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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, July 5, 2012

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

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.  
5 Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the  
13 reading of the minutes.

14 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. A.  
15 CHECKS RECEIVED FROM THE SINGLE TAX OFFICE  
16 IN THE AMOUNTS OF \$182,213.61, \$93,368.06  
17 AND \$47,537.46 ON JUNE 19, 2012.

18 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
19 In not, received and filed.

20 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. CHECKS RECEIVED  
21 FROM THE SINGLE TAX OFFICE IN THE AMOUNTS OF  
22 \$190,482.19, \$40,705.38 AND \$15,018.92 ON  
23 JUNE 28, 2012.

24 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
25 In not, received and filed.

1 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE  
2 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE  
3 AUTHORITY'S REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD  
4 MAY 17, 2012.

5 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
6 In not, received and filed.

7 MS. KRAKE: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE  
8 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING  
9 HELD MAY 23, 2012.

10 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
11 In not, received and filed.

12 MS. KRAKE: 3-E. MINUTES OF THE  
13 FIREMEN'S PENSION COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD  
14 APRIL 25, 2012 AND MAY 23, 2012.

15 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
16 In not, received and filed.

17 MS. KRAKE: 3-F. THE COMPLIANCE  
18 AUDIT REPORT OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
19 AGGREGATE PENSION FUND FOR THE PERIOD  
20 JANUARY 1, 2009, TO DECEMBER 31, 2010.

21 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?  
22 In not, received and filed.

23 Do we have any clerk's notes this  
24 evening, Mrs. Krake?

25 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any  
2 council members have announcements at this  
3 time.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, I have two.  
5 July 14 the Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge  
6 314 will be having it's fifth annual ribfest  
7 from 2 to 6 p.m. for the amazing low price  
8 of \$15. All proceeds will benefit prostate  
9 cancer in the area. There will be live  
10 music and fun all day long, including a pie  
11 throwing contest, police canine unit demos  
12 and other various fun things to do  
13 throughout the day.

14 Tickets may be purchased by July  
15 10th by calling Stella at the club at  
16 961-5495 or her cell phone at 570-814-3069.  
17 Come one come all to the best party in  
18 Scranton this year. Thanks, Bill Legget, PR  
19 director and former president of Fraternal  
20 Order of Eagles Lodge 314.

21 And also a remainder that there be  
22 will a fundraiser on July 14 from 5 to 10  
23 p.m. at Holy Rosary Center and the benefit  
24 is to "Give Jim Lance a Second Chance." Jim  
25 was involved in a serious motorcycle

1 accident and while recuperating he has lost  
2 his wife to cancer and next week, which will  
3 proceed this event, I will read the letter  
4 in it's entirety again, but please remember  
5 if anyone would like to offer support or  
6 make a donation they can call Nicole Lance  
7 at 570-575-6752. Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else,  
9 because of the city's current financial  
10 crises, Scranton City Council will remain in  
11 session this summer until the crises is  
12 resolved. Although, August meetings  
13 violates the Home Rule Charter, as council  
14 president I believe this action is  
15 warranted. That's it.

16 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'  
17 PARTICIPATION.

18 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker this  
19 evening is Blake Carlton.

20 MR. CARLTON: Good evening. Thank  
21 you for letting me speak tonight. My name  
22 is Blake Carlton. I'm working with the  
23 Community Coalition called Delivering for  
24 America. Basically what our organization is  
25 we are community-based with religious

1 groups, veteran's organizations, labor  
2 unions, small businesses, we are all working  
3 for one goal and the goal is to save the  
4 postal service. If you don't mind if I read  
5 something I had written?

6 MS. EVANS: Certainly.

7 MR. CARLTON: The United States  
8 Postal Service is a vital national resource  
9 that provides essential services to 151  
10 million households and businesses nationwide  
11 and supports more than seven million private  
12 sector jobs. Yet, in recent years the USPS  
13 has struggled against the combination of  
14 economic factors that threaten it's  
15 long-term liability.

16 Currently, there is a Bill in  
17 Congress, it's called HR 2309, the Postal  
18 Service Reform Act which would close  
19 thousands of local post offices, which our  
20 plant in Scranton is already effected with  
21 this, and it would enable them to close  
22 hundreds of more processing plants across  
23 the country. This wouldn't just be hard for  
24 the small business to survive, it will also  
25 take away useful postal services that are

1 essential to their success. If we dismantle  
2 the network that small businesses rely on  
3 drastically slowing the delivery of mail.

4 It would take more time for  
5 businesses to send and receive critical  
6 goods. What's more, letter carriers deliver  
7 more than just the mail to small businesses  
8 and communities they serve. They know and  
9 care about their customers and they keep an  
10 eye out for them. Further removing letter  
11 carriers from the business customers would  
12 comprise their ability to address, resolve  
13 business owners postal needs such as  
14 identifying opportunities for business to  
15 streamline delivery services or save money.

16 The American economy depends on the  
17 vitality. America small business depends on  
18 the United States Postal service. Instead  
19 of recklessly slashing services to cut  
20 costs, Congress should help the USPS evolve  
21 to the changing needs of the 21st century  
22 economy. We need a solution and the Postal  
23 Service Reform Act isn't it.

24 If enacted, American homes and  
25 businesses would no longer receive mail at



1           their door. Approximately 40 million  
2           Americans whose mail is delivered directly  
3           to their door would lose that service. A  
4           change in practice that would unfairly  
5           target American seniors and the disabled.  
6           90 percent of the people whose mail  
7           currently comes to their door will instead  
8           be forced to retrieve it from a centralized  
9           clusterized box delivery relocation.

10                   In addition, the postal service is  
11           America's largest civilian employer of  
12           veterans. HR 2309 proposes significant job  
13           cuts that would impact veteran's preferences  
14           given to service men and woman seeking  
15           employment with the United States Postal  
16           Service. HR 2309 would disproportionately  
17           harm our men and woman returning from  
18           military service.

19                   Americans who have valently served  
20           our country at home and abroad often  
21           struggle to find employment. The United  
22           States Postal service is the second largest  
23           employer of veterans behind the Department  
24           of Defense.

25                   HR 2309 is a dangerous bill that

1           could further damage and ultimately tear  
2           apart this essential institution. America's  
3           small businesses, seniors, veterans and  
4           communities need legislators to strengthen,  
5           not dismantle, the United States Postal  
6           Service.

7                       Basically what I'm here today to do  
8           is I'm asking council if they would enact a  
9           resolution saying that the City of Scranton  
10          Council does not support HR 2309. They have  
11          enacted a similar one in Taylor and what  
12          would that would do is just alert our  
13          representative in the 11th District that the  
14          community really doesn't support this bill.

15                      If you have any questions, I'll be  
16          glad to answer them.

17                      MS. EVANS: I think we can certainly  
18          send a letter on behalf of Scranton City  
19          Council, perhaps we might be able to obtain  
20          the resolution of the Taylor Council and  
21          model one after that and, fortunately, we  
22          have a council member who is actually  
23          employed by one of our congressmen and, you  
24          know, maybe there is something that he would  
25          be able to do.

1 MR. ROGAN: Sure, I could certainly  
2 pass your contact information, if you leave  
3 it, along to the Congressman.

4 MR. CARLTON: Mrs. Evans has it,  
5 it's on the back of the form I gave her if  
6 you would like to pass that on.

7 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

8 MR. CARLTON: Thank you.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Our next  
11 speaker is Bill Jackowitz.

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz.  
13 With council's indulgence, I would like to  
14 wait until Councilman McGoff arrives for the  
15 meeting this evening because I have areas in  
16 which I would like to address to him if  
17 that's okay with council president and the  
18 rest of Scranton City Council.

19 MS. EVANS: We can certainly move  
20 you to the end of the speakers' list.

21 MR. JACKOWITZ: That's all I'm  
22 asking for, yes. Thank you very much.

23 MS. EVANS: You are welcome. Our  
24 next speaker is Andy Sbaraglia.

25 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,

1 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I  
2 come before you in real dark, dark days  
3 facing the city. Your Scranton  
4 Redevelopment Authority is bankrupt, you had  
5 to bail them out. Who are they to blame for  
6 that bankruptcy, the council, the mayor or  
7 the authority? Obviously, it can't be  
8 council and it can't be the mayor other than  
9 he appointed them, it has to be the  
10 Authority, or maybe we should blame somebody  
11 like John Wayne. We've got to find somebody  
12 to blame, somebody has got to get up there  
13 and take the blame for what's going on in  
14 the city. Either the mayor has to come  
15 forward or are all of these authority  
16 members bankrupt their authority.

17 It's obvious to all in the city that  
18 we are in trouble because of the appointees  
19 to these authorities. The poor kids can't  
20 swim in Scranton. They have to come up with  
21 five bucks to use Nay Aug because we have a  
22 pool authority up there that cares little or  
23 nothing about the children of Scranton.  
24 They claim they have to pay a lot for  
25 chemicals, but I think somewhere in that

1 budget I remember us sending out a  
2 prospectus for chemicals for the pools and  
3 most likely we paid for chemicals for the  
4 pools. Now, where is that chemicals going  
5 to be being that we didn't use the pools?  
6 Are they going to Nay Aug, so besides the  
7 lifeguards and the insurances are we now  
8 going to supply the chemicals up there? And  
9 still the kids can't swim. \$5 is just a fee  
10 that's astronomical and then blaming them  
11 chemicals.

12 I know you passed something, but you  
13 could have threw a feather in the wind for  
14 all of that was good for. The Parking  
15 Authority, you know, has become an  
16 albatross. They are going to try to stay  
17 there and milk it right to the bitter end  
18 and you got to realize that. They have no  
19 intentions of resigning or giving up any  
20 power because they care little or nothing  
21 about the taxpayers. Obviously they don't  
22 care or know nothing about the taxpayers or  
23 we wouldn't be in this condition.

24 Now, let's look at the authority  
25 down there with the Sewer Authority. Their

1 rates keep raising down there like crazy.  
2 They just went up 45 percent blaming the  
3 federal government for a mandate. Now, you  
4 know and I know that's the way you look at  
5 the mandate and how you handle the mandate  
6 that's relative to the cost. There is many  
7 ways to handle the mandate besides the most  
8 expensive and apparently they are going with  
9 the most expensive, and if you want to go  
10 back that's the reason why the mayor wanted  
11 this Sewer Authority back onto his domain  
12 because of all the contracts that are going  
13 to be given out.

14 Where we are now is because of  
15 political ambition. A man that wanted to  
16 move to a different office, a higher office,  
17 and to do that you need money, and the only  
18 way could get money is either to contact or  
19 patronage, and you can sock somebody for  
20 their job or you can make sure a contractor  
21 gives money for certain things.

22 We all know the same contract that  
23 the city used the county used, and look what  
24 happened to the county commissioners there.  
25 They used the same contractors we are using.

1 Now, I don't know what is going on there,  
2 that's not up to me, that's up to the  
3 federal government to look at things like  
4 that to make sure there is no -- nothing  
5 going on that shouldn't be going on, but we  
6 all know that most of them contracts gave  
7 political contributions to the mayor and  
8 that's public record.

9 But, unfortunately, we are stuck.  
10 You have to sit up there and really balance  
11 things out. You got two choices, either go  
12 bankrupt or you raise taxes. There is no  
13 other choice out of there somewhere or other  
14 you are going to have to raise taxes. When  
15 you talk about an amusement tax I guess the  
16 churches would have to pay or anybody that  
17 has a band would have to pay or anybody  
18 this, that or whatever, because when you  
19 said the amusement tax you never spelled out  
20 all of the things that were going to be  
21 taxed under this amusement tax.

22 You found out about the catch  
23 basins, but I wouldn't blame you because  
24 back, oh, maybe 2003 they were talking about  
25 selling that to the Sewer Authority at one

1 time when we are -- to get that 5 million.  
2 We are still looking for that \$5 million to  
3 for all of these years we have been looking  
4 for that \$5 million, but yet we fall deeper  
5 and deeper into the hole. And it's true,  
6 when this mayor took office Mayor Connors  
7 said we had a \$3 million surplus, which we  
8 probably did, but what's really strange when  
9 all of the things that happened in the city  
10 did we need you will them improvements at  
11 once? No, but we are stuck for paying now  
12 for all them improvements. Thank you.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: Doug Miller.

15 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council,  
16 Doug Miller, Scranton.

17 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

18 MR. MILLER: I'd like to bring this  
19 evening by addressing the events that  
20 transpired today. If you were in Court,  
21 regarding the mayor's illegal decision to  
22 pay all union and nonunion city employee the  
23 minimum wage requirements of \$7.25 an hour.  
24 This afternoon, Judge Barrasse granted a  
25 special injunction in favor of the unions to



1 block the mayor's plan. Despite City  
2 Solicitor Paul Kelly's hopeless plea of  
3 money is not there and that the city only  
4 has \$5,000 to it's name.

5 But on a brief side note, I'd like  
6 to know tonight if we have the information  
7 on how much the Nay Aug Park fireworks show  
8 cost us and where did that money come from?  
9 Do we have idea? Okay. Well, tonight I  
10 would like to request from the mayor, I'd  
11 like it in writing and I'd like it next  
12 week, a real simple request. I don't know  
13 where the money came from and how much it  
14 cost. We got money to put fireworks on up  
15 at Nay Aug and we can't meet payroll and  
16 something is wrong and I want an answer next  
17 week in black and white.

18 The judge made his decision today  
19 based on the fact that the unions have a  
20 contract in place and the city is obligated  
21 to honor it. The mayor was quoted earlier  
22 this afternoon as saying that, "The judge  
23 can rule against us, but I don't have the  
24 money to pay the make payroll."

25 And tonight on WBRE at 6:00 he was

1           also quoted as saying, "I don't have a  
2           printing press, this is all council's fault.  
3           It's their budget, they failed to keep it."

4                         Well, here we go with the blame game  
5           again. We don't want to look in the mirror,  
6           yet again we want to point the finger to a  
7           council that's been in power for two and a  
8           half years, whose mess was dumped in your  
9           lap. This man needs to be held accountable.  
10          It's ten years of reckless borrowing and  
11          spending that's lead us to where we are  
12          today and he had the audacity to go on TV  
13          tonight and point the finger at this  
14          council. I think it's time, like I said,  
15          that he takes a look in the mirror and he  
16          will get his answer there. This finger  
17          pointing at council is completely ridiculous  
18          and it has to stop. It's time he comes  
19          forward and holds himself accountable.

20                        It's really simple, Chris, tonight,  
21          you have an obligation and the refusal to  
22          follow a contract is simply not an option.  
23          It's your responsibility to find the money,  
24          not council. Remember, you are the ship  
25          captain here. You caused this problem with

1           some help along the way, not council, and as  
2           I said last week, he needs to get that  
3           through his head. He seems to be having a  
4           real difficult time doing that.

5                     I hate to say I told you so, but  
6           last week I told the residents of this city  
7           right from this podium that that day was  
8           going to come. Sure enough, here we are  
9           tonight with the same problems due to years  
10          of reckless borrowing and spending policies  
11          by the Doherty administration.

12                    Past rubber stamp councils,  
13          including the one lead by Bob McGoff, I'm  
14          glad to see he is here tonight, I'm glad to  
15          see that he is taking the situation serious.  
16          He must be at a ball game tonight, I'm glad  
17          that takes precedence, but they approved all  
18          of these policies without any hesitation  
19          whatsoever and not one time did they ever  
20          hold Chris Doherty accountable. They just  
21          put the rubber stamp and stamped away and we  
22          wonder why we are in the situation we are in  
23          tonight.

24                    Let's also keep in mind the millions  
25          of dollars squandered on professional and

1 legal services and not at one time have we  
2 ever considered placing these services out  
3 for bid. We instead took a page out of the  
4 pay and play book. This philosophy has lead  
5 us to the disaster we are in today and Chris  
6 Doherty has been captain of this ship and  
7 like the Titanic we have hit the iceberg and  
8 we are sinking fast.

9 So what's the mayor's solution to  
10 solve our problem? More tax increases, this  
11 time 78 percent he elicits in his proposed  
12 flawed recovery that plan that he sent down  
13 to council. The council majority, which has  
14 refused to place these burdens on the  
15 taxpayers, has responded by putting its foot  
16 down and demanding a plan that is fair for  
17 the taxpayers. Once again, the majority is  
18 looking out for the little guy that  
19 continues to get knocked down.

20 The mayor and Ryan McGowan have  
21 responded to council by saying it's the  
22 majorities' responsibility to come up with a  
23 solution. I'll say it again, council  
24 majority does have a solution and the  
25 administration knows that. This is a case

1 of the mayor and Ryan McGowan wanting to  
2 play politics and place a spin on the issue.  
3 It's quite clear that these two have a  
4 difficulty in comprehending the concept of  
5 fact.

6 Council's plan does generate revenue  
7 and it does save tax dollars regardless of  
8 what Ryan McGowan tells the Scranton Times.  
9 He needs to get his facts straight as well,  
10 but I understand that may be difficult for  
11 someone who is clearly overwhelmed with all  
12 of this.

13 For five months now the council  
14 majority had a working relationship with the  
15 administration, but as usual Chris Doherty  
16 turned his back and ignored council's  
17 suggestions. Yet again we want to criticize  
18 the council majority for refusing to work  
19 with the mayor. I find that to be quite  
20 amusing. While in the spirit of the  
21 cooperation tonight I would ask Bob McGoff,  
22 of course he is not here, but I would ask  
23 Bob McGoff since he is such a good Recovery  
24 Plan with Chris Doherty to invite him to  
25 come here publically, we'll welcome him

1 here. Let him come in here and discuss his  
2 Recovery Plan publicly and let him be held  
3 accountable. We are open, we won't bite.  
4 Come in here. Hold yourself accountable.

