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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING

IN RE: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 14, 2010 - AMENDING
THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
PENNSYLVANIA, SECTION 6-14-CONTRACTS, SUBSECTION (A) TO
REDUCE THE AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH COMPETITIVE BIDDING IS
REQUIRED FROM \$20,000.00 to \$10,000.00, AND TO REDUCE
THE AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH QUOTES MUCH BE OBTAINED FORM
\$5,000.000 TO \$4,000.00.

HELD:

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

LOCATION:

Council Chambers
Scranton City Hall
340 North Washington Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI - COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT

PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

FRANK JOYCE

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

CATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1 MR. ROGAN: I call this public
2 hearing to order. Roll call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans. Mr.
12 Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Here. The purpose of
14 this hearing is to hear testimony and
15 discuss the following:

16 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 14, 2010 -
17 AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY
18 OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, SECTION
19 6-14-CONTRACTS, SUBSECTION (A) TO REDUCE THE
20 AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH COMPETITIVE BIDDING IS
21 REQUIRED FROM \$20,000.00 to \$10,000.00, AND
22 TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH QUOTES MUCH
23 BE OBTAINED FORM \$5,000.000 TO \$4,000.00.

24 The first speaker is Andy Sbaraglia.

25 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia.

1 Citizens of Scranton, Fellow Scrantonians,
2 when they say life is like a merry-go-round,
3 it is. I spoke against when they did it the
4 first time around. When they took the
5 10,000 and pushed it up to 20,000 and I
6 never thought I would get the chance to
7 speak it on it again, but here it is again.

8 If you follow the history way back
9 when, when they did that, you found out that
10 the indebtedness of the city climbed from
11 that point and kept climbing to a numerous
12 deals that we don't even now, all we know is
13 that it was done and it kept going. So I'm
14 glad to see you looking at this in the light
15 like everyone else look at it. I think the
16 school board is 10,000, too. Probably a lot
17 of other places is 10,000, too. I guess
18 that was an arbitrary amount where it
19 wouldn't have to go through council, they
20 wouldn't bother this or go for that. I
21 don't know how they figured the 10,000 but
22 it was done that way and it was done for a
23 long time until our mayor decided he wanted
24 it upped and they did up it from ten to 20
25 and the reason why is obvious, they didn't

1 want it coming in before council because at
2 competitive bidding at ten 10,000, council
3 would had to look at it.

4 So, hence, it went from him, his
5 bidding right over to I guess Roseanne
6 Novembrino and that was it. Council was
7 completely cut off of the deal, so I'm just
8 glad to see we are coming back to where it
9 should have been. It should never have been
10 raised in the first place and I'm glad to
11 see this council take the initiative to put
12 it back to where it should be. Thank you.

13 (While Mr. Sbaraglia was speaking,
14 Mrs. Evans takes the dais.)

15 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else to
16 wishes to address council?

17 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,
18 South Scranton resident. I feel the same
19 way that Mr. Sbaraglia feels, I'm glad to
20 see it lowered back down to \$10,000 because
21 that will allow more businesses and local
22 businesses the opportunity to go ahead and
23 bid out on some of these contracts instead
24 of the contracts basically being awarded to
25 almost the same people over and over again.

1 And I'm glad to see that we've got a
2 proactive council right now. The last two
3 or three councils have basically just sat on
4 their hands and done nothing except
5 everything that the mayor wanted and these
6 are good changes that are being made and
7 hopefully some of the local businesses and
8 the smaller businesses, not only in Scranton
9 but in the local area, Taylor, Moosic, Old
10 Forge and so on, maybe they can, you know,
11 take the opportunity and bid on some of
12 these contracts and increase the economy for
13 the local people and, you know, instead of
14 the same people getting the contracts over
15 and over and over again. Thank you.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
17 anyone else who would like to address
18 council? I now declare this public hearing
19 --oh, we do? Mr. Ungvarsky, please.

20 MR. UNGVARKSY: That's all right.
21 Good evening. I'm Tom Ungvarsky. The only
22 thing that I would like to see is that you
23 make sure that they are not submitting two
24 bids of \$10,000 or less for the same project
25 and perhaps you could get a better

1 definition of what professional services
2 are. Thank you.

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
4 anyone else who wishes to address council?
5 I now declare this public hearing closed.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
5 notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
6 above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
7 and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
8 ability.

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