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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

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

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MS. EVANS: Before we proceed with
4 this evening's meeting, we have a very
5 special guest with us tonight. Mr. Anthony
6 Santoli, former district forester and a man
7 who works tirelessly, selflessly for the
8 people of Scranton taking care of what he
9 told me tonight is 1.2 million trees
10 throughout the City of Scranton, and if my
11 colleagues would join me and, Mr. Santoli,
12 if you would come to the front, please.

13 WHEREAS, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
14 SCRANTON is desirous of honoring "TONY
15 SANTOLI", husband to wife Arlene for 44
16 years, father to daughters Michelle and
17 Lorie and grandfather to Julianne and
18 Anthony; and.

19 WHEREAS, "TONY SANTOLI" as a 1955
20 graduate of the former Scranton Technical
21 High School, 1960 graduate of Penn State
22 University where he earned a Bachelor's
23 degree in Forestry and a 1963 graduate of
24 the Military Intelligence School; and.

25 WHEREAS, "TONY SANTOLI" since May of

1 1964 has held various staff position with
2 the United States Forest Service in Maine as
3 part of his college training; and

4 WHEREAS, "TONY SANTOLI" served as
5 the information and Education Coordinator at
6 the Youth Conservation Corps, Project
7 Manager at Lackawanna State Forest and
8 Supervisor of Gypsy Moth Control Operations
9 in District II; and

10 WHEREAS, "TONY SANTOLI" held the
11 position of Assistant District Forester from
12 January 1979 to July 1984 and Acting
13 District Forester from 1984 to 1985 under
14 then District Forester Manny Gordon and
15 became District Forester in 1985;

16 WHEREAS, "TONY SANTOLI" retired in
17 2001 after a career in forestry that spanned
18 nearly forty years. Since that time, Tony
19 has volunteered to serve as Forester for the
20 City of Scranton where he so generously
21 donates his time and expertise; and.

22 WHEREAS, "TONY SANTOLI" is a member
23 of the Society of American Foresters, and
24 the Pennsylvania Forest Association, the
25 Lackawanna County Audubon Society, the

1 Laurel Garden Club, and the Pennsylvania
2 Association of Arson Investigators; and.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that
4 on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, Scranton city
5 Council wishes to congratulate "TONY
6 SANTOLI", his Family, co-workers and friends
7 for their outstanding achievements and
8 extend our best wishes for success in all
9 their future endeavors.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this
11 Proclamation be made a permanent part of the
12 minutes of this City Council, as lasting
13 tribute to "TONY SANTOLI".

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: I just wanted to add
15 a few words. I have known Tony for many
16 years going back to the days with against
17 liter, if you remember that. Tony, along
18 with working for forester he volunteered his
19 time tremendously to a lot of different
20 causes and he is a variable encyclopedia of
21 knowledge and trees and everything, but Tony
22 is very humble man. He filled some big
23 steps when he took over for Manny Gordon and
24 he filled those shoes very ably, and
25 continues to do so and Mrs. Evans said in

1 the Proclamation that he retired in 2001,
2 was it? He hasn't retired, Folks. He is as
3 busy as ever.

4 MS. EVANS: Busier.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: And I got to tell
6 you, I have never heard a complaint from any
7 of the constituents about him, and I'm very
8 proud to be a friend of Tony's and this
9 honor was more than -- I mean, we could have
10 done more than given this honor, this is the
11 kind of man he is, and I really appreciate
12 him coming here tonight. I had to tell him
13 he was coming here to speak on Arbor Day,
14 that was the only way I could get him here.

15 MS. EVANS: He is too humble.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

17 MS. EVANS: But the residents of the
18 Scranton, everyone with whom I have spoken
19 who's had any problems with their trees,
20 always praise this man. His tender loving
21 care and attention to every detail of every
22 tree, his knowing the difference between
23 what tree should be saved, what trees cannot
24 be saved and what can be done. And
25 unfortunately, we don't often supply him

1 with the funding that he needs. Throughout
2 the years the budgets have not reflected the
3 need for the care of 1.2 million trees, and
4 so that's something I'm hoping this council
5 is going to help you with, Mr. Santoli.

6 MR. SANTOLI: Thank you. Thank you
7 everyone. Thank you, Council.

8 MS. EVANS: If you want to go over
9 to the podium and speak into the microphone.
10 Well, Jack sort of got me here by bait, and
11 that bait was Arbor Day. It's a day that is
12 so wonderful to us foresters and to all tree
13 lovers everywhere throughout the world.
14 It's a day that has been set aside, Arbor
15 Day in Pennsylvania is the last Friday of
16 April. It's a day that we honor our tree
17 friends that do so much for us.

18 When I go to classes, sixth grade,
19 fourth grade, third grade, whatever, they
20 are very smart. They know a lot about trees
21 and they know what trees give us. They give
22 us medicine, they give us pencils, houses,
23 all kinds of things, desks, you name it
24 trees give us, just about everything we need
25 to live and the country that has lost it's

1 forest through history has lost it's nation
2 because of that, things just got dry and
3 drought, and they lost everything, but trees
4 are so important.

5 When William Penn first arrived at
6 Pennsylvania he found 30 million acres of
7 trees here and he also found 108 different
8 species of trees, which I thought was --
9 it's a great diversity of trees in this
10 state. Tremendous diversity. Anyway, we
11 are down to 17 million acres because of the
12 fact that we had to build our farms and our
13 cities and we had to make room for our
14 roads, so we are down to 17 million acres.
15 We are down to 62 percent of the state is
16 covered with trees and those trees are
17 roughly 108 different species of trees.
18 It's truly a wonderful state.

19 We name our state tree as the
20 Hemlock. The Hemlock was there for our
21 pioneer, our colonists who built their
22 farms, their barns. You will see a lot of
23 plant barns made out of Hemlock and after
24 that era what they did is they used a bark
25 to establish tanning industries and right

1 here in our area we had several tanning
2 industries, right here where people
3 collected the bark and they made tanning
4 acid to tan leather and made leather usable
5 or shoe leather or for whatever purpose, and
6 the same time the bark was gone they took
7 the tree and cut it up into lumber for farm
8 use or whatever use they wanted it for.
9 Nothing was wasted at that time.

10 But Arbor Day truly is a great day.
11 A little bit of facts about Arbor Day, the
12 first Arbor Day took place on April 10, 1872
13 in Nebraska. It was the brainchild of
14 Julius Sterling Warton, a Nebraska
15 journalist and politician originally from
16 Michigan, and throughout his long and
17 productive career Warton worked to improve
18 agriculture technics and throughout the
19 state and throughout the nation when he
20 served as President Grover Cleveland's
21 secretary of agricultural, but his most
22 important legacy is Arbor Day.

23 Since that day, since 1872, in fact,
24 on that day, 1872, one million trees were
25 planted in Nebraska and the Arbor Day has

1 spread throughout the entire country since
2 then. Every state has Arbor Day, it varies
3 on climate. If it's in the south, Arbor Day
4 may be a little bit earlier. If it's in the
5 north, it may be a little bit later, but
6 Arbor day in Pennsylvania, our Pennsylvania,
7 Penns Woods, what an appropriate name for a
8 state, we truly do have Penns woods, is the
9 last Friday in April. And children
10 everywhere will be drawing pictures and
11 posters in school to honor Arbor Day. It's
12 just a great day. It's just a wonderful
13 day.

14 But here again, trees give us 40
15 percent of our medicine, it comes from trees
16 and plants throughout the world, and most of
17 that comes from the tropical rain forest,
18 and unfortunately, they are cutting those
19 trees down there at such a rapid rate that
20 botanists cannot even have time to look for
21 new and exotic plants to derive medicine
22 from them to cure people. It's a terrible
23 tragedy what's happening in the equator,
24 Indonesia, Malaysia, and so forth, the
25 Brazil area. It's just a terrible loss of

1 trees.

2 Gold mining is taking place down
3 there. People are coming from Brazil to
4 grow corn, they'll get one year's crop and
5 that's the end of it, so we have a great
6 deal to lose because the carbon dioxide that
7 we read about, the carbon dioxide that's in
8 the air that's caused by fossil fuels mainly
9 is absorbed by trees, trees need carbon
10 dioxide to grow. They mix carbon dioxide
11 with water, sunlight, chlorophyl and
12 nutrients from the root system to make
13 sugars and starches and carbohydrates and
14 that's their food supply. So if our trees
15 get stripped by an insect or it gets killed
16 by a disease, of course, there is no food to
17 be made and the tree ultimately dies, but
18 trees are truly magnificent, strong and they
19 have feelings, you may not believe that, but
20 trees have feelings, they love to be loved.

21 Trees are just one of the greatest
22 is things that I could ever imagine that our
23 creator has placed on this earth for us to
24 enjoy, not to include shade, and maple
25 syrup, and I can go on and on with things

1 that we get from trees, beautiful furniture,
2 and it's incredible. It's just a great
3 resource.

4 And I want you to know that
5 Pennsylvania leads the nation in hardwood
6 productions. We are the hardwood capital of
7 the nation -- of the state. Hardwood
8 capital of the state, and that's important.
9 And you may say, well, gee, if that's the
10 hardwood capital then you must be cutting
11 too much trees. No. A recent survey by the
12 forest service indicated that we are growing
13 twice as much twice as much volume in trees
14 as we are removing it, so we are ahead of
15 the game, every year we add interest to our
16 tree account by the growth of new trees
17 every year, and we have professional
18 foresters scattered throughout the state to
19 manage these 17 million acres.

20 Now, you might ask who owns the 17
21 millions acres that you are talk about? Is
22 government owned, is it privately owned?
23 Well, let me break it down, of the 17
24 million acres that William Penn left for us
25 to enjoy 5 million of that 17 million acres

1 is owned by the public. You and I are very
2 rich landowners, very rich landowners. We
3 own five million acres. We own a national
4 forest, we own two plus million acres of
5 state forest. We have 1.7 odd acres of game
6 lands. We have city forests, township
7 forests, the total of which is 5 million.
8 That leaves us with 12 million. Who on
9 earth owns 12 million acres? 600,000
10 landowners own the rest of the acreages. 12
11 million acres is owned by private landowners
12 and we have a program where the state bureau
13 of forestry assists landowners in the proper
14 management of their trees. We help them to
15 decide what trees should be cut, which trees
16 should be saved, we try to control insects
17 that are he harmful, and I'm going to touch
18 upon insects in a minute and disease, but we
19 do all we can to keep Penns woods clean and
20 green and certainly we are doing that.

21 As far as insects, the enemies of
22 the forest are numerous, and when you hear
23 this statement you are going to say, "Oh, my
24 God."

25 All of our invading insects and

1 disease, most of them, 95 percent of them,
2 are imported, imported from China, North
3 Africa, Asia, Europe, and the first major
4 disease, can someone tell me what the first
5 major disease that wiped out a specific
6 species of trees that was so valuable in
7 wood quality and fruit?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Chestnut.

9 MR. SANTOLI: The chestnut. The
10 American chestnut was literally wiped off
11 the map by imported logs from Asia. It
12 brought along with it, when it came over on
13 the boat, the spore of the fungus that
14 attacked American chestnut. Now, we still
15 have American chestnut growing in the
16 forest, you can still pick American
17 chestnuts, but the trees when they get to a
18 certain size they die because the fungus is
19 still there, but you still can pick off the
20 small trees before they die American
21 chestnuts. I picked a half a bushel last
22 year and they were delicious. They were the
23 same chestnuts that grew when our
24 grandfathers picked them by the truckload,
25 so they're still with us.

1 And then we have other problems,
2 real serious problems. The gypsy moth was
3 imported in 1969 to the town of Metford,
4 Massachusetts by a French scientist who
5 thought he would cross the gypsy moth which
6 has a single silken thread hanging down, you
7 have seen them in the tree, hanging down
8 from a tree with a silky thread, and he
9 thought he crossed the oriental moth with
10 local moths and try to get a strong strain
11 of silk like you can make into a nice
12 material for clothing, but what happened the
13 window broke in Medford, Massachusetts and
14 they escaped and swept through New England,
15 Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Virginia, Ohio, it
16 has devastated our forest, but we are coming
17 back.

18 There are certain predators out
19 there, namely, and I'm not going to try to
20 bore you tonight, I want to give you the
21 basic facts of everything, the thing that's
22 controlling the gypsy moths and, of course,
23 we had to spray one time at Nay Aug Park
24 with an invasion, but the invasion was no
25 where near like the invasion of past years.

1 A Japanese fungus, here is good import, a
2 Japanese fungus that was liberated in
3 Connecticut 100 years ago finally found it's
4 way into Pennsylvania and it literally kills
5 the gypsy moth very quickly, very readily,
6 so that's one good thing.

7 We have imported insects from
8 overseas that are enemies of the gypsy moths
9 and they are doing their job, so we are
10 trying our best biologically to reduce the
11 gypsy moth invasion. We have Hemlock woolly
12 adelgid, if any of you have Hemlock trees
13 with the white cottony material on it,
14 that's an insect that sucks out the juice of
15 the twig and kills the tree, kills the
16 Hemlock tree. We have lost thousands of
17 hemlocks, especially in the Delaware Valley
18 and Delaware recreation area in the Poconos
19 because of this insect.

20 So what we are trying to do here, we
21 have two options, one we have -- I have
22 liberated 5,200 beetles, imported, these are
23 good guys, that attack the adult and eat the
24 adult adelgid that's on the Hemlock tree.
25 Now, if they establish themselves strong

1 enough we won't have to worry about doing
2 anything else about it and they'll take care
3 of them.

4 And the other thing that we are
5 doing is we are injecting, believe it not we
6 have a system now where we are actually-- we
7 are injecting a chemical into the tree, it's
8 called systemic application of an
9 insecticide and we are going to be starting
10 in about a week and the insecticide goes up
11 the tree, out into the twigs, and when the
12 insect sucks the twig the juice from the
13 twig it drops dead, and I think that's
14 another good way to do it. They can't spray
15 for it in the forest because it's too hard
16 to spray. The spray won't penetrate the
17 canopy.

18 I have also hired a helicopter about
19 four years ago to spray not micronutrients
20 on the Hemlocks at Nay Aug Park, and we
21 can't afford to lose those Hemlocks because
22 the Hemlocks are the main stay of that
23 gorge, so we sprayed micronutrients,
24 vitamins to help the trees that were
25 weakened by the adelgid to get stronger. So

1 we are making progress on that line.

2 And then there is the European
3 longhorn battle, another very bad insect
4 that attacked New York City's maple trees by
5 the thousands. The federal government had
6 to spend millions of dollars to take every
7 maple tree that was infected by the longhorn
8 beetle that was imported also on pallets
9 that weren't sterilized overseas, they got
10 in the city, they had to kill -- take down
11 every maple tree that was infected, even the
12 roots had to be taken out and burned. So it
13 shows you that we do have problems.

14 We have the Emerald Ash Bore,
15 another thing. In Michigan alone tens of
16 thousands of Ash trees have been killed
17 because Emerald Ash Bore. My prediction is
18 by the Year 2030 the major league baseball
19 players are going to be using what for
20 baseball bats? Aluminum. Let's hope not,
21 God forbid. We don't want that to happen,
22 we want wood to be used always because ash
23 is the best thing for that.

24 But really, getting back to Arbor
25 Day, it's a day that we should really be

1 thankful to trees and every time I talk to
2 these kids at school, at the end of my talk
3 I say, "Don't forget now, when you go home
4 on your by home, hug a tree. Hug it nice
5 and tight for all it does it for us."

6 And they really do. I have seen
7 them do it. I have seen them do it. It's
8 just amazing. Do you know one acre of
9 trees, one acre of trees produces four tons
10 of oxygen every year? Four tons of
11 atmospheric oxygen. That's enough for 18
12 people to live off the oxygen for one year,
13 so we have plenty of oxygen. But we have
14 too much carbon dioxide from the fossil fuel
15 plants, oil, fire, electric plants, coal
16 fired electric plants, car exhaust. When
17 you and I exhale we are exhaling what?
18 Carbon dioxide. When a tree rots or dies it
19 doesn't take in carbon dioxide, it sends out
20 carbon dioxide in it's demise, so that's one
21 of our problems is carbon dioxide is
22 something that we have to lower that ban of
23 carbon dioxide around the earth that's
24 getting thicker and it's causing the earth
25 to warm up by one or two degrees.

1 Eventually, one or two degrees, you
2 may say, well, that means that in December I
3 can put a light jacket on because the earth
4 is warming up a little bit. Not so. What
5 happens when there is a temperature change,
6 especially a rise in temperature of one or
7 two degrees on the average for the whole
8 year, it changes the climate. The climate
9 of the world changes. Nebraska could become
10 a desert some day if this keeps up. We
11 could have hurricanes galore. Look at the
12 tornadoes we're getting now. Now, we don't
13 even know whether that is related to climate
14 change or brought about the earth's warming.

15 But anyway, as long as that layer of
16 carbon dioxide gets thicker and thicker we
17 are going to see more rising of the
18 temperature of the earth and more climatic
19 changes, so we have to do all we can to
20 reduce carbon dioxide emissions. No matter
21 how we do it, whether nuclear energy, solar
22 power, whatever, natural gas. Maybe we'll
23 be propelling cars by natural gas some day
24 and we won't have anything to worry about as
25 far as all of that carbon dioxide, so it's

1 an amazing process and a tree needs that
2 carbon dioxide to make food, yet there is
3 too much of it. Too much of it and we have
4 too much plants, especially in Europe and
5 other places like that or developing
6 countries.

7 So I could go and on about trees, I
8 could take a few minutes for questions if
9 you want me to. It's up to the chairman,
10 chairwoman. I know you have a busy schedule
11 and I could take one or two questions about
12 trees.

13 Oh, I have to mention this, we have
14 in this town and other towns throughout
15 Pennsylvania, a tree called a gingko tree,
16 you have heard of that, a gingko tree?

17 MS. EVANS: Yes.

18 MR. SANTOLI: Do you realize that
19 the gingko tree, the gingko tree we have two
20 or three up at Nay Aug, we have two or three
21 in the city, they all over -- they are here
22 and there. The gingko tree was one of two
23 trees that emerged from the carboniferous
24 era of years and years and years ago.
25 During the carboniferous era most trees and

1 plants were reproduced by spores, spores
2 left the fernlike plants, landed on a wet
3 spot and grew into another fernlike tree.
4 If it landed on a dry spot, the spore would
5 just dry up and nothing would happen. Well,
6 I can't explain why it happened, but right
7 after the carboniferous or during the
8 carboniferous era or right after it, two
9 trees developed, started to grow on the
10 earth. One was the ginkgo and one was the
11 Cycad. The Cycad now grows in the tropics,
12 but the ginkgo and the Cycad were the first
13 seed covered, seed covered, they were
14 covered by -- they were covered by a
15 protective layer like a walnut, like an
16 apple, like a peach, they were covered the
17 seed in there was covered and the ginkgo
18 seeds were covered with a shell, so it could
19 have landed anywhere and grew ten years from
20 when it fell.