5 Chris Doherty will no longer bully  
6 and extort through scare tactics when he  
7 doesn't get his way. His actions do  
8 resemble a school yard child who doesn't get  
9 his way and just takes his ball and runs  
10 home crying. You know, he obviously was a  
11 child who was never told no growing up and  
12 he has a hard dealing with that.

13 I think the best thing that Judge  
14 Barrasse can do is put Chris Doherty behind  
15 bars for all of his actions today and the  
16 actions of the last ten years. I don't know  
17 who he thinks he is that he has the  
18 arrogance to go on TV and blame council,  
19 basically blame everybody but himself for  
20 what's going on in this city over the last  
21 ten years.

22 You know, we are the laughing stock  
23 of the nation. It's my understanding we  
24 made national news this evening. We are the  
25 talk on the radio, WYLK, KRZ, they think

1           Scranton is a big joke, and you know who  
2           caused this? Chris Doherty. And enough is  
3           enough already. I mean, I can't tell you  
4           how disgusted I am. I come up here each  
5           week, it's the same routine every week and  
6           we have resolved nothing, and you know I  
7           also am disappointed with a lot of the  
8           residents of this city who sit back and just  
9           expect everybody else to solve all their  
10          problems. You know, it's time for them to  
11          come forward and demand accountability.  
12          This is your town, too, and I blame each and  
13          every voter for the last ten years or each  
14          election cycle came out and voted for this  
15          fool, and you wonder why we're in the shape  
16          we are and you to criticize, you want to  
17          whine and cry when your taxes go up, well,  
18          you caused this, too, and you came out and  
19          you voted not knowing the facts and we are  
20          in the situation we are. You know, I'm  
21          totally disgusted.

22                         But the best thing we can do is get  
23          behind this council because with you the  
24          only ones we have. You are the ones  
25          standing behind the fool downstairs and the

1 78 percent tax increase that's looming, so I  
2 would ask you to keep fighting for the  
3 residents of this city and my message to  
4 everyone else in this city is get up off the  
5 couch and get down here and demand  
6 accountability. This is your town, too, and  
7 let's hold Chris Doherty accountable once  
8 and for all. Thank you.

9 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And I just  
10 wanted to comment briefly on two topics  
11 mentioned by Mr. Miller. First of all, I do  
12 understand that the mayor has time again,  
13 over and over in the newspaper, on the  
14 television channels, blamed city council and  
15 its budget for the current state of affairs,  
16 and I discussed publically during council  
17 meetings that this is a city budget and that  
18 this budget was constructed jointly.

19 Tonight, after the meeting, I'm  
20 going to provide the Scranton Times and GO  
21 Lackawanna with documents that will prove  
22 that what the mayor is saying is not the  
23 case and that the unfunded debt borrowing  
24 can be traced all the way back to September  
25 2011 when legislation was first sent on that



1 matter. There are documents that are signed  
2 jointly by Council Finance Chair Joyce and  
3 Mr. Ryan McGowan, business administrator.  
4 There are letters from the mayor to council  
5 asking for the increase in unfunded debt  
6 borrowing and that will be turned over, as I  
7 said, later this evening.

8 In addition, I have spoken with the  
9 mayor this week on more than one occasion.  
10 In fact, we spoke just this afternoon and we  
11 were discussing the judge's decision that  
12 was rendered earlier today. And I said to  
13 the mayor, "I have one question before you  
14 unilaterally cut wages, did you speak to the  
15 union heads?"

16 His answer was, "Well, yes, I had.  
17 I had a meeting where I brought all of the  
18 union heads in and I discussed the  
19 finances."

20 And I said, "Oh, no, no. I'm aware  
21 of that meeting that occurred last week, I'm  
22 talking about before you made this  
23 announcement did you sit down and talk to  
24 the union heads and see if perhaps you could  
25 work out a temporary agreement, something

1           that, you know, could temporarily alter  
2           their contract so you would avoid Court  
3           cases?"

4                         And his answer was, "No."

5                         I asked him to repeat it. I said,  
6           "I didn't hear you clearly, could you repeat  
7           that?"

8                         And he said, "No, I did not."

9                         I asked, "Why not? "

10                        He said, "Well, I really didn't  
11           think the unions would go for it."

12                        And I said, "You know, when this  
13           case is in Court tomorrow morning I hope  
14           that the judge might ask the question that I  
15           just did and hearing the answer he might say  
16           then, 'Why don't you both -- or why don't  
17           you all sit down right now and see what you  
18           can work out' or else you can even call  
19           them."

20                        And his answer was he will wait to  
21           see how the judge rules and maybe then he  
22           will talk to the union heads. I don't  
23           believe that any leader should merely bark  
24           orders unilaterally, particularly illegal  
25           orders. He had the responsibility to sit

1 down with the union heads and discuss his  
2 ideas with them and he didn't and we are in  
3 Court yet again. And this baby belongs  
4 solely to the mayor, no one else. He takes  
5 unilateral action, ladies and gentlemen. He  
6 does not ask for the input of this council  
7 or it's advice, he does not ask the unions,  
8 he does not ask anyone, he just barks the  
9 orders and proceeds, and here we are as a  
10 result.

11 Our next speaker is Ozzie Quinn.

12 MR. QUINN: Good evening.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

14 MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Scranton  
15 Taxpayers' Association. As you know, we had  
16 an audit done under the Community  
17 Development Block Grant Program for the  
18 years 2008, '9 and '10. In November of  
19 2010, the Office of Inspector General of HUD  
20 come up with the finding of \$11 million that  
21 the city spent and not under the guidelines  
22 of HUD. I followed up on this because it  
23 was the Office of Inspector General. If it  
24 was just HUD that would be washed out  
25 somewhere, but the fact is this afternoon I

1 got a letter under the Freedom of  
2 Information Act from the Inspector General's  
3 Office and they told me that the record sent  
4 in response to your request is still ongoing  
5 is being held and pursuant to, and then they  
6 cite the law, which protects privileged  
7 documents that records are also being held,  
8 withheld under, again the cite, pending a  
9 determination of the enforcement of the  
10 proceeding. Also, there may be many  
11 exemptions associated with these records  
12 that we have not addressed in the response  
13 and that we expressly reserve. Finally, at  
14 this time we can't give you a date as to  
15 when a final decision on any enforcement  
16 proceedings will be made.

17 So that means that there are still  
18 looking at that \$11 million and we are  
19 talking now, it's out here, but we are  
20 talking now about the \$16 million, we are  
21 talking about the public safety, \$22 million  
22 and we are also possibly talking about  
23 another 11 million because of the fact that  
24 the Office of Inspector General has said  
25 that anything that has to be paid back to

1 HUD has to be nonfederal funds, meaning  
2 taxpayers' money, so that's a possible  
3 another 11 million that can be added to what  
4 our debt is, okay?

5 Now, in regards to the \$5 million by  
6 the Scranton Sewer Authority, I laugh when I  
7 saw that this morning because of the fact  
8 that not that it was supported, but the fact  
9 that I went back and I remember I recall,  
10 and I went back to the minutes on my  
11 computer in regard to May of 2007 and,  
12 Mrs. Evans, you were talking about you spoke  
13 to the mayor this morning and so on, at tax  
14 time in May you spoke to the mayor and you  
15 spoke about the storm water, the cost of it  
16 and what not, you know, and he says he is  
17 looking at it, he is going to be in touch  
18 with you and whatnot, and you go on and say  
19 the next morning after it was in the paper  
20 already, okay? So that's how much you can  
21 trust this man, all right? So you saying  
22 that tonight just reiterates what he already  
23 has done.

24 Now, here's what he done. He went  
25 unilaterally an arbitrarily went out and

1           took the American Water Company, the SSA,  
2           and signed a settlement agreement of \$5.5  
3           million himself without going before the  
4           city council.

5                       MS. EVANS: That's correct.

6                       MR. QUINN: Okay? And on the only  
7           thing on that agreement was his signature  
8           without any witness or without any notary or  
9           whatnot, okay? Now, I appeared at council  
10          about this here when it was in the paper and  
11          I said how can an appointed authority  
12          legislate money? And they are still doing  
13          it. The Scranton Sewer Authority, the mayor  
14          said when he signed the \$5.5 million  
15          settlement, and it was in the Scranton  
16          Times, that the Scranton Sewer Authority no  
17          longer has to come to the Scranton City  
18          Council for any type of legislative  
19          approval. Now, come on. Anybody that knows  
20          government knows that an authority cannot,  
21          you know, legislate something that elected  
22          officials are supposed to be doing, you  
23          know?

24                      So I know Mr. Hughes has a lot on  
25          his plate, much more than he ever expected,

1 but the fact is, Mr. Hughes, down there they  
2 are operating as an authority, as elected  
3 officials would act, and they are not  
4 answering to the city council. Now, when he  
5 said \$5 million that was in the settlement  
6 agreement and he knew it and it was there  
7 that the amount of that -- not the \$5  
8 million, the amount of the storm water cost.  
9 He knew it, if he didn't, he didn't read the  
10 agreement, but here we are again left with a  
11 liar, all right?

12 Now, it bothers me because of the  
13 fact that that happened in 2007, and again,  
14 the Scranton Times, okay, who campaign,  
15 after campaign, after campaign financially  
16 contribute to Mayor Doherty's campaign and  
17 you saw Debra Neihaus I believe here a  
18 couple of weeks ago saying about the four  
19 pillars of journalism and it's politically  
20 -- you cannot do that, you shouldn't do it  
21 and they did it. Because if they were on  
22 the ball then, if they weren't backing the  
23 mayor and they didn't care -- oh, by the  
24 way, who was there? There was Mr. McGoff,  
25 Mrs. Fanucci and Mrs. Gatelli who let the

1 mayor do this, okay? Now, if they were on  
2 the ball then and they investigated or  
3 looked into the matter they would have found  
4 out and they would have realized that you  
5 cannot just turn over the Scranton Sewer  
6 Authority to an appointed body. Thank you  
7 very much.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Mrs. Krake,  
9 did we receive the documents that were  
10 requested from the Scranton Sewer Authority  
11 involving the storm water conveyance system?

12 MS. KRAKE: No, we did not.

13 MS. EVANS: I know that I sent a  
14 Right-to-know letter requesting documents  
15 from the Scranton Sewer Authority that would  
16 prove their ownership of the storm water  
17 conveyance system. I also called  
18 Mr. Belardi, the solicitor of the Sewer  
19 Authority, I wasn't able to reach him, but I  
20 did leave a message requesting that he faxed  
21 those documents to the Office of City  
22 Council, and I left a number. I also asked  
23 that he would either contact our solicitor.  
24 To date, I have heard nothing.

25 Solicitor Hughes, did you receive a



1 phone call from Attorney Belardi this week?

2 MR. HUGHES: No.

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Our next  
4 speaker is Bernie Bassacco.

5 MS. BASSACO: Good evening, Council.

6 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

7 MS. BASSACO: I'm back. I have a  
8 139 additional signatures and names, I  
9 didn't have too many as last week because of  
10 the Fourth of July and the weather was hot,  
11 but I hit South Side this week, I was in  
12 several neighborhoods over in South Side,  
13 talked to the people again, and I'm been  
14 trying to encourage them, "Come on down.  
15 Come to the city council meetings," because  
16 I'm hearing such great comments and, you  
17 know, I tell them come down and get your say  
18 in because the city council needs to hear  
19 this. And once again I'm finding the same  
20 thing, I with every 100 people that I talked  
21 to there is maybe one, sometimes two that,  
22 you know, just, "I don't want to get  
23 involved" or they know somebody that works  
24 for the city or whatever, but that's it. So  
25 we are looking at 98 percent agreement with,

1           you know, what's going -- or what I have  
2           stated in my letter, which very shortly I'll  
3           just say that, "Tell Mr. Doherty he cannot  
4           afford more taxes, especially 78 percent,  
5           and tell him to find other ways to finance  
6           the city."

7                         And there is mismanagement, the  
8           comments that I'm hearing from people, they  
9           are very disturbed, again, about what's  
10          going on. First, the number one comment,  
11          same as last week, where is the mayor? Why  
12          isn't he at these meetings? He needs to  
13          come down, he needs to talk to the public,  
14          even if he has to get a bigger venue come  
15          and talk to the people, answer their  
16          questions. Don't keep hiding because, you  
17          know, the people want to know what's going  
18          on.

19                        Some of the comments, these are all  
20          that I've written down are comments  
21          prosecute people. They said if he were to  
22          run a business the way he runs the city he  
23          would have been fired a long time ago, the  
24          place would have been bankrupt. There is no  
25          way in the private sector that he could, you

1 know, do the things he is doing and still  
2 continue to work.

3 Although, the majority of people  
4 continue to hold the mayor fully responsible  
5 for the sad state of affairs in the City,  
6 many said in reference to the minimum wage  
7 that he just proclaimed that for himself, he  
8 himself, doesn't even deserve minimum wage.  
9 They say the way the city is and what he has  
10 done to he should be willing to work for  
11 nothing until things get straightened out.

12 Probably 80 percent of the people  
13 that I talked to they want to move and sell  
14 their houses, but they know it's not an  
15 option, who is going to buy with the reality  
16 transfer tax, the property tax, the wage  
17 taxes, nobody wants to live -- I think if  
18 people could leave, just get out and leave  
19 their houses this city would be  
20 three-quarters empty. The question is who  
21 would buy their house in Scranton. It's  
22 branded the high tax mecca of the east, and  
23 I'll tell you what, this week so many people  
24 have told me that they are embarrassed that  
25 they have -- when people say, "Well, where

1 do you live?"

2 They are embarrassed to say they  
3 live in Scranton. You know, it's getting to  
4 the point where it's a laughing stock.

5 As I was going around I came to a  
6 city worker, for obvious reasons, of course,  
7 they are not going to sign the paper, but  
8 they felt, too, that city hall itself is in  
9 disrepair and there is no pride left in the  
10 city or working for the city and that's why  
11 you see some of the things going on, like  
12 people complain about they come to city hall  
13 and maybe get a dog license, pay their tax  
14 bill, they are ignored. They are ignored at  
15 the desk and they stand there if they are  
16 invisible.

17 There some great young couples out  
18 there that are trying to raise a family and  
19 couple of them have said to me, "I think we  
20 made a big mistake trying to buy a house  
21 here and come to the city because there is  
22 no way that we can afford these taxes," and  
23 between the taxes, the school taxes, the  
24 sewer is going up, all of these things they  
25 just can't afford it. They said if it goes

1 up 70 or 80 -- you might as well say 100  
2 after three years you are almost doubled  
3 they can't do it, they can't stay here.

4 And one young man, very nice, I  
5 said, "Why don't you come Thursday to the  
6 city council meeting," and he was saying  
7 about how he worked in the private sector,  
8 he had -- he lost two jobs and now he has a  
9 third one he is working. He said, "When I  
10 wasn't working my wife and I had to cut our  
11 expenses. We could not spend more than we  
12 had coming in," and he said, "I just don't  
13 think Mayor Doherty understands this  
14 concept. He is promising. You know, people  
15 jobs, paybacks and more salaries and the  
16 money is not there."

17 And he said, "When I wasn't working  
18 we had to cut back on our living expenses,"  
19 and he said that's what needs to be done.

20 There is several stories about  
21 young -- this one young girl she told me she  
22 and her fiance were looking to buy a house  
23 in Scranton, there is no way they can afford  
24 it. She said, "We are look up in Archbald  
25 and Peckville now."

1                   There goes --you know, we could have  
2                   another tax payment there. A young woman is  
3                   living in her family homestead, belonged to  
4                   her grandparents and then her parents, and  
5                   she -- I believe she was buying it from her  
6                   siblings, but she just couldn't afford the  
7                   tax base.

8                   But the main thing I want to say, I  
9                   can go around and keep getting more and more  
10                  signatures, but it seems like every hundred  
11                  people there is two that don't want to sign  
12                  it because. In fact, today I had it was  
13                  cute, there was a man over in South Side and  
14                  I was going down his side of the street, he  
15                  signed it, and i went down a couple of  
16                  houses and some guy from the second floor  
17                  said, "Hey, hey, come over here, let me sign  
18                  that, my friend just called me down the  
19                  street," he said, "I want to sign that."

20                  And, I mean, I'm having people tell  
21                  me, "Go to my mom's, she will sign that for  
22                  you."

23                  You know, if I wanted to put like  
24                  ten hours a day in I would probably get  
25                  everybody in the city signed up, 98 percent

1 of them anyway, but that's the thing.  
2 People still feel there is so much  
3 dishonesty and there is so much payback and  
4 they want the mayor here. They want to see  
5 him, talk to him, they want their questions  
6 answered and they want him to converse with  
7 you n front of them in public, and they love  
8 ECTV, by the way. I get more positive  
9 comments on that. Thank you.

10 MS. EVANS: Les Spindler.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,  
12 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and  
13 homeowner and taxpayer.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

15 MR. SPINDLER: I have lived in my  
16 city the whole life and that was sad to here  
17 what the last speaker just said that people  
18 are telling her they are embarrassed to live  
19 in the city. I have been coming here for 10  
20 1/2 years, I love this city, for people to  
21 say they are embarrassed I hate to hear  
22 that. It's one person's fault, it's Chris  
23 Doherty. It's ashame it's like that.

