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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

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:

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

11 MR. JOYCE: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

13 MS. EVANS: Here. At this time we
14 are going to set aside the normal
15 progression of the meeting for a very great
16 occasion. We will be presenting
17 proclamations to six West Scranton High
18 School students tonight and I am very happy
19 to say that good things are happening at West
20 Scranton High School, and all too often
21 these good accomplishments, magnificent
22 achievements of these young people go
23 unnoticed, and as far as this council is
24 concerned we like to celebrate in your
25 victories, celebrate in those achievements

1 and rewards and all of the City of Scranton
2 is very proud of you.

3 We are going to begin with Justin
4 Ambrozia. WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY
5 OF SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "JUSTIN
6 AMBROZIA", son of Mr. And Mrs. Justin
7 Ambrozia, Jr.; and WHEREAS, "JUSTIN" attends
8 West Scranton High School where he is a
9 sophomore and an Honor Student; and WHEREAS,
10 "JUSTIN" is a member of the West Scranton
11 High School Marching Band under the
12 direction of Mr. Thomas Frew, and is a
13 member of the West Scranton High School
14 Concert and Jazz Bands; and WHEREAS,
15 "JUSTIN" participates in his high school's
16 Cross Country Team, Track Team, and German
17 Club; and WHEREAS "JUSTIN", as a member of
18 the Pennsylvania All-State Lions Band, was
19 selected to participate in the Parade and
20 Concert performances at the International
21 Lions Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota,
22 which included a performance for Secretary
23 of State Colin Powell; and WHEREAS, "JUSTIN"
24 belongs to the Lackawanna All-County Band
25 and the Lackawanna County Upper Valley Wind

1 Ensemble; and WHEREAS, "JUSTIN" is currently
2 a member of the Marywood University Wind
3 Ensemble and the Marywood University
4 Orchestra, and was previously selected for
5 the Marywood University Honors Band in 2008
6 and 2009; and WHEREAS, "JUSTIN" has had the
7 distinction of qualifying for the
8 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association
9 (PMEA) DISTRICT 9 ORCHESTRA, and was awarded
10 First Place in the PMEA District 9 Band, and
11 First Place in the PMEA Regional 4/State
12 Band; and WHEREAS, "JUSTIN" qualified for
13 PMEA All-State Wind Ensemble for 2010 as a
14 result of placing first chair at Regionals,
15 and was previously selected for PMEA
16 Bandfest in 2007 and 2008; and NOW,
17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on Tuesday,
18 April 13, 2010, Scranton City council wishes
19 to congratulate "JUSTIN AMBROZIA", his
20 Family, Instructors, and Teachers for their
21 outstanding achievements and extend our best
22 wishes for success in all their future
23 endeavors. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that
24 this Proclamation be made a permanent part
25 of the Minutes of this Council, as lasting

1 tribute to "JUSTIN AMBROZIA."

2 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
3 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "GLORIA
4 DUDEK", daughter of John and Patricia Koch;
5 and WHEREAS, "GLORIA" is a junior at West
6 Scranton High School where sh is a member of
7 the Junior National Honor Society, is on the
8 National Honor Roll, and has participated in
9 the Mock Trials; and WHEREAS, "GLORIA" is
10 the Drum Major at West Scranton High School
11 under the direction of Band Leader Mr.
12 Thomas Frew; and WHEREAS, "GLORIA" in
13 addition to playing percussion, also plays
14 the piano and has performed twice at
15 Carnegie Hall; and WHEREAS, "GLORIA"
16 auditioned for the Dorothy Sutton
17 Performance Festival sponsored by the
18 Pennsylvania music Teachers Association, and
19 having been named a State Winner of the
20 Festival, "GLORIA" was selected to perform
21 at West Chester University, Penn State
22 University, Wilkes University, and Moravian
23 College, to name just a few; and WHEREAS
24 "GLORIA" is involved in the People to People
25 Leadership Summit; and WHEREAS, "GLORIA" is

1 interested in pursuing a music career in
2 college; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,
3 that on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, Scranton
4 City Council wishes to congratulate "GLORIA
5 DUDEK", her Family, Instructors, and
6 Teachers for the outstanding achievements
7 and extend our best wishes for success in
8 all their future endeavors. IT IS FURTHER
9 RESOLVED, that this Proclamation be made a
10 permanent part of the Minutes of this
11 Council, as lasting tribute to "GLORIA
12 DUDEK."

13 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
14 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "JACKIE
15 WOOD", daughter of Nelson and Cathy Wood,
16 and sister of Christopher; and WHEREAS,
17 "JACKIE" is a senior at West Scranton High
18 School where she is a member of the Marching
19 Band, and a National Honor Society Student;
20 and WHEREAS, "JACKIE" belongs to the Choral
21 Society of Northeastern, Pennsylvania, and
22 the music ministry at St. Lucy's Church
23 where she is a cantor; and WHEREAS, "JACKIE"
24 has been named All-State Piccolo Player for
25 All-State Orchestra, and 1st Chair District

1 Orchestra for 2010, and 2nd Chair Regional
2 Orchestra for 2010, and 3rd Chair Regional
3 Band for 2010; and WHEREAS, "JACKIE" was
4 instructed in flute and piccolo under the
5 tutelage of Mr. Richard Schwartz since
6 fourth grade; and WHEREAS, "JACKIE" was led
7 by Mr. Thomas Frew, Band Leader at West
8 Scranton High School; and WHEREAS, "JACKIE"
9 has attended the Performing Arts Institute
10 at Wyoming Seminary during summers; and
11 WHEREAS, "JACKIE" has been accepted at
12 Baldwin Wallace College Conservatory of
13 Music in Ohio where she will pursue Music
14 Education and Performance; and WHEREAS,
15 "JACKIE" has been awarded a Presidential
16 Scholarship and Talent Scholarship from
17 Baldwin Wallace College; and NOW, THEREFORE,
18 BE IT RESOLVED, that on Tuesday, April 13,
19 2010, Scranton City Council wishes to
20 congratulate "JACKIE WOOD", her Family,
21 Instructors, and Teachers for their
22 outstanding achievements and extend our best
23 wishes for success in all their future
24 endeavors. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that
25 this Proclamation be made a permanent part

1 of the Minutes of this Council, as lasting
2 tribute to "JACKIE WOOD."

3 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
4 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "SEAN
5 JAKES", son of Mark and Laurie Jakes and
6 brother of Tyler; and WHEREAS, "SEAN" is a
7 member of the 2010 senior class of West
8 Scranton High School, and is the Student
9 Council Vice-President; and WHEREAS, "SEAN"
10 is a National Honor Society student; and
11 WHEREAS, "SEAN" is a member of the West
12 Scranton High School Wrestling Team and has
13 distinguished himself with 116 career wins;
14 and WHEREAS, "SEAN" has earned the 2010
15 District II Runner-Up in his weight class -
16 119 lbs; and WHEREAS, "SEAN" is All-State
17 Academic; and WHEREAS "SEAN" is a four-time
18 Lackawanna League All-Star Wrestler; and
19 WHEREAS, "SEAN" is a four-time All Region
20 Wrestler; and WHEREAS, "SEAN" was coached by
21 Varsity Coaches Paul Fox; and John Richter;
22 and WHEREAS, "SEAN" has been accepted at the
23 University of Scranton where he will pursue
24 a career in Criminal Justice; and NOW,
25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on Tuesday,

1 April 213, 2010, Scranton City Council
2 wishes to congratulate "SEAN JAKES", his
3 Family, Coaches and Teachers for their
4 outstanding achievements and extend our best
5 wishes for success in all their future
6 endeavors. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that
7 this Proclamation be made a permanent part
8 of the Minutes of this Council, as lasting
9 tribute to "SEAN JAKES."

10 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
11 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "CORY
12 HENDRY", son of John and Sheri Hendry an
13 brother of John; and WHEREAS, "CORY" is a
14 senior at West Scranton High School, and is
15 a National Honor Society student' and
16 WHEREAS, "CORY" is active in the Art Club,
17 Spirit Club, and American Red Cross at West
18 Scranton High School and is a proud member
19 of Students Against Drunk Driving
20 (S.A.D.D.); and WHEREAS, "CORY" is a member
21 of th West Scranton High School Wrestling
22 Team and had distinguished himself with 127
23 career wins, which is the third all time
24 record at West; and WHEREAS, "CORY" has
25 earned the 2008 and 2010 District Ii

1 Championship in his weight class - 145 lbs;
2 and WHEREAS "CORY" is All-State Academic;
3 and WHEREAS, "CORY" is a four-time
4 Lackawanna League Division 1 All-Star
5 Wrestler; and WHEREAS, "CORY" was coached by
6 Varsity Coach Paul Fox; and WHEREAS, "CORY"
7 has been accepted at East Stroudsburg
8 University where he will pursue a career in
9 teaching history; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT
10 RESOLVED, that on Tuesday, April 13, 2010,
11 Scranton City Council wishes to congratulate
12 "CORY HENDRY", his Family, Coaches and
13 Teachers for their outstanding achievements
14 and extend our best wishes for success in
15 all their future endeavors. BE IT FURTHER
16 RESOLVED, that this Proclamation be made a
17 permanent part of the Minutes of this
18 Council, as lasting tribute to "CORY
19 HENDRY".

20 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
21 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "ELLIOT
22 ZACKOSKI", son of David Zackoski and the
23 late Pamela Zackoski, brother of Joshua, and
24 nephew of Beth Honan; and WHEREAS, "ELLIOT"
25 is a senior at West Scranton High School,

1 and Class Vice-President; and WHEREAS,
2 "ELLIOT" is a senior at West Scranton High
3 School, and Class Vice-President; and
4 WHEREAS, "ELLIOT" is the current president
5 of the German Club and served as Treasurer
6 during his junior year; and WHEREAS,
7 "ELLIOT" is a National Honor Society
8 student; and WHEREAS, "ELLIOT" is a member
9 of the West Scranton High School Wrestling
10 Team and has distinguished himself with 110
11 career wins; and WHEREAS, "ELLIOT" has
12 earned the 2010 District II third place for
13 his weight class - 130 lbs; and WHEREAS,
14 "ELLIOT" is All-State Academic, and a
15 three-time Lackawanna League All-Star
16 Wrestler; and WHEREAS, "ELLIOT" is a
17 two-time All Regional Wrestler; and WHEREAS,
18 "ELLIOT" was coached by Varsity Coach Paul
19 Fox; and WHEREAS, "ELLIOT" has been
20 recruited by Bloomsburg University where he
21 will continue his wrestling career, and
22 study mid-level mathematics; and WHEREAS,
23 "ELLIOT" is involved with the youth group,
24 Solid Rock, at Hickory Street Presbyterian
25 Church; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1 that on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, Scranton
2 City Council wishes to congratulate "ELLIOT
3 ZACKOSKI", his Family, Coaches and Teachers
4 for their outstanding achievements and
5 extend our best wishes for success in all
6 their future endeavors. BE IT FURTHER
7 RESOLVED, that this Proclamation be made a
8 permanent part of the Minutes of this
9 Council, as lasting tribute to "ELLIOT
10 ZACKOSKI".

11 MS. EVANS: All of these young men
12 and women are certainly a great credit to
13 their families, to West Scranton High
14 School, to the Scranton School District and
15 the City of Scranton, and we commend them
16 highly. We also commend the parents and
17 family members who have supervised and loved
18 them so well all of these years and
19 Mr. Frew, whom I know to be an unparalleled
20 music teacher. Thank you all for coming.

21 Mrs. Krake, if you would dispense
22 with the reading of the minutes, please.

23 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
24 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND
25 EVALUATION REPORT RECEIVED FROM OECD APRIL

1 5, 2020.

2 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
3 If not, received and filed. Clerk's notes.

4 MS. KRAKE: Yes. We have several
5 responses tonight. The first is from Linda
6 Aebli, the director of OECD. She is
7 responding to our letter of April one, the
8 request concerning the funds for the
9 Homebuyer's Program for the City of
10 Scranton. "In 2009, \$250,000 was allocated
11 for the Homebuyer's Program. As of today,
12 the balance for this program is \$100,815.95.
13 The City of Scranton's Homebuyer's Program
14 has always been successful since it's
15 inception in 1993, and has made
16 approximately 900 plus families meet the
17 dream of homeownership. The City of
18 Scranton's Homebuyer's Program provides to
19 eligible income persons half the down
20 payment assistance, not to exceed \$7,000 and
21 provides up to \$5,000 in closing costs for a
22 total of \$12,000.

23 If anyone would like an application
24 they can go to the City of Scranton of
25 website and then click on OECD applications

1 and first time Homebuyer's Program or simply
2 call the Office of Economic and Community
3 Development at 348-4216."

4 That's her response.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you, and maybe if
6 we could possibly make a copy of that for
7 Mr. Dwyer, because I believe he was the
8 council speaker who had inquired about that
9 issue.