21 Well, that's an amazing story to
22 think about that, but the most amazing part
23 of it is, and you have got to understand
24 this, when the very first ginkgo and cycad
25 started to grow dinosaurs were roaming

1 around on the earth at the same time. This
2 is -- try to comprehend this because when
3 the ginkgos grew, and they grew profusely,
4 and when you hear how long ago this happened
5 your mind is not going to be able to
6 calculate that many years, but the ginkgo
7 has remained, not the same tree now, the
8 progeny, the offspring along with the
9 millions of the years that history came
10 from, the offspring of the ginkgo is growing
11 now. If you look at it, it looks like a
12 prehistoric tree. It has not changed in
13 bark, leaves, twigs, roots or anything or
14 form in over 100 million years. It's
15 amazing to think about that, that we have
16 trees that are growing now that grew in the
17 same form, fashion, and leaves and so forth
18 over 125 or 130 million years ago. I can't
19 even think about that, that many years, and
20 they are still living. And the Dawn Redwood
21 was also another prehistoric tree that was
22 found in China and we have that growing in
23 the city. It's just an amazing thing that
24 these two trees are still living unchanged,
25 no evolutionary process has taken place with

1 these trees. They are still the same tree
2 that grew in -- that grew millions of years
3 ago that probably some dinosaur rubbed it's
4 beak against like the deer rub their beaks
5 against our trees and their horns against
6 our trees today. It's an amazing tree.
7 There is so many things about it.

8 Could anybody tell me what the
9 oldest tree in the world is? Still growing,
10 still living, the same tree. Now, here is a
11 case where the tree has not died since it
12 was born 5,000 ago.

13 MR. MCGOFF: I'll go with the
14 Redwood.

15 MR. SANTOLI: What is it?

16 MR. MCGOFF: The Redwood.

17 MR. SANTOLI: No, the Redwood and
18 Sequoia are the biggest -- the Sequoia
19 gigantea is the biggest tree that you could
20 ever imagine. You can drive a car through
21 it, they have actually built tunnels through
22 it, okay, it's just amazing how that that's
23 happened.

24 MS. EVANS: There was a very good,
25 educated guess, Mr. McGoff. I was with you

1 on that.

2 MR. SANTOLI: The oldest tree that's
3 still living compared after the gingko which
4 only has progeny over the years, the oldest
5 tree that is still leaving with needles on
6 it, and many of them are hidden from the
7 public because we are afraid that people
8 find out where they are, they will want to
9 cut a piece of the tree that's 5,000 years
10 old, but it's the Bristlecone pine. You can
11 look it up on the computer, the Bristlecone
12 Pine is the oldest tree on the face of the
13 earth, the oldest tree, okay? It's just a
14 very, very, very old tree. It's all
15 scraggly, grows on sides of cliffs and
16 stones, but -- next to stones and so forth,
17 but it's still living on the earth 5,000
18 years old.

19 And as you all know, Hemlock is our
20 state tree, you know that, we are so proud
21 of that as our state tree. It's an
22 evergreen that will live and prosper for
23 years and years to come. I'm addicted to
24 trees, I'll be very honest with you. I
25 can't help myself. I can't help it. When I

1 was 12 years old I wanted to be forester so
2 bad and God showed me the way to be a
3 forester and I was a forester and it's a
4 dream come true because I found it to be the
5 best, for me anyway, the best profession
6 that I could ever be in to work with and
7 manipulate, help, serve the trees of our
8 world and this is what we have to do, we
9 have to maintain the trees of our world if
10 we are going to keep healthy, so if there
11 are no questions I better leave --

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you so much.

13 MR. SANTOLI: -- before I have more
14 time to tell things about. Any questions
15 about our trees in the city?

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: The passion that I
17 spoke about shows.

18 MR. SANTOLI: What was that?

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: That was me up here.
20 That was me, I'm sorry. I said the passion
21 shows, as I explained definitely. We are
22 proud to you have you here, and we are
23 honored to have you.

24 MR. SANTOLI: Well, this was a
25 privilege of mine to be here, it's always a

1 privilege to talk about trees always, no
2 matter, I'll go anywhere 24/7 and talk about
3 trees because, remember, they give us oxygen
4 and they make us breathe easier, and they
5 give us so many things that we should be
6 thankful for, and to come this Friday you,
7 too, my class, hug a tree, will you? Give
8 it a good hug, and say, "Thank you, tree,
9 for what you have done for us."

10 MS. EVANS: Absolutely, and I also
11 hope for all of the many children whom you
12 have instructed about trees throughout these
13 years, some one of them or several of them
14 are now inspired to become foresters
15 themselves, so that we are always going to
16 have wonderful people like you who will
17 preserve and protect the trees in our
18 environment. Thank you very much.

19 MR. SANTOLI: Thank you for having
20 me here. Thank you.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: There will be a test
22 after the meeting.

23 MR. SLEDENZSKI: That a boy, Jack.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Get the pencil
25 sharpened, Chrissy.

1 MS. EVANS: Dispense with the
2 reading of the minutes, please.

3 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
4 APPLICATIONS ALONG WITH DECISIONS RENDERED
5 BY THE ZONING HEARING BOARD ON MARCH 9,
6 2011.

7 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
8 If not, received and filed.

9 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. CONTRIBUTION MADE
10 BY BUONA PIZZA INC. IN THE AMOUNT
11 OF \$100.00 TO BE USED FOR MANPOWER IN THE
12 CITY'S PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT.

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

15 MS. KRAKE: Yes. First, we received
16 a response from Linde Corporation. This was
17 in response to our request about the road at
18 300 Hamm Court. They tell us that our
19 paving inspector, Mr. Hazzouri, is aware of
20 the poor condition that the road was in
21 prior and they will be doing work on it.
22 It's scheduled in the very near future.

23 MS. EVANS: Excellent. That is
24 wonderful news.

25 MS. KRAKE: Next we have a response

1 from Gary Bellucci, executive director of
2 the Scranton Housing Authority, he explains
3 how they reached the amounts of the PILOT
4 payment for the fiscal year 2009. There is
5 a formula which is 10 percent of the balance
6 left after subtracting utility from tenant
7 rent, and that's how they come up with their
8 PILOT payments.

9 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, I know that
10 that question was posed in response to a
11 request by a city resident, so after the
12 meeting I'll talk to you about that and
13 perhaps we can send him a copy of that.

14 MS. KRAKE: Yes, thank you. And
15 finally, today we had a phone call from
16 business administrator telling us that he
17 had the response to our Right-to-Know
18 request from OECD concerning the additional
19 information that HUD had provided to them
20 that we wanted to see. So he told us that
21 it was \$99 to pay for the copies, so I told
22 him I would need that in a letter.

23 So they send a person down from the
24 BA's Office with a binder and told us it was
25 \$99. And I said, well, we had requested a

1 letter stating that in your response and the
2 young lady said that, no, if we wanted the
3 information we would have to give them the
4 \$99, so they expected a payment before it
5 was handed over, but, of course we had
6 refused because we are, of course, not
7 authorized to spend money in that fashion,
8 that would be council's decision so --

9 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, if we could
10 then send correspondence tomorrow to
11 Mr. McGowan asking that in the spirit of
12 cooperation city council should not be
13 charged for city information, particularly
14 since it is an elected governing body. I
15 think very often I know our solicitor's
16 services have been very graciously offered
17 to the administration. Many times when
18 ordinances are submitted to our office, for
19 example, they have been drafted incorrectly
20 and our solicitor basically makes the
21 corrections and the contacts and takes care
22 of all of that for the administration.

23 Most recently, it was our solicitor
24 who drafted the bath salts and synthetic
25 marijuana ban and I know that it would never

1 have crossed my mind or any of my honorable
2 colleagues minds to charge the
3 administration or any department of the
4 administration for Attorney Hughes'
5 services, so I am hoping that it will be
6 agreeable to providing information, city
7 information, to city council without
8 charging city council \$100 to receive it and
9 read it.

10 MR. JOYCE: And I just want to add,
11 if they are not agreeable to this, just ask
12 them if they could scan in the documents and
13 send the file to anybody's e-mail address,
14 obviously we have the capability to print
15 them out here.

16 MR. ROGAN: I was going to say the
17 same thing, Mr. Joyce. If it's just a
18 matter of the copying the actual papers or a
19 cent per page thing, we could just print it
20 off on our office or at our homes, but this
21 just shows the lack of cooperation that city
22 council receives on a weekly basis, requests
23 for information from one branch of
24 government to another and we get a bill.

25 At the end of the day the \$99 or

1 whatever it is, it's not city council's
2 money it's the taxpayers' money, and the
3 administration should look at it that way,
4 too.

5 MS. EVANS: I agree.

6 MS. KRAKE: And that's all we have
7 this evening, Mrs. Evans.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.
9 Do any council members have announcements at
10 this time?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Please. A number
12 actually. First and most important, I would
13 like to wish happy birthday to a member of
14 what has been termed the greatest
15 generation. He is a World War II veteran of
16 the Air Force, a husband, father,
17 grandfather, great grandfather, and I would
18 like to wish a happy 90th birthday to my
19 father. He is home watching.

20 MS. EVANS: All of city council
21 wishes your dad a very happy and healthy
22 birthday and many more.

23 MR. MCGOFF: I hope so. Thank you
24 very much. The second thing, refuse pickup,
25 this announcement, refuse pickup is going to

1 be delayed by one day. Monday was a DPW day
2 off and so the refuse pickup will be one day
3 delayed.

4 Another thing, I don't know if this
5 is the appropriate time to do it, but I will
6 make mention of it, a number of people have
7 asked me again this year about fire kit
8 burnings. It comes up every year and I know
9 last year Mr. Loscombe went through the
10 whole thing and it seems as though every
11 year we have a little bit of a controversy
12 over what is legal to do and what is
13 illegal.

14 And I'll sum it up, Jack. If
15 Mr. Loscombe, you know, would care to it add
16 to it, there is an open burning ban in the
17 City of Scranton. What is allowed is
18 commercial outdoor fireplaces such as
19 chimineas and other outdoor stand alone
20 fireplaces are permissible if they have a
21 flu and appropriate screening for embers.
22 If they do not have both of those, then they
23 are basically illegal.

24 And besides the illegal part, people
25 that are using these should, you know, be

1 good neighbors and find out if they are a
2 nuisance to their neighbors, whether it's
3 the smoke, smell, the embers. I know that,
4 you know, this time of year, cool evenings
5 and all, they are a nice thing on the patio,
6 but if they are a nuisance to the rest of
7 the neighborhood I would ask that people,
8 you know, refrain from using them and if
9 they are in violation of this you could be,
10 you know, I guess cited for using them. So
11 please just, you know, take that into
12 consideration if you are, in fact, using
13 these outdoor fireplaces.

14 And the last thing, I'm going to
15 provide this now, during Fifth Order I have
16 an intent to make the following motion, I'm
17 giving everyone a copy so that they can
18 consider it during the interim rather than
19 doing it just in Fifth Order. The motion
20 reads: Scranton City Council recognizes and
21 supports the efforts of Scranton police
22 chief Dan Duffy in his attempt to curtail
23 crime in the city and his efficient
24 leadership of the police department.

25 Furthermore, it recognizes the

1 actions of the leadership of the FOP as an
2 unnecessary attack on the reputation of
3 Chief Duffy and discredits his exemplary
4 leadership and police work.

5 Again, I am going to make that
6 motion during Fifth Order motions. And that
7 is all. Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. McGoff.
9 Is there anyone else?

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. I just want to
11 remind everyone that Saturday, April 30,
12 from 7 to 11 there will be a Night at the
13 Races sponsored by the Friends of the
14 Scranton Knights football program and that
15 will be held at Holy Rosary Center, West
16 Market and Wayne, just above Providence
17 Square. Anyone 21 years and older are
18 welcome, and the price is \$10 per person.
19 And that's it. Thank you very much.

20 MR. JOYCE: I'll go next. Since I'm
21 the heaviest member of the council, it would
22 fitting that I announce this. There is
23 going to be a burger eating contest. Come
24 get crowned as the E.U. burger eating
25 champion. Each contest will have 30 minutes

1 to eat as many E.U. burgers as they can and
2 the winner will receive a free E.U. burger
3 every Tuesday for one year.

4 So everybody is wondering what is an
5 E.U. burger? It's a ten ounce burger topped
6 with rashers, cheddar and swiss cheese and a
7 fried egg with lettuce, tomato and onion on
8 a toasted onion roll. There is a \$20 entry
9 fee for the contest and 50 percent of each
10 entry will go to the American Red Cross of
11 Lackawanna County.

12 If you would like to register for
13 this event please call 344-4030.
14 Unfortunately, they didn't provide a date of
15 the contest, but if it's something you would
16 be interested in I'm sure you can give them
17 a call and they will setup a time for you.

18 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Joyce, I think I can
19 challenge you to that burger eating contest.

20 MR. JOYCE: All right.

21 MS. EVANS: That's certainly a new
22 idea, but I think it's one that could well
23 catch on. Joyce Electrical, Incorporated,
24 will sponsor a blood drive dedicated in
25 special honor of Leo Welkers on Saturday,

1 April 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the IBW
2 building, lower level, 431 Wyoming Avenue in
3 Scranton. You may call 1-800-REDCROSS to
4 schedule an appointment to donate.

5 There will be a walk to benefit the
6 American Heart Association at Nay Aug Park
7 this Saturday, April 30. Registration
8 begins at 9 a.m., and there is no fee for
9 the walk. However, donations will be
10 greatly appreciated. This year young Jack
11 Scarfo, grandson of Maryann Rossi will lead
12 the walk. Please come to Nay Aug this
13 Saturday and help the American Heart
14 Association raise funds to battle heart
15 disease.

16 The Tour De Scranton, which will
17 take place on May 1, is an annual
18 noncompetitive bike ride for riders of every
19 age and skill level designed with a
20 selection of routes and distances, catering
21 to both the novice and experienced rider,
22 anyone can bring a bicycle and join in the
23 fun. The Tour De Scranton also benefits an
24 extremely good cause, the Erin Jessica
25 Moreken Drug and Alcohol Treatment Fund,

1 Incorporated. The bike ride will be
2 monitored from start to finish by adult
3 volunteers and cyclists at regular check
4 points. It is a safe and enjoyable way to
5 have fun and raise the much needed funding
6 to assist young people who are struggling
7 with the disease of addiction. Each year
8 through this event, scholarships, aid, and
9 drug and alcohol education programs are
10 offered to a variety of worthy individuals
11 and groups in our community.

12 Registration fees are as follows:
13 \$30 on or before April 27; \$35 April 28
14 through May 1; \$50 parents and their
15 children under 12, that is only one charge
16 for the family. For registration on-line,
17 route maps, questions, or volunteer
18 opportunities, go to www.TourdeScranton.com.
19 If you can't participate, donations can be
20 mailed to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moreken, 1328
21 Myrtle Street, Scranton, Pennsylvania,
22 18510. Make checks payable to "Erin's Fund"
23 and please support this very worthy cause.

24 And that's it.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans, could I

1 just add one thing, you mentioned Joyce
2 Electric it reminded me, one of the speakers
3 last week asked about the Lackawanna Avenue
4 bridge and the lights on the bridge, the
5 lights on the newer bridge are operational,
6 at least they were last night when I drove
7 over them. The lights on the older bridge
8 are out, but it's not -- it's not that the
9 lights are burnt out, it seems to be a
10 wiring problem and that's why all of the
11 them are out and not just, you know, a
12 single light and in speaking with Mr. Brazil
13 he said that it may actually require an
14 entire rewiring of the bridge, the lighting
15 on the bridge, and they are working with
16 Joyce Electric at this time to review what
17 needs to be done and find the most economic
18 and best solution to the problem.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. McGoff.

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

22 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker this
23 evening is Ken Klinkle.

24 MR. KLINKLE: With council's
25 permission, we would like to hand a packet

1 to each member.

2 MS. EVANS: Certainly, please.

3 (Mr. Klinkle approaches dais.)

4 MS. KLINKLE: My name is Ken
5 Klinkle. I am the president of local UAW,
6 United Auto Workers Local 1193 in Eynon,
7 Pennsylvania. I work for, we work for
8 General Dynamics. We are the builder of the
9 Abrams main battle tank for the US
10 government.

11 The reason I am here is the
12 government has decided to or they have
13 proposed to cut funding to the Abrams'
14 program. The cut is to take place in 2013
15 and in 2017 they want to resume production
16 with the beginning of the design of a new
17 vehicle.

18 The restart of the tank program in
19 '17 with the new vehicle design, this would
20 not be realistic because ground vehicles --
21 the ground vet vehicle workforce would be
22 purged at that point. I'm going to talk
23 about local impact, economic impact.

24 I was born in a hospital in the City
25 of Scranton, I don't live in the City of

1 Scranton right now, but our people do add to
2 the economy of Scranton, hospitals, car
3 dealerships, we had a workforce of around
4 325 people, we are now at around 245 and
5 falling for the lack of work, and I know
6 there is all kinds of budget cuts and
7 defense is certainly one of them, and that's
8 to be understood, but there are some things
9 that I think people need to be aware of.

10 These are family sustaining jobs,
11 often times our folks are the only income
12 providers for the family. They are
13 above-average jobs, so it does matter. I
14 would like to introduce Lou Bowers. Lou
15 Bowers is a homeowner in the City of
16 Scranton with us 35 years. Rob Oleckna,
17 tool maker in our shop, third generation in
18 the City of Scranton, tool maker. Jeff
19 Reed, third generation with fourth in his
20 arms, City of Scranton. And this Bill
21 Murin, vice-president of the local.

22 MR. MURIN: Good evening.

23 MR. KLINKLE: I would like to add at
24 this point our workforce is a two-time
25 recipient of the Pennsylvania State

1 Governor's award for labor management
2 relations and cooperation, and our plant
3 manager, Frank Fete and I and are both on
4 the board of directors of the Northeastern
5 Pennsylvania Labor Management Council.

6 Pennsylvania Labor Management
7 Council usually there is a person from a
8 company and the other side will be somebody
9 from Labor, different companies. We are
10 proud that we both have seats on that board
11 from the same company, we are the only ones
12 on that board from the same company, so my
13 point is what our work force represents.

14 I talked about the third generation.
15 The plant opened in 1957 and we started, we
16 were doing the M48 tank, I wasn't there at
17 that time, no jokes. We started with the --
18 we were doing the M48 tank at that time, we
19 evolved into the M60 tank, I'm 33 years at
20 General Dynamics, so when I started there,
21 when most of these guys started there, we
22 were doing the M60. In 1982 we started the
23 M1 Abrams, evolved in to the M1A1 and
24 ultimately the M1A2.