24 And I have to say I wasn't surprised  
25 by the Court decision today by Judge

1           Barrasse. I stood here last week and said,  
2           "I worked in the union for 14 years, if you  
3           have a contract somebody can't come along  
4           and say, 'Oh, I'm going to pay minimum  
5           wage.'" "

6                         Didn't take a judge to make that  
7           decision. It should be common knowledge.  
8           And I have a question, Attorney Hughes, he  
9           says he is still going to pay \$7.25 an hour,  
10          he is not abiding by the Court injunction,  
11          could he be held in contempt of Court?

12                        MR. HUGHES: That's up for a judge  
13          to say. There is two types of contempt, one  
14          is civil and one is criminal. That would be  
15          up to the unions to present to the Court.  
16          I'm not a judge, I don't sit here in the  
17          robe so I can't assume what a judge is going  
18          to do.

19                        MR. SPINDLER: Thank you.

20                        MR. HUGHES: I'm an advocate.

21                        MR. SPINDLER: I just wonder, is his  
22          administration being paid minimum wage,  
23          Chief Davis, Chief Duffy, are they getting  
24          minimum wage? Is Ryan McGowan? Is Mark  
25          Seitzinger? Is Mark Dougher? Are they all



1 getting minimum wage, does anybody know?

2 MS. EVANS: I'm not 100 percent  
3 certain, but it's my understanding that,  
4 yes, everyone would be cut to \$7.25 with the  
5 exception of those who are paid by federal  
6 funds, that would be employees of OECD and I  
7 would think the whatever the number was of  
8 firefighter who were reinstated using the  
9 SAFER grant.

10 MR. SPINDLER: I hope they all are  
11 and I like to know if Paul Kelly is included  
12 in there, too, I hope he is making minimum  
13 wage.

14 And it's funny how Chris Doherty  
15 says -- he keeps saying, "Oh, sue me, we  
16 don't have any money," Doug stole sum of my  
17 thunder, I was going to mention the  
18 fireworks, when, Chris Doherty wants  
19 something does he seems to come up with  
20 money. Where did the money come up to have  
21 that fireworks show at Nay Aug? I'm hearing  
22 it cost upwards of \$30,000, and they say we  
23 only have \$5,000 in the bank. Where did  
24 that money come from? Maybe he took it out  
25 of his pocket where the rest of the money is

1           come for years. That's all I can say on  
2           that subject.

3                     An article in the Doherty newsletter  
4           last week, "DCED is okay with the unions  
5           giveback." And I guess DCED solicitor sent  
6           a letter saying he is okay with that. You  
7           know what, I wouldn't trust that as far as I  
8           could throw that. Until there is signatures  
9           on that contract I wouldn't care what that  
10          letter said. And I don't know why the big  
11          deal is if they can't sign the contract why  
12          send a letter, why not just sign the  
13          contract and really make it official. If  
14          they had the time to write up a letter and  
15          send it in, why don't they just sign the  
16          contract.

17                     As I said, I wouldn't trust them as  
18          far as I could throw them. They haven't  
19          helped in city in 20 years along with PEL,  
20          just pocketing money every year from the  
21          city, and they along with Chris Doherty are  
22          the reason we are hurting so bad and I do  
23          commend this council for sticking to their  
24          guns and stay strong and keep up the good  
25          fight. Thank you for your time.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Gerard  
2 Hetman.

3 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.  
4 Gerard Hetman from the Lackawanna County  
5 Department of Community Relations.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

7 MR. HETMAN: First, I'd to thank  
8 everyone who came out this last Tuesday,  
9 July 3, to the Scrantastic Spectacular  
10 events. I hope everyone enjoyed the  
11 fireworks. The downtown was full of lots of  
12 crowds, lots of different people came out I  
13 think it picked up as the evening went on  
14 through the concert and, obviously, the vice  
15 president's visit to Scranton and the  
16 fireworks. We'd like to see the event go  
17 further in future years and we just really  
18 hope to see everyone out at the next big  
19 county sponsored event down town which will  
20 be the three-on-three basketball tournament  
21 the weekend of August 3.

22 This evening I would like to make  
23 some announcements regarding several arts  
24 and cultural related programs sponsored by  
25 the County Arts and Culture Department. The

1 first one, which is free of charge, is the  
2 2013 Lackawanna County Community Arts and  
3 Cultural Grant Workshop. This is a workshop  
4 where artists and organizations not  
5 currently receiving grant funding can apply  
6 for up to \$3,000 for a community arts and  
7 culture grant for the community project.  
8 The workshop will cover the types of  
9 projects that are eligible and how to write  
10 a grant proposal for the grant program.  
11 Applications for the grants will be due  
12 October 12, 2012, for projects that will  
13 take place in 2013.

14 Now, I should note that there is a  
15 series of the these workshops that will take  
16 place at each the Lackawanna County library  
17 system libraries throughout the county, the  
18 one at the Albright Memorial Library will be  
19 held Monday, August 13, 2012, from 6:00 p.m.  
20 to 8 p.m. at the Albright Memorial Library.  
21 For more information contact Chris Kelly,  
22 program coordinator at 570-963-6590,  
23 extension 106 and she can also give you the  
24 other dates for all of the other libraries  
25 throughout the county, and we will have the

1 information posted on LackawannaCounty.org  
2 as well as our Facebook and Twitter pages  
3 for the full range of the dates throughout  
4 the county.

5 Secondly, the workshop PR Do's and  
6 Dont's, Marketing your Art, will take place,  
7 Wednesday, July 18, 2012, from 6:30 p.m. to  
8 8 p.m. at the Library Express in the  
9 Steamtown Mall in downtown Scranton. The  
10 Lackawanna County Arts and Cultural  
11 Department will present this free workshop  
12 with writer and artist Alecia Greco of the  
13 Electric City, Diamond City and 570.com  
14 regarding how to market your art and art  
15 work. Again, RSVP to the program will be to  
16 Chris Kelly, 570-963-6550, extension 106.

17 Third, the rhythm of the region  
18 guitar workshop and concert will take place,  
19 Friday, July 13, 2012, at the junior  
20 ballroom in Scranton Cultural Center, 420  
21 North Washington Avenue in downtown Scranton  
22 with accomplished guitarists Tim Farrell.  
23 There will be a free workshop from 5 to 7  
24 p.m. with a free concert at the same  
25 location at 8 p.m. All are welcome, no

1 artist fee is required.

2 And last, but not least, our summer  
3 noon concert series on courthouse square  
4 continues tomorrow, Friday, July 6, with the  
5 band East Coast, and our Saturday evening  
6 concert series will kick off this weekend,  
7 Saturday, July 7, with Daddy'0 and the Sax  
8 Maniacs from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and both of  
9 these events are on the courthouse square.

10 Thank you for your cooperation and  
11 we hope to see you soon.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mr. Hetman?

13 MR. HETMAN: Yes, sir.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: I just wanted to make  
15 a comment, last week you were a little bit  
16 late you said you graduated from your  
17 Leadership Lackawanna class?

18 MR. HETMAN: Yes, sir.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: You were a bit  
20 modest. I happened to see in the GO  
21 Lackawanna that you were the top in the  
22 class and you got a special award.

23 MR. HETMAN: Yes, sir, that's  
24 correct. I received the Shining Star and  
25 also the class leader award.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'd like to  
2 congratulate you.

3 MR. HETMAN: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Loscombe.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: A great honor.

6 MR. HETMAN: It's a great pleasure  
7 to be in the program and a great activity  
8 for anyone who is in the Scranton area,  
9 Lackawanna County and Northeastern  
10 Pennsylvania. Like I said, it's a pleasure  
11 to follow President Evans in that list of  
12 the Leadership Lackawanna alums and some  
13 other certain employees, administrators and  
14 many other residents of our city and the  
15 area. Thank you, Folks.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Our next speaker is Dave  
18 Dobrzyn.

19 MR. DOBRZYN: Dave Dobrzyn, resident  
20 of Scranton. I have a question for the  
21 administration, when can we see some audits  
22 and figures instead of spin? That's  
23 where -- I don't care if somebody from the  
24 administration ever shows up, I don't want  
25 to see a circus, I don't care about it, I

1           just want to see the figures. I want to see  
2           accounts receivable and accounts payable and  
3           honesty not whipped out six months after a  
4           budget is made or what have you and find out  
5           at that there is \$800,000 of unpaid trash  
6           fees and it just going on and on and on.

7                         And on the fireworks I'm kind of  
8           disappointed because somebody could have  
9           said there is an intractable contract signed  
10          a year ago or something, well, I looked in  
11          the newspapers and I saw what dates there  
12          were fireworks, my wife and I like  
13          fireworks, we were obviously paying for the  
14          fireworks that went off Saturday night and I  
15          assumed there wasn't any fireworks because  
16          last week there was nothing in the newspaper  
17          saying that there was a fireworks display at  
18          Nay Aug Park in the general announcement on  
19          the fire works. I think I still have the  
20          page if anyone wants me to bring it in. It  
21          was not announced and here now I'm stuck  
22          paying for it, which is even worse than if  
23          it was an intractable contract signed a year  
24          ago or something, okay, well, just say that  
25          and stop the spin and the spite. To me that



1 was ridiculous. It would have been nice to  
2 see them at least if we were going to pay  
3 taxes on them.

4 Now, the sewer is real interesting,  
5 anybody want to buy the Brooklyn Bridge, too?  
6 That could bail us out a lot of debt. You  
7 can sell the London Bridge, we might own  
8 some of that, who knows, we'll have to sue  
9 Mr. Kelly and go to Court.

10 DPW and trash, I would advise the  
11 union officer there of DPW and P. Stuart, I  
12 seem to forget his name, but maybe he should  
13 take my idea to heart and start to estimate  
14 how this guy has estimated through the union  
15 how much recycling is actually going out in  
16 the form of trash, and some people probably  
17 deserve to pay double the fees judging by  
18 what I see, and if we -- Andy came up last  
19 week, Sbaraglia, and mentioned the fee as  
20 opposed to a tax. Well, you know, if you  
21 get 10 or 15 percent of \$180 or something on  
22 your IRS, you know, what is that as opposed  
23 to having people starting to pay like these  
24 profitable nonprofits where executive boards  
25 might be on an ungodly high wage and most of

1           the money just gets eaten up and it's a  
2           nonprofit, but somebody is turning the money  
3           from it. The CEO of it might be making  
4           \$100,000 a year, when in reality he is  
5           supposed to be a big donor in society and  
6           it's really ashamed.

7                     And, once again, I guess the Parking  
8           Authority I'd like to hear something on that  
9           with that \$3 million or whatever, was that  
10          just an investment or was it like they said  
11          in the paper that it was a bond payment that  
12          they had to have to set aside.

13                    And, okay, I have two golden parrots  
14          this week and one is going to be called --  
15          one of them is going to be close to home,  
16          two of them actually. Our banks don't want  
17          to loan us money, we have a lousy credit  
18          rating, well, they lost -- Wall Street lost  
19          \$30 million out of the police and firemen  
20          pension, but then sadly we had to devalue  
21          your credit rating because you don't have  
22          enough money in your pension and so forth  
23          and so, unfortunately, we have to charge you  
24          more money and play hardball with lending  
25          money so bawk, bawk, bawk, to the Wall

1 Street clowns.

2 And it was heard by a state assembly  
3 man who let the cat out of the bag that the  
4 real reason for the photo ID was to ensure a  
5 stake for Romney, well, that would be  
6 shameful if he won the State of Pennsylvania  
7 seeing as people like him are probably the  
8 reason that \$30 million was lost out of the  
9 firemens' pension plan and taken out of the  
10 country to whoever knows, the Caymen Islands  
11 or whatever. Thank you and have a good  
12 night, don't forget, bawk, bawk, bawk.

13 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next  
14 speaker is Lee Morgan.

15 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.  
16 Mr. Joyce, I'd like to thank you for  
17 council's ideas. I did look at them and I  
18 do appreciate you giving me the access to  
19 those.

20 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

21 MR. MORGAN: I sit here tonight and  
22 I listen to council saying that nobody is  
23 getting back to them. Well, in the course  
24 of the last week I have gone to the  
25 authorities myself trying to get answers to

1 my own questions and I had no trouble  
2 getting access. I mean, so I just -- maybe  
3 it's time to stop sending letters and start  
4 walking into their office and saying, "Hi,  
5 guys, how are you and can I ask a couple of  
6 questions," because if letters weren't  
7 working maybe it's time to try a new  
8 approach.

9 I really after looking at  
10 everything, and I do have the mayor's  
11 Recovery Plan and I do have council's ideas,  
12 and I have to be very honest, personally  
13 speaking I think that the city needs to do  
14 the hard thing and I think we need to try to  
15 file bankruptcy. I think that's our best  
16 option. I mean, I hear us talking about 72  
17 percent, but I don't hear anybody talking  
18 about the \$100 million that's allegedly owed  
19 to the pension plans and how much would that  
20 -- of a tax increase would that cost the  
21 residents of the city? I'm already well  
22 aware of how the people in this city feel  
23 about being overtaxed and having no faith in  
24 government because I have stood myself at  
25 this podium before, but, you know, I mean, I

1           just -- when I look at the mayor's plan and  
2           he talks about determining the value of the  
3           city's portion of the Authority, are we  
4           talking about, I don't know privatization.  
5           I mean, are we going to do another American  
6           Anglican deal with the Authority? I mean,  
7           that's absolutely ridiculous. The blood  
8           bath last time was unbelievable, and I don't  
9           find that to be workable.

10                         And, you know, a lot of the other  
11           things I personally don't hold the mayor  
12           responsible for everything that's happened  
13           in this city because I know in '92 when I  
14           went to St. Mary's Center and I listened to  
15           the city start to head down the road with  
16           the PEL, he wasn't the mayor and we were in  
17           trouble then, so I think that maybe we would  
18           hopefully stop throwing mud at each other  
19           because we have to find some answers.

20                         Now, when I look at council's plan,  
21           I mean, you know, refuse fees, that's number  
22           two, isn't the total cost to DPW already  
23           paid by our refuse tax, our fee? I mean,  
24           that's what I have been lead to believe that  
25           personnel and tipping comes into that fee.

1 MR. ROGAN: It doesn't encompass  
2 those. It covers what PEL said when we were  
3 here analyzing the budget as well.

4 MR. MORGAN: Okay. Well, I asked  
5 that question to council and I was told that  
6 here at the podium by council itself, but as  
7 far as the parking meter enhancement  
8 program, StreetSmart, I don't even think  
9 Wilkes-Barre has gone with StreetSmart, and  
10 to be very honest with you, I think if we  
11 were going to do anything maybe we should  
12 get parking meters to accept credit cards or  
13 debit cards and that way people won't be  
14 looking for quarters and we may make a  
15 little more revenue considering they may  
16 pay --

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Not to interrupt you,  
18 but that is part of the StreetSmart Program.

19 MR. MORGAN: Yeah, but, I mean, the  
20 problem I have with StreetSmart is the  
21 problem I have with everybody that's going  
22 to privatize an asset, whether they are  
23 privatizing a government entity, there is  
24 Silver Springs, California, I think, that  
25 made the news because everybody in their

1 employ is hired by someone else, all of  
2 their work is farmed out and I just can't  
3 see how --

4 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Morgan, it's not a  
5 privatization plan, the city would still own  
6 the meters. It's just a different mechanism  
7 of paying.

8 MR. MORGAN: But people will be  
9 collecting the fee for doing that service  
10 for us and what I think is that we should do  
11 all of these services in-house and we should  
12 capture all of the revenue in-house.  
13 Instead of letting somebody come here and --

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: That's part of the  
15 problem now, I believe.

16 MR. MORGAN: What's that now?

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe that's part  
18 of the problem now.

19 MR. MORGAN: What's that?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: They are doing it  
21 in-house, there is no accountability.  
22 That's why we need someone that has the  
23 technology to provide us with the  
24 transparency and the accountability.

25 MR. MORGAN: I think that if these

1 meters were debited all over the central  
2 computer all of the information would be  
3 kept, and I just think that if we were to  
4 take a look at what happened to American  
5 Anglican and the Scranton Sewer Authority we  
6 took such a beating on that it was  
7 remarkable, and it didn't give us any  
8 benefit, and I just think that every time we  
9 talk about privatization it's only because  
10 our government has failed.

11 And, you know, we can all twiddle  
12 our thumbs and all pretend like things are  
13 great, but they are not. The residents are  
14 overtaxed, we keep talking about even in  
15 this document, you know, decreasing the  
16 amount of the employees, what are we paying  
17 taxes for? It isn't the employees' fault  
18 that the government is mismanaged, it's the  
19 people that manage it, and hiring people  
20 with suits on they are going to make a  
21 profit off of capturing revenue for us. Why  
22 aren't we paying somebody else to do a job  
23 that should be done in-house? If we can't  
24 get honest, credible people in government  
25 then maybe we need to have mass



1                   resignations.

2                   MR. ROGAN: Mr. Morgan, the software  
3                   has to purchased from somebody.

4                   MR. MORGAN: You're right, it does  
5                   have to be purchased.

6                   MR. ROGAN: So that's what  
7                   StreetSmart is, we are purchasing the  
8                   program, but we are not administrating. The  
9                   city will still own the meters.

10                  MR. MORGAN: No, my thought on that  
11                  is the city itself should purchase this  
12                  equipment and use it and administer it and  
13                  capture all of the revenue instead of  
14                  somebody else buying the equipment and  
15                  coming in here and leasing it or getting a  
16                  contract signed by council and the city  
17                  government because what they are doing is  
18                  they are making a profit, and we need to  
19                  capture all of that revenue and bring it  
20                  into the city and not let all of our revenue  
21                  spin off to everybody with a plan that's  
22                  going to come rescue us, because the truth  
23                  of the matter is we need money and the 70  
24                  some percent of the tax increase that  
25                  doesn't even begin to talk about the

1           shortfall in the pension plans and many  
2           other things.

