

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Monday, July 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  
(Not present)

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

JEANNIE DAVIDSON, SECRETARY

AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE - SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Donahue. Mr.

7 Evans.

8 MR. EVANS: Here.

9 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

11 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

12 MR. ROGAN: Here. Would anyone like  
13 to make a motion to appoint a temporary  
14 chair?

15 MR. EVANS: I make a motion to  
16 appoint Councilman Perry as temporary  
17 chairperson for the Committee on Community  
18 Development.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

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

22 MR. PERRY: Aye.

23 MR. EVANS: Aye.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 Please dispense with the reading of  
3 the minutes.

4 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. SINGLE  
5 TAX OFFICE CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON  
6 REPORT 2018/2017 YEAR-TO-DATE JUNE 30, 2018.

7 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?  
8 If not, received and filed.

9 MS. REED: 3-B. SCRANTON/LACKAWANNA  
10 HEALTH AND WELFARE AUTHORITY COMBINED  
11 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 2017 AND  
12 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT.

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

15 MS. REED: 3-C. SCRANTON SEWER  
16 AUTHORITY INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR  
17 FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017.

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

20 MS. REED: 3-D. TAX ASSESSOR'S  
21 RESULT REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD JUNE 27,  
22 2018.

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

25 MS. REED: 3-E. CONTROLLER'S REPORT

1 FOR MONTH ENDING MAY 31, 2018.

2 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?

3 If not, received and filed.

4 Do any council members have  
5 announcements at this time?

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I have two.

7 Friday, July 13, will be the City of  
8 Scranton free electronic collection.

9 Residents can drop their electronics off at  
10 the DPW Complex at 101 West Poplar Street  
11 from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m., Friday, July 13, and  
12 Friday July 20. Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: I have a few. A  
14 fireworks show at Nay Aug has been  
15 rescheduled for Wednesday, August 8,  
16 following the concert that evening. If you  
17 need anymore information you can contact the  
18 Park Department at 570-348-4186.

19 Lackawanna County is distributing  
20 Farmer's market nutrition vouchers at the  
21 following Scranton locations: The West  
22 Scranton Senior Center on Jackson Street,  
23 Wednesday July 11 from 9:00 to 1:00 p.m. The  
24 Marketplace at Steamtown Thursday, July 12,  
25 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and the South

1 Side Farmer's Market on Alder Street  
2 Saturday, July 14 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.,  
3 and the South Scranton Senior Center, again,  
4 on Alder Street Wednesday, July 18 from 9:00  
5 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

6 Finally, Scranton's Office of  
7 Economic and Community Development will have  
8 a public hearing discussing housing and  
9 non-housing community development needs in  
10 the city and the development and proposed  
11 activities to meet those needs. This  
12 meeting will take place on Thursday, July  
13 12, at 6 p.m. in council chambers. People  
14 will have the opportunity for residents to  
15 participate in the development and  
16 implementation of Scranton's Fifth Year  
17 Action Plan. Citizens who are unable to  
18 attend the hearing may submit their comments  
19 by Friday, August 3, to our OECD Office  
20 located here at city hall. Those wishing  
21 for assistance can obtain applications at  
22 OECD or at [Scrantonpa.gov](http://Scrantonpa.gov). Stafford people  
23 are available to provide technical  
24 assistance. If interested, please schedule  
25 an appointment by calling 570-348-4216 any

1 time Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to  
2 4:00 p.m.

3 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
4 PARTICIPATION.

5 (The following speakers offered  
6 public comment: Gene Besko spoke on city  
7 business. Lenny Srebro spoke on city  
8 business. Joan Hodowanitz spoke on city  
9 business. Marie Schumacher spoke on agenda  
10 items and city business. Dave Dobrzyn spoke  
11 on city business and matters of general  
12 concern.)

13 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.  
14 MOTIONS.

15 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Perry, do you have  
16 any motions or comments?

17 MR. PERRY: I just have a few. The  
18 first is I have had requests for a "children  
19 at Play" sign in Kurst Court in the 2700  
20 block. Apparently, there is a lot of  
21 children in that area and there is a lack of  
22 a sign warning alley drivers to slow down,  
23 so if we can get DPW on that that would be  
24 very great.

25 Also, Ms. Hodowanitz brought up the

1           Arcadis study and the audit again. If we  
2           could get something out to the business  
3           administrator and ask Mr. Bulzoni if council  
4           can expect and would like to see some kind  
5           of update before August recess on both of  
6           those.