25 It's a unique product, it's not like

1 manufacturing cars where today you could be
2 building a Ford fender, and if you lose that
3 job tomorrow you can go over and start
4 manufacturing a Chevy fender or a Dodge
5 fender. It's a unique job. This goes for
6 machining, this goes for engineering. Our
7 engineers are designing ground combat
8 vehicles for the troops in Theatre.

9 We have proved to world what the
10 Abrams main battle tank truly is. We've
11 proven it going into Afghanistan, we are the
12 only builders of a battle tank for the
13 United States of America. So it's not like
14 there is a competitor out there, we are the
15 sole builder to the United States. Why we
16 would jeopardize that edge by turning that
17 off.

18 The United States has been in
19 continuous tank production since 1941
20 nonstop. In the 90's when it was lean we
21 went to what we call a warm base, and that
22 was we tapered down into a very limited
23 production base, but we there to react to
24 any threats that would raise their ugly head
25 in our country. That's why we can't turn

1 this labor force off. If we were to lose
2 this talent pool, this labor force that we
3 have, when I say third generation you have
4 to think about that and you have to think
5 that some of our folks grew up as little
6 kids, like Jeffrey, Jr. here hearing talk
7 about machining armor plate steel, ballistic
8 aluminum, titanium. These aren't normal
9 jobs. If we were to turn this program off
10 and these people evaporate into the work
11 force, when we go to turn that back on at 17
12 you won't get those people back, you won't
13 get those talents back. We can't -- as
14 Americans we can't afford to let that
15 happen.

16 I'm just going to tell you a real
17 quick story, we got a call that -- we also
18 do work for the Striker. We mostly are -- I
19 failed to mention this, we are a support
20 systems for Lima Army tank plant and that's
21 where they build the vehicle. We do
22 suspension, the majority of our work is
23 suspension for the combat vehicles. We do
24 work for the Striker vehicle, too. We got a
25 call, and headquarters actually got a call,

1 that Strikers were hitting IED's, improvised
2 explosive devices in Theatre in Iraq and
3 Afghanistan. Because of the tank program
4 base we were able to react to that threat.
5 Within six months we identified the threat,
6 we designed a fix, which was a three-inch
7 ballistic aluminum plate for the bottom, we
8 machined it in Eynon in our plant and within
9 six months the threat was identified, the
10 fix was designed, the part was machined and
11 they were in Theatre saving lives of
12 soldiers within six months. That's pretty
13 amazing.

14 MS. EVANS: Please continue.

15 MR. KLINKLE: That's time up?

16 MS. EVANS: Please continue.

17 MR. KLINKLE: So that's another
18 reason why we feel that it is important that
19 this base be kept alive. We can't afford to
20 shutter this program. Should I cut this
21 short? The threat on the outsides -- we won
22 World War II because of ability to changing
23 our manufacturing base weapons for war. We
24 have lost that manufacturing edge that we
25 had in this country and now we are talking

1 about a threat to the base of defense
2 manufacturing. We can't let it happen. As
3 Americans, we can't let it happen. The
4 threat of security makes no sense and
5 America needs to be ready to react to the
6 changes in world issues.

7 In closing -- what I'm asking for.
8 In closing I'm asking for letters of support
9 from the representatives and the people of
10 this great city. We have always been there
11 since '57 to support the City of Scranton
12 with our membership, with the people that
13 don't live in the city and spend their
14 dollars in this city, and now as Americans
15 it's irresponsible to turn our back on
16 what's happening. We need letters to
17 congressmen and senators asking for support
18 the continuation of the United States of
19 American Abrams M1A1 and M1A2 main battle
20 tank program. We have an obligation to
21 continue to supply our war fighter with the
22 best possible vehicles on earth. America is
23 the land of the free because of the brave.

24 Thank you, Council. Thank you,
25 members and citizens of the City of Scranton

1 and we look forward to your support.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much,
3 gentlemen.

4 MR. KLINKLE: If I could, I have
5 addresses here of the congressmen, should I
6 read them?

7 MR. BOWER: I believe that's part of
8 the packet.

9 MR. KLINKLE: Okay, and then I'll
10 just give a phone number, union office phone
11 number for anybody that would like to call
12 and get addresses of congressmen. We are
13 asking the people to write to Toomey, we are
14 asking people to write to Casey, to Lou
15 Barletta and to Congressman Marino and the
16 union office phone number is 876-7804 or
17 876-7808, and the plant manager's phone
18 number is 876-7800.

19 And the plant manager is on business
20 out of town or he would have been here with
21 me. He is 100 percent behind everything
22 that we are doing. So thank you for your
23 time and I apologize for running over.

24 MS. EVANS: No, thank you very much,
25 gentlemen. I'm going to ask with the

1 agreement of my council colleagues, Mrs.
2 Krake, that we would please send letters to
3 Senator Robert Casey, Congressman Barletta,
4 Senator Toomey, Congressman Marino, asking
5 for their support for the continuation of
6 funding for the US Abrams Battle Tank
7 Program and Striker Program. I'm sure we
8 all hope that they will continue to supply
9 our brave soldiers with the finest military
10 vehicles in the world and we owe this to our
11 servicemen and women. Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: We could also ask that
13 we can put something together that could be
14 scrolled on Channel 19 for citizens to
15 also --

16 MS. EVANS: Absolutely.

17 MR. JOYCE: That's a great idea.

18 MS. EVANS: And, Mrs. Krake, I just
19 thought perhaps we might send a memo to the
20 mayor's office informing him of this
21 presentation. We can forward some of the
22 information we received this evening asking
23 if he, too, would send letters in support of
24 these projects. Thank you again. Andy
25 Sbaraglia.

1 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
2 citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonians. I
3 see we have the roads again back on there
4 back at the Mt. Pleasant, that's 5-B and
5 5-C. I told you before, it's too expensive
6 at this time to maintain that road for the
7 city. We can't even maintain our own roads,
8 but I'm a big hearted person. If you denied
9 that I will gladly reimburse the city the \$2
10 that we lost, and probably save the
11 policemen or a firemen their job.

12 I don't know where to begin with the
13 finances of the city. I believe what I read
14 in the paper, I don't doubt it, we are
15 running out of money. I know the 2010
16 budget was a dream budget and we are paying
17 for it in 2011. I also know that the
18 Scranton Parking Authority has to come up
19 with \$2 million to pay off their bonds. How
20 they are coming up with that I don't know,
21 but if I was sitting in your position I
22 would ask because we are responsible for it.

23 And the Recreation Authority decided
24 to tax the kids a little more and raise
25 their -- poor kids going up there to swim

1 there from three or four bucks. This is all
2 happening and probably a heck of a lot more
3 is happening with the finances in the city.

4 The Sewer Authority was going
5 through the roof, but we all know that, and
6 we are stuck, and we are really stuck, and
7 like I told you before, I feel sorry for you
8 when you first took office because I knew
9 this was going to happen. The damage was
10 done and thank God you were able to get rid
11 of that Authority for the library, that was
12 more money that was going to be in debt. I
13 don't know how they could pass that, that
14 close to the -- you know, the change in the
15 council, but I guess that's what people do.

16 Okay, but there is a little
17 brightness to this situation, how much
18 transfer tax are we going to get when that
19 Mercy Hospital is sold, okay? Has anybody
20 looked into that? Don't let what happened
21 with Boscov's happen again. Boscov's sold
22 22 millions in leases, and we got the air in
23 the transfer tax, so now you got a lawyer
24 that's on your side, let him look into it on
25 that transfer tax because -- and then be a

1 little smarter, too. Get down to the
2 Assessor's Office and make sure they are --
3 they ain't cutting down on their assessment
4 for that building.

5 As you know, that's what's caused us
6 a lot of problems in the city was a lot of
7 people out there getting their taxes cut
8 down. This is what's happening. I mean,
9 for me to sit here and say one council
10 started all of this, no. It started with
11 the mayor. Jimmy Connors budget at that
12 time was a little over what we needed in
13 revenue, so it was a balanced budget, and
14 then it started downhill, started downhill
15 with laying off -- telling all of them
16 firemen and policemen retiring, "We'll take
17 care of you, your medical until you die,"
18 and then rehiring a bunch and so that if you
19 want to know why medical has ballooned
20 that's the reason why. You are paying twice
21 as much as you were before for the people
22 you hired, and it was just downhill all the
23 way. I mean, he went out and borrowed 72
24 million just to start.

25 Now you are talking about the

1 lights, we own the lights, but we didn't
2 have to own the lights. We are paying PPL
3 to take care of the lights and they did a
4 good job. I can't -- well, put it this way,
5 I keep telling you look for contracts and
6 patronage, that's the hallmark of all
7 politicians and we are paying a penalty for
8 contracts and patronage, and this is what's
9 happening.

10 So I know you are stuck with it. I
11 told you in the very beginning when you took
12 I told you you should triple that man's
13 salary because you are going to need to
14 fight this mayor and there is no question
15 about it. He is not going to cooperate with
16 you, no way. All he is going to do is try
17 to get his will done. Too bad he couldn't
18 escape the city then there would have -- it
19 would have fell on you, Janet, you are lucky
20 he didn't escape, but this is what happened.
21 I can go all the way back to when he took
22 office and give you a whole scenario out
23 there of why we are where we are today.

24 We had a golf course that gave us
25 money, okay? They were giving us -- in

1 fact, I saw one of the guys today that used
2 to be up there -- well, I won't get into it
3 now, but thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you,
5 Mr. Sbaraglia. Les Spindler.

6 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
7 Council. Les Spindler, city homeowner,
8 resident and taxpayer. I want to start off
9 by saying I heard there is going to be a new
10 movie made, the name of it's going to be
11 Supercop. It's about a police chief who
12 single-handedly rids the city of all it's
13 crime and it's going to star Chief Duffy.

14 In all seriousness, this man makes
15 one arrest and he is glorified as a
16 superhero in the Doherty newsletter, his
17 picture is plastered all over of the paper,
18 he has bumper stickers being made, it's on
19 the front page of the paper "We Love Chief
20 Duffy." To me that's a slap in the face to
21 all of other police officers in this city.
22 The bumper sticker should say, "We love all
23 our police officers," not just Chief Duffy.

24 There is police officers that make
25 arrests like this every single day and you

1 don't hear about them. Chief Duffy makes
2 one arrest and they want to make a superhero
3 out of him. I think that's ridiculous, and
4 I have more to say on this, but I have to
5 read it so I don't miss anything.

6 When a police officer is sworn in,
7 he takes an oath of officer uphold the law.
8 It seems Chief Duffy only upholds the law
9 when it benefits himself as is evident by
10 his failure to follow-up on a police report
11 along with a videotape identifying two city
12 employees with committing a crime. Albeit
13 not a serious crime, it was a crime. If the
14 two employees identified were someone other
15 than two Doherty cronies they would have
16 been arrested. This is a prime example of
17 politics at it's best, and politics should
18 not be involved when it comes to upholding
19 the law.

20 That being said, by Chief Duffy
21 ignoring the police report and not bringing
22 charges against these two city workers Chief
23 Duffy is breaking his oath of office and I
24 think he should resign.

25 Moving on, yesterday's editorial

1 from the editor, "It snowed politics for
2 city council." This is just a Doherty
3 newsletter again spinning it's own
4 information making city council look bad and
5 the one thing I have highlighted here that
6 talks about a meter parking system for which
7 council budgeted \$300,000 in new revenue has
8 not yet been installed.

9 Well, what they didn't say is the
10 reason it's not been installed is because of
11 two people, Chris Doherty and Mr. McGoff,
12 who wanted it put out to bid which it
13 shouldn't have been because StreetSmart is a
14 sole source, so this is just delaying things
15 and it's just another example of the
16 Times-Tribune spinning things in favor of
17 Chris Doherty.

18 Lastly, something in the paper again
19 today about the city being out of money by
20 September. Again, Times-Tribune putting
21 their own spin on it, what they don't tell
22 you is Chris Doherty did say the 2010 budget
23 was balanced. Well, that again was one of
24 his many lies since he has been in office
25 because, as I have said here before, he

1 plugged in \$5 million to that budget which
2 came from the \$12 million from the tax
3 office, but the city never received the \$5
4 million, I think it was only like \$3.5, am I
5 correct on that, Mrs. Evans?

6 MS. EVANS: I think you are fairly
7 close.

8 MR. SPINDLER: So where is the other
9 \$1.5 million that was supposed to have been
10 plugged into that budget to balance it? I
11 would like Chris Doherty to answer that
12 question, I would like the Times-Tribune to
13 answer that question. Maybe you can find
14 out for us, Josh, what do you say? He is
15 shaking his head no, so I guess we won't
16 find out. Thank you for your time.

17 MS. EVANS: Lee Morgan. Bill
18 Jackowitz.

19 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,
20 South Scranton resident and member of the
21 Taxpayers' Association. I would like to
22 thank Mayor Doherty, Mr. McGoff, Mrs.
23 Gatelli, Mr. Pocius, Mr. Hazzouri,
24 Mr. McTiernan, and Ms. Fanucci,
25 Mr. Gilhooley, Representative Kevin Murphy,

1 Gary DiBileo for passing all of Mayor
2 Dougherty's budgets for the past eight years
3 which has financially crippled the City of
4 Scranton.

5 Thank you, Judge Mazzoni, for ruling
6 in favor of the mayor after he and his
7 cabinet members paraded to the witness stand
8 with stories about how public safety would
9 be hurt if council was allowed to reduce the
10 2010 unbalanced budget. Judge Mazzoni, do
11 you live in Scranton? Judge, do you think
12 that reducing the fire department and police
13 department and manning will hurt public
14 safety? I wish the judge would attend a
15 city council meeting and answer those
16 questions for us.

17 Mr. Kelly, how many Right-to-Know
18 letters have gone unanswered by the Doherty
19 administration? Do some investigating
20 reporting and find out, contact Mrs. Krake
21 and members of the Taxpayers' Association
22 and then print the truth.

23 Josh, you did a good job today on
24 today's news article. I criticize, I will
25 actually compliment you today, I thought it

1 was pretty fair.

2 The past two weeks Mr. McGoff has
3 delivered campaign speeches asking for
4 cooperation between the administration and
5 city council. When Mr. McGoff and
6 Mrs. Gatelli had the majority, three to two
7 cooperation was a word that was never used.
8 Now all of a sudden the house of the
9 financial deception is crumbling, Mr. McGoff
10 is asking for cooperation. Where have you,
11 Mr. McGoff, and the Times-Tribune been for
12 the past nine years. Josh, Mr. McGoff, and
13 Mayor Doherty, how could the 2010 budget
14 been balanced and then nine months later
15 have a potential deficit of \$11 million.
16 The past financial chairperson, Mrs. Gatelli
17 stated on the weekly basis that she did not
18 want to be finance chair, although she
19 rubber stamped every budget for four years
20 that Mayor Doherty proposed.

21 It finally caught up to the
22 administration. How can approving an
23 unbalanced budget and taking from Peter to
24 pay Paul better the city, I must ask Mayor
25 Doherty, that was his quote today, and Mr.

1 McGoff, is the city in a better financial
2 situation in 2011 then they were in 2010?

3 The Pennsylvania Economy League they
4 have been and still are a joke. Get rid of
5 them before they cause more harm to the
6 residents of Scranton. Mayor Doherty, show
7 some cooperation, address the citizens of
8 Scranton, become the sixth council person.
9 Do something positive for the voters who
10 elected you to three terms.

11 Mayor Doherty, I will ask you the
12 same question I asked you 11 years ago and
13 still waiting for the answer, where did the
14 money go? Where did it go? We know it
15 didn't go to the city. We know the
16 taxpayers and the voters didn't get any of
17 it, where did the money go? How could we be
18 in such a big debt? Someone please answer
19 that, especially the people who rubber
20 stamped Mayor Doherty's budgets for all of
21 these years, the last nine years, eight
22 years, excuse me.

23 As far as Director Brazil, quit your
24 whining and do your job along with your
25 assistant, Mr. Dougher. Tighten the belt,

1 cut down on the overtime like St. Patrick's
2 Day parade, get rid of the four supervisors
3 that were terminated, come to a city council
4 meeting and stop talking to the
5 Times-Tribune. They cannot help you, they
6 can only hinder you. The police and fire
7 departments have sucked it up for years, do
8 the same. Become a leader and manager
9 instead of a complainer, Mr. Brazil.

10 Scranton metropolitan area again has
11 the highest unemployment rate in the state.
12 I have to agree with Mr. McGoff, the city
13 has no plan and never will. When people do
14 not talk with each other or compromise you
15 will never develop a plan. I have said that
16 from this podium many times. City
17 government is about the residents and
18 taxpayers, not about individual egos. This
19 is for the activists like me, not elected
20 officials or appointed public officials.
21 Somebody other than the supermajority stand
22 up and show some leadership.

23 Beach Street has finally been paved,
24 thanks, Pat, Beach Street and South Webster
25 Avenue, they did a good job.

1 MR. ROGAN: Good to here.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: And the City of
3 Scranton, we have been hiding the \$5 million
4 deficit in the budget for the last eight
5 years, that's why I'm thanking all of the
6 past Dougherty council people who rubber
7 stamped his budgets. This has been a
8 problem, we have been talking about this
9 from this podium for years and years and
10 years. Now all of sudden it's a big
11 surprise that we are possibly \$11 million in
12 debt, \$11 million in the hole, plus we have
13 a \$300 million long-term debt.

14 Again, can someone on council please
15 answer my question since the Mayor Doherty
16 refuses to answer, where has the money gone?
17 What was it spent on? The firemen and the
18 police officers did not get all his money.
19 I know they didn't. If they did, then we
20 got a lot of rich firemen and police
21 officers in this city. Someone, please,
22 during motions, Mr. McGoff, you voted for
23 all of Doherty's budgets, maybe you can
24 address it and tell me where all of money
25 went to. How could we be in such a debt and

1 possibly running out of money by September
2 when you passed a balanced budget in 2010, a
3 balanced budget in 2009, a balanced budget
4 in 2008, along with Judy Gatelli and Sherry
5 Fanucci and all of the other people starting
6 with John Pocius and Kevin Murphy and
7 everyone else? Where has the money gone?

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you,
9 Mr. Jackowitz. Is there anyone else who
10 cares to address council?

11 MR. JOYCE: Before the next speaker
12 comes up, and maybe Mr. Jackowitz could help
13 out on this, I know Lee Morgan was one of
14 the speakers listed tonight and he is no
15 longer here. I know the Scranton Taxpayers'
16 Association is having a candidate forum and
17 I know that Lee probably would have wanted
18 to mention that. Are you aware of the date
19 by chance?