10 MS. KRAKE: Absolutely.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

12 MS. KRAKE: Our next response is
13 from the business administrator, Stu Renda.
14 It was -- he is responding to our letter
15 about the independent audit report for 2009.
16 He says, "This office has been working
17 diligently with Robert Rossi & Company to
18 complete all open items."

19 I believe council had received a
20 list of items that Rossi said they had not
21 yet received.

22 MS. EVANS: Yes, we did.

23 MS. KRAKE: He says, "Our priority
24 has been to complete the items listed on the
25 December 23 memo and the three items remain

1 open and will be completed by April 16. At
2 that time our focus will shift to addressing
3 all outstanding memos in sequential order.
4 This plan will address all inquiries and
5 requests by the independent auditors in a
6 timely manner. Hopefully this process will
7 yield an audit report by May 31, 2010.
8 Please feel free to contact me if you shall
9 require any further explanations."

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

11 MS. KRAKE: We also have another
12 response from business administrator Stu
13 Renda. This is regarding an update
14 concerning the procurement of electricity
15 for the City of Scranton. On March 30 and
16 31, Scranton placed an advertisement in the
17 classified section of the Scranton Times
18 requesting proposals for electricity supply
19 and related services. All proposals will be
20 received by the city controller until 10:30
21 a.m., April 16, 2010, at which time they
22 will be read aloud in city council chambers.
23 Hopefully, these will address your
24 concerns."

25 And finally, we have a response from

1 Gerald T. Langan, president and CEO of
2 Goodwill Industries. He thanks us for our
3 letter requesting an update on the North
4 Scranton project. "We are currently trying
5 to obtain final funding arrangements in
6 order to complete the housing project. Due
7 to the economy and the banks not wishing to
8 extend tax credits, we are looking for
9 alternative ways to complete the project and
10 replace the loss of the tax credit money.
11 We will keep you up-to-date as we progress
12 with this project."

13 And that's it.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any
15 council members have announcements at this
16 time?

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you.
18 This Saturday evening, April 17, from 5
19 until 10 p.m., there will be a benefit
20 dinner for Pancreatic Cancer in loving
21 memory of Angela Price held by the Angie's
22 Angels. It will held at the Fraternal Order
23 of Eagle's Hall at 493 Meridian Avenue with
24 dinner from five to seven and entertainment
25 from seven to ten by DJ Daddy. Tickets are

1 \$10 and can be purchased at the door. There
2 will be basket raffles and ribbon pops are
3 for sale. All proceeds will be going to the
4 American Cancer Society.

5 Saturday, May 8, at Nay Aug Park,
6 the Junior League of Scranton is having a
7 touch a truck, putting children's
8 imagination into overdrive. Touch a truck
9 educates and entertains by offering hands-on
10 access to fire and seatbelt safety, stranger
11 danger, basic first aid, recycling and more.
12 Children are invited to climb aboard trucks,
13 buses, helicopters, rescue and construction
14 vehicles. The admission I believe is \$5 and
15 it's from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Nay Aug
16 Park, that's May 8. Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes. The Providence
19 United Presbyterian Church located on 1145
20 Providence Road will host a takeout only
21 baked ziti dinner on April 24 from 4 to 6
22 p.m. The cost of a dinner will be \$8.50 for
23 adults and \$4.50 for children. Those
24 interested could call 346-0804. Also, the
25 West Scranton Legion Baseball Program annual

1 golf tournament will be held on April 25 at
2 Summit Hills Golf Course. Following this
3 tournament, there will be a dinner at Villa
4 Maria II restaurant. The cost to play in
5 the tournament is \$85 per person or \$340 per
6 team. Teams that pay in full by April 17
7 will receive a case of their favorite
8 beverage to take on the course, and if you
9 would like to participate in this tournament
10 you can do so by calling George Roscos at
11 344-2929 or you may e-mail him at
12 Roscos29@aol.com, and that is all.

13 MS. EVANS: The schedule for street
14 cleaning is as follows: April 12 through
15 16, Lemon Street to Parker Street and April
16 19 through 23, Greenridge Street to
17 Fairfield Street. We ask that residents
18 would retrain whenever possible were parking
19 on the specific streets that are designated
20 for street cleaning to make this clean up
21 program more effective.

22 Also, this Saturday, April 17, there
23 will be a walk for the benefit of the
24 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, I'm very sorry
25 about that tongue twister. Again, it's this

1 Saturday, April 17, at Keystone College in
2 LaPlume. Check-in time is 11 a.m. and the
3 walks starts at noon. That's it.

4 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
5 PARTICIPATION.

6 MS. EVANS: Our speaker is Giovanni
7 Piccolino.

8 MR. PICCOLINO: Good evening, city
9 council, Giovanni Piccolino, taxpayer and
10 business owner. I'd like to start off by
11 again thanking you guys as being the channel
12 to the Parking Authority for me and my
13 family's business. The last probably about
14 a month and a half, two months, the spot in
15 front of us has been outstanding. Thank you
16 guys very much.

17 I would like to briefly mention, I
18 have noticed this lately, the gallery on
19 Lackawanna Avenue with us in Scranton has
20 been an absolutely wonderful outlet for
21 younger kids, for teenagers, for something
22 to do. They have like plenty of like
23 drawing and sketching and art programs and
24 I'm continually seeing a lot of families
25 come into the pizza shop and saying it's a

1 great, great thing for their kids they have
2 something to do, so if people want to check
3 that out.

4 Also, again, for this week I just
5 did a little bit of a survey for you guys
6 asking some customers if Scranton is parking
7 friendly and 31 negatives and ten positives
8 on that, and none parked in the parking
9 garages at all, at least for us, but on a
10 weird sidenote nine of our customers parked
11 in the mall rather than parking in the
12 parking garages. And one of the things that
13 I got out of that asking people a lot of
14 them say, which I think it's a little bit
15 weird, I don't really park in the garages,
16 but they say there is not enough lighting in
17 the parking garages especially like older
18 women tell me this.

19 I have a question for you,
20 Mr. McGoff, since I guess this gentleman
21 said that you were the only one that was in
22 this picture, the new restaurant in the
23 parking garage on Washington Avenue do they
24 have some kind of agreement or contract in
25 place with the parking there if like, you

1 know, I don't know if they show a receipt,
2 you know, they will get to park there?

3 MR. MCGOFF: I have no idea.

4 MR. PICCOLINO: Would you be able to
5 find that out?

6 MR. MCGOFF: I probably could.

7 MR. PICCOLINO: Because there is a
8 business owner in that area and he was just
9 wondering, it's not me, if they were somehow
10 someday going to have free parking for that
11 establishment, why wouldn't it be offered to
12 him.

13 MR. MCGOFF: If they were validating
14 parking you want to know?

15 MR. PICCOLINO: Okay. If so maybe
16 it could be offered to them which brought
17 into my mind do like a lot of the parking
18 garages try to work with city businesses, do
19 you guys know? Maybe if people brought
20 receipts that validated it.

21 MR. MCGOFF: If they don't, they
22 should.

23 MR. PICCOLINO: Yeah, they really
24 should because, you know, for nine people to
25 want to park in the mall which, I mean,

1 Molly Brannigan's parking garage is closer
2 to us than the mall, I think. To want to
3 park there and come into our shop than the
4 parking garage is -- I don't know, and
5 that's about it. Thank you very much. Have
6 a good night.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

8 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
9 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I
10 guess everybody here knows I had a full-page
11 spread in the Times. Now, did I deserve a
12 full-page spread? Yeah, for some of the
13 things I have done, but to get one for some
14 of the things I didn't do is a little -- but
15 we all got to realize that was a slap in the
16 face to city council, not for me, it was an
17 insult to you, and that's what they had the
18 things doing. And it insulted the Charter.
19 The Charter gives you the right to concur.
20 Since you didn't concur, whether I sat on
21 the Scranton Redevelopment Authority or
22 Mr. Timlin, really for the people of
23 Scranton the only thing they would get from
24 me being there is a view into the back door
25 and that's about, it because as you can see

1 on council four votes would be against me,
2 one vote would be my own. So we all
3 understand that, but since they chose to
4 give me a full-page ad. I was hoping to
5 save it for when I die, but that's the way
6 life goes.

7 Now, they also complained that I
8 gave a very short I guess a letter stating
9 why I wanted to be on council, what they
10 call a resume, but you are right. I didn't
11 give a long resume because I gave 35 years
12 of construction. I worked on buildings. I
13 worked on cleaning up blight in buildings,
14 that was my job, but since they didn't like
15 that resume I'll tell you a little something
16 more. Some people see a glass and they say
17 it's half-full, others say half-empty, I
18 only see half, and I see the whole work and
19 that's how my mind works. If I could cut
20 1,000 words out of something and come up
21 with one, I'll do that, but since they asked
22 a little about me, I'll give it to you.

23 I with a poster boy for the Boys
24 Club when I was a child, okay, because I
25 believe in the Boys Club. Then I served in

1 the Air Force for 4 1/2 years and was
2 honorably discharged. I had, of course, 35
3 years in construction. When Mayor Walsh
4 called for volunteers after them children
5 died I was there, one of the first one up
6 there. When Mayor Doherty bought all of
7 that wood and decided to build the
8 children's playground I worked on that
9 project because I believe in children.

10 As you know, I'm a member of the
11 Taxpayers' Association, but my greatest
12 contribution would be the Kids Swim Free
13 Program. I'm real proud of that, because
14 there is so many kids up on the Hill or
15 anywhere that couldn't afford to pay them \$3
16 fees up there, so I was glad to do that, to
17 go out and raise money and even
18 contributions like all of you to this fund
19 because I believe it's very worthwhile and I
20 believe in that, and if that's what they
21 want for a resume they got it.

22 My love for this city has never been
23 challenged. I can't say if their level has
24 been challenged because they sold our
25 playground, the South Side Complex. This

1 was a deal with the Scranton Redevelopment
2 Authority, they got the deed, they sold it.
3 Did I agree with it? No. And I probably
4 wouldn't agree with it if they tried that
5 with any other bit of legislation, I'll
6 fight tooth and nail to save our playgrounds
7 for the children.

8 As you know, there is a housing
9 project there and there is also the river.
10 Where are them kids going to go if they
11 can't use that field, go play in the river I
12 guess, but that's the way the city looks at
13 things. They never look at the people that
14 need them, they only look at what they can
15 do for the betterment of themselves and I
16 believe that and i certainly believe that
17 and I will always believe that. Thank you.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you,
19 Mr. Sbaraglia.

20 MR. HUGHES: Madam Chairman, if I
21 could just for one second, please?

22 MS. EVANS: Yes.

23 MR. HUGHES: Andy, there is one
24 thing, I was on vacation last week, I wasn't
25 here, I came home Saturday night it was

1 appear that other mayors have also made
2 every appointment to the Redevelopment
3 Authority by submitting a name to council
4 for council's advice and consent and
5 approval. I just wanted to give you those
6 facts, give the public the facts that the
7 statements that were made in the paper were
8 incorrect.

9 MS. EVANS: And in addition --

10 MR. HUGHES: And I have all of the
11 ordinances here if you would like to review
12 them.

13 MR. SBARAGLIA: Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: In addition, this is
15 very likely the first time since 2002 that
16 an appointment no a board or an authority
17 hats not received the consent of Scranton
18 City Council. I know that our attorney is
19 very busy this week preparing a brief
20 defending city council's actions against a
21 lawsuit brought by the mayor against it and,
22 Mr. Sbaraglia, next week I know that
23 Solicitor Hughes is going to look into this
24 more deeply and we'll talk about it again
25 and we'll be in touch with you.

1 MR. SBARAGLIA: Thank you.

2 MS. EVANS: Marie Schumacher.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Hello. Good
4 evening, Council. Happy spring. To go back
5 to the question that I asked last week when
6 Mr. Hughes was not available and that is
7 does any group accepting government money to
8 have to comply with government rules such as
9 advertising meetings and advertising changes
10 or emergency meetings or complying with the
11 Sunshine Law, Right-to-Know laws?

12 MR. HUGHES: Yes.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Because I
14 know -- well, while the library board was --
15 has always been gracious to me personally
16 and allowed me to review the actions of
17 another emergency meeting that they held,
18 the library board itself I think has a --
19 does not believe they have to comply with
20 rules. I was told that, you know, I'm
21 allowed to stay sort of through the
22 graciousness of their hearts, now this is
23 the board, but I don't know and, you know,
24 that's fine, it's a private group, but once
25 the authority gave the board of trustees

1 where there is a lot of overlap, sort of the
2 authority to do everything for them then I
3 wondered whether that held them to advertise
4 meetings and changes the meetings, so you
5 are saying "yes" on that.

