decision.

10 MR. EVANS: Oh, yeah, this is very  
11 preliminary at this point, but I think it's  
12 something we really need to look at and I  
13 applaud the City of Allentown for taking  
14 this unusual step.

15 MR. WECHSLER: The FBI --  
16 (unintelligible.)

17 MR. EVANS: That will do it every  
18 time. That's all I have.

19 MR. ROGAN: Councilmen Gaughan, any  
20 motions or comments?

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you.  
22 First, PennDOT has announced it will begin  
23 the final stages of the paving project, a  
24 much anticipated paving project on Main  
25 Avenue starting Monday. Repaving that

1 follows the installation of more than 150  
2 ADA compliant sidewalk ramps will begin at  
3 Wood Street in North Scranton and end at the  
4 Price Chopper in Bloomis Avenue. Crews are  
5 working between 6:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays  
6 through Saturdays and the project will be  
7 wrapping up October 23. The project is part  
8 of a \$4 million contract to upgrade Main  
9 Avenue, Keyser Avenue, Morgan Highway and  
10 Grove Street in the Clarks Summit area so  
11 there will be traffic delays.

12 I would lake to wish all of the  
13 runners best of luck this Sunday at the  
14 Steamtown Marathon and congratulations to  
15 all of those who put the event together and  
16 participate every year. It is a great event  
17 for our community.

18 I'd also like to give me condolences  
19 to Councilmen Wechsler on the passing of his  
20 mother-in-law and my prayers are with him  
21 and his family at this difficult time.

22 I have been contacted the past week,  
23 week and a half by numerous residents  
24 throughout the city concerning pave cuts and  
25 I know I have touched on this in the past.

1           There are a number of different locations, I  
2           have a list of them that I will give to our  
3           city clerk once the meeting is over that I  
4           have compiled after talking to many  
5           residents and these locations should have  
6           had the road restored under the new  
7           ordinance that was passed. All work was  
8           started in these locations well after June  
9           5, 2015, and the restorations are not in  
10          compliance with the new city ordinance  
11          according to those residents.

12                        I do have a few questions, are we  
13           collecting the inspection fees for the pave  
14           cuts as was called for in the ordinance that  
15           we pass? Without full compliance of this  
16           ordinance the city is missing out on the  
17           inspection fees as well as the benefit of  
18           the increased restoration to the road  
19           surface after the pave cuts. I did realize  
20           that the utility companies threatened to sue  
21           the city, but I do not believe any official  
22           action has been taken yet so I would like to  
23           an update on these issues.

24                        Councilman Evans mentioned the  
25           letter to the DEP and I would like to read

1           that letter into the record. The letter  
2           went out to the regional director of the  
3           Department of Environmental Protection.  
4           "Dear Mr. Bedrin: On behalf of Scranton  
5           City Council, please provide all  
6           documentation relating to the investigation  
7           of a recent odor in the Greenridge section  
8           of Scranton that may be related to discharge  
9           treated leachate that runs underneath the  
10          Greenridge section to the South Scranton  
11          Sewage Treatment Plant.

12                   Also, city council has requested to  
13           be kept up-to-date on all matters relating  
14           to this investigation. The council is very  
15           concerned about the health, welfare and  
16           safety of the residents of Scranton, and  
17           your prompt attention to this matter will be  
18           greatly appreciated."

19                   And that was also sent to Gene  
20           Barrett, the executive director of the  
21           Scranton Sewer Authority. So we will be  
22           awaiting a response back from those  
23           individuals.

24                   I would like to request that the DPW  
25           patch the 2300 and 2400 blocks of North

1 Washington Avenue. I received a couple of  
2 calls about those blocks, they are in really  
3 bad shape. Also, the last part of Middle  
4 Street, which is off of Albright Avenue and  
5 runs down to the farmers market is in  
6 extremely rough shape. The pavement is down  
7 to the bricks and people are going to get  
8 hurt if that remains that way so I would  
9 like to get that taken care of.

