

COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON

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HELD:

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020

LOCATION:

VIA ZOOM

Maria McCool, RPR  
Official Court Reporter

1 C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

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- WILLIAM GAUGHAN, PRESIDENT
- KYLE DONAHUE, VICE PRESIDENT
- MARK MCANDREW
- JESSICA ROTHCHILD
- THOMAS SCHUSTER
  
- LORI REED, CITY CLERK
- KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- KEVIN HAYES, COUNCIL SOLICITOR

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(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. GAUGHAN: Please remain standing for a moment of silent reflection for our service men and women throughout the world and also for those who have passed away in our community, especially Ed Rakowski{sic} a retired Scranton Police Detective.

Let us take a special moment of silence tonight for people in our community and throughout the world who are suffering or who have passed away from the coronavirus. Let us think about them and their families at this time that they may find peace.

Let us think now about the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals and first responders who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process, may they find protection and peace.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, let us stick together, endure together, mourn together, persist and prepare together. And in place of our anxiety,

1 let us continue to hope and find peace. Thank  
2 you. Miss Carrera, roll call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

4 MR. SCHUSTER: Present.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

6 MR. MCANDREW: Present.

7 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

8 DR. ROTHCHILD: Here.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

10 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Here. Thank you, Miss  
13 Carrera. Mrs. Reed, please dispense with the  
14 reading of the minutes.

15 MS. REED: Thank you. THIRD ORDER.

16 3-A. CONTROLLER'S REPORT FOR MONTH  
17 ENDING MAY 31, 2020.

18 3-B. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM  
19 BARRY ISETT & ASSOCIATES, INC. DATED JUNE 15,  
20 2020 REGARDING LICENSING, INSPECTIONS AND  
21 PERMITS DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT.

22 3-C. LACKAWANNA COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
23 OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL  
24 PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2019  
25 RECEIVED JUNE 19, 2020.

1                   3-D. RESUME OF CITY OF SCRANTON  
2 BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR MAYORAL APPOINTEE.

3                   MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Mrs. Reed.  
4 Are there any comments on any of the Third  
5 Order items? If not, received and filed. Do  
6 any Council members have any announcements at  
7 this time?

8                   MR. MCANDREW: I do. I was asked to  
9 announce although the St. Joseph's picnic has  
10 been cancelled this year, there are still some  
11 events that will be taking place.

12                   The \$10,000 cash raffle, returns  
13 need to be in by July 2nd.

14                   The Go Joe 23 Ride Along needs to  
15 register by July 10th.

16                   The WNEP Telethon which is Saturday,  
17 July 25th, which is 8 to 10 and also their  
18 chicken dinner which is in place of the picnic  
19 this year will be Sunday, July 26th at noon to  
20 five at Marywood University. Tickets are  
21 required in advance. For more information,  
22 please visit St. Joe's website. Thank you.

23                   MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Councilman  
24 McAndrew. Anyone else have any announcements?

25                   MR. SCHUSTER: You know what, I

1           wouldn't mind commenting on a Third Order item.  
2           The correspondence we got between Mr. Isett and  
3           Associates, I was disappointed to hear that we  
4           weren't going to take a deep dive into the LIPS  
5           Department.

6                        I think it would have helped us out  
7           with some of the policies and procedures there,  
8           some of the things that could have been  
9           problematic in the past from the last  
10          administration.

11                      I mean, maybe it's something that we  
12          look into with the situation and then  
13          understanding that they've had that we can  
14          maybe look into the scope of the worker or  
15          adjustment of price, something like that to get  
16          into that. Maybe if it can't be done this  
17          year, the administration gets into it next  
18          year.

19                      MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you.  
20          Does anybody else have any announcements? Any  
21          other announcements?

22                      DR. ROTHCHILD: I have a couple of  
23          announcements. First, I saw today that La  
24          Festa, the Italian Festival downtown is going  
25          to be cancelled this year unfortunately due to

1 COVID-19. I don't think it was unexpected.  
2 That's one of my favorite events of the year,  
3 especially as an Italian myself.

4 And a couple other things, over the  
5 weekend on Friday, Black Scranton held a  
6 Juneteenth celebration at Nay Aug Park, which I  
7 attended and I thought was a really wonderful  
8 event and a great way to celebrate the  
9 emancipation of slaves.

10 So and then something else, over the  
11 weekend that I had attended we held a flag  
12 raising at City Hall to commemorate the year of  
13 suffrage movement and women gaining the right  
14 to vote.

15 And I want to thank the Women's  
16 Whistle Stop for helping put on the flag  
17 raising. I know a lot of other events were  
18 planned for that day, which also had to be put  
19 on hold. But they did have a race car parade  
20 and they went around to some different places  
21 throughout Lackawanna County. So I was happy  
22 to a part of that. That's it. Thank you.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Dr.  
24 Rothchild. Anyone else have any announcements?  
25 I just have two. Once again, I'd just like to

1 say that if anyone would like to comment on  
2 agenda items or City business, please send  
3 those comments in writing to our City Clerk  
4 Lori Reed by e-mailing [Lreed@scrantonpa.gov](mailto:Lreed@scrantonpa.gov).

5 Council will accept public comment  
6 until the day of our meeting, Tuesday at 4:30  
7 p.m. Public comment is reviewed by the Council  
8 prior to our meeting and is placed in the  
9 official record and in the minutes of our  
10 meetings.

11 Council's agenda is being posted for  
12 public review the Friday before our Tuesday  
13 meeting. Our agenda and minutes can be  
14 accessed by going to [www.scrantonpa.gov](http://www.scrantonpa.gov) and  
15 clicking on the City Council page.

16 So if anyone is interested to read  
17 the public comment, the questions and the  
18 comment from members of the public, many of  
19 them are very good questions and some valid --  
20 very valid points. Again, you can access that  
21 by going to [www.scrantonpa.gov](http://www.scrantonpa.gov), clicking on the  
22 Council page and then just look in our minutes  
23 and they'll be in the official record.

24 And the last announcement I have I  
25 just want to wish my Aunt Peggy a happy

1 birthday. Her birthday is tomorrow. She's a  
2 faithful viewer of the Council meeting. So I  
3 wish her a happy birthday. That's all I have.  
4 Mrs. Reed, Fourth Order.