3                         So, look it, if we are going to do a  
4           Recovery Plan let's raise taxes or whatever  
5           we have to do to cover every obligation we  
6           have and have a real Recovery Plan, and you  
7           know something let's have it on the ballot,  
8           let's -- it's such a late time now let  
9           council vote to put it on the ballot in  
10          November, there is time, and let the voters  
11          decide because evidently council and the  
12          mayor cannot agree to a plan, the residents  
13          are disgusted, I think they would like to  
14          have a voice, and let's give them that.  
15          Thank you.

16                         (Whereupon Mr. McGoff takes the dais  
17           and joins the meeting.)

18                         MR. JOYCE: Our next speaker is Bill  
19           Jackowitz.

20                         MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,  
21           Scranton City Council. Bill Jackowitz,  
22           Scranton resident and member of the  
23           Taxpayers' Association, founder of the  
24           Legion of Doom. You know, 49 years ago I  
25           failed my sophomore year in high school, 49

1           years ago, and I'm not ashamed of it.  
2           Mr. McGoff's report card is probably better  
3           grades than mine, but you know what, the  
4           only report card that matters right now is  
5           Mr. McGoff's report card and Mayor Doherty's  
6           report card, and that's their voting record  
7           and their accomplishments since they were  
8           elected to work for the people of this city.

9                        I see Mr. McGoff shows up 40 minutes  
10           -- or an hour and ten minutes late for a  
11           meeting, again, which he was elected, he was  
12           elected by the citizens of this city to  
13           represent the citizens of this city.  
14           Mr. Joyce, Mr. Loscombe, Mr. Rogan, did  
15           Mr. McGoff inform you that he was going to  
16           be late for his mandatory council meeting  
17           tonight?

18                       MR. JOYCE: Yes, he did, he informed  
19           the office.

20                       MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, did he say  
21           where he was going to be at or was at a  
22           South Side American Legion baseball game.  
23           Mr. McGoff, where were you.

24                       MR. MCGOFF: Are you asking me?

25                       MR. JACKOWITZ: I just said,

1 Mr. McGoff, where were you, so I guess --  
2 you are the one who has got the scholarship.  
3 Now, if you can't understand a simple  
4 question --

5 MR. MCGOFF: No, last week when I  
6 answered your question you told me you  
7 didn't want an answer, but, yes, I was at my  
8 grandson's baseball game.

9 MR. JACKOWITZ: Are you getting paid  
10 tonight, Mr. McGoff?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me?

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: Are you being paid  
13 tonight?

14 MR. MCGOFF: I don't think I get a  
15 check tonight, no.

16 MR. JACKOWITZ: No, but are you  
17 going to be paid? When your pay comes are  
18 you going to get a check?

19 MR. MCGOFF: I would assume to.

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: Are you going to  
21 request that they deduct the money out of  
22 your check because this is like the fourth  
23 meeting in a row now that you have gone to a  
24 baseball game. Is that more important than  
25 your city and your community, Mr. McGoff,

1                   because that's a yes or no answer? What's  
2                   more important, a South Scranton American  
3                   League baseball game or your city that is on  
4                   the eve of destruction?

5                   MR. MCGOFF: I'm at the meeting.

6                   MR. JACKOWITZ: You're an hour and  
7                   ten minutes late, Mr. McGoff.

8                   MR. MCGOFF: What did I miss?

9                   MR. JACKOWITZ: And this the fourth  
10                  meeting --

11                  MR. MCGOFF: What did I miss?

12                  MR. JACKOWITZ: You have missed the  
13                  citizens who voted for you and who are  
14                  paying you salaries speaking for the last  
15                  hour and ten minutes, that's what you missed  
16                  Mr. McGoff.

17                  MR. MCGOFF: What did I miss?

18                  MR. JACKOWITZ: I just told you? We  
19                  are talking about the financial situation of  
20                  the City of Scranton which you and your  
21                  mayor, Mayor Doherty, put us in. You can  
22                  sit there and laugh and snicker and smile  
23                  all you want because whether you are here or  
24                  not, Mr. McGoff, right now you are sitting  
25                  in that chair, but that chair is still

1 empty. Still empty because there is nothing  
2 there. Someone who would put a baseball  
3 game in front of a city, a community that  
4 you say you grew up in and that you were  
5 raised in and that you love to put a  
6 baseball game in front of that, especially  
7 since you voted for all of this, you voted  
8 to close fire stations. You put the public  
9 safety --

10 MR. MCGOFF: No I didn't.

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yes, you did. We  
12 have already gone through this, Mr. McGoff,  
13 you can lie all you want --

14 MR. MCGOFF: No, are you wrong.

15 MR. JACKOWITZ: And you can spin all  
16 you want, but you voted for Mayor Doherty's  
17 budget, Mr. McGoff, which included closing  
18 fire stations --

19 MR. MCGOFF: No, it did not --

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: -- and laying off  
21 police -- yes, you did, when you voted not  
22 to override his veto. Yes, you did. And  
23 you can lie all you want, Mr. McGoff, and  
24 you can shake your hand and you can smile  
25 and you can snicker and you can talk about

1 my report card from 49 years ago,  
2 Mr. McGoff. I admit I failed, Mr. McGoff,  
3 can you say the same thing? Can you tell  
4 the citizens of Scranton right now that you  
5 failed them, that you are responsible for  
6 the city being in the distressed status  
7 along with your buddy, Mayor Doherty? Can  
8 you admit that, Mr. McGoff, do you have  
9 the courage to do that?

10 MR. MCGOFF: You want an answer now?

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yes.

12 MR. MCGOFF: I believe in the last  
13 election there was something like 7,000  
14 people that voted for me and I think that's  
15 your answer.

16 MR. JACKOWITZ: How many people are  
17 registered to vote in the city, Mr. McGoff?  
18 So you got 7,000 votes. Big deal. There  
19 was only three people that ran for that  
20 office, you, Mr. Loscombe and Mr. Morgan,  
21 two of you were going to be elected, so  
22 you're -- and now your response is nothing  
23 but BS, and you got a degree, so I imagine  
24 you know what BS stands for.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Bachelor of Science?

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: No. No, Mr. McGoff,  
2 bullshit. That's what it stands for.  
3 That's exactly what it stands for. You  
4 asked, I gave you the answer. You can sit  
5 up there and laugh and smile all you want  
6 and you can go to your baseball games, but  
7 you know what, the people are watching and  
8 the people know, and you can shuffle your  
9 papers every night like you do at the city  
10 council meetings. You know, that's a sign  
11 of immaturity. Very much. It's a sign of  
12 immaturity that you questioned my report  
13 card from 49 years ago, Mr. McGoff.

14 Let's talk about your report card.  
15 Give me a some of the accomplishments that  
16 you and Mayor Chris Doherty have had since  
17 you have been on city council? He appointed  
18 you. You never got a job on your own.  
19 Every job you had ever had was an  
20 appointment. School teacher, official score  
21 keeper of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Red  
22 Barons, all political appointment jobs and  
23 then the job at city council, political  
24 appointment. Shake your head, make your  
25 faces, embarrass yourself all of you want.



1           You are the one who came into this meeting  
2           late by 70 minutes with no excuse except you  
3           went to your grandson's baseball game.

4                       Well, I hope your grandson played  
5           well, I hope he had a good game, and I hope  
6           -- by the way, are a member of the American  
7           Legion?

8                       MR. MCGOFF: No.

9                       MR. JACKOWITZ: Why not?

10                      MR. MCGOFF: Never joined? I don't  
11           know.

12                      MR. JACKOWITZ: No, you can't join  
13           because you never were in the military  
14           unless you wanted to be --

15                      MR. MCGOFF: All right.

16                      MR. JACKOWITZ: So you don't know  
17           the answers to anything. Last week you  
18           didn't know the answer that the pool fees  
19           were up to \$5 a day and you are in charge of  
20           that, okay? Yeah, you are the chairperson  
21           for DPW and Parks and Recreation and you  
22           didn't know they raised the pool fees \$5?

23                      You know, you can't sit there, you  
24           are exposed. Everybody knows who you are  
25           and what you are and you can look at your

1 watch and play with your wrist and smile and  
2 give those silly grins and those stupid  
3 faces all you want, shuffle your papers, I  
4 can imagine what it was like to be in one of  
5 your classes. I imagine students came in  
6 any time they wanted, that they could be  
7 late for any class, they could sit there  
8 smiling and chew gum and laugh because  
9 that's what you do as an adult and  
10 supposedly a scholarly one because you got a  
11 scholarship.

12 I failed, and you know what, it  
13 didn't bother me back then 49 years ago and  
14 it doesn't bother me right now, Mr. McGoff,  
15 you know why, because I have had a  
16 successful life and no one has ever given me  
17 anything. Ever job you ever got was a  
18 political appointment.

19 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who  
20 cares to address council? And before  
21 Mrs. Schumacher speaks, I had not been in  
22 council chambers for all of Mr. Jackowitz's  
23 comments, however, I think as I entered I  
24 may have heard some language that is  
25 inappropriate, and I want to remind all of

1 the audience members that that type of  
2 language will not be tolerated.

3 Mrs. Schumacher?

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,  
5 Council. Marie Schumacher, current city  
6 resident, future resident of the Village of  
7 East Mountain. First I'd like to say I was  
8 very disappointed by the crowd that turned  
9 out or failed to turn out for yesterday's  
10 observance of Independence Day at the park.  
11 Last year was not very well-attended and  
12 this year was far worse and it was really  
13 disappointing.

14 Now, as to the Recovery Plan, I  
15 think it's -- I believe it's time that we  
16 taxpayers find out where we are going and  
17 how we are going to get there, so I would  
18 like to suggest that maybe some ground rules  
19 for a meeting between the administration and  
20 city council might be suggested.

21 First of all, I would suggest a  
22 one-on-one rather than a five-to-one. I  
23 would suggest a neutral venue, perhaps the  
24 Governor's Room since I believe ECTV could  
25 probably broadcast from there directly, and

1 I don't know that they can do that any place  
2 else. On the mediator, I would suggest that  
3 each of the parties select three willing and  
4 acceptable persons who will act as the  
5 moderator and then that being successful,  
6 that person gets to be picked from a hat by  
7 a member of the public.

8 I would further suggest that with  
9 respect to new revenue line items that year  
10 one of any new line item for a current year  
11 be used to retire debt and at the end of  
12 that year when you have a good handle on  
13 what can be gleaned from that new line item  
14 then it then be applied to reduce property  
15 taxes.

16 I think we need to tell the county  
17 that we need a reassessment and we need it  
18 sooner rather than later, assuming that the  
19 undervaluation that was produced by PEL,  
20 which I believe was from the equalization  
21 board, is we have been losing 35 percent.  
22 That alone would be worth \$5.5 million a  
23 year based on the 2012 budget.

24 You need to send an urgent letter to  
25 the Finance Committee of the House in

1 Harrisburg and tell them that we need, that  
2 Scranton needs HB 1776, the School Property  
3 Tax Independence Act, to be passed and we  
4 need it passed now. As things currently  
5 stand, we taxpayers have little control over  
6 what our government does to us with respect  
7 to taxes, but at least if it's based on a  
8 sale's tax we have control over what we buy  
9 and where we buy it and I think it's  
10 imperative that that bill get out of the  
11 Finance Committee and get passed this year  
12 and signed into law. People would be  
13 certainly not happy with the tax increase  
14 that we are going to get hit with, but at  
15 least it will be more bearable if they  
16 didn't have the -- if the granddaddy of all  
17 of the local taxes was based on sales tax  
18 revenue on the property tax.

19 I'm convinced that we need to  
20 replace our cash accounting system with an  
21 accrual accounting system where we know  
22 where we are all the time. I think the  
23 current year operating budget, obviously we  
24 are going to get a multi-year budget in the  
25 form of the Recovery Plan, but I think the

1 first year of that should be by month. As  
2 your solicitor pointed out with respect to  
3 the Parking Authority, their budget was no  
4 different really from the city's, it was  
5 just an annual fee and you just can't divide  
6 everything by 12 and say that's what's going  
7 to come in or that's what is going to go  
8 out, and if we are truly going to track and  
9 hold ourselves accountable that we say --  
10 that we collect what we need to collect and  
11 we expend only what we need to expend we  
12 need to know where those spikes are and  
13 where the valleys are, so I think -- I would  
14 rather than a month-by-month budget for the  
15 next operating year.

16 I think maybe it's time to look at  
17 regionalization as a possible option. I  
18 mean, we just -- this city's tax base cannot  
19 continue to bear the burden of all of the  
20 nonprofits -- excuse me, nonproperty tax  
21 paying entities that are in the city and if  
22 the legislature is not going to do anything  
23 to help us at least get on par with most of  
24 the other municipalities in the state then I  
25 think regionalization, although I hate to

1 see it happen, I like to keep things local,  
2 but that may be the only option to equal  
3 things out.

4 And then I would like to know if you  
5 are going to designate a day -- the day of  
6 prayer and fasting for our city, if that  
7 will be announced tonight. Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

9 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Jackie.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Chrissy.

11 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hello, Janet.

12 MS. EVANS: Hi, Chris.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: How did your hot dogs  
14 and steaks turn out?

15 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Jack, I burned  
16 them. I burned them, Jack. I burned them.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: You told me you were  
18 the best chef in West Side.

19 MR. SLEDENZSKI: I'm the best cook  
20 in the world. Jack, as far as these guys  
21 downstairs, Jackie, they are going a good  
22 job. Keep them all open. Please. Jack, do  
23 it for me. Do it for my friends down there.  
24 You know I love them. You know that. Thank  
25 you.

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: We are trying. Thank  
2 you.

3 MS. CHILIPKO: Good evening,  
4 Council. Mary Chilipko, resident and  
5 taxpayer, sadly City of Scranton. My first  
6 question, I guess Attorney Hughes answered  
7 earlier about Mr. Doherty being in contempt  
8 of Court. From my limited knowledge as a  
9 University of Scranton graduate, who I'm  
10 very disappointed in as they watch our city  
11 go bankrupt, if it were me and a judge told  
12 me to do something and I didn't I think I  
13 know where I would be, what do they call it,  
14 the Stone Wall Motel in the 1200 of North  
15 Washington Avenue.

16 And also I wanted to know, my  
17 question is has the Scranton Parking  
18 Authority, I know we were counting days at  
19 one point on the defaults, Attorney Hughes,  
20 if you could possibly do you know if they  
21 have made any progress on those default  
22 issues or, you know, will it be business as  
23 usual after the 30 days are up? If you know  
24 have any idea.

25 MR. HUGHES: I have no idea.



1 MS. CHILIPKO: Thank you.

2 MR. HUGHES: I assume that they have  
3 done nothing. I do know that the insurance  
4 company that -- for the bonds has moved and  
5 has removed Bank of New York Mellon as the  
6 trustee. There is new trustee for the bonds  
7 that has been appointed. It's Wells-Fargo.  
8 They are the same trustee that has taken  
9 over in Stockton, California, which is now  
10 bankrupt, they replaced the existing  
11 trustees out there, so I would assume, which  
12 is a bad thing for a lawyer to do, but I  
13 will assume that with the new trustee  
14 appointed it's going to be a different game  
15 show over there.

16 But about a month ago Mr. Scopelliti  
17 when he was here stated that he would submit  
18 to us a revised budget. It's been over a  
19 month and we haven't received a revised  
20 budget. So the answer is that I don't think  
21 they have done anything.

22 MS. CHILIPKO: Thank you very much  
23 because as I understand Mr. Rogan was  
24 berated for his "no" vote and when we spoke  
25 I said I hope, I think I'm saying this

1 right, I hoped that he was wrong and that  
2 they don't pull some kind of another trick  
3 and money appears magically as it has in the  
4 past. I think you all have a lot of courage  
5 to even get up there. I'm over here and I  
6 wouldn't be up there.

7 As for the woman who said that, you  
8 know, you really can't get waited on in the  
9 permits and to get dog licenses, I don't  
10 think you will see a license, they went up  
11 from \$9 to \$20 as we had spoke about  
12 earlier, so I don't think you will see a  
13 line up in that office.

14 As far as the fireworks, I don't  
15 know funding, I don't know where funding  
16 came from, but I was just asked to mention  
17 by a neighbor that possibly the city's  
18 portions of those donations, for whatever  
19 reason those people seem to make them when  
20 it's fireworks, could have been used better  
21 to maybe open more of the pools in the city  
22 that would take people through the summer  
23 rather than one night.

24 And I also had an elderly neighbor  
25 who was support of intimidated to go to the

1 event since it became a political event and  
2 not really when people have their faces out  
3 there politicians rather than like my  
4 elderly neighbor who felt a little  
5 intimidated to go down given the  
6 circumstances.

7 I think we all should, and you have  
8 probably heard it before, I think we need to  
9 look forward and in my opinion I'll look  
10 forward to next year and if you can get some  
11 citizens involved what do we need to do,  
12 because we can can't go back and forth, we  
13 can have all of this it's turned into chaos  
14 again, but I really hope it doesn't turn  
15 into I heard people say, "Let's turn out the  
16 lights, lock the doors and leave our homes."