10 I had an interesting conference call  
11 today with Joshua Frett from I-Compass  
12 Technologies, Lori Reed, our city clerk, and  
13 Dave Bulzoni, our business administrator, to  
14 listen to a presentation on something called  
15 Agenda Free Meeting Manager Pro. It is a  
16 web based platform that automates the entire  
17 city council meeting process digitalizing  
18 and eliminating the manual tasks taken on by  
19 our office staff. It presents a huge  
20 opportunity for improved efficiency and cost  
21 savings. The most exciting aspect, as my  
22 colleagues and some of the public who is on  
23 the caucus saw, is connecting with citizens  
24 in a way that hasn't been possible before  
25 with something called Civic Web Portal.

1 This would be linked to our current website  
2 ScrantonPa.gov and the portal delivers  
3 information to the public automatically as  
4 staff works throughout the day. Different  
5 from a website, the civic web portal you  
6 don't have to post content. Once the work  
7 is done, the automated open government  
8 portal automatically refreshes with the  
9 latest information. We would be able to  
10 provide all back up documentation to the  
11 legislation on-line to citizens immediately.  
12 Citizens would be able to sign up to be  
13 updated as soon as the agenda and back up  
14 would be available.

15 I presented information, as I  
16 mentioned, in tonight's caucus and will have  
17 further discussion with my colleagues about  
18 this technology. I, too, do believe it will  
19 improve efficiency and transparency in our  
20 office. And that is all I have this week.  
21 Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Just a  
23 couple of items, a few that I wasn't  
24 planning on addressing but they were brought  
25 up. The first is the school teachers strike

1 and although the members of city council we  
2 don't have anything to do with school  
3 district as far as those negotiations go,  
4 but it is a good time to look at your tax  
5 bill and reflect on how much money the  
6 taxpayers and the City of Scranton are  
7 paying to the school district.

8 Your school property taxes are by  
9 far the largest portion of your tax bill and  
10 the quote/unquote city wage tax 1 percent of  
11 that actually goes to the school district as  
12 well so when many times people think of  
13 Scranton and the city imposing much of the  
14 tax, it's actually the property and the  
15 school district that is the biggest portion  
16 of your tax bill so that is something for  
17 all residents to think about.

18 Regarding the double pensions, I am  
19 in complete agreement that city council at  
20 some point needs to conduct hearings of some  
21 sort and find out who authorized the double  
22 pensions. As was mentioned, there has to be  
23 somebody to blame, whether it was a criminal  
24 act or whether it was just an error is  
25 something that's remained to be seen, but we

1 need to find out how it happened, why it  
2 happened, and so it doesn't ever happen  
3 again.

4           Regarding the questions that were  
5 raised tonight regarding the recovery plan  
6 and the mandates in there, many of them --  
7 the vast majority of those questions would  
8 best be directed to our business  
9 administrator. We do have a Chair for  
10 Finance on the board, but it is not the  
11 Finances Chair's job or the job of the  
12 council to see that these get laid out. It  
13 is our job to approve them, to vote them up  
14 or down to research them as they happen, but  
15 city council doesn't have the authority to  
16 enact many of these items so that does have  
17 to come from the mayor and the business  
18 administration.

19           And, finally, I should have  
20 mentioned this during announcements, but  
21 it's a great -- it's very important great  
22 project, I figured I would mention it now.  
23 Scranton Firefighters are taking part in  
24 Operation Warm, and I'm going to read just a  
25 little bit of the letter that was sent.

1                    "Councilman Rogan, can you think of  
2                    a time when you were cold? That teeth  
3                    chattering, knee knocking, able to see your  
4                    breath type of cold. In this instance, you  
5                    may have been wearing a coat, but imagine if  
6                    you weren't. Imagine if you didn't own a  
7                    coat and it was out of your control. For  
8                    16.1 million children in the United States  
9                    this is a harsh reality. Many of these  
10                   children are forced to walk to and from  
11                   school or wait for the bus in the  
12                   subfreezing temperatures. Scranton  
13                   Professional Firefighters Local No. 60 has  
14                   decided to take action. By partnering with  
15                   Operation Warm, a national nonprofit, we are  
16                   committed to providing brand new American  
17                   made winter coats to children living in  
18                   these unfortunate circumstances."