6 MR. HUGHES: The Library Authority
7 Board would be an authority that would have
8 to comply with the Sunshine Law. As to the
9 board of the Scranton public library, I
10 really haven't researched that and I
11 wouldn't give an opinion, however, I believe
12 that that would have to be controlled by the
13 county commissioners since all of the funds
14 that go to the library board for the
15 libraries is raised by real estate tax.
16 It's collected by the county and then given
17 to the library which would all be public
18 money. Whether that -- and the Board of
19 Trustees is created by the trust agreement
20 from the Albrights for the creation of the
21 library. Whether that makes them public
22 under the Right-to-Know -- or under the
23 Sunshine Law, it would not be a public
24 agency of the Commonwealth. However, I
25 think that that issue could be addressed by

1 the Lackawanna County Commissioners by
2 saying since all of it's funds are public
3 funds and raised by virtue of the real
4 estate tax that they should as a recipient
5 of the money should comply even if there is
6 no requirement. That's my opinion. I
7 really haven't looked into it, but that
8 would be the way that I would look at it.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. And
10 they also do receive state money directly.

11 Now, back to Mr. Loscombe and how we
12 are doing. We had, of course, the episode
13 of the fire in Dunmore and do we have any
14 idea what percent of the time Dunmore fire
15 department is understaffed?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: At this time it's
17 tough to say what percentage because they
18 just started that in the last month or so
19 they just started their, you know, their
20 cutbacks, and I just saw I believe it was
21 yesterday where they are stopping the fire
22 department from running on their EMS calls,
23 also, trying to save a little bit of gas, I
24 don't know, but it's been a -- I'm trying to
25 get to that point. Honestly, I've got files

1 of paperwork here from some of the stuff we
2 have been working on, but that's my next
3 objective. In fact, I do have to meet with
4 our fire department tomorrow, we have a
5 safety meeting, so perhaps at that point
6 I'll be able to get up to Dunmore and get
7 some more information.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah. I don't
9 think anybody in the city realizes or
10 recognizes how many calls they went out on,
11 that Scranton went out on last year, and
12 again, now that they might be called on
13 more --

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- then what that
16 does --

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm sure they will be
18 called more.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- to our own
20 capacity to respond to Scranton fires, not
21 that I would --

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Exactly. Engine 15
23 and possibly our truck company downtown are
24 the first response.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, and danger as

1 well if it's understaffed and somebody could
2 get hurt a lot he easier, so I do have those
3 concerns.

4 And then also does anybody know how
5 many times the police department has to go
6 to a bar for it to be considered a nuisance
7 bar? I know that -- well, I know that there
8 were bars closed in Scranton for that and it
9 just seems lately that the Coliseum manages
10 to make it at least once a week for some
11 kind of an event, and I want wondered if --

12 MR. ROGAN: I sent an e-mail to
13 Chief Elliott last week regarding -- it
14 wasn't a bar, I got a question from a
15 resident after West Scranton who was asking
16 how many times before a property would
17 become a nuisance property, I know it was
18 three times for a private property. I don't
19 know if it's different for a bar or not, but
20 I'm sure I could send him a follow-up
21 e-mail.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. It just
23 would be interesting. And then is there
24 anything happening on the Comcast cable?
25 I'm concerned about the duration. I'm

1 concerned that we don't make the duration of
2 the Comcast contract too long since I do
3 believe Verizon is in the process of going
4 with their fiber system certainly across the
5 country and probably I don't know where we
6 stand. I was not able to get through their
7 menu after menu after menu of electronic
8 choices and I finally gave up, and I will
9 get back to it another time, but if that's
10 going to be available and there is going to
11 be competition I would hate for us to still
12 have like five or seven years left on a
13 Comcast contract.

14 MS. EVANS: I can tell you we
15 haven't received any recent updates, but
16 council is very cognizant of the time
17 duration of the contract and that was
18 discussed. There will be -- we at this
19 point have not received notification in
20 terms of what the length or life of the
21 contract will be, however, we were apprised
22 of the fact that very likely throughout the
23 country certain services, additional
24 services, and let's call it for lack of a
25 better term perks can be achieved through a

1 lengthier contract than would be offered in
2 a much more short-term contract, but it
3 seems typically nationwide that most
4 contracts are no less than ten years.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank you.
6 And then has the -- since Mulberry Street is
7 a state road does anybody know if that the
8 University project has been approved by the
9 state? It has?

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And then
12 this year, I know one of the problems and
13 one of the frustrations with parking in the
14 city has always been those wonderful,
15 thoughtful people who take up two spots and,
16 you know, it's easy for it to happen because
17 -- and I think even, I don't know the
18 Charter in their bylaws say that the lines
19 are supposed to be painted with the
20 perpendicular line coming out from the
21 parking meter and then making a "T" so that
22 you know when you are parked properly and
23 the city doesn't have those and the parking
24 authority says that's the city's
25 responsibility. So if we could ask for

1 the-- where there are parking meters if the
2 city could, in fact, issue or paint those
3 "T" lines so people know where they are
4 supposed to have their bumpers and maybe we
5 could free up some more parking. And I
6 think that will do it for tonight.

7 MS. EVANS: We'll certainly make
8 that request, but at this point in time it's
9 my understanding that the traffic
10 maintenance department has been disbanded
11 and they were the individuals who performed
12 this type of task. There is probably one
13 individual who I imagine continues to create
14 signs and install them and perhaps, you
15 know, paint lines, but just so you know, we
16 may have some difficulty in that area or it
17 may take us some time for something of that
18 nature to occur, minus the manpower of that
19 department.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Well, maybe,
21 I don't know if they are authorized for any,
22 you know, summer hires, but that would seem
23 a relative -- and I'm sure there is just a
24 form that's just put down and painted, so
25 maybe they could get some part-timers in the

1 summer to give some kids a job. Okay.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. EVANS: Marian -- well, you must
4 instruct me to properly pronounce it.

5 MS. YOST: It's Marian Betto-Yost.

6 MS. EVANS: Yost. Thank you.

7 MS. YOST: Betto is Welsh and Yost
8 is Pennsylvania Dutch. I'm here because --
9 I'm here for a reason that I think you are
10 not aware of and so I'm here to advocate and
11 to inform, okay? I was raised in Scranton
12 and I now live in Scranton. I finished
13 college here, I raised my children and I
14 worked and I now live here and am retired
15 and also going back to school. So I have
16 three beautiful grandchildren and one of
17 them I take into town on the bus, which we
18 rely on, it's my main source of
19 transportation because I do not drive and we
20 go to the mall and he loves to play and in
21 the mall and run around. And everything is
22 cool until we have to go get something to
23 eat.

24 Now, I don't know if anybody else in
25 this room has this problem, but I cannot

1 read any menu. I have no idea what
2 Starbucks sells because it's above the
3 counter. I'm legally blind. There are no
4 accessible menus. Yet, restaurant owners
5 would never question why they have to have
6 an accessible bathroom for people who use a
7 chair, and we see people in chairs in town,
8 there are curb cuts and what have you, but I
9 think the people in this town or perhaps in
10 other places as well are with visual
11 impairments and go blind are practically
12 invisible. And it's because we don't really
13 have access.

14 Now, I have asked -- every time I go
15 to a place with a date or with a friend or
16 whatever, every time I go to a restaurant I
17 ask for their accessible menu, for their
18 large printed braille menu, and I'm
19 alternately looked as if I have several
20 heads, I have been made fun of, which was
21 unacceptable. I have been accommodated with
22 kindness, which I always will accept. I
23 would love accommodation, which is what I
24 want, and under the Americans with
25 Disabilities Act that's what I'm supposed to

1 get.

2 So what I would like is, and I would
3 invite council to spend the day like that,
4 spend the day as a visually impaired person
5 trying to get around the city and someone is
6 going to talk a little bit about crossing
7 the downtown streets in Scranton, and
8 ordering food at a restaurant when there is
9 not an accessible menu.

10 Now, some places do have accessible
11 menus. That nice gentleman at Starbucks on
12 a not so busy Sunday morning went through
13 everything on the menu for me. I now can
14 order a machiato and now know what a
15 machiato is, and Wendy's on Wyoming Avenue
16 has an accessible menu, so there are several
17 places, and I have started surveying. I'm a
18 member of the American Council for the Blind
19 and the Scranton Chapter. I have started
20 surveying restaurants, not just every time I
21 go out to one, but to ask them how they
22 accommodate persons with a visual
23 impairment. They don't know, you know, and
24 so I pass on with the ADA says about what
25 they are supposed to do.

1 So if you cannot spend a day with me
2 or with people who are like me and have my
3 need, I would suggest that every time you go
4 to a restaurant or every time the public
5 goes to a restaurant or any time anybody in
6 this chamber goes to a restaurant is that
7 they ask for a menu that's accessible to
8 them, either they have to have an
9 alternative method of telling you what they
10 serve. You would think that would be
11 important to a manager and an owner of a
12 restaurant and sometimes it isn't, but they
13 are supposed to either have a braille, large
14 print or some other means of telling you
15 that menu. Sometimes people will -- the
16 server will tell you what's on the menu, but
17 in times when places are very busy that's
18 too much of a burden and sometimes they
19 just -- the print is just too small and
20 sometimes they run out a time and the menu
21 is just too big.

22 So I hope that gives you some
23 information and I hope in the future you
24 will ask for an accessible menu when you go
25 to a Scranton restaurant. Thank you.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And I think,
2 too, for a number of the loans that the city
3 awards through OECD often times they often
4 are to small businesses such as restaurants,
5 I would think that there would be some type
6 of requirement within to comply with federal
7 regulations which should include the
8 Americans with Disability Act, and I think
9 we should be checking on those restaurants
10 as well that the city has provided, as I
11 said, loans to, to ensure that they are
12 offering accessible menus and certainly we
13 will brain storm on this and see what else
14 we can do to provide you and all of our
15 citizens with disabilities with the proper
16 accommodations that I believe not only
17 should be made by law, but we should be
18 making regardless for everyone. Our next
19 speaker is Janice Harchik.

20 MS. HARCHIK: My name is Janice
21 Harchik, I'm the president of the Lackawanna
22 Chapter Council of the Blind. We are a
23 small chapter of the Pennsylvania Council
24 American Council. The American Council is
25 the main organization.

1 Now, we are going to give something
2 about education for the blind, okay. 90
3 percent or most of the blind people who live
4 in Lackawanna County live on their own.
5 Okay, they live independently on their own.
6 They can contribute to the every day
7 community. They have people who teach the
8 blind people who are called orientation and
9 mobility instructors and rehab teachers.
10 Okay. We are not in with the mentally
11 challenged, we are separate from them and we
12 -- most people can contribute effectively in
13 every day community. When you see a totally
14 blind person you communicate with them
15 directly. You come up to them and ask them
16 if they need help, can I help you, or they
17 can come up to you and talk to you. You do
18 not need -- people do not need to talk with
19 their hands or whisper. I've had people
20 whisper, "Here comes Janice. She is coming
21 down the road."

22 You know, no. You come up to them
23 and talk to them. We have -- we have 17
24 members in our chapter. We don't just had
25 blind and blind and sighted, and if you need

1 to ask any questions or need to know
2 anything please do not hesitate to ask
3 either one of us, and that's it.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.

6 Wendy "W."

7 MS. MCDONALD: Hello. My name is
8 Wendy McDonald and I represent the Chapter
9 of the Blind Association, it's the council
10 actually. It's a separate entity. I have
11 lived in Scranton for five months. I'm
12 originally from New York City. I work at
13 the Blind Association, I teach computer
14 classes and I also like to do advocacy work.
15 In the short time that I have been working
16 in downtown Scranton, i have realized
17 something that is in dire need and it's
18 very, very dangerous. I realize that the
19 lights on Wyoming Avenue and Lackawanna,
20 right there where the Boscov is, is very
21 dangerous. I have stood there and asked
22 people without handicaps, without visual
23 impairments, without even being blind, "Can
24 you cross the street?"

25 No. No, they can't. They are

1 winging it. Today I helped an elderly woman
2 that had to go to the Blind Association.
3 This was near Adams Avenue. The car was
4 turning and she froze and I told her come
5 with me, that car has to stop. It's
6 breaking the law. The driver's licenses --
7 right-of-way, pedestrians have the
8 right-of-way to cross the street. I have
9 noticed here in Scranton that is not so.
10 Yes, you know, I come from a chaotic city,
11 New York City, but they do do that. They do
12 stop.

13 I don't know. I am doing some
14 research on these lights that are --
15 especially the Wyoming lights and the
16 Lackawanna right in that intersection, I
17 wonder how many accidents have happened
18 there? I realize that in downtown Scranton
19 there is a lot of handicapped people and
20 there is pedestrians that don't have any
21 handicaps and I ask them, "Are you scared to
22 cross the street?"

23 "Heck, yeah."