20 MS. EVANS: I thought he mentioned
21 last week April 28.

22 MR. JACKOWITZ: This Thursday.

23 MS. EVANS: This Thursday.

24 MR. JOYCE: Okay, this Thursday.

25 MS. EVANS: Here in council

1 chambers.

2 MR. JOYCE: Right. So if you are a
3 candidate running for office and you happen
4 to be listening right now, feel free to come
5 to council's office and sign up, we have a
6 sign in sheet there or get in touch with
7 someone from the Taxpayers' Association to
8 schedule a time and state your platform.
9 That's all. Thank you.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

11 MR. TALIMINI: Joe Talimini, City of
12 Scranton. If I may, I would like to submit
13 these two pictures for your consideration,
14 I'd like to you take particular note to the
15 top picture, there are three major
16 streetlights at a major intersection that
17 are out completely, and a fourth one has
18 been cut off and never replaced. I'd like
19 you to take a good look at those pictures,
20 they were taken last night about 8:15 and
21 tell me if you are or what your family would
22 walk that street. It happens to be one of
23 the busiest intersections in the city, North
24 Washington Avenue -- or Washington Avenue
25 and Lackawanna Avenue, so take a good look

1 at it and tell me if you feel safe walking
2 those streets.

3 I want to thank Mr. McGoff or
4 whoever it was responsible for mentioning
5 the bridge last week. The lights were out,
6 they were on the next night, so I'm sure
7 that it's something on a -- it's on one
8 circuit and whatever it was it shorted out,
9 all the lights were out, it should be
10 rectified. It's a very dangerous situation.

11 Now, I would like to propose, and I
12 hear a lot of people come up here, including
13 myself, we complain but nobody here has
14 solutions, and I've got some solutions in
15 this budget cutting operation.

16 Number one, let's just shut down the
17 city on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and
18 Wednesday. Just completely shut down the
19 city because nothing is ever accomplished
20 anyway and then on Thursday night, Friday
21 night and Saturday night we can keep it open
22 to accommodate the bars, all right?

23 Secondly, we can save a lot of money
24 by eliminating the police and fire and they
25 can only work on Thursday, Friday and

1 Saturday nights because you can't get on
2 Linden Street from Washington Avenue to
3 Adams Avenue on Thursday, Friday and
4 Saturday nights because of the crowds,
5 because of the police cars parked there,
6 because of the taxis that are blocking the
7 street because of the buses, because of the
8 limos, and because of the hot dog stands.

9 Now, you know, I mean, this is
10 great. I think we should accommodate these
11 bars because they contribute so much to the
12 city.

13 Now, secondly, I'm up to here with
14 the unions crying the blues, everybody is
15 poverty stricken. I would propose that
16 anybody who wants to serve in any government
17 capacity spend one year under the Lackawanna
18 Avenue bridge in a tent, one year and then
19 come up here and plead poverty to me,
20 please. I would love it.

21 I also propose that the senior
22 citizens and the taxpayers form a union. It
23 would be the taxpayers' union and the senior
24 citizens' union, and I want anybody in this
25 room to come down and tell me about how poor

1 and how mistreated they are. We haven't had
2 a raise in two years, we are still paying
3 the same price as you pay for gasoline, for
4 food, and etcetera, and nobody feels sorry
5 for us. We can't even get the handicapped
6 ramps repaired in the street.

7 If you remember, Mrs. Evans, four
8 years ago I told Mrs. Gatelli, walk out the
9 front door of this building and look at the
10 access ramps, the road on all four corners.
11 We had a woman killed out there. That still
12 hasn't been resolved. Her wheelchair, the
13 guy made an illegal right turn on Mulberry
14 Street coming down Washington. He hit here,
15 he knew he hit something, and backed up, but
16 nothing was ever done and those ramps are
17 still in terrible conditions, but nobody in
18 this town gives a damn.

19 Now, we had a very good presentation
20 here, we made a Proclamation to a gentleman
21 who is very knowledgeable about forestry,
22 but can he tell me where the Doherty money
23 tree is because I sure in hell can't find it
24 anyplace, and I would also propose that we
25 put a moratorium on fireworks, on any monies

1 being expend for the St. Patrick's Day
2 parade, take that money and put in for the
3 pools so the kids can swim in this town.
4 Sorry about it, but that's the way it goes.
5 Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

7 MR. JOYCE: Also, Mr. Talimini, do
8 you have the poll numbers on those streets
9 lights by chance?

10 MR. TALIMINI: They are the only
11 lights on that intersection.

12 MR. JOYCE: Okay.

13 MR. TALIMINI: There are four
14 lights, all four corners, three of them are
15 out completely and one is cut off.

16 MR. JOYCE: If you don't mind me
17 asking, how long have they been out that you
18 have noticed?

19 MR. TALIMINI: I think they have
20 been out since I have been in Scranton.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: I put in those same
22 lights weeks ago and there are several
23 others on the lower blocks of Lackawanna
24 Avenue and none of them have been touched
25 yet. I put them in the same time.

1 MR. TALIMINI: It looks like it
2 would be a perfect setting for a western
3 movie with John Wayne and that's what I
4 think they're waiting for to come back.
5 That's our beautiful downtown Scranton.

6 MR. JOYCE: Mrs. Krake, perhaps if
7 we could contact Joyce Electrical and put
8 these on a high priority list and ask for --
9 to attend to these first as this is a
10 downtown area. It's very heavily traveled
11 and the last thing we would want to see is
12 anyone get injured because of a burnt out
13 streetlight. That's all.

14 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who
15 would like to address council?

16 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council,
17 Dave Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton.

18 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

19 MR. DOBRZYN: We have a little déjà,
20 It think Mr. Sbaraglia mentioned it, 5-B and
21 5-C.

22 MS. EVANS: Actually, if I might
23 interrupt, I'm so sorry, that will all be
24 explained this evening by Solicitor Hughes.

25 MR. DOBRZYN: Okay. All right, on

1 last week all of the sparks flying about the
2 police department, once again, I'd like to
3 mention that if you have one person that's
4 not a member of the bargaining unit it's a
5 small problem, when we get five or six
6 people that's not a member of the bargaining
7 unit it gets to be a much larger problem
8 called an open shop. I, once again, would
9 like to mention that years back I was a
10 union executive and somebody would get
11 promoted off the floor to a foreman position
12 or something and they decide to drop out of
13 the union and the next thing you know they
14 were running around with work in their hands
15 and it has somebody screaming at you what
16 are you going to be telling me Friday, am I
17 going home to an unemployment check? So,
18 you know, I don't want to vilify anybody and
19 I'm sure everybody that's involved in this
20 is a nice person and so forth.

21 And I would also like to express
22 some support on this budget business. It
23 seems like the story that's getting told is
24 that you people were so green at the job
25 that you couldn't come up with a budget,

1 well, maybe somebody should come up with an
2 audit by July this time instead and
3 determine whose in trouble and what
4 departments and then and only then work with
5 all parties concerned to straighten it out,
6 but don't take it yourself.

7 Okay, golden parrot award for Rick
8 Schneider, governor of Michigan. He
9 appointed a financial -- an emergency
10 financial manager, very similar to our
11 friends from PEL, and this person has the
12 authority to go in and tell you people you
13 are fired, tell the mayor he is fired and
14 you could open up the meeting and do it, say
15 the Pledge of Allegiance and make a motion
16 to close the meeting. Well, he wants to
17 close the Catholic Ferguson School for
18 Intercity Pregnant females and Mothers.
19 They have a 90 percent college acceptance
20 out of the school for pregnant females and
21 mothers. This is in Detroit, Michigan.

22 And then you have Benton-Harbor,
23 Michigan. The mayor donated a park in 1917,
24 it borders the shore of Lake Michigan. It's
25 whirlpool headquarters, but they ship the

1 jobs out overseas, mighty nice of them.
2 Well, Whirlpool wants to turn it into a golf
3 course under this emergency financial
4 manager system at \$5,000 per family per year
5 to be able to use the beach and the golf
6 course and so forth, so the golden parrot
7 goes to Rick Schneider, bawk, bawk, and it
8 sounds kind of like the swimming situation
9 at Nay Aug Park sometimes. Have a good
10 night.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
12 anyone else who cares to address council?

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
14 Council.

15 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher,
17 city resident and taxpayer. On March 29 I
18 asked when council meeting minutes are
19 actually approved. I noted that the reading
20 of the minutes is typically dispensed with
21 and as these minutes form the official
22 record, I presume they should be read and
23 approved, but I don't ever recall hearing of
24 minutes being approved. I'm wondering why I
25 may expect an answer to that question.

1 That's first.

2 Next, Governor Corbett has signed
3 legislation removing of the need to install
4 sprinklers in new homes and since the code
5 that was adopted by the city council
6 included that requirement, I am wondering if
7 the city has to also amend theirs and if
8 they do if that will be happening any time
9 soon.

10 MR. ROGAN: I would just say that I
11 did read about that in the newspaper the
12 other day, and from people I have spoken to
13 and from what I have read, the reason for
14 doing it is the cost.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah.

16 MR. ROGAN: With the housing market
17 the way it is --

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: We have talked
19 about it, I just want to know whether or not
20 city council is going to stick with what
21 they had or if you are planning to do --

22 MR. ROGAN: I can't speak for my
23 colleagues, but it would make sense to me
24 and the city that it wouldn't be necessary,
25 but then again, we are a city. If we were

1 in the suburbs somewhere that didn't have
2 great fire department like we do and an
3 infrastructure for firefighting then it
4 would seem more necessary in the outskirts,
5 but that's how I feel. I can't speak for
6 anyone else.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: I do hope or I
8 would urge you to consider amending it as
9 well.

10 And now I would like to go back to
11 one of my old favorites which is the
12 condemnation process in this city. It was
13 one of the first things that got me to this
14 podium, and I'd like to read the what is
15 supposed to be in the condemnation notice
16 according to the Property Maintenance Code
17 to which the city subscribes. It says, "The
18 notices for condemnation procedures shall
19 also comply with Section 108(3)," but this
20 is 1072. "They should be in writing, they
21 should include a description of the real
22 estate sufficient for identification, they
23 should include a statement of the reason or
24 reasons why the notice is being issued, and
25 fourth, they should include a correction

1 order allowing a reasonable time for the
2 repairs and improvements required to bring
3 the dwelling unit or structure into
4 compliance with the provisions of this
5 code."

6 However, I did under a Right-to-Know
7 get the standard letter that is provided
8 when a building is condemned, and this is
9 not much change from whatever it was seven
10 years ago when I received one. "The
11 above-mentioned property has been condemned
12 since," and then we fill in the date
13 condemned, "and to date nothing has been do
14 rehabilitate the structure. As the years go
15 on the structure has not been maintained or
16 kept a constant temperature. It is in such
17 disrepair that a danger to life, health and
18 safety to the public and surrounding
19 structures.

20 You are well aware that vacant
21 structures are an attractive nuisance to
22 children, a potential fire hazard and a
23 harbor for rodents and insects along with
24 being a potential home for vagrants. Vacant
25 buildings also create a blighting influence

1 within the community. I hereby order that
2 the above-referenced structure be either
3 rehabilitated or razed.

4 Please be advised that you have 20
5 days from the receipt of this letter to
6 comply or to appeal as set forth below.
7 Failing to do so will result in the city
8 demolishing the structure and placing a lien
9 on the property for all costs incurred. If
10 you have any objections to the determination
11 of this office, you may appeal this matter
12 by requesting a hearing before the Housing
13 Appeals Board by filing an appeals
14 application which are available at city
15 hall," the address. "Please be advised this
16 a nonrefundable check for \$150 is required
17 to file an appeal within 20 days upon
18 receipt of this letter."

19 Now, how would you like to get that?
20 I mean, I came here, I appealed, I showed
21 that, of course, it had been kept at a
22 constant temperature for all of the years,
23 but where in that letter does it say what
24 has to be done as it says here, "Include a
25 statement for the reason or reasons why the

1 notice is being issued and a corrective
2 order allowing for reasonable time for the
3 repairs and improvements."

4 So even to find out what this city
5 is it not like about your property you have
6 to spend \$150 to find that out. That is
7 just ludicrous and a terrible burden I think
8 on people and it's just plain wrong and I
9 would like to see an ordinance that demands
10 that those items that are in the code to
11 which we supposedly subscribe are put in so
12 people know what they can do and have an
13 opportunity before they spend the \$150 to
14 find out what is the matter. So I would
15 look forward to seeing that soon.

16 MS. EVANS: If you can submit all of
17 that information to Ms. Carrera, please.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'll have to scan
19 it in tonight and send it.

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: It probably should
22 be here, but, yeah.

23 MR. JOYCE: Also, I just wanted to
24 inform you that Kevin Murphy did respond
25 back to us when we sent him the question

1 regarding the distractive driving
2 legislation and he informed me that House
3 Bill 67, which was authored by
4 Representative Mark Horsick from Allegheny
5 County advocated this, but it was -- the
6 Bill eventually died and that House Bill 580
7 represents a compromise between the language
8 that the House and the Senate negotiated
9 after House Bill 67 died last year.

10 He also mentioned the four other
11 Bills, and we do have some backup on this,
12 there is Bill information in the file, so
13 perhaps we can get that from Nancy.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Is he cosponsor it
15 if?

16 MR. JOYCE: Yes, and he also asked
17 if other elected officials in city council
18 would also write a letter in support of
19 sponsoring some of these Bills to support a
20 ban on cell phones when driving or other
21 forms of distractive driving, and I know
22 that myself as well as I'm sure all of my
23 colleagues would agree that we should
24 construct a letter to our representative,
25 Kevin Murphy, and Kevin Murphy's --

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: And Mr. Smith, too.

2 THE COURT: Yes.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: He has been
4 responsive, he also has half of the city,
5 yeah.

6 MR. JOYCE: Yes, and Mr. Smith and
7 from Mr. Murphy's letter he said that it's
8 easier to get something through if there is
9 lot of community support, especially from
10 other elected officials, as well as
11 business, so if you would like to submit a
12 letter as well.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER; I have. I have
14 submitted it to my representative, so --

15 MR. JOYCE: Great.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: And my personal
17 preference, as I stated, would not be to
18 make it illegal to do it, it would just put
19 the responsibility if you do it and
20 something happens you really get socked, but
21 I believe in personal responsibility, but
22 thank you very much.

23 MR. JOYCE: Right, and I do believe
24 that it's a problem, especially with many of
25 the youthful drivers out there, in fact,

1 that's one of the reasons that I'm sure car
2 insurance rates are so high for young adults
3 and teenagers. In fact, I recently heard a
4 story where someone was texting and driving
5 and ended up almost totaling their parent's
6 car doing about \$5,000 worth of damage.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Ask Mr. Rogan to
8 send you the video that I sent him, I think
9 Mr. Loscombe viewed it as well. So, yeah,
10 it's a problem.

11 MR. ROGAN: I'll send that to you,
12 Mr. Joyce.

13 MR. JOYCE: Okay.

14 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who
15 cares to address council?

16 MS. NEUHAUS: Good evening, Council.
17 Deborah Neuhaus, West Scranton. Hastily
18 drafted comments, so I apologize in advance.
19 I get the distinct impression, again, after
20 watching these meetings now for a year at
21 least with the current council, that when
22 with one enters this room they are kind of
23 dubbed either for council and against the
24 mayor or for the mayor and against council.
25 Frankly, I'm tired of it and I don't want to

1 read anymore about the interplay of
2 personalities, but what I want and I think
3 most of the citizens I speak with want is
4 just good government, plain and simple. We
5 want to see our local government embrace the
6 principles and policies of operating on good
7 government and I do believe, Mrs. Evans,
8 that you epitomize good government.

9 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

10 MS. NEUHAUS: All I can further say
11 is that I hope the people of the city can
12 see throughout the nonsensical meritless
13 attacks made against you printed under the
14 guise of news articles or perspective. In
15 my estimation, you represent what may be one
16 of the few opportunities Scranton has
17 experienced in recent decades to truly right
18 this ship.

19 In fact, a person who regularly
20 attends these meetings with whom I spoke
21 today at Fidelity Bank in West Scranton put
22 it best, succinctly, profoundly and in only
23 five words, I heard him say the following:
24 "Save the city, Mrs. Evans."

25 Wow. Truly, the words almost

1 brought tears to my eyes. We know you love
2 this city, Mrs. Evans, that you have helped
3 compile one of the brightest, most
4 dedicated, most capable majorities this
5 council has probably ever experienced or at
6 least one in a long time.

7 Impressed is the word I heard from
8 another person who watched with me as a
9 council meeting unfolded several months ago.
10 Impressed, he said. I'm impressed. This
11 person was new to the area unaware of the
12 ugly underbelly, the political mean
13 spiritedness and nastiness Scranton always
14 find itself stooping to at the hands of a
15 few in power, money and control of public
16 perception.

17 All selfishly put their own personal
18 interest ahead of that of the public good.
19 In all of the lies, the mistruths, the
20 half-truths and the outright deceptions,
21 they all take a toll on what I believe is
22 otherwise a city just waiting to shine to
23 truly be electric. How is that toll
24 manifested? Look around the city, many here
25 have attested to it meetings after meeting.

1 The litter, the state of the road, and
2 believe it or not, I think a palpable lack
3 of hope which also, again, manifests
4 indirectly in social ills, high degree of
5 smokers, domestic violence that we read
6 about every day in the paper. I'm tired of
7 reading those stories. They're
8 distractions. I want the roots, the seeds
9 of good government to take root.

10 And the neighborhoods struggling
11 with blight, drugs and other quality of life
12 issues that chip away at this city's sense
13 of goodness and self-respect. Yes, I
14 believe a corrupt city will bear fruit, but
15 as one legal maxim states, fruit that will
16 be from a poisonous tree.

17 As a result of these symptoms and
18 others, what do we then experience? We
19 experience the reluctance of companies to
20 set up shop here, lack of solid revenue
21 causing high maintenance and taxes. A sub
22 straight of wrongdoing which, unfortunately,
23 yields corrupt practices and just plain bad
24 governance. A feeling of being beaten,
25 defeated and frustrated.

1 I, for one, am tired of reading
2 these stories in the local newspaper
3 illustrating these symptoms of a city
4 struggling with bad government practices and
5 less than stellar leadership. Big buildings
6 won't cure this, new parks won't undue it
7 either. Neither will one huge company
8 offering good paying jobs. Will they help?
9 Probably, but only temporarily.

10 You see, the brain drain to a large
11 degree, I believe, has already occurred. We
12 are now living in a post brain drain. The
13 good minds, the forward thinkers are pretty
14 much gone, so disappointed they have left.
15 I have met people, young, upwardly mobile,
16 hopeful when they first came to Scranton due
17 to the promise of a good paying job, and
18 they got it, but no sooner than they begin
19 to realize the very real and ugly side of
20 this town, the lack of respect towards
21 principles of good government, the fact that
22 they would never have a real shot at full
23 self actualization because it was not what
24 they knew but who they did not know, the
25 lack of a true progressiveness they began

1 plans to leave, and that they did. Despite
2 a good job, Scranton offered little else.