19                   Donations can be made at  
20                   [www.operationwarm/org.Scranton](http://www.operationwarm/org.Scranton).

21                   Donations can be mailed to Rescue 1  
22                   at 940 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18509,  
23                   or checks can be dropped off at any Scranton  
24                   Fire Station and can be made out to  
25                   Operation Warm with Local 60 in the memo

1 area. Most importantly with this fundraiser  
2 that our firefighters are doing is that all  
3 donations will stay within the City of  
4 Scranton so if you do donate to this  
5 fundraiser it will help a child within the  
6 City of Scranton to get an American-made  
7 winter coat so it's a great charity and our  
8 firefighters deserve a job well done for  
9 taking up this issue. And that is all I  
10 have. Thank you.

11 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
12 AN ORDINANCE - CLOSING AND VACATING A  
13 PORTION OF JONES COURT BETWEEN BEECH STREET  
14 AND MAPLE STREET.

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

18 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

19 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

23 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

24 MR. EVANS: Aye.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

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

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

21 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

22 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

1 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

2 MR. EVANS: Aye.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

6 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
7 A RESOLUTION - RATIFYING AND APPROVING OF  
8 THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT  
9 APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON, ON  
10 BEHALF OF LACKAWANNA COLLEGE TO THE  
11 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA ACTING THROUGH  
12 THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY FOR A  
13 LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT, PURSUANT TO THE  
14 PA RACE HORSE DEVELOPMENT AND GAMING ACT IN  
15 THE AMOUNT OF \$434,175.00 FOR THE PROJECT TO  
16 BE KNOWN AS "STREET AND FAÇADE IMPROVEMENTS  
17 AT 401 ADAMS AVENUE AT LACKAWANNA COLLEGE"  
18 LOCATED IN SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.  
19 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE  
20 CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO  
21 ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF SUCCESSFUL, AND EXECUTE  
22 AND ENTER INTO A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT  
23 CONTRACT AND COMMITMENT LETTER WITH THE  
24 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA TO ACCEPT AND  
25 UTILIZE THE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF

1                   \$434,175.00 AWARDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
2                   PENNSYLVANIA FOR SUCH PROJECT.

3  
4                   MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll  
5                   entertain a motion that Item 5-D be  
6                   introduced into its proper committee.

7                   MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

8                   MR. EVANS: Second.

9                   MR. ROGAN: On the question?

10                  MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.  
11                  Oh, sorry, Mr. Wechsler.

12                  MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. Rogan, I  
13                  will be abstaining from this vote because my  
14                  wife is an employee of Lackawanna College.

15                  MR. GAUGHAN: I just wanted to say I  
16                  was looking through this application and I  
17                  am really impressed by this project.  
18                  Lackawanna College is going to invest almost  
19                  \$50 million into this bidding. The phase of  
20                  the project that we are voting on tonight  
21                  that they want this grant for will include  
22                  an exterior improvements to this dated  
23                  six-story building. When all of the phases  
24                  are complete, Lackawanna College will  
25                  relocate its school of Allied Health into

1 the new site. The Wright Center, which  
2 closed down I believe last September, will  
3 also occupy space on the first floor.

4 The revival of this underutilized  
5 structure will create a diverse community  
6 and economic benefits including the  
7 expansion of the academic programs and  
8 community health projects. It will add to  
9 the revitalization of downtown Scranton.  
10 Thank you.

11 MR. EVANS: My only comment would be  
12 that if there is a building downtown that  
13 needs a facade grant this is it. This is  
14 one of the more poorly architectural  
15 designed buildings that we have, and I think  
16 I agree with Councilmen Gaughan it's a great  
17 project and I'm looking forward to them  
18 finishing it.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, and I also note  
20 that this is the only phase that they are  
21 seeking grant money for, the other phases  
22 are being paid for by Lackawanna County  
23 College so it is a great investment in our  
24 downtown, and I look forward to seeing this  
25 project to it's completion. Thank you.

1 MR. ROGAN: I would agree with much  
2 of what my colleagues mentioned that this  
3 will definitely make the downtown look a lot  
4 nicer. My only disappointment is, once  
5 again, this is another nonprofit taking up  
6 more land within our city limits. I fully  
7 support the growth of our Universities, our  
8 hospitals, and other nonprofits. My only  
9 hope is in the future that they will  
10 continue to build up instead of building out  
11 by taking more land. Anyone else? All  
12 those in favor of introduction signify by  
13 saying aye.

14 MR. WECHSLER: (Abstained.)

15 MR. EVANS: Aye.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

17 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
18 have it and so moved.

19 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
20 RESOLUTION - AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 167,  
21 2015, A RESOLUTION ENTITLED "AUTHORIZING THE  
22 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS  
23 TO GRANT A SPECIAL ENCROACHMENT PERMIT TO  
24 THE 16TH WARD, LLC TO OPERATE AN OUTDOOR  
25 RESTAURANT AT 306 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON,

1 PENNSYLVANIA" IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE  
2 DIMENSIONS OF THE OUTDOOR SEATING AREA TO  
3 COMPLY WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL  
4 BOARD REGULATIONS.

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

8 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

9 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

13 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

14 MR. EVANS: Aye.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

18 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION - A  
19 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF JESSICA L.  
20 BOYLES, ESQUIRE, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
21 TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF HUMAN  
22 RESOURCES/ASSISTANT BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR  
23 EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015. ATTORNEY BOYLES  
24 WILL BE REPLACING REBECCA MCMULLEN WHO TOOK  
25 ANOTHER POSITION WITH THE CITY.

1 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll  
2 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be  
3 introduced into its proper committee.

4 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

5 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

9 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

10 MR. EVANS: Aye.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

14 MS. REED: 5-G. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
15 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF PATRICK J.  
16 HUGHES, 15 FAWNWOOD DRIVE, SCRANTON,  
17 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD  
18 OF THE SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE  
19 OCTOBER 1, 2015. MR. HUGHES WILL BE  
20 REPLACING JESSICA L. BOYLES, ESQUIRE WHO  
21 RESIGNED SEPTEMBER 29, 2015. MR. HUGHES  
22 WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF ATTORNEY  
23 BOYLES, WHOSE TERM IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON  
24 DECEMBER 31, 2016.

25 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll

1 entertain a motion that Item 5-G be  
2 introduced into its proper committee.

3 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

4 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

8 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

9 MR. EVANS: Aye.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

13 MS. REED: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
14 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
15 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE  
16 AND ENTER INTO A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND  
17 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON ("CITY") AND  
18 TEAMSTERS LOCAL 229 ("THE UNION").

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

22 MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

23 MR. EVANS: Second.

24 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question,

1 I would like to say I'm glad we are tabling  
2 this, I would like more of an explanation  
3 and we discussed this in the caucus and I  
4 believe one of the speakers brought up a few  
5 good points on this so hopefully by next  
6 week we will have more of an explanation of  
7 this legislation and how it fits in or if it  
8 fits in with the monetization of the parking  
9 garages and the Parking Authority.

10 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else? All those  
11 in favor of introduction signify by saying  
12 aye.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

14 MR. EVANS: Aye.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

18 MR. EVANS: I'd like to make a  
19 motion to table Item 5-H.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

21 MR. ROGAN: A motion has been made  
22 and a second, on the question? All those in  
23 favor signify by saying aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

25 MR. EVANS: Aye.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

2 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
3 have it and the item is tabled.

4 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.  
5 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
6 122, 2015 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF  
7 THE COUNCIL NO 72, 2015, AN ORDINANCE  
8 ENTITLED "AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
9 58, 2014, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "GENERAL  
10 CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2015" BY ESTABLISHING  
11 SEPARATE "03" FUND ACCOUNTS TO DEFINE ACTUAL  
12 LIQUID FUEL EXPENDITURES THROUGH THE "03"  
13 FUND DESIGNATION; BY REDESIGNATING FUNDS  
14 FROM CERTAIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND  
15 DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING, INSPECTIONS AND  
16 PERMITS ACCOUNTS LISTED BELOW TO THE "03"  
17 ACCOUNTS; THE DEPARTMENT, BUREAU AND LINE  
18 ITEM DESCRIPTION WILL REMAIN THE SAME" TO  
19 AUTHORIZE AN INCREASE OF THE REVENUE  
20 AVAILABLE IN THE LIQUID FUEL EXPENDITURE  
21 LINE ITEMS FOR SALT AND STREET LIGHTING AS  
22 LISTED BELOW.

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

25 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I move

1                   that Item 6-A pass reading by title.

2                   MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

5                   MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

6                   MR. EVANS: Aye.

7                   MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

8                   MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
9 have it and so moved.

10                  MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I make a  
11 motion to suspend the rules to move Item 6-A  
12 to Seventh Order for final passage.

13                  MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll  
14 entertain a motion that council suspend the  
15 rules and place Item 6-A into Seventh Order  
16 for final passage.

17                  MR. WECHSLER: So moved.

18                  MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

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

21                  MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

22                  MR. EVANS: Aye.

23                  MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

1 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
2 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY  
3 DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE  
4 COUNCIL NO. 121, 2015 - PROVIDING FOR AN  
5 AGREEMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
6 FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF A  
7 MULTI-MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY THE  
8 CITY OF SCRANTON AND THE ADJACENT  
9 MUNICIPALITIES OF: THE BOROUGHES OF: CLARKS  
10 GREEN, CLARKS SUMMIT, DALTON, DUNMORE AND  
11 THE TOWNSHIPS OF GLEN BURN, NEWTON, SOUTH  
12 ABINGTON, WAVERLY, AND WEST ABINGTON.

13 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
14 recommendation of the Chair for the  
15 Committee on Community Development?

16 MR. WECHSLER: As temporary  
17 Chairperson for the Committee on Community  
18 Development, I recommend final passage of  
19 Item 7-A.

20 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

23 MR. EVANS: On the question, I see  
24 Denise Prowell in the audience and I'd like  
25 to acknowledge her and congratulate Denise

1 on this legislation. It's been a long time  
2 coming and you deserve a lot of credit for  
3 all the hard work you have done over these  
4 many, many years so congratulations again,  
5 Denise. That's all I have.

6 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else? Roll call,  
7 please?

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

11 MR. EVANS: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

15 MR. ROGAN: No. I hereby declare  
16 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

17 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION  
18 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -  
19 RESOLUTION NO. 192, 2015 - RATIFYING AND  
20 APPROVING OF THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF  
21 THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF  
22 SCRANTON, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED  
23 NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS (UNC)/UNITED  
24 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
25 CORPORATION (UNCDC), TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF

1 PENNSYLVANIA ACTING THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH  
2 FINANCING AUTHORITY FOR A LOCAL SHARE  
3 ACCOUNT GRANT, PURSUANT TO THE PA RACE HORSE  
4 DEVELOPMENT AND GAMING ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF  
5 \$500,000.00 FOR THE PROJECT TO BE KNOWN AS  
6 "THE MARKET PLACE ON CEDAR" LOCATED IN  
7 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA. AUTHORIZING THE  
8 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS  
9 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ACCEPT THE GRANT,  
10 IF SUCCESSFUL AND EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A  
11 LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT CONTRACT AND  
12 COMMITMENT LETTER WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
13 PENNSYLVANIA TO ACCEPT AND UTILIZE THE GRANT  
14 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00 AWARDED BY THE  
15 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR SUCH  
16 PROJECT.

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

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

23 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

24 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll  
25 call, please?

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

4 MR. EVANS: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

10 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION BY  
11 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT- FOR  
12 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 193, 2015  
13 ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE  
14 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD  
15 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF  
16 APPROPRIATENESS FOR BART NOVAK'S  
17 CONSTRUCTION, INC., 523 FELLOWS STREET,  
18 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18504 FOR THE  
19 INSTALLATION OF A TEN (10) POUND HARD BOARD  
20 OVER SHEET METAL 8'X3' SIGN TO BE MOUNTED  
21 ABOVE THE ENTRANCE AT 534 LACKAWANNA AVENUE,  
22 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

23 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
24 recommendation of the Chair for the  
25 Committee on Community Development?

1 MR. WECHSLER: As temporary  
2 Chairperson for the Committee on Community  
3 Development, I recommend final passage of  
4 Item 7-C.

5 MR. EVANS: Second.

6 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll  
7 call, please?

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

11 MR. EVANS: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

17 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION  
18 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR ADOPTION -  
19 RESOLUTION NO. 194, 2015 - APPOINTMENT OF  
20 MARY CLARE KINGSLEY, 150 SOUTH EVERETT  
21 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, AS A  
22 MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON HOUSING  
23 AUTHORITY. MRS. KINGSLEY WILL BE REPLACING  
24 CHARLOTTE LEDBETTER WHOSE TERM IS SCHEDULED  
25 TO EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 27, 2015. MRS. KINGSLEY

1 WILL BE APPOINTED TO A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM  
2 EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 27, 2015 AND WHICH WILL  
3 EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2020.

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

7 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

13 MR. EVANS: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

19 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION BY  
20 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR ADOPTION -  
21 RESOLUTION NO. 195, 2015 - APPOINTMENT OF  
22 REV. DR. HOWARD T. WOODRUFF, 205 MADISON  
23 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS A  
24 MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION,  
25 EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 24, 2015. REV. WOODRUFF

1 IS BEING APPOINTED TO A THREE (3) YEAR TERM  
2 THAT WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2018.

3 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chairperson  
4 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend  
5 final passage of Item 7-E.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

7 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll  
8 call, please?

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

12 MR. EVANS: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare  
17 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

18 MS. REED: 7-F - FORMERLY 6-A - FOR  
19 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -  
20 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 122,  
21 2015 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO 72,  
22 2015, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AMENDING FILE  
23 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 58, 2014, AN ORDINANCE  
24 ENTITLED "GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET  
25 2015" BY ESTABLISHING SEPARATE "03" FUND

1           ACCOUNTS TO DEFINE ACTUAL LIQUID FUEL  
2           EXPENDITURES THROUGH THE "03" FUND  
3           DESIGNATION; BY REDESIGNATING FUNDS FROM  
4           CERTAIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND  
5           DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING, INSPECTIONS AND  
6           PERMITS ACCOUNTS LISTED BELOW TO THE "03"  
7           ACCOUNTS; THE DEPARTMENT, BUREAU AND LINE  
8           ITEM DESCRIPTION WILL REMAIN THE SAME" TO  
9           AUTHORIZE AN INCREASE OF THE REVENUE  
10          AVAILABLE IN THE LIQUID FUEL EXPENDITURE  
11          LINE ITEMS FOR SALT AND STREET LIGHTING AS  
12          LISTED BELOW.

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

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

19                   MR. WECHSLER: Second.

20                   MR. ROGAN: On the question?

21                   MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. Rogan, on  
22                   the questions, one thing that we did do  
23                   before we decided to move this to Seventh  
24                   Order was we did inquire from Director  
25                   Gallagher that this emergency legislation

1           would effect negatively the price of the  
2           salt as we are going to buy it and he  
3           assured it that it will be not. The sad  
4           part is, we have to take the step in case it  
5           snows in October, and we know that that's  
6           happened in the past so I'm happy the salt  
7           will be on hand if the unthinkable happens.

8                   MR. GAUGHAN: You just jinxed us.

9                   MR. ROGAN: Hopefully that salt will  
10           sit in the shed for a long time. Roll call,  
11           please?

12                   MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

13                   MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

14                   MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

15                   MR. EVANS: Yes.

16                   MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

17                   MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

18                   MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

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

23                   MR. WECHSLER: Motion to adjourn.

24                   MR. ROGAN: Meeting is 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