17 That would truly be sad. Maybe we  
18 can raise some revenue on the money that,  
19 you know, we could make a movie where if  
20 that were to happen if that were to the  
21 case. So thank you all and have a good  
22 evening. I also can see, Mr. McGoff, that  
23 you are not paying attention.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

25 MS. ROSKY: Good evening, Council.

1 Mary Ann Rosky, homeowner, taxpayer and I  
2 would like to echo the words of the previous  
3 speaker with the fireworks. I last week had  
4 mentioned that hopefully the city will not  
5 have the fireworks because of the financial  
6 straights that we are in right now, and  
7 would like to see even a pool be opened  
8 besides Nay Aug, so I don't know where that  
9 money came from for the fireworks. I don't  
10 know if the one at the courthouse was, you  
11 know, provided by the county or it was just  
12 Nay Aug that the city paid for, does anybody  
13 know where that money came from for the ones  
14 at Nay Aug and who paid for the ones at the  
15 courthouse? No? Okay.

16 Well, I think we have reached a time  
17 in our lives right now where all of the  
18 taxpayers what we can do now, I guess, is  
19 first of all believe what you hear from the  
20 council. Anybody watching at home do not  
21 believe the Times, do not believe the news  
22 that the mayor goes on there to say his side  
23 of the story, which is always incorrect.  
24 It's not council who refused to meet with  
25 the mayor, it's the mayor that has not come

1           forth. Please, please, please, there has to  
2           be a way, file a petition, whatever we have  
3           to do, to get the mayor here, and if people  
4           are allowed to come, fine. If not, it could  
5           be the five members of the council and the  
6           mayor and have it televised, just so we know  
7           when it will happen. That's the only thing  
8           that we can do right now is find a way, I  
9           don't know, Attorney Hughes, is there a way  
10          that we can kind of drag him out without  
11          dragging him, you know what I mean,  
12          physically doing it? Because I wouldn't  
13          mind physically doing it, but I don't think  
14          that could be done unless we bring him in a  
15          straight jacket.

16                   MR. HUGHES: It's called self-help.

17                   MS. ROSKY: There has to be  
18                   something that we can do to get him here and  
19                   face council and anybody who is like  
20                   watching tonight I'm sure there are people  
21                   who do watch and that's where maybe the  
22                   majority of them are if they have Comcast,  
23                   but they cannot -- they listen to the  
24                   speakers and say they find certain things  
25                   amusing when the speakers talk or whatever,

1 well, you know what, you have to finish  
2 watching the whole city council meeting.  
3 You can't just pick up and walk in another  
4 room, change the channel. You have got to  
5 listen to each and every single council  
6 member that speaks because they the answers  
7 and they speak the truth and so does GO  
8 Lackawanna, the newspaper, and I would  
9 advise people to get that on their Sunday as  
10 well as if they get the Times whatever,  
11 because that speaks the truth.

12 Now, onto something else, I see we  
13 are -- the mayor prized possession, that  
14 Scranton, Pennsylvania, wonderful world, the  
15 Bridge to Nowhere, well, face it people, we  
16 are all on it right now. We are all walking  
17 that bridge to no where, and we will only  
18 end up down the cliff, down the bridge if  
19 that hike of 78 percent tax goes up. I just  
20 found out tonight that the Sewer Authority  
21 is going to be raised and that the garbage  
22 the mayor wants of \$22 -- is it \$22 or 20  
23 whatever and 78 percent we can't do it. We  
24 can't do it.

25 The next thing that's going to

1           happen to us taxpayers, put out the arm,  
2           come with a needle, find our vein and take  
3           our blood. That's the next step. That's  
4           the next thing the mayor is going to ask us  
5           to do. We have got nothing left, and we  
6           don't have a choice right now. Most of us,  
7           I would say, most of us homeowners we either  
8           continue to pay the high taxes or we do work  
9           on our homes. There is no both. There is  
10          the one or the other so expect more blight  
11          in this city if those taxes go up. I  
12          commend you, council members, I pray for you  
13          all the time, and I hope that this will  
14          continue with what you are doing. Do not  
15          give into this man. He always -- he thinks  
16          the money is coming. I don't know where he  
17          thinks he is dealing with previous council.  
18          It's time for him to get serious and be  
19          real. This is not the previous councils,  
20          this is you guys and you mean business, and  
21          the mayor has got to know that and I think  
22          you are doing a good job of it, but he won't  
23          let it sound that way.

24                        So, Mrs. Evans, with you providing  
25                        documentation to the Times and GO

1 Lackawanna, I thought that weeks ago that  
2 something has to be in writing so that if  
3 the mayor says something that you will have  
4 in writing what was actually said, because  
5 the Times-Tribune and the media don't get  
6 it. They just don't get it. So pass one  
7 out to everyone if something is said and  
8 have them correct themselves, because to me  
9 it's all defamation of character on council.

10 And also I did want to know if I  
11 recall back in -- I'll come back next week.  
12 Thank you.

13 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening.  
14 Nelson Ancherani, resident and taxpayer,  
15 exercising my First Amendment Right, voicing  
16 my opinion.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

18 MR. ANCHERANI: Where is the beef?  
19 Better yet, where is the money? Since 2002,  
20 when this administration took office with a  
21 \$3 million surplus from the Connors'  
22 administration, between borrowing and the  
23 loans and budget holes, the city took in  
24 over a billion dollars. That's a billion  
25 dollars. Where did we spend a billion



1           dollars in 11 years and now have a deficit  
2           of \$5 million. A billion dollars is a lot  
3           of money to now have that deficit. Now that  
4           we are bailing out the Scranton Parking  
5           Authority our long-term debt is \$400 million  
6           plus, 300 of ours is the city's, 100 is  
7           theirs, the Parking Authority's and my  
8           question and since we are the tax office  
9           under Mary Lynn Vitali Flynn found \$12.2  
10          million and the Scranton Parking Authority  
11          found or had an account with over \$3 million  
12          in it. Are there other accounts out there?  
13          Me, I have to believe there are. I can't  
14          help believing that.

15                         Now, the city says they don't have  
16          the money to pay full payrolls, even though  
17          they have to pay them according to a judge.  
18          They say they only have \$300,000 to pay the  
19          minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, if I remember  
20          correctly \$5 million was borrowed a number  
21          of times from the Workers' Comp Fund to pay  
22          previous years bills, why can't they be done  
23          now? You didn't know it was borrowed from  
24          the fund at those times, no one told you.  
25          They didn't mention the fund they are

1 borrowing from that now, they don't mention  
2 it at all. Why? Maybe they want a Recovery  
3 Plan in place so they can borrow money, are  
4 they using that as an excuse?

5 It was brought up by someone last  
6 week that there was no plan since 2005 and  
7 the banks loaned the city money. They were  
8 able to borrow. Why now that we can't?

9 The fireworks, I know it's  
10 repetition, someone paid for them. They  
11 were two nights of fireworks, one on Sunday  
12 night at Nay Aug and one Tuesday a  
13 courthouse square, we are asking did the  
14 city pay for the fireworks at either or  
15 both? But we have to remember these famous  
16 words, money has to come from somewhere. We  
17 know who said that, but don't worry more and  
18 more people are waking up, more and more  
19 people are coming here. They are not going  
20 to take the bait. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

22 MR. MARTIN: Good evening. Bob  
23 Martin, 420 Adams Avenue. I would like to  
24 recognize Councilman McGoff and Mr. Rogan  
25 and Councilwoman Evans, Councilman Rogan --

1 Councilman Joyce, I'll get it right, and  
2 Councilman Loscombe. I haven't been here  
3 the last couple of weeks because I was in  
4 the hospital, I was having breathing  
5 problems so my lungs were filling up with  
6 fluid, so I'm feeling a lot better now, I  
7 feel like a new guy. The question I want --  
8 well, I want to make a comment about the  
9 fireworks, I think they were great. I know  
10 part of the reasons why they had them  
11 downtown was because of the stadium being  
12 tore down, but I hope they continue to have  
13 the fireworks downtown because I'll tell you  
14 when those fireworks are going off they were  
15 just bouncing off all of the buildings and  
16 like echoing and it was great, and I think  
17 they were a lot of the booms and a lot of  
18 bangs and compared to some fireworks they  
19 were great.

20 And I congratulate vice-president  
21 Joe Biden for being here. That's the first  
22 time I ever met a vice-president, I mean, I  
23 wasn't real close, but I will give him  
24 credit he really didn't -- you know, there  
25 was comments making that he coming here for

1 politics, he didn't really politic, he  
2 talked about his family and stuff like that,  
3 and I agree with that and there was a  
4 question that whether or not the city has to  
5 pay for it, but I think I saw it on TV that  
6 the Obama administration is paying for it  
7 because it wasn't an official visit, I don't  
8 know if that's true or not, and if that's  
9 the case that's good because I know the city  
10 is in dire straights.

11 Talk about dire straights, the  
12 street out here in the 500 block of Mulberry  
13 Street reminds me of the way the city is. I  
14 don't understand why that hasn't been paved.  
15 It's the only street down this way. Why?  
16 Does anybody know where it hasn't been  
17 paved? I mean, it doesn't make sense. I  
18 mean, you know, three or four days I have  
19 gone by, but, you know, as I come up here I  
20 usually -- usually when I talk if I don't  
21 have anything good to say I don't say  
22 anything at all. I don't like to down  
23 anybody. I know, you know, it's a tough job  
24 up there and I know, Councilman McGoff, you  
25 are doing the best job you can do and I

1 appreciate you for serving on council, okay,  
2 and everyone else, and also for Attorney  
3 Hughes, Nancy and Jamie, they are all doing  
4 a good job. Thank you.

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

7 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.  
8 MOTIONS.

9 MS. EVANS: Mr. McGoff, do you have  
10 any comments or motions?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Please. I'll try and  
12 be very brief. I know over the past couple  
13 of weeks we very been talking about the  
14 problems facing the city. I thick we are  
15 looking at two interrelated issues and the  
16 first and most immediate one is a cash flow  
17 crisis. If we are going to be looking at  
18 questions about payroll and vendors and so  
19 on into the future we need to find a way of  
20 providing revenue to the city. Right now  
21 what was in the budget is, and I'm not  
22 trying to blame anybody, but right now we  
23 are looking at the unfunded debt and some  
24 other things that we weren't -- isn't being  
25 realized and we need to do something to

1            hopefully fill this void so that we can pay  
2            our bills, so we can pay our employees. It  
3            just seems that we have been relying on the  
4            banking community to somehow resolve the  
5            issue for us.

6                       And we have also been talking about  
7            a Recovery Plan that the banking community  
8            wants us to have, and so the long range  
9            problem of the Recovery Plan is having I  
10           think a very negative effect on the short  
11           range crisis that we face. I don't know how  
12           we resolve it. I'm very happy to see from  
13           e-mails that I have seen, even from the  
14           newspaper article that it seems as though we  
15           are finally at the point where we are  
16           talking numbers for the Recovery Plan. I  
17           think that's a step forward and I think in  
18           the past we are trying to look at placing  
19           blame, but now at least we are getting down  
20           to the issue of, you know, what numbers can  
21           we put into a Recovery Plan, what numbers  
22           can we agree to.

23                      Hopefully we can resolve some of  
24           that over -- in a short period of time and  
25           put together something that's reasonably

1 acceptable to everyone. I know one of the  
2 stumbling -- or one of the issues is the  
3 estimate on the commuter tax. I think that  
4 council's recommendation was something like  
5 \$4 million and the administration had it at  
6 \$1.4, and I believe our \$4 million estimate  
7 was based on a study done by PEL; am I  
8 correct?

9 MR. JOYCE: A study provided to PEL.

10 MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry?

11 MR. JOYCE: A study provided to PEL  
12 by an outside group.

13 MR. MCGOFF: I would just wondering  
14 if we could somehow send a letter to PEL or  
15 that group who conducted the study to just  
16 get verification that that was, in fact, an  
17 estimate that we could rely on. Would  
18 anyone be opposed to doing that? If we can  
19 ask Mrs. Krake if we could find a -- you  
20 know, send a letter to PEL and possibly to  
21 the company that conducted that study, just  
22 to verify that those numbers are, in fact,  
23 accurate and that they are reliable and  
24 that, again, we were put -- it's put into  
25 the Recovery Plan something that the banking

1 community or whoever is looking at it will  
2 see that it has some credibility.

3 I think what we need now is a  
4 solution. We need a solution to our  
5 immediate crisis. We do not -- I don't know  
6 what the result of, you know, tomorrow's  
7 Court hearing will be, perhaps, I heard  
8 Attorney Hughes speaking about it, but I  
9 think people should be paid, but we need to  
10 get money in order to pay them, and I think  
11 that we need to expedite any solution that  
12 we can in order to bring about some fiscal  
13 solvency for the short term and then work on  
14 the long-term solution for the Recovery  
15 Plan.

16 And, as I said, I'm optimistic that  
17 since we are now moving into talking about  
18 the numbers that we will move forward and we  
19 can have some plan acceptable in the very  
20 near future. And that's all. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman  
22 Rogan, do you have comments or motions?

23 MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. I  
24 actually had two motions, but one of them  
25 has already been addressed, as most people



1 in the audience know I have been a staunch  
2 proponent of meeting throughout the month of  
3 August and I'm glad to hear that council  
4 will be meeting throughout August this year.

5 And my second motion I would like to  
6 make a motion instructing Mayor Doherty to  
7 withhold compensation for members of city  
8 council until the current cash crisis is  
9 resolved.

10 MS. EVANS: We have a motion on the  
11 floor, is there a second?

12 MR. MCGOFF: I'll second it.

13 MR. ROGAN: On the question,  
14 obviously, a lot of the city employees are  
15 severely hurting by taking minimum wage and  
16 the mayor had made comments on TV that it  
17 would be up to council to act on what we  
18 would be doing with our salaries, I believe  
19 it was WNEP where he made those comments. I  
20 am fine with not cashing my check, but I  
21 believe that as a body we should go without  
22 pay until the current crisis is resolved, so  
23 that is why I made the motion.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the question,  
25 I will be receiving no pay at that point.

1 As we know, my pension was taken off me, I'm  
2 only surviving right now on my city council  
3 pay. Yes, I am willing to give it up, but,  
4 you know, I will be applying for food stamps  
5 I believe.

6 MS. EVANS: And, Mr. Rogan, you have  
7 a federal job; is that correct?

8 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

9 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else on  
10 the question? All those in favor signify by  
11 saying aye.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

14 MS. EVANS: Opposed?

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

16 MS. EVANS: No.

17 MR. JOYCE: (No audible response.)

18 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it, I  
19 believe, do they not.

20 MR. ROGAN: Can we ask for a roll  
21 call?

22 MR. MCGOFF: Fine.

23 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

25 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

5 MR. JOYCE: No.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

7 MS. EVANS: No. The motion did not  
8 pass. However, I think it's important to  
9 understand that city council's pay has been  
10 cut to \$7.25. Our solicitor's pay has been  
11 cut to \$7.25. Our chief clerk, the city  
12 clerk, her salary has been cut as has Ms.  
13 Marciano and Ms. Carrera.

14 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mrs. Evans.  
15 Moving onto another issue, I lost my train  
16 of thought. Getting back to that issue, I  
17 will withhold cashing my checks until the  
18 cash crisis is taken care of.

19 Secondly, on other issues of  
20 finances, I have heard from police officers  
21 that have been performing extra duty, and  
22 for those that aren't familiar with how  
23 extra duty works is if there is a private  
24 entity that would like a Scranton police  
25 officer there for protection they would pay

1 the City of Scranton and the City of  
2 Scranton would pay the uniformed police  
3 officers, so it's private money that it  
4 paying their salary to these they call it  
5 extra duty. For instance, I believe Maine's  
6 Food on up in Minooka they pay for a police  
7 officer for extra duty, different  
8 organizations pay for events that are going  
9 on. Unless anyone has an objection, I would  
10 like to send a letter to the mayor and the  
11 business administrator or the police chief  
12 asking if police officers that are  
13 performing extra duty will still continue to  
14 receive payment above the minimum wage.

15 I firmly believe they should. It's  
16 not taxpayer money, it is private money when  
17 they are doing extra work and I'm hopeful  
18 that the mayor isn't taking that money and  
19 raiding it to pay other bills because it  
20 should go to those police officers who are  
21 doing the extra work, so if no one has any  
22 objections, Mrs. Krake, could we send that  
23 letter? I have that in writing as well.

24 The second one, as long as nobody  
25 has any objection, is a letter to the mayor

1 and business administrator asking what the  
2 cost of vice-president Biden's visit to the  
3 city was and if they plan on sending a bill  
4 to the Obama-Biden campaign for the costs  
5 associated with the visit. And I have an  
6 article that I pulled off the Internet, now,  
7 this is from German, New Hampshire.

8 President Obama visited the town for a  
9 campaign stop and the associated costs were  
10 \$20,000. One of the town managers said,  
11 "It's the right thing to do. The campaigns,  
12 whoever the party, whatever the party should  
13 pay the costs associated with the visit."

14 I agree with this manager of the  
15 Town in New Hampshire, it should apply to  
16 not Mr. Obama and his vice-president, but  
17 Mr. Romney and whoever he selects to be his  
18 vice president and in situation actually  
19 North Carolina what wound up happening is an  
20 anonymous donor did step up and I assume was  
21 a supporter of President Obama and paid the  
22 \$20,000, so if there is a cost associated  
23 with the visit, and I know Scranton every  
24 election year is a hot place for candidates  
25 to stop by, last year I know President Obama

1 visited numerous times and the same thing  
2 with Senator McCain, and if there is a cost  
3 associated with it, it's very expensive to  
4 protect a president or a presidential  
5 candidate, so as long as there are no  
6 objections could we please send that letter  
7 as well.

8 MS. EVANS: Can we also include the  
9 clean up costs as well.

10 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely. Absolutely  
11 and that would apply not only to both  
12 candidates as well.