7                         And some business on the agenda,  
8           there is an appointment of Sean Walsh to the  
9           zoning board. His personal property taxes  
10          are up-to-date, his business property taxes  
11          are up-to-date, but with all full disclosure  
12          he owns property that has nobody living  
13          there and it's scheduled for demo. He has  
14          applied for a variance on his garbage fees  
15          for that and was granted it, so all his  
16          taxes and fees are paid up-to-date according  
17          to our treasurer.

18                        And, finally, Mr. Gaughan already  
19          brought this up because I was asked the same  
20          questions, Friday, July 13, and Friday the  
21          July 20, 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. at our DPW offices  
22          there will be our electronic collection for  
23          the month of July. That's all I have.  
24          Thank you.

25                        MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Evans,



1 any motions or comments.

2 MR. EVANS: Thank you. First of  
3 all, it is my understanding that the audit  
4 is expected by the end of July or the first  
5 week of August. We are pressing for the end  
6 of the July so that's based on your  
7 comments, of course, that there is certainly  
8 justification for the end of July to be the  
9 target date so it's out there before our  
10 August recess. I attended the first Friday  
11 event on July 6 in downtown Scranton.  
12 Finally, after some less than favorable  
13 weather conditions over the last few events  
14 the organizers and many of the volunteers  
15 were rewarded for all of their hard work and  
16 with perfect weather. If anyone wants to  
17 know what a vibrant, exciting, interesting  
18 and fun downtown looks like I would  
19 encourage them to attend a First Friday  
20 event in downtown Scranton.

21 While the naysayers will tell you we  
22 are depressed and distressed and downtrodden  
23 city, the reality of what is experienced in  
24 our city on a First Friday stands in stark  
25 contrast to that image and that dialogue.

1            Hundreds and hundreds of people walking the  
2            streets of downtown, visiting art galleries  
3            and crowded restaurants, enjoying great  
4            music and art of many various venues. This  
5            is what the arts and culture and music and  
6            even good food can bring and do for a city.

7                            This is why cities invest and  
8            encourage and grow their arts community.  
9            That is why I believe so strongly that any  
10           investments in the arts will always pay  
11           great dividends. And to those that don't  
12           get it, I can only say sorry that you lack  
13           the vision that many other people certainly  
14           have.

15                           Also, I attended the annual  
16           Scrantastic fireworks display and concert on  
17           courthouse square on July 3 and it was  
18           another great event for our area as  
19           thousands of people descended on downtown  
20           Scranton to enjoy that event as well.

21                           Speaking of fireworks, the annual  
22           explosion in our neighborhoods has  
23           contributed to the Fourth of July each year  
24           was back with a vengeance again this year.  
25           I'm not sure if it was attributed more to

1 the changes in the state law legalizing the  
2 sale of fireworks or other factors, but I do  
3 know that many residents and homeowners in  
4 every part of the city felt they were under  
5 attack in their own homes. As fireworks  
6 were set off all around them, many much  
7 later into the night than should have been  
8 allowed. The police department has an  
9 almost impossible task with enforcement with  
10 this issue so if there is anything that we  
11 can do on a legislative front that would  
12 allow for the SPD to have an easier time  
13 addressing this issue, I would absolutely be  
14 in favor of it. We have 100 plus year old  
15 housing stock and clearly we are dodging a  
16 serious situation that could lead to  
17 injuries or home fires or even worse all  
18 because of the hundreds of amateurs shooting  
19 off fireworks throughout the city.

20 So, Ms. Reed, if you could send a  
21 letter to Chief Graziano to see if there is  
22 anything we could do to help him and the  
23 SPD to the local laws that govern fireworks  
24 in our city.

25 And one final note, I want to send a

1 shout out to my younger brother, Keith  
2 Evans, who is visiting from his beautiful  
3 home in Sonoma County, California. He still  
4 remains very much a Scrantonian at heart and  
5 has been very impressed the things that are  
6 happening in Scranton. Sometimes it takes  
7 those visiting or returning from outside of  
8 the city to see what many of us many times  
9 are unable to see. And that's all I have  
10 for today.

11 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Gaughan,  
12 any motions or comments?

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. I  
14 just remand all residents of North Scranton  
15 that there is an extremely important zoning  
16 board meeting this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in  
17 council chambers regarding the proposed  
18 building of apartments off of Wale Street  
19 and also near the Vo-Tech. I think it's 200  
20 and some apartments that they want to build  
21 and ten buildings. I did meet with several  
22 residents of North Scranton this past  
23 Saturday and to say there are concerns is  
24 putting it mildly. I have my own concerns  
25 about the quality of life that I think will

1           deteriorate if this complex goes up, and  
2           also with traffic issues and there is a  
3           number of other things so hopefully we will  
4           be able to get some questions answered this  
5           Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on that issue.