5 MS. REED: Thank you. FOURTH ORDER.  
6 CITIZENS PARTICIPATION.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Will  
8 someone please make a motion to accept public  
9 comment from the following individuals, Thomas  
10 Coyne, Marie Schumacher, and Steven Sabia?

11 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. There's been a  
13 motion and --

14 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: There's been a second.  
16 On the question?

17 MR. MCANDREW: Just on the question,  
18 I just want to come back with because one of  
19 the concerns we talked about a little bit in  
20 caucus was illegal fireworks. And I do have  
21 the number.

22 So this needs to be -- this number  
23 needs to be called while it's happening so the  
24 police can get there. This is the police desk  
25 non emergency number, okay? It's 570-578 --

1 I'm sorry, 570-558-8345. Thanks.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Anyone  
3 else on the question?

4 MR. SCHUSTER: Yes, so while Mr.  
5 McAndrew is bringing up that, I wanted to bring  
6 that up as well because I did get a couple  
7 calls about it. I was told that several people  
8 had called that number but it didn't seem like  
9 too much was done. Is there any -- do we know  
10 if there is any other number offhand to call or  
11 this is the number?

12 MR. MCANDREW: That's all I got.

13 MR. SCHUSTER: Yeah. But just to  
14 let people know, I mean, according to our City  
15 ordinances, we can't be igniting fireworks on  
16 City property or within 150 feet of any  
17 occupied building.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you.  
19 Anyone else? Just in regards to the public  
20 comment that was submitted, Mr. Coyne had  
21 submitted a lengthy statement and some  
22 questions. So I'm still going through those.  
23 And I'll do my best to answer those that  
24 pertain to Council. And then the ones that  
25 pertain to the administration I will get to the

1 Mayor and members of her staff.

2 Miss Schumacher had asked a few  
3 questions so we'll try to answer those. The  
4 Mayor had just sent Mrs. Reed and I a -- I  
5 don't know if members of Council were copied on  
6 it. But if you weren't, we'll send that out to  
7 you.

8 She did answer all of Miss  
9 Schumacher's questions from the last few  
10 months. It's in a word document. So we'll get  
11 that out to Miss Schumacher. And Mr. Sabia  
12 also had several comments which he had  
13 submitted which we appreciate. So there's been  
14 a motion, a second, been on the question. All  
15 those in favor of the motion signify by saying  
16 aye.

17 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

18 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

19 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

20 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The  
22 ayes have it and so moved.

23  
24 (Public Comment, the following are  
25 e-mails submitted to Council.)

1 (Thomas Coyne)

2  
3 Greetings members of City Council

4 It has been a while since I've  
5 addressed you since the death of my father at  
6 the Jewish nursing home during the start of the  
7 COVID-19 outbreak at that facility.

8 I've tried to catch up with most of  
9 the City Council meetings but I am still  
10 somewhat behind.

11 Starting just after January I was  
12 reviewing the city trash fees recycling and had  
13 questions, after receiving documents and  
14 reviewing them I had the opportunity to  
15 understand more of the scope of the agreement  
16 between the Keystone/Sanitary  
17 landfill/Lackawanna County Recycling Center and  
18 the City of Scranton's agreements signed both  
19 by Jimmy Connors and other administrations.

20 In the last council session it was  
21 brought up that there are questions on whether  
22 or not the city could take a metal and other  
23 items that are not being recycled now and split  
24 them off to different facilities to process the  
25 recycled material. Another question was how

1 long the Lackawanna County recycling center  
2 would be shut down to receive co-mingled  
3 recyclables (plastic, metal and glass).

4 It has it been recently reported,  
5 The Lackawanna County Recycling Center will  
6 most likely not be receiving any co-mingled  
7 products at least till the end of this year and  
8 probably into 2021. The reason given in the  
9 beginning was reportedly due to safety concerns  
10 as the plastic and metal material may have live  
11 COVID-19 on it for an extended period and for  
12 the safety of the Recycling Center workers,  
13 processing the co-mingled plastic and metal was  
14 on hold.

15 The Truth is the Lackawanna  
16 Recycling Center lost its slave labor. Around  
17 2003, the Lackawanna Recycling Center  
18 terminated almost all the sorting line  
19 employees, and replaced them with Lackawanna  
20 County Prison Workers.

21 That labor force, unlike regular  
22 employees, gets paid \$5.00 a day. I also  
23 believe as prison labor the Recycling Center  
24 does not have to pay Social Security, Workman's  
25 Comp, city wage tax, and health insurance for

1 any of those prison workers. There is a  
2 lawsuit pending due to the verbiage that Prison  
3 Labor can only be used in a prison facility.  
4 (This is why license plates and other Unicor  
5 products are produced inside upgraded prisons.)

6 The Lackawanna Recycling Center is  
7 not a prison or prison property and is a  
8 private For Profit Corporation. As such the  
9 pay for the prison labor should have been at  
10 least minimum wage.

11 Understand that a number of  
12 prisoners were in jail due to non payment of  
13 support, and if they had, as an example \$1,000  
14 Support outstanding, if they were paid minimum  
15 wage, they would pay off the back support and  
16 be free after working 140 hours. This money  
17 would pay the \$1,000 to the mother and child  
18 needing the funds and reduce prison costs for  
19 non-violent issues.

20 Instead a prisoner paying off \$1,000  
21 now has to work 200 days or 8,000 hours and the  
22 mother and children have to wait not only 2/3 a  
23 year for the back pay, but while other parent  
24 is still in prison they have no income, and  
25 support stops.

1                   So in the above, the Recycling  
2                   Center gets a free 7860 hours of work, the  
3                   Mother and child/children have to wait 2/3 a  
4                   year for the back pay and they lose the  
5                   potential for those 179 days a year for the  
6                   parent to provide meaningful support.

7                   Going Beyond the topic of Slave  
8                   Labor, The Company Store, or pending Legal  
9                   challenges already in the courts... we shall  
10                  look to the meat of the City Contract with the  
11                  Lackawanna Recycling Center.

12                  In 1990 File of the Council No 22,  
13                  an agreement was put forward between the City  
14                  of Scranton and the Keystone Sanitary Landfill.