13 Next, a few comments and things that  
14 the speakers have mentioned. The fireworks  
15 show, I believe we sent a letter to the  
16 mayor regarding this, we haven't received a  
17 reply. Mrs. Krake, could we please send  
18 another letter to the mayor and the  
19 Recreation Authority as well asking what the  
20 costs of the firework display were and  
21 exactly who paid? I have heard, I believe  
22 the downtown fireworks was paid for by the  
23 county; is that correct, Mr. Hetman?

24 MR. HETMAN: We can find out for  
25 you, Mr. Rogan.

1 MR. ROGAN: What was that?

2 MR. HETMAN: We can bring an answer  
3 to next week's meeting.

4 MR. ROGAN: Okay, thank you, I  
5 appreciate that, and I believe the fireworks  
6 at Nay Aug were paid for by the Recreation  
7 Authority, which I'm not 100 percent sure,  
8 but I would like to see it in writing, but  
9 the bottom line is the Recreation Authority  
10 is still your money, and as a few speakers  
11 mentioned, that money could have been used  
12 to open another pool in this city or maybe  
13 for this weekend since it's going to be in  
14 the high 90's again open it up for free for  
15 everyone. I think that would have been a  
16 better investment than choosing to have two  
17 firework displays within a week. So  
18 hopefully we can get an answer on that.

19 Next, Mr. Morgan mentioned the  
20 StreetSmart plan and I know Mr. Loscombe --  
21 myself and Mr. Loscombe are going back and  
22 forth with him a little bit on that,  
23 StreetSmart is not a privatization plan by  
24 any means. I don't think any member of this  
25 board wants to sell the parking meters, any

1 of us want to lease or sell the garages, but  
2 not the meters, they are bringing in money  
3 to the city every day, and we need to --  
4 it's a meter enhancement program where we  
5 would be bringing in more money, and  
6 basically all we are doing is purchasing  
7 software from this company. It's not a  
8 privatization plan at all. It will still be  
9 operated by the city, but we can't expect  
10 our meter readers and other employees to  
11 create the software that's necessary to run  
12 this type of program, so we do have to go  
13 outside of the city and purchase it.

14 And from the meetings we had they  
15 had many plans that would be very easy for  
16 the city to pay for this because when they  
17 would put it in initially we would be  
18 getting the extra revenue along the way and  
19 out of the extra we would be paying the bill  
20 so we wouldn't have to come out-of-pocket a  
21 couple of hundred thousand dollars up front,  
22 it would be over time and it would be coming  
23 out of the increased revenue from the  
24 system.

25 Finally, the Scranton Parking



1 Authority was brought up once again and I  
2 agree with what was mentioned by a couple of  
3 speakers that I hope I'm wrong that they  
4 will be placed in receivership, I think  
5 there is a few days left. Right now it  
6 doesn't seem like there is any sign of them  
7 folding up. Mr. Scopelliti is still there,  
8 he still hasn't provided the revised budget  
9 to the city, and if the Scranton Parking  
10 Authority wasn't bailed out with a million  
11 dollars the city would have been able to  
12 make payroll this month, this week.

13 Now, for next week we would still be  
14 in the same situation but that million  
15 dollars could have come in pretty handy this  
16 week. I hope it works out that competent  
17 officials are eventually placed into the  
18 Parking Authority. I think the end goal for  
19 the majority of us on council is the same  
20 that we want it placed into receivership and  
21 we want Mr. Scopelliti out. I hope that  
22 they are not going to be back here in  
23 another two or three four months asking for  
24 more money. Personally, I don't think they  
25 should have received a cent until they

1           folded up, we had a difference of opinion on  
2           that. Hopefully moving forward it will work  
3           out, eventually they will gone and competent  
4           leaders will be placed in the Parking  
5           Authority. The city taxpayers cannot afford  
6           to pay \$100 million of Parking Authority  
7           debt on top of the increased taxes, the  
8           payroll tax and the increased fees and less  
9           services.

10                   And, finally, a few comments on the  
11           Court case and everything that's going on,  
12           the mayor has established a pattern of  
13           behavior over the last 10 years and even as  
14           a council member. He has borrowed a lot of  
15           money, he has wasted a lot of money. When  
16           he didn't get cooperation from council he  
17           would just do what he wanted. I know  
18           Mrs. Evans mentioned -- asked if the mayor  
19           called any of the union leaders to try and  
20           negotiate something before it went to Court,  
21           of course not. This is the mayor's track  
22           record. He doesn't negotiate. I don't know  
23           how the other members found out, but I did  
24           receive a call from Mr. McGowan, and I  
25           appreciate the call of him letting us know

1           that all employees would be dropped to \$7.25  
2           an hour, but he never asked, "Do you an  
3           alternative? Do you think we should try to  
4           work this out?"

5                        No, it was a call this is what we  
6           are doing. Council didn't have any input  
7           and for once the Scranton Times has actually  
8           been somewhat accurate that the mayor did do  
9           this on his own without any input from city  
10          council or union leaders or any other city  
11          employees. The mayor owns it.

12                      With the other Court cases with the  
13          union the mayor has been trying to pass the  
14          buck onto PEL and DCED, but it was his plan  
15          from day one to blame the city, city unions  
16          and specifically the public safety unions,  
17          and everyone that knows me knows I'm not a  
18          union man, but I support public safety and  
19          that's where the mayor went wrong. We need  
20          to make cuts in the city and we still do,  
21          but he made them in the wrong places at the  
22          wrong time, and that's were why we are in  
23          the spot we are in.

24                      I'm 25 years old. The mayor has  
25          been either on city council or the mayor

1 more than half of my life, but it's my fault  
2 that the city is falling in disrepair and we  
3 don't have any money because I have been on  
4 city council a little over two years, the  
5 same thing with a few of my colleagues. He  
6 has been creating budgets from council,  
7 creating budgets from the mayor's office,  
8 but yet it's city council's fault.

9 I have many differences of opinion  
10 with Mayor Doherty and how this city should  
11 be run, but I still believe at the end of  
12 the day all five members of the council and  
13 the mayor need to sit down and talk, whether  
14 it be all five of us at once or as  
15 Mrs. Schumacher mentioned one on one, each  
16 one of us going in one after another. If we  
17 have to have a mediator, that's fine, but I  
18 think we need to sit down and discuss  
19 different options. A 78 percent tax  
20 increase is never going to pass. I don't  
21 think -- I don't see how anyone could vote  
22 for it.

23 And the other idea that was brought  
24 up was to put it on the ballot for  
25 referendum. I think that's a great idea

1           because then the voters would get to shoot  
2           down the mayor's plan as well.

3                       That is all I have nor tonight, and  
4           I would just like to once again apologize  
5           for missing last week's meeting I was out of  
6           town, and I will comment on agenda items as  
7           they come up. Thank you.

8                       MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,  
9           Councilman Loscombe, do you have any  
10          comments or motions this evening?

11                      MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you, I  
12          just have a few. First of all, I would like  
13          to congratulate my nephew, Rick. His  
14          birthday is later on this week and I do want  
15          to let his father know it's time to let him  
16          get his driver's license so, to my brother,  
17          Rick, the rest of the relatives will be on  
18          your back about this. I promised this to  
19          little Rick.

20                      Speaking of birthdays, I happened to  
21          be at a gathering yesterday in Clarks Summit  
22          at my daughter and son-in-law's house, it  
23          was a combination Fourth of July party but  
24          it was my son-in-law's 30th birthday party,  
25          also, and as we got to the part with the

1 cake, you know, I was thinking about joking  
2 when they lit the candles stating that next  
3 year we would have to have the fire  
4 department on standby as you usually do, you  
5 know, when you hit a certain age with all of  
6 the candles, but I really didn't say it.

7 And lo and behold within the next  
8 few minutes a lighting storm came through  
9 and there was a loud clap of thunder and  
10 flash and we knew that the hitting hit close  
11 by and, you know, it didn't even knock the  
12 lights out for anything, but I just happened  
13 to stick -- then the rain came down  
14 torrentially and I happened to stick my head  
15 out the back door and I saw smoke billowing  
16 out of her dryer vent, and I knew it wasn't  
17 dryer smoke it was something on fire, so I  
18 told everybody to get out of the house and I  
19 had my daughter call 911 and my son-in-law  
20 grabbed a fire extinguisher and we ran down  
21 to the basement where the dryer was and the  
22 dryer hadn't even been on. That was the  
23 strange thing about it, and we went down  
24 there and I pulled the ceiling apart and  
25 there was a lot of smoke above the ceiling.

1           Apparently, the lighting hit the dryer vent  
2           and whatever lent was still in there was  
3           burning and shorted out on one of the wires,  
4           fortunately, it didn't catch any of the  
5           flooring or anything, but in the mean time  
6           there was a great response from Chinchilla  
7           and Clarks Summit fire departments and I'd  
8           like to thank -- and my friend was there,  
9           Chief Quinn and Chief Connolly from both  
10          departments and their men for their quick  
11          response. You know, we have worked together  
12          many times, I have met with them on  
13          different occasions and they do a lot of  
14          training with our guys so they are all  
15          professionals in their own right, and they  
16          did handle the situation professionally and  
17          made sure there was no extension and I did  
18          want to send out a shout out and a thank you  
19          to them for, you know, their quick response  
20          on a holiday like that and making sure  
21          everything was in order.

22                         And, fortunately, you know, all I  
23          have to do is replace the dryer vent for  
24          her, so that was a blessing, but to my  
25          surprise when I looked out the back door I

1           said, "Uh-oh." It's been awhile since I  
2 handled that stuff.

3                       But just to go further on -- oh,  
4 also, Mrs. Krake, all she's not there, I'll  
5 pass this information onto her, I believe it  
6 was a week or two ago in the newspaper that  
7 the state was supposed to repair the problem  
8 on Robinson Street in West Side. We have  
9 two access roads from downtown, to West Side  
10 closed for a period of time now. The West  
11 Linden Street Bridge, I was assured that  
12 they were putting the bids out this month to  
13 have that done. Now, I want to get a  
14 timetable so I'm going to contact PennDOT  
15 and check that out, but Robinson Street in  
16 West Side they said the state was going to  
17 repair it I believe it was over ten days ago  
18 and nothing has been done yet, the road is  
19 still blocked off, so I'd like to request  
20 some information on that, also.

21                       Back to the situation that the city  
22 faces here. You know, it's no secret, I  
23 don't know how to clarify is, people keep  
24 saying, "Meet with the mayor. Meet with the  
25 mayor." We have all met I think



1 individually with him. Individually you get  
2 no where. Individually it's your word  
3 against his word. I don't -- I mean, the  
4 only way we are going to resolve this is  
5 meet with the mayor in mass. He is the  
6 mayor, we are the council, we got to meet  
7 with him together. I mean, no questions  
8 from the audience or anything, we have to  
9 deal with this ourselves, that's fine with  
10 me, but, you know, we have always been open  
11 to meeting with the mayor. I know we have  
12 all met with different times and different  
13 periods with him personally on issues, but  
14 nothing is being accomplished that way.

15 If he is serious about this  
16 situation he has to meet with us. He has to  
17 meet for you. I don't know understand it.  
18 You know, we can says it's the blame game,  
19 we are blaming him and he is blaming us, you  
20 know, one of our speakers brought it up,  
21 but, you know, an audit for what's going on  
22 since this administration has been in  
23 office. I think that's great idea. I'm  
24 curious, can we include an audit in the  
25 Recovery Plan for the last ten years or

1           whatever to find out where the money has  
2           been going then I'll be happen to take the  
3           blame if it's council's fault. Let us know  
4           where that money has gone the last ten, 12  
5           years.

6                       MR. ROGAN: That's a great idea.

7                       MR. LOSCOMBE: But I think we should  
8           include that in a Recovery Plan and then PEL  
9           and DCED, everybody will know why were we  
10          are in the hole we are in. I mean, it only  
11          makes sense. Is that something that I  
12          should bring as a motion or can we agree to  
13          include that in our Recovery Plan or I don't  
14          know what the proper procedure is?

15                      MS. EVANS: I believe that  
16          because -- well, first let's make the motion  
17          and get the agreement of council.

18                      MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, I see, I should  
19          -- I would like to make a motion that we  
20          include an audit for this current  
21          administration's time in office as mayor as  
22          part of our Recovery Plan.

23                      MR. ROGAN: Second.

24                      MS. EVANS: On the question?

25                      MR. MCGOFF: I don't even -- we

1 don't necessarily need a motion to do that,  
2 I don't think. We can put anything in there  
3 that we want.

4 MS. EVANS: Exactly, and that's what  
5 would be coming next, but --

6 MR. MCGOFF: We haven't done a  
7 motion on anything else that we have  
8 requested, you know, for the Recovery Plan,  
9 so I don't disagree with that, I just think  
10 it's, you know, an unnecessary vote to take  
11 or an unnecessary motion.

12 MS. EVANS: Anyone else?

13 MR. ROGAN: I would just say I agree  
14 100 percent with Mr. Loscombe, and I'd like  
15 to know exactly where every penny was spent  
16 for the last, ten, 12 years, every eraser  
17 accounted for, every pencil, every piece of  
18 paper to find out where the money has been  
19 going. We know where much of it has been  
20 going and where it's going to go, to  
21 arbitration awards, to pay back debt and  
22 borrowing, but all of the small things add  
23 up and they all need to be watched.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: And again, if this  
25 audit proves it was our fault, I'll gladly

1 take the blame, but I'm not going to  
2 continued to be watched on TV and hear watch  
3 bloggers and listen to radio stations  
4 accusing of us of being the problem,  
5 accusing of us, especially one of the radio  
6 commentators is calling us inept. I may not  
7 have a master's degree, I know my colleagues  
8 have much more education than me, I have a  
9 lot of life experience. I know what it's  
10 like living in Scranton, I have lived here  
11 all my life, I can make the right decisions.  
12 We elected a businessman to run this city  
13 and where are we now? So he can call me as  
14 inept as he wants, and we all know who I'm  
15 speaking about, our governor's namesake,  
16 but, you know, he can say all he wants over  
17 the airwaves, but we are not inept. We have  
18 been working for you.

19 If we were here maybe eight years  
20 ago in mass like this maybe we wouldn't have  
21 been in this point, but we finally stopped  
22 the buck, and I'm not afraid to take the  
23 blame if it is our blame, but I know we only  
24 been working hard to take the pressure off  
25 the taxpayers and to work within our

1 confines and to provide the adequate public  
2 safety that you deserve.

3 And Mr. Rogan said this mayor has  
4 shown a pattern, he has shown a pattern from  
5 the day he came into office of fighting  
6 against public safety. He has turned back  
7 \$3 1/2 to protect you that was given to us  
8 free, but yet he won't turn back \$5,000 for  
9 a park. It's amazing. I don't know where  
10 his priorities are and I don't know many  
11 times we have to sit here and explain to you  
12 because you don't read it properly in the  
13 media.

14 MS. EVANS: Well, Mr. Loscombe, I  
15 think what we have at play is, you know, if  
16 you repeat a story often enough, you make a  
17 statement often enough and you do it through  
18 the newspaper and news channels, people are  
19 going to believe it and that's,  
20 unfortunately, what happened in a lot of  
21 European nations when there was, you know, a  
22 newspaper that was working with the leader  
23 in power and information was kept from the  
24 people and, you know, whatever propaganda  
25 was perpetrated it was repeated and repeated

1 and repeated until everyone believed it, and  
2 that's basically what we have going on here.

3 But I think the only thing I wanted  
4 to add is I feel you may actually need a  
5 forensic audit.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: That's correct.

7 MS. EVANS: Rather than your typical  
8 audit in that there is so much to be  
9 uncovered. For example, even in terms of  
10 the health care we have never even gotten to  
11 the bottom of any of those situations. I  
12 know, for example, going back through the  
13 years we were paying I believe for  
14 individuals who had died.

15 So there is so much to be uncovered  
16 that I believe it's going to be a lengthy  
17 process probably a costly process, but  
18 certainly one that is worthy, more than  
19 worthy.

20 MR. ROGAN: I also think it needs to  
21 be determined whether the pensions of  
22 Mr. Pocius and Mr. Hazzouri are legal. I  
23 know that was a hot button member when they  
24 were council members.

25 MS. EVANS: That was determined in

1 Court. The Courts ruled in their favor that  
2 they could keep their pensions, and everyone  
3 before them.

4 MR. ROGAN: It seems that it may be  
5 a conflict, I know Mr. Loscombe has his  
6 situation with his pension, but Mr. Pocius  
7 is on the city payroll through his company  
8 at CECCO Associates collecting a pension and  
9 receiving contracts through the city, so I  
10 think that's something that also needs to be  
11 look at as well.

12 MS. EVANS: Now, if there is nothing  
13 else on the question --

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: I apologize, because  
15 I got back into my dialogue.

16 MS. EVANS: I know. I know, but I  
17 just wanted to make sure that we vote before  
18 you finish. Anyone else on the question?  
19 All those in favor of introduction signify  
20 by 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 and that will be  
2 included in the council's spreadsheet.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you. And just  
4 a couple more items on this whole -- to  
5 clarify again. City council passed an  
6 ordinance for the borrowing of the unfunded  
7 debt of \$9.85 million. We also provided a  
8 tax increase to cover that, that was outside  
9 of the Recovery Plan. It makes no sense to  
10 me why the administration who had an  
11 agreement from M & T isn't proceeding with  
12 this. That's all they require, the tax  
13 increase and the ordinance.