6                       Mrs. Reed, 201-203 Pittston Avenue a  
7           gentleman stopped me, there is overgrown  
8           grass. He would like to know if the bank  
9           owns that property. There is also a  
10          property on Fourth Avenue that I'll be  
11          getting you the address some issues with  
12          high grass there as well. Thank you.

13                      MR. ROGAN: Just a couple of  
14          comments following up on what Councilman  
15          Gaughan mentioned regarding the proposed, I  
16          don't know if it's going to be a housing  
17          project or housing complex, I have had a lot  
18          of people reach out to me as well and we did  
19          receive correspondence from the attorneys  
20          for the company that's located out of town  
21          the plans on putting in this development.  
22          One of the items that wasn't mentioned so  
23          far is that the city just paved Greenbush  
24          and Reeve Street which are the two main  
25          roads going up to and back out of the

1 Vo-Tech at a significant cost, obviously,  
2 and they were two of the worst roads in the  
3 city.

4 The other question I have is if this  
5 construction project does move forward  
6 obviously bringing heavy equipment in and  
7 out of that area may cause damage to those  
8 roads as well. Again, I'm sure the zoning  
9 board will give a full and fair hearing to  
10 this group, but I know there are going to be  
11 a lot of residents in the city that are  
12 going to come out in opposition to this  
13 project because of the size and the scope.

14 Personally, I support any type of  
15 growth in the city we could see, but it has  
16 to be done in a manageable way. It has to  
17 being done in areas where it makes sense.  
18 This many apartments on this small of a  
19 parcel and it's I think it was noted in the  
20 paper it's a very unique size parcel to put  
21 this many units on three stories high, so as  
22 Councilman Gaughan mentioned there are a lot  
23 of concerns from residents not only in North  
24 Scranton but throughout the city as well so  
25 that is a very important zoning meeting that

1 is coming up. And that is all I have for  
2 now. Thank you.

3 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
4 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
5 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE  
6 AN DENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE  
7 CONTRACT WITH ABRAHAMSEN, CONABOY &  
8 ABRAHAMSEN, P.C. FOR SPECIAL LABOR COUNSEL  
9 LEGAL SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

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

13 MR. PERRY: So moved.

14 MR. EVANS: Second.

15 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.  
17 First, I had several questions and concerns  
18 about this contract. Number one, back in  
19 March of 2014 this council had granted a  
20 contract to Abrahamsen, Conaboy and  
21 Abrahamsen that was for four years and would  
22 have expired in March of 2018, so my first  
23 question is why did it take so long to bid  
24 this out and why is the city just now  
25 awarding a contract four months after the

1 expiration of the original one?

2 Second, where did the city advertise  
3 this RFP? Was it advertised in the Jurist,  
4 which is for members of the Lackawanna Bar  
5 Association. In 2014, the City of Scranton  
6 had seven bidders for the labor contract.  
7 In 2018, we have two. Did the city inform  
8 previous bidders in 2014 who were interested  
9 then? I find it odd that there is such a  
10 lack of interest for this contract and the  
11 other firm was from Pittsburgh.

12 I'd like to know how much  
13 Abrahamsen, Conaboy and Abrahamsen billed  
14 the city pursuant to the previous labor  
15 contract and for all work performed for the  
16 city during that time period, so 2014 to  
17 date. Has the city been successful in  
18 defending any grievances or any labor  
19 matters that have gone before arbitration?  
20 I would like a percentage that the city has  
21 actually won?

22 Also, Mrs. Schumacher brought this,  
23 and I agree, in the RFP it mentions that the  
24 city would prefer that the firm who is  
25 awarded this have experience and



1 understanding of the unique culture of the  
2 City of Scranton's labor unions. They put a  
3 strong preference towards firm who have that  
4 unique experience. I believe that as long  
5 as the firm has experience in dealing with  
6 Municipal Law Act 111 Grievances and  
7 Interest arbitration experience in Appellate  
8 Court practice and knowledge of the workings  
9 and functions of local and state government,  
10 they should be more than qualified. I think  
11 that the city is possibly making this one  
12 sided by putting in language like that and  
13 giving firms like Abrahamsen, Conaboy and  
14 Abrahamsen an unfair advantage. It doesn't  
15 take much to get up to speed on the culture  
16 of Scranton's labor unions. Read the  
17 newspaper or figure it out.

