

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Monday, April 9, 2018

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:

PATRICK ROGAN, PRESIDENT

TIM PERRY, VICE PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

KYLE DONAHUE

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

JEANNE DAVIDSON

AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE - SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

8 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MR. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Here. Please dispense  
14 with the reading of the minutes.

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. SINGLE  
16 TAX OFFICE CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON  
17 REPORT 2017-2018 YEAR TO DATE MARCH 31,  
18 2018.

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

21 MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S  
22 RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD MARCH  
23 28, 2018.

24 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?  
25 If not, received and filed.

1 Do any council members have  
2 announcements at this time? I have a  
3 couple. We have invited members of Reilly  
4 Engineering to attend a caucus to discuss  
5 vehicle and pedestrian traffic regarding the  
6 proposed streets project at Mt. Pleasant  
7 Drive. The caucus will be held next Monday,  
8 April 16, at 5:15 p.m. The resolution to  
9 approve these items will be table until at  
10 least after the caucus is held.

11 Just a reminder that City Hall will  
12 close tomorrow April 10, at 2 p.m. Active  
13 shooter training will be conducted for all  
14 employees. City Hall will reopen Wednesday  
15 morning at 8 a.m.

16 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
17 PARTICIPATION.

18 (The following speakers offered  
19 public comment: Les Spindler spoke on city  
20 business and matters of general concern.  
21 Ron Ellman spoke on matters of general  
22 concern. Al Young spoke on city business.  
23 Lenny Srebro spoke on city business. Robert  
24 Shaw spoke on city business and matters of  
25 general concern. Joan Hodowanitz spoke on

1 matters of general concern. Nadine Simms  
2 spoke on city business. Dave Dobrzyn spoke  
3 on matters of general concern. Marie  
4 Schumacher spoke on agenda items and matters  
5 and city business.)

6 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Perry, any motions  
7 or comments?

8 MR. PERRY: Yes, just very quickly.  
9 We did mention that Mr. Pocius was in our  
10 caucus today. I want to thank him for  
11 taking the time and debriefing us on a lot  
12 of joint efforts between Scranton and  
13 PennDOT issues regarding several of the  
14 bridges in the area that were a project that  
15 we start soon.

16 It also reminded about another  
17 popular program that we have that actually I  
18 haven't really mentioned it in awhile and  
19 that's the Scranton Fire Department's fire  
20 prevention program. They run a very, very  
21 good program where anybody can give a phone  
22 call, and I will give you the number, and  
23 you can get your name on the list, the fire  
24 department will come out and install fire  
25 alarms in your homes on different floors and

1           also add a Co2 detector. They will put  
2           those out as they have inventory and when  
3           inventory runs out they will go and order  
4           some new ones and then pick up a list where  
5           they left off so even if they don't get to  
6           you right away your name is on the list and  
7           it's a very good program to have. It's very  
8           safe and effective, it's good for your  
9           family, and it's also good for the fire  
10          department to come in and they, you know,  
11          they can really -- it really speeds up the  
12          efforts and keeps people as safe as  
13          possible. The phone number, if you are  
14          interested in that, is 570-348-4132 and give  
15          them a call and get your name on the list to  
16          take part in this great program. You know,  
17          it could be lifesaving, as anybody knows who  
18          has had a fire and has lost some things and  
19          hopefully never will.

20                   That's all I have as far as motions  
21                   and comments and I'll save the rest of my  
22                   comments for agenda items.

23                   MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Perry.  
24                   Mr. Donahue, do you have any motions or  
25                   comments?

1 MR. DONAHUE: Yes, first off, I'd  
2 like to make a motion to table Item 7-B in  
3 order to obtain some more information from  
4 the administration.