14 MR. MCGOFF: M & T withdrew from it.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: They withdrew from  
16 it --

17 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: But we had the  
19 agreement prior to that, and what I believe  
20 is, it's what I believe, they might have  
21 been talked out of it until there is a  
22 Recovery Plan. Since 2005, as I stated  
23 before, we have a Recovery Plan that's been  
24 expired but every year there has been  
25 millions borrowed. Millions borrowed



1 without question of a Recovery Plan or a new  
2 Recovery Plan. I wish someone can explain  
3 to me why all of a sudden we have to have a  
4 Recovery Plan as part of this. This was  
5 outside of the Recovery Plan. Wasn't this  
6 part of it?

7 MR. MCGOFF: Were you at the  
8 meetings with the banking community?  
9 Mr. Joyce was I know that I attended and  
10 they said at those meetings they would like  
11 to see a Recovery Plan.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: We do have a Recovery  
13 Plan according to what we are operating on,  
14 it's expired in 2005.

15 MR. MCGOFF: You are misconstruing.

16 MS. EVANS: No, I think his question  
17 is, if I'm hearing you correctly, why was it  
18 never a requirement previous to this?

19 MR. MCGOFF: That's something you  
20 would have to ask the banks. They are the  
21 ones that stated it.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, I think if a  
23 bank doesn't take this opportunity when we  
24 have the money to back this loan is missing  
25 the boat, and I think any bank that wants to

1 cooperate with the city in the future we  
2 should push that bank, but if any of them  
3 want to turn their back on us now we should  
4 make sure they are known, too, and it's a  
5 disappointment. I know that M & T has the  
6 backing here of the tax dollars and they  
7 were going to agree to it and now they are  
8 backing away.

9 MR. HUGHES: Mr. Loscombe, if I  
10 could, three weeks ago after this statement  
11 was made I called Dennis Kozalanski, who is  
12 bond counsel for the City of Scranton. I  
13 told him specifically the exact statement  
14 that you just made and for him to  
15 investigate it because that loan for \$9.85  
16 million has absolutely nothing to do with  
17 the Recovery Plan. What they did is that  
18 they linked, and this was M & T and bond  
19 counsel, linked together that borrowing  
20 which should be independent and totally  
21 independent of the other borrowing, but they  
22 commingled it. They put them together.  
23 They can easily separate it. In three weeks  
24 I haven't heard back from them, so I don't  
25 know why, but that's been asked to bond

1           counsel, asked to M & T and should proceed  
2           with that because it has nothing to do with  
3           a Recovery Plan. You are right. But nobody  
4           has responded in three weeks.

5                   MR. MCGOFF: I would assume that if  
6           nobody responded no one is interested.

7                   MR. HUGHES: Well, it's a sure  
8           thing. I mean, there is absolutely no  
9           gamble.

10                   MR. LOSCOMBE: There is no  
11           difference between this --

12                   MR. HUGHES: There a Court order and  
13           council has adopted it and so, I mean,  
14           somebody obviously is trying to link  
15           together the Recovery Plan to a borrowing  
16           that has nothing to do with the Recovery  
17           Plan. It's totally independent of it, so  
18           there is collusion going on. The city  
19           couldn't get money until they adopt the  
20           Recovery Plan. It's that simple.

21                   MR. MCGOFF: It's not that simple.

22                   MR. HUGHES: You add two and two and  
23           you get four.

24                   MR. MCGOFF: It's not that simple.

25                   MR. HUGHES: Well, I'm a simple guy.

1 I started working on the docks at a \$1.25 an  
2 hour, so I'm going getting five times as  
3 much now as when I started working on the  
4 docks when I became a Teamster, and I'm a  
5 card carrying Teamster, and I worked my way  
6 through college and law school by working on  
7 the docks and driving truck, so to me it's  
8 simple. I'm a simple guy from West Side,  
9 and I'm not a council member.

10 MR. MCGOFF: If it were that simple  
11 then why aren't the banks responding?

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: I think it was just  
13 clarified.

14 MR. HUGHES: It's so simple it's  
15 obvious. There is collusion going on. In  
16 the event for the city to get money until  
17 they adopt a Recovery Plan.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Remember --

19 MS. EVANS: We don't like to use  
20 those words because we are all just  
21 imagining these things, just like we  
22 imagined newspapers that don't report goes  
23 on, just like we imagined radio stations  
24 that don't want to tell the truth about what  
25 goes on, and some television stations

1           because they are all owned by the same  
2           newspaper. We all are imagining this I  
3           suppose.

4                       MR. ROGAN: I would just add, I  
5           apologize, Mr. Loscombe, for jumping in  
6           again, and I agree with what Attorney Hughes  
7           said it is -- to me it seems simple as well  
8           and I didn't support the unfunded debt, but  
9           if I was a banker or even as a common man if  
10          somebody asked me for a \$100 and they said  
11          they were guaranteed \$10 a year or \$11 a  
12          year actually for the next ten years and  
13          it's guaranteed money coming in by the  
14          taxpayers I would jump at that I think.  
15          Now, I don't know, if I was a banker I would  
16          jump on it in a heartbeat.

17                      Just like the same situation with  
18          the first TAN it was done through the --  
19          using the lockbox method from with the tax  
20          office, it was guaranteed money. There was  
21          no way that money could have been moved  
22          around. It was guaranteed to come in and  
23          pay the TAN off. The unfunded debt could be  
24          done the same way, and by reading the  
25          e-mails I know Mr. Joyce and Mr. McGowan,

1           they are going back and forth, I think, as I  
2           said before, Mr. McGowan and the  
3           administration they need a civics lesson.  
4           It is not the job of the legislative branch  
5           of government to also be the executive  
6           branch of government. We pass laws, they  
7           execute them. That's how the system works.  
8           You don't see the Congress and the Senate  
9           going out trying to execute the laws that  
10          the president should be executing. That's  
11          why the system is setup this way.

12                     The mayor can't pass legislation,  
13                     council can't execute the legislation.  
14                     That's why you have the two branches of  
15                     government. The mayor and Mr. McGowan don't  
16                     seem to understand that. Mr. McGowan  
17                     mentioned in those e-mails that council  
18                     should reach out to --

19                     MR. LOSCOMBE: The banks.

20                     MR. ROGAN: -- different banks and  
21                     vendors. The job of council is to make  
22                     laws. It is the job of the administration,  
23                     whoever it may be, Mayor Connors, Mayor  
24                     Doherty, the next mayor, to put it into  
25                     motion. That's how government works. It's

1 very simple. And again, I apologize for  
2 taking your time, Mr. Loscombe.

3 MR. MCGOFF: I'd just like to  
4 respond, Mr. McGowan, did give us a list of  
5 all of the banks and all of the people he  
6 was in contact with and not one of them is  
7 responsive to our request.

8 MS. EVANS: He sent them an e-mail.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Okay. And he had been  
10 in contact with every one of those banks  
11 since January and yet we are not --

12 MS. EVANS: Those banks are all part  
13 of a consortium.

14 MR. MCGOFF: And all he did was ask  
15 us if we had a better idea, if we had a  
16 better way of dealing with it, go ahead and  
17 contact them.

18 MR. ROGAN: When you looking for  
19 either -- as an individual if you are  
20 looking for a home loan you don't send an  
21 e-mail out to a bank. That's what they are  
22 doing. When you need a car loan you don't  
23 send an e-mail out, you go there and present  
24 your -- you know, you have a credit score  
25 and different things how are going to pay it

1 back, that's what the administration should  
2 be done. They should be administering the  
3 laws that are passed. It seems very basic  
4 to me whether -- and, as I said before, I  
5 didn't vote for it, but it seems very simple  
6 to me how it should be administered. You go  
7 to bankers to try to get the loan, you do  
8 whatever it takes to administer the laws  
9 that have been passed. It was passed by  
10 council, it was signed by the mayor. At  
11 that point council's responsibility is over.  
12 It is not job of the city council or any  
13 legislative branch of the government to go  
14 out and execute laws.

15 MS. EVANS: And I think --

16 MR. ROGAN: It's very basic.

17 MS. EVANS: I think the ultimate  
18 irony in this situation is that a Recovery  
19 Plan, a revised Recovery Plan, the 2005,  
20 they are meaningless. They are worthless.  
21 They are nothing more than a collection of  
22 projections. Some based on historical  
23 trends, some not. How many times have  
24 Recovery Plan plans been violated in the  
25 last 20 years? Time and after time after



1           time each mayor has selected what he could  
2           use from it, and what he thought he didn't  
3           agree with so he just ignored it altogether  
4           and did what he wanted, and this mayor has  
5           even said, "Just get one together and pass  
6           it, you don't have to actually do it or  
7           listen to it."

8                         And I believe him when he says that  
9           because that's exactly what he did the last  
10          time, and if banks, forgive the language,  
11          are banking on a Recovery Plan as evidence  
12          that they are going to get their money, my  
13          goodness, you know, good luck to you because  
14          it's nothing more than a worthless document  
15          and for some reason PEL and DCED they have  
16          wanted this now since this council got in  
17          and they kept pushing and pushing and  
18          pushing for it and we kept pushing back.  
19          And they finally found their opening,  
20          Mr. McGoff, it was with the finances and  
21          they figured, "Ooh, here it is. Here is the  
22          way we keep our control and we keep PEL  
23          employed," because God knows they haven't  
24          earned their wages over these 20 years, and  
25          so they decide, "Um-hum, we are going to let

1           those banks know."

2                     DCED and PEL, boy, we -- you know,  
3           you know how we'll get your money? We  
4           guarantee it through a revised Recovery  
5           Plan, and you put that into every term sheet  
6           there is and make that council do it and we  
7           guarantee you will get the money.

8                     And here is another really, you  
9           know, questionable statement. DCED has  
10          said, "Oh, get that revised Recovery Plan,  
11          we'll go right to the bank the next day."

12                    Allen Walker said this to me,  
13          Pennsylvania's secretary of DCED, "We'll go  
14          to the bank the next day and get you the  
15          money."

16                    You know what that says to me? Made  
17          me at least come up with a question, really?  
18          And who is telling them not to give us the  
19          money?

20                    MR. MCGOFF: I think the irony is  
21          that we included \$16.5 million worth of  
22          borrowing in our budget --

23                    MS. EVANS: At the request of the  
24          administration, yes.

25                    MR. MCGOFF: No.

1 MS. EVANS: Yes.

2 MR. MCGOFF: That was not in the  
3 budget, it was not in the mayor's budget  
4 but --

5 MS. EVANS: The refinancing was not  
6 in the mayor's budget, and I have  
7 legislation here that was sent from the  
8 mayor for unfunded debt borrowing before his  
9 proposed budget came out and he wanted the  
10 money then. He still wanted the money at  
11 budget time --

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, he did.

13 MS. EVANS: And I've got e-mails  
14 from him and I've got signed documents, so,  
15 Mr. McGoff, maybe you weren't involved in it  
16 quite the same way we are because I know you  
17 operate differently as a council member --

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: He is at a baseball  
19 game eating hot dogs.

20 MS. EVANS: Excuse me, it's a  
21 discussion among council.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Well, it's ironic that  
23 we included the borrowing and now we are  
24 accusing the people that we need to get the  
25 borrowing from we are accusing them of

1 collusion so good luck in that --

2 MS. EVANS: And we quickly  
3 cooperated for the first time based on all  
4 of the cries to cooperate and we did and we  
5 included what was asked of us and no good  
6 deed goes unpunished, Mr. McGoff, because  
7 now suddenly because the mayor says so it  
8 became our budget. Selective memory. Very  
9 selective.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: All I could add to  
11 that, I agree with everything Mrs. Evans  
12 said here. I mean, you see what's going on  
13 here and we have people saying  
14 supermajority. I happen to agree that 99  
15 percent of the time with maybe the majority  
16 of my colleagues here, that's because I see  
17 what's going on here, you know, in 2 1/2  
18 years here what has happened to me  
19 personally and I see what's going on in this  
20 city, I am disgusted. Trust me. Politics  
21 at its lowest, and they will do anything  
22 they can to come out ahead. I have been the  
23 victim, I have had family members that are  
24 the victims and all of our taxpayers are  
25 becoming the victims right now and our

1 employees.

2 What I'm saying we guaranteed that  
3 loan for the \$9.85 million with the taxes,  
4 they are telling us we need a Recovery Plan,  
5 to get this, and as Mrs. Evans stated that's  
6 just a bunch of, you know, possibilities  
7 which hasn't been followed before. It  
8 doesn't make sense. If we come up with a  
9 Recovery Plan who is to guarantee that banks  
10 are going to give us a loan after we already  
11 guaranteed them the money for the \$9.85, you  
12 know? If there is any banker out there  
13 watching this right now or hears this, if  
14 you and concern for your city you should be  
15 looking at us watching your dollars, not  
16 downstairs. That's why we are in the  
17 position we are in.

18 And that's what I want to say if we  
19 don't get any offers it only shows the  
20 banking community is enjoined here and  
21 something that's not -- does not pass the  
22 smell tells. Trust me. They are only out  
23 for their own benefit. We all for your  
24 benefit, and if the mayor wants to pursue  
25 this and keep pushing it and putting your

1 safety at risk, that's what he is doing. If  
2 I was Judge Barrasse tomorrow I would say,  
3 "You already have an agreement, you have the  
4 tax dollars to back the \$9.85 million, get  
5 to the bank right now and come back to this  
6 Court and tell me you have it."

7 That's what I would do if I was  
8 Judge Barrasse tomorrow, not pretend that we  
9 are on the precipice that we are not on.  
10 I'm sorry, I got my Irish up there. But  
11 again, his Recovery Plan was approved by  
12 DCED and PEL and it included the sewers,  
13 didn't it?

14 MS. EVANS: Yes.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Now we find out we  
16 can't put the sewers in, so there is a \$5  
17 million hole and he wants to sell the  
18 meters. No way. That's not going to  
19 happen. But, you know, he was mayor when  
20 this deal was done, that's why we need this  
21 forensic audit to find out what the heck is  
22 going on here. We discussed -- and  
23 Mrs. Evans mentioned before when she spoke  
24 to the mayor today did he speak to the  
25 unions regarding this pay cut to discuss

1 something with an agreement or whatever. He  
2 must have a short memory because he just met  
3 with the unions, I was there. The unions  
4 have saved him half of that 30 million plus  
5 award to the citizens of this city. Now, if  
6 they are willing to do that for him I'm sure  
7 his speaking to them on this issue would  
8 have worked. But you know what, I think  
9 they all know what he is up to at this  
10 point. I think everybody does, so maybe it  
11 wouldn't have helped anyway.

12 But, you know, that's basically the  
13 last thing. Mr. Rogan discussed the  
14 StreetSmart, and their excuse, again, was  
15 always, you know, there is not enough, we  
16 don't have that much money this year, that  
17 year, all of our suggestions were made 2 1/2  
18 years ago, just think how much farther ahead  
19 we would be now at this point.

20 But, again, I apologize for my  
21 frustration, but I sit on the opposite end  
22 of the dais here and I see a different view  
23 and it's not going to change until I see  
24 cooperation from downstairs. We have  
25 extended our olive branch as much as we can.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. EVANS: Mr. Joyce, do you have  
3 any comments or motions?

4 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I do. Over the  
5 past week Mr. McGowan, our business  
6 administrator, had taken the liberty to  
7 incorporate some of council's suggestions  
8 from last week's meeting into a spreadsheet  
9 and project figures for council's  
10 suggestions. Currently I'm working on  
11 verifying the accuracy of all of the figures  
12 in the spreadsheet and should have this done  
13 by sometime next week. As one knows by  
14 reading the Scranton Times article this  
15 morning, Mr. McGowan projects that we will  
16 have a deficit of \$12.5 million over three  
17 years.

18 Over the past week, along with  
19 verifying the accuracy of some of the  
20 figures, there have been some issues. A  
21 major issue was the sale of the storm water  
22 conveyance system, which I have been  
23 informed by business administrator Ryan  
24 McGowan may not be sold for \$5.4 million to  
25 the Scranton Sewer Authority. This was a



1 large part of the mayor's Recovery Plan and  
2 was intended to be a part of the council's  
3 plan as well.

4 When I asked for a reason why the  
5 storm water conveyance system was not  
6 included in the spreadsheet and why it could  
7 not be sold I was informed that the city may  
8 not own it. This is after it was a  
9 suggestion made by PEL's alternative source  
10 of revenue and was a component of the  
11 mayor's Recovery Plan. Mr. McGowan had  
12 resorted back to selling or leasing the  
13 parking meters to the Scranton Parking  
14 Authority as an alternative for council when  
15 this is something he knows that council does  
16 not support.

17 Since both the sale or lease of the  
18 parking meters to the Scranton Parking  
19 Authority, along with the sale of the storm  
20 water conveyance system are both part of the  
21 mayor's Recovery Plan, this begs the  
22 question, how valid now is the mayor's  
23 Recovery Plan, because they were both in  
24 there?

25 And now if the storm water

1 conveyance system cannot be sold this would  
2 mean that the mayor's Recovery Plan would  
3 have a large \$5.4 million hole, which would  
4 mean that the mayor's Recovery Plan would be  
5 asking taxpayers to pay an even larger  
6 amount than the 78 percent tax increase,  
7 which is absolutely ludicrous.

8 Speaking of other items in the  
9 Recovery Plan included the settlement of the  
10 police and fire Supreme Court award  
11 decision. This is approximately \$17  
12 million. This could have been a lot larger  
13 somewhere in the 30 plus million dollar  
14 range. I took a part in a few meetings  
15 which were held in the University of  
16 Scranton to help mitigate the award.  
17 However, two of my colleagues were able to  
18 participate in more meetings, being  
19 Councilwoman Evans and Councilman Loscombe.  
20 I pride them in their leadership efforts  
21 that they have shown in negotiating with the  
22 fire and the police unions to help mitigate  
23 the award.