24 They are scared. Well, anyway I
25 really would like to have someone help me,

1 help me change that because, you know, I
2 think -- I think that if we don't have that
3 together, I mean, there is a big mall there,
4 people want to cross the street to get to
5 the other side, you know, I don't know. I
6 mean, this is life or death and that's how I
7 look at it. I think that is very, very
8 important and I think people -- I don't know
9 how long this has been going on but I've
10 heard it's been nine years. PennDOT was
11 invited to do something with the lights,
12 something of that nature, but I think
13 nothing actually happened.

14 I also want to share that I love
15 downtown Scranton. I think it's very
16 cosmopolitan. I love the people, it's a
17 nice ambiance, I really do, and you know,
18 I'm not knocking Scranton by no means, I
19 like working here, but I really, again, I
20 don't know I'm thinking of maybe having an
21 awareness day. I challenge you. I
22 challenge members of the council to come out
23 there and cross the street. Really.
24 Because it is very dangerous.

25 I was thinking even maybe having an

1 awareness day and having people out there or
2 maybe even signing papers and saying, "Do
3 you think this is safe to cross the street?"

4 Now, I didn't notice something that
5 somebody that works with me was telling me
6 that they are afraid to even turn their cars
7 because the other cars behind them are
8 really on -- they really want to get on the
9 road. Well, this colleague of mine got
10 slammed in the back because there was
11 someone crossing. Why do we have sidewalks?
12 I lived in the Poconos, I walked in the
13 grass, I'm visually impaired and that was
14 hard enough and now I come to downtown where
15 I say, "Well, there are sidewalks here. I
16 can walk here," and I have to run like the
17 regular pedestrians and just hope to God
18 they stop. Anyway, that's it. Thank you.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Les
20 Spindler.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
22 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
23 homeowner and taxpayer. You know, a lot of
24 times I read the Doherty newsletter on-line
25 and there are a few critics on there of this

1 council who are really cowards who sign on
2 by fake names and they say this council
3 hasn't done anything in three months. Well,
4 I just jotted down a few things that council
5 has done for the taxpayers of this city.
6 First thing they put the bidding level back
7 to \$10,000 to make it a level playing field
8 for a lot of other people; reduced the
9 budget by approximately \$700,000; saved the
10 city \$250,000 on a copier contract. That's
11 just a couple of things right offhand that
12 they have done tore the city of the city and
13 for me personally a few weeks back I asked
14 about a stop sign on 13th Avenue and Luzerne
15 Street, I saw last week where that stop sign
16 was replaced. So, Councilman Rogan, I thank
17 you for your help there. I know you looked
18 into it. That was pretty quick action.

19 And, Mr. Loscombe, last week I
20 mentioned about the potholes at Anmick
21 Court, that was Tuesday night. My wife said
22 by Thursday morning those potholes were
23 patched, so thank you very much. In my
24 eight years of coming here that's more than
25 I have seen council do in three months than

1 the previous eight years, and I commend you
2 on that because the previous councils all
3 they did is work for the mayor and not the
4 taxpayers, so you people are doing a great
5 job.

6 Moving on, I saw in the news last
7 week where a business in Wilkes-Barre is
8 opening up a public square hiring about 100
9 people at average salary of \$60,000. Why
10 can't we get business like that in this
11 city? Somebody is doing something right in
12 Wilkes-Barre, but we are not here. All we
13 get is coffee shops and little cafes here in
14 this city. There is a business with 100
15 people with \$60,000 a year. All we have
16 downtown are two huge holes in the ground,
17 which I spoke about last year after the
18 LaFesta. One is on Penn and Linden and one
19 is on Wyoming and Linden, and I talked about
20 that last year and Mrs. Fanucci said, "They
21 are going to be taken care of, Les, I'll get
22 you know when these projects are done."

23 Well, as of I think it was last
24 Thursday or Friday in the paper the one on
25 Wyoming and Linden is a dead project now.

1 The land is for sale and it's just a huge
2 hole in the wall, it's an eyesore, a hole in
3 the ground. It was better off if with those
4 buildings left up. They tore them down and
5 they are just eyesores there.

6 Okay, moving on. Andy spoke about
7 this. I saw that picture in the last week
8 with Andy sitting in the corner and I think
9 that was a disgrace. It was is a slap on
10 the face to Andy, to this council and all of
11 the taxpayers of this city. How does Carl
12 Greco have the nerve to say that he can't
13 sit at the table, but Mr. Timlin could. I
14 hope at the next meeting Andy pulls his
15 chair up to the table and sits at that
16 table. He has every right to do that,
17 council approved him, and I hope he does it
18 at the next meeting.

19 Again, I spoke about this last week,
20 but, Mrs. Evans, you stepped out for a
21 minute about the cell phone ban again. I
22 have a few examples of the last few weeks.
23 About two weeks ago my wife was at a
24 viewing, she was leaving, she was going
25 through a green light and luckily she looked

1 because a lady was cruising right through
2 the red light on her cell phone. If my wife
3 hadn't stopped they would have collided.
4 Last week I was stopped at a red light --
5 I'm sorry, yeah, I was stopped at a red
6 light and there goes a girl, she went
7 through a green light but there she is a
8 texting with the phone right in front of
9 her, and I have a 16 year old who I'm
10 teaching how to drive now and we were
11 driving last week and she goes, "Dad, that
12 girl just went through a red light," and she
13 was also on her cell phone, so something has
14 got to be done before somebody is killed.
15 And as I have said last week, Carbondale has
16 that as a secondary offense, we have to make
17 that a primary offense because if the police
18 can't enforce that then it doesn't do any
19 good.

20 MS. EVANS: We are going to be
21 looking into that, Mr. Spindler, with our
22 attorney, but currently we have him a bit
23 overtaxed with the --

24 MR. SPINDLER: I understand.

25 MS. EVANS: -- with the Court hearing

1 and then the appointments to the
2 authorities.

3 MR. SPINDLER: Okay.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: I had mentioned -- I
5 had gathered a lot of information on it, but
6 you had already left last week by the time I
7 made my comments, but I specifically
8 mentioned you, but definitely we have been
9 looking into this, but there is a lot to it.

10 MR. SPINDLER: I understand.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: We have to make sure
12 that the I's are dotted and the T's are
13 crossed.

14 MR. SPINDLER: I just wanted to
15 bring it to your attention.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: But definitely that's
17 something --

18 MR. SPINDLER: It's very important.

19 MR. ROGAN: From the conversations I
20 have had with my colleagues I think we all
21 agree that something needs to be done, and I
22 also was doing some research over the
23 weekend and I know the state house passed a
24 bill, I believe it's in the Senate, and we
25 are going to see. Hopefully maybe that will

1 even be done, you know, very soon which
2 would be the best situation.

3 MR. SPINDLER: I know. But as I
4 said, it should be a primary offense not a
5 secondary offense. I mean, in Carbondale if
6 they see somebody on the cell phone they
7 can't pull them over. I think that's
8 ridiculous.

9 MS. EVANS: Well, we'll look into.
10 We are also anxious to see that the state
11 will provide a statewide cell phone ban
12 which I think would be most advantageous.

13 MR. SPINDLER: Absolutely.

14 MS. EVANS: But in terms of what
15 Scranton is going to do, we just want to
16 make sure that it is done properly.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Lastly, yesterday's
18 paper, I see where Mayor Doherty wants to
19 have a police officer walking around in city
20 looking for blight. Don't we have
21 inspectors to do this? Don't we have more
22 important things for a police officer to do?
23 Inspectors should be doing this. Oh, I'm
24 sorry, they are too busy chauffeuring Mayor
25 Doherty from county to county looking for

1 jobs. But seriously, we are -- violent
2 crime is up 19 percent as reported by the
3 Times-Tribune and we have a police officer
4 walking around town looking to see if
5 people's grass is overgrown? Let's get our
6 priorities in order, Mayor Doherty, okay?
7 Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: Ron Ellman.

9 MR. ELLMAN: Ronnie Ellman, member
10 of the Taxpayers' Association. Jack, my
11 brother, you forgot what happened to Pat
12 last week drinking all that water, see. I
13 spent about an hour this morning cleaning up
14 cigarette butts in front of my house. I
15 want to know if I could have a motion to
16 guillotine smokers that throw them out on
17 the street. Just to do something. Nasty.
18 I wish I could sell them.

19 You know, last week we watched -- I
20 watched Austin Burke for an hour and a half
21 with his monotonous monotone, went on and on
22 and on and yada, yada, yada, telling us what
23 a medical utopia this was going to be, and
24 just like Les just said the next day the
25 businesses he is talking about will becoming

1 here opened up down there in Wilkes-Barre.
2 He is dreaming, you know? They just -- the
3 way the tax base is and the wage taxes, it's
4 just people just are not coming here, you
5 know. I don't know, I was looking in
6 yesterday's paper, Pat McKenna he must be
7 suffering from dementia. All he does is --
8 he attacked you all again if you didn't read
9 it, telling me all of the good things about
10 losing 20 acres of houses for the medical
11 school and this is supposed to be a good
12 thing, throwing out the people from Midtown,
13 we are talking about a bunch of people that
14 can afford \$1,000 an \$2,000 a month rent and
15 they are bragging they got waiting lists at
16 those colleges. The people in this city
17 shouldn't have to subsidize anything with
18 that medical school. They could pay taxes.
19 Well, a couple of weeks ago it was supposed
20 to be \$120 million now it's in the paper
21 yesterday they said I think 250 or
22 something, but that the state is giving them
23 500 million. They are going to tear down
24 houses and build and build and build.

25 Pat McKenna doesn't live in town, he

1 lives up in Clarks Green or somewhere. The
2 Lynetts one of them lives in Clarks Summit
3 and one way out there in Waymart or some
4 place, these people don't live here, but
5 they sit in the paper and they tell us how
6 to run the city and not to worry about it
7 anything in 50, 75 years I guess some
8 doctor that graduates might, you know,
9 decide to stay in Scranton and practice.

10 This won't help us now. You know,
11 we need help right now. We need you know --
12 the University is bragging about cleaning up
13 Mulberry, they are just using state money,
14 that's taxpayers money. They are not doing
15 anything on their own. You know, it's just
16 getting terrible here when you talk to
17 people on the street. There is so many good
18 hardworking people here.

19 To change the subject before I
20 explode or something. Christmas time this
21 lady was telling me like we just heard she
22 said she doesn't go eat at the mall because
23 she is afraid to cross the street. You
24 know, that's a good point. The streets are
25 dangerous and it's the simplest way. I said

1 course out there and drive a city-owned car
2 with our gas, you know, I hope he lives
3 close to the golf course.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.

5 MR. ELLMAN: I just wanted to thank
6 you for giving me a couple of minutes.
7 Somebody asked me last week when I was in
8 Kingston, I was there yesterday. They watch
9 this program and asked, I don't know where
10 they live, but there is so much, you know,
11 that people are very happy with the way
12 council seems to be going. It's a good
13 thing. Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.
15 Jean Suetta.

16 MS. SUETTA: Good evening, Council.
17 Jean Suetta, Scranton. How is everybody
18 tonight?

19 MS. EVANS: Good.

20 MR. JOYCE: Good.

21 MS. SUETTA: Before I get started
22 with my complaints I have to say hello to my
23 girls down at Weston Field at the exercise
24 class, 9:00 and 10:00. They are the best
25 bunch of people you ever want to meet.

1 MS. EVANS: Great.

2 MS. SUETTA: All right. Well, Les
3 brought up about the hole on Linden and
4 Penn. Now, in two weeks we are going to
5 ordain a Bishop. We are going to have all
6 kinds of dignitaries coming to Scranton,
7 they are going to come out of the Cathedral,
8 they are going to look across the street,
9 they are going to see a hole with a forest
10 in it. There is all kinds of trees growing
11 in there and this is restoring Scranton's
12 pride? If this is the pride, no, no.

13 And I'm glad Gerry Langan returned a
14 letter to us, too, so what could you do?
15 And then you go down Washington Avenue,
16 what's going on with the Connell building?

17 MR. ROGAN: The Connell building
18 project construction will be starting in a
19 few weeks.

20 MS. SUETTA: Because, you know,
21 nobody has walked down them sidewalks in two
22 years. They take their lives in their own
23 hands going out on the streets. If there is
24 nothing doing there take them fences down so
25 people can use the sidewalks.

1 MR. ROGAN: In two weeks, about two
2 weeks the construction will be starting.

3 MS. SUETTA: Oh, yeah. I got a
4 slip, I can't even read my own handwriting,
5 ain't that terrible? Well, you know, and
6 with the trees that are growing in that hole
7 over there Scranton has gone green, right?

8 MS. EVANS: Is this on Linden
9 Street?

10 MS. SUETTA: No, it's on the corner
11 of Wyoming and Linden.

12 MS. EVANS: Wyoming and Linden.

13 MS. SUETTA: Caddy corner to the
14 Cathedral. They are going to come out of
15 church, they're going to see a hole with
16 trees growing in it.

17 MS. EVANS: That's privately owned,
18 isn't it?

19 MS. SUETTA: That was a guy who paid
20 \$625,000 and now he is selling it for eight
21 hundred and some.

22 MS. EVANS: Well, perhaps the
23 owner--

24 MS. SUETTA: I don't know if it's
25 city business or not but it looks like hell.

1 Let them cover it up when they ordain the
2 Bishop.

3 MS. EVANS: I'm sure, Mrs. Krake, if
4 we sent a letter to maybe LIPS and the DPW
5 as a backup, but particularly LIPS, perhaps
6 they can get in contract with the property
7 owner and request that the property be
8 maintained in a better fashion prior to the
9 ordination.

10 MS. SUETTA: Yeah, and with the
11 trees they could take the tress and they
12 could plant them all over the city. They
13 are already four or five foot high, so why
14 waste them.

15 MS. EVANS: I think the ordination
16 is April 26, on a Monday, so they would need
17 to make those improvements prior to.

18 MS. SUETTA: And, Janet, are we
19 going to have a paving list this year?

20 MS. EVANS: There should be, yes.
21 The paving program I know has not yet
22 started, I believe there is a pothole
23 patching program that is ongoing currently,
24 I don't know if this he are still using cold
25 patch or they are now turning over to the

1 hot patch, but there will be a paving
2 program and we will get that list and
3 announce it for the public.

4 MS. SUETTA: Because I go up my
5 friend Penny's house and you have to go up
6 Greenbush and come down Reese to get to her
7 house, that's worse than the Hoche Man
8 Trail. That's worse than Albright Avenue if
9 that's possible.

10 MS. EVANS: What street is that?

11 MS. SUETTA: Greenbush.

12 MS. EVANS: Greenbush.

13 MS. SUETTA: And Reese Street. You
14 know, and the school buses go up and down
15 and the road is terrible.

16 MS. EVANS: Okay.

17 MS. SUETTA: And what else do I have
18 to complain about it? Nothing. Just say
19 hello to my girls down at Weston. Janet, it
20 would be good for your back that exercise
21 class. Water is ice and hot.

22 MS. EVANS: That sounds good.

23 MS. SUETTA: Yeah. All right. Have
24 a good one.

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Joe Dwyer.

1 MR. DWYER: Good evening, members of
2 council and concerned citizens of Scranton.
3 I want to thank you for making an inquiry
4 into OECD about the First time homebuyers
5 program and thank you for the information,
6 we could greatly use it. I would also ask
7 you with that, I would ask you if you could
8 check with the OECD about support of housing
9 assistance for people who are about to lose
10 their homes and those have been placed on
11 the streets. There are three girls in camps
12 that have tried to get the program, get into
13 the program and they were turned down so.

14 MR. ROGAN: Sure, I'll look into
15 that for you.

16 MR. DWYER: Thank you very much. I
17 don't know where that came from. Now, let's
18 see, to bring you up-to-date with what's
19 going on with some of the homeless
20 underneath the Lackawanna bridge one of the
21 members down there had passed away and CIC
22 put on a beautiful tribute for him which was
23 awesome. The population is now increasing
24 all over the city because it's warm out and
25 people are being displaced from the places

1 where they sought refuge, like people's
2 homes they didn't know they were on their
3 porches during the winter, in churches, in
4 the parking garages.

5 There was one wonderful sheriff who
6 took some people in and brought him into the
7 sheriff's office so they could sleep at
8 night when they were put out at 3:00 in the
9 morning, at least a couple of them.

10 There is lot of things going on with
11 the homeless and it's real difficult to
12 watch what's happening with the population
13 because as time goes on and more people are
14 being displaced from their homes through
15 foreclosures, sheriff's sales because they
16 don't have the money because they lost their
17 jobs or their hours have been significantly
18 reduced, and so I would ask people to keep
19 these people in their prayers and not look
20 down on them when they see them disheveled
21 and not in the best of the appearance
22 because they are doing what they can
23 possibly do with the means that they have.

24 And the medical school, although it
25 seems to be a major source of contention for

1 a county issue.

2 MR. DWYER: Well, it would be, but
3 it concerns the citizens of Scranton who are
4 placed there and these aren't the real
5 nasty -- these aren't killers, these aren't
6 rapists, these are people who have haven't
7 paid their traffic fines or other court
8 costs and they have being placed in the
9 prison because they didn't have the money to
10 pay them, and so for -- they are not --
11 their inability to pay their fine or their
12 reason for not paying the fine and some of
13 them are being gang raped and not just by
14 inmates, but there is one correctional
15 officer over there who is involved in it.

16 MR. ROGAN: I don't think we should
17 be getting into allegations like that here.

18 MR. DWYER: If you can make an
19 inquiry to Andy Jarbola to see what he is
20 doing because so far we have been
21 stonewalled getting access to information of
22 what they are going to do.

23 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

24 MR. DWYER: And another inquiry, if
25 you would help us and get bibles in and

1 there is a pamphlet called the Daily Bread,
2 Our Daily Bread, for some reason if they are
3 seen in the prison they are confiscated and
4 the prisoners won't know where they are
5 going.

6 And my Uncle Tom Stuckard, who is --
7 he an executive with lots of major
8 corporations, he was instrumental in
9 bringing Charmin in here, one day when I sat
10 down with him and had a conversation, I even
11 worked for him at Durkee Foods, and I asked
12 him why the price difference is
13 significantly different between here and
14 Pittston and he told me because of the
15 people of this community will not stand up
16 and complain about it. He said in order for
17 things to change this community has to
18 change their mindset and ask and demand and
19 requests are not being made.

20 And it's the same thing with
21 salaries here because we are willing to pay
22 -- work for less, pay less, until the demand
23 is made and the mindset is changed Austin
24 Burke is going to continue to tell a
25 perspective employers who come in here to

1 this town to pay less because it will be a
2 burden to the current employers in this
3 area.

4 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

5 MR. DWYER: I thank you very much
6 for your time and thank you for the
7 wonderful work that you are doing because it
8 really is exciting and we see hope from this
9 administration.

10 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

11 MR. DWYER: Have a good evening.

12 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

13 MR. ROGAN: Dave Dobrzyn.

14 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening. Dave
15 Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, member of the
16 Taxpayers'. Those people that just
17 testified about the lights and so forth and
18 the intersections, if I'm not mistaken at
19 that corner there is at least one person or
20 possibly two that was killed by buses and so
21 forth at the corner of Wyoming and
22 Lackawanna; and also I don't expect the
23 three up there to remember, but I have
24 brought up first since going into Piccolinos
25 there is lights out, there is constantly at

1 Buona Pizza there is constantly when they
2 make turn onto Washington Avenue, especially
3 a truck, it seems like they whack the walk
4 and don't walk signs and they are turning
5 completely the wrong way, they are turned
6 toward South Washington, and that's an
7 ongoing thing. I see it corrected and
8 uncorrected in a matter of days.

9 Now, I would like to talk about our
10 friend, Mr. McKenna here. He is very
11 critical of you folks. "Even as short sided
12 politicians in Scranton whine about the
13 alleged service burden posed by higher
14 education institutions, those institutions
15 continue to build the economy."

16 Well, first of all, I'm not a
17 politician, so most of the derogatory stuff
18 that's been said has been said by people in
19 here and sometimes they are not too far off
20 the base, and I would challenge Mr. McKenna
21 to replace the tax money, just replace the
22 tax money that we lose by having all of this
23 land go into the nonprofit. That's all I
24 ask statewide, that's all I have ever
25 stated. I don't feel that taxing the

1 University or the medical school or any
2 other school is a wise idea, it's just going
3 to contribute to the students having to pay
4 more. If you tax their food, they will pay
5 more for the food.

6 I want to see some day these
7 outlying communities that are living off of
8 us and sponging off of us and freeloading
9 off of us and putting all of their tax
10 exempts in town here, such as some the
11 speakers we had in caucus last week, to come
12 up with the idea for compensating cities
13 like Scranton for hosting all of these
14 things, and a lot of them are really great
15 institutions. I mean, you know, you never
16 miss a hospital until you need it.

17 Now, I mentioned about dumping down
18 by the trolly line where it comes out in
19 South Side, there is another dump started
20 there, and I don't know the name of the
21 street because it's not adequately marked,
22 it may be Brooks Street and there is a huge
23 pile of construction debris dumped there.

24 And, by the way, we had fires last
25 week and it was unfortunately one of the

1 outlying community's tanker trucks got
2 vandalized and these fires are being started
3 by vandals and fire bugs; and, furthermore,
4 that before mentioned pile that I mentioned
5 up above the bridge on 307, well, somebody
6 set fire to that previously. It just didn't
7 burn, so that could have been another
8 disaster there.

9 And finally, I would like to once
10 again mention I had a good time Friday night
11 at the City Dump, and it's a nice band and
12 there is nice food to be had there and it's
13 ashame, the reason I brought it up the man
14 took me for a tour of the building and it
15 seems like we put a lot of money into a few
16 areas and when somebody has a really great
17 building, historical and it was built in the
18 beginning of the last century, nobody from
19 the city ever seems to interested in it.
20 The building is absolutely gorgeous and if
21 it was expanded he could have an open
22 theatre and so forth and he would be willing
23 to, for instance, ballet companies and local
24 acting groups and so forth open it up, but
25 he cannot because he is a little short on

1 change and from what I understand the city
2 officials that were in charge of like
3 economic development officials were not
4 interested in anything he had to say.

5 So in the future, I know you have
6 your hands full right now. It seems like
7 somebody would rather -- wanted to be a
8 lawyer all their life or something and they
9 just didn't get the chance. Thank you and
10 have a good night.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: I mentioned when you
13 mentioned it last week, Dave, but you are
14 right, I enjoyed lunch there with
15 Mr. Jackowitz during the Court hearings and
16 he took me over there and I'll be there more
17 often.

18 MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah, and once again,
19 I would like to impress that those people
20 that were in here, these sight impaired
21 people, they have a real point because you
22 have to scramble across those avenues.

23 MS. EVANS: Yes.

24 MR. DOBRZYN: And basically they
25 should have never came up with a turn --

1 when the walk sign is illuminated the green
2 light is illuminated, so you are running
3 across and if somebody wants to make a turn
4 they try and make a turn. I just watch out,
5 but I'm lucky, I have sight.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

7 MR. DOBRZYN: Thank you and have a
8 good night.

9 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else
10 that would like to address council?

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,
12 South Scranton resident and member of the
13 Taxpayers' Association. Last week
14 Mr. Austin Burke spoke to the citizens and
15 city council for approximately one hour and
16 a half. The discussion for the most part
17 was very useful information. I did not
18 completely agree with Mr. Burke because I
19 feel that the chamber and the city
20 government can do more to bring in higher
21 paying jobs into the Scranton area,
22 Scranton/Wilkes-Barre/Hazleton metropolitan
23 area.

24 My hope is that the chamber will
25 work with the Scranton elected officials,

1 city council and the mayor to improve the
2 economic conditions in Scranton. I have my
3 doubts about the mayor's cooperation. I
4 remember four years ago when we held the
5 meetings to come up with ways to collect
6 money in lieu of taxes from the nonprofits.
7 I asked Mayor Doherty at that time if he
8 would support the efforts. He stated that
9 he would and then the next ten minutes he
10 spent explaining why the nonprofits, such as
11 the hospitals and the higher educational
12 institutions, were having their own
13 financial difficulties.

14 Since then the colleges that have
15 been buying up properties and leasing
16 properties for a dollar a year, Lackawanna
17 College. Last week I agreed with
18 Mr. McGoff. Four years ago I spoke about
19 looking into collecting tax money from the
20 campuses of the University of Scranton,
21 Lackawanna College, Marywood College,
22 Johnson's School and the hospitals that are
23 located in Scranton. If these bookstores
24 that they run, restaurants, novelty stores
25 and entertainment events being held at the

1 universities, including sporting events, are
2 for profit, then the City of Scranton should
3 be getting their fair share. I know when I
4 attend the University of Scranton basketball
5 game I pay an admission price for every
6 game. Who gets that money, the University
7 or does the City of Scranton get their fair
8 share? That's a question that needs to be
9 answered.

10 MR. MCGOFF: That's not taxable.

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: Pardon me?

12 MR. MCGOFF: That's not taxable.

13 MR. JACKOWITZ: Admissions to the
14 games?

15 MR. MCGOFF: No. It's a student
16 event.

17 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, but maybe they
18 can give in lieu of taxes some of that
19 revenue that they are generating.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Outside games are
21 taxable, like high school games there.

22 MR. JACKOWITZ: Well, even the high
23 school games, are they, you know, giving
24 money to the city?

25 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not sure.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: I'm saying like the
2 book stores, the laundry at the University
3 of Scranton, I, mean, we can go out and on
4 and on. There are many private industries
5 and private businesses that these people
6 run. Are we getting our fair share or are
7 we getting nothing? That's the only
8 question that I would like to have answered.
9 You know, if you can't -- if basketball is
10 not one of them, fine, but when they have a
11 tournament or something that comes into the
12 area, that might be a different story when
13 you have NCAA tournaments over here at the
14 University of Scranton. When you bring in
15 wrestling, when you bring in all of these
16 other events into Lackawanna College, it
17 used to be the CYC, maybe we can get money
18 from them. All I'm asking you people to do
19 is look into it and suggesting ways to
20 create revenue, that's all I'm asking.

21 Like I side last week, for the City
22 of Scranton to dig itself out of this hole
23 that Mayor Doherty puts the residents in, it
24 will take years of cooperation to dig
25 ourselves out and become financially solid

1 as a community. The Chamber of Commerce,
2 City Council and the Mayor must work
3 together. I realize that it is almost
4 impossible to get the mayor to cooperate
5 with anybody, but that cannot be used as an
6 excuse for not trying.

7 Mayor Doherty, again, I ask you to
8 attend the city council and public caucus or
9 hold your own public meeting somewhere large
10 enough so that Scranton residents can attend
11 and ask you questions. And, please do not
12 screen the questions. The citizens who
13 voted for you deserve better, although I was
14 not one of them who voted for you. Running
15 away from your problems that you caused will
16 not solve anything except prove that the
17 Legion of Doom was correct and you are not
18 willing to stand up and defend your eight
19 years as mayor.

20 So, again, Mayor Doherty, I ask you
21 attend the caucus or hold your own public
22 questions and answer meeting with citizens
23 you were elected to govern. If it is good
24 enough for the President of the United
25 States, Senators and Congressmen, it should

1 be good enough for the Mayor of Scranton,
2 Pennsylvania. Do not be bashful or shy.
3 Stand up, stand up for your ground, stand on
4 your eight-year record.

5 Where is the South Side Neighborhood
6 Association? The situation in Scranton
7 seems to be getting worse. Now we have cars
8 being spray painted. We have a reduction in
9 beat cops, neighborhood patrol cars, where
10 was the IT Department when we need them?
11 According to their testimony at the court
12 hearing, the IT Department is vital to
13 public safety. Let's get out there on the
14 streets and augment the police department,
15 you know, the professional who have not
16 received a raise from the mayor in eight
17 years, but then again I keep forgetting that
18 Scranton has no crime, although, violent
19 crime has risen 19.6 in the last year, arson
20 is on the rise, drug arrests are on the
21 rise, thefts are on the rise, house
22 invasions are on the rise -- may I finish?

23 MS. EVANS: Yes.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: And even the Chief
25 of Police is being investigated. What a

1 wonderful city Mayor Doherty has created and
2 he wants to be a governor/lieutenant
3 governor or state senator. He only wants to
4 be out of Scranton as soon as possible.

5 City council, do not back down. If
6 the law is on your side fight
7 Mr. Sbaraglia's appointment. Remember, the
8 mayor and Carl Greco's court record is
9 terrible.

10 And, also, I was sorry to read in
11 the paper the other day that Mayor Doherty
12 has been living on a \$50,000 a year salary,
13 and he has \$565,000 mortgage, put all of his
14 kids through college on \$50,000 a year, I
15 need to really congratulate him for being
16 able to do that because most people I don't
17 think could have done that because \$50,000
18 is it a little bit more than the median
19 salary in the City of Scranton, but is not a
20 very large salary and we know the Times
21 never lies.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you,
23 Mr. Jackowitz.

24 MR. TALIMINI: Joe Talimini, City of
25 Scranton. First, I'd like to address the

1 fact that the City of Pennsylvania ranks
2 third in the country in doctors in training
3 right now, that's exclusive to the medical
4 center or the new medical school. Only
5 Texas and California have more doctors in
6 training than the State of Pennsylvania.
7 So, you know, I don't know about this
8 emergency and this big need for a medical
9 college, but I'm sure somebody is lining
10 their pockets and everybody is happy there
11 will be higher education which is going to
12 benefit everybody outside of Scranton except
13 the City of Scranton, that's number one.

14 Number two, Mr. Hughes, correct me
15 if I'm wrong, but the mayor is the executive
16 branch of government or the -- excuse me, he
17 is the executive branch of government? What
18 is his job?

19 MR. HUGHES: He is a chief executive
20 of the City of Scranton.

21 MR. TALIMINI: He is the chief
22 executive, and this the legislative branch,
23 is it not?

24 MR. HUGHES: That's what I was
25 taught in high school; that's correct.

1 MR. TALIMINI: In other words, we
2 have a director of the city and we have a
3 board of directors of the city who oversees
4 the director, does it not? Isn't that the
5 way it works?

6 MR. HUGHES: No.

7 MR. TALIMINI: That's the way it's
8 supposed to work; isn't it?

9 MR. HUGHES: It's not a director
10 with a board of directors, it's an entirely
11 different concept than the corporate
12 concept.

13 MR. TALIMINI: But it's basically
14 the same thing. Basically we have a mayor
15 who was elected --

16 MR. HUGHES: Executive branch and a
17 legislative branch. He is the executive
18 branch, council is the legislative branch.

19 MR. TALIMINI: Right, which is the
20 same as the President of the United States
21 and the Congress, is it not?

22 MR. HUGHES: Yes.

23 MR. TALIMINI: Except in Scranton.
24 Quite frankly, I'm tired of this nonsense
25 and I heard Mr. Swietnicki tonight, he had

1 to have the mayor's permission to come here?
2 Were you people elected to office or were
3 you not?

4 MS. EVANS: Yes.

5 MR. TALIMINI: You are paid by the
6 city, are you not?

7 MS. EVANS: Yes.

8 MR. TALIMINI: And the mayor was
9 elected to office?

10 MS. EVANS: Yes.

11 MR. TALIMINI: And he gets paid by
12 the city?

13 MS. EVANS: Yes.

14 MR. TALIMINI: And Mr. Swietnicki is
15 paid by the city?

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MR. TALIMINI: Well, if
18 Mr. Swietnicki answers only to the mayor
19 then don't you think the mayor should pay
20 Mr. Swietnicki's salary out of his own
21 pocket? Because I don't want to pay
22 somebody who has to go to through mayor to
23 answer to the taxpayers who are directly
24 responsible for your salaries and his, so
25 it's about time somebody put their foot down

1 with or without a backbone and, you know,
2 it's very easy to throw your hands up and
3 say, "That's the way it's always been,"
4 that's the problem with Scranton, it's
5 always been that way, so let's continue to
6 let it erode. Let's not do anything to
7 change.

8 Well, change is in the wind, very,
9 very soon, and believe me, Mrs. Evans, I
10 think you have an idea what I'm talking
11 about, it's happening, and thank you very
12 much.

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Talimini.
14 Is there anyone else?

15 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Hi, Janet.

16 MS. EVANS: Hi, Chris. Great shirt.

17 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Thank you. Hi,
18 handsome.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Chrissy. How come
20 you didn't yell "West is Best" before when
21 they were here.

22 MR. SLEDZENSKI: I was embarrassed.
23 Jack, let's pray for the kids on Saturday.
24 Saturday at 10:00 in the morning so
25 everybody think of the kids.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you, Chrissy.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

3 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening.

4 Nelson Ancherani, First Amendment Rights. I
5 don't have much to say tonight, I didn't get
6 a chance to prepare anything, but on the
7 16th, that's Friday, your briefs have to be
8 in with the Court on the amended budget.
9 Like I said before, stand firm, stay the
10 course, right will win out.

11 With more foreclosures on the way
12 saving that \$700,000 is a first step in
13 helping out the taxpayers. Just being
14 physically responsible is a big step in
15 getting the city back on track. Although,
16 it will be at least 30 years to pay back our
17 long-term debt of over 300 million dollars.

18 Anyway, like I said, stand firm,
19 stay the course, don't be deterred. Keep
20 the transparency in this government body
21 ongoing. It's very important for us, so we
22 the people appreciate it. Thank you.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you,
24 Mr. Ancherani. Would anyone else care to
25 address council? Mrs. Krake.

1 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
2 MOTIONS.

3 MS. EVANS: Mr. McGoff, do you have
4 any comments or motions?

5 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. First of all, on
6 the Mulberry Street project being undertaken
7 by the University of Scranton, just to
8 answer formally your question before, I was
9 told that a traffic study was done by
10 PennDOT, that it was based on traffic
11 estimates through the year 2013 that they
12 had to do and that all of the project was
13 approved by PennDOT.

14 One of the things that they require,
15 I'm told, were turning lanes on a number of
16 the streets which is part of the that idea
17 of the somehow that the lanes would be
18 narrower. That's not true. The driving
19 lanes are not going to be diminished, what
20 will be diminished are the parking areas
21 along Mulberry Street that they are going to
22 take out certain amount of parking, street
23 side parking or curbside parking and the
24 driving lanes there actually should be more
25 driving space on the street because of the

1 elimination of the parking, which I guess
2 is, you know, another problem to look at or
3 another situation to look at, but that was
4 just to answer some of the questions as far
5 as the nature -- or the width of the driving
6 lanes and so on.

7 Also, that project just to clarify,
8 that project is being undertaken by the
9 University to I believe the original
10 estimate was four million dollars which is
11 not state funded. The money that was
12 received through that grant is a supplement
13 to what was already being spent by the
14 University of Scranton on that project, so
15 that the statement that it was, you know,
16 all taxpayer money is inaccurate.

17 Also, you may want to -- I'm told
18 that there is a new project being undertaken
19 by the University of Scranton, also, on
20 Mulberry Street that should be announced or
21 may be announced in the near future, a \$30
22 million building project where the current
23 Subway is located, I'm not exactly sure what
24 else is in that area, but what they plan to
25 do is create more dorm space and also the

1 bottom floor be commercial space. And
2 again, all of that -- or any commercial
3 space is taxable, anything that would be for
4 profit.

5 Again, I hate to sound like an
6 apologist for the University of Scranton,
7 but I do know that they do -- they do pay
8 taxes. Now, I'm not exactly sure what they
9 pay and on what they pay, but I know they do
10 pay taxes each year on certain properties
11 and on other items and it would be
12 interesting to look into that to see exactly
13 what it is that's currently being paid.

14 Also, with a \$30 million project,
15 the \$4 million street scape project, the \$90
16 million Science Center, we receive somewhere
17 around 1 percent of that total in permits
18 and fees, so over the course of next year or
19 so with all of that taking place we are
20 looking at somewhere over \$1 million the
21 University will be paying to the city just
22 in permits and fees alone.

23 The second thing I wanted to talk
24 about was that Mr. Piccolino brought about
25 parking and whether there would be

1 validation at that restaurant would be --
2 whether they were being given any free
3 parking. In talking to some people about
4 parking and other areas, one of the things
5 that was suggested and had to do with the
6 that idea that, you know, are businesses
7 willing to pay for validation as an
8 incentive for bringing in more customers?
9 An example, let's say the Hilton Hotel
10 holding, you know, a New Year's party or
11 something, are they willing to pay for
12 people to park in the garage or are they
13 willing, you know, to come up with some
14 money so that they could attract more
15 people. That's one way of getting more
16 revenue or more people into your business
17 and also increasing revenues in the parking
18 garages.

19 I know this is done in other cities.
20 My brother-in-law who kind of suggested this
21 as an idea has worked in a number of places,
22 a number of cities in the hotel business,
23 and he said that was always a recommendation
24 that he had in the hotels that he managed
25 that they validate parking for events.

1 requirement under the Act, so just a little
2 point of information, I guess.

3 But certainly the traffic situation
4 is something that I know people have spoken
5 about before and that light synchronization
6 and all is something that is sorely needed
7 everywhere and it's certainly some type of
8 system for safety at the intersections,
9 especially in the downtown is needed. Even
10 if it were in "all walk" type of situation
11 rather than, you know, in trying to cross at
12 times you get the "Walk" sign, but yet
13 people have a green light to turn and, you
14 know, it's little bit confusing. Maybe a
15 situation, maybe something could be done
16 where when lights change that all, you know,
17 that you are cross everywhere, you know,
18 whether it's a 15 second or 30 second,
19 whatever, you know, time period to allow
20 people to cross just to eliminate some of
21 the confusion at some of the intersections,
22 and that's all. Thank you.

23 MS. EVANS: The only thing I wanted
24 to add though to your ideas concerning the
25 parking garages would be that I know there

1 are quite a number of spaces, for example,
2 in the Medallion Garage that were given by
3 the city/Parking Authority to the Hotel
4 Hilton, and I off the top of my head can't
5 remember how many, I'm going to say maybe
6 175 at least, and so those spots certainly I
7 don't think they are going to jeopardize.

8 And it was also my knowledge that
9 with regard to the new garage on North
10 Washington Avenue next to the Connell
11 building project, quite a number of the
12 spaces within that garage as well will be
13 set aside for the tenants of the Connell
14 building, you know, whether retail or
15 residential, so there is only a certain
16 amount of spots within some of them that we
17 can work with .

18 MR. MCGOFF: Right. Yes.

19 MS. EVANS: Mr. Rogan.

20 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. This morning
21 I spoke with the mayor about the Connell
22 building and he informed me that
23 construction will be beginning within two
24 weeks and this project will be providing a
25 lot of good construction jobs that are much

1 needed in this area.

2 I also spoke with Chief Elliott
3 today regarding the sex offender's law that
4 I have been looking into for the city, and
5 he informed me that there are currently half
6 dozen or so sex offenders that the police
7 officers are aware of and watching because
8 they do live within those restricted zones
9 but they are worried about enforcement
10 because the laws have been struck down in
11 other communities, and I asked to meet with
12 him and he said he would and I would like to
13 invite Councilman Loscombe as well because
14 he is the Chair of the Public Safety
15 Committee, so sometime next week hopefully
16 we will be sitting down and, you know, work
17 something out where we can amend this law
18 that it can be enforceable and we can keep
19 our community safe.

20 And I have a few citizens' requests
21 for the week that I will pass along to
22 Mrs. Krake. The first one is that a
23 resident reports that Spencer Lane behind
24 the 800 block of Matthew Avenue is riddled
25 with potholes; and the second -- that would

1 be to the DPW, and the second one is a
2 concerned citizen called regarding the storm
3 drains on the 1,400 block of North Decker.
4 That there are several drains that are so
5 deep that a car could get damaged if it
6 drives through one of them. I will also send
7 a letter to them as well as the Sewer
8 Authority because I'm not sure who would be
9 responsible for those repairs.

10 And, finally, I received one last
11 request for about the blight patrols that we
12 are going to have in the city with the
13 police officers, and it was from a resident
14 who wanted to know if they can also patrol
15 the Washburn Street Cemetery because I know
16 we have had a lot of problems in the past.

17 MS. EVANS: Well, it actually should
18 go very near the top of the list because
19 it's been ignored for so many years now.

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes, and I will send an
21 e-mail actually to the chief about that and
22 also to LIPS, and that is all.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Rogan.
24 Mr. Loscombe, any comments or motions?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, I have a few.

1 Thank you, Mrs. Evans. First of all, I
2 would like to give a shout out, a little
3 thank you to some good deeds that were done
4 this week. First of all, to the DPW crew,
5 on Tuesday, April 6, they spotted and
6 extinguished a small fire in some mulch
7 outside of a home in West Scranton and they
8 happened to be in the area picking up
9 garbage in the area and they were able to
10 put it out. Don't worry firemen, they won't
11 take your job.

12 Another example of kind and helpful
13 people we have in Scranton, on Wednesday,
14 this past Wednesday, in the afternoon I had
15 my two aunts were up from Levittown and they
16 were involved in a little bit of a freak
17 accident on the 100 block of North Cabrini
18 Avenue in West Side. Our family would
19 like to thank the neighborhood woman who
20 assisted my aunts and stayed with them until
21 we were able to get there. Although, we
22 don't know your name, we want you to know
23 how grateful we are for your kindness and
24 your help. You made sure she was
25 comfortable and calmed her during her

1 ordeal, but unfortunately we didn't get your
2 name, so if you are watching we want to
3 thank you very much. And also a thank you
4 to Officer Kevin Uher, who was on the scene,
5 and I didn't get there until the end, and he
6 was so helpful and professional and they
7 were really happy with the care they
8 received. Rescue 1 and I believe Lackawanna
9 Ambulance responded but they weren't needed,
10 there was no injuries, but a thank you to
11 all of them, too.

12 A couple of citizen's concerns,
13 usually I just pass them right over to
14 Nancy, but I do have to mention a few. One
15 is an e-mail that I have gotten several
16 times regarding the traffic signs, cars
17 going through a stop sign at Division and
18 16th, and I know -- I think we have all
19 received them, and Mrs. Krake has actually
20 submitted this to the police department to
21 have them look it over and I believe they
22 said they would patrol it, but there is
23 really nothing we can do until a patrol
24 officer is, you know, going in that area and
25 has time to spend there and watch. I know

1 from personal experience many cars have shot
2 through on Division Street, but to the
3 person who sent this e-mail I assure you
4 that it's on top our list and the police
5 department has been notified and we will be
6 watching.

7 MS. EVANS: Mr. Loscombe, we have
8 brought that up at council many, many times
9 through the last I would say at least three
10 to four years and I know the police have
11 been out there at times, but as you said,
12 they aren't always available and,
13 nevertheless, it remains this ongoing
14 problem, so hopefully --

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm just wondering if
16 maybe a dual sign or something would make it
17 little more visible because it is a tough
18 corner when you are coming up Division, but
19 maybe we could have the -- well, we don't
20 have the highway department anymore, but
21 someone look at it.

22 A couple of other items, I would
23 like, Mrs. Krake, if you can pass this onto
24 the DPW director, find out what is the
25 policies for picking up garbage and/or

1 recycling in commercial establishments. The
2 pickup crews should be able to determine the
3 difference and not put pick these items up
4 at commercial establishments, and I would
5 like them to notify council regarding the
6 procedures for this type of situation. I do
7 have a photograph of a commercial building
8 with several cans of recycling placed out
9 there, so I will pass this on and I know
10 there is more out there, but this is one
11 that was brought to our attention.

12 Also, on the 900 block of Costello
13 Court there is an empty lot with several
14 trees and a lot of branches have fallen
15 already, and one of the neighbors there a
16 branch fell and ripped the wires and the
17 service right off their garage. They
18 replaced it themselves at their own cost,
19 all they are asking if someone, maybe Tony
20 Santolli, who is our forester, can look at
21 these and maybe trim them back or have them
22 trimmed back or whatever, but I do have
23 photos of those, also.

24 Another situation, a vacant
25 dwelling, we have quite a few vacant

1 dwellings in the city and I know that, you
2 know, they say they are working on them and
3 stuff like that, this one happens to be at
4 1309 Jackson Street. It's a large stucco
5 multi-family. It's been vacant for several
6 years. The problem is this property impacts
7 at least six surrounding properties because
8 it backs up into some other properties. The
9 garage in the rear of this property is --
10 the roof is held up by a two by four right
11 now, the walls are ready to blow out onto
12 the other properties and it's a masonry
13 building, I wouldn't want to see any
14 children get hurt, so I did take photos of
15 that.

16 Now, the building itself
17 structurally doesn't look bad, but it's
18 attracting vermin and the neighbor right
19 below actually had a flooded finished
20 basement due to this house because they left
21 the water on there, so it's become a
22 nuisance just like many of them. We have
23 quite a list of vacant homes, I just hope
24 they are going to be active on tearing them
25 down, but in this particular case the garage

1 in the rear, it's a large garage, and God
2 forbid there is children playing in any of
3 these yards when it goes. It could be a
4 catastrophe, so I'll pass that onto
5 Mrs. Krake, also.

6 We did have some -- I think Les has
7 mentioned about the pave cuts and stuff,
8 too. We also had a request, I believe it
9 was in our mail this week, regarding Keyser
10 Avenue, the rough road. I spoke to a friend
11 of mine that works with PennDOT, and I don't
12 know if he did it or what, but the next day
13 they had taken care of it, so we don't have
14 to -- we can scratch that one off our list.
15 Thanks, Tim.

16 Another question I had, and we
17 received several complaints or concerns,
18 basically now that the warmer weather is
19 here, we are getting a lot more concerns,
20 but this here is outdoor burning, people
21 with wood burners or little stoves or fire
22 pits or whatever, and we have had several
23 requests on it because it is a nuisance to
24 some people.

25 However, there are some regulations

1 and I can give you what the fire prevention
2 officer has passed down to us. "In 2002,
3 questions were raised in our department
4 regarding the use of fire pits, chiminea and
5 outdoor fireplaces. This office in
6 conjunction with Chief Davis requested an
7 opinion from the city solicitor at that
8 time. A copy of the written response is
9 attached. This response will be sent to all
10 stations and has been resent since the
11 receipt of your letter.

12 The current unwritten policy is in
13 all cases where the fire department is
14 called and an appropriately equipped
15 compliance is in use, the fire is either
16 extinguished by the fire department or the
17 owner in the department's presence. Where
18 an objectionable situation is found, it is
19 also policy that the fire be order
20 extinguished or extinguished by the fire
21 department."

22 Now, to clarify a little bit
23 further, this was the memo issued by then
24 Solicitor Robert Farrell: "Open burning and
25 outdoor fireplaces. The issue is whether

1 commercially available outdoor fire places
2 such as chimineas and other outdoor
3 stand-alone fire places are permissible
4 under the city air pollution control
5 ordinance and the BOCA Fire Prevention Code
6 Chapter on open flames and burning. The
7 short answer, yes, with a flu and an
8 appropriate screening for embers."

9 So they are allowed, most likely it
10 appears that the ones with the flu directly,
11 those little chimineas, and as long as they
12 have a spark arrestor they are allowed.

13 File of Council No. 39 of 1970 is
14 the air pollution control ordinance, therein
15 the city banned open burning. The
16 definition of open burning is as follows:
17 Any unclosed fire wherein products of
18 combustion are emitted to the open air and
19 are not directed thereto through a flu.
20 Emphasis added. A flu is defined in the
21 ordinance as any duct, passage, stack,
22 chimney or conduit permitting air
23 contaminants to be emitted.

24 From the ordinance it is clear that
25 any other opening burning must be done in a

1 container which has a flu to accommodate the
2 smoke and embers, a burn can would be in
3 violation, for instance.

4 So even those little fire pits with
5 the screen over apparently are not allowed,
6 but there is still more to this. The BOCA
7 Fire Prevention Code adopted by the City of
8 Scranton also has a section preventing open
9 burning in states. The code officials shall
10 prohibit open burning that will be offensive
11 or objectionable due to smoke or odor. The
12 code officials shall order the
13 extinguishment by the permit holder or the
14 fire department of any open burning that
15 creates or adds to a hazardous or
16 objectionable situation.

17 A lot of it was left up to the
18 discretion of the fire department at that
19 point. The fire department considers it to
20 be a hazardous situation to allow backyard
21 fires in containers such a chimineas without
22 some form of screening to prevent burning
23 embers to escape unfettered into the open
24 air. Such a screen helps prevent flying
25 embers to unite a rooftop or other

1 combustibles in the vicinity. In fact,
2 chimineas and other such stoves for sale now
3 have such screens as standard equipment.

4 Thus, from a reading of the
5 applicable ordinance and the BOCA
6 provisions, outdoor stoves are permissible
7 with both the flu and proper screening to
8 disperse burning embers which may escape
9 into the air. The sections referenced are
10 attached. It should be noted that BOCA Fire
11 Prevention Code allows recreational fires as
12 open burning. Recreational fires are
13 defined as fires utilized to cook food. So
14 a grill is allowed, but if you have a
15 chiminea, they are allowed as long as you
16 have a screen to block the embers, but the
17 open pits are not allowed. That's where it
18 stands. If anybody needs any further
19 information I'd be happy to get you a copy
20 of the ordinances and pass that on.

21 I'm almost there. Okay. Again,
22 with the warm weather I'm going to repeat it
23 again because I have had several more
24 e-mails and complaints about the loud music.
25 Please be courteous to your neighbors, be

1 courteous to other people on your street, be
2 courteous to the streets you drive down if
3 you are in a car with loud music. A lot of
4 people like to enjoy their homes and sit on
5 their porches and the loud music is a
6 distraction and a nuisance, and there is an
7 ordinance for it, so if you do get caught
8 you will be fined, so please have respect
9 for your fellow neighbors.

10 And the last thing, I guess I'll got
11 over it now rather than when we are going
12 over the motions here, we are going to be
13 voting in Sixth Order on the update of the
14 building codes, and one of my concerns with
15 the building -- the new building codes, the
16 revised building codes is that starting in
17 January 1st of 2011 under the new building
18 codes any single family dwelling requires
19 sprinkler systems.

20 Now, I have a couple of sides of the
21 fence to look at this. From the public
22 safety aspect I think it's the best thing
23 that could happen, but as a consumer and
24 from the contractor's side of it, it puts a
25 heavy burden on the builders and the

1 consumers especially in this tight economy.
2 I mean, the stimulus money is drying up this
3 year, next year it's going to cost a
4 significant amount more to put up a house.
5 In a municipal area it might be a little bit
6 less expensive, but if you are in a rural
7 area, I mean, it calls for separate well
8 pumps and a whole significant amount of
9 engineering, so I believe if you can afford
10 it, do it, but there are other alternatives
11 out there and my concern was that if we
12 approve this that it was locked in, but we
13 do have to approve this ordinance because
14 they have to work under their current codes,
15 so we do have to approve this. But I did
16 contact several legislators from across the
17 state, I received a wealth of information.
18 I spoke at quite length with Kevin Murphy.
19 I spoke with, boy, my mind is slipping, a
20 gentleman out in Clearfield and they have --
21 not Kevin himself, he is interested in what
22 I had to say and he is looking into it and
23 he is going to keep up with it, but the
24 other legislators have filed amendments to
25 the code to either have alternatives or, you

1 know, different things so it doesn't impact
2 the consumer right now in the pocket where
3 it hurts the most.

4 I mean, yes, safety is a big thing,
5 but we do have -- I mean, the codes require
6 hardwired smoked detectors. There is, like
7 I said, some less expensive alternatives.
8 Yes, if you can afford it, do it by all
9 means, roll the whole boat, but I don't
10 think government should legislate doing
11 something like that.

12 And again, coming from me it sounds
13 a little distorted, but I don't believe that
14 I should be legislated to wear a seatbelt
15 either, but I have to, but I could ride a
16 motorcycle without a helmet, but that's the
17 way things are. But I just wanted to, you
18 know, I had questions after we introduced it
19 last week and I have been made quite a few
20 calls and got this information, but if there
21 anyone out there that is seeking more
22 information on the updated codes or have any
23 questions, you know, feel free to contact me
24 and I'll be able to fill you in. And that's
25 it. Thank you.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.
2 Mr. Joyce, any comments or motions?

3 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I was actually
4 going to provide a brief presentation
5 tonight, however, we do have an equipment
6 failure and I will do that next week.

7 One other item that I did want to
8 comment on, I know that in clerk's notes
9 Mrs. Krake did announce that Mr. Renda had
10 replied to our inquiries regarding the
11 status of the audit and I did have some time
12 to review this response. However, in his
13 letter he did not state exactly when he
14 would be providing all of the information to
15 Rossi & Rossi except for stating in a timely
16 manner. So, Mrs. Krake, if you could please
17 follow-up Mr. Renda's response and ask him
18 for a date in which he is a planning to
19 submit all information to Rossi & Rossi in
20 order that our audit is complete by May 31,
21 2010, and that is all I have for tonight.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
23 Good evening. Mrs. Krake, first I'd like a
24 proclamation, please, for Terri Turner, a
25 Scranton High School student for All-State

1 caucus next Tuesday, April 20, at 6:00 p.m.,
2 to discuss the qualifications for a rental
3 registration agent and to finalize the
4 advertisement for this position.

5 And finally, I have a number of
6 citizens' requests for the week. A memo to
7 Chief Elliott: Residents of Sloan Street
8 report that vehicles are speeding from the
9 1,500 block through the 1,100 block of Sloan
10 to Main Avenue. They request enforcement of
11 the speed limit in their area.

12 A city resident requests a "Slow
13 Children at Play" sign in the 500 block of
14 Eynon Street. Minooka residents report that
15 two condemned houses at the end of McCarthy
16 at Davis Street are major safety issues.
17 One of these structures was burned in a fire
18 and at this point barely stands on it's own.
19 Please advise council of the date of
20 demolition for these properties or provide a
21 written update on them before May 4, 2010.

22 Like Mr. Loscombe I received several
23 complaints regarding noise and vibration
24 problems from music and musical instruments
25 in the South Side area. The city does have

1 a noise ordinance on record, but the police
2 state they can only enforce it before 7 a.m.
3 and after 10 p.m., the hours designated for
4 a lengthy list of noise disturbances by city
5 ordinance. If you are subjected to loud
6 noise during that time block, please contact
7 the police department and be sure a police
8 report is filed each time the noise
9 ordinance is violated on the block.

10 However, according to the same
11 ordinance, File of Council No. 116 of 1996,
12 Section 7, prohibited acts, Subsection A,
13 the following acts are specifically declared
14 to be a noise disturbance and in violation
15 of this chapter:

16 (1) Operating or permitting the use
17 or operation of any radio set, musical
18 instrument, television, phonograph, sound
19 amplifier, automobile radio, automobile
20 stereo or other device including but not
21 limited to devices utilizing digital
22 technology for the production or
23 reproduction of sound.

24 Subparagraph (a): At any time of
25 the day in such a manner from any source so

1 as to create a noise disturbance across a
2 real property boundary.

3 Subparagraph (d): At such a sound
4 intensity that the sound is audible from a
5 distance of 40 feet in any public area,
6 street or sidewalk of the city.

7 So, Mrs. Krake, if we could please
8 send a copy of the ordinance to police
9 headquarters highlighting those applicable
10 paragraphs. I know there is an individual
11 who suffers from cancer I think in the 1,000
12 block of Crown Avenue and elderly residents
13 who are particularly impacted by the loud
14 music and musical instruments during the
15 daytime hours and council respectfully asks
16 police department to enforce the ordinance
17 and ask as well that we could attach one of
18 the complaints received by our office as
19 well.

20 A letter to the DPW and Parks and
21 Rec. There is a flooding problem because of
22 a an approximate one to two-foot deep drop
23 off which runs along the length of Sloan
24 Little League on the Parrot Avenue side.
25 Through the years erosion and water runoff

1 have washed away the rocks that previously
2 filled the drop off. Storm water runs down
3 St. Ann's and Bryn Mawr Street despite two
4 storm drains. Neighbors report the storm
5 drains are clear, but the downhill water
6 runoff is greater than can be handled by the
7 storm drains.

8 Mr. John Ambrose, of Alliance
9 Landfill, has offered to provide free of
10 charge the necessary amount of rock to
11 fill the entire drop off, however, trucks
12 are needed to transport the rock which then
13 must be rolled down. Please provide a
14 response to council on or before April 27,
15 2010.

16 A letter to Mr. Seitzinger and
17 owners of the Daron Northeast: Residents of
18 Dickson Avenue report that a forklift
19 continues to work daily on Daron's Dickson
20 Avenue property and materials and equipment
21 do remain, I have seen that for myself.
22 However, at the time -- or, excuse me, at
23 the same time Daron no longer wets down or
24 vacuums it's property. Consequently, dirt
25 and dust blow onto residential homes,

1 properties and vehicles continuously. City
2 council requests that Daron maintain it's
3 property which is located less than 50 feet
4 from city residences in compliance with city
5 ordinance and previous DEP or EPA
6 directives.

7 Council also received a request for
8 a skate park in the city and this request
9 had been made previously within the last
10 seven to nine years. I would suggest that
11 interested parties contact the mayor,
12 Department of Parks and Recreation director,
13 Mr. Dougher, and the Office of Economic and
14 Community director, Ms. Aebli, with this
15 request. It's not within council's scope of
16 authority to make this decision. The
17 administration must make the decision and,
18 thereafter, if they so choose make
19 provisions for a skate park.

20 Residents requests "T" lines to be
21 painted at parking meters in downtown
22 Scranton.

23 And letters to Mr. Brazil and Ms.
24 Aebli, please provide council with the 2010
25 paving list prior to beginning this year's

1 paving program.

2 And finally, please send copies of
3 all the correspondences to the mayor
4 requesting his permission for each related
5 department to solve the taxpayers' problems.
6 And that's it.

7 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
8 READING BY TITLE – FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 15,
9 2010 – AN ORDINANCE – REPEALING FILE OF
10 COUNCIL NO. 41, 2004, AN ORDINANCE, ENTITLED
11 “ADOPTION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSTRUCTION
12 CODE ACT 45 OF 1999 FOUND AT 35 P.S. §§
13 7210.701-7210.1103; GOVERNING THE DESIGN,
14 CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, REPAIR AND
15 OCCUPANCY OF ALL BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES,
16 BASED UPON AND INCORPORATING THE TERMS OF
17 THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE; PROVIDING FOR
18 THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, PLAN REVIEW,
19 COLLECTION OF FEES, MAKING OF INSPECTIONS,
20 PROVIDING PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES FOR THE
21 VIOLATION; THEREOF; AND GOVERNING TRAINING
22 AND CERTIFICATION OF INSPECTORS”.

23 MS. EVANS: You have heard Reading
24 by Title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

25 MR. ROGAN: I move that 6-A pass

1 Reading by Title.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

3 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
4 those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

9 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
10 have it and so moved.

11 MS. KRAKE: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
12 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 16, 2010 - AN ORDINANCE
13 ADOPTION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSTRUCTION
14 CODE ACT 45 OF 1999 FOUND AT 35 P.S. §§
15 7210.701-7210.1103; GOVERNING THE DESIGN,
16 CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, REPAIR AND
17 OCCUPANCY OF ALL BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES,
18 BASED UPON AND INCORPORATING THE TERMS OF
19 THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE; PROVIDING FOR
20 THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, PLAN REVIEW,
21 COLLECTION OF FEES, MAKING OF INSPECTIONS,
22 PROVIDING PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES FOR THE
23 VIOLATION THEREOF; AND GOVERNING TRAINING
24 AND CERTIFICATION OF INSPECTORS.

25 MS. EVANS: You have heard Reading

1 by Title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

2 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-B
3 pass Reading by Title.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

5 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
6 those in favor signify by saying aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

8 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

10 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

11 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
12 have it and so moved. At this time, I will
13 entertain a motion that council suspend
14 their rules and place Items 6-A and 6-B into
15 Seventh Order for final consideration.

16 MR. JOYCE: So moved.

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

20 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

23 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

24 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

1 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
2 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
3 - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 15,
4 2010, AN ORDINANCE - REPEALING FILE OF
5 COUNCIL NO. 41.

6 MS. EVANS: As chairperson for the
7 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
8 passage of Item 7-A.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

10 MS. EVANS: On the question?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Just on the question, I
12 wonder if we should offer anyone wishes to
13 speak on either of those before we make the
14 final roll call?

15 MS. EVANS: Certainly. At this time
16 is there anyone in the audience who wishes
17 to speak on item 7-A? Thank you. Anyone
18 else on the question? Roll call, please.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

22 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

1 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

3 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
4 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

5 MS. KRAKE: Item 7-B. FOR
6 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -
7 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 16, 2010.

8 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
9 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
10 passage of Item 7-B.

11 MR. ROGAN: Second.

12 MS. EVANS: Prior to our discussion
13 on the question, are there any citizens who
14 wish to address Item 7-B?

15 MR. UNGVARSKY: Yes, I'm Tom
16 Ungvarsky. Is there any special reason why
17 you are moving it up to Seventh Order?

18 MS. EVANS: Actually, if I can
19 backtrack a bit. The legislation was
20 originally submitted to council a few weeks
21 ago. At that time I had reviewed it, I
22 asked our city clerk, Mrs. Krake, to review
23 it, and compare it to prior legislation.
24 Mrs. Krake discovered that there were
25 problems with the legislation that had been

1 submitted to council by LIPS and the law
2 department. At that time both were
3 contacted by council's office, and they were
4 very grateful for our intervention and they
5 then took the additional time to correct the
6 legislation. It was then sent to us as
7 quickly as possible because it's my
8 understanding that the LIPS Department is
9 under a deadline for the state to have this
10 adopted.

11 MR. UNGVARSKY: Okay, thank you, but
12 I wish you would keep them in their order so
13 that people do have a chance to talk on
14 them. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher
17 again. I am also opposed to forcing people
18 to put sprinklers in and I don't know why
19 there isn't a reason you can't amend this.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, the city back
21 in 2004 I believe it was, the state mandated
22 the UCC, Uniform Construction Code. Prior
23 to that, individuals in -- Scranton didn't
24 follow the building codes, a lot of the
25 municipalities around the area had no codes

1 or nothing to follow, so there was a lot of
2 bad craftsmanship throughout or whatever, we
3 had a lot of problems, so the state got
4 involved and now they mandate the codes and
5 they have to be adopted. At that time they
6 let some cities opt out if they wanted to or
7 whatever, but I'd say 95 percent of the
8 municipalities in the state stayed in, opted
9 in, but there is still some mandates, but is
10 in the state legislator now there are
11 several amendments to override this. I
12 could tell you later the whole story about
13 this.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: No, I don't need to
15 know all of the nitty-gritty, but if that's
16 the case, I mean, it's either the case if
17 the state makes rules why do you even have
18 to adopt it if you've already decided to go
19 with it, it doesn't matter when it was, and
20 if this is -- these the kinds of things they
21 are going to do in an area where we have the
22 financial problems that we have and median
23 incomes we have to require those -- I mean,
24 in addition to the hardwiring, hardwiring
25 smoke detectors I can see, but requiring the

1 sprinkler system in single-family residences
2 I think is something that should be the
3 option of the home builder and I think you
4 need to look at opting out of going with
5 these state codes and they're heavy handed,
6 and that's my two cents. Thank you.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you, Mrs.
9 Schumacher.

10 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else
11 that would like to address council? Now, on
12 the question? Roll call, please.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

20 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
23 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted. I'll
24 entertain a motion to adjourn.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.

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MS. EVANS: This meeting is
adjourned. Thank you for your
participation.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
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