15                  In Section 2.10 was granted waste  
16                  disposal for a 5 year period. The City had an  
17                  automatic right to extend for 5 years. If the  
18                  life of the Landfill exceeded 10 years the City  
19                  had a right to air space at the landfill for  
20                  the remainder of the life of the landfill. (It  
21                  exercised this right to extend for life)  
22                  Tipping fees were listed starting in 1995 at  
23                  \$52.25 a ton but have remained low Because of  
24                  the clause, if the County negotiates a lower  
25                  tipping fee, the City also gets the negotiated

1 fee.

2 In 2002 this was updated in  
3 Resolution 60.

4 And it is important as it states,  
5 "that in participation of the disposal of  
6 recyclable waste, Lackawanna County has agreed  
7 to pay for any losses involved in the recycling  
8 project, and also to distribute and profits  
9 generated by the project to the municipalities  
10 in proportion to the disposable waste  
11 provided."

12 This 10 year contract entered in on  
13 September 19th 2002, States the city will  
14 deliver (and underlined for emphasis) ALL  
15 recyclables to the Lackawanna Solid waste  
16 Management authority:

17 Specifically; Newsprint, Corrugated  
18 Cardboard, Magazines and co-mingled glass,  
19 plastic beverage containers, ferrous and  
20 non-ferrous metals.

21 The contracted tipping for  
22 recyclables was at no cost.

23 The city is mandated to provide and  
24 the authority is mandated to accept all of the  
25 above per the contract. Regardless of

1 profit/loss.

2 Every year, 60 days after closing  
3 the Facility was to prepare a profit/loss  
4 statement and all profits were to be  
5 distributed to the municipalities in percentage  
6 to the gross quantity of materials. (Loss would  
7 be eaten by the county itself).

8 **Question:** On this has Scranton  
9 ever received the operational year end report  
10 and profit loss statement and has it received  
11 any distribution of profit generated from the  
12 recyclables. Not the State funds but from the  
13 *Recycling Center itself*.

14 The authority has the right to  
15 refuse, to accept, or to reject any and all  
16 materials not meeting the description and form  
17 above. Having it listed as free and clear of  
18 foreign materials and debris at the point of  
19 collection.

20 **Statement:** Most municipal  
21 contracts have a certain percentage allowed as  
22 for contamination of up to 3-5%. Without this  
23 it is rife for abuse for them to say there is  
24 contamination and push the material to the  
25 landfill when it is more profitable.

1                                    Contract questions.

2                                    The Recycling Center is mandated to  
3                                    accept all materials, so refusal may be  
4                                    considered a breach?

5                                    The cost per ton tipping that the  
6                                    city is now paying for taking the co-mingled  
7                                    items to the landfill should not be the burden  
8                                    of the City. The loss is mandated as a County  
9                                    Responsibility, but to not shift the burden  
10                                    back to the taxpayer.

11                                    Looking another way, since the  
12                                    landfill is mandated to accept the material at  
13                                    \$0.00 a ton, then a credit should be issued to  
14                                    the city for each month the Recycling center is  
15                                    refusing co-mingled by taking the 2019 monthly  
16                                    tonnage figures for comingled recyclables, and  
17                                    backing out from the current landfill fees.  
18                                    The removal of the extra recyclable tonnage at  
19                                    landfill tipping would then be reversed,  
20                                    restoring the zero cost by crediting the weight  
21                                    back to the city.

22                                    The Landfill contract is a good one  
23                                    as long as we do not have a separate trash  
24                                    contract available. I have a suggestion for a  
25                                    long term solution, but it would take decent

1 funding and matching federal grants and it is  
2 worth exploring at a later time.

3 Lastly on October 27th, 2000 Mr  
4 DeNaples made under agreement for the life of  
5 the landfill, to provide a donation of  
6 equipment equivalent in value to \$100,000.00 a  
7 year commencing in 2000 and continuing for the  
8 life of the settlement agreement and expected  
9 life of the landfill as 30 years.

10 Equipment was listed as Motorcycles,  
11 packmasters, police cars, section trucks, and  
12 any other equipment necessary for the health  
13 and safety of the City Residents.

14 Question: From this agreement: Has  
15 the Keystone landfill provided \$100,000/year in  
16 equipment and is it still doing so as provided  
17 up and until at least 2030?

18  
19 \* \* \* \*

20 Now onto the second subject we are  
21 hitting budget constraints because of COVID-19.  
22 I understand that the mayor wants to push  
23 forward continuing the emergency status,  
24 because of the possibility of more state and  
25 federal funding offsets, and the ability to

1 flex positions and freedom in emergency orders,  
2 hiring, freezing, and dealing with employees  
3 who may or may not be union, relating to  
4 termination and or laying off during this  
5 crisis.

6 For as long as the crisis officially  
7 is going and it gives the mayor large latitude  
8 to keep employees furloughed and to pass along  
9 as little information as possible.

10 There will come a time to evaluate  
11 the budget and not dodge it in its uncertain  
12 form. I have started that process prior and  
13 would suggest the immediate removal of the  
14 following budgeted items.

15 1. Scranton Tomorrow.

16 Scranton Tomorrow in the past has at  
17 the end of the year posted a zero or slight  
18 negative operational funds. In 2016 and 2017 I  
19 believe.

20 At the end of 2017 an ordinance was  
21 put in for \$250,000 for Scranton tomorrow  
22 Also was a increase from 2017 \$ 32,500 to  
23 \$75,000 (2017 = \$ 282,500).

24 In 2018 The City of Scranton  
25 Budgeted \$ 75,000.00 for Scranton Tomorrow.

1                   In 2019 the City of Scranton  
2                   increased the Budget to \$ 225,000.00 for  
3                   Scranton Tomorrow.

4                   In 2020 the City of Scranton  
5                   continued the same Budget to \$ 225,000.00 for  
6                   Scranton Tomorrow.

7                   In the past few years ending in  
8                   2019, Scranton tomorrow first has a single  
9                   employee making increasing pay over the years  
10                  and as of last reporting one of the board  
11                  members was drawing pay. They now have a main  
12                  employee is paid \$75,000 a year and it seems  
13                  one board member is getting \$ 25,000 a year for  
14                  10 hours a week.