24 As I know, if the award was not  
25 dropped down to \$17 million, the tax

1 increase that could have resulted would have  
2 been catastrophic. This could have been a  
3 result, as Mayor Doherty was insistent, of  
4 handling the unfunded debt and the  
5 refinancing before negotiating. If it were  
6 not for the efforts of the Councilwoman  
7 Evans and Councilman Loscombe, negotiation  
8 efforts could have ceased and the Supreme  
9 Court award for the police and fire could  
10 have been much higher than it is. They  
11 saved the city a great deal of money by  
12 choosing to negotiate with the police and  
13 fire unions, and I truly believe that if we  
14 were on the hook for 30 some million dollars  
15 that tax increase would be somewhere in the  
16 140 or 50 percent range.

17 In other news, the city did receive  
18 a number of checks from the Scranton Single  
19 Tax Office over the past week. Tax  
20 collector Bill Courtright submitted three  
21 checks totaling \$246,206.49. A breakdown of  
22 the checks submitted is as follows: \$15,018  
23 in 2011 delinquent real estate taxes were  
24 distribute. \$40,705.38 in business privilege  
25 and mercantile taxes were distributed, and

1           \$190,482.19 in 2012 current real estate  
2           taxes were distributed.

3                         Northeast Revenue, who collects all  
4           of the delinquent real estate taxes besides  
5           2011, which are currently being collected by  
6           the Single Tax Office, has sent us a report  
7           of funds collected and distributed as well.  
8           The period of collection for the report was  
9           for June 19 to June 30. During this  
10          timeframe Northeast Revenue collected a  
11          total of \$47,420.87. Out of this total,  
12          \$38,440.66 was distributed to the City of  
13          Scranton and eighty-nine hundred  
14          nine-hundred eighty and twenty-one cents was  
15          distributed to Pennstar Bank. The amount  
16          collected and distributed to Pennstar Bank  
17          represents the delinquent taxes collected  
18          from 2004, '5 and '6.

19                         As one may or may not know, the  
20          Scranton Redevelopment Authority defaulted  
21          on a loan taken out on the advanced sale of  
22          delinquent taxes from '04, '5 and '6. With  
23          all of this in mind, delinquent taxes from  
24          those years that are collected by Northeast  
25          Revenue are distributed directly to

1 Pennstar.

2 Also, Mrs. Krake, has Scranton City  
3 Council received an audit status update?

4 MS. KRAKE: We did not receive one  
5 for this week. I think possibly because of  
6 the holiday we usually receive them Thursday  
7 prior to the council meeting, so maybe we  
8 will receive it tomorrow yet.

9 MR. JOYCE: Okay. So Scranton City  
10 Council has yet to receive an audit status  
11 report from business administrator Ryan  
12 McGowan as requested three weeks ago. As I  
13 have reported in the past in correspondence,  
14 and I think this is getting lost in the  
15 shuffle with all of the talk of the Recovery  
16 Plan and unfunded debt and refinancing, as I  
17 reported in the past in correspondence from  
18 Rossi & Rossi, there have been a number of  
19 other items that need resolution before the  
20 2011 audit can be completed, and  
21 subsequently the exit conference can be  
22 held.

23 So, Mrs. Krake, with this in mind  
24 can you please contact Mr. McGowan and ask  
25 him for a status report for the 2011 audit

1           because the last status report from an over  
2           a month ago, I believe, in my best memory  
3           that an exit conference was projected to be  
4           held sometime in early July and we are into  
5           early July and we haven't heard anything on  
6           an exit conference to this point, and that's  
7           all for tonight.

8                       MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good  
9           evening. And as I mentioned earlier, I  
10          spoke with Mayor Doherty twice this week  
11          regarding information drafted by Ryan  
12          McGowan. I noted that the information  
13          contained inaccuracies and that city council  
14          is revising the new document. We hope to be  
15          able to present it next week after more  
16          current information becomes available in  
17          relation to the Scranton Parking Authority  
18          and Sewer Authority.

19                      As you may recall, the Parking  
20          Authority's debt line to cure five defaults  
21          which was imposed by bond insurers is nearly  
22          upon it and the Authority appears to have  
23          taken no action beyond replacing its  
24          previous solicitor, Paul Kelly, with  
25          Attorney O'Brien, and shaving exorbitant

1 management salaries. At the same time, a  
2 very significant action has occurred and it  
3 was noted earlier by our solicitor, the  
4 previous trustee has been replaced and  
5 council awaits further developments. In  
6 addition, the sale of the storm water  
7 conveyance system proposed by the mayor and  
8 included in his revised Recovery Plan  
9 appears impossible thereby creating a \$5  
10 million hole in 2012.

11 Now, in order to fill the hole in  
12 the mayor's Recovery Plan Ryan McGowan has  
13 once again proposed the sale or lease of  
14 parking meters to be SPA. However, Mr.  
15 McGowan also includes the sale or lease of  
16 the meters for \$6 million elsewhere in the  
17 Recovery Plan. So what he is doing then is  
18 creating a financial hole or deficit in the  
19 2014 mandates.

20 Further, since the administration  
21 has been fully aware that city council  
22 adamantly opposed the sale or lease of  
23 parking meters in September 2011, the date  
24 which the administration first submitted  
25 legislation to city council to borrow \$14

1 million for the sale of meters and to secure  
2 unfunded debt borrowing, it must propose  
3 another way in which to fill the hole in its  
4 Recovery Plan. Both the administration and  
5 city council will continue to work actively  
6 on a joint plan.

7 As I have so often publically  
8 discussed during these weekly meetings, the  
9 mayor has failed to enforce the parking tax  
10 and rental registration program and to  
11 aggressively pursue PILOTS from nonprofits,  
12 he reinstated DPW and Parks and Recreation  
13 position cut in the 2012 budget and refused  
14 to call for the return of the nonemergency  
15 city-owned vehicles, to cut his dues and  
16 subscriptions, and properly reclassify  
17 Scranton as a Third Class city. He stopped  
18 the city from implementing the parking meter  
19 program.

20 Before he asks a visiting judge to  
21 order his Recovery Plan and the 78 percent  
22 tax increase, he should have to enforce all  
23 other avenues of revenue generation and cost  
24 containment. To date, he can only present  
25 apparently illegal pay cuts as evidence of



1 his action.

2 Next, I was pleased to learn that  
3 DCED did reverse course following last  
4 week's city council meeting and agreed that  
5 the Pennsylvania Economy League will include  
6 the police and fire contract settlement in  
7 the revised Recovery Plan. This was one of  
8 the requirements of this council and it is a  
9 victory for the taxpayers and public safety  
10 personnel. Yesterday I was officially  
11 notified that the Fraternal Order of Police  
12 had ratified the proposed contract and that  
13 the IAFF would take it's vote today.

14 Assuming approval by the IAFF  
15 membership, the next step requires the  
16 administration to send the legislation and  
17 contract to city council for placement on  
18 its agenda and adoption. The contract is a  
19 result of good faith negotiations among the  
20 mayor, city council and two municipal unions  
21 for the first time since I have been seated  
22 on city council. It not only saves the  
23 taxpayers \$15 million, but also provides  
24 safety and stability into future years for  
25 all city residents, public safety employees

1 and city government.

2 The striking negative in this  
3 situation is DCED's statement to the unions  
4 to continue to pressure city council into  
5 approving the mayor's revised Recovery Plan  
6 which is included in the letter for Chief  
7 Council for DCED Christopher C. Houston to  
8 Attorney Jennings and copied to me. I'd  
9 like to read that one paragraph to you from  
10 the letter, it is the final paragraph, in  
11 fact. "In an effort to continue this  
12 aminity, we would appreciate your members  
13 continued support for this process and  
14 encourage their efforts to secure the  
15 procedural ratification of the agreements  
16 and the approval by the city's elected  
17 leadership of an Act 47 revised Recovery  
18 Plan which contains a balanced budget and  
19 fiscal stability for the foreseeable  
20 future."

21 You know, it's shameful that DCED  
22 continues its attempt to use city unions as  
23 leverage against city council. However,  
24 DCED seems to be unaware of the union heads'  
25 opposition to a 78 percent tax increase and

1           their subsequent lack of full agreement with  
2           the mayor's revised Recovery Plan as stated  
3           during last week's city council meeting.

4                     Further, such blatant attempts may  
5           only serve as an impediment to recent  
6           cooperative efforts between the  
7           administration and council.

8                     And finally, I just have two quick  
9           citizens requests for the week. Luzerne  
10          Street property owners request that DPW  
11          clean the area under the bridge at the lower  
12          portion of Luzerne Street near Meridan  
13          Avenue, including the sidewalks, and this is  
14          the second request.

15                    City residents and softball players  
16          request Parks and Recreation would empty  
17          trash containers and maintain the field at  
18          the Pinebrook softball field, and that's it.  
19          Mrs. Krake?

20                    I'm sorry, just one thing. I just  
21          saw this and I have to add this because she  
22          is so deserving of it, our stenographer,  
23          Cathene, has not been paid at all in many  
24          months, so \$7.25 would actually be a raise  
25          for this poor individual, and this happens

1 while simultaneously CECCO has been paid,  
2 Carl Greco has been paid, DPW overtime has  
3 been paid and a litany of other things that,  
4 you know, maybe good have waited.

5 Now, you know, the last thing I  
6 think I want to say about city council is  
7 somebody figured out for me tonight what we  
8 earned, you know, the \$12,500 a year divided  
9 by our hours and, ladies and gentlemen, city  
10 council has been and already does work for  
11 less than the minimum wage, and that's it.

12 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE  
13 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS  
14 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ACCEPT AND  
15 DISBURSE GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF  
16 \$5,000.00 FROM SANOFI PASTEUR U S  
17 PHILANTHROPY DIVISION FOR THE CITY OF  
18 SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR  
19 SCRANTON POLICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP.

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

23 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24 MR. JOYCE: Second.

25 MS. EVANS: On the question?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the question,  
2 this grant is to provide financial backing  
3 for equipment and training for the special  
4 operations which operates in Scranton  
5 in-house also in combination with Taylor,  
6 too.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you. All those in  
8 favor of introduction signify by saying aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

15 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AUTHORIZING THE  
16 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS  
17 TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION  
18 AND IF SUCCESSFUL A GRANT AGREEMENT AND  
19 ACCEPT THE FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE  
20 OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL COMMUNITY DRUG  
21 ABUSE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT  
22 OF \$1,000.00.

23 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll  
24 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be  
25 introduced into its proper committee.

1 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

2 MR. JOYCE: Second.

3 MS. EVANS: On the question?

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question,  
5 just to explain this one here, this grant  
6 will allow the police department to obtain  
7 two breath testing units for DUI stops.

8 MS. EVANS: All those in favor of  
9 introduction signify by saying aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

13 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

14 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
15 have it and so moved.

16 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. AMENDING FILE OF  
17 THE COUNCIL NO. 33, 2012 ENTITLED  
18 "ESTABLISHING A NO PARKING ZONE IN THE 900  
19 BLOCK OF NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE (S.R. 3023)  
20 ON THE WESTERN MOST SIDE OF SAID STREET  
21 PURSUANT TO THE HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT  
22 APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL  
23 COLLEGE FROM SR 3023 SEGMENT 0090 OFFSET  
24 1000 TO SR 3023 SEGMENT 0090 OFFSET 1219 FOR  
25 A DISTANCE OF TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN (219)

1 FEET" TO CORRECT THE INCORRECTLY IDENTIFIED  
2 SEGMENT NUMBERS  
3 OF SR 3023.

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

7 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

8 MR. JOYCE: Second.

9 MS. EVANS: On the question? All  
10 those in favor of introduction signify by  
11 saying aye.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

15 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

16 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
17 have it and so moved.

18 MS. KRAKE: 5-E. PROVIDING FOR THE  
19 CONFIRMATION AND DEDICATION OF MCCARTHY  
20 STREET AS A PUBLIC STREET IN THE CITY OF  
21 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

22 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll  
23 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be  
24 introduced into its proper committee.

25 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

1 MR. JOYCE: Second.

2 MS. EVANS: On the question?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: 5-E. I'm sorry.

4 MS. EVANS: That's okay. Anyone  
5 else? All those in favor of introduction  
6 signify by saying aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

8 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

10 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

13 MS. KRAKE: 5-F. ACCEPTING A NINE  
14 THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY FIVE  
15 (\$9,995.00) DOLLAR CONTRIBUTION FROM ANTHONY  
16 DILEO T/D/B/A NORTHEAST INSURANCE AND  
17 FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS PRESENTED TO THE CITY  
18 OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT.

19 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll  
20 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be  
21 introduced into its proper committee.

22 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

23 MR. JOYCE: Second.

24 MS. EVANS: On the question?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question



1 on this one, this is a donation, this will  
2 be applied to purchase a police vehicle and  
3 for the donation there will be a logo on  
4 the police vehicle for this insurance  
5 company, so it's one of the suggestions that  
6 we have had in our plan, too.

7 MS. EVANS: All those in favor of  
8 introduction signify by saying aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

15 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

16 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 42,  
17 2012 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
18 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO  
19 APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION  
20 AND IF SUCCESSFUL A GRANT AGREEMENT AND  
21 ACCEPT THE FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE  
22 BJA FY 12 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE  
23 GRANT ("JAG") PROGRAM LOCAL SOLICITATION  
24 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,354.00.

25 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by

1 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

2 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A  
3 pass reading by title.

4 MR. JOYCE: Second.

5 MS. EVANS: On the question?

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Just on the question,  
7 I just wanted to explain what this was, this  
8 here will give the police department the  
9 opportunity to purchase two police vehicles,  
10 but they are used vehicles, but two  
11 additional police vehicles and I do have to  
12 say we read many grants and that from the  
13 police department this evening, and I would  
14 like to commend Chief Duffy for pursuing  
15 these grants and it looks like Maggie Perry,  
16 who is the grant writer, for them, but, you  
17 know, it's definitely a benefit to the  
18 professionalism of the police department and  
19 our city and I would hope all of the  
20 department heads take this example and look  
21 to every opportunity that the city has on  
22 any department to obtain grants and, you  
23 know, the low interest loans or whatever,  
24 but just to help the city out. Thank you.

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: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -  
9 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 43, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE  
10 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 53, 2011,  
11 ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE  
12 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE  
13 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY  
14 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED  
15 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND  
16 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (AS AMENDED) TO BE  
17 FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK  
18 GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT  
19 PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY  
20 SHELTER GRANT (ESG) PROGRAM", BY  
21 TRANSFERRING \$500,000.00 FROM THE COMMERCIAL  
22 INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN REPAYMENT FUND TO  
23 PROJECT 12-04 RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND  
24 HANDICAP CURB CUTS.

25 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by

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

2 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B  
3 pass reading by title.

4 MR. JOYCE: Second.

5 MS. EVANS: On the question?

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question.

7 Following passage of 6-B would anyone object  
8 to moving it to Seventh Order?

9 MS. EVANS: No.

10 MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff brought it  
11 up, and I agree it would be a good idea just  
12 to get everything, move the week ahead and  
13 provide an opportunity to get comment if  
14 anyone has any questions.

15 MS. EVANS: All those in favor  
16 signify by saying aye.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

18 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

20 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

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

23 MR. ROGAN: I would make a motion to  
24 suspend the rules and move Item 6-B into  
25 Seventh Order and it will be become Item

1 7-A.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

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

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

9 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
10 have it and so moved. And prior to the  
11 reading in Seventh Order are there any  
12 citizens who wish to comment for two  
13 minutes?

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher,  
15 will you please tell me what amount will be  
16 left in the commercial industrial revolving  
17 loan repayment fund after this transfer of a  
18 half a million dollars?

19 MR. ROGAN: I don't believe that's  
20 in the backup. It's not in the backup. I  
21 could get it for you. The reason for  
22 pushing it forward is with the paving season  
23 it's only so short, you know, and it is one  
24 of my priorities and I think many of us in  
25 the city to get the ball rolling on these

1 issues.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: I don't see how a  
3 week is going to --

4 MS. EVANS: Well, I think it's been  
5 a council priority for years, and like  
6 Mr. Rogan said I think the people of the  
7 city have been crying to have their streets  
8 paved and repaired for as long as I have  
9 been on council. Is there anyone else?  
10 Mrs. Krake?

11 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.  
12 FOR FINAL PASSAGE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 43,  
13 2012 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF  
14 COUNCIL NO. 53, 2011, ENTITLED, "AN  
15 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
16 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF  
17 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO  
18 IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR  
19 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
20 (AS AMENDED) TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE  
21 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)  
22 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)  
23 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)  
24 PROGRAM", BY TRANSFERRING \$500,000.00 FROM  
25 THE COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN

1           REPAYMENT FUND TO PROJECT 12-04  
2           RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND HANDICAP CURB  
3           CUTS.

4                   MS. EVANS: What is the  
5                   recommendation of the Chair for the  
6                   Committee on Community Development?

7                   MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the  
8                   Committee on Finance, I recommend final  
9                   passage of Item 7-A.

10                   MR. JOYCE: Second.

11                   MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll  
12                   call, please?

13                   MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

14                   MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15                   MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

16                   MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17                   MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

18                   MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

19                   MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

20                   MR. JOYCE: Yes.

21                   MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

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

24                   If there is no further business, I  
25                   will entertain a motion to adjourn.

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MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

MS. EVANS: This meeting is  
adjourned.



C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER