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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Monday, April 16, 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 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

16 BREAKDOWN OF ELIGIBLE SALARIES FOR THE

17 LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT FOR THE MONTHS OF

18 JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH 2018.

19 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?

20 If not, received and filed.

21 MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S

22 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE TO BE HELD APRIL 25,

23 2018.

24 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?

25 If not, received and filed.

1 MS. REED: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE
2 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
3 SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD MARCH 5,
4 2018.

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

7 MS. REED: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
8 REGULAR MEETING OF THE LACKAWANNA COUNTY
9 LAND BANK HELD MARCH 9, 2018.

10 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
11 If not, received and filed. Do any council
12 members have announcements at this time? I
13 have one. The Central Scranton Expressway
14 will close this Wednesday, April 18 at 8
15 p.m. and remain closed until April 23 for
16 removal of the old Harrison Avenue bridge.
17 Detours during the closure will be on Moosic
18 Street for cars and Davis Street for trucks.
19 Please keep that in mind.

20 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
21 PARTICIPATION.

22 MR. ROGAN: Our first speaker is
23 Joan Hodowanitz, and before citizens'
24 participation begins, I see there is a lot
25 of new faces here tonight so I'd just like

1 everyone as you speak state your name for
2 the record and you have five minutes to
3 discuss whatever topic you wish.

4 (The following speakers offered
5 public comment: Joan Hodowanitz spoke on
6 agenda items and city business. Bill
7 Pilkonas spoke on matters of general
8 concern. John Marlow spoke on matters of
9 general concern. Marge Kravitz spoke around
10 city business. Mark Seitzinger spoke on
11 agenda items and city business. Ed Chomko
12 spoke on agenda items. Sylvia Parker spoke
13 on matters of general concern. Lee Morgan
14 spoke on matters of general concern. Ron
15 Ellman spoke on matter of general concern.
16 Al Young spoke on agenda items. Maria
17 Schumacher spoke on agenda items and city
18 business. Ryan Knack spoke on matters of
19 general concern. Dave Dobrzyn spoke on
20 matters of general concern.)

21 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
22 MOTIONS.

23 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Perry, any motions
24 of comments?

25 MR. PERRY: Just two things real

1 quickly to hit on, the first thing was
2 brought up about Crowley Park and the
3 timeline. Mrs. Reed, if we can send a
4 correspondence over to Mayor Courtright and
5 also if you would copy Mr. Fallon at Parks
6 and Rec we can get a response on that
7 because I know we did talk about that last
8 year, so I think we should be getting moving
9 and if not what's the timeline.

10 And the only other thing I wanted to
11 bring up today was Item 5-B. I'm going to
12 go ahead and introduce that today, but there
13 is just a lot to look at. Any time new fees
14 come down the pike it's -- we need to look
15 at it very closely. The last thing we want
16 to do in the city is put more fees on our
17 citizens, on our ratepayers, on our
18 taxpayers, so the question that immediately
19 comes to mind without actually getting to
20 the Licensing Department is how well are the
21 fees that we are already put in place are
22 working. Are we doing things to really
23 increase quality of life or are we doing
24 things to be punitive. I don't think that
25 any fee that the city has should be punitive

1 in any way. These fees should be put there
2 in place just to make our quality of life a
3 little better. Are there warnings going out
4 before fees are imposed? So there is just a
5 lot of things on there. How did these fees
6 come about? How are the figures? Are they
7 based on something from another municipality
8 or do they just come up at a meeting, you
9 know, I'm not sure so there is a lot of
10 questions there. I'm going to introduce
11 this ordinance but, you know, there is a lot
12 of work to be done I'm sure in the next week
13 on the justification of these and are they
14 going to be right for the city because I
15 can't sit up here and put another fee on us
16 without total justification. I just can't
17 do it.

18 You know, I believe you brought up
19 the \$30 for the dog license. You know, it's
20 just when don't we turn around and get fees
21 in the City of Scranton. So before we go
22 ahead and enact new fees or increase new
23 fees I think we need to do our due diligence
24 and make sure these are actually the right
25 thing for the entire city. So with that,

1 I'll hold everything else for items on the
2 agenda.

3 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Perry.
4 Mr. Donahue, any motions or comments?

5 MR. DONAHUE: Yes, I would just like
6 to -- I agree with Councilman Perry when it
7 comes to the fees. The point of the fees
8 shouldn't be to raise money for the city, it
9 should be, you know, to be compliant with
10 current codes. I think that should be the
11 focus.

12 And to follow-up on, you know, the
13 topic of garbage bills that I brought up
14 last week and was also brought up here
15 tonight, the discount period deadline
16 currently is May 1, which is two weeks
17 tomorrow, so I would like to make a motion
18 that council send correspondence to the
19 administration requesting that the deadline
20 to be eligible for the 10 percent discount
21 be extended until May 31.

22 MR. PERRY: I'll second that motion.

23 MR. ROGAN: Motion is made and a
24 second, on the question? All those in favor
25 signify by saying aye.

1 MR. PERRY: Aye.

2 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

3 MR. EVANS: Aye.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

7 MR. DONAHUE: Thank you. I'd also
8 like to just briefly comment on the topic
9 brought up last week by Councilman Gaughan
10 regarding the Composite Pension Board
11 actions on the allocations and proceeds from
12 the sale of the Scranton Sewer Authority. I
13 would like to strongly urge the Pension
14 Board to reconsider their recent decision to
15 allocate proceeds based on the approved
16 45-45-10 model. I'm making the request for
17 following reasons: First, the Sewer
18 Authority was a public asset owned by each
19 and every taxpayer of the city. Therefore,
20 I believe it is imperative that the proceeds
21 be reinvested in a way that beneficial to
22 all taxpayers, and since pension liability
23 is guaranteed by city taxpayers it is my
24 opinion that the best possible outcome for
25 all taxpayers would be to reinvest the

1 proceeds in a way this equalizes the funding
2 ratio for each pension fund.

3 Now, I'm not naive enough to believe
4 that we will be able to equalize the funding
5 ratios with just this one transaction, but I
6 think it's to point out that a funding ratio
7 utilization must be a long-term goal to
8 stabilize the funds, which also lead me to
9 my next reason which is the annual MMO, or
10 minimum municipal obligations. From the
11 city's perspective, if the goal of investing
12 sale proceeds into the pension funds is to
13 decrease the city's annual MMO, then the
14 pension board should at the very least use a
15 starting point of the funding ratio that the
16 funds actuary uses to calculate the MMOs
17 every year and that comes out to a 52.3
18 percent share for fire, 39.5 percent for
19 police, and 8.2 for non-uniform.

20 Now, this decision is ultimately in
21 the hands of the Composite Pension Board so
22 I urge each and every member to ask
23 themselves what is fair for all the
24 taxpayers not just what is fair for each
25 union. Thank you.

1 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Donahue.
2 Mr. Evans, any motions or comments?

3 MR. EVANS: A few comments. On the
4 Arcadis study I talked to Bernie McGurl and
5 he briefed me on where we are at so I'll be
6 getting some more information shortly.

7 On the zoning board hearing, I was
8 quite upset about the decision that was
9 made. I feel that the code was
10 misinterpreted that night and I let my
11 opinion be known to the city planner and
12 hopefully something will come out of that.

13 On the pension issue as discussed by
14 Councilman Donahue, the recent decision by
15 the Composite Pension Board to split the
16 approximately \$22 million of the sewer
17 proceeds in the following manner, 45 percent
18 to the firemen's fund, 45 police to the
19 police fund and 10 percent to the
20 non-uniform fund was in my opinion a
21 well-intentioned mistake. I believe the
22 firemen's fund is still woefully
23 underfunded, almost 20 percent below the
24 other funds. It is my understanding, and
25 certainly that of others, that any large

1 infusion into the pension fund could have
2 been treated as an opportunity to rebalance
3 the funds to bring them closer together to
4 make the aggregate more balanced and
5 financially stronger. The city pensions are
6 only as strong as their weakest link. This
7 decision does not go far enough to strength
8 that weak link.

9 Sometime in the future if we were to
10 experience a severe downturn in the economy
11 and/or the stock market, that weak link
12 could fail and the results for the pension
13 fund and the city would be catastrophic. My
14 hope is that there is still time for some
15 type of conversation and compromise that
16 will strength all of the pension plans. So
17 I'm respectfully asking the members of the
18 Composite Pension Board to take a second
19 look at this. I remain confident that
20 reasonable people can come up with
21 reasonable solutions even to the most
22 difficult issues. That's all I have for
23 now.

24 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Evans.
25 Mr. Gaughan, any motions or comments?