15                  The required non-profit disclosures  
16                  show Scranton Tomorrow now has in excess of \$  
17                  500,000 in funds as of last years closing.  
18                  With an operation cost of \$100,000/year it has  
19                  enough funds to run for 5 years.

20                  It also gains additional funds from  
21                  City Government Fundraising.

22                  That being said the Scranton budget  
23                  of \$ 225,000... makes Scranton Tomorrow in all  
24                  intents a fully subsidized arm of the taxpayer  
25                  and Scranton Government.

1                   For the next 2-3 years at least the  
2                   City of Scranton should remove the \$225,000  
3                   from the budget as it does not have the funds  
4                   and the organization who is to promote  
5                   Scranton, is not in need of the extra funding  
6                   for operations at this time.

7                   2. Somehow in 2019 a line was added in the  
8                   budget for recycling. The budget was \$175,000.

9                   Needless to say, at a zero cost for  
10                  recycling the funds were never used as it's a  
11                  non fee item. Somehow in 2020 the line  
12                  increased to \$ 350,000?? Again for a zero  
13                  cost.

14                 3. The Shade Tree Commission.

15                  Whatever has not been used already  
16                  from this years budget of \$175,000 should be  
17                  put on hold for this year and greatly reduced  
18                  for the following year until we have a better  
19                  idea of discretionary funds. Not that I  
20                  disagree with the ideal, just the current  
21                  timing.

22                 4. Somehow Scranton paid for a Stamp Machine  
23                  Refill at the Sewer authority. Since Scranton  
24                  does not own the Authority and or billing, I am  
25                  not sure why Stamps were purchased for a non

1 city machine.

2 Just based on the above this would  
3 remove from the budget in false or  
4 discretionary spending close to \$700,000 right  
5 out of the box.

6 Third Subject. We have Al Lucas.  
7 Who was First-Assistant Chief = bargaining unit  
8 statusPut in by emergency order to Chief  
9 (Management position non union) and a higher  
10 rate or pay then posted (council bent over  
11 backwards for this to objections of some  
12 members)

13 Now he resigned and is immediately  
14 granted bargaining unit status again, is  
15 interim chief (a non union position at the same  
16 time so he is now union and management... who  
17 continue his duties as Emergency Management  
18 Coordinator.. though he was assistant Chief who  
19 is supposed to replace the chief but not  
20 anymore because he is interim chief.

21 I am not sure how any of this  
22 works....

23  
24 Last the DPW

25 At this time I am also confused with

1 city operations the specifically the department  
2 of public works. For the past number of months  
3 the department of public works has been under a  
4 mandate that the blue recycling bins (the  
5 Co-mingled) would not be collected for the  
6 recycling center that any of that product that  
7 was left out on the curb side would instead  
8 have to be delivered to the landfill instead of  
9 the recycling center.

10 As we all know, during this same  
11 period of time on blue commingled days for the  
12 recycling, two trucks have continually gone out  
13 from the city of Scranton one for the regular  
14 trash collections and one for the recyclables.

15 I find it absolutely insane that if  
16 recyclables are not going to go up to the  
17 recycling center and they must go to the  
18 landfill that the city would operate dual  
19 trucks running the same routes that would  
20 collect trash from the streets, and a second  
21 recycling truck passing by the same streets,  
22 using twice the amount of gas, to deliver the  
23 recycled product to the same landfill when one  
24 truck could collect it all.

25 The extra truck costs in fuel, and

1 maintenance, more wear and tear on the city  
2 streets, not even looking at truck staff.

3 A single truck would reduce the  
4 cities expense for gas for every single  
5 un-needed recycle truck on the blue days,  
6 reducing the staff requirements for two weeks  
7 out of the month, putting that revenue back in  
8 towards the budget or more importantly since  
9 the recycling and the trash are part of the  
10 trash fee paid by the residents, being fiscally  
11 sound in reducing cost for the City of Scranton

12

13 Thomas Coyne

14 Oak Ave, Scranton P.A.

15

16 (Marie Schumacher)

17

18 O I notice in this morning's Paper  
19 the University of Scranton has bought four more  
20 properties. I trust someone from this body  
21 will finally attend the Assessment appeals  
22 meeting if they seek exemption from property  
23 taxes. Will someone please commit to stepping  
24 up to this opportunity?

25

O An unlimited ability to tax is

1 really the power to confiscate so I was  
2 extremely disappointed when today's Paper  
3 report the Supreme Court denied fast tracking  
4 the appeal of Judge Gibbons Act 511 decision.  
5 Praying the Commonwealth Court will confirm  
6 Judge Gibbons decision expeditiously.

7 0 Today's paper was the bearer of  
8 more bad news with the Administration deciding  
9 to kick the LIPS Review down the road. This  
10 Department has been a source of contention for  
11 many decades..Some things you just can't afford  
12 not to do. While on the subject of things the  
13 City can't afford to do I believe we are about  
14 1/3 of the way through the Walkability study,  
15 does the Contract provide for any interim  
16 reports to the City or most we wait for the  
17 entire three years.

18 0 Speaking of late Contract Reports,  
19 when will you provide the date the City will  
20 receive the HRG Report?

21 0 I have recently observed many pave  
22 cuts in my neighborhood. In some cases the  
23 restoration goes from curb-to-curb; however, in  
24 too many places there are haphazard fills with  
25 blackktop that sink such that driving feels as

1           though you are driving over a washboard. The  
2           100 Block of Seymour Avenue is a prime example  
3           of the latter. (Lots of paint but little  
4           action).

5                        0 Does Council plan to take off the  
6           month of August this year?

7                        "Please ask the Administration to  
8           share what is going on with our Fire  
9           Department." Thank you!

10

11                        (Steven Sabia)

12

13                        Hello,

14                        I would like to ask a question of  
15           the Scranton City Council. For years I have  
16           watched the Scranton City Council and Scranton  
17           as a whole allowing Bob Bolus to speak hate  
18           speech towards protected individuals, park his  
19           semi truck in front of religious sites, and  
20           show up at almost every downtown event to  
21           incite riots.