18 The last thing, and probably the  
19 most concerning, in the backup legislation  
20 under Attachment E, "Disclosures by current  
21 contractors," it says the following, and  
22 this is in the RFP. "Number five, since  
23 January 1, 2011, has the contractor made any  
24 contribution to a municipal official or  
25 candidate for municipal office in the City

1 of Scranton? If yes, please identify the  
2 recipient, the amount and the date of the  
3 contribution."

4 Very, very, very clear.

5 Mr. Abrahamsen notes in his response that he  
6 donated to Mayor Courtright, Councilman  
7 Rogan and Councilman Perry, but he does not  
8 identify the amount or the date of the  
9 contribution. This is the same for number  
10 eight under Attachment E. I find it  
11 absolutely ludicrous that Mr. Abrahamsen  
12 cannot comply with the simple request and a  
13 request for proposals. Can he read? Can  
14 anyone in the law firm read?

15 The request here was crystal clear.  
16 Why is he omitting this information? This  
17 reeks as an effort to once again avoid  
18 transparency to the City of Scranton  
19 residents. Here we go again. Where is the  
20 transparency? How much did he give and when  
21 did he give it? If you can't comply with a  
22 simple request then don't submit a proposal.  
23 Are we going to have to wait months to get  
24 this information and will I be sued again  
25 for asking?

1                   Second, I feel it's important to  
2                   remind my colleagues and the public about  
3                   Ned Abrahamsen's spineless actions against  
4                   me a year ago. Last year, around this time,  
5                   I had been requesting documentation that  
6                   showed exactly what Mr. Abrahamsen had done  
7                   as the city's special counsel for the  
8                   parking and sewer deal transactions in which  
9                   he received \$400,000 of ratepayer and  
10                  taxpayer money. I was concerned to find out  
11                  that Mr. Abrahamsen had no written contract  
12                  with the city as special council, but was  
13                  hired under an oral arrangement or an oral  
14                  contract in which Mayor Courtright and then  
15                  City Solicitor Jason Shrive told  
16                  Mr. Abrahamsen to go to work. I found this  
17                  extremely odd and not the least bit  
18                  transparent.

19                  My request for information went  
20                  unanswered and ignored. Then on July 17,  
21                  2017, Mr. Abrahamsen and his law firm filed  
22                  notice in Lackawanna County Court that they  
23                  intended to sue me for slander. This was  
24                  clearly a gutless, cowardly attempt my Ned  
25                  Abrahamsen to silence me, to intimidate me,

1           bully me so that I would stop asking  
2           questions and stop doing my job fighting for  
3           the people of this city. It's my belief  
4           that Ned Abrahamsen and his law firm knew  
5           that there was no way they could win in  
6           lawsuit because I had done absolutely  
7           nothing wrong. And they decided to try to  
8           drag me through the mud and retaliate  
9           against me for asking tough questions.  
10          Clearly a case of a baseless political  
11          attack and a frivolous lawsuit attached to  
12          it.

13                         On September 5, I obtained a Court  
14          directive requiring Abrahamsen, Conaboy and  
15          to file an actual lawsuit within 20 days or  
16          have the case dismissed. On September 29,  
17          2017, the matter was dropped by  
18          Mr. Abrahamsen and his law firm. An  
19          attorney from the law firm said in the  
20          newspaper that the matter was dropped  
21          without prejudice which means that it can be  
22          refiled at any time. Again, in my opinion  
23          and it's a clear attempt to dangle this  
24          lawsuit over my head and the hopes that I  
25          would keep my mouth shut.

1 I asked Attorney Minora in the  
2 caucus if this was a conflict that we are  
3 possibly going to hire a law firm for labor  
4 counsel who has threatened to sue the city,  
5 to sue me, and is going to continue to  
6 dangle this lawsuit over my head for how  
7 long I don't know.

8 I'd like to read some quotes from my  
9 colleagues from the July 20, 2017, council  
10 meeting in response to Mr. Abrahamsen's  
11 lawsuit against me. Threatening of a  
12 lawsuit I don't think is proper, former  
13 Councilman Wechsler said. We are a body.  
14 You sue one member as far as I'm concerned  
15 you are suing all of us. Calling a slander  
16 suit against a councilman a slipper slope.  
17 Tim Perry said that means a different  
18 councilman could be next. What does that do  
19 to the core of our democracy? It's not the  
20 correct way to handle this, Mr. Perry said.