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, just a few, thank
2 you. I just want to read part of a letter
3 here, we brought this up in the last few
4 years when Councilman Wechsler was here
5 because this is an issue that effects East
6 Mountain. Lackawanna County is cooperating
7 with the Pennsylvania Department of
8 Conservation and Natural Resources and the
9 Bureau of Forestry in conducting a gypsy
10 moth suppression project in certain forested
11 sections of the City of Scranton this
12 spring. The insecticide will be applied by
13 aircraft flying approximately 50 feet among
14 the treetops sometime in May. So this
15 letter has the city of officials notified,
16 city residents to avoid the possibility of
17 eye irritation, obviously, don't look up as
18 the spray droplets are descending. Vehicles
19 which are exposed to the spray deposits
20 should be washed as soon as possible. If
21 the deposit is dried soaking a towel with a
22 car wash product and water will rehydrate it
23 and it can be removed by wiping with a towel
24 or a cloth.

25 If there are any issues you can

1 contact the local Bureau of Forestry Office,
2 Lackawanna Forest District at 570-945-7133
3 for further information.

4 Also, it's been brought up a few
5 times about the street cleaning schedule,
6 the street cleaning program, the schedule
7 for this year is posted on the city's
8 website. It's my upstanding according to
9 the DPW director that the way that they did
10 it this year was whoever was last on the
11 list last year is now first on the list this
12 year, so I thought that was a fair way to do
13 it. North Scranton will be first, April 30
14 to May 4 and May 7 to May 11. So I will be
15 announcing that every week and, again, it is
16 on the city's website.

17 I would make the recommendation
18 again to the administration I think there is
19 a better way that we can do this and a more
20 efficient way. I looked at what some of the
21 other cities do, particularly Allentown.
22 They actually have a street cleaning hotline
23 with daily updates. Their own webpage
24 dedicated to street sweeping and designated
25 days and time when there will be no parking

1 on the street so that it can be actually
2 cleaned. The one issue, and I brought this
3 up before, is that people would move their
4 cars if they knew exactly when the street
5 sweeper was coming through their
6 neighborhood, especially I know now in front
7 of my own house with all of the cinder and
8 everything, you know, it would be nice to
9 know exactly when the street sweeper is
10 coming and I think there are ways that we
11 can coordinate that, it would take a lot of
12 planning. So, again, I would recommend that
13 the administration take that into
14 consideration.

15 We did not receive an update on the
16 Lace Works project. I know neighbors in the
17 area are curious as to what stage the
18 developers are at so we'll update everyone
19 when we get to that point.

20 There is a -- I received a complaint
21 about a large pothole on the bottom of
22 Capouse Street and Drinker Court, so we will
23 send that to the DPW.

24 At last week's meeting I did bring
25 up the Composite Pension Board vote to

1 evenly split 90 percent of the \$22.9 million
2 in sewer sale proceeds between the fire and
3 police funds with the remaining 10 percent
4 going to the non-uniform fund and I share my
5 colleague's concerns with the way that that
6 went down. The board voted five to two with
7 one abstention to approve the allocation and
8 I have reach out to the mayor's office to
9 find out on what grounds did the mayor
10 abstain from voting. I find it, quite
11 frankly, unbelievable that a vote of that
12 importance with that magnitude to spend
13 \$22.9 million and put it into the pension
14 funds and you have the administration
15 abstaining from the vote and then not giving
16 a reason for the abstention. So I would
17 like to know where the administration is on
18 this issue, were they against it, were they
19 for it? Why did they abstain?

20 And as I mentioned last week, I
21 really have to question the sense of the way
22 that this vote went down, and I'll use the
23 analogy that I used last week, if you have
24 two patients who come into the hospital, one
25 is having a heart attack and the other one

1 broke his thumb, do you give the same care
2 to both patients? No. You take care of the
3 patient who is having a heart attack.

4 So you have the fire fund, which is
5 severely financially distressed, and you
6 have the police fund which is doing better,
7 and we are going to evenly put \$22.9 million
8 and the fire fund is still going to be
9 severely financially distressed. I don't
10 see the common in that. I think, as my
11 colleagues mentioned, it should be
12 revisited. Mr. Rogan had a vote on that
13 board and he did vote "yes" and I do
14 disagree with that. I think that the board
15 should take another look.

16 I would like to know if the
17 Composite Pension Board took into
18 consideration the new analysis that was paid
19 for by the city and not the Pension Board
20 and why was the analysis paid for by the
21 city and why didn't the Pension Board pay
22 for that. That's one question that I have.