22                        Recently I saw Bob Bolus park his  
23           truck downtown during a BLM demonstration and  
24           incite violence and spew hate. I also watched  
25           as another business owner from the area (the

1 owner of the steam town mall) and his wife  
2 tried to run someone over in the shoulder then  
3 get out of his car and assault the person. My  
4 question is this, why does the city continue to  
5 condone the actions of Bob Bolus, and now that  
6 Mr. Bolus is getting other business owners to  
7 join in this "war" (as he put it), what is the  
8 city of Scranton and the Scranton City Council  
9 going to do about individuals who continuously  
10 break laws and promote hate speech?

11 Also, as nothing has been done about  
12 Mr. Bolus' actions yet, does this mean that I  
13 as a citizen am able to park my own semi truck  
14 on city streets and disrupt council meetings  
15 with hate speech and face no repercussions? I  
16 would like to say the actions of SPD that day  
17 were swift and appreciated, but must SPD  
18 continuously respond to these situations as  
19 they continue to get worse with no support from  
20 the city? I do not believe that is fair to our  
21 Police.

22 Thank you,  
23 Steven Sabia

24  
25 (End of Public Comment.)

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Mrs. Reed?

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

3 MOTIONS.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Mrs. Reed.  
5 Councilman Schuster, do you have any motions or  
6 comments at this time?

7 MR. SCHUSTER: Yeah, I'd like to  
8 make a comment on one of the -- one of our  
9 public comments that we got. And I think  
10 several people in the public comment posed a  
11 lot of good questions this week.

12 But one was in regard to the tax  
13 assessment appeals. And I just wanted to say  
14 that prior to the City and the states were in  
15 the COVID pandemic, the School District and the  
16 City were in talks with shared services about,  
17 you know, fighting these -- the tax appeals.

18 And I think that's something that's  
19 going to be continued once City Hall opens up.  
20 So I do think there's a potential for savings  
21 and a way for us to hold ground when it comes  
22 to tax appeals.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Anything  
24 else, Councilman Schuster?

25 MR. SCHUSTER: No, that's all.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Councilman  
2 McAndrew, do you have any motions or comments?  
3 Sorry, Mark, you're muted.

4 MR. MCANDREW: I've been approached  
5 by a few citizens regarding a Hometown Heros  
6 Banner Program for Scranton. I also attended  
7 the NeighborWorks virtual meeting on June 15th,  
8 which was the West Side Pride West Scranton  
9 Neighborhood Plan.

10 At that meeting when asked for  
11 feedback I made mention of the Hometown Heros  
12 Banner Program. Although it's in the  
13 preliminary stages -- that plan, they thought  
14 it was a pretty good idea.

15 I believe that with everything going  
16 on right now in our country and in our City,  
17 right now this would be a great time to foster  
18 and focus on our City's history and recognize  
19 our very own hometown heros, the brave men and  
20 women that have fought for our freedoms.

21 I would like to see every part of  
22 the City participate along with our local  
23 veteran's organizations. I know there's some,  
24 you know, there's some logistics involved for  
25 the most part. It wouldn't cost the City

1 anything because sponsors would pay for it.

2 You know, if I wanted a banner for  
3 my father who was a Korean veteran, of course,  
4 I would do that. And maybe we would just need  
5 some help in bringing together, you know, DPW,  
6 fire department to hang these with the bucket  
7 trucks or whatever.

8 So with that said, I would like to  
9 make a motion right now with the blessing of my  
10 colleagues on Council to start the Scranton  
11 Hometown Heros Banner Program process to  
12 include the formation of a committee.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: There's been a motion.  
14 Is there a second?

15 MR. SCHUSTER: I'll second that.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: There's been a motion  
17 and a second. On the question? On the  
18 question, Councilman McAndrew, I think that is  
19 a good idea and I would be in favor of that.

20 I know that this is something that  
21 was discussed maybe two or three years ago.  
22 And at that time the previous administration  
23 had met with members of various veteran's  
24 organizations. And at that time they were more  
25 focused on the monument down at Scranton High

1 School.

2 But that was two or three years ago.  
3 So maybe there would be some interest this  
4 time. I think it's definitely something worth  
5 exploring. And I think it's a great idea and I  
6 appreciate you bringing it up. Anyone else on  
7 the question? All those in favor of the  
8 motion, signify by saying aye.

9 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

10 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

12 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The  
14 ayes have it and so moved. Anything else,  
15 Councilman McAndrew?

16 MR. MCANDREW: No. Thank you.  
17 That's all I have.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you. Dr.  
19 Rothchild, do you have any motions or comments  
20 at this time?

21 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, I do have a few  
22 comments. I have been getting a lot of  
23 complaints in recently, a few things that I  
24 think need to be forwarded to the LIPS  
25 Department.

1                   One of them is actually right near  
2                   where I live and it's on Harrison Avenue. A  
3                   man who lives across the street from the  
4                   problem, he contacted me to let me know that  
5                   there's an overgrown empty lot.

6                   And it's in between Harrison House,  
7                   which I think is 712 Harrison Avenue and the  
8                   property of 706 Harrison Avenue. So it's --  
9                   there's actually -- so overgrown it's going  
10                  onto the sidewalks and pedestrians are choosing  
11                  to cross the street in the middle there rather  
12                  than at the crosswalk because of the issues on  
13                  that side of the road.

14                  So I think that is definitely a  
15                  safety hazard and it needs to be taken care of  
16                  pretty quickly so people can safely use that  
17                  sidewalk.

18                  So Lori -- Miss Reed, if you don't  
19                  mind sending that correspondence to LIPS. And  
20                  then the other issue, over the weekend -- I was  
21                  pretty busy over the weekend. It was the first  
22                  weekend in a while that I felt more like a  
23                  Council person getting to be out in the  
24                  community and so I'm happy for that.

25                  I went over to the 900 block of

1 Quincy Avenue where the neighbors there have  
2 requested me to come and take a look at the  
3 issues that they're experiencing. And so about  
4 seven or eight of them walked along with me up  
5 the street and also onto Costello Court.

6 And there are just numerous issues,  
7 too many for me to go over right now. I will  
8 write out a list that could be sent over to  
9 LIPS. I know not all of them will be -- able  
10 to be addressed or at least addressed quickly;  
11 but I think that they need to be aware that  
12 these are problems for the neighbors who live  
13 there.