21 Councilman Wayne Evans said, "Such a  
22 lawsuit sends a chilling effect on the very  
23 principle of free speech relating to public  
24 officials and the fundamental right of  
25 elected officials to ask hard questions and

1 demand accountability of others. For the  
2 record, I stand with Councilman Gaughan."

3 I would like to ask my colleagues  
4 how they can justify in good conscience  
5 rewarding this law firm and Ned Abrahamsen  
6 with another labor contract after witnessing  
7 their tactics in which they tried to use the  
8 legal system to stifle and scare and  
9 intimidate and bully a public official.

10 For the record, I have zero  
11 confidence in Mr. Abrahamsen or his law firm  
12 to do work with the City of Scranton. And  
13 at this time in relation to the questions I  
14 asked in the beginning I would like to make  
15 a motion to table agenda Item 5-B.

16 MR. ROGAN: A motion has been made,  
17 is there a second? The motion fails for  
18 lack of a second.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: The reason I made the  
20 motion to table, ladies and gentlemen, and  
21 this was discussed in the back room, is to  
22 get the questions answered before the final  
23 vote, which would be next week, and I think  
24 it's important that we do make a motion to  
25 table because there has been a history here

1           between Mr. Abrahamsen and his law firm on  
2           not answering questions that are posed by  
3           government officials and dragging it out for  
4           months, so I thought that was important.  
5           Obviously, my colleagues don't. Thank you.

6                     MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the  
7           question?

8                     MR. EVANS: Yes, on the question.  
9           Of course I was one of first to speak out  
10          against the proposed lawsuit filed against  
11          Councilman Gaughan and I still feel that  
12          way. It was an affront to all of us and our  
13          ability for members of city council to speak  
14          freely and criticize and ask the tough  
15          questions when needed and councilman  
16          Gaughan's questions on this resolution need  
17          to be answered. I advised Councilman  
18          Gaughan in caucus that if any of our  
19          questions are not answered prior to next  
20          week's meeting I will second his motion to  
21          table and will not on vote on this contract  
22          until those questions are answered so the  
23          clock is ticking.

24                    MR. PERRY: Yes, on the question.  
25          We did -- as both colleagues said, we did

1 discuss this in caucus and I was on the side  
2 to give them a week to answer these  
3 questions. I know I was mentioned in this,  
4 I have nothing to hide. I believe that once  
5 we start to pick and chose what questions  
6 get answered on an RFQ then we lost. If  
7 it's on the RFQ to be answered then it needs  
8 to be answered. We are not allowed to pick  
9 and choose what gets answered and what  
10 doesn't. It all gets answered or then  
11 what's the point of having one. So, yes, I  
12 will not vote for it if it doesn't -- all  
13 those questions don't get answered, and I  
14 give them a week to get those answers to us.  
15 If we don't get those answers this gets  
16 tabled next week.

17 MR. ROGAN: I would agree with  
18 Councilman Perry and Evans and it's typical  
19 practice of council on an introductory vote  
20 there generally are questions that come up,  
21 we usually give a week depending on whether  
22 it's an ordinance or a resolution, one to  
23 two weeks to get everything sorted out and  
24 then at that point either an up or down vote  
25 or items can be tabled, so I think that



1 practice in the past has worked, but I do  
2 agree with I think everyone that there are  
3 some legitimate questions regarding some  
4 omissions on the contract.

5 All those in favor of introduction  
6 signify by saying aye.

7 MR. PERRY: Aye.

8 MR. EVANS: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

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

13 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
14 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
15 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE  
16 AND ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES  
17 CONTRACT WITH LABELLA ASSOCIATES FOR  
18 CITY OF SCRANTON GENERAL CONSULTING  
19 ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST  
20 1, 2018 THROUGH JULY 31, 2021.

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

24 MR. PERRY: So moved.

25 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

4 MR. PERRY: Aye.

5 MR. EVANS: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

9 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
10 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
11 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE  
12 AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH REUTHER +  
13 BOWEN, PC FOR CITY OF SCRANTON LANDSCAPE  
14 ARCHITECT/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES -  
15 LINDEN STREET GREENSPACE AND POCKET PARK  
16 PROJECT.

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

20 MR. PERRY: So moved.

21 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

25 MR. PERRY: 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-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
6 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTING SHAWN WALSH,  
7 2821 CEDAR AVE., SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
8 18505, AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING  
9 APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON. MR.  
10 WALSH'S TERM EXPIRED ON JULY 1, 2018 AND HIS  
11 NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 1, 2023.