3 Oh, and believe me, it appears
4 superficially to offer all these things, but
5 with people who I have spoken they are not
6 fooled. That know that power is vested in a
7 fairly small number of people and their
8 chances of changing the long-standing sense
9 of, "This is the way it's done here" were
10 not good. That's the real cause of the
11 brain drain, not always a lack of good
12 paying job, but a lack of good government,
13 open government, government that embraces
14 all of those policies and practices, one we
15 see in cities that get it and employ it to
16 the benefit of the life of the city.

17 Mrs. Evans, what you have gone
18 through I personally admire your courage and
19 metal. Not all could weather you have
20 experienced and those that would impugn your
21 good character in my opinion it raises to
22 the level of misogyny at times. Your
23 dedication to this city and your raw
24 intellectual talent all come under continual
25 drumbeat of attack. You alone with the

1 supermajority of the council offer Scranton
2 a refreshing rate of hope that good
3 governance will take hold in Scranton and
4 that the poisonous tree will be uprooted
5 once and for all.

6 And to those who claim council has
7 not accomplished anything beyond responding
8 with, "You must be kidding," I offer as
9 well, who would have the time with all of
10 the chasing after information, researching
11 the nonstop maze of shell games masquerading
12 as budgets and information, I honestly don't
13 know how you do it and I, for one, will be
14 patient.

15 I realize all the work that all of
16 you are doing to uncover what is really
17 going on in this city and the city now has a
18 chance to finish the task. For the sake of
19 a better future and a brighter city that
20 tree loose has cause to be proud, I hope the
21 electorate is wise enough to keep this
22 majority in place. Thank you.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you very much.

24 MR. JOYCE: Chrissy.

25 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Frankly.

1 MS. JOYCE: Hey, what's going on,
2 Chrissy.

3 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Janet, that was
4 true, what that nice lady said, I said that
5 to you, Janet, save the city for us. Save
6 it. Save it for us.

7 MR. JOYCE: You are the man, Chrissy

8 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who
9 cares to address council? 5-A. Motions.
10 Mr. McGoff, do you have any comments or
11 motions?

12 MR. MCGOFF: Please. As I stated at
13 the beginning of the meeting, I would like
14 to make a motion that Scranton City Council
15 vote to approve the following: Scranton
16 City Council recognizes and supports the
17 efforts of Scranton Police Chief Dan Duffy
18 in his attempt to curtail crime in the city
19 and his efficient leadership of the police
20 department.

21 Furthermore, it recognizes the
22 actions of the leadership of the FOP as an
23 unnecessary attack on the reputation of
24 Chief Duffy and discredits his exemplary
25 leadership and police work.

1 MR. ROGAN: Second.

2 MS. EVANS: On the question? We
3 have a motion on the floor, anyone on the
4 question?

5 MR. ROGAN: I would just say
6 although I don't complete agree with the
7 language about the unnecessary attack, I do
8 believe that Chief Duffy is doing a great
9 job in our neighborhoods and I see him when
10 I go to all of the neighborhood meetings
11 throughout the neighborhood centers he is
12 doing a great job and, you know, we heard
13 from Mr. Martin last week and I understand
14 where the union can be concerned with if
15 there was a police chief taking work that
16 somebody lower down the line could be doing,
17 but the way I look at it is we need 20 more
18 police officers on the streets and if Chief
19 Duffy is going out doing extra work that's
20 good for the community. You know, if he
21 wants to go out 24/7 and not sleep and
22 patrol the streets, I think that's a good
23 think.

24 I think the media does tend to
25 overblown it, you know, they hype it up a

1 little bit and, you know, the whole police
2 department as a whole is doing a great job
3 and Chief Duffy is a great chief of police.
4 I support this, Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. JOYCE: And I would also like to
6 add that I, too, support this motion. I do
7 not know the intent and the motive of the
8 FOP, I'm not 100 percent sure it could be
9 called an attack on reputation of Chief
10 Duffy because they -- well, Officer Martin
11 came up here and explained otherwise.
12 However, I do want to recognize Chief Duffy
13 for doing a great job in the City of
14 Scranton. I think that he puts his heart
15 and soul into the job that he was appointed
16 to do. I wish that more city employees
17 would put in as much dedication and effort
18 as Chief Duffy puts into his job.

19 I know that we have seen some
20 stellar examples of great city employees,
21 for instance, the employee that we gave a
22 Proclamation to tonight, Mr. Santoli, the
23 forester, after --

24 MS. EVANS: And he doesn't even get
25 paid.

1 MR. JOYCE: And he doesn't even get
2 paid and he came up here and gave us a 45
3 minute dissertation on trees, which is
4 something that he loves to do. Chief Duffy
5 obviously has a passion for fighting crime,
6 I support that he is out there and doing the
7 best that he could even if it does happen to
8 be on off-duty hours.

9 MS. EVANS: I, too, support your
10 motion, however, I might ask you to
11 reconsider some of the language in terms of
12 the leadership of the FOP as an unnecessary
13 attack on the reputation of Chief Duffy. I
14 don't know that that is a fair or accurate
15 statement in that I have heard Mr. Martin
16 say numerous times that he respects Chief
17 Duffy, he thinks he is doing a wonderful
18 job. In fact, I think I read lately in the
19 newspaper an article that ended Chief Duffy
20 is the one thing that in this administration
21 did right in nine years.

22 So though I agree with the motion, I
23 would ask that perhaps you can eliminate
24 that phrase from it and then I certainly
25 would be in favor of it. I think also, just

1 as we have asked in the past from this
2 council desk as well as during private
3 visits to the mayor's office, that the
4 administration would drop these incessant
5 costly appeals. I think that city council
6 can also ask the leadership of the FOP if
7 they would reconsider this grievance that
8 they filed because I do not feel that it
9 benefits the union, it doesn't benefit our
10 police, it doesn't benefit the people of
11 this city, and perhaps we might want to add
12 that to the motion and delete the
13 unnecessary attack on the reputation of
14 Chief Duffy.

15 MR. JOYCE: Yes, if I could comment,
16 I think that would be a great idea. I
17 understand from listening to Mr. Martin that
18 he sees this as an attempt to force the
19 mayor into meeting and negotiating with the
20 unions, however, this particular grievance I
21 don't think is necessarily the best way to
22 go about doing that, so if we can add that.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Might I offer a --

24 MS. EVANS: Please.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Furthermore -- the

1 second paragraph, "Furthermore, recognizes
2 that recent actions have tarnished the
3 reputation of Chief Duffy and discredits his
4 leadership and police work," and then would
5 that be more palatable?

6 MR. ROGAN: But we have to vote on
7 the initial motion.

8 MR. HUGHES: From a procedural
9 standpoint there is a motion on the floor
10 which is seconded, what you would have to do
11 would be to make a motion to amend the
12 motion with the language that you want.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Correct, I'm just
14 asking if that was palatable so I could make
15 the -- and then I would make the motion to
16 amend, of course, or somebody else could
17 make the motion to amend.

18 MS. EVANS: It's certainly not as
19 heavy handed as the original language, but
20 again, I don't know that the reputation of
21 Chief Duffy has been tarnished. In fact, I
22 see it as quite the opposite, in fact. I
23 think his reputation has soared in
24 popularity and I would think that it is
25 rather the reputation of the union, perhaps,

1 that's been soiled.

2 MR. ROGAN: I would suggest changing
3 the word attack to something else, something
4 a little less --

5 MR. MCGOFF: I said recognizes the
6 recent actions have tarnished the reputation
7 of Chief Duffy and discredits his exemplary
8 leadership and police work.

9 MS. EVANS: If we were to -- this is
10 just a suggestion, if we were to perhaps
11 change the second paragraph to the idea of
12 asking the union leadership to reconsider
13 it's grievance, would that be acceptable to
14 you?

15 MR. JOYCE: If you don't mind if I
16 jump in for a second?

17 MR. MCGOFF: I'm just trying to
18 reword --

19 MR. JOYCE: Oh, okay. I think what
20 Mrs. Evans is suggesting here is actually a
21 very good idea because I think the intent of
22 this motion is to encourage the FOP to
23 withdraw the grievance, and I think that
24 there is no other better way to do it than
25 to just state it in writing, and I think

1 that's the intent of Mrs. Evans, Mr. McGoff,
2 myself and Mr. Loscombe and Mr. Rogan. I
3 just don't think that the grievance that the
4 FOP has filed is an effective way at
5 obtaining the solution that they really
6 want.

7 MR. ROGAN: I would agree and, you
8 know, in the past, you know, the battle
9 between the administration and the union, I
10 think the police union and the fire union
11 really have gotten the short end of the
12 stick, but I think this time the union is
13 wrong and, you know, if Chief Duffy if he
14 wants to go out and arrest people that are
15 bringing drugs into our neighborhoods and
16 committing crimes, keep doing it.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Well, I would like to
18 make a motion to amend the motion that I
19 made to exclude paragraph two and to add,
20 "Furthermore, council requests that the FOP
21 withdraw it's complaint against Chief Dan
22 Duffy."

23 MR. ROGAN: Second.

24 MS. EVANS: We have an amendment to
25 the motion on the floor and a second, on the

1 question? All those in favor signify by
2 saying aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

7 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
8 have it and so moved. And now we will
9 return to the vote on.

10 MR. MCGOFF: May I reread what the
11 motion would be?

12 MR. JOYCE: Okay.

13 MR. MCGOFF: So we can vote on it
14 properly.

15 MS. EVANS: Absolutely.

16 MR. JOYCE: I'll write it down for
17 my reference.

18 MR. MCGOFF: "Scranton City Council
19 recognizes and supports the efforts of
20 Scranton Police Chief Dan Duffy in his
21 attempt to curtail crime in the city and his
22 efficient leadership of the police
23 department.

24 Furthermore, council requests that
25 the FOP withdraw it's complaint against

1 Chief Dan Duffy."

2 MS. EVANS: We are returning to the
3 original motion now as amended.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Right.

5 MS. EVANS: Anyone else on the
6 question? All those in favor of the motion,
7 as amended, signify by saying aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

11 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

12 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
13 have it and so moved.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much.

15 MR. JOYCE: You're welcome.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Second thing, I
17 received a response from Attorney Kelly
18 regarding the rental registration and
19 basically what he asked, he said that he has
20 reviewed the proposals that I made to amend
21 the rental registration ordinance, he does
22 have some questions about some of the items
23 that were there and that he would like to
24 meet with myself and Mr. Seitzinger to
25 finalize or to at least discuss these

1 issues. He has given me two dates and
2 times, hopefully we will meet before the
3 next meeting. One of the dates is before
4 the next meeting and, hopefully, I would try
5 to do that prior to the next meeting.

6 Also, I would like to ask if, you
7 know, Attorney Hughes wishes to review the
8 proposals that I made, if so, I would ask
9 that -- I will ask Attorney Kelly to contact
10 you regarding this.

11 MR. HUGHES: Yes. That's fine.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. And that I
13 will do that, you know, like I said on next
14 Monday, hopefully he will be in contact.

15 Next, we did receive letter that I
16 was asked if I would read the response from
17 city controller, Roseanne Novembrino,
18 concerning the request that was sent to her
19 office.

20 It reads: Dear Honorable Council,
21 on April 1, 2011, you sent the attached
22 correspondence to this office. I have
23 enclosed for your review a voucher that this
24 office received on December 29, 2010, in
25 which it was stamped approved by this office

1 on 12-29-2010 for the payment of the 2010
2 TAN-B note. This was the information
3 submitted to this office and this was the
4 voucher that was approved.

5 To further clarify, the 2010 TAN was
6 paid on January 3, 2011. The funds
7 representing the 2011 TAN were received via
8 wire on January 5, 2011. At the last
9 meeting of council, council solicitor made
10 reference to the fact that I did not follow
11 the legislation regarding the TAN-B series
12 in that I signed it in violation of the
13 ordinance. I record every ordinance that is
14 passed by council, I attend every bid
15 opening, and I record all results including
16 the dates in which the TANS are to be paid.

17 I would in the future appreciate you
18 having the correct and complete information
19 rather than publically giving information
20 that is neither factual nor correct and is
21 grossly misleading. I have been the
22 controller for quite a number of years and
23 have never experience such a lack of
24 professionalism. In the past, I have
25 attempted for the betterment of our citizens

1 to cooperate with all branches of
2 government. Council and the mayor are all
3 branches of government. That is evident by
4 the fact that when you request information
5 from this office we take diligent steps to
6 supply the required information.

7 This office receives many requests
8 from or information from council and this
9 office has always responded to all
10 correspondence on or before specified times.
11 The actions of council have placed an
12 unwarranted target on the controller's
13 office of the City of Scranton. I would
14 appreciate in the future that council,
15 together with your hired staff, treat this
16 office with the same level of respect that
17 this office treats your office, and quite
18 frankly, should be the norm and not the
19 exception if we are all trying work for the
20 betterment of the citizens of this city.

21 Sincerely, Roseanne Novembrino, city
22 controller."

23 I was asked to read that and I have.

24 The last thing that I would like to
25 talk about is what has been the topic of the

1 discussion which I guess I have been accused
2 of making campaign speeches, and that's with
3 the budget deficit, and I know that last
4 week again I asked if we would -- if council
5 would sit down with the administration and a
6 number of remedies or solutions were
7 suggested by members of the council to some
8 of those possibilities, one was the sale of
9 the Sewer Authority, of the sewer plant. In
10 speaking with people concerning that, at a
11 time when we are engaged in a \$200 million
12 project with the Sewer Authority the sale of
13 it would practically be impossible at this
14 time and so that is one sort of possible
15 remedy that is maybe not possible.

16 The second that was mentioned was
17 the privatization of DPW or refuse
18 collection. That cannot be done for another
19 two years. The contract with DPW runs
20 through 2013 and in their contract it
21 provides for no privatization, so that that
22 would be impossible in the near future.

23 Also, in speaking with some people
24 about the privatization of the refuse
25 collection, it's quite possible that the

1 cost to the taxpayer would increase given
2 the fact that rising costs for gasoline and
3 what all, and many people and people that I
4 have talked to are at this point in time
5 pleased with the work that DPW has done,
6 especially in the refuse collection, and
7 don't want to go to such things as bags or
8 payment of a bags or refuse bags or any
9 other type of collection process.

10 And the last thing that we have
11 talked about is the implementation of the
12 StreetSmart program, and although I have
13 been accused of delaying the process,
14 anything but. I firmly believe that that
15 program should have been put out to bid back
16 in December when it was first introduced and
17 had it been put to bid instead of squabbling
18 over sole source we may have even had that
19 in place, and even to the present day I
20 believe that the quickest way to get that
21 implemented would be to get it out to bid as
22 soon as possible, and I know that that has
23 been suggested and we have agreed to that,
24 and I don't know why there is a deal in
25 doing that, but it's obvious that even with

1 the trial period and attempted
2 implementation we wouldn't get -- we
3 wouldn't realize the revenues of that until
4 probably 2012, so it offers us little hope
5 for 2011.

6 I still believe that if we are going
7 to deal with the budget deficit or, you
8 know, in 2011, that the best course of
9 action is to sit with the administration and
10 to sit with PEL, develop a new Recovery Plan
11 that is acceptable to all and move forward,
12 and I guess that's the end of my campaign
13 talk.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And before I
15 call for Councilman Rogan's comments and
16 motions, I just wanted to briefly respond to
17 what Councilman McGoff so nicely read from
18 our city controller. First of all, the city
19 controller was sent a letter simply asking a
20 question. The letter contained nothing of a
21 disrespectful nature, however, I must now
22 raise issues though again with her response
23 in that according to the Unit Debt Act if a
24 TAN will not be paid in the year in which it
25 was taken out and it will be paid in the

1 following year, the TANS must then be
2 included in the operating budget. That
3 never happened, and so the city basically
4 violated the State Unit Debt Act. I don't
5 know if Mrs. Novembrino was aware of that or
6 not when she was signing off on this.
7 Apparently now it seems as though she was
8 aware that though she was stamping it in
9 2010 it would not be paid until 2011.

10 In addition, I have a letter also
11 from Mrs. Novembrino, it's not with me this
12 evening, unfortunately, but I do believe it
13 was dated March 18, 2011, in which
14 Mrs. Novembrino states that she had used the
15 excess funds from the Workers' Comp Fund in
16 2010 to make payroll. Now, we are hearing
17 that no monies were withdrawn from the
18 Workers' Comp Fund Trust in 2010, rather,
19 7.2 or 7.6 million was withdrawn in 2011.

20 Now, there are quite a number of
21 stories circulating here and I think it
22 makes it quite clear to the public how
23 difficult it is to sit down with people who
24 are telling stories and it's very difficult
25 to discern fact from fiction, and as a

1 result, we have been seeking the advice and
2 required information from the auditor
3 because it seems regardless of whom is asked
4 within the administration there are many
5 stories circulating.

6 And I think probably just the last
7 thing I wanted to say on that. I noticed in
8 today's article and this basically perhaps
9 piggybacks on what Councilman McGoff was
10 suggesting in terms of cooperation, I think
11 the mayor made a statement that his way of
12 doing things, this type of shell game with
13 money, minus the required ordinances, in
14 violation of the Unit Debt Act, in violation
15 of the Administrative Code and the Home Rule
16 Charter, he is bettering the city by doing
17 this.

18 And so I'm asking tonight is
19 violating the Unit Debt Act, violating the
20 requirements of the Department of Labor and
21 Industry, and by that I mean specifically at
22 all times the city must maintain 75 percent
23 in that Workers' Comp Trust Fund, they did
24 not. When they took 7.2 million from it, if
25 that is, in fact, what happened because

1 that's the latest rendition that totally
2 contradicts the previous rendition, then
3 they violated the requirements of the
4 Department of Labor and Industry by
5 exceeding that 75 percent required funding
6 threshold. They violated the ordinance
7 providing for the issuance of TANS. They
8 purposely have gone over budget in 2011 and
9 purposely failed to generate new revenue,
10 although, they have produced tax increases
11 and historical long-term debt, well over
12 \$300,000 million. That's more than a
13 quarter of a billion dollars, ladies and
14 gentlemen of the jury.

15 Now, is that what you call bettering
16 the City of Scranton. And, you know, I
17 don't believe there is anyone who would
18 agree that such methods better our city.
19 Mr. Rogan?

20 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. I had
21 comments prepared about Chief Duffy, but I
22 think we already pretty much covered that.

23 Next we can move onto the DPW
24 privatization and the sale of the Sewer
25 Authority. Yes, the Sewer Authority is in

1 the middle of a multi-million dollar
2 project, but I still think putting it out
3 for bid and seeing what the city can bring
4 in and the numbers that I have been hearing
5 are tens off millions of dollars from up to
6 80 million dollars that could be brought in
7 which could be used to not only fill the
8 budget deficit, but could be used to
9 institute a paving program throughout the
10 city and pay down debt, buy police cars, buy
11 equipment, there is many things that could
12 be done with the money.

13 But, yes, DPW is under contract
14 until 2013, as we know, the wheels of
15 government move extremely slow and I think
16 that if we were going to explore this we
17 should start talking about it now.

18 Mr. McGoff mentioned costs of
19 gasoline and other things, and whether a
20 private company is going collecting the
21 garbage or whether the City of Scranton is
22 that cost would be the same, the cost of
23 gasoline, and at the end of the day the
24 taxpayers are buying the gasoline for the
25 city vehicles.

1 Mr. McGoff also mentioned that city
2 residents are generally pleased by the
3 refuse division of the DPW, and I would tend
4 to agree they are pleased, but the question
5 is, is it efficient? And I think the first
6 step before anything is done is an
7 efficiency study. If we have twice as many
8 employees doing that work as should be doing
9 it, let's just say for round numbers, these
10 aren't the numbers, say we have 100 people
11 on refuse throughout the city and an
12 efficiency study showed us that it could be
13 done by 50 people, yes, the people are
14 pleased, but they are not going to get their
15 bang for their buck if they found out that
16 they're paying for it, paying twice as much
17 for the service, not only through their
18 garbage fee, but through their taxes as
19 well.

20 Next I'll move onto a few other
21 items. We received a letter from the
22 Scranton Parking Authority. I'll read the
23 letter regarding a few questions that I
24 brought up a few weeks ago. Its says, "I'm
25 responding to the letter dated April 13,

1 2011, regarding the question that a citizen
2 would like a list of people parking for free
3 at the meters."

4 They would ask that we be more
5 specific. And, Mrs. Krake, could we please
6 send a reply asking a question of any
7 people, groups or businesses that do not
8 have to pay meter fees? I don't know how
9 specific they want me to be, but anyone that
10 can park at a meter and not pay and not
11 receive a ticket. I know I believe
12 municipal plates are one of them, I don't
13 think anybody has a problem with that, but I
14 have heard from other people that there are
15 tags that certain people throughout the
16 people have on their vehicles, and that is
17 the list that I was looking for.

18 The second part, the letter asks we
19 asked for the procedure for emptying coins
20 and tokens from the meters and they did
21 enclose that. I would like to thank Mr.
22 Scopelliti for getting back to us fairly
23 quickly. "Collections. The meter collector
24 shall be assigned a mapped route on a daily
25 basis. No alterations to any route can be

1 made without director's approval.

2 The meter collector should be
3 bondable. He shall be provided with a
4 locked collection cart for the purpose of
5 collecting coins from a sealed container
6 within each parking meter.

7 At the end of the assigned route, he
8 shall take the collection cart to the
9 assigned bank and obtain a receipt from the
10 cart. The following morning he shall pick
11 up the collection cart from the bank and
12 obtain a deposit slip for Authority records.

13 While collecting each meter, he
14 shall check to see each meter is operating
15 correctly. If a meter is found inoperative
16 he shall make the necessary corrections as
17 provided above.

18 And finally, he shall turn in his
19 collection keys each day."

20 And my only other request on this is
21 it said, "No alterations to any route
22 without the director's approval."

23 Now, I mentioned that a lot of the
24 meters that I and other people have
25 mentioned it, too, the coins would be full.

1 I mean, you can't put in another quarter
2 because certain meters are obviously used
3 more than others and since the rates were
4 doubled last year I'm sure they're filling
5 up a lot quicker.

6 The second part of the request would
7 if any changes have been made to the routes
8 because of overfilled meters, because if the
9 meter is full and you park there you can't
10 put a coin in it, they can't give you a
11 ticket for that because it's not your fault.
12 So that's that.

13 Next, I have the caper for fiscal
14 year 2010, it's a very lengthy document so
15 for the next few weeks I'm going to take it
16 piece by piece and just mention a few items
17 to the public, and since unemployment is so
18 high right now I figured I would focus this
19 week on job creation loans. And this first
20 list is a list of the 37 businesses that
21 have received loans, and the first list I'm
22 going to read off are all of the ones that
23 did satisfy the number of jobs created and
24 how many they created.

25 410-412 Spruce Street created eight

1 jobs. 119 Jefferson Associates, eight jobs.
2 Kitanny Lions, eight jobs. Actually, I'm
3 sorry, I'm reading the wrong line. The
4 first one was eight jobs, the second one was
5 23.325. What the point three two five is I
6 guess it's a part-time job. Kittany Lions,
7 27. Kenmark, eight. GJK Restaurant, 31.
8 Woolworth Corp, 13. Across the Pond, 14.
9 321 Development Company, eight. DTK
10 Ventures, eight. D&s Auto Sales, eight and
11 half. Pizano Partnerships, 11.5. Lisa's
12 Salon, LLC, 5.5.

13 Now, that first list of 12
14 businesses have either met or exceeded the
15 amount of jobs they had to create under the
16 loan. Now, National Pastry Bake Shop
17 received a loan for \$250,000 which required
18 to create eight jobs and they only created
19 six, but this year they created 3.5, so
20 hopefully next year we will see those job
21 creations. Scranton Dunlop, Inc. was
22 supposed to create six, they created 37 so
23 that was a nice bonus there. Paul Nardone
24 d/b/a/ Outrageous, he needed to create two
25 and they did create two.

1 Impanema Grill, received a \$40,000,
2 they had to create only two jobs and none
3 were created, and these jobs were supposed
4 to be created by December 16, 2010.

5 Electric City Roasting Company
6 needed to create five, did create five.
7 SECCUS, LLC, needed to create five jobs they
8 did create five jobs. Alexander's Spa,
9 \$250,000 loan, was supposed to create eight
10 jobs, they created nine. MTM Real Estate,
11 Company, LLC, \$250,000, eight jobs were
12 required to be created, only five were
13 created, four in 2010, and they have until
14 the end of the week, five more in 2011 to
15 create the remaining jobs.

16 Rejuvenescence, MGT \$150,000 loan,
17 five jobs were required to be created by
18 5-27-2011, about a month from now, so far
19 zero have been created. It's Outrageous,
20 LLC created two jobs, they were required to
21 create two. John's Signs created one they
22 were required to create one. Danielle &
23 Company created one, they were required to
24 create one. Palisan Custom Kitchens
25 received a \$50,000 loan, they were required

1 to create two jobs by 6-25-10 and so far
2 they have created zero. Fitness 53, Inc.
3 \$25,000 loan, they are required to create
4 one job by 11-5-2012, so they still have
5 some time. None were created as of yet.
6 Castle Deli, LLC, \$25,000, one was needed to
7 be created, they did create one.

8 Goodwill Industries received
9 \$700,000 to create 20 jobs, and these jobs
10 were required to be created by March 1,
11 2009, and zero jobs were created. So that's
12 almost three-quarters of a million dollars
13 and no jobs were created.

14 Vida Tapas, \$120,000, four jobs were
15 required to be created by 7-20-2010, grand
16 total of zero have been created. Backyard
17 Ale House, one job, they created 1.9.

18 Mrs. Krake, could we please send a
19 letter to Linda Aebli asking how the
20 fractional jobs were calculated?

21 MR. MCGOFF: Maybe hourly.

22 MR. ROGAN: I don't know if maybe
23 because this is a bar they are only working
24 Friday and Saturday and that's a fraction or
25 number of hours. Cartenega Wines, LLC,

1 \$35,000, two jobs were required to be
2 created by 8-8-2011, so far zero have been
3 created. Keyser Village, LLC, \$185,00,
4 eight jobs were required to be created, they
5 created ten. Electric City TV \$90,000,
6 three jobs to be created, three were
7 created. Jay's Commons, \$90,000, three jobs
8 were required, four were created. Carl Von
9 Lugar, LLC, required to create two, as we
10 know they just opened, so obviously those
11 jobs have been created by the time the
12 report was done.

13 And finally, there is eight more on
14 the other CDBG loans list, BRT Ice, eight
15 jobs were required to be created, ten were
16 created. Marquee Theatres, 20 were required
17 to be created 20 were created. Woolworth,
18 eight were required to be created, 12 were
19 created. The 500 block of Lackawanna
20 Avenue, \$250,000. Number of jobs to be
21 created eight, number of jobs created to
22 date zero. Scranton Mall Associates, the
23 mall, \$10 million, 286 jobs to be created,
24 181.75 jobs, 29.75 of those in 2010. This
25 is going back since 1991. Scranton Mall

1 partners, 86 jobs required, 86 jobs created.
2 Boscov's Department Store, \$3 million, 158
3 jobs to be created, so far one 106.33 jobs;
4 and finally, Scranton Hotel, LP, 86 jobs
5 were to be created, they created 113.

6 So, as you see, we have had some
7 success stories from our loan programs and
8 we've had some complete failures, and also I
9 know we had a caucus it must have been
10 almost six months ago now with people from
11 Boscov's from the mall asking for I believe
12 they wanted a deferment on their loan, does
13 anybody know any updates on that?

14 MS. EVANS: No.

15 MR. ROGAN: Obviously I don't
16 support deferring a loan, I was assuming
17 that we had the caucus that legislation
18 would have been sent down, but nothing to
19 this point has been sent down.

20 MS. EVANS: Right.

21 MR. ROGAN: Next, I spoke to a local
22 business owner and he is in the business now
23 of buying condemned properties, rehabbing
24 them, and using them as rental units. And,
25 you know, we spoke for about 45 minutes and

1 I spoke to Mr. Loscombe about this the other
2 day when we were working on hopefully
3 changing around some of the requirements
4 that they have to fix a condemned property,
5 and in order -- if you buy a condemned
6 property off the city you are required to
7 put up a \$10,000 bond and the property has
8 to be repaired within one year. If the
9 property is not repaired within one year
10 they use your \$10,000 bond to tear down the
11 property.

12 Now, I don't think that should be
13 eliminated entirely because then people
14 would be go around buying condemned
15 properties and warehousing them and hoping
16 to see them for a profit in the future
17 without repairing them, but I do think
18 \$10,000 is a lot of money to put up front
19 right at the beginning and one year maybe a
20 little too short. Maybe we could look at
21 reducing it to \$5,000 and two years to total
22 rehabbing the property because, you know,
23 when we were talking he said, "We just want
24 make the old house safe. You're not going
25 to make the whole house brand new, it just

1 needs to be safe to live in."

2 And if that could be, if we could
3 work together and hopefully expand that to
4 two years or a year and a half for the
5 project to be finalized and reduce the
6 amount from \$10,000 to 5,000 people may be
7 more willing to buy condemned properties
8 throughout the city and rehab them and make
9 them part of the community and, you know,
10 one or two on a block if you get somebody
11 that would come in and rehab them,
12 especially somebody like this who lives in
13 Scranton and owns a business and cares about
14 the community, you know, we are not talking
15 about absentee landlords from New Jersey it
16 would be good because we would be getting
17 the properties fixed up and we could get
18 them back on the tax rolls, get people in
19 there.

20 So, Mrs. Krake, could we please send
21 a letter to licensing and inspections asking
22 first for the list of all of the condemned
23 properties in the City of Scranton; and
24 secondly, what red tape or loopholes, you
25 don't have to put that part in the letter,

1 but red tape would they have to go through
2 to purchase a condemned property in the City
3 of Scranton, and hopefully when we get that
4 information Mr. Loscombe and I are going to
5 work together on that and we'll work with
6 the people in the city as well and hopefully
7 make it a little bit easier for people to
8 want to rehab these properties.

9 A lot of time when people see a
10 condemned sign put up the neighbors want it
11 torn down immediately. As we said numerous
12 times, the best situation is to rehab the
13 property if it can be rehabbed and get
14 people in there.

15 And finally, I have one request of
16 the DPW, that potholes on Fawnwood Drive
17 near the Fawnwood golf range are fixed, and
18 this is all.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman
20 Loscombe, do have any comments or motions?

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you. Good
22 evening, ladies and gentlemen. First let me
23 apologize to those of you who called and
24 contacted me regarding the article on page
25 three in yesterday's Scranton Times

1 regarding the Democratic council hopefuls, I
2 assume full responsibility for missing the
3 deadline. On Thursday afternoon, I
4 received-- I did receive an e-mail from Mr.
5 Mrozinski of the Times stating that the
6 story was going to run on Monday. I
7 completed the questionnaire on my computer
8 along with a copy of my resume.

9 I then ran for an ink cartridge for
10 my printer so that I could print a record of
11 my responses. When I returned to my desk
12 and I tried to access my information on my
13 computer, I was unable to. Apparently, my
14 computer had picked up a major virus and it
15 was not repaired until Monday afternoon.
16 Although, I had read Mr. Mrozinski's e-mail
17 stating that the article would run on
18 Monday, I had it in my mind somehow that I
19 had to have the information to him on Monday
20 and apparently I missed the deadline.

21 Unfortunately due to a technical
22 glitch, I was unable to provide my answers
23 my the deadline. I was notified by the
24 Times and I was provided the opportunity, as
25 I stated earlier. I do assume full

1 responsibility, some may ask why I just
2 didn't respond verbally and I can only say
3 that I do not respond verbally to the times,
4 I haven't done that in many months. I
5 prefer to keep written documentation of all
6 of my responses, thus, because of my mistake
7 I missed the opportunity to for some free
8 publicity.

9 With that being understood, I will
10 provide you with my answers here this
11 evening to the Times' questions and the
12 Times is free to use them, if they so wish.

13 On the question, "What steps should
14 be taken to get Scranton out of distressed
15 status?"

16 My response was the first thing we
17 have to do is eliminate PEL. For 19 years
18 PEL has been steering this ship and this --
19 and this ship has struck an iceberg along
20 the way sinking this city into over \$300
21 million in long-term debt. The captain and
22 his mates have stood by and pointed their
23 fingers at everyone, but themselves, for
24 heading into that iceberg. PEL's only
25 answer to our growing debt year after year

1 has been to raise taxes, raise garbage fees,
2 raise parking fees all the while allowing
3 the administration to continually violate
4 the Recovery Plan.

5 We no longer need the fox guarding
6 the henhouse, I believe that the current
7 council majority has taken the proper steps
8 through our amended budget to provide the
9 taxpayers with the services that they
10 deserve and we also cut the bleeding.

11 The second question was --

12 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans, I hate to
13 interrupt, but I think this is
14 inappropriate, but I hate to say it as a
15 candidate as well, but I think this is an
16 inappropriate forum for making campaign --

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: I didn't believe it
18 was a campaign speech, I was just responding
19 to some questions that were asked of
20 everybody here.

21 MS. EVANS: And I think they do
22 pertain though to city issues, so your
23 objection is noted. Proceed.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: The second question--
25 they are dealing with the City of Scranton.

1 "Is Scranton heading in the right
2 direction?"

3 A lot of money has flowed in the
4 downtown over the past several years to a
5 handful of developers. The unfortunate
6 thing is that a very large segment of these
7 developments remain empty. The current
8 administration, headed by a businessman,
9 should have realized that, "If you build it
10 they will come" will not work in this city
11 until our business nuisance taxes are
12 eliminated.

13 This city council majority has
14 realized that and we have taken the
15 necessary steps towards eliminating business
16 nuisance taxes. The downtown has also
17 received almost all of the attention to the
18 detriment of our neighborhoods. While an
19 influx of money was dumped into the
20 downtown, the neighborhoods for the most
21 part have been neglected creating more crime
22 and blight.

23 This council majority has also
24 realized that and has increased the funding
25 to several sources to areas -- to appeal --

1 to take care of the problems in the
2 neighborhoods.

3 And after reading the paper, as a
4 matter of fact, you know, Mr. McGoff thought
5 I was being political here, but I do have to
6 comment on one of his comments. He said
7 that -- he has been telling us to meet with
8 the administration, he does not believe the
9 Scranton has a direction, this is right from
10 the newspaper. He said that there has been
11 no progress on issues because council and
12 this administration continue to be at odds.

13 As I said, Mr. McGoff has often
14 stated here that we should work with the
15 mayor. Well, folks, I believe that it has
16 been well established over the past 16
17 months you don't work with the mayor. It's
18 his way or the highway. You can only work
19 for the mayor as previous city councils
20 have, including Mr. McGoff, as they rubber
21 stamped this city into historic debt,
22 increased taxes and --

23 MR. MCGOFF: That's extremely
24 inappropriate. Now you are making a
25 campaign speech and I think that should be

1 stopped.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Were you not head of
3 council when we raised the 26 percent?

4 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not saying that.
5 You are making a campaign speech and it's
6 inappropriate for this venue, and if you
7 want to turn this into a debate then that's
8 what it's going to be.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: It's not going to be
10 a debate it's going to be the facts, and if
11 you want to appeal it feel free.

12 MR. MCGOFF: I have not called you
13 any names at all ever on this --

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Did I call you a
15 name?

16 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, you did.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: What did I call you?

18 MR. MCGOFF: The rubber stamper.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: I said you were part
20 of the rubber stampers.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Oh, excuse me.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: And I don't believe I
23 was the first one that ever called you that.

24 MR. MCGOFF: No, you're not, but
25 it's still inappropriate and it's

1 unprofessional.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: I wouldn't be
3 offended if you called me a rubber stamper
4 for the majority, so -- I just want to
5 complete this and if you want to appeal it
6 I'm just stating the facts.

7 The facts are, you can work for the
8 people or -- excuse me, let me get back
9 here. It's his way or the highway, as I
10 stated it. You can't work for the mayor,
11 you can't work with the mayor, you can only
12 work for the mayor. This mayor -- plus this
13 council was made a mockery of it prior to
14 this supermajority. Or you can work for the
15 people as this current city council majority
16 has. We have reduced your property tax by
17 10 percent, we have reduced mercantile and
18 business taxes by 25 percent. We have
19 lowered the bidding threshold, we have
20 restored services cut by the administration,
21 we have introduced the first ban in
22 Lackawanna County on bath salts and
23 synthetic marijuana, and we return respect
24 and decorum to those council chambers.

25 So Mr. McGoff, I do reiterate, there

1 is no working with the mayor, you can only
2 work for the mayor or you can work for the
3 people. As for me, I am on the people's
4 team. That's it.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.
6 Mr. Joyce, do you have any comments or
7 motions?

8 MR. JOYCE: Just a few, but I guess
9 after the last five minutes we could all
10 come to the conclusion that Mr. Loscombe and
11 Mr. McGoff don't support each others
12 candidacies, that's for sure. But on a more
13 serious note, the first thing I want to talk
14 about are some of the DPW overtime issues
15 that were mentioned in the newspaper. It's
16 the first matter of business I wanted to
17 address tonight and that's -- but, you know,
18 before I even get into addressing the whole
19 overtime situation let's look at the facts
20 here.