14 And someone had approached me today.  
15 This is correspondence that I believe can be  
16 sent to DPW. They complained about the street  
17 lights were not working on Washington Avenue I  
18 think between Coopers where they are and all  
19 the way down towards the courthouse.

20 They said it's pretty dark on that  
21 street. So if someone could take a look at  
22 those lights and then replace -- replace the  
23 lights that need to be taken care of.

24 And lastly, I -- this was something  
25 that I went over in caucus that I just wanted

1 to go over briefly again. I was involved in a  
2 work session earlier today between members of  
3 the OECD Department, LIPS and our new BA,  
4 Business Administrator Mr. Carl Deeley.

5 And the purpose of the work session  
6 was to discuss the issues more specific to the  
7 LIPS Department, quality of life tickets and  
8 demolition of properties and a lot of areas  
9 that there hasn't been a great process for.  
10 And they haven't really worked officially on  
11 and so we're trying to find -- come up with a  
12 good plan that could be initiated pretty  
13 quickly to help address those issues.

14 That's something that has been very  
15 important to me and I think will help with a  
16 lot of these complaints that we've been  
17 receiving from residents. So I'll be able to  
18 discuss more of that within the next few weeks.  
19 They plan on bringing a proposal to Council. I  
20 think their timeline was like between three to  
21 four weeks. They know that we're going to be  
22 going on a break. So it certainly will be  
23 before August.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Great. Thank you, Dr.  
25 Rothchild. Councilman Donahue, do you have any

1 motions or comments?

2 MR. DONAHUE: Just to -- to just  
3 follow up on Council Rothchild's street light  
4 complaints. I believe, Miss Reed, do you have  
5 a direct line to get those looked at, right?

6 MS. REED: Yes, I do.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: So that was -- what  
8 was it, North Washington from Coopers to --

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

10 MR. DONAHUE: -- all the way down to  
11 Lackawanna.

12 DR. ROTHCHILD: Um hum.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Okay. Also, we did  
14 talk, you know, in caucus that the recycling --  
15 we still haven't gotten our hands on the  
16 recycling contract. So we're going to continue  
17 working on that to see what -- we want to first  
18 look at the contract to see what our options  
19 are moving forward in terms of how we would go  
20 about looking for different options for the  
21 commingled.

22 In terms of the LIPS review, I would  
23 very much like for Mr. Deeley to just come in  
24 at some point to explain, you know, what the  
25 plan is. I was a little critical of, you know,

1 the firm that was selected in the beginning.  
2 And I had, you know, cost concerns as well.

3 But at the same time, there was  
4 still a -- there was still a contract that was  
5 approved by Council. So I just want to make  
6 sure that there is a plan going forward to  
7 address the issues in the LIPS Department  
8 because really if you fix everything else in  
9 the City but don't touch -- in City government  
10 and don't touch the LIPS Department, nothing  
11 else matters.

12 There's a lot of -- everything that  
13 happens flows through there in one way or  
14 another. I was surprised to see the Fire Chief  
15 resignation. But I would like to wish him the  
16 best of luck. And also just to remind the  
17 administration while they're conducting their  
18 national search, that the Fire Chief's salary  
19 is budgeted at \$84,900.

20 We also -- late this afternoon we  
21 received a condescending response from the  
22 administration regarding our -- my questions  
23 for the reopening of City Hall, the  
24 administration's plan. All we're simply trying  
25 to -- all I'm simply trying to find out is

1           what's, you know, as Lackawanna County moves  
2           into green what -- how will City Hall be open,  
3           what will be accessible to the public, what  
4           will not be.

5                         And then in terms of the furloughed  
6           employees, the Mayor did cite union issues as  
7           to not to respond to those. And those were  
8           questions just to who was processing refuse  
9           bills, who's conducting health inspections,  
10          housing inspections, who's responding to the  
11          quality of life complaints and who is  
12          overseeing the bidding purchasing process.

13                        So I'll be forwarding some more  
14          requests onto the administration, such as, how  
15          many occupancy permits have been issued since  
16          March 13th, how many health inspections have  
17          been conducted, how many construction permits  
18          have been issued, how many quality of life  
19          violations and/or warnings were issued.

20                        So I'll be forwarding those along to  
21          Mrs. Reed tomorrow to send along to the  
22          administration. And that's all I have for  
23          tonight. Thank you.

24                        MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Councilman  
25          Donahue. I just have a few things I want to go

1 over. First, I also want to just mention the  
2 resignation of our Fire Chief Al Lucas. I just  
3 want to say a few things.

4 First, in dealing with people over  
5 the last six years in City government, I don't  
6 think you could find a more dedicated  
7 individual serving the City both as a fireman  
8 and then as Fire Chief.

9 Al Lucas in my opinion in the short  
10 time that he was Fire Chief did an absolutely  
11 outstanding job. To take a position and then  
12 automatically walk into the middle of a  
13 pandemic, I thought he led the City's response  
14 in a very honorable -- very honorable way.

15 One of the most honest people that  
16 I've ever met in City government, one of most  
17 hard working people; and always forthright with  
18 information and never and does never with me  
19 beat around the bush, just got right to the  
20 point and told it like it was. So I just want  
21 to say that I thought it was unfortunate that  
22 he resigned.

23 But I understand based on the  
24 reasons that he gave in the newspaper. And I  
25 think it would be very hard to find a better

1 Fire Chief and a more honest, more hard working  
2 Fire Chief than Al Lucas.

3 The second thing I want to mention  
4 is just a request that we did send to the  
5 Licensing and Inspections Department. In the  
6 500 block of Harrison Avenue, the gentleman  
7 that sent the request to me submitted pictures  
8 of overgrown grass on the sidewalk and  
9 complaints about snakes.

10 One of the things I do want to  
11 mention, I think this goes without saying that  
12 even though the Licensing and Inspections  
13 Department is technically still open, there are  
14 I think one or two employees or however many  
15 people working there. I think there is only  
16 one inspector that's actually working right  
17 now.

18 So I do know that once the nice  
19 weather hits in the spring and in the summer,  
20 Council gets inundated with requests and the  
21 Office of Licensing and Inspections gets  
22 inundated with requests -- so but I do want to,  
23 you know, remind people that if they're not  
24 moving as quickly as they usually would, that's  
25 because there is only a limited amount of

1 employees because of the furloughs.

2 So hopefully that changes when those  
3 employees get back in the building and get back  
4 to work. Also, I wanted to update everyone on  
5 the meeting that I had last week in regards to  
6 the issues that had taken place on Third Avenue  
7 with truck traffic.

8 I had a meeting with the Mayor, her  
9 Chief of Staff, other members of her  
10 administration, the DPW Director, Police Chief  
11 Graziano and our City Engineer John Pocius.  
12 And although I think some people over there  
13 would be disappointed that we can't reroute  
14 truck traffic off of Third Avenue because of  
15 the weight restrictions on Elm Street and some  
16 other issues that we would have there, we  
17 are -- the City is going to research  
18 legislation which would ban or prohibit brake  
19 retarders so those trucks would have Jake  
20 Brakes which is a big issue.

21 Also, Chief Graziano pledged to  
22 increase the enforcement of trucks that might  
23 be over weight. And there may be some  
24 additional things that we might be able to do.  
25 So I did speak to the Mayor later this

1           afternoon before the Council meeting and she  
2           had told me that they are currently working on  
3           that and that should be coming down to us  
4           relatively soon which I think is a good thing.

5                        So the ultimate solution to the  
6           problem is the replacement of the Elm Street  
7           bridge, which is going to happen, may take two,  
8           three, four years. One of the things in  
9           speaking with John Pocius, the City Engineer  
10          that complicates the matter is it being over  
11          the Lackawanna River and just being in the area  
12          that it's in always complicates everything.

13                      And it takes a lot of work to  
14          replace those types of bridges. So that is the  
15          ultimate solution to the problem. But in the  
16          meantime, there are some fixes that we're going  
17          to look at and hopefully pass soon.

18                      And finally, I'd like to make a  
19          motion at this time that City Council send a  
20          letter to United States Mitch McConnell, Chuck  
21          Schumer, Bob Casey and Pat Toomey asking for an  
22          increase in funding to Scranton due to the  
23          COVID-19 pandemic and also to pledge our  
24          support for an increase in federal medical  
25          assistance percentages that would provide our

1 state, Pennsylvania and Scranton much needed  
2 federal assistance.

3 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: There's been a motion  
5 and a second. On the question? I just want to  
6 say on the question this is something that we  
7 had discussed last week when our Business  
8 Administrator, Pat Sheridan came in and  
9 unfortunately told us I think what we all might  
10 have assumed due to the pandemic that we may be  
11 in a very precarious position at the end of  
12 this year in terms of anywhere between 6 and 10  
13 million dollar deficit.

14 Now, as Mr. Sheridan had mentioned,  
15 that may change in July and August when we  
16 get -- keep getting updated figures. But it  
17 looks at this point like many other cities and  
18 boroughs and townships throughout Pennsylvania  
19 and throughout the country, we may be in some  
20 serious trouble financially because of the  
21 COVID-19 pandemic.

22 So the National League of Cities and  
23 National Association of Counties, the U.S.  
24 Conference of Mayors and some other  
25 organizations have circulated a letter that

1           they're sending to Mitch McConnell, Senators  
2           McConnell and Senator Schumer that I would like  
3           City Council to also sign onto. And I'm going  
4           to -- in a second I'll read that letter into  
5           the record.

6                         One of the things that they're  
7           calling for is for these Senators to support an  
8           increase in the Federal Medical Assistance  
9           Percentages which will also include in that  
10          letter that we'll send out as well. The  
11          Federal Medical Assistance Percentages are used  
12          in determining the amount of federal matching  
13          funds for state expenditures for assistance  
14          payments for certain social services and state  
15          medical and medical insurance expenditures.

16                        This Federal Medical Assistance  
17          Percentages supports healthcare programs for  
18          seniors, children, people with disabilities.  
19          And since these programs are not discretionary,  
20          the loss of these funds would drain resources  
21          to support other program and infrastructure  
22          priorities throughout the State of  
23          Pennsylvania.

24                        So for every dollar that is spent on  
25          Medicare in the State of Pennsylvania, the

1 federal Medical Assistance Percentages also  
2 matches that. So we're looking to ask them to  
3 support an increase that would really provide  
4 Pennsylvania with a few billion dollars and it  
5 would definitely have a positive effect on  
6 Scranton.

7 I just want to take a second here  
8 and read into the record what I would like sent  
9 to Senators McConnell and Senator Schumer:

10 We write today to advocate on behalf  
11 of states, territories, counties, cities and  
12 towns all of which are experiencing historic  
13 budget shortfalls as they continue to respond  
14 to the pandemic. In less than two weeks, the  
15 budget years for 45 states and thousands of  
16 local governments will begin.

17 Unlike the federal government, these  
18 state and local governments must begin their  
19 fiscal years on time and with a balanced  
20 budget. If the Senate fails to act immediately  
21 to support state and local governments, our  
22 nation's recovery from the pandemic induced  
23 recession will suffer and millions of Americans  
24 will needlessly be harmed.

25 Previous federal bills responding to

1 COVID-19 provided important support. Many,  
2 through well established grant programs, yet  
3 none allow for the replacement of billions of  
4 lost revenue due to COVID-19.

5 More robust and direct stimulus is  
6 needed for state and local governments to both  
7 rebuild the economy and maintain essential  
8 services in education, healthcare, emergency  
9 operations, public safety and more.

10 As we move closer to the end of the  
11 budget year, furloughs and job cuts are on the  
12 table for many states and localities. These  
13 job losses not only affect the provisions of  
14 government services but also add to state  
15 unemployment.

16 The damage will get far worse  
17 without federal assistance forcing drastic cuts  
18 that will further delay and cancel  
19 infrastructure projects as at least 26 states  
20 have announced construction delays for  
21 transportation projects.

22 The loss of such projects will  
23 ripple through states construction industry  
24 delaying recovery further. State and local  
25 governments also purchase goods and services

1           which add to the nation's output.

2                       And in 2019, state and local  
3           government's purchases accounted for 11 percent  
4           of JDP. When these activities slow down, there  
5           is an effect of the nation's economy. There is  
6           an effect on the nation's economy. Alarminglly,  
7           CBO's June letter on its forecast of gross  
8           domestic product for 2020 and 2021, found that  
9           state and local government's purchases of goods  
10          and services fell by 350 billion dollars making  
11          up 9 percent of the total decline in GDP.

12                      Nearly 15 million Americans are  
13          employed by state and local governments.  
14          Teachers, first responders and emergency  
15          medical service workers are on the front lines  
16          of this crisis doing the essential work of the  
17          country.

18                      Government employment continues to  
19          suffer substantial losses with over 1.6 million  
20          dollars in state and local government jobs lost  
21          since March. Leaders in Washington have  
22          expressed support for flexible fiscal aid to  
23          states and localities of all sizes. Yet months  
24          have gone by and our communities continue to  
25          suffer. Americans have a history of standing

1           together in time of crisis and must do so now.

2                     And that would be the end of the  
3           letter. I just want to make one additional  
4           comment. As I mentioned last week, if we don't  
5           receive substantial funding from the federal  
6           government and we end up with a deficit between  
7           6 and 10 million dollars, we don't really have  
8           that many choices.

9                     We're in the same position as nearly  
10          all municipalities, boroughs and townships  
11          throughout the State of Pennsylvania and  
12          throughout the country. But we really need the  
13          support of our leaders and our federal  
14          government because we can't now rely even so  
15          much on the state because of all the issues  
16          they're having.

17                    We certainly don't want to end up  
18          voting on a budget in November and December  
19          where we're -- have a 10 million dollar deficit  
20          and we're asked to go back to the taxpayers and  
21          put the burden on them when they've already  
22          suffered and been through so much. So that's  
23          all I have to say on that. Anyone else on the  
24          question? All those in favor of the motion  
25          signify by saying aye.

1 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

2 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

3 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

4 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The  
6 ayes have it and so moved. And that is all I  
7 have this week. Mrs. Reed?

8 MS. REED: Thank you. 5-B. No  
9 business at this time.

10 SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. No business at  
11 this time.

12 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
13 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY  
14 DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 38,  
15 2020 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
16 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER  
17 INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE  
18 CITY OF SCRANTON'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND  
19 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND NEPA ALLIANCE  
20 TO ASSIST THE CITY OF SCRANTON IN PROVIDING  
21 CREDIT CHECKS ON APPLICATIONS FOR THE CITY'S  
22 SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF PROGRAM.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Mrs. Reed.  
24 What is the recommendation of the Chairperson  
25 for the Committee on Community Development?

1 DR. ROTHCHILD: As Chairperson for  
2 the Committee on Community Development, I  
3 recommend final passage of Item 7-A.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? On  
6 the question, I just want to say for both of  
7 these grant programs, so far our grant and loan  
8 program to my knowledge has been a real  
9 success. So I do want to thank Eileen  
10 Cipriani, the Director of the Office of  
11 Economic and Community Development for coming  
12 in rather quickly and putting this together and  
13 finding money that was I believe was in a pot  
14 since I think the 1990s at some point.

15 Our small businesses throughout the  
16 City are obviously suffering. I think moving  
17 to the green phase on Friday is a welcome sigh  
18 of relief somewhat for these businesses that  
19 can still remain up and running and will  
20 hopefully get back on their feet.

21 This -- these programs, the small  
22 business loan program and the grant program, I  
23 think will be a great shot in the arm for them  
24 to help them get up and running again. And I  
25 wish them all the best and all the success.

1           Anyone else on the question? Roll call,  
2           please?

3                       MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

4                       MR SCHUSTER: Yes.

5                       MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

6                       MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

7                       MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

8                       DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

9                       MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

10                      MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

11                      MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12                      MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare  
13           Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

14                      MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION  
15           BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
16           RESOLUTION NO. 39, 2020 - APPOINTMENT OF CARL  
17           DEELEY, 711 NORTH WEBSTER AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
18           PENNSYLVANIA 18510 TO THE POSITION OF  
19           BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020.  
20           MR. DEELEY WILL BE REPLACING PATRICK J.  
21           SHERIDAN.

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

25                      DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question?

2 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, on the  
3 question, I'd just like to say after being able  
4 to review Mr. Deeley's resume and having a few  
5 conversations with him, we spoke at length I  
6 think about the -- our vision for the City and  
7 what we would like to see happen here within  
8 the next few years. And I'm really pleased  
9 with this appointment.

10 I feel that he'll do a very good job  
11 in the position and I'm very impressed by his  
12 background and the skills that he has to bring  
13 to the position as Business Administrator.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Dr.  
15 Rothchild. I too want to welcome Mr. Deeley to  
16 the City of Scranton and to the position of  
17 Business Administrator. I want to thank  
18 Mr. Sheridan for all the work he's done in the  
19 last six months.

20 I think he's done a fine job. I  
21 think in terms of Mr. Deeley, it is -- in  
22 looking at his resume, it is sometimes good to  
23 have people who are -- who have a different  
24 background and who come from maybe a different  
25 perspective.

1                   Mr. Sheridan had a really  
2                   interesting comment to me the one day maybe a  
3                   week and a half ago when I was talking to him.  
4                   He said in the City of Scranton, maybe the  
5                   issue in City Hall has been we've been asking  
6                   the wrong questions.

7                   We're looking at a problem the same  
8                   way for decades and not, you know, stepping  
9                   outside the box for a minute and looking at it  
10                  in a different way. So I hope that, you know,  
11                  this change and with what Mr. Sheridan has been  
12                  able to do and now with the perspective that  
13                  Mr. Deeley may bring, that we may be able to  
14                  ask some different questions and look at things  
15                  in a different way to try to solve some of the  
16                  very difficult and complex problems that face  
17                  the City. Anyone else on the question? Roll  
18                  call, please.

19                 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

20                 MR. SCHUSTER: Yes.

21                 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

22                 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

23                 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

24                 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

25                 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

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MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare  
Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted. If  
there is no further business, I'll entertain a  
motion to adjourn.

MR. DONAHUE: Motion to adjourn.

MR. GAUGHAN: This meeting's  
adjourned. Thanks everyone. Stay safe. Stay  
healthy.

DR. ROTHCHILD: Thank you.

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 taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy  
6 is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my  
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