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

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. EVANS: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

25 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -

1 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF PAUL MARCKS,  
2 724 GIBBONS STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
3 18505 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING  
4 APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON. MR.  
5 MARCKS WILL REPLACE ALAN O'NEILL WHOSE TERM  
6 EXPIRED ON JULY 1, 2018. MR. MARCKS' TERM  
7 WILL COMMENCE ON JULY 2, 2018 AND EXPIRE ON  
8 JULY 1, 2023.

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

12 MR. PERRY: So moved.

13 MR. EVANS: Second.

14 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All  
15 those in favor of introduction signify by  
16 saying aye.

17 MR. PERRY: Aye.

18 MR. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

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

23 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.  
24 25, 2018 - AN ORDINANCE - CREATING AND  
25 ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO.

1                   02.229634 ENTITLED "POLICE GRANTS" FOR  
2                   RECEIVING FUNDS FROM MULTIPLE SHORT TERM OR  
3                   PASS THROUGH POLICE GRANT SOURCES THAT  
4                   REQUIRE FUND ACCOUNTS SEPARATE FROM THE  
5                   GENERAL FUND.

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

8                   MR. PERRY: I move that Item 6-A  
9                   pass reading by title.

10                  MR. EVANS: Second.

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

13                  MR. PERRY: Aye.

14                  MR. EVANS: Aye.

15                  MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

18                  MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
19                  CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -  
20                  FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 24,  
21                  2018 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL  
22                  CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229632 ENTITLED "2016  
23                  SETTLEMENT AWARD" FOR THE RECEIPT OF  
24                  UNDISTRIBUTED FUNDS FROM THE 2016 POLICE AND  
25                  FIRE COURT AWARD, CITY OF SCRANTON 2016

1 SETTLEMENT FUND ACCOUNT.

2 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
3 recommendation of the Chair for the  
4 Committee on Finance?

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

8 MR. PERRY: Second.

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

11 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

12 MR. PERRY: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

14 MR. EVANS: Yes.

15 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

20 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION  
21 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -  
22 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 57, 2018 -  
23 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE  
24 CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE A  
25 GRANT FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

1 CAPITAL PROGRAM (RACP) THROUGH THE  
2 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA'S OFFICE OF THE  
3 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION  
4 (\$2,000,000.00) DOLLARS; ACCEPTING  
5 AND DISBURSING THE GRANT AND COORDINATE THE  
6 USE OF THE GRANT FUNDS WITH  
7 "SCRANTON-CHERRY, LP", FOR THE PROJECT TO BE  
8 NAMED THE "SCRANTON COUNSELING CENTER".

9 MR. ROGAN: What is the  
10 recommendation of the Chair for the  
11 Committee on Community Development?

12 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for  
13 the Committee on Community Development, I  
14 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

15 MR. EVANS: Second.

16 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Yes,  
17 last week I did mention a concern that it  
18 seems a number of these grants are going to  
19 the same individual. I did receive a call  
20 from Senator Blake's Office to discuss this  
21 matter and I did not have a chance to get  
22 back with him. What I think I would like to  
23 do, not specifically to this project but  
24 also just in general regarding the RACP  
25 program, is having a representative from

1           Senator Blake's Office and one of the state  
2           representatives come in and just give a  
3           better -- so we could have a better  
4           understanding of the application process and  
5           the selection process.

6                        As I mentioned last week, I do fully  
7           support this project. I think it's a great  
8           project my concern and question is really  
9           more on the allocation process of these  
10          dollars so that's something that we will be  
11          looking into as time goes on, but as far as  
12          this project goes I will be voting yes.  
13          Anyone else on the question? Roll call,  
14          please?

15                       MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

16                       MR. PERRY: Yes.

17                       MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

18                       MR. EVANS: Yes.

19                       MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

20                       MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21                       MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

24                       MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25          BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -



1 RESOLUTION NO. 58, 2018 - APPOINTMENT OF  
2 STEPHANIE L. BRESSLER, PH.D, 1402 EAST  
3 GIBSON STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
4 18510, AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS  
5 COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 27, 2018.  
6 DR. BRESSLER WILL BE REPLACING LISA  
7 STANVITCH WHO RESIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 18,  
8 2017. DR. BRESSLER WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED  
9 TERM OF LISA STANVITCH WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO  
10 EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2018.

11 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the  
12 Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
13 passage of Item 7-C.

14 MR. PERRY: Second.

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

17 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Perry.

18 MR. PERRY: Yes.

19 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: Yes.

21 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Gaughan.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Rogan.

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

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