5 MR. ROGAN: A motion has been made,  
6 is there a second?

7 MR. PERRY: I'll second that.

8 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.  
10 You know, I have several issues with this,  
11 I'm going to vote against tabling. I had  
12 questions last Monday and we just got an  
13 answer to my question, we were just handed  
14 the letter at the end of our caucus so it's  
15 very difficult to have time to even review  
16 it which, number one, I find unacceptable.  
17 I asked for the funding sources, what was  
18 grant funded, what was budgeted, I assume  
19 that I was being specific there, but we got  
20 a very non-specific answer from the city  
21 solicitor. It's my belief that RFQ should  
22 be evaluated with a scoring percentage for  
23 each requested requirement and that I think  
24 that's the most fair process for making an  
25 award. I don't see that in this RFQ. In

1 the fee schedule for Peters Design, as it is  
2 stated and negotiate a price for  
3 construction monitoring, so in my opinion  
4 that would be a separate price and a  
5 separate percentage of the engineering and  
6 construction contract and final cost of the  
7 project.

8 So my fear is that the sky could be  
9 the limit here. I mean, you know, Peters  
10 Design could really name their price at the  
11 end and we would be at their mercy. My  
12 concern is if we vote to give this contract  
13 to Peters Design at this point another  
14 bidder could make the argument that the  
15 process was unfair because the RFQ did not  
16 request a negotiated fee for construction  
17 monitoring so it's possible that the other  
18 bidders included that fee in their base bid.

19 I also have concerns in the RFQ, you  
20 will notice bidders were not allowed to see  
21 a proposed budget or at least an estimate.  
22 They also were not allowed to tour the  
23 entire facility, including the inside of the  
24 building, and this is highly unusual in my  
25 opinion, and I also believe that there is an



1 issue with the disclosure portion of the  
2 contract I'm not sure that that was filled  
3 out right as well, so usually I would vote  
4 to table this, but we have had a week, we  
5 asked the questions, we asked that the city  
6 solicitor come to the caucus, if this was  
7 that important to the administration they  
8 would have sent an official it come and an  
9 answer our questions. Again, this was  
10 discuss last week so I don't really  
11 understand what the hold is up so I'll be  
12 voting "no" on tabling and when this does  
13 come for a final vote I will be voting "no".

14 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

15 MR. DONAHUE: I have the same  
16 concerns as Mr. Gaughan, and we have talked  
17 about them over the last week, and I'd  
18 really just like to table this just to get  
19 the administration the ability to answer our  
20 questions, but from my perspective as it's  
21 written right now I would not be voting  
22 against it unless I'm satisfied with the  
23 administration's response.

24 MR. PERRY: Yes, on the question. I  
25 think we talked about this when it was in

1 fifth order as well. There is a lot of  
2 issues here that do not need to be answered.  
3 As Councilman Gaughan said, we did get a  
4 letter just as our meeting was going to  
5 start, and I agree, I think that we need  
6 some answers to some of these serious  
7 questions. I'm not -- and I'm not at the  
8 point where I'm ready to vote "no" on this  
9 legislation because I think it's important  
10 and a "no" vote, if we do approve this  
11 legislation then the process starts all over  
12 again so I'm willing to find that middle  
13 ground, and let's table this and let's get  
14 information we need and let's make the most  
15 educated decision we could based on all of  
16 the information once we receive it.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Just to add one thing,  
18 I did bring these concerns up last week, we  
19 did ask a member of the administration to  
20 come, whether it was a city solicitor or the  
21 acting business administrator or whoever,  
22 and nobody showed up. So, you know, again,  
23 if it's that important to the administration  
24 then send someone to answer our questions,  
25 and then we get hand delivered this letter,

1           you know, five minutes before we come out on  
2           the floor for a final vote on this thing so  
3           I just find the process, again, unacceptable  
4           and I don't think the administration is  
5           showing this legislative body the respect it  
6           deserves when it wants us to vote on  
7           legislation.

8                       MR. ROGAN: I agree with Councilman  
9           Donahue's motion to table it. I think, you  
10          know, we gave really a six-day notice to try  
11          and get somebody here. We did receive a  
12          reply from questions that were sent from the  
13          administration. There are some more  
14          questions and I think the right move is to  
15          table it, try to get that information and  
16          then give it an up or down vote. I know  
17          that Councilman Gaughan has been against  
18          this project from the beginning so I  
19          understand his objections. On the other  
20          hand, I have been for this project from the  
21          beginning, we have to make sure we get this  
22          right and get the proper information and  
23          then give it an up or down vote.

24                      MR. EVANS: I agree. On the  
25          question, I believe it's a prudent and a

1 sound move to table it and to stop the  
2 clock, give us another week to get the  
3 information we want and then bring it back  
4 for a vote, so I'll be voting "yes" to table  
5 it.

6 MR. ROGAN: It may be two weeks  
7 because we do you have a caucus that will  
8 probably be lengthy next week regarding the  
9 traffic study for Sheetz at 5:14 so it may  
10 be until the following week until we get  
11 that scheduled. Anyone else on the  
12 question? All in favor of the motion to  
13 table signify by saying aye.

14 MR. PERRY: Aye.

15 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

16 MR. EVANS: Aye.

17 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

19 MR. ROGAN: The ayes have it and the  
20 item is tabled.

21 On another note, I am hopeful that  
22 the school board will pass the resolution  
23 this evening approving the shared services  
24 committee with the city that council  
25 approved a few weeks ago.

1 I have also gotten a couple of the  
2 questions about when the city will be  
3 sending out the garbage bills so, Mrs. Reed,  
4 would you be able to send a letter to the  
5 Treasurer's Office inquiring about when the  
6 garbage bills will be going out?

7 And I would also like to briefly  
8 respond to the majority commissioners  
9 ridiculous letter to the editor that  
10 appeared in the Times-Tribune last week.  
11 First off, the majority commissioners, and I  
12 quote, "Commit to 214,000 residents of  
13 Lackawanna County." If the true commitment  
14 was to all residents of Lackawanna County  
15 they would actually put the time -- the time  
16 in to research all of the facts surrounding  
17 the reassessment. If they actually do that,  
18 they would find out that their concerns  
19 about causing, and I quote "undue financial  
20 burden on residents or to see anybody lose  
21 their homes", then they would actually find  
22 out that any undue financial burden of  
23 property owners can actually be avoided by  
24 developing sound policies to go along with  
25 reassessment, but actually putting the work

1 in is a lot harder than getting their  
2 picture taken.

3 Secondly, this has nothing to do  
4 with city finances, as they allege. This is  
5 about having a fair and equitable tax  
6 structure that would actually spur economic  
7 development instead of the current structure  
8 which is detrimental to economic  
9 development.

10 Also, I find it quite ironic that  
11 Commissioner O'Malley actually brought up  
12 the issue of transparency in the letter. If  
13 Mr. O'Malley was truly interested in  
14 transparency, maybe he should consider  
15 telling the public what he knew about sex  
16 abuse claims at the Lackawanna County prison  
17 both during his time as a guard and his time  
18 as a Lackawanna County Commissioner, or  
19 maybe he should consider just letting the  
20 public know about his time as a school  
21 director when Dan Sanski was hired as  
22 district fleet manager and started receiving  
23 benefits even though he wasn't a district  
24 employee, and also how Mr. Sanski  
25 miraculously hired by Colts after being let

1 go by the district. If he was truly  
2 concerned about transparency, I suggest he  
3 start there.

4 Lastly, council has already  
5 authorized the mayor to file suit on this  
6 issue, and since it's obvious the majority  
7 commissioners are only interested in  
8 political grandstanding and not finding  
9 common ground, the question I have for the  
10 mayor is what are you waiting for? Thank  
11 you.

12 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Evans,  
13 any motions or comments?

14 MR. EVANS: A couple of brief  
15 comments since the subject was brought up I  
16 guess I'll go there. Our door is always  
17 open for future meetings to discuss  
18 reassessment. However, I agree with  
19 Councilman President Rogan when he said if  
20 there is going to be another meeting it  
21 sudden be held here in council chambers  
22 where hopefully any more attempts to  
23 misdirect or delay the discussion can be  
24 avoided and we can have a real conversation  
25 about reassessment. We can do it in a work

1 session, all five councilmen can  
2 participate, as here were three  
3 commissioners at the previous meeting.

4 But before the meeting is even  
5 scheduled, I would expect the question that  
6 they posed at the last meeting be answered,  
7 under what circumstances, if any, would you  
8 be willing to do a reassessment? And we  
9 haven't gotten an answer yet. So if they  
10 can provide that answer prior to the  
11 meeting, we can finally have a framework for  
12 which we can build on. If not, I'll be  
13 honest, I'm not really sure what good  
14 another meeting will actually do or what  
15 kind of benefits there would be from another  
16 meeting.

17 Also, on this Sheetz issue, as was  
18 mentioned before, we have a caucus scheduled  
19 for next week with Reilly Associates to  
20 discuss the traffic light situation or  
21 legislation from the Sheetz proposal. Our  
22 focus and responsibilities are fairly narrow  
23 and pertaining to the legislation before us.  
24 Tabling the legislation to get some more  
25 information on the traffic signalization and



1 traffic study as well making sure pedestrian  
2 safety is ensured is a fairly routine matter  
3 and should be viewed as nothing more than  
4 that. It is not a review of the total  
5 project, or the impact Sheetz may or may not  
6 have on other businesses in the area.

7 And, finally, last week we discussed  
8 briefly See, Click, Fix. This is simply an  
9 idea that we are exploring. Whenever we  
10 have an opportunity to increase productivity  
11 and efficiency in city hall as well engaging  
12 more citizens, we should discuss and review  
13 that opportunity. After the demonstration  
14 of the product, city council will weigh the  
15 benefits versus the costs and determine if  
16 it's something really we will ask the  
17 administration to move forward on. So a  
18 Power Point presentation is planned for May  
19 7 in the Governor's Room at 5:15 as part of  
20 our public caucus to explore this issue a  
21 little bit more, and that's all I have.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Gaughan,  
23 any motions or comments?

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. First,  
25 Mrs. Reed, if we could get from the

1 administration possibly an update on the  
2 situation at Mr. Young's property with the  
3 hole he has been dealing with for the past  
4 three years I'd like an update on that.

5 Also, as I mentioned, Mr. Srebro,  
6 we'll try to get a map of the neighborhood  
7 for him from our city planner if that's the  
8 correct course to go through Mr. King so try  
9 to get that for him.

10 I mentioned this last year, there is  
11 a damaged fence at the intersection of Third  
12 Avenue and Luzerne Street. The six-foot  
13 chain link fence runs along Third Avenue  
14 above the bank of the Lackawanna County  
15 Heritage Valley Trail. There is a large  
16 section that is really badly damaged and  
17 there is nothing at this point to stop a  
18 child or a dog from going over the bank and  
19 getting seriously injured so I did ask this  
20 a letter be sent, after Mrs. Reed did some  
21 research on it, on July 20 of last year to  
22 the SRA, the Scranton Redevelopment  
23 Authority. They own that small portion of  
24 the land. They did contact the LHVA about  
25 purchasing that land so, Mrs. Reed, I ask

1 just for an update on that. I keep getting  
2 concerns, and rightfully so, from the  
3 neighbors there, but they are not concerned  
4 about who owns it. They are concerned about  
5 getting it fixed so someone doesn't get  
6 hurt, especially now with the new fields  
7 there that the University of Scranton put  
8 in. There is increased foot traffic and  
9 with the trail there is people from the  
10 neighborhood that go up that way so I would  
11 wait to see something tragic happen, so if  
12 we can ask for an update on that.

13 Secondly, it was announced this  
14 morning that Henry Amoroso signed on for  
15 another year as Mayor Courtright's financial  
16 individual or the contract is through the  
17 Scranton Chamber of Commerce and the salary  
18 for Mr. Amoroso is apparently being funded  
19 by Geisinger, Allied and Lackawanna College.  
20 So, Mrs. Reed, I would like to request a  
21 copy of that contract from the Chamber  
22 because I'd like to know what exactly  
23 Mr. Amoroso will be doing, what is  
24 deliverables are over the next year. He is  
25 getting paid \$60,000.

1 I'd also like to ask the mayor for  
2 an update on when he will hire a new  
3 business administrator or if he is planning  
4 on hiring a new business administrator.

5 Neighbors in the Greenridge area  
6 asked for an update on the Lace Works  
7 project so we are still waiting on that. I  
8 have spoken to several neighbors this week  
9 and they are curious and anxious to know  
10 what stage the project is and where the  
11 developers are with that.