21 The 2011 operating budget, as
22 amended, the money allocated for overtime in
23 the DPW was \$133,000 for a department that
24 contains about 100 employees. For the fire
25 department, the money allocated for overtime

1 is \$83,950 for a department that contains
2 138 firefighters. For the police
3 department, the amount allocated for
4 overtime is \$80,000 for a department that
5 contains 150 police officers. So here we
6 see two other municipal unions that receive
7 far much less in overtime than the DPW.

8 So as we all can see, there was more
9 funding for overtime allocated for the DPW
10 than both the police and the fire
11 department. In fact, DPW overtime accounts
12 for over 43 percent of all overtime that was
13 adopted in council's amended budget in 2011.
14 Whatever needs to be doing at this point is
15 start questioning how is the DPW using the
16 overtime? For instance, and Mr. Rogan
17 mentioned this before, can certain tasks be
18 done better without wasting time?

19 After the article came out in the
20 newspaper that the DPW was running over
21 budget for overtime, I received a call from
22 resident who informed me that a street
23 sweeper was driving up the road with one
24 person driving the street sweeper and other
25 worker sitting on the other side of the

1 street sweeper smoking a cigarette just
2 going along for the ride. So apparently it
3 take two employees to drive a street sweeper
4 now.

5 In reviewing transfers from the
6 liquid fuels report which is sent to Mrs.
7 Roseanne Novembrino in the city controller's
8 office, in fact, I have a copy of it right
9 here if anyone wants to look at it after the
10 meeting, I read that in one day a worker
11 worked a full eight hour shift and then
12 close to another nine or ten hours in
13 overtime in the same day for a grand total
14 of nearly 19 or 20 hours. This person, who
15 I won't mention their names, not to single
16 out employees, it's interesting how some
17 people are working 19 and 20 hours a day
18 salting and plowing roads. You know, I fear
19 for these people actually, when in the world
20 do they ever find time to sleep? They must
21 be some super workers.

22 So first we have to ask the question
23 where is all of this overtime being spent?
24 Just from the two scenarios that I just
25 mentioned, if they are two people needed to

1 drive a street sweeper, is there a need for
2 so much overtime? Also, we must ask is it
3 possible for an employee to be working a 19
4 or 20-hour day?

5 Secondly, Mayor Doherty was quoted
6 in the Scranton Times as stating, obviously,
7 when it comes to the Department of Public
8 Works, you can't predict the weather, you
9 can't have a tight budget, you always need a
10 cushion. Well, guess what? There would be
11 -- the \$100,000 that the DPW is asking would
12 be there if Mayor Doherty actually followed
13 council's budget. What Mayor Doherty must
14 have forgot is that there was ample funding
15 and a cushion to cover any overages in
16 overtime due to the weather. One must not
17 forget that Mayor Doherty hired four DPW
18 workers that were not included in council's
19 budget amendments and said that the funding
20 would be covered from the other salary
21 account. So bingo, there was the cushion.

22 Therefore, if Mayor Doherty did not
23 hire back the four DPW workers that were not
24 included in council's budget amendments,
25 there would be about 130,000 or 140,000 in

1 additional funding which could have been
2 used to cover any excess usage or overtime
3 in a case of a heavy snowfall winter which,
4 of course, we did have one of the more
5 heavier snowfall winters this year.

6 In addition, this is also what the
7 administration is failing to realize instead
8 of trying to draw all of this funding out of
9 our slush fund. Since there were four
10 workers eliminated in 2011 budget that
11 earned \$39,000 a year, actually I believe
12 it's #39,200, but for the sake of numbers
13 let's just call it 39, approximately 19,500
14 per worker was budged under unemployment
15 insurance. With this being said, there
16 should being an extra \$78,000 budget in
17 unemployment insurance -- unemployment
18 insurance rather to be used -- that could be
19 used for overtime.

20 Since it's evident that Mayor
21 Doherty is not going to lay off the workers
22 that he hired back that were not included in
23 council's budget amendments, perhaps we
24 should look at using that money that was
25 budgeted for their unemployment first before

1 we dip into the slush fund and waste all of
2 our emergency money, just some ideas out
3 there.

4 Secondly, I would like to talk a
5 little bit about cash flow and budget
6 issues. As was stated previously, the
7 administration used up procedures from 2011
8 and covered expenses that occurred in 2010.
9 Thus, we were faced with cash flow issues,
10 and furthermore, we have issues with the
11 2011 budget due to the administration's
12 faulty health insurance projections.

13 Now, let me say this, I don't want
14 anyone out there to be misconstrued by some
15 of the administration's comments. Council
16 didn't just take the health insurance number
17 that the administration provided, add
18 employees and not budget anything extra for
19 the employees, as far as health insurance
20 costs. City council took the numbers for
21 any firefighter or police officer that added
22 back into the budget directly out of the
23 mouth of former business administrator Stu
24 Renda as was quoted in the Scranton Times.

25 Okay, let me continue. Next, the

1 administration has problems with it's
2 credibility. Initially, Mrs. Krake, our
3 city clerk, attended a PEL meeting where it
4 was reported that \$5 million was borrowed
5 from the Workers' Comp Trust Fund to pay
6 bills and salaries in 2011. Subsequently,
7 in correspondence from the city controller's
8 office in March, I have a copy of this year
9 in case anyone wants to see after the
10 meeting.

11 Mrs. Novembrino stated that excess
12 funds from the Workers' Compensation Trust
13 Fund were used to pay payroll costs in
14 2010n. Apparently now our business
15 administration is stating that money was not
16 borrowed from the Workers' Comp Fund Trust
17 in 2010. Beats me.

18 The administrative story has now
19 changed once again. Apparently, now our
20 city clerk has reported to me that in 2011
21 Mr. McGowan stated at the most recent PEL
22 meeting that \$7.6 million was borrowed in
23 2011 from the Workers' Comp Fund Trust to
24 pay TAN-B back from 2010.

25 In addition to that, once the city

1 received the TANS from 2011, the city paid
2 back the \$7.6 million out of the TAN, thus,
3 sinking the budget \$7.5 million already
4 before any 2011 expenses were even
5 considered.

6 In addition to this, there was other
7 money used from TANS-A and B received in
8 2011 to pay 2010 bills. Also to mention,
9 when this was done city council has never
10 even notified. Perhaps, the administration
11 kept the withdrawing of \$7.6 million from
12 the Workers' Comp Fund Trust so secretive
13 because it realized that that would have
14 brought the fund to be below the 75 percent
15 threshold as required by law, and you could
16 say, well, how do we know that that \$7.6
17 withdrawal was below the threshold?

18 One, you can figure out by reading
19 the Scranton Times, because as Mr. Mrozinski
20 reported in the paper today, the city can't
21 use the Workers' Comp Fund Trust again if
22 the city is running low on cash because they
23 borrowed \$5 million to cover the TAN-B
24 payments in 2011, so \$5 million obviously
25 was the mark where the 75 percent threshold

1 would be, so by then taking out 7.6 earlier
2 in the year in paying it back they were in
3 violation of that rule.

4 With this in mind, no matter which
5 way you slice it and dice it, the bottom
6 line is that revenue from the 2011 TANS were
7 used to pay back a payment for TAN-B in
8 2010. Though \$7.6 million may have been
9 borrowed out of the Workers' Comp Trust Fund
10 to make the payment, that money was later
11 paid back with revenue from the TANS.

12 In addition to this, I know
13 Mrs. Evans about the Unit Debt
14 Act and TAN legislation and the payment of
15 the TANS should have been included in the
16 2011 budget, which it wasn't. So this is
17 something else that we must question when
18 determining the credibility of the
19 administration.

20 Okay, with this in mind because of
21 the 2011 operating budget, which council had
22 no part in creating, and any previous
23 deficits that were carried over from the
24 previous budgets, the administration is
25 driving the city into a cash flow problem.

1 Even the deficit that they are projecting in
2 2011 is due is primarily due to faulty
3 health insurance numbers that are a product
4 of the administrations, as I explained
5 before in addition to this administration
6 failing to enforce the rental registration
7 program and the StreetSmart program more
8 aggressively, not to mention the
9 reinstatement of workers that were not even
10 included in the 2011 operating budget, as
11 amended, along with providing the benefits,
12 we might as well just throw that on top
13 since we have already got the laundry list.

14 What I find most interesting now is
15 that the Scranton Times and the
16 administration is now trying to pass the
17 ball to council to come up with solutions to
18 handle the cash flow problems that they have
19 created. What is even more interesting, is
20 that the Scranton Times suggests that
21 council doesn't have the solution to handle
22 Scranton cash flow problems.

23 However, council already mentioned
24 many solutions such as refinancing the debt,
25 selling or leasing of the parking garages,

1 privatizing the Sewer Authority or
2 privatizing the DPW. However, perhaps we
3 can eliminate privatizing the DPW per Mr.
4 McGoff's research on their contract
5 language.

6 All of these suggestions, though,
7 were made in prior council meetings. While
8 council has offered solutions, which have
9 been stated publically at meetings, the
10 administration has offered zero, no
11 solutions to city council to handle the mess
12 that it's created other than circulating
13 rumors and threats of layoffs to city
14 employees.

15 In addition, though some may say we
16 have to work together to come to a solution,
17 let me begin by saying this, the door is
18 open. There is a council meeting at 6:30 on
19 Tuesday nights that Mayor Doherty is more
20 than welcome to attend to suggest or to
21 discuss suggestions to handle the cash flow
22 problems that he created.

23 In addition at that point, I would
24 like any meeting to be in public because how
25 can we work with the administration in

1 private when they make false statements to
2 our city clerk and PEL at weekly PEL
3 meetings and leave us in the dark when it
4 comes to large money transfers such as \$7.6
5 million on January 3 that was used to pay
6 back the TAN-b or pay back TAN-B from 2010?

7 And with that, I have a few
8 citizens' requests. This is, I don't know
9 how many letters we have put together about
10 this one, but A worker up at CTC or Career
11 Technology Center as well as various
12 residents of Greenbush and Reese Street are
13 informing me that the condition of both
14 Greenbush and Reese Street are in very
15 subpar conditions. There is various
16 potholes up there, there is various cracks
17 in the road that's making travel conditions
18 very difficult. Mrs. Krake, can you please
19 send a request to Mr. Brazil to repair both
20 of these roads?

21 Also, a resident living on the
22 corner of the Luzerne Street and Third
23 Avenue reported to me that a 16-wheeler
24 drove down the road, which is a located in a
25 residential neighborhood, and could not make

1 the turn going from Luzerne onto Third, and
2 with this in mind, the 16-wheeler actually
3 drove through a portion of her yard and
4 almost came about six inches from taking out
5 the fire hydrant.

6 Mrs. Krake, this resident is
7 requesting that a "No Trucks" sign be placed
8 in the neighborhood. Yes, I believe -- oh,
9 you have a picture? Yeah, actually we could
10 send this picture with this as well, and I
11 don't think anybody deserves to have their
12 lawn torn up.

13 Also, an environmentally conscious
14 resident of East Mountain has reported to me
15 that DPW refuse workers in East Mountain
16 area on Moltke Avenue when they were
17 collecting this garbage took his garbage
18 cans and the recyclables and put them in the
19 same truck. Mrs. Krake, can you please send
20 or just can you please inform Mr. Brazil of
21 this and ask him to address as he sees fit
22 perhaps they were trying to -- trying avoid
23 using up too much overtime.

24 Also, as a personal request of mine,
25 in today's Scranton Times article

1 Mrs. Novembrino stated that the city had
2 received nearly \$500 -- or 500, \$500,000
3 less in real estate taxes this year than it
4 it has a year ago at this point and as per
5 Mr. Courtright's tax collection distribution
6 report, he indicated that the city -- that
7 in 2011 the city had collected and
8 distributed nearly \$1 million more than 2011
9 thus far.

10 So now I'm sitting here questioning
11 why is the city controller's report stating
12 one thing but the tax office report stating
13 another and I just wanted to get to the
14 bottom of this and find if there is just a
15 lag in reporting time periods though they
16 both are stating the same date as of the end
17 of 3-31-11.

18 And also, I just saw in our mail
19 that we received a letter from Rossi & Rossi
20 to Mr. Ryan McGowan, our BA. There are a
21 number of items that Rossi needs in order to
22 complete the 2010 audit on time and I guess
23 these were originally scheduled to be sent
24 to Rossi on March 21, however, they were
25 running late and Rossi set up a new timeline

1 and new due dates of April 30. If you could
2 please contact the Business Administrator's
3 Office and ask him if they are on schedule
4 to meet these dates since today is April 26.
5 I think they would probably have a good
6 forecast if they were able to meet them or
7 not, and that's all.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Councilman
9 Joyce. Good evening. I thought perhaps I
10 would just clarify a statement that I made
11 earlier which is in a sort a continuation of
12 briefly what our Finance Chair was saying.
13 I alluded to the March 18 letter from the
14 city controller and in it she states, "I'm
15 not aware of any transfer from general fund
16 revenue accounts to the trust fund."

17 So I'm assuming that means that in
18 January, February, March, she was not aware
19 that money was taken from the general fund
20 accounts to replace that which had been
21 taken from the Workers' Comp Fund Trust.

22 Now, she goes onto say, "Yes, I was
23 aware of the lack of the necessary funds for
24 the payroll and need and requirements of the
25 city to pay it's payroll."

1 Now, she is referring to last year,
2 2010, which obviously demonstrates to all of
3 us that the city ran short of money last
4 year, and I believe the city ran short the
5 year before, so all of the information, let
6 us say, in today's newspaper where we are
7 ringing the alarm bell, we are going to run
8 out of money in the fall, it's the same bell
9 that was ringing last year and probably the
10 year before, too, and that's attested to by
11 the city controller.

12 She further states, "There was not
13 an influx of the funding, rather the excess
14 was used. As you know, without using the
15 excess fund, which are the city's monies, it
16 would have been impacted the city's public,
17 health and safety of which I truly care
18 about."

19 I think that's pretty much
20 self-explanatory and I'm going to move onto
21 a few business items and citizens' requests.
22 Last week I spoke with Tom Tell, chief of
23 staff for State Representative Kevin Murphy
24 who stated that the input of a city engineer
25 sorely needed on a project in West Scranton.

1 The previous engineer, Brian Swanson, had
2 worked with Mr. Tell and Councilman Jack
3 Loscombe on this first months, but had to
4 leave the project unfinished because he was
5 not rehired by the city administration. The
6 new engineering firm selected by the
7 administration is CECO Associates and former
8 Councilman John Pocius will serve in the
9 position of the city engineer.

10 Mrs. Krake, please send a letter to
11 Mr. Pocius on behalf of Scranton City
12 Council requesting the following: Review
13 the case work regarding the St. Ann's Street
14 and Main Avenue intersection where
15 residential and business parking had been
16 eliminated. The solution to this issue is
17 in it's final phase and requires the
18 immediate attention of the city engineer.

19 Also, please provide Scranton City
20 Council with an update and contact Mr. Tom
21 Tell at the Office of Representative Murphy
22 to prevent any additional project delay.

23 In addition, I learned that Mr. Tell
24 and Mr. Skeleton of the Scranton Sewer
25 Authority had visited Ridgeview Drive and

1 Watson Street to inspect water problems
2 suffered in each location. Both problems
3 are very familiar to me because I have
4 visited Ridgeview Drive in 2006 and I had
5 received a thorough report and photos of the
6 Watson Street problems from residents in
7 2009. Now, I brought both cases to the
8 attention of the city engineer and the DPW
9 director on numerous occasions, but my
10 requests for help for these city residents
11 always fell on deaf ears. I'm very pleased
12 that Representative Murphy's office, through
13 Tom Tell, is making is headway on these
14 longstanding storm water problems.

15 Unfortunately, it reflects very
16 poorly on city department heads when the
17 State and the Sewer Authority have to step
18 in and solve city problems.

19 Mrs. Krake, on behalf of Scranton
20 City Council, please send a letter to the
21 Scranton Sewer Authority to thank them for
22 their generous assistance in solving storm
23 water and flooding problems for residents of
24 Scranton, many of whom have suffered with
25 these issues for decades.

1 Further, city council is
2 particularly grateful to Mr. Gene Skelton,
3 an SSA employee, who has worked tirelessly
4 to solve homeowner's problems.

5 Scranton City Council hopes that
6 it's respectful, beneficial and strong
7 working relationship with the Scranton Sewer
8 Authority will continue, as together both
9 strive to help the homeowners and ratepayers
10 of Scranton.

11 Next, having been aware of the
12 numerous traffic and streetlight outages and
13 repairs throughout 2010 and the lengthy time
14 in which repairs occurred, I hope that
15 issues with traffic and streetlights will be
16 better managed in 2011. In fact, if the
17 city traffic maintenance employee could be
18 sent first to inspect the problem he could
19 then determine if the contractor must be
20 called. It may save time and money and
21 provide increased safety for motorist and
22 residents, and so with my colleagues
23 agreement, please send a letter to
24 Mr. Brazil asking if Mr. Reed could be
25 called out first to the location of traffic

1 and streetlight outages.

2 And Mr. Joyce took care of one of my
3 requests, and the second --

4 MR. JOYCE: He e-mailed both of us.

5 MS. EVANS: Yes, a lot of people do
6 that I find.

7 MR. JOYCE: Yeah.

8 MS. EVANS: I'd like to forward this
9 summary of missing and damaged posting signs
10 from CCJM, that's CC Johnson and Malhotra,
11 PC, there are a number of damaged and
12 missing signs in the area of the Leggett
13 Street intersection, and these signs must be
14 posted by a deadline. This notice was sent
15 specifically to our office, so if you could
16 forward this to Mr. Brazil, and then council
17 would like a report when the signs have been
18 properly replaced or posted, and that's it.

19 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. PROVIDING FOR THE
20 ACCEPTANCE OF MOUNT PLEASANT DRIVE IN THE
21 MOUNT PLEASANT SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE
22 CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA. ALSO
23 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
24 CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT FOR THE SUM OF
25 ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) AND RECORD IN THE

1 LACKAWANNA COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICIAL
2 RECORDS A DEED FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED RIGHT
3 OF WAY.

4 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
5 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
6 introduced into it's proper committee.

7 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

8 MR. JOYCE: Second.

9 MS. EVANS: On the question?

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question.
11 Last time I believe we tabled the vote or
12 voted down this legislation, I think we
13 voted it down, and looking at it and now and
14 the reason why we voted it down was the
15 issues of maintenance, the city would be
16 taking over the property before the
17 construction was completed, and it says
18 here, "A maintenance guarantee to the City
19 of Scranton in the amount of \$25,000, which
20 is 15 percent of the cost to construct the
21 road, which was \$165,400 for a period of 18
22 months on the terms set forth in Section
23 807(B) of the SALDO."