23 I don't think, as it was mentioned
24 in the paper, this was about fairness.
25 Fairness keeps being brought up, that they

1 should have been allocated, everybody gets
2 the same amount. Fairness to who? The
3 police union? The fire union? This is
4 about taxpayer and ratepayer money. This is
5 proceeds from the Scranton Sewer authority
6 that ratepayers paid for. This isn't
7 anybody's money but theirs, so it's not
8 about fairness to either union, it's about
9 fairness to the taxpayers in my opinion and
10 if the fire fund remains severely distress
11 and continues to erode then everybody is
12 going to be negatively effected but you will
13 eventually have to raise taxes.

14 I would like to get an opinion from
15 the Pennsylvania Economy League on where
16 they stand on this issue. Did they think
17 that this vote was the right vote to be
18 taken? Were they consulted on whether this
19 was the right move for the pension funds?
20 Henry Amoroso, the mayor's financial
21 advisor, what does he think? And most
22 importantly, what does the mayor think?

23 This is going to have a large effect
24 on where we move forward financially over
25 the next few years. So, again, I think we

1 need to take another look. I would
2 recommend that we have a public caucus with
3 all of those involved in this and get their
4 take on it because I'm, quite frankly,
5 confused by the whole thing. And that's all
6 I have. Thank you.

7 MR. ROGAN: Thank you very much.
8 Two quick items, one, Crowley Park was
9 brought up tonight, and we also have a
10 request that we sent earlier in the week
11 regarding the status on the Novembrino Park
12 upgrades. Actually three items. Next week,
13 as was mentioned, council will bring from
14 the table two pieces of legislation that
15 have been discussed quite a bit, one being
16 the vote on the traffic control signals for
17 the Sheetz project, so that will have an up
18 or down vote at next week's meeting.

19 And, secondly, the engineering
20 services for the Serrenti Center will also
21 be put back from the table next week
22 regarding an up or down vote.

23 Regarding the pension board vote,
24 you know, this was -- the 45-45-10 split was
25 well publicized prior to the meeting and

1 there wasn't any objections from any of my
2 colleagues or anyone as far as the city's
3 financial advisors until after the vote was
4 taken, so it wasn't a secret that the
5 Pension Board's plan was to split the funds
6 45-45-10. I believe it was in the Scranton
7 Times two to three weeks prior to th
8 meetings, and at that point in time nobody
9 had voiced any objections regarding that
10 split.

11 I do agree, you know, that there may
12 be differences of opinion on how to best
13 spend those funds, but during the course of
14 the last couple of years in contract
15 negotiations between the police and fire
16 union that took place concessions were on
17 par between both unions. Each union gave a
18 similar amount of an increase in the pension
19 and each union give the similar amount of
20 their backpay back to the pension as a union
21 concession as well.

22 So if the thought was to put more
23 into one fund than another, at that point in
24 time that should have been addressed during
25 these union concessions as well. I'm

1 certainly open to hear from others on that
2 issue, but again, there was no comment on
3 this and it was a well publicized issue
4 prior to the vote on that 45-45-10 split,
5 but it was in the Scranton Times. That is
6 all. Thank you.

7 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
8 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
9 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
10 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT
11 WITH WEST SCRANTON LITTLE LEAGUE, INC. FOR
12 USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY FOR A THREE (3)
13 YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2018 AND
14 ENDING APRIL 14, 2021.

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? I'll
21 only mention because it was brought up, this
22 has been a longstanding practice with the
23 little leagues in the city that are
24 technically owned by the city. They are
25 leased out to nonprofit organizations such

1 as the West Scranton Little League who run
2 them. They do remain public parks. The
3 leagues certainly have the right to use
4 them, others can use them as well, but West
5 Scranton Little League is an excellent
6 organization and I know for a fact they do a
7 great job for the kids in West Side.

8 All those in favor of introduction
9 signify by saying aye.

10 MR. PERRY: Aye.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

12 MR. EVANS: Aye.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

16 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
17 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
18 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
19 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT
20 WITH THE SCRANTON SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR
21 USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY AS MORE FULLY
22 DESCRIBED IN THE LEASE AGREEMENT ATTACHED
23 HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A" FOR A THREE (3) YEAR
24 PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2018 AND ENDING
25 APRIL 14, 2021.

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

4 MR. PERRY: So moved.

5 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

9 MR. PERRY: Aye.

10 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

11 MR. EVANS: Aye.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

15 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
16 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
17 NO. 64, 2014, AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED)
18 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE QUALITY
19 OF LIFE AND VIOLATIONS TICKET PROCESS IN
20 THE CITY OF SCRANTON" BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE
21 A NEW DEFINITION IN SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS,
22 NEW VIOLATIONS IN SECTION 3. QUALITY OF
23 LIFE VIOLATIONS AND NEW FINES AND PENALTIES
24 IN SECTION 9. FINES AND PENALTIES.

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

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

3 MR. PERRY: So moved.

4 MR. EVANS: Second.

5 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

7 I think it would be beneficial if we
8 scheduled a caucus with Mr. Hinton because I
9 do think there is a lot of questions about
10 this legislation. One of the initial
11 questions that I have is how the
12 administration arrived at the fines that are
13 in the backup here, so I hope that we can
14 schedule that within the next three weeks.
15 Thank you.

16 MR. EVANS: On the question, I think
17 as most people know any time I see an
18 increase or enactment of any fees I get a
19 little worked up about it. I think that
20 what we really need to do is finally resolve
21 the fee and fine schedule that is throughout
22 all departments in the city, I know have
23 talked about this before. So I'll be asking
24 the administration to authorize an RFP to
25 contract with an independent third party to

1 finally review all fees with the goal of
2 reducing the fine and/or eliminating
3 unnecessary fees. Too much time has already
4 been spent on trying to make these changes
5 internally. It's a very frustrating
6 process, so I think it's time for a
7 professional to take a good hard look at
8 these through an independent prism. So
9 hopefully that amendment will be
10 forthcoming, and if it is we may be looking
11 at tabling this down the road or for the
12 time being move it ahead to get the
13 information from Mr. Hinton, as suggested by
14 Councilman Gaughan, and see where it goes.

15 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else? All those
16 in favor of introduction signify by saying
17 aye.

18 MR. PERRY: Aye.

19 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

20 MR. EVANS: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

24 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
25 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

1 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY
2 FOR AND EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE
3 CITY OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
4 AND, IF SUCCESSFUL, A GRANT AGREEMENT, AND
5 ACCEPT THE FUNDS RELATED THERETO FROM THE
6 PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND
7 DELINQUENCY/JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM
8 (PCCD JAG) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000.00.

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

12 MR. PERRY: So moved.

13 MR. EVANS: Second.

14 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
16 Sorry. You know, I just want to say since I
17 have been on council for the last four
18 years, I just continue to be impressed by
19 Chief Graziano and the Scranton Police
20 Department and some of the really creative
21 things that they are doing with technology
22 and now this, I support this legislation and
23 this program. The police department is
24 going to be utilizing technology to target
25 prevention efforts and improve officer's

1 performance. This is a state of the art use
2 of force virtual training program. All
3 Scranton Police Departments sworn officers
4 will undergo virtual simulation use of force
5 training that focuses on a de-escalation of
6 dangerous situations and the utilization of
7 force in a manner that complies with best
8 practices, and just reading the backup here
9 it says, "Better trained officers who are
10 prepared for dangerous encounters that may
11 require use of force specifically within
12 individual's suffering from mental and
13 behavioral health issues while
14 simultaneously building trust with the
15 community."

16 One of the interesting things as I
17 was reading through this legislation is, it
18 says, "Another issue facing law enforcement
19 is that they are first responders during
20 incidents involving individuals with mental
21 or behavior health problems. In 2017, 180
22 individuals suffering from behavioral and
23 mental health issues died in a law
24 enforcement confrontation. It is crucial to
25 equip law enforcement to properly recognize

1 and handle individuals with
2 mental-behavioral health issues. Using
3 virtual simulation training on a regular
4 basis is a proven method in helping officers
5 prepare for these encounters which all too
6 often require some element of force."

7 So I think that this program is
8 going to be such a great tool for the police
9 department because, you know, the world that
10 we live in, as everybody knows, is so
11 complex and police officers are engaged in
12 situations that can be at times confusing
13 and when to use force and when to not use
14 force and we've seen really across the
15 county the last few years some of these
16 situations escalate and I think that the
17 police department is taking a really
18 proactive approach by using this technology
19 to train our officers.

20 So, again, I want commend Chief
21 Graziano and commend the police department
22 for taking this initiative and using this
23 technology the way they are. Thank you.

24 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else? All those
25 in favor of introduction signify by saying

1 aye.

2 MR. PERRY: Aye.

3 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

4 MR. EVANS: Aye.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

8 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
9 A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION
10 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
11 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
12 APPROPRIATENESS FOR MICHAEL CRAWFORD,
13 MULTISCAPE, INC., 995 SOUTH TOWNSHIP
14 BOULEVARD, PITTSTON, PA, 18640, AND HIGHLAND
15 ASSOCIATES, 102 HIGHLAND AVENUE, CLARKS
16 SUMMIT, PA, 18411, FOR REPAIR OF MORTAR
17 JOINTS, CUTTING AND POINTING, TO SECTIONS OF
18 THE EXTERIOR FAÇADE AT VINE STREET, DIX
19 COURT, MULBERRY STREET, AND NORTH WASHINGTON
20 AVENUE SIDES, SITUATED AT THE SCRANTON
21 CULTURAL CENTER, 420 NORTH WASHINGTON
22 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PA 18503.

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

1 MR. PERRY: So moved.

2 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

6 MR. PERRY: Aye.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

8 MR. EVANS: Aye.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

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

13 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
14 12, 2018 - AN ORDINANCE - ADOPTING THE 2012
15 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY
16 MAINTENANCE CODE, REGULATING AND GOVERNING
17 THE CONDITIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL
18 PROPERTY, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, BY
19 PROVIDING THE STANDARDS FOR SUPPLIED
20 UTILITIES AND FACILITIES AND OTHER PHYSICAL
21 THINGS AND CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE
22 THAT STRUCTURES ARE SAFE, SANITARY AND FIT
23 FOR OCCUPATION AND USE; THE CONDEMNATION OF
24 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES UNFIT FOR HUMAN
25 OCCUPANCY AND USE, AND THE DEMOLITION OF

1 SUCH EXISTING STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF
2 SCRANTON; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF
3 PERMITS AND COLLECTION OF FEES THEREFOR;
4 REPEALING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 37,
5 2014 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND ALL OTHER
6 ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN
7 CONFLICT THEREWITH.

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

10 MR. PERRY: I move that Item 6-A
11 pass reading by title.

12 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

15 MR. PERRY: Aye.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

17 MR. EVANS: Aye.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

21 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
22 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
23 SAFETY - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL
24 NO. 11, 2018 - ESTABLISHING A "NO PARKING
25 ZONE" ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF WYOMING AVENUE

1 (SR 3025) FROM A POINT 175 FEET SOUTH OF THE
2 INTERSECTION WITH EAST GIBSON STREET TO A
3 POINT 325 FEET SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION
4 WITH EAST GIBSON STREET TO ALLOW FOR
5 DRIVEWAY SIGHT DISTANCE PURPOSES AS SHOWN ON
6 THE ATTACHED HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT FOR
7 THE PENNSYLVANIA NORTHEAST REGIONAL RAILROAD
8 AUTHORITY (PNRRA).

9 MR. ROGAN: What is the
10 recommendation for the Chair for the
11 Committee on Public Safety?

12 MR. PERRY: As Chairperson for the
13 Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
14 final passage of Item 7-A.

15 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

18 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

19 MR. PERRY: Yes.

20 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Donahue.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

22 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

23 MR. EVANS: Yes.

24 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

4 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
5 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
6 RESOLUTION NO. 33, 2018 - APPOINTMENT OF
7 ROBERT GATTENS, JR., 528 ORCHARD STREET,
8 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 AS A MEMBER
9 OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION
10 AUTHORITY. MR. GATTENS WILL BE REPLACING
11 JUDE MCANDREW WHOSE TERM EXPIRED DECEMBER
12 31, 2017. MR. GATTENS WILL BE APPOINTED TO A
13 FIVE (5) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21,
14 2018 AND WILL EXPIRE FEBRUARY 15, 2023.

15 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the
16 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
17 passage of Item 7-B.

18 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

21 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

22 MR. PERRY: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Donahue.

24 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

25 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

1 MR. EVANS: Yes.

2 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

4 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

7 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
8 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
9 RESOLUTION NO. 34, 2018 - AUTHORIZING THE
10 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ACT AS AGENT FOR
11 THE CITY OF SCRANTON FOR EMERGENCY AND
12 DISASTER RELIEF PURSUANT TO THE ROBERT T.
13 STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY
14 ASSISTANCE ACT, AND AUTHORIZING CITY
15 OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE THE DESIGNATION OF
16 AGENT AND THE PEMA PUBLIC DISASTER
17 ASSISTANCE APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT FOR
18 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

19 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
20 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
21 passage of Item 7-C.

22 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

25 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

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MR. PERRY: Yes.

MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Donahue.

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-C legally and lawfully adopted.

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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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.
9
10
11

12 _____
13 CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
14 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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