12 Several residents reach out to me in  
13 the last week regarding the city street  
14 sweeping and it was brought up here tonight.  
15 I do believe that the schedule should be out  
16 soon because last year they started the  
17 first week of May. Again, I'll mention  
18 this, residents would like to be notified  
19 when the sweeper is coming through their  
20 neighborhood so that they can move their  
21 cars so I urge the mayor again to have DPW  
22 notify the residents whether they put a  
23 flyer on the street poles or something to  
24 that effect so that people are aware. You  
25 know, not everybody watches the council

1 meetings and I know we announce them every  
2 week when the schedule does come out, but it  
3 would be helpful if people knew when exactly  
4 they were coming through their neighborhood.

5 After receiving some conflicting  
6 information regarding the appointment of  
7 Mr. Casciano, the former business  
8 administrator to the position of Equal  
9 Opportunities Specialist and Administrative  
10 Assistant in OECD, the Office of Economic  
11 and Community Development, I did have  
12 additional questions which I posed to the  
13 administration over the past few weeks.  
14 Number one, what day-to-day housing and  
15 urban development activities are assigned to  
16 Mr. Casciano, please be specific. In an  
17 e-mail I received March 20 in response to my  
18 question regarding the job description for  
19 this position, the city administration  
20 stated that a portion of Mr. Casiano's work  
21 would be focused on Crowley Park, and my  
22 question was has Crowley Park has that  
23 project been funded at all by HUD.

24 Also in the e-mail from March 20 it  
25 was stated that Mr. Casciano would be the

1           OECD liaison with Scranton Tomorrow and I  
2           asked how HUD funds have been provided for  
3           this coordination and liaison initiative.  
4           And I ask these questions, as I mentioned a  
5           few weeks ago, because I am concerned, as I  
6           stated recently, that the city may be danger  
7           of losing federal funding if Mr. Casciano is  
8           doing work that is not related to projects  
9           that receive federal funds from HUD and  
10          outside of the scope of the job descriptions  
11          of Equal Opportunities Specialist and  
12          Administrative Assistant, and I was  
13          confused, there was some conflicting  
14          information we were told at first that he  
15          would be the Economic Development  
16          Specialist, and when I did question that  
17          because that was position is not a line item  
18          in the budget, that was pointed out to me  
19          that he was actually hired as the Equal  
20          Opportunity Specialist and Administrative  
21          Assistant at a salary of \$43,000 whatever  
22          combining that position.

23                        So, again, I just want to make sure  
24                        that, you know, we don't turn around in a  
25                        year when we get audited by HUD to pay any

1 money back so that was my concern there.

2 And, lastly, as was pointed out in  
3 the newspaper, the Scranton Composite  
4 Pension Board voted Wednesday to evenly  
5 split 90 percent of the \$22.9 million in  
6 sewer sale proceeds between the fire and the  
7 police funds with the remaining 10 percent  
8 going to the non-uniform fund. The three  
9 funds are each categorized as severely  
10 distressed, which is defined as a funding  
11 ratio of less than 50 percent.

12 The addition of \$10.3 million in  
13 sewer proceeds to the police plan will  
14 increase it's funding ratio to 59.9 percent  
15 and improve it's rating to moderately  
16 distressed. The non-uniform fund, which  
17 will receive \$2.3 also will improve to  
18 moderately distressed with a funding ratio  
19 of 56.6 percent. The fire fund will receive  
20 the same \$10.3 million as the police fund,  
21 however, because it's financial condition is  
22 much worse, the funding ratio will only  
23 increase to 38.2 percent which still leaves  
24 it severely financially distressed.

25 There was an analysis that was

1 conducted by Randy Sekol, who is the plan's  
2 actuary, and he found the fire fund would be  
3 roughly \$19 1/2 million or 85 percent of the  
4 sewer proceeds to bring it's funding ratio  
5 to 49.2 percent which would leave at that  
6 point just \$1.9 or 8 1/2 percent for the  
7 police fund and result in a funding ratio of  
8 49.1 percent, non-uniform fund would be get  
9 1 1/2 million, or 6.5 percent, and have a  
10 funding ratio of 49.2 percent. So if they  
11 went with that plan, all of the funds would  
12 be roughly around 50 percent.

13 The board voted five to two, five in  
14 favor two against with one abstention to  
15 approve the allocation. I have posed this  
16 question to the administration because I  
17 still do not understand why the mayor's  
18 proxy or why the mayor voted to abstain from  
19 voting. What kind of leader abstains and  
20 then does not give a position on this for  
21 such an important vote? I mean, you are  
22 voting on spending \$22.9 million in sewer  
23 sale proceeds and the city abstains and it  
24 doesn't give a reason for abstaining. I was  
25 under the impression that if you abstain



1 from a vote it either has to be a conflict  
2 of interest or you have explain why you are  
3 abstaining just as if you voted "yes" you  
4 would explain why you voted "yes" or if you  
5 voted "no" you would explain why. So,  
6 again, I would like to ask the mayor on what  
7 grounds did they abstain from voting on this  
8 important matter on the Composite Pension  
9 Board?

10 I also question the sense of the way  
11 that this vote went down, and I'll use this  
12 analogy, and maybe I'm wrong but this is  
13 what I have been thinking over the last week  
14 since this went down, if you have two  
15 patients who come into a hospital, one is  
16 having a heart attack and the other one  
17 broke his thumb do you give the same medical  
18 care to both? No. You pay more attention  
19 to the heart attack victim because it's  
20 urgent and he needs to be taken care.

21 And I'm not sure that this vote that  
22 went down about equally spending the  
23 proceeds should have been about fairness,  
24 but maybe about the health of the overall  
25 pension funds. I question whether it would

1 have made or sense to have similar funding  
2 levels to all three pension plans and should  
3 we be more concerned about fairness or about  
4 the long-term viability of the funds. And,  
5 also, it seemed as if, according to the  
6 e-mail chains that I received, that the vote  
7 may have been rushed. The city had to pay  
8 for a study that looked at some of these  
9 other options and it seemed to me that, you  
10 know, some members wanted to vote on this  
11 immediately.

12 Now, what the background was, I do  
13 want to mention that I don't think we should  
14 have spent any of this money at this point  
15 until we are clear of what say may have  
16 forgotten about, a pending lawsuit over the  
17 sale, the legality of the sale of the  
18 Scranton Sewer Authority, and I think we  
19 also have to remember that this is ratepayer  
20 money. And that's all I have this week.  
21 Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan,  
23 one item. We did receive a letter, and I  
24 wasn't sure whether I was going to read this  
25 or not, as Councilman Evans mentioned, our

1 scope regarding the Sheetz project is very  
2 limited, it's strictly to the traffic  
3 issues. This letter does go into some other  
4 items but I do want to read it because it  
5 was from our state representative. So this  
6 letter came to council, I think it was last  
7 week, from State Representative Marty Flynn,  
8 and I do want to read the letter.

9 It says, "While I have always been  
10 an extreme proponent of any new business  
11 moving or expanding into our region,  
12 particularly when it's in our legislative  
13 district, I write you today very concerned  
14 about the recent announcement of the  
15 proposed opening of a large Sheetz gas, beer  
16 and restaurant facility.

17 The proposed 46-seat restaurant,  
18 alcohol and tobacco distributor and attended  
19 gas station will have a very serious  
20 negative effect on dozens of local  
21 businesses, including restaurants, delis,  
22 convenient stores, small supermarkets and  
23 locally owned gas station as such as  
24 Pee-Wee's and Moletsky's that have been  
25 paying taxes, employing people and

1 supporting other local businesses. I won't  
2 even go into the concerns about beer and  
3 likely wine store that will be promoted next  
4 to a high school.

5 Additionally, there is horrible  
6 traffic congestion and safety problem every  
7 day of the week along Seventh Avenue and  
8 Providence Road. Again, while I'm fighting  
9 every day to bring businesses to help our --  
10 or help our existing businesses to grow, the  
11 thought of bringing a mega gas  
12 station/restaurant/beer complex to our  
13 intercity in an already poorly congested  
14 area is almost beyond comprehension for me.

15 I strongly urge you to reconsider t  
16 his pr t interest of our community our  
17 businesses and the safety and well-being of  
18 our residents and visitors. Respectfully,  
19 Marty Flynn, 11th legislative district."

20 So I did want to read that into the  
21 record. And that is all.

22 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
23 AN ORDINANCE - ADOPTING THE 2012 EDITION OF  
24 THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE,  
25 REGULATING AND GOVERNING THE CONDITIONS AND

1 MAINTENANCE OF ALL PROPERTY, BUILDINGS AND  
2 STRUCTURES, BY PROVIDING THE STANDARDS FOR  
3 SUPPLIED UTILITIES AND FACILITIES AND OTHER  
4 PHYSICAL THINGS AND CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO  
5 ENSURE THAT STRUCTURES ARE SAFE, SANITARY  
6 AND FIT FOR OCCUPATION AND USE; THE  
7 CONDEMNATION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES  
8 UNFIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY AND USE, AND THE  
9 DEMOLITION OF SUCH EXISTING STRUCTURES IN  
10 THE CITY OF SCRANTON; PROVIDING FOR THE  
11 ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND COLLECTION OF FEES  
12 THEREFOR; REPEALING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE  
13 NO. 37, 2014 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND ALL  
14 OTHER ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN  
15 CONFLICT THEREWITH.

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

19 MR. PERRY: So moved.

20 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

24 MR. PERRY: Aye.

25 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

1 MR. EVANS: Aye.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

5 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
6 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT  
7 GATTENS, JR., 528 ORCHARD STREET, SCRANTON,  
8 PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 AS A MEMBER OF THE  
9 SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION AUTHORITY.  
10 MR. GATTENS WILL BE REPLACING JUDE MCANDREW  
11 WHOSE TERM EXPIRED DECEMBER 31, 2017. MR.  
12 GATTENS WILL BE APPOINTED TO A FIVE (5)  
13 YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND  
14 WILL EXPIRE FEBRUARY 15, 2023.

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

18 MR. PERRY: 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. PERRY: Aye.

24 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

25 MR. EVANS: Aye.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

4 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
5 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF  
6 PUBLIC WORKS TO ACT AS AGENT FOR THE CITY OF  
7 SCRANTON FOR EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RELIEF  
8 PURSUANT TO THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER  
9 RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT, AND  
10 AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE THE  
11 DESIGNATION OF AGENT AND THE PEMA PUBLIC  
12 DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPLICATION AND  
13 AGREEMENT FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

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

17 MR. PERRY: So moved.

18 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

22 MR. PERRY: Aye.

23 MR. DONAHUE: 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: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.  
4 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
5 11, 2018 - AN ORDINANCE - ESTABLISHING A "NO  
6 PARKING ZONE" ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF WYOMING  
7 AVENUE (SR 3025) FROM A POINT 175 FEET SOUTH  
8 OF THE INTERSECTION WITH EAST GIBSON STREET  
9 TO A POINT 325 FEET SOUTH OF THE  
10 INTERSECTION WITH EAST GIBSON STREET TO  
11 ALLOW FOR DRIVEWAY SIGHT DISTANCE PURPOSES  
12 AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY  
13 PERMIT FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA NORTHEAST  
14 REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY (PNRRA).

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

17 MR. PERRY: I move that Item 6-A  
18 pass reading by title.

19 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

22 MR. PERRY: Aye.

23 MR. DONAHUE: 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: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
4 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE-  
5 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 10,  
6 2018 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL  
7 CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229628 ENTITLED "ARLE  
8 NORTH MAIN & PARKER" FOR THE RECEIPT OF  
9 GRANT FUNDS FROM THE AUTOMATED RED LIGHT  
10 TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT (ARLE)  
11 PROGRAM IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A  
12 TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF NORTH  
13 MAIN AVENUE AND PARKER STREET.

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

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

20 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

23 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

24 MR. PERRY: Yes.

25 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Donahue.

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MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

MR. EVANS: Yes.

MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

Item 7-B has been tabled, so if  
there is no further business, I'll entertain  
a motion to adjourn.

MR. PERRY: Motion to adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Meeting adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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