24 I'll vote for, I'll be voting "yes"
25 this week. I'll do a little more research

1 to see if that's the norm, 15 percent. It
2 makes sense to me, at least this is much
3 better than what we are sent last time.

4 MS. EVANS: It does. It represents
5 I think the best possible compromise that
6 the city can achieve in the circumstances,
7 but I would defer to our solicitor, Attorney
8 Hughes, who could I think elaborate on both
9 pieces of the legislation and our reason for
10 placing them once again back on the agenda
11 with changes.

12 MR. HUGHES: Yes. After the meeting
13 where these were -- I thought -- I did not
14 realize that they had been voted down by
15 council, I went back to the legislation and
16 what I did was draft an amendment to the
17 ordinance that had been defeated and I put
18 the language in which is the fourth whereas
19 in accordance with the state and
20 municipalities planning code, which is set
21 forth in 53 Purdon's Statutes, Section
22 10905 -- I'm sorry, 509, the City of
23 Scranton adopted what's called SALDO. It's
24 a subdivision of land development ordinance,
25 otherwise known as SALDO, and took from the

1 MCP Subsection K, which authorizes the city
2 when it accepts a road to require the
3 developer to post a bond for a period of up
4 to 18 months in an amount of up to 15
5 percent of the cost of the road.

6 The way I originally drafted the
7 legislation I think it was supposed to be 15
8 percent of the cost of \$165,400, came to
9 \$24,810. I discussed this with Carl
10 Phiffenberger, with the Chamber of Commerce,
11 they agreed to post the bond, and we then
12 forwarded this legislation up to the
13 solicitor's office and they redrafted this.
14 This is solely as a result of council's
15 vetoing or not approving the last
16 legislation sent down that did not require
17 any bonding. So solely as a result of
18 council's action, I redrafted it, put the
19 bonding requirements in, the Chamber of
20 Commerce accepted that.

21 The second piece of the legislation,
22 if you want me to address that?

23 MS. EVANS: Yes, please.

24 MR. HUGHES: Which is the next one,
25 I will say that all of these plans when they

1 come in from a development standpoint that a
2 developer can't sell any lots unless all of
3 the improvements, the public improvements
4 are put in, which are going to be dedicated
5 to the city where they have to come up with
6 a bond. What the Chamber of Commerce did
7 when they developed Mount Pleasant
8 subdivision over there was that they
9 actually expended the money so they didn't
10 have to come up with a bond, so they
11 actually put all of the money in, created
12 the infrastructure and created the road.

13 The road, I believe it was a result
14 of the planning department, Mr. King, that
15 the road over there ends in the cul-de-sac.
16 That's so that it will qualify for state
17 liquid fuels money. So as a result with the
18 acceptance of that road, however long it is,
19 I don't know how long it is, but if it's a
20 half a mile, that half mile would be added
21 to the length of the city roads that
22 qualified for liquid fuels money solely
23 because of what the planning department did
24 in making a cul-de-sac, and so that it would
25 qualify.

1 The second thing is the storm
2 sewers. What I found out on the storm
3 sewers was that it's a relatively new type
4 of storm sewer. Ordinarily a storm sewer is
5 just a round pipe. It takes the storm
6 water, it cannot be connected into an
7 existing sanitary line, it has to be
8 separated out. The way that this was
9 designed, it's a pipe, it's pretty much like
10 a half pipe, it has a geotechnical material
11 on the bottom, allows the water to come in,
12 seep into the ground, however, over time it
13 does require maintenance. It's a new
14 technology, reduces the amount of water that
15 is going to go into the rivers and
16 everything else to keep it into the ground
17 into the ground water.

18 StormTech this is their plan, this
19 is what it is, and the specifications on it.
20 However, it does require maintenance. It's
21 not a complete pipe, it's a half pipe as you
22 can see there. I discussed this with
23 Mr. Phiffenberger that it does require
24 periodic maintenance. The city does not
25 have the equipment, however the Sewer

1 Authority has the equipment, they can come
2 in and they can suction out the sediment
3 which then does not going into the river.
4 These pipes will then connect -- they have a
5 permit from PennDOT to connect these pipes
6 into PennDOT's sedimentation pond which then
7 goes into the Lackawanna River.

8 As a result of this, we negotiated
9 with Mr. Phieffenberger, they are willing to
10 place in an escrow account for the City of
11 Scranton \$5,000 to defray the maintenance so
12 that if the Sewer Authority does charge the
13 city, the city will have money to pay the
14 Sewer Authority for -- not dredge because
15 they have to suction out and clean the
16 sludge from the bottom of the pipe so that
17 the water can then seep into the ground, go
18 back into the ground water.

19 These are the two things that were
20 done after council vetoed the legislation
21 that were put into it so that the city will
22 have a fund to maintain the pipes as
23 required and also have a bond for the
24 roadway up at Mount Pleasant Drive, I
25 believe it is.

1 MS. EVANS: And thank you, Solicitor
2 Hughes, for that explanation and for your
3 very good work in these issues. Is there
4 anyone else on the question?

5 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I want to state
6 for the record that I'll be voting to pass B
7 and C through tonight, however, I am going
8 to do some more research as well. But, you
9 know, a lot of the critics of this city
10 council say, oh, well, we use a 4-1
11 supermajority to just block certain things.
12 This is a prime instance of how since we
13 didn't vote for this they came back with
14 something for us, which ultimately saves the
15 taxpayers' money. Instead of us having to
16 prepare any damages that may be done to this
17 road during the construction period, now
18 they will take care of the damages that
19 would be done up to a certain point.

20 So, you know, some people might like
21 to say, oh, well, we like to block this or
22 block that, but we are saving you money by
23 doing so on what we do block, and that's
24 all.

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you. All those in

1 favor of introduction signify by saying aye.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

3 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

5 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

6 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
7 have it and so moved.

8 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. PROVIDING FOR THE
9 ACCEPTANCE OF A STORM WATER BASIN IN THE
10 MOUNT PLEASANT SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE
11 CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA. ALSO
12 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
13 CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT FOR THE SUM OF
14 ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) AND RECORD IN THE
15 LACKAWANNA COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICIAL
16 RECORDS A DEED FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED RIGHT
17 OF WAY.

18 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
19 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
20 introduced into it's proper committee.

21 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

22 MR. JOYCE: Second.

23 MS. EVANS: On the question?

24 MR. MCGOFF: Just a technicality,
25 should that last read "right-of-way" or

1 "storm water basin." Is it a right-of-way?

2 MR. HUGHES: No, it's not. This is
3 how it was drafted by the solicitor's
4 office. I didn't review it. It's really a
5 storm sewer.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Right. It should read
7 differently than right-of-way, that's all
8 I'm saying.

9 MR. HUGHES: I think what they did
10 was just pretty much copy the heading from
11 the previous one. That should be amended to
12 read, "The above mentioned --"

13 MR. MCGOFF: Storm water basin.
14 Would that be acceptable?

15 MR. HUGHES: It's really not a storm
16 water basin, it's really a -- it's really a
17 storm water collection system.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Storm water system.

19 MR. HUGHES: Right. I think if a
20 storm water basin from a global standpoint
21 that it's a sedimentation pond where the
22 water flows in and it filters out.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Could we amend it at
24 this point in time so it reads properly?

25 MR. HUGHES: Yes.

1 MS. EVANS: Would you like to amend
2 it?

3 MR. MCGOFF: Well, I would like to
4 make a motion to amend 5-C and to replace
5 the words "right-of-way" with "storm water
6 system."

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

8 MR. HUGHES: And I would also
9 recommend that in the first line where it
10 says "Storm water basin" read "storm water
11 system" also, to be consistent.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Okay, I would also like
13 to make a motion -- oh, we have a motion.

14 MS. EVANS: So we'll do this and
15 then you can make that, yes. We have a
16 motion on the floor to amend and a second.
17 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

19 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
23 have it and so moved.

24 MR. MCGOFF: I'd like to make a
25 motion to amend 5-C in the first line to

1 replace the words "storm water basin" with
2 "storm water system."

3 MR. ROGAN: Second.

4 MS. EVANS: We have a motion to
5 amend the legislation, as amended, on the
6 floor and a second. On the question? All
7 those in favor signify by saying aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

11 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

12 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
13 have it and so moved.

14 MS. KRAKE: 5-D.

15 MS. EVANS: Now I believe we must
16 vote.

17 MR. JOYCE: Now we have to vote on
18 5-C, as amended, as amended.

19 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
20 entertain a motion that Item 5-C, as
21 amended, as amended, be introduced into it's
22 proper committee.

23 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24 MR. JOYCE: Second.

25 MS. EVANS: On the question? All

1 those in favor of introduction signify by
2 saying aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

7 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
8 have it and so moved.

9 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. AUTHORIZING AND
10 APPROVING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION OF
11 A PORTION OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT
12 THE INTERSECTION OF KEYSER AVENUE AND
13 JACKSON STREET (1,110 SQUARE FEET) IN THE
14 CITY OF SCRANTON MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS A
15 PART OF PIN NUMBER 14412-030-016 TO THE
16 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
17 TRANSPORTATION ("PENNDOT") IN ORDER TO WIDEN
18 THE INTERSECTION FOR BETTER TRAFFIC FLOW AT
19 THIS INTERSECTION.

20 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
21 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
22 introduced into it's proper committee.

23 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24 MR. JOYCE: Second.

25 MS. EVANS: On the question? All

1 those in favor of introduction signify by
2 saying aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

7 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
8 have it and so moved.

9 MS. KRAKE: 5-E. AUTHORIZING THE
10 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
11 TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF TEN (10) BIKE
12 RACKS IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

13 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
14 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
15 introduced into it's proper committee.

16 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

17 MR. JOYCE: Second.

18 MS. EVANS: On the question.

19 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question.

20 Reading it over this was passed in 2009
21 authorizing the purchase of these bike
22 racks. This is just authorizing the
23 installation, so they are already purchased.

24 MS. EVANS: Also, on the question I
25 did notice the locations for placement of

1 these bike racks. They are quite different
2 from those that were included in the
3 original 2009 legislation. For example,
4 within the 2009 legislation these bike racks
5 were to be placed at city parks as well as
6 the downtown, I think maybe Connors Park,
7 Fellows Park, police headquarters, etcetera.
8 In tonight's legislation, we see basically
9 placement of these bike racks within the
10 downtown area, often times one block apart,
11 so I'm going to request a letter to
12 Mr. Seitzinger, because I believe he
13 selected the locations and I think maybe an
14 explanation for the new proposal and I also
15 would like to know if all of the city parks
16 have been furnished with bike racks, and if
17 they haven't perhaps some of these, rather
18 than the duplication of bike racks within a
19 one block area, might be better arranged in
20 other locations. Is there anyone else on
21 the question? All those in favor of
22 introduction signify by saying aye.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

1 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

2 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
3 have it and so moved.

4 MS. KRAKE: 5-F. AUTHORIZING THE
5 CITY OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO
6 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT
7 OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMIT TO INSTALL
8 AND OPERATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE
9 INTERSECTION OF S.R. 6307 (KEYSER AVENUE)
10 AND S.R. 3033 (OAK STREET) TRAFFIC SIGNAL
11 TIMINGS AT THIS INTERSECTION WILL BE
12 MODIFIED AS PART OF THE WEAVE/OAK STREET
13 RAMP REMOVAL PROJECT.

14 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
15 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
16 introduced into it's proper committee.

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. JOYCE: Second.

19 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
20 those in favor of introduction signify by
21 saying aye.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

1 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
2 have it and so moved.

3 MR. JOYCE: Second.

4 MS. KRAKE: 5-G. AUTHORIZING THE CITY
5 OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE
6 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
7 TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMIT TO INSTALL AND
8 OPERATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE INTERSECTION
9 OF S.R. 6307 (KEYSER AVENUE) AND KEYSER
10 VILLAGE DRIVEWAY/PRIVATE DRIVE TRAFFIC
11 SIGNAL TIMINGS AT THIS INTERSECTION WILL BE
12 MODIFIED AS PART OF THE SCRANTON WEAVE/OAK
13 STREET RAMP REMOVAL PROJECT.

14 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
15 entertain a motion that Item 5-G be
16 introduced into it's proper committee.

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. JOYCE: Second.

19 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
20 those in favor of introduction signify by
21 saying aye.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

1 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
2 have it and so moved.

3 MS. KRAKE: 5-H. AUTHORIZING THE
4 CITY OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO
5 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT
6 OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMIT TO INSTALL
7 AND OPERATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE
8 INTERSECTION OF S.R. 0307/6307 (KEYSER
9 AVENUE) AND S.R. 8031 (SCRANTON EXPRESSWAY
10 NORTH BOUND OFF RAMP) TRAFFIC SIGNAL TIMINGS
11 AT THIS INTERSECTION WILL BE MODIFIED AS
12 PART OF THE SCRANTON WEAVE/OAK STREET RAMP
13 REMOVAL PROJECT.

14 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
15 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
16 introduced into it's proper committee.

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. JOYCE: Second.

19 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
20 those in favor of introduction signify by
21 saying aye.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

1 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
2 have it and so moved.

3 MS. KRAKE: 5-I. AUTHORIZING THE
4 CITY OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO
5 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT
6 OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMIT TO INSTALL
7 AND OPERATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE
8 INTERSECTION OF S.R. 0307 (KEYSER AVENUE)
9 AND S.R. 8031 (SCRANTON EXPRESSWAY SOUTH
10 BOUND OFF RAMP) TRAFFIC SIGNAL TIMINGS AT
11 THIS INTERSECTION WILL BE MODIFIED AS PART
12 OF THE SCRANTON WEAVE/OAK STREET RAMP
13 REMOVAL PROJECT.

14 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
15 entertain a motion that Item 5-I be
16 introduced into it's proper committee.

17 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

18 MR. JOYCE: Second.

19 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
20 those in favor of introduction signify by
21 saying aye.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

23 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

25 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

1 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
2 have it and so moved.

3 MS. KRAKE: 5-J. AUTHORIZING THE
4 CITY OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO
5 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT
6 OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMIT TO INSTALL
7 AND OPERATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE
8 INTERSECTION OF S.R. 3011/0307 (KEYSER
9 AVENUE) AND S.R. 0307 (MORGAN HIGHWAY)
10 TRAFFIC SIGNAL TIMINGS AT THIS INTERSECTION
11 WILL BE MODIFIED AS PART OF THE SCRANTON
12 WEAVE/OAK STREET RAMP REMOVAL PROJECT.

13 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
14 entertain a motion that Item 5-J be
15 introduced into it's proper committee.

16 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

17 MR. JOYCE: Second.

18 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
19 those in favor of introduction signify by
20 saying aye.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

24 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. KRAKE: 5-K. AUTHORIZING THE
3 CITY OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO
4 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT
5 OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMIT TO INSTALL
6 AND OPERATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE
7 INTERSECTION OF S.R. 3011 (KEYSER
8 AVENUE) AND FERDINAND STREET TRAFFIC SIGNAL
9 TIMINGS AT THIS INTERSECTION WILL BE
10 MODIFIED AS PART OF THE SCRANTON WEAVE/OAK
11 STREET RAMP REMOVAL PROJECT.

12 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-K be
14 introduced into it's proper committee.

15 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

16 MR. JOYCE: Second.

17 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction 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: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
2 READING BY TITLE – FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 27,
3 2011 – AN ORDINANCE - CREATING AND
4 ESTABLISHING A NEW ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY OF
5 SCRANTON’S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
6 DEVELOPMENT (“OECD”) TITLED U.S.
7 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ACCOUNT NO.
8 13A.0101 FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF
9 ALL BROWNFIELDS COMMUNITY-WIDE HAZARDOUS
10 ASSESSMENT GRANT FUNDS (“EPA FUNDS”)
11 RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
12 PROTECTION AGENCY (“EPA”).

13 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
14 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

15 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
16 pass reading by title.

17 MR. JOYCE: Second.

18 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
19 those in favor signify by 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: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
2 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 28, 2011 - AN ORDINANCE
3 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A NEW ACCOUNT
4 FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S OFFICE OF
5 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ("OECD")
6 TITLED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
7 PROGRAM ACCOUNT NO. 14A.0101 FOR THE RECEIPT
8 AND DISBURSEMENT OF ALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
9 INITIATIVE PROGRAM FUNDS ("EDI FUNDS")
10 RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
11 AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD").

12 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
13 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

14 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B
15 pass reading by title.

16 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

22 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

25 MS. KRAKE: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -

1 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 29, 2011 - AN ORDINANCE
2 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A NEW ACCOUNT
3 FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S OFFICE OF
4 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ("OECD")
5 TITLED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
6 PROGRAM - RECOVERY PROGRAM ACCOUNT NO.
7 15A.0101 FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF
8 ALL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT -
9 RECOVERY PROGRAM FUNDS ("CDBG-R FUNDS")
10 RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
11 AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD").

12 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
13 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?

14 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-C
15 pass reading by title.

16 MR. JOYCE: Second.

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

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

22 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

25 MS. KRAKE: 6-D. READING BY TITLE -

1 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 30, 2011 - AN ORDINANCE
2 - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A NEW ACCOUNT
3 FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S OFFICE OF
4 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ("OECD")
5 TITLED HOMELESS PREVENTION AND
6 RAPID-REHOUSING PROGRAM ACCOUNT NO. 16A.0101
7 FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF ALL
8 HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID-REHOUSING
9 PROGRAM FUNDS ("HPRP FUNDS") RECEIVED
10 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
11 URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD").

12 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
13 title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?

14 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-D
15 pass reading by title.

16 MR. ROGAN: Second.

17 MS. EVANS: On the question?

18 MR. ROGAN: Yes, I'd like to thank
19 Mr. Joyce for saving my voice.

20 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I figured I would
21 jump in there since you seemed a little
22 hoarse.

23 MR. ROGAN: Appreciate it.

24 MR. JOYCE: No problem.

25 MS. EVANS: All those in favor

1 signify by saying aye.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

3 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

5 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

6 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
7 have it and so moved.

8 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. NO
9 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

10 MS. EVANS: If there is no further
11 business --

12 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans?

13 MS. EVANS: Yes.

14 MR. MCGOFF: I would just like a
15 clarification, I would like to know if at
16 future meetings we are going to allow
17 campaign speeches to be made.

18 MS. EVANS: I didn't consider that a
19 campaign speech. I know that probably
20 looking back over the years during my
21 service on council I have heard plenty of
22 them. I think when it pertains to city
23 business it's an issue and I think that, you
24 know, regardless of anyone who sits here who
25 happens to be a candidate for this office,

1 much of what they are saying is going to be
2 perceived as being political. Anyone else?
3 If there is no further business I will
4 entertain a motion to adjourn.

5 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

6 MS. EVANS: This meeting is
7 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER