

1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

5 HELD:

6 Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

8 LOCATION:

9 Council Chambers

10 Scranton City Hall

11 340 North Washington Avenue

12 Scranton, Pennsylvania

24 Elizabeth V. Kedrick, RPR - Official Court Reporter

1 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

2 MR. WECHSLER: Please remain
3 standing for a moment of silent reflection
4 for our service men and women throughout the
5 world. And also, for those who have passed
6 away in our community. I also would like to
7 observe a moment of silence for U.S.
8 District Judge Edwin Kosik and his family
9 and our hopes and prayers for him and his
10 safe return.

11 (Moment of Silence held.)

12 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Roll
13 call, please?

14 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Perry?

15 MR. PERRY: Here.

16 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Rogan?

17 MR. ROGAN: Here.

18 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Evans?

19 MR. EVANS: Here.

20 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Gaughan?

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

22 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Wechsler?

23 MR. WECHSLER: Here. Dispense with
24 the reading of the minutes.

25 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3A. TAX

1 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

2 JOSEPH WECHSLER, PRESIDENT

3 PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

4 WAYNE EVANS

5 WILLIAM GAUGHAN

6 TIM PERRY

8 LORI REED, CITY CLERK

9 KATHY CARERRA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

10 AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

1 ASSESSOR'S REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD
2 MARCH 29, 2017.

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

5 MS. REED: 3B. MINUTES OF THE
6 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND WELFARE
7 AUTHORITY'S REGULAR MEETING HELD JANUARY 19,
8 2017.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
10 comments? If not, received and filed. Do
11 any council members have announcements at
12 this time?

13 MR. EVANS: I have one. This
14 outside farmers market is hosting a free
15 cooking class on Saturday, April 1st at 11
16 a.m. You can learn how to make sage port
17 filet with beet burger puree and spinach.
18 It's gluten free and it's made with local
19 fresh ingredients from the farmers market.
20 The market's open at 509 Cedar Avenue from
21 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

22 MR. ROGAN: I have one as well.
23 Giovanni Pecorino from Buona's Pizza will be
24 hosting a free Easter lunch from 12 to 2 on
25 Easter Sunday. All are welcome. And anyone

1 in the City of Scranton who is unable to
 2 attend, if you would like a delivery, you
 3 could call Giovanni at 570-468-6782 to have
 4 a meal delivered. He does ask that you
 5 don't call the pizza shop, but you do call
 6 his phone number that I just read and I'll
 7 read it again. 570-468-6782. Thank you.
 8 MR. WECHSLER: The Scranton Half
 9 Marathon will be held this Sunday, April 2nd
 10 with a start time of 9 a.m. The course
 11 winds through many parts of the city, North
 12 Main Avenue, Green Ridge Street, the Plot
 13 Section, parts of Greenridge and downtown,
 14 Cedar Avenue between Elm Street to the
 15 Heritage Trail. The finish line is at
 16 Memorial Stadium on Providence Road. Please
 17 be mindful of the participants as you're
 18 travelling in these areas on Sunday morning
 19 and plan for minor traffic delays. This is
 20 a terrific event for our city and we want to
 21 wish everyone a safe one, especially to all
 22 of the runners. In other news, the Comcast
 23 location has opened in the city at 342 South
 24 Washington Avenue. Payments for bills can
 25 be made there as well as service adjustments

1 to your account and equipment problems.
 2 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS
 3 PARTICIPATION.
 4 MR. WECHSLER: Joan Hodawanitz?
 5 MS. HODAWANITZ: Joan Hodawanitz,
 6 city resident and taxpayer. Thank God for
 7 Granicus. Our residents can view the back
 8 of documentation for council agendas. Last
 9 week, I read a 99 page document which was
 10 the RFP for Item 7B, the insurance policy
 11 for the city. And apparently Knowles
 12 Associates was the only bidder. And thank
 13 God for Marie Schumacher whose institutional
 14 knowledge of city affairs is nothing short
 15 of amazing. She reviewed the Knowles
 16 proposal and discovered that among the
 17 properties to be insured were two buildings
 18 belonging to the Scranton Public Library
 19 Authority; that is the Albright Memorial
 20 Library on Vine Street and the Nancy K.
 21 Holmes Branch Library in Greenridge.
 22 There's just one problem. The Scranton
 23 Public Library Authority has owned those
 24 properties since January 2010. So, does
 25 this mean that the taxpayers have been

1 paying insurance premiums on these
 2 properties for the past seven years even
 3 though the Scranton Public Library Authority
 4 has its own insurance policy? And if so,
 5 how much money did we waste? And I'd like
 6 to know, should this be classified as the
 7 Schumachian whoopsie or a Hodawanitzian
 8 BOHICA moment. I strongly suggest that you
 9 table Item 7B until the Knowles list of
 10 insured properties can be reviewed and
 11 corrections made as appropriate. In my
 12 opinion, the entire list is suspect. It's
 13 not enough just to delete those two
 14 properties from the list. For example, you
 15 look at that list, should Nay Aug Park Zoo
 16 be insured for \$783,399? Even with Street
 17 Cats leasing it, the zoo is not what I would
 18 call an architectural gem. So, if you can't
 19 table the item, please vote it down. But I
 20 don't think we want to pass that resolution
 21 and then go back and scrub the list. You
 22 know, I mean this is just one of the many
 23 examples of how we waste taxpayer dollars.
 24 And it doesn't have to be a lot of money,
 25 but for seven years? It needs to be looked

1 at.
 2 MR. EVANS: I would like to say
 3 thank you very much to you and Marie for the
 4 hardwork.
 5 MS. HODAWANITZ: Tell her.
 6 MR. EVANS: Marie, thank you very
 7 much for the hardwork you did on this. It's
 8 very much appreciated. The only problem
 9 with voting it down is the fact that we
 10 wouldn't have insurance. So we'll have to
 11 have it corrected, obviously. And we will
 12 certainly see a rebate for those two
 13 buildings at least.
 14 MS. HODAWANITZ: I hope that once
 15 the list is scrubbed, you can give us a copy
 16 of the amended list.
 17 MR. EVANS: Absolutely.
 18 MS. HODAWANITZ: I would like to see
 19 those changes. Clocks? You know, the clock
 20 at 500 Lackawanna Avenue, \$42,000. We don't
 21 need a \$42,000 clock in a distressed city.
 22 And with regard to Mr. Durkin's appearance
 23 tonight and this business of the third party
 24 administrator, Marie and I are going to make
 25 a cake and bring it in, should we bring in

1 one candle or two? Because it's been over a
2 year since the Mayor promised a third party
3 administrator. And to hear tonight that
4 they're still discussing the administrator's
5 role? That's nonsense. You know, either
6 poop or get off the pot. Thank you.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Matt Barrett?

8 MR. BARRETT: Good evening, council.

9 My name is Matt Barrett. I'm a city
10 resident. I also represent several people
11 that are involved with pensions. With
12 regard to the pension board, I wanted to
13 just address a couple comments before I get
14 to those different issues. But to be honest
15 with you, I think that you're straining too
16 much. I would say that Mr. Durkin--who I
17 respect--I have a different opinion than he
18 does. I think that next time he comes and
19 the next time you have a caucus on this
20 issue, you should ask for a specific
21 reference to the specific ordinance that
22 applies to anybody who retired after 1987
23 that allows a clawback. I don't see it in
24 the ordinances that were passed post 1987.
25 As I read the ordinances, there's ordinances

1 that applied to groups that retired pre-1987
2 and those who retired after 1987. And this
3 idea of a clawback, I think one of the
4 questions was asked; has it ever been
5 enforced? And the answer was no. And I
6 think the reason why it hasn't been enforced
7 is because it's not allowed. The ordinances
8 don't provide for a clawback for anybody who
9 retired post 1987. I'd also say that the
10 folks that I represented in front of the
11 pension board, realistically, you have fire
12 and police that are getting hurt on the job
13 and they're not easy jobs. And they're
14 going out on disability pensions. And they
15 require medical documentation, at least in
16 the past five or six years. So I just don't
17 know that there's much there, there on these
18 issues. I think the reality is you've got
19 to fund a lot of money to short the
20 pensions. And that leads me to my next
21 point. You know, Mr. Rogan had mentioned,
22 like you know, there's a credibility issue
23 and the promises were made. And I think
24 that's true. And if I talk about what some
25 people refer to as the double pension issue,

1 I will at least call it the increase pension
2 issue. This council, maybe it was not you
3 folks, but this council repeatedly in 2003
4 awarded city employees an increase in
5 pension. And the pension board, the 94
6 pension board, last week or two weeks ago
7 voted to reduce pensions. So there is no
8 increase. So, I cannot reconcile how this
9 council could have passed ordinances
10 provided for increases. And now, those
11 retirees are getting no increase. And I
12 just think it serves as an example of what's
13 going on when there's no money, you start
14 looking. And you're cannibalizing your
15 retirees against the employees and the
16 current workers who are looking for pension
17 assurances that it's going to be there.
18 When in reality, these were promises that
19 were made. And with respect to council, you
20 know, you can distance yourself as much as
21 you like from the 2003 actions. But each
22 one of you has sat here for the last year
23 and a half or two years while this double
24 pension issue has been going on. If you
25 look at the ordinances that were passed in

1 2003, they provide for an increase. If, in
2 fact, there is a dispute as to what increase
3 means, you have the authority to amend those
4 ordinances to make it clear. And if those
5 promises were made, then it should be
6 codified, if that's the perspective of this
7 council. I'd also point out that, you know,
8 council does have a seat on the non-uniform
9 pension board. And so, when you go through
10 the history of the increased pensions or the
11 double pension cases as they've been
12 referred to, it's really amazing. Because
13 in 2003, the ordinances were passed. In
14 2005, there was litigation in front of Judge
15 Cottone where testimony was given by members
16 of the pension board and people that worked
17 for the pension board. And it was
18 acknowledged that the payments were going to
19 be--instead of \$600, going to \$1,200.
20 Instead of \$650, it's going to be \$1,300.
21 Instead of \$700, it's going to be \$1,400.
22 And there's transcripts. There was counsel
23 present for the pension board. So all those
24 were known facts in 2005 and earlier. Then,
25 in 2012-2013, everybody starts saying; well,

1 wait a second, how could this be? These
 2 were all known facts. If you sit as a
 3 member of the composite board, you get a
 4 report, I think it's quarterly, that lists
 5 all the pension and the pensions and the
 6 amounts being paid to every individual.
 7 That's data that was all available.
 8 Everybody knew what was going on. And so,
 9 for everyone to act indignant; like, oh,
 10 there's new information? It's just not the
 11 case. And I think that the unfortunate
 12 thing is that the word increase--if not
 13 defined--and I submit that it is accurately
 14 defined, there's supposed to be an increase.
 15 You folks have the power to correct that.
 16 And if you reach a conclusion that, in fact,
 17 the amounts to be awarded to those
 18 individuals were to be; instead of \$600,
 19 \$1,200. Instead is \$650, \$1,300. And \$700,
 20 \$1,400. Then, I would submit it's your
 21 obligation to actually codify that so
 22 there's no mistake. I understand, I'm
 23 sympathetic. I understand the current
 24 employees problems. And I understand the
 25 city's problems. But the reality is, you're

1 straining too much to try to figure things
 2 out. When, in fact, the laws exists. The
 3 ordinances have been passed. The pre-1987
 4 group or the post-1987 group, they exist.
 5 It's just a matter of funding it. And those
 6 are promises that are kept. And they're
 7 hard promises to keep, but that's the
 8 reality of the situation. So I ask you all,
 9 you know, Mr. Durkin does come back on that
 10 issue to address, where does it provide for
 11 this clawback? Because I think that's going
 12 to be an important issue going forward. And
 13 with regards to the 2003 cases, I would ask
 14 that each one of you take the time to look
 15 at the 2003 ordinances for yourself, read
 16 what they mean. And if, in fact, you reach
 17 a conclusion that it was intended that those
 18 employees get an increase, then you really
 19 ought to codify that increase. Thank you.
 20 MR. ROGAN: Just a brief comment to
 21 the 2003 issue, council is still looking
 22 into exactly who dropped the ball in that
 23 situation. We have subpoenas that are in
 24 for copies of the State Police
 25 investigations to see who on the city's end

1 dropped the ball. And that's really what
 2 happened. It's not anyone who received the
 3 benefits since it happened. It's not any of
 4 the recipients fault what happened.
 5 Somebody in the city government at that time
 6 and I will stress that none of us on this
 7 board were there at that time. In 2003, I
 8 think I was just in high school. So, but it
 9 is something that we're still working on.
 10 And it's taking a lot longer than it should
 11 for us to get all the information that we
 12 need. But it's not forgotten about, that's
 13 for sure.
 14 MR. BARRETT: I would just say, as I
 15 said earlier, I'm sympathetic, I understand.
 16 It's easy to say, hey, and you're saying
 17 somebody. I would say it's not somebody.
 18 It was all phases of government. And
 19 secondly, you do have the ability currently
 20 to solve the problem. I mean, you can't
 21 really just say, well, we'd like to figure
 22 out what happened. You could look at it
 23 currently and say, this is the problem,
 24 we've identified it and you can correct it.
 25 You all have the power to do that. So I

1 understand it'll take a lot of political
 2 will and probably not well received, but I
 3 think it is the right thing to do given the
 4 facts that these pensions were paid at a
 5 double rate. They were paid for 12 or 8
 6 years. And if you think about the impact on
 7 people if you talk about predictability and
 8 credibility, people are retiring, making
 9 life decisions based upon these
 10 representations. And when you're finding
 11 out 12--if you take the idea of a clawback,
 12 it hasn't been enforced. Imagine being an
 13 officer or policeman or fire person who has
 14 left and retired only to find out, wait, now
 15 they're going to start enforcing a clawback?
 16 Again, I don't think it exists. But I think
 17 that's just important information because
 18 these people are making life decisions based
 19 upon this information.
 20 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.
 21 MR. BARRETT: Thank you.
 22 MR. WECHSLER: Bob Bolus?
 23 MR. BOLUS: Evening council, Bob
 24 Bolus, Scranton. Boy, from what I'm hearing
 25 today, paying attention to what everybody's

1 talking about, either the people that are
 2 involved are either totally confused or
 3 they're completely incompetent to be doing
 4 what we're doing to this city. Contracts
 5 are generally black and white. It's like
 6 saying how many monkeys does it take to peel
 7 a banana. Well, they're black and white.
 8 You should understand what you're reading,
 9 what you're doing, before you go worry about
 10 it after the fact. That's what we've been
 11 doing in this city for years and years and
 12 years. Because nobody really wants to pay
 13 attention till it's too late. I hear people
 14 raising issues about the recovery plan.
 15 Jeez, we shouldn't have did this, we
 16 shouldn't have did that. But you should
 17 have did it before you sign the recovery
 18 plan. You should have known what legal fees
 19 would be for the Sewer Authority. What the
 20 fees would be for the garage. Why you were
 21 giving the mall millions of dollars. Over
 22 what? Close to six plus million dollars?
 23 Yet, St. Patrick's Day, you have a five
 24 dollar parking sign out there. That's our
 25 money. I want it back. So I'm going to ask

1 council to put a motion to go to Basalyga to
 2 the mall and get the money back for those
 3 parking spaces that we gave him six million
 4 bucks for. That's responsibility. Also, as
 5 far as the snowplowing of the city. And Mr.
 6 Wechsler, I'd like you to take the helm on
 7 this. I raised it time and time again. The
 8 meters don't give us a dime income. They go
 9 to the people who bought the garage. When
 10 we plowed the city streets this past week or
 11 the week before, we plowed to the curb. We
 12 opened the parking areas for those meters to
 13 generate revenue for those individuals. I
 14 would like you to put a motion to go to
 15 them, calculate exactly by records and I
 16 hope to God somebody knew how they were
 17 doing the record keeping with how many
 18 pieces of equipment, how many pieces of
 19 manpower and everything we had in this here,
 20 so we could be accurate. And go to the
 21 parking garage and say, okay, guys, you owe
 22 us X number of dollars because we cleaned
 23 your parking spaces. That's our money. Not
 24 take three, four hundred, five, six hundred
 25 thousand dollars to just blow because we got

1 millions of a windfall. We've got millions
 2 of a disaster. That's what we've got here.
 3 We're not going to be pulling the city out
 4 of any hole. We're going to keep burying it
 5 because the way it's gone. Look at the
 6 millions you spend on legal fees. It's
 7 astronomical. Yet, not one bit went out for
 8 a bid. It's just write checks. That's what
 9 I'm talking about in the city. That's
 10 what's killed this city. I go back to the
 11 monkey explanation. How many solicitors do
 12 we have in the City of Scranton on our
 13 payroll? You mean they weren't capable or
 14 competent? Or did Conaboy and the rest who
 15 got a million five, two hundred thousand
 16 here, they weren't paid enough to sit here
 17 and read the contract? It's law school,
 18 basic law school. Contracts are black and
 19 white. You don't need to spend millions and
 20 millions of dollars to add confusion.
 21 Because that's all you basically did and you
 22 still don't know what the heck is going on.
 23 And I'll guarantee you every one of those
 24 contracts, there's a dozen different flaws
 25 in them that could re-neg, wipe them out to

1 challenge them on and on down the road.
 2 Just like you did with the pension board.
 3 That's the most confusing thing I heard here
 4 tonight, listening to this, listening to
 5 that. No direction, all confusion. And
 6 quite frankly, a lot of incompetence. And
 7 it's up to you guys sitting on this board
 8 right now. You're in charge of millions of
 9 dollars in the city. Gave Basalyga
 10 millions. I'm asking again, Mr. Wechsler,
 11 Council President, that you put a motion to
 12 reevaluate with the mall, reassess it. That
 13 it's in the fair marketplace that it pays
 14 its fair tax base in the City of Scranton.
 15 For the people watching and the people
 16 sitting here tonight, that we get our fair
 17 tax out of that mall now. Not even going to
 18 be a mall. God knows what it's going to be.
 19 Sure has changed into a lot of things where
 20 you can--maybe you can buy fish food or God
 21 knows what. But that's his business to do.
 22 He bought it. You paid for it. And then,
 23 you guys wrote him a check to pay for the
 24 mall. So you bought the mall. The City of
 25 Scranton bought the mall and he's making a

1 fool out of everybody else in the city. I
 2 want to see a reassessment. I want to see
 3 our taxes go down. Not keep going up and up
 4 and up because of the incompetence, the
 5 confusion, we don't know what we're going to
 6 do, we don't know where we're going. You
 7 know, you've just got to turn around and
 8 make a stop just like the prison board right
 9 now wants to turn around and reconsider
 10 giving the correctional care and extended
 11 contract. One of the most incompetent
 12 people running that. I know, I was there
 13 and I know what it's about. Yet they're
 14 sitting there doing it. The city's got
 15 millions and millions of dollars to
 16 squander. Make a donation to the prison and
 17 give them pillows for the inmates. Give
 18 them a pint of milk to drink. Do something
 19 with our money that's got a benefit here.
 20 After all, most of those people in there pay
 21 taxes in this city. And they get nothing
 22 for it. So you know, before we put the cart
 23 before the horse again, I think you guys
 24 better pay attention to what's going on.
 25 Thank you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.
 2 Andy Sbraglia?
 3 MR. SBRAGLIA: Andy Sbraglia, City
 4 of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian. I sat
 5 through all them hearings with the double
 6 pensions. And you skip over one of the most
 7 important things in it. You were given
 8 medical for life, okay. That means,
 9 medical, dental, probably prescriptions,
 10 everything. That's why that cost is real
 11 high. The double pension is one thing, but
 12 the free medical for life is different. And
 13 it could be quite expensive. And that was
 14 one of the reasons they really went out. It
 15 wasn't so much the double pension because
 16 they were talking about increases; this,
 17 that and everything. But the double
 18 pension--I mean, the medical was the main
 19 reason. You should talk to Brian Reed. He
 20 sat there during all these little things
 21 that you want to go back to. And he was
 22 very comprehensive on the subject. I
 23 remember one of the things he wanted to do
 24 was say, let's just give them medical for
 25 life, I mean to 65, till they went on

1 Medicare. But that didn't go over too big.
 2 But council and them were sitting up there.
 3 Now, you're going to go back over the same
 4 ground, over and over and over again. I
 5 hope I live long enough to see it resolved.
 6 Now, another thing, at the last meeting, I
 7 mentioned one thing that the water company
 8 was thinking about charging us about two
 9 months ago for the rain water falling from
 10 the sky. And I asked the question, did they
 11 buy a combined system? Or did they buy only
 12 the sanitary system? Mr. Wechsler, you said
 13 they bought the combined system. Did they
 14 or didn't they? If they bought the combined
 15 system, I don't see how they can charge for
 16 the rain water falling unless we somehow
 17 tapped into their system again. But like I
 18 say, everything--nothing happens by
 19 accident. I keep telling you over and over
 20 and over again. If they got a justification
 21 to charge us for the rain water falling from
 22 the sky, then it was done by the legislature
 23 and the mayor. No accident. Nothing
 24 happens by an accident. It's all
 25 manipulated. And if this were one of the

1 perks they gave them, the water company, I
 2 do not know. But I do know one thing. If
 3 we get nailed for it, there's going to be a
 4 lot, a lot of people in this city ain't
 5 going to be very happy with our politicians.
 6 I just hope it was a rumor. But like I say,
 7 two months ago, I heard about it. And then,
 8 I think Mr. Gaughan mentioned it again. So,
 9 apparently, he heard about it too. And the
 10 people that told me it were sort of in the
 11 know. And I'm sorry if we're going to end
 12 up in that situation. It's bad enough we
 13 sold off a lot of equipment that could have
 14 been used for our new authority, whatever we
 15 may have. Why we need another authority? I
 16 don't know. I don't know why we can't
 17 expand the DPW to handle some of that.
 18 Another thing is, if I remember, we had a
 19 contract out for street lights to maintain
 20 them. Did we not have a contract not too
 21 long ago on that? Knowing that the street
 22 lights are good for twenty years, if we can
 23 believe what was told to us, why would we
 24 need a contract to maintain the street
 25 lights if they're good for 20 years?

1 Surely, DPW can go around and fix a few of
 2 them lights that go out. Or was this
 3 another lie to us? They're not going to
 4 last 20 years. We won't know. I won't be
 5 around in 20 years. But, I hope the
 6 information you got was true. Then, I don't
 7 see why we need a contract to maintain them
 8 when we have people in the DPW that can
 9 change a light bulb. That's all. Thank
 10 you.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Ron
 12 Ellman?

13 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, council, Ronnie
 14 Ellman. I am not anti-downtown or
 15 anti-mall. I'm anti-about spending anymore
 16 money. It's a waste of money. Downtown is
 17 a financial burden that we can't afford no
 18 more. It's an extravagance. It's just
 19 sucking us dry. You could have taken some
 20 of this money that Bulzoni committed and we
 21 wouldn't be sued right now for repairing
 22 those houses. This city is so mismanaged,
 23 it's unbelievable. You had to know this was
 24 going to come to this. There's already a
 25 suit before that. Today, I was listening

1 to, under the charter, you're involved in a
 2 lawsuit about the charter. There's no
 3 limits on the taxes. I asked you last week,
 4 who gives Bulzoni all this authority? I
 5 went to my son's computer. I looked up all,
 6 everything about the business manager. I
 7 don't see where he has any authority to do
 8 half of what he's getting--doing, for crying
 9 out loud. He doesn't have, what if he wants
 10 to give ten million dollars somewhere? This
 11 is ridiculous. This man isn't elected for
 12 crying out loud. He doesn't live here. He
 13 doesn't pay school or house taxes. And he
 14 has a \$100,000 salary. He lives like
 15 royalty. I've talked to people that have
 16 property and pay taxes, they won't make
 17 \$100,000 the next ten years. And we've got
 18 a tax cheat like that in office. This whole
 19 city, this administration is just got to be
 20 replaced, people. I don't care how mad
 21 somebody gets. Bulzoni and Amorosa are two
 22 of the worst catastrophes to ever happen to
 23 this city. There's nothing positive to say
 24 about--put together, there's nothing
 25 positive to say about these two. To get

1 back, you've got a computer in front of you,
 2 where do we stand right now on this money
 3 that he committed to downtown? You talk
 4 about a half million dollars and you don't
 5 have no comments about it? You're talking
 6 about his--he made a commitment to give
 7 grants, loans and forgiveness loans and tax
 8 incentives, how many people out there
 9 watching have ever gotten a tax incentive?
 10 All we've gotten is our taxes raised 81
 11 percent since you guys have been in office.
 12 People, this administration has got to give
 13 Councilman Bill some help. We have just got
 14 to get out and vote. Enough is enough of
 15 what's going on around here. This is
 16 pathetic, what's going on, the way you
 17 people have stepped all over the taxpayers
 18 of this city. You know, to get off the
 19 subject a little bit, two and a half years
 20 ago, I stood here talking about the
 21 marketplace in Pottstown and Allentown that
 22 I visit all the time. Well, occasionally.
 23 And I got about half ridiculed for
 24 suggesting it. It's a suggestion. That the
 25 mall would be good for this. When they

1 finally come around to this theme, instead
 2 of having the whole city sort of involved
 3 and invited, having it informal and
 4 comfortable for the whole city, it was
 5 zeroed in right on this little circle around
 6 the mall, these apartments. That's all they
 7 wanted for their time and investment. I
 8 talked to some people that were down there.
 9 This is--thank you.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
 11 Ellman. Dave Dobryzn?

12 MR. ELLMAN: Again, please people,
 13 get out and vote. The reason we have an
 14 administration like this is because no one
 15 gets out and votes anymore. Eight, ten
 16 thousand people, it's shameful. Thank you.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
 18 Ellman. Dave Dobryzn?

19 MR. DOBRYZN: Good evening, council,
 20 Dave Dobryzn, resident of Scranton. I see
 21 we're authorizing paving. And I would
 22 sympathize with people who don't get their
 23 streets paved very often. But, please take
 24 a ride up Crown Avenue on the 800 block,
 25 Crown and Birch, and see what was left.

1 Now, hopefully that will get fixed because
 2 the 800 block of Crown was paved maybe a
 3 year and a half ago. I don't recall. Might
 4 have been last year, but I think it was a
 5 year and a half ago. And, a good portion of
 6 the block has been thoroughly destroyed by
 7 some water company project or sewer
 8 authority project that was preauthorized.
 9 And it's a shame. So, I certainly hope it
 10 gets restored with the better weather coming
 11 real soon. On insurance, I found a little
 12 thing here from around 2010 and that's
 13 before Obamacare. And a size of family,
 14 one, eligible for 100 percent discount at
 15 the Emergency Room, \$21,660. And it's only
 16 gone up from there. Now, if you're making
 17 that and living alone, then trying to
 18 support a roof over your head, you probably
 19 maybe need it. However, suppose I make that
 20 and lived at home with my mother. And she
 21 never charged me rent and she bought the
 22 pork chops and cooked and cleaned and did my
 23 laundry and God only knows what. And, you
 24 know, like the point is, that this comes out
 25 of the private payer insurance policies

1 along with CHIP insurance and so forth. So
 2 pay a little attention. And by the way, 50
 3 percent of the pregnancies are unintended in
 4 this country. So currently, our Congress is
 5 trying to withdraw support for Planned
 6 Parenthood. Shame. On the pension, I'll
 7 watch that a little better. I didn't have a
 8 chance. I was in transit. But, one of my
 9 concerns and I kind of heard something that
 10 related to me was, I'm not blaming the
 11 departments for--and the pension plan for
 12 losing the money. But something has to be
 13 done and there's already talk about the
 14 withdrawal of and repeal of the Dodd-Frank
 15 laws and regulations on Wall Street. I
 16 think they're doing fair enough and they
 17 don't need to keep the taxpayers money of
 18 Scranton just because they have a little
 19 hiccup in their markets. It's inexcusable.
 20 And furthermore, with the double pensions,
 21 Jack Laslow was denied his pension money and
 22 he was disabled by a severe electrical
 23 shock. He has organ damage and everything
 24 else. And they took his pension off of him
 25 because he got elected to public office. I

1 don't think public office has anything to do
 2 with a public job. That's all there is to
 3 it. And furthermore, it's in the long term,
 4 but I see a lot of lack of concern sometimes
 5 between various entities. They have their
 6 separate pension plan and the hell with
 7 social security. The hell with Medicare.
 8 And I think it's time that all ships float
 9 on the same sea whether it be an angry sea
 10 or smooth sailing. With our snow, the only
 11 thing I have to say about it right now is;
 12 certain people in my neighborhood have been
 13 shovelling their sidewalks and blocking
 14 courts extending a pile out to where you
 15 have to make the turn. And you just go
 16 cart-wheeling down the hill, a 30 degree, 40
 17 degree hill on Alder Street there. And I
 18 think that practice needs to stop throughout
 19 the whole town. If you want to shovel your
 20 sidewalks, great, you're supposed to. But
 21 shame if you're thinking about
 22 inconveniencing 10 neighbors. It's a rotten
 23 shame to think that it's okay to
 24 inconvenience 10 neighbors just to have an
 25 easier time shovelling. Thank you and have

1 a good night.
 2 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
 3 Dobryzn.
 4 MR. DOBRYZN: Quick reminder--
 5 MR. WECHSLER: Sorry, Mr. Dobryzn.
 6 MR. DOBRYZN: --pardons guy, please
 7 try and get them--
 8 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
 9 Dobryzn.
 10 MR. DOBRYZN: Okay.
 11 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else?
 12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, Marie
 13 Schumacher. First, I do concur with Joan on
 14 the tabling of 7B because I am against your
 15 authorizing that premium which should be
 16 coming down. And I fear if this is done
 17 outside of these council chambers, it will
 18 not come down and we'll still be paying.
 19 So, I--for peace of mind, I'd like to see
 20 that. And I think we should thank Mr.
 21 Gaughan for getting the back up on the
 22 agendas or I never would have caught that
 23 error. So, I thank you, Mr. Gaughan, for
 24 that. Now, I distinctly remember Solicitor
 25 Boyle saying the third party administrator

1 RFP would be issued within the week.
 2 Tomorrow, that will be three weeks ago and
 3 still no RFP, unless it hasn't been in the
 4 Scranton Times Tribune. Sort of makes one
 5 wonder if the correct person whose pockets
 6 are to be lined has not yet been found.
 7 Now, I know we're just being lied to. This
 8 being not the agreement that we were told
 9 was already in place. So, you know,
 10 credibility is going down, down, down. By
 11 now, if that had been done last year, we
 12 would have had a year's worth of performance
 13 so that our improve--the improvements that
 14 were going to be made could be judged. Now,
 15 I should think it should be scrapped from
 16 what we learned tonight. Okay, back now to
 17 the aforementioned meeting held to discuss
 18 the spoils from the Sewer Authority asset
 19 sale and agenda Item 7A. The strategy
 20 presented was to have them submitted sooner
 21 rather than later. But again, it's been
 22 three weeks and it's still not on the
 23 agenda. My major heartburn with the
 24 recommended strategy is only \$500,000 is set
 25 aside for storm water. And at that, for

1 storm water management, we simply cannot
 2 afford to wait for three years of studying
 3 the problems before taking action. There
 4 are too many residents being impacted by
 5 storm water problems that need fixing now,
 6 not later. Plus, there are other areas
 7 where an investment today might make that a
 8 low or moderate investment, but it will grow
 9 to a high cost if we wait. This requires an
 10 investment now. I mean, tonight it's
 11 raining. It's going to rain. Mr. Serebro,
 12 the Young's, I hope we all say a prayer for
 13 them tonight. That should have been
 14 included. They're probably going to get
 15 flooded again. And everybody sits back and
 16 does nothing. Now, on the plus side, the
 17 proposed strategy developed by PEL FHJA
 18 strategies and the administration provides a
 19 cushion that could be used to address the
 20 forecasted deficit of revenues to meet the
 21 expenditures while restructuring the
 22 delivery of activities--of services in a
 23 manner that creates a substantial and
 24 sustainable budget. Part of that strategy
 25 provided two million dollars for capital

1 programs. But, could this administration
 2 wait for the approval of the strategy? Even
 3 present it and bring it to council for
 4 Pete's sake? Before spending the money? Of
 5 course not. Instead of the recommended
 6 using \$710,780 of 2017 budget expenses freed
 7 up by the sale of the Sewer Authority assets
 8 for paving. Do we need paving? Yeah, we
 9 need paving. But can we afford to pave the
 10 entire city? Of course not. At roughly
 11 \$15,000 per city block, stealing from the
 12 cushion that was--that will be provided or
 13 is supposed to be provided in the strategy
 14 would probably pay less than 50 city blocks.
 15 Well, it might make the residents and
 16 commuters using those few blocks happy, it
 17 could infuriate those that could be left
 18 wanting. Is there a way to make more
 19 residents happy? I think so. Last month,
 20 you may have noticed a picture of the
 21 Pothole Killer working down in West
 22 Pittston. I contacted West Pittston's
 23 borough manager who supplied me with some
 24 information, two pages of which I'm going to
 25 share with Mr. Gaughan. Let me share some

1 of the attributes of that piece of
 2 equipment. May I finish it? Thank you.
 3 Okay, with Patch Management Exclusive
 4 Services, you get these advantages; one man,
 5 one truck efficiency and cost effectiveness.
 6 All operations controlled from the cab
 7 reducing safety risks, traffic hazards and
 8 liability. All materials contained on the
 9 truck enough for a full productive day of
 10 patching. Average pothole repair takes 45
 11 to 60 seconds and lasts for years. The
 12 Pothole Killer can be operated day or night
 13 and in any kind of weather. It's got an
 14 on-board GPS technology. It's simple,
 15 affordable rental or lease options are
 16 available to suit a budget. They also, of
 17 course, come in and do it for a cost. So
 18 that, I think that should be looked at. And
 19 I don't think we should be spending that
 20 money that was not meant for additional
 21 paving. And if I may approach, I will give
 22 you the materials.
 23 MR. WECHSLER: You could give them
 24 to Kathy.
 25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Pardon?

1 MR. WECHSLER: You can just give
 2 them to Kathy.
 3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, well, may I
 4 give--wait, I have one page for--Mr. Gaughan
 5 has the--
 6 MR. WECHSLER: She'll give it to
 7 him.
 8 MS. SCHUMACHER: --has the DPW
 9 though, right?
 10 MR. WECHSLER: Yeah.
 11 MS. SCHUMACHER: So I've got an
 12 extra one here for him.
 13 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.
 14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.
 15 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else?
 16 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5A.
 17 MOTIONS.
 18 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Perry?
 19 MR. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Wechsler.
 20 First, I want to thank Attorney Durkin, Mr.
 21 John Judge and Mr. Ed Bohan for stopping in.
 22 We had a public caucus, a quite lengthy
 23 public caucus before our regularly scheduled
 24 meeting about pension and pension reforms.
 25 I consider that one of many meetings that

1 council and pension board's administration
 2 are going to have in the very near future
 3 about how to finally shore-up our pension
 4 plans that we have. It's no secret that
 5 they're distressed right now. And we do
 6 have plans in place on both sides between
 7 the Pension Board and the city to shore-up
 8 the plans. It's going to take a lot of work
 9 which anybody who is here and I think most
 10 of the audience they were here for it. It
 11 was lengthy and there are going to be many
 12 hurdles; hurdles after hurdles to go
 13 through. But I'm confident that council
 14 administration and the pension boards are on
 15 board with taking on those hurdles step by
 16 step. I know no one on this board is going
 17 to give up on that. We're just going to
 18 keep plowing through it. A couple items on
 19 the agenda, 5B, I'm excited about. We have
 20 the West Scranton Revitalization Project.
 21 That's going to be on the eleven and 1200
 22 block of South Main Street. There's going
 23 to be some new construction there. It's
 24 going to be create 25 full-time jobs when
 25 it's done. And the construction itself is

1 going to create 50 onsite temporary
 2 construction jobs. This is a great, great
 3 community development and economic growth
 4 force. That's going to turn what's already
 5 a blighted situation into something that's
 6 going to put viable jobs in the city and
 7 buildings back on the tax rolls. 5C, which
 8 is coming before us involves the Novembrino
 9 Park. Novembrino Park, I'd like to see this
 10 finally get going. I know last year, we
 11 applied and received a grant for this. So
 12 we are now in the planning stages now that
 13 the weather is going to break. This is
 14 going to be for planning and onsite surveys
 15 for a long awaited and much needed park in
 16 that part of the neighborhood. What else do
 17 we have? The insurance issue on 7B, again,
 18 Ms. Schumacher, thank you very much for
 19 that. That was information found that was
 20 much needed. I think Councilman Evans
 21 alluded to this, unfortunately we have to
 22 pass that. The insurance goes into effect
 23 on April 1st. But what I would suggest,
 24 Mrs. Reed, if we could have some kind of
 25 communication sent back to council that the

1 appropriate amendments were made and that
 2 way we can share them as soon as they were
 3 made. Because, you know, like you, all of
 4 us, once this passes the board, we move onto
 5 the next thing and the next thing and the
 6 next thing. And sometimes things kind of
 7 get away from us. But this is something,
 8 it's wasted money if we don't make sure it's
 9 changed. Some public safety issues. I've
 10 been informed by someone in the 200 block of
 11 School Street. In the 200 block of School
 12 Street, if anybody's not familiar with it,
 13 it's a very tight situation and there's a
 14 lot going on there. There's the Holy Rosary
 15 Center which hosts basketball games and all
 16 sorts and kinds of things that are going on
 17 there. There's a school. There's a church.
 18 It's a two way street and there's parking on
 19 both sides of the street. So when it gets
 20 hectic, it gets busy. This person had some
 21 car damage from being sideswiped the other
 22 day. And if we could just maybe--I don't
 23 know if anyone's looked into School Street.
 24 It's been around for as long as the city's
 25 been around. But if we can have the

1 Engineering Department to see if that
 2 qualifies for some kind of only one-side
 3 street parking or a one-way. But, you know,
 4 when it comes to changing the streets from a
 5 two way to a one way, it's very, very
 6 difficult. Because that encompasses the
 7 whole neighborhood and the whole flow of
 8 traffic. So if we could at least get a
 9 definitive answer on that, I would
 10 appreciate it. And finally, I'll end this
 11 on a little bit of good news. I spoke to
 12 the Mayor tonight to follow up on Mr.
 13 Serebro's issue. And I was informed that
 14 Director Gallagher met with Mr. Serebro
 15 today outside his house. They went over the
 16 issues that he was having. Went over the
 17 plan. And happy birthday, Mr. Serebro too,
 18 it's also birthday today. That's probably
 19 why he's not here. So a little bit of a
 20 birthday present is that this project now
 21 that the winter has broke, the emergency
 22 storm is over with. He's been fast-tracked
 23 and given all the DPW's force to make sure
 24 that project gets taken care of. That's all
 25 I have today. Thank you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Mr.
 2 Rogan?
 3 MR. ROGAN: Yes, a couple of
 4 comments. We're all glad the snow is
 5 finally melted. We did receive a very large
 6 packet of the cost the city has incurred
 7 from the cost of the snow storm. And I do
 8 want to read an excerpt of what was included
 9 in this packet. And this is regarding the
 10 reimbursement possibility that Councilman
 11 Wechsler spoke about last week. And
 12 this--this is an inner city email. But it
 13 says, "This is something I wanted to put on
 14 your radar in anticipation of possibly
 15 receiving reimbursement of our winter storm
 16 clean up costs. As you can see, we incurred
 17 about \$365,000 in costs. And if granted, we
 18 will be reimbursed 75 percent of that which
 19 totals approximately \$273,000. I will keep
 20 you posted as we learn more about our
 21 request." This email was just sent this
 22 afternoon, today, March 30th at 12:09. And
 23 this is an entire accounting of the expenses
 24 incurred with that storm. And as you can
 25 see, it's a very thick packet. And I could

1 tell a lot of work went into the
 2 documentation here. It goes down even to
 3 equipment repair for equipment that broke
 4 during the course of the storm. So I will
 5 be reviewing this at length to get a grasp
 6 on what money was spent where and what we
 7 could do to be more efficient both cost wise
 8 moving forward and provide a better service
 9 for our residents when storms like this
 10 happen again. Hopefully, we won't see
 11 another storm of this magnitude in our
 12 lifetime. But in case we do, we certainly
 13 have to be prepared. Next, Councilman Perry
 14 touched on the West Scranton Redevelopment
 15 Project, Revitalization Project. I do want
 16 to read an excerpt out of the RCAP Grant and
 17 this is the community impact excerpt. And I
 18 live in West Side, so this is very important
 19 to me. It says, "The West Scranton
 20 Revitalization Project improvements for
 21 proposed location for the construction of a
 22 new mixed use building. The project
 23 involves the design and construction of a
 24 nearly two story 16,000 square foot building
 25 on the 1100 block of South Main Avenue in

1 Scranton featuring a mixed use concept.
 2 Across the street from this new building,
 3 the renovation of a neighborhood market cafe
 4 gathering place plus the construction of an
 5 additional 4,000 square feet of additional
 6 space which will be marketed to other
 7 neighborhood retail demands. Corporate
 8 offices for existing gas wholesaler will
 9 also be relocated and expanded. The site is
 10 located within the shadow of downtown
 11 Scranton, but far enough outside to avoid
 12 the current land lock downtown. The unique
 13 quality of the project is that the proposed
 14 site involves the revitalization of three
 15 currently blighted buildings. The West
 16 Scranton Revitalization Project will not
 17 only create a new construction and permanent
 18 job opportunities, but will remove a public
 19 eyesore in a blighted area immediately
 20 rescuing the neighborhood from further
 21 disrepair." So I'm very proud to cast an
 22 affirmative vote on this legislation
 23 tonight. And I do like to thank
 24 Representative Marty Flynn's Office who was
 25 very involved with this from day one as well

1 as Governor Wolf who did come into town when
 2 this was initially announced. Also, mention
 3 is the Novembrino Project. This is
 4 something that unfortunately is taking much
 5 longer to happen than we would all like.
 6 But that park needs to be--needs to be
 7 restored and I know Mr. McLane has already
 8 done some design work. And the initial
 9 designs look very promising for the
 10 revitalization of that park. It's very
 11 special to me as a kid growing up I remember
 12 walking down to the park to swim. And going
 13 down and driving by there now is
 14 heartbreaking seeing the condition that
 15 those pools and that park is in. So our
 16 children in that neighborhood need a clean,
 17 safe place to play. And I'm hopeful that
 18 this project will accomplish that. And
 19 finally, this is unfortunately a long
 20 standing request. We are voting on more
 21 money for paving tonight, which I hope is
 22 approved because we certainly need it. And
 23 there is not a shortage of roads in the city
 24 that needs to be paved. But a video was
 25 sent to, I believe, most of us on council

1 this last week, of the 1400 and 1500 block
 2 of South Irving on South Side. This has
 3 been a street that I know many of us have
 4 spoken about in the past. But it's probably
 5 one of the worst streets in the city. So if
 6 we could relate to our DPW Director about
 7 the 1400 and 1500 block of South Irving,
 8 have them place it on the pave list. And in
 9 the mean time, if some repairs are made, I
 10 hope the asphalt plants should be opening
 11 soon with the warmer weather, but we have to
 12 do something immediately. And that is all
 13 for tonight. Thank you.
 14 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Rogan.
 15 Mr. Evans?
 16 MR. EVANS: Thank you, just a brief
 17 comment on a couple different things. I
 18 appreciated our speakers tonight or our
 19 guests tonight on the pension reform issue.
 20 As you can see, it's a very layered
 21 situation when we start talking about
 22 pension reform. But I will say that I don't
 23 think any of us are backing down from the
 24 fact that we're not going to see any money
 25 going into the pensions until we have

1 pension reform, specifically the third party
 2 administrator has to be hired and working.
 3 And the mechanism needs to be in place for
 4 the beginning to bring down the rate of
 5 return. Those things are, as far as I'm
 6 concerned, non-negotiable. Again, I'd like
 7 to thank Marie, again, on catching that
 8 issue with the premiums on the library
 9 buildings. And also, to add to her comments
 10 and Councilman Gaughan as far as Granicus is
 11 concerned. Granicus began tonight paying
 12 dividends. That's very important. And if
 13 this happens again and again, I hope it
 14 never does. But if it happens and it gets
 15 caught, that's why we're doing it. It's all
 16 about transparency, getting the information
 17 out to the public, having another set of
 18 eyes, ears and thoughts on things like that.
 19 So, it paid off. So, I'm very proud of what
 20 we've done with Granicus and getting that
 21 information out. I read in here an article
 22 today about something's happening in
 23 Harrisburg. There was legislation that will
 24 require school boards to approve property
 25 tax increases by at least a 6 to 3 vote

1 instead of a simple 5, 4 majority. And that
 2 legislation was passed and approved by the
 3 Senate Education Committee yesterday. So it
 4 would require two thirds of a 9 member panel
 5 board to ensure that adequate vetting of any
 6 tax increase will happen. So if that
 7 legislation goes through at the state level,
 8 that means that if the Scranton School Board
 9 would like to have a tax increase, they
 10 cannot just pass it by a 5, 4 vote. It will
 11 have to be by a 6, 3 vote. Which is a lot
 12 harder, believe me, one vote is always
 13 thought of and always very important and it
 14 just shows you how much difference that can
 15 make. Councilman Rogan mentioned, this
 16 report we got from the city on the storm, I
 17 have to say it's impressive. What is not as
 18 impressive is the information we've got on
 19 the twelve million dollars on the Sewer
 20 Authority that was missing in action at
 21 closing. And if we had this kind of
 22 information, we could actually find out
 23 where that money went. The answer we got
 24 was, preclosing legal fees and consulting
 25 fees and manning the work that was being

1 done during that timeframe from the time the
2 contract went into effect until it closed.
3 So I know Councilman Gaughan sent another
4 and I'm requesting it again. We want--I
5 want to see very detailed information on
6 where that money was spent. I think it's
7 time the residents deserve that. The
8 taxpayers deserve that. The rate payers
9 deserve that. We deserve that. So enough
10 is enough. If the city can do this for a
11 storm, the Sewer Authority can certainly do
12 what we're requesting. I don't think I have
13 anything more at this point.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Evans.
15 Mr. Gaughan?

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. First
17 of all, I want to thank the students from
18 the University of Scranton for coming
19 tonight. I want to thank my former
20 professor and give her a shout out.
21 University of Scranton was my alma mater.
22 So it's nice to see all of you here tonight.
23 I'd also like to, as Mr. Wechsler mentioned
24 in the beginning of the meeting, just send
25 my prayers out to Judge Kozik and his

1 family. He is a true pillar of our
2 community. My prayers are with him and his
3 family and I'm hoping that he is returned
4 safely very soon. I'd like to thank
5 Attorney Durkin, John Judge and Ed Bohnan
6 for coming tonight to our caucus. I
7 continue to be amazed by the third party
8 administrator. We've been talking about
9 this now for the last year. And the Mayor
10 has said on numerous occasions that we were
11 going to have game-changing pension reform.
12 The third party administrator, as Mrs.
13 Schumacher pointed out at the meeting about
14 three or four weeks ago, the city solicitor
15 said that it should be on its way within a
16 week or two. The information we got tonight
17 is totally different. So, there's some sort
18 of disconnect between the pension boards,
19 the unions and this administration. And
20 quite frankly, I'm more confused now after
21 that meeting than I was going into it. So
22 there definitely needs to be more answers
23 and more--I have more questions from that
24 meeting. Just a couple citizens' concerns.
25 First, North Hyde Park Avenue and Pettibone

1 Street needs a street light fixed. So we'll
2 send that out to the DPW. Getting a couple
3 complaints about the 400 block of Corey
4 Street between Cedar and Birney Avenue in
5 Minooka, a definite accident waiting to
6 happen. The street is very narrow and the
7 residents would like to request that this be
8 made into a one-way. I know a few years
9 ago, there was talk about that happening.
10 So I'd like to have our city engineer
11 revisit that. I'm glad Mr. Perry reported
12 that Mr. Gallagher was sent out to Mr.
13 Serebro's house on Keyser Avenue for the
14 flooding issue. I sent a letter March 10th
15 asking for specific information on what the
16 administration was going to do. And as
17 Chairperson for the Committee on Public
18 Works, I would like that letter answered.
19 Because I appreciate that Mr. Gallagher went
20 out. And I appreciate that the
21 administration is finally taking a look at
22 this issue. But in my experience in almost
23 four years on council, what gets promised
24 and then what actually gets delivered are
25 two totally different things. Case in

1 point, our caucus tonight. So I would like
2 a response in writing. If you have been
3 following the newspaper and some of the
4 lawsuits that have been popping up about
5 storm water management, you know, I have to
6 be honest, I am just sick and tired of the
7 people of this city getting jerked around by
8 this administration. My fear--and I hope
9 this doesn't come true, but these residents
10 in Keyser Valley may end up just like Al
11 Young over on Wyoming Avenue. And the other
12 gentleman that just had to sue the city.
13 Nobody can get an answer from the Mayor and
14 his administration apparently unless there's
15 an article by Chris Kelly in the paper.
16 Then, all of a sudden, everybody floods down
17 to Keyser Avenue. So it just--to a point,
18 it annoys me. And I would hope that this
19 administration starts responding to serious
20 requests for information in writing. So I'd
21 like to see what the plan is, but put it on
22 a piece of paper. As for the Scranton Sewer
23 Authority, I'm going to sound like a broken
24 record here. Because for the past few
25 weeks, I've asked for copies of all invoices

1 related to any legal or consulting work done
 2 in relation to the sale of the authority.
 3 And again, not to my surprise, this
 4 information has not been provided. I've
 5 also asked, as Mr. Evans had pointed out,
 6 several questions related to the sale of the
 7 Authority and they continue to go
 8 unanswered. And I feel like I am being
 9 stonewalled. How long does it take to
 10 produce information that should be readily
 11 available? You know, this has been going on
 12 for months now. The sale occurred in
 13 December of 2016. And the ratepayers of
 14 this city have paid millions of dollars for
 15 legal fees on this deal. And all I'm asking
 16 for is an accounting of what work was done
 17 for these exorbitant amounts of money. What
 18 were the hourly rates? Where are the
 19 invoices? On top of all the legal costs
 20 that were paid out from this deal to
 21 Ingersoll, Buchanan and Rooney and the
 22 various lawyers that work for the Scranton
 23 Sewer Authority, the ratepayers shelled out
 24 half--almost half a million dollars for
 25 special council to Scranton and Dunmore.

1 And again, the question is, for what? So,
 2 produce the invoices, produce the
 3 information that backs all of this up. This
 4 isn't anything that should be difficult.
 5 And I don't believe that any money from the
 6 sale of the Scranton Sewer Authority should
 7 be spent on pensions, on capital improvement
 8 projects or anything else until all
 9 questions are answered regarding this deal
 10 and all documentation is provided. As Mr.
 11 Evans also mentioned, I still have questions
 12 regarding how the twelve million dollars was
 13 spent through 2015 through 2016. Council
 14 was provided with a spreadsheet which quite
 15 frankly was difficult to read and difficult
 16 to follow. And it requires further
 17 explanation. I'd like to know what specific
 18 capital projects were completed during this
 19 time. And I think that we should request a
 20 caucus with Attorney Shrive and members of
 21 the Sewer Authority Board so that they can
 22 explain these expenditures. On a related
 23 matter, as I mentioned last week, I also
 24 would like answers from the Pennsylvania
 25 American Water Company on whether or not

1 they're going to charge a storm water fee on
 2 top of the one that the city is going to
 3 eventually charge people, a real double
 4 whammy for the ratepayers of the city. This
 5 was mentioned at the last meeting between
 6 the city and Arcadis Engineering who was in
 7 charge of doing the storm water study. So I
 8 would like a response from Pennsylvania
 9 American Water. And that is all I have this
 10 week. Thank you.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr.
 12 Gaughan. In regards to the issues that were
 13 brought to light this week in the Scranton
 14 Times concerning the Greenridge area, I did
 15 contact City Engineer John Pocius. I also
 16 contacted the state representative's chief
 17 of staff Thom Welby. Going back on this
 18 issue, this is something that's being worked
 19 on for many, many years. In fact, it's a
 20 three stage program. Stage one has been
 21 completed. There's two other stages that
 22 are currently listed on the state projects,
 23 but they currently lack the funding. I'm
 24 very familiar with this type of an
 25 arrangement because East Mountain Road used

1 to be put on the capital improvement program
 2 every year. And every year, it wasn't
 3 funded. Eventually, the money finally went
 4 to that project and we were able to get East
 5 Mountain Road fixed. I understand the city
 6 does have a responsibility to fix repairs as
 7 best they can in that area. But speaking to
 8 Mr. Pocius and to Mr. Welby, currently
 9 Senator Blake has been working on this
 10 project. He's trying to get funding to do
 11 the complete repair of that area. And I
 12 think fortunately they do--some repairs out
 13 there, that those will be included in our
 14 cost for matching funds. But the total
 15 price tag as it stands right now to do that
 16 project efficiently and correctly is
 17 thirteen million dollars to fix that whole
 18 area, that whole area. It's going to take a
 19 huge effort, a combined effort between the
 20 city, the state and maybe even federal
 21 authorities as we did on East Mountain Road
 22 to get that project completed. The dollar
 23 value is so expensive. But as we saw, there
 24 is money available. So working together, I
 25 think it's something that we have to focus

1 on and try to get that situation
 2 straightened out there. In regards to the
 3 snow storm, the city did do a good job on
 4 getting that information together,
 5 submitting it in a timely fashion. This is
 6 an example where all the townships and all
 7 municipalities in the county are working
 8 together. We had to meet certain dollar
 9 thresholds. And the county has taken the
 10 lead on putting this information and getting
 11 it out there and submitting it to the state.
 12 I think it's an example for going forward
 13 how we can look to share some services
 14 within the county. We do have a lot of
 15 duplications in services. And I think this,
 16 as this goes together, I believe this will
 17 be a good example on consolidating some of
 18 the services within the county. This
 19 evening, as we were wrapping up the caucus,
 20 I did want to make sure that I asked Mr.
 21 Judge if the third party administrator in
 22 principle has been agreed to. And he
 23 confirmed that the third party administrator
 24 has been agreed to. Mr. Judge also made a
 25 revealing comment this evening also is that

1 the specification or the bid package that's
 2 being presented right now as required by the
 3 contract, there's difficulty in finding
 4 someone who will take that responsibility
 5 on. And I really believe that in order to
 6 do this job properly, we are going to need
 7 more than one bidder to do this properly. I
 8 think the delay has been in refining the
 9 proposal. We all want to get it in place.
 10 But to me, the fact that it's still been
 11 agreed upon, still something that's going to
 12 happen, I believe that's very important.
 13 This week, I'd also like to congratulate
 14 Senator Blake's Office and Representative
 15 Flynn's Office. They did a great job
 16 getting grant money into the area. There's
 17 several projects, several worthwhile
 18 projects. And I think that's something that
 19 is going to be a benefit to all of us. And
 20 just one last comment on the caucus this
 21 evening, I believe tonight we've seen that
 22 there is a willingness on both
 23 the--especially council and also with our,
 24 with the unions in coming as active
 25 participants to the meeting, offering

1 suggestions, offering input. I believe that
 2 also is something that we are going to have
 3 to focus on going forward and make sure that
 4 everyone is on the same page as Councilman
 5 Rogan suggested. When we make an agreement,
 6 the city should have to stick to it. We've
 7 seen so many cases of where we've agreed to
 8 things. And in the end, we've had to give
 9 money back and lost the case. My last
 10 comments are on the West Scranton projects.
 11 Scranton has always been a city of
 12 neighborhoods. The West Scranton commercial
 13 project is a huge investment in that area.
 14 It means that that part of Scranton, there's
 15 still life in that part of Scranton, a huge
 16 improvement to come to that area and also
 17 contribute more to the quality of life in
 18 that area. And in regards to the Novembrino
 19 pool project, that area is seriously lacking
 20 in recreation for our youth. I'm familiar
 21 with Mr. McLane's work. He does a great
 22 job. And we'd like to see that project move
 23 along as fast as possible because the kids
 24 in West Side do deserve recreation. That's
 25 all I have.

1 MS. REED: 5B, FOR INTRODUCTION – A
 2 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
 3 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND
 4 EXECUTE A GRANT FROM THE REDEVELOPMENT
 5 ASSISTANCE CAPITAL PROGRAM (RACP) THROUGH
 6 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA'S OFFICE OF
 7 THE BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION FIVE
 8 HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$2,500,000.00) DOLLARS;
 9 ACCEPTING AND DISBURSING THE GRANT IF THE
 10 APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL; AND COORDINATING
 11 THE USE OF THE GRANT FUNDS WITH MAIN
 12 SWETLAND, LLC AND SOUTHSIDE XPRESS MARTS,
 13 INC. FOR THE PROJECT TO BE NAMED THE "WEST
 14 SCRANTON REVITALIZATION PROJECT."

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

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. EVANS: Second.

20 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

22 I agree with my colleagues. I'm in full
 23 support of this project. If this grant is
 24 awarded, which I hope it is, it's going to
 25 inject five and a half million dollars in

1 West Scranton, clearing blight, getting rid
2 of public eyesores, increasing property
3 values and it's going to also tap into our
4 regional vital signs initiative. So I think
5 this project helps to grow our economy
6 through the bioscience industry. A
7 significant portion of the development
8 project space has actually been securing
9 the bioscience end. I think that this is an
10 exciting opportunity not only for West
11 Scranton, but for the city as a whole. And
12 I'm hopeful that if it's awarded, this will
13 spread to other neighborhoods throughout the
14 city. Thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: Just to clear one item
16 of legislation, somebody mentioned this to
17 me earlier in the week: This is closer
18 to--this is near the Saint Ann's section of
19 Main Avenue in West Scranton. The name Main
20 Swetland LLC may be a little deceiving.
21 It's not near Swetland Avenue or Swetland
22 Street over by the Hyde Park area. It's
23 more towards the Saint Ann's section.

24 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
25 introduction signify by saying aye?

1 MR. PERRY: Aye.
2 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
4 MR. EVANS: Aye.
5 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
6 ayes have it, so moved.
7 MS. REED: 5C. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
8 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
9 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND
10 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL
11 SERVICES WITH THOMAS J. MCLANE AND
12 ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DESIGN
13 AND ENGINEERING SERVICES TO PREPARE
14 DOCUMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A WATER SPRAY
15 PARK AND RELATED RECREATION SITE
16 IMPROVEMENTS AT NOVEMBRINO PARK.

17 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
18 entertain a motion that Item 5C be
19 introduced into its proper committee?
20 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
21 MR. EVANS: Second.
22 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?
23 MR. EVANS: On the question, I'm
24 going to echo Councilman Wechsler's comments
25 about Mr. McLane. He is a dedicated

1 professional that has done tremendous work
2 throughout the city many times at no charge.
3 So, I'm sure that he has far more hours
4 invested into this project than he's billing
5 us for, which is normal for Tom. But his
6 firm will do a great job and it's a smart
7 project, I think, for us to be taking on at
8 this time.

9 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
10 introduction signify by saying aye?

11 MR. PERRY: Aye.

12 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

14 MR. EVANS: Aye.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
16 ayes have it, so moved.

17 MS. REED: 5D. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
18 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
19 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE THE
20 DISCHARGE AND RELEASE OF THE 2004 PURCHASE
21 AGREEMENT AND 2004 LEASE AGREEMENT
22 DISCHARGING THE SALE LEASE BACK BETWEEN THE
23 SCRANTON SEWER AUTHORITY AND THE CITY OF
24 SCRANTON.

25 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll

1 entertain a motion that Item 5B be
2 introduced into its proper committee.
3 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
4 MR. EVANS: Second.
5 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
6 those in favor of introduction signify by
7 saying all?

8 MR. PERRY: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

11 MR. EVANS: Aye.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
13 ayes have it, so moved.

14 MS. REED: 5E. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
15 RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER
16 DAVIS, 801 NORTH IRVING AVENUE, SCRANTON,
17 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, AS A MEMBER OF THE
18 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
19 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 9, 2017. MS. DAVIS WILL
20 BE REPLACING RALPH A. SCARTELLI WHOSE TERM
21 EXPIRED OCTOBER 11, 2014. MS. DAVIS'
22 TERM WILL EXPIRE FEBRUARY 9, 2022.

23 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
24 entertain a motion that Item 5E be
25 introduced into its proper committee.

1 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
 2 MR. EVANS: Second.
 3 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
 4 those in favor of introduction signify by
 5 saying aye?
 6 MR. PERRY: Aye.
 7 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
 8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
 9 MR. EVANS: Aye.
 10 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
 11 ayes have it, so moved.
 12 MS. REED: 5F. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
 13 RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT OF KATHERINE M.
 14 KEARNEY, 828 SOUTH IRVING AVENUE, SCRANTON,
 15 PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, AS A MEMBER OF THE
 16 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
 17 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 9, 2017. MS. KEARNEY
 18 WILL BE REPLACING ELLA RAYBURN WHOSE TERM
 19 EXPIRED OCTOBER 11, 2016. MS. KEARNEY'S
 20 TERM WILL EXPIRE FEBRUARY 9, 2022.
 21 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
 22 entertain a motion that Item 5F be
 23 introduced into its proper committee.
 24 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
 25 MR. EVANS: Second.

1 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
 2 those in favor of introduction signify by
 3 saying aye?
 4 MR. PERRY: Aye.
 5 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
 6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
 7 MR. EVANS: Aye.
 8 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
 9 ayes have it, so moved.
 10 MS. REED: 5G. FOR INTRODUCTION – A
 11 RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT OF PAUL MARCKS,
 12 724 GIBBONS STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
 13 18505 AS THE ALTERNATE NO. 1 MEMBER OF THE
 14 BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF
 15 SCRANTON. MR. MARCKS WILL FILL THE
 16 ALTERNATE NO. 1 POSITION THAT WAS VACATED BY
 17 ROBERT PALMITESSA WHEN HE BECAME A
 18 REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD UPON THE
 19 RESIGNATION OF STEVEN KOCHIS. MR. MARCKS
 20 WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MR.
 21 PALMITESSA WHICH EXPIRES ON JULY 1, 2020.
 22 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
 23 entertain a motion that Item 5G be
 24 introduced into its proper committee.
 25 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

1 MR. EVANS: Second.
 2 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
 3 those in favor of introduction signify by
 4 saying aye?
 5 MR. PERRY: Aye.
 6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
 7 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.
 8 MR. EVANS: Aye.
 9 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
 10 ayes have it, so moved.
 11 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6A. NO
 12 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. SEVENTH ORDER. 7A.
 13 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
 14 FINANCE – FOR ADOPTION – FILE OF THE COUNCIL
 15 NO. 94, 2017 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
 16 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO
 17 REALLOCATE A PORTION OF DEBT SERVICES MONEY
 18 TO BE USED FOR PAVING ONLY, AS SAID MONEY
 19 HAS BEEN REFUNDED TO THE CITY AND IS NO
 20 LONGER NEEDED FOR PAYMENT OF THE MARCH
 21 INSTALLMENT DUE ON THE 2012 SERIES A AND B
 22 BONDS DUE TO THE DEFEASANCE OF SAID BONDS
 23 WITH SEWER PROCEEDS.
 24 MR. WECHSLER: What is the
 25 recommendation of the Chairperson for the

1 Committee on Finance?
 2 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
 3 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
 4 passage of Item 7A.
 5 MR. ROGAN: Second.
 6 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?
 7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
 8 I'm going to be voting for this legislation
 9 tonight because I do think that we need
 10 paving throughout the city. That's for
 11 sure. I am disappointed, as I mentioned
 12 last week, that there's not support to take
 13 a portion of this funding and put it towards
 14 storm water management. As someone
 15 mentioned tonight, we're only allocating
 16 from the sale of the--the proceeds from the
 17 sale of the Sewer Authority \$500,000. I'm
 18 not an engineer, but I don't think that's
 19 going to be enough. And I think that we
 20 should put more of a focus on storm water
 21 management and having money available for
 22 that. Obviously, if anybody has been
 23 following what's going on in the city, it is
 24 a big issue and I think we're going to come
 25 up short. Thank you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, on the question.
 2 As Councilman Rogan stated, we were
 3 contacted this week by several different
 4 residents whose streets have not been
 5 touched with paving in the course of 25 to
 6 30 years. I think it's important that we
 7 use money that we have available to put into
 8 that. The \$500,000 that's been set aside
 9 for the storm water management is really
 10 money that's been put aside to complete the
 11 studies. The amount of, as we talked about
 12 last week, if we do everything with the
 13 proceeds as we planned, even if we put all
 14 of the money that isn't going to pensions or
 15 into bond payment, there's only three
 16 million dollars available from the proceeds
 17 to be put into that. I agree with Mr.
 18 Gaughan, that there are going to be
 19 significant investments required in storm
 20 water management. But I really think it's
 21 important at this time to make sure this
 22 money goes into the paving.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Just an additional
 24 comment. Can we find out how many
 25 additional studies have to take place?

1 Because I asked that question back in the
 2 caucus three weeks ago when we had this
 3 meeting about using the proceeds from the
 4 sale of the sewer authority and nobody can
 5 answer. Maybe one additional study, maybe
 6 two, maybe three, maybe four? I have no
 7 idea. But I would like to know if we can
 8 send a letter to Arcadis or somebody and
 9 find out how many more studies after this
 10 one we're already doing is it going to take
 11 to find out how much storm water management
 12 is going to cost and what that encompasses.

13 MR. ROGAN: I would like to agree on
 14 that point. Because \$500,000 could fix a
 15 lot of localized flooding issues. On the
 16 paving vote, obviously paving and road
 17 paving throughout the city is a problem in
 18 almost every single neighborhood of the
 19 city. Storm flooding is a problem,
 20 fortunately in only a few. Rather than
 21 spending millions of dollars on studies,
 22 that \$500,000 I would bet could probably fix
 23 the problem in Keyser Valley coming from
 24 West Mountain. Another allocation of money
 25 could fix a problem in parts of Greenridge

1 or Greenridge Street. I would much prefer
 2 to see the money being used practically than
 3 to continue to hire engineers and to hire
 4 consultants to figure out what the problem
 5 is, that the residents of Scranton have
 6 always known. The same neighborhoods have
 7 flooded for 30, 40 years when we get heavy
 8 rains. We know where they are. We just
 9 have to get them fixed.

10 MR. EVANS: I think that you're
 11 right. And the assumption being as of our
 12 meeting several weeks ago was that the
 13 \$500,000 will goes towards more studies.
 14 But we really don't know that for sure until
 15 the Arcadia study is done. So hopefully,
 16 they'll be comprehensive enough to give us a
 17 good footing. And you're right, some of
 18 this money can be used for the hard cost
 19 related to storm water.

20 MR. WECHSLER: As was discussed at
 21 the meeting, Mr. Cross from the Pennsylvania
 22 Economy League said that--he's been working
 23 for us for many years. And he admits at
 24 least there's one more follow up study to be
 25 done. And I think his comment was that they

1 put money aside to be over and above what
 2 they needed because they didn't want to come
 3 up short of needing money to complete the
 4 studies. I mean, we've heard from
 5 Administrator Bulzoni that there are monies
 6 available--we even knew that from the Mr.
 7 Young situation--monies available for that
 8 repair. So I do think there's money in our
 9 current budget to handle some of these
 10 problems as well. I think we just have to
 11 focus and I think make the best use of that
 12 money. But we are going to have to complete
 13 that storm water study to put the whole plan
 14 in place. So, but like as Mr. Cross said,
 15 the \$500,000 is probably too much. But we
 16 don't want to come up short on that.

17 MR. PERRY: Yeah, on the question.
 18 And let's not forget, this \$700,000 that we
 19 get to use for paving, the reservation that
 20 I had was getting the feedback from the city
 21 on the storm. And were we going to have to
 22 dip into some other account and transfer
 23 money around or funds to pay for the storm
 24 clean up? And after the comprehensive
 25 report we got, we got the okay last week

1 that it was going to be okay. This week, we
 2 got it all in writing. So I'm confident
 3 that we're not going to have any money that
 4 we're going to have to give out later to pay
 5 for the storm. And not only that, but let
 6 us not forget that our federal grant money
 7 that we get, that goes to paving for low and
 8 moderate income neighborhoods. This money,
 9 we're going to get to pick and choose some
 10 of the worst roads that haven't gotten paid
 11 paved in quite a long time that was brought
 12 up today. Such as, South Irving Street in
 13 South Side which is an absolute mess. So
 14 this money will go to some of those roads
 15 where normally we weren't going to be able
 16 to pave them.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please?

18 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Perry?

19 MR. PERRY: Yes.

20 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Rogan?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Evans?

23 MR. EVANS: Yes.

24 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Gaughan?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

1 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Wechsler?

2 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
 3 declare Item 7A legally and lawfully
 4 adopted.

5 MS. REED: 7B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
 6 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES – FOR ADOPTION –
 7 RESOLUTION NO. 131, 2017 - AUTHORIZING THE
 8 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
 9 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
 10 KNOWLES ASSOCIATES LLC, FOR INSURANCE
 11 BROKERAGE SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3)
 12 YEARS WITH THE OPTION OF A TWO-YEAR CONTRACT
 13 EXTENSION FROM APRIL 1, 2017 TO MARCH 31,
 14 2020, AND A CONTRACT WITH CNA INSURANCE
 15 COMPANY, HARLEYSVILLE INSURANCE
 16 COMPANY, QBE SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY,
 17 MARKEL AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY AND SAFETY
 18 NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY FOR CITY
 19 INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR A ONE (1) YEAR
 20 PERIOD FROM APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH MARCH 31,
 21 2018.

22 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
 23 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
 24 passage of Item 7B.

25 MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

2 Roll call, please?

3 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Perry?

4 MR. PERRY: Yes.

5 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Rogan?

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Evans?

8 MR. EVANS: Yes.

9 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Gaughan?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Wechsler?

12 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby

13 declare Item 7B legally and lawfully

14 adopted.

15 MS. REED: 7C. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
 16 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY – FOR
 17 ADOPTION – RESOLUTION NO. 132, 2017 -
 18 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
 19 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
 20 LEASE AGREEMENT WITH HORSEPOWER HARLEY
 21 DAVIDSON, INC. FOR THE LEASE OF FOUR (4) NEW
 22 2017 POLICE PACKAGE MOTORCYCLES FOR THE
 23 CITY OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR A
 24 PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS FROM JUNE 1, 2017
 25 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020.

1 MR. WECHSLER: What is the

2 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
 3 Committee on Public Safety?

4 MR. PERRY: As Chairperson for the
 5 Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
 6 final passage of Item 7C.

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

8 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

9 Roll call, please?

10 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Perry?

11 MR. PERRY: Yes.

12 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Rogan?

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Evans?

15 MR. EVANS: Yes.

16 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Gaughan?

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

18 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Wechsler?

19 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby

20 declare Item 7C legally and lawfully

21 adopted.

22 MS. REED: 7D. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
 23 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES – FOR ADOPTION –
 24 RESOLUTION NO. 133, 2017 – AUTHORIZING THE
 25 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS

1 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
2 WITH PMA MANAGEMENT CORP. FOR CITY OF
3 SCRANTON SELF-INSURED WORKERS' COMPENSATION
4 AND HEART AND LUNG CLAIMS THIRD PARTY
5 ADMINISTRATION FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3)
6 YEARS FROM APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH MARCH 31,
7 2020.

8 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
9 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
10 passage of Item 7D.

11 MR. ROGAN: Second.

12 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

14 I'm going to be voting against this
15 legislation. I'm concerned, first of all, I
16 think we should be trying to save every
17 penny possible. Secondly, we're going to be
18 paying roughly \$35,000 more for their
19 service and \$5.75 more per medical bill.
20 So, I just think that we should look to try
21 to save as much money as we can. And I
22 don't agree with this decision. Thank you.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please?

24 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Perry?

25 MR. PERRY: Yes.

1 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
2 COUNTY OF LACKAWANNA
3

4 I, Elizabeth V Kedrick, Notary Public, in and for
5 the County of Wayne, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do
6 hereby certify:

7 That said testimony was taken down by me and
8 thereafter transcribed into typewriting, and I hereby
9 certify the foregoing testimony is a full, true and
correct transcription of my shorthand notes so taken.

10 I further certify that I am neither counsel for
11 nor related to any party to said action, nor in anyway
interested in the outcome thereof.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my
13 name and affixed my seal this ____ day of
14 _____, 2017.

15 -----
16 Elizabeth V Kedrick,
17 Notary Public,
18 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
19 Honesdale Borough, Wayne County
20 My commission expires 11/14/19

21 (The foregoing certificate of this transcript does not
22 apply to any reproduction of the same by any means
23 unless under the direct control and/or supervision of
24 the certifying reporter.)
25

1 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Rogan?

2 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

3 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Evans?

4 MR. EVANS: Yes.

5 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Gaughan?

6 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

7 MS. CARERRA: Mr. Wechsler?

8 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby

9 declare Item 7D legally and lawfully
10 adopted. If there's no further business,
11 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn?

12 MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Meeting adjourned.

14 (WHEREUPON, the proceedings
15 concluded.)
16
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25