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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, JULY 12, 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
(Not present)

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. JOYCE: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

11 MR. JOYCE: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

13 MR. JOYCE: Proceed with the reading
14 of the minutes.

15 MS. KRAKE: Mr. Joyce, I believe
16 this evening we have a little presentation
17 for Mr. Jackowitz.

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Thank you. Tom
19 Dennis, president of the Northeast
20 Pennsylvania Charter Property and Casualty
21 Underwriting Society, CPCU, is here to
22 present a \$500 check to Bill Jackowitz,
23 cochairman of the "Kids Swim Free Program"
24 at Nay Aug Park in Scranton. This year, it
25 cost the residents \$5 to swim at Nay Aug

1 Park and this donation is being used to
2 benefit those who cannot afford to pay the
3 fee.

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: At this time I would
5 like to call Mr. Tom Dennis up to the
6 podium. Mr. Tom Dennis called me and his
7 organization is kind enough and generous
8 enough to present the \$500 check for the
9 "Kids Swim Free" program and the people in
10 Scranton know that we have been running this
11 program for six years, this will be our
12 sixth year, and the prices at the pool have
13 gone up to \$5 this year, so this will pay
14 for 100 children in the city to swim for one
15 day at Nay Aug Park and we really appreciate
16 it.

17 Tom, do you have anything you would
18 like to say?

19 MR. DENNIS: I just want to say we
20 are a nonprofit organization that supports
21 insurance education and professionalism, but
22 also community service. We have a very
23 limited budget, but we felt that this was a
24 true cause that we believe in helping keep
25 the kids off the street and have some fun

1 going to the swimming pool this summer, so
2 that's all.

3 MR. JACKOWITZ: Thank you.

4 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Now,
5 Mrs. Krake, dispense with the reading of the
6 minutes.

7 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. AUDIT
8 STATUS FROM ROBERT ROSSI & CO. AS OF JUNE,
9 28, 2012.

10 MR. JOYCE: Are there any comments?
11 If not, received and filed.

12 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. FINAL COPY OF THE
13 2012 ROUTINE BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT FOR
14 THE STRUCTURES OWNED BY THE CITY OF
15 SCRANTON.

16 MR. JOYCE: Are there any comments?
17 If not, received and filed.

18 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
19 REPORT, APPEAL HEARINGS FOR JULY 25, 2012.

20 MR. JOYCE: Are there any comments?
21 If not, received and filed.

22 MS. KRAKE: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
23 REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCRANTON HOUSING
24 AUTHORITY HELD JUNE 4, 2012.

25 MR. JOYCE: Are there any comments?

1 If not, received and filed.

2 MR. JOYCE: Do we have any clerk's
3 notes, Mrs. Krake?

4 MS. KRAKE: No, Mr. Joyce.

5 MR. JOYCE: Do any council members
6 have announcements at this time?

7 MR. ROGAN: I have one this week.
8 This was in our mailbox. Karen Foster from
9 the West Scranton Neighborhood Watch called
10 today. She would like to invite all city
11 workers and their families to a free block
12 party. It's going to be held at the Jackson
13 Street Skate Park July 21 and 22 from 2 p.m.
14 to 10 p.m. There will be live music,
15 refreshments and a skateboard competition.
16 If you have any questions, Karen can be
17 reached at 878-7368 or by e-mail at
18 HydeParkWatch.org. Thank you. Mr.
19 Loscombe?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, I have a couple.
21 On July 14 the Fraternal Order of Eagles,
22 Lodge 314, is having their fifth annual
23 ribfest serving from 2 to 6 p.m. for the
24 price of \$15. Tickets can be purchased by
25 calling Stella at the club 961-5495 or her

1 cell phone at 814-3069. That Eagles' Lodge
2 is on Railroad Avenue off Luzerne Street if
3 anyone is interested.

4 Also, the Antique Car Club is
5 holding a car show, the 41st annual antique
6 car show this Sunday, July 15, at the Allied
7 Service Axo Salt grounds in Clarks Summit
8 and corporate sponsor is Road Scholar
9 Trucking. There is usually 400 antique and
10 collector cars and major -- 100 percent of
11 its profit goes to the Childhood Cancer
12 Foundation. And that is, again, on the
13 14th-- or the 15th, I'm sorry, I don't see
14 the file here. This was an e-mail that I
15 received.

16 And last, but not least, I'm going
17 to read this letter in it's entirety, I read
18 it several weeks ago, it's for "Give Jim
19 Lance a Second Chance." We received this
20 back in the May, May 7, 2012.

21 "To whom it may concern: I'm
22 writing to request your support for "Give
23 Jim Lance a Second Chance." This fundraiser
24 has been organized to benefit Jim Lance and
25 his family after a recent tragedy. On April

1 20, 2012, Jim went for a motorcycle ride to
2 clear his mind. With the daughter
3 graduating high school and his wife, the
4 love of his life, fighting terminal cancer
5 to make it to her graduation he had much on
6 his. No one could have predicted the events
7 of that unforgettable evening. Jim was in
8 an accident that almost claimed his life.
9 After several lifesaving surgeries, Jim is
10 still with us, but has lost his left leg.
11 Jim and as family are thrilled to know he
12 will recover. He will make it to his
13 daughter's graduation and he will be will to
14 support his wife while she is ill. The road
15 to his recovery, however, will be a long and
16 expensive one. Jim will be transferred to a
17 rehab center, he will need to learn how to
18 walk with a prosthetic leg, his home will
19 have to be altered to accommodate a
20 wheelchair and he will not be able to return
21 to work for some time, if at all.

22 In an effort to help ease the
23 financial burden, the community of the North
24 Scranton rallied together to support the
25 Lance family in their time of need. "Give

1 Jim Lance a Second Chance," will occur on
2 July 14 from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Holy Rosary
3 Center on West Market Street in Scranton.
4 It will be an event to remember. There are
5 a few other communities with as much love
6 and support of its members like that of
7 North Scranton and Scranton and general.

8 We are inviting you to embrace this
9 in opportunity to show the community, you
10 too care about the well-being of its
11 members. I hope you will consider donating
12 to this fundraiser in any form. Donations
13 could be made payable to the "Jim Lance
14 Fund." Your business will be recognized on
15 signage at the event as well as on social
16 networking sites and other advertisements
17 for the event. If you have any questions,
18 please feel free to call 575-6752. Thanking
19 you in advance for your support, Nicole
20 Lance, niece of Jim Lance."

21 And the unfortunate story since I
22 read this letter originally is that his wife
23 has passed away, so it's even a harder
24 situation, so I would hope everyone gets up
25 to Holy Rosary on the 14th from 5 to 10 and

1 supports the family of Jim Lance. Thank
2 you.

3 MR. JOYCE: We received an important
4 letter today from DCED, Department of
5 Community and Economic Development, and I
6 just wanted to read that letter out loud.
7 It's regarding emergency financial aid, and
8 it was addressed to Mrs. Evans and Mayor
9 Doherty.

10 "As indicated in my letter of July
11 9, 2012, to Mrs. Krake, I had strongly urged
12 the city council and the mayor to begin
13 discussion on proposals that will result in
14 the adoption of a revised Recovery Plan that
15 provides fiscal stability to the city.

16 Furthermore, I had previously
17 indicated that the Department would be
18 willing to provide services of the mediator
19 to facilitate the process in reaching a
20 consensus. We have been carefully following
21 the events regarding the current financial
22 crisis and in light of the existing
23 situation the Department is prepared to
24 offer the following assistance to the city.

25 The department will provide services

1 of a third party professional mediator to
2 facilitate the process of reaching an
3 agreement on a fiscally balanced Recovery
4 Plan. This mediation will take place at a
5 mutually agreed upon location. The
6 negotiation of terms of the amended Recovery
7 Plan will be exclusively the responsibility
8 of city council and the mayor and subject to
9 the Pennsylvania Economy League's, PEL's,
10 judgment as to the feasibility of the
11 proposed amendments. PEL and DCED
12 representative will be available at the
13 mediation to provide necessary input.

14 Upon city council's adoption of a
15 revised Recovery Plan, the Department will
16 provide the following financial assistance
17 to the city: Authorization for a 0 percent
18 loan of \$2 million to be used for the
19 payment of the current expenses to the city
20 to be repaid as follows, a \$1 million shall
21 be repaid within 30 days of settlement on
22 the unfunded debt borrowing contemplated by
23 the city in its 2012 operating budget, and
24 \$1 million o be amortized over a yet
25 determined period. Authorization for a

1 \$250,000 grant to be used for the payment of
2 such current expenses.

3 Given the critical cash flow
4 pressures the city is faced with, the above
5 is further conditioned on having an
6 acceptable Recovery Plan agreed to no later
7 than August 1 and enacted by ordinance by
8 August 15.

9 I look forward to receiving a
10 favorable response to offer to facilitate
11 the city's efforts to remedy the city's
12 current and projected financial position.
13 The adoption of an amended Recovery Plan
14 that will provide the city financial
15 stability into the future is critical in
16 this effort. The administration hopes that
17 the offer of the financial assistance in the
18 city will provide some relief to your fiscal
19 distress and enable the city to continue to
20 provide vital and necessary services to the
21 City of Scranton. C. Alan Walker,
22 secretary."

23 And this is something that all
24 council members were copied on and with my
25 colleagues' agreement I would like to have a

1 public meeting at a time that's conducive to
2 everyone schedule with the mayor and DCED
3 moderators to discuss a revised Recovery
4 Plan.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

6 MR. ROGAN: That's what I have been
7 saying for two months. That's good news.
8 Yes.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Same.

10 MR. JOYCE: Sounds good. Does
11 anyone else have any further announcements
12 that they would like to make?

13 MR. ROGAN: I would just make a
14 brief comment on the letter while we are
15 discussing it now, and I am very hopeful
16 that the mayor will sit down with council
17 and negotiate in good faith. We know his
18 track record in that area has been bleak.
19 The mayor has to understand by this point in
20 time that this city council is not going to
21 pass a 78 percent tax increase. There are
22 many other ideas for generating revenue that
23 council has. Some I disagree with my
24 colleagues on, some we agree on, but that's
25 what negotiating is. You don't get

1 everything you want. I understand going
2 into negotiations with the mayor and my
3 colleagues that it's not going to be Pat
4 Rogan's plan, and I think everyone on here
5 agrees that it's not going to be their plan,
6 it's going to be the city's plan and that's
7 what we need, something that's fair for the
8 taxpayers.

9 The idea of the mayor sending a plan
10 that has a 78 percent tax increase down and
11 never even shows up to city council to
12 explain the rhyme or reason why he didn't
13 consider any other options is typical of
14 what the mayor has done over the past ten
15 years. I am hopeful with all of the media
16 attention that has been placed on the city
17 that the mayor will come to his senses and
18 meet with council and negotiate in good
19 faith so we can have a plan and finally get
20 the city in the right direction, and I will
21 comment on it more during motions, but for
22 now that's all I have to say.

23 MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Mr. Rogan.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: I did forget one
25 announcement, I'm sorry. St. Patrick's

1 Parish in West Scranton will be hosting
2 their festival this weekend, Friday and
3 Saturday, at the parish grounds on Jackson
4 Street in West Scranton. Thank you.

5 MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Councilman
6 Loscombe.

7 MR. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER, CITIZENS'
8 PARTICIPATION.

9 MR. JOYCE: Our first speaker
10 tonight is John Judge.

11 MR. JUDGE: Good evening, council.
12 John Judge, President of the Scranton
13 Firefighters' Union. I just have a couple
14 of brief things tonight, two points just to
15 discuss real quick and one question. We
16 ratified our contract with the fire
17 department last week and we were wondering
18 if the legislation has been sent down from
19 the city solicitor yet to be put in front of
20 city council for passage?

21 MR. JOYCE: Mrs. Krake, can you
22 please answer Mr. Judge's question whether
23 legislation has been sent down from the city
24 solicitor?

25 MS. KRAKE: No, we have not received

1 that legislation.

2 MR. JUDGE: Okay, I just wanted to
3 make council aware that those -- I believe
4 the police also ratified their contract so
5 the last step for them to -- for those
6 contracts to take will be for passage by
7 city council, so I know that the city
8 solicitor is obviously busy, and I am hoping
9 that you have that legislation for next week
10 so I will be here to follow-up on that
11 again.

12 The other comment I have is, and I
13 never got to discuss this simply because of
14 the things that have been happening, \$7.25
15 an hour and now all the national media
16 attention is on that, but one of the things
17 I want to go back to that I think I could
18 discuss with council, and it was really an
19 issue for us, when the mayor sent back that
20 \$3.1 million to hire new firefighters we are
21 seeing the effects of what that has actually
22 done. We are at 131 firefighters. We were
23 at 150 less than two years ago, about two
24 years ago we were at 150. We are
25 experiencing brownouts on a regular basis.

1 We had a fire yesterday on Landis Street in
2 West Side and the first due engine was
3 closed again. The second due engine was
4 closed again, engine 4 downtown and Engine 7
5 on Luzerne. Engine 8 had been relocated to
6 the day to Main Avenue so the Engine 8
7 firehouse was browned out as well.

8 This is very concerning. It's
9 response times again, and I'm cautioning
10 everyone once again, I was here at the
11 podium when we had the East Mountain
12 incident. This is going to be the same
13 result. It's just a matter of where and
14 when at this point. It's either going to be
15 in West Side or it's going to be in the Hill
16 Section. It needs to be addressed some how.

17 That was a fatal mistake for Mayor
18 Doherty to send back that \$3.1 million.
19 Camden had received a grant similar and
20 Camden is in much worse financial shape than
21 us. They had received that grant to bring
22 about a number of laid off firefighters and
23 that mayor down there immediately committed
24 to keeping them on for an additional year on
25 that grant. It was not required for the

1 grant, this was free money. This wasn't
2 like the old COPS program under Clinton
3 where you had to pay a percentage of the
4 salary or retention requirement, there was
5 nothing. The end of those two years he
6 could have laid off, and I know the Mayor
7 said and I had spoken him and asked him to
8 give me a meeting to talk him out of the
9 sending that \$3.1 million and he did, he
10 listened to me as far as my arguments, but
11 he disagreed. We are going to have at the
12 end of this grant period 40 people that are
13 eligible retirement, and I'm sure
14 historically over the last ten years we have
15 had anywhere between five, eight, ten go
16 every year. Those bodies would be used to
17 backfill those positions as they went. This
18 is just an issue and I want to bring it to
19 council's attention and that's all I'll say
20 on that.

21 The other issue I saw that the
22 letter from the Secretary of DCED today. I
23 hope this is a great news. Finally maybe
24 all of the pressure and spotlight that's
25 been occurring is getting some movement for

1 the City of Scranton and I hope that this is
2 not just an opportunity for them to hit the
3 ball back in your court and put you on the
4 spot and attempt to hamstring you with
5 passing a Recovery Plan with a 78 percent
6 tax increase. I know you have guys are
7 solid at this point and there is no way a
8 Recovery Plan with 78 percent is getting
9 passed through this council and I think the
10 citizens of Scranton know that as well. I
11 just hope that DCED realizes that, PEL
12 realizes, the mayor realizes that, and that
13 this is truly an effort in the spirit of
14 cooperation to get us past this. We need to
15 get past this. It's that simple. Thank you
16 very much.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

18 MR. JOYCE: Our next speaker is
19 Charlie Newcomb, Jr.

20 MR. NEWCOMB: Good evening, Council.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

22 MR. NEWCOMB: Sometimes there is
23 times where you stay home and sometimes
24 there is times where you got to get off the
25 couch and come down here and I believe

1 around, so my response was, "Well, then
2 apparently we don't have enough firefighters
3 if one or two call off sick the whole
4 company goes down."

5 I got the same run around as usual
6 and it was a pointless conversation. Our
7 firefighters I saw yesterday worked very
8 hard, as I have known they have done before.
9 They got paid \$7.25 an hour to fight a
10 structure fire in the City of Scranton in 85
11 degree heat. Today, I was on vacation this
12 week, today I was out with my family for
13 lunch and I was in the same restaurant which
14 was out of the city and Chief Davis was
15 there with a city resident who owns a
16 business in South Side and who is on the
17 school board. I hope the conversation
18 wasn't because he was being recruited to run
19 for city council, but with that aside, this
20 city is broke, we have \$5,000 in the bank,
21 the firefighters are being paid \$7.25 an
22 hour, the DPW workers are picking up garbage
23 for \$7.25 an hour, the clerical workers are
24 keeping city hall running for \$7.25 an hour
25 and Chief Davis is outside the city having

1 lunch in the city vehicle that I'm paying
2 for the gas and have a city resident in the
3 passenger seat that I watched him take back
4 to his business during business hours.

5 I would much rather the money be put
6 into the fire trucks for gas, God forbid my
7 house was on fire, than to be put in the
8 white van that the fire chief drives and he
9 was on duty at the time. As usual, it's
10 unacceptable and nothing will be done.

11 The following reasons the City of
12 Scranton is broke: We built a bridge to no
13 where in Nay Aug Park. We have a tree
14 house. We have a washed out Davis trail. A
15 sewer contract that cost over \$6.6 million
16 because the mayor wouldn't listen to
17 anybody. We have way too many parking
18 garages. We spent \$350,000 to tear down the
19 Medallion garage to rebuild another one. We
20 have \$600,000 that was never paid back to
21 the City of Scranton by the Ice Box for the
22 DPW complex. We have thousands of dollars
23 in raising to the administration. We have
24 incompetent people running the Scranton
25 Parking Authority that are making almost

1 stamp councils. We have had "Restoring the
2 Pride" signs all over the place. We have
3 had an Electric City downtown with thousands
4 of dollars a months it cost an electric bill
5 to run it. We have had "Summer in the City"
6 signs, remember them, all over the city
7 telling everybody how fantastic Chris
8 Doherty was and what we can do in the
9 summer. Now we have no swimming pools open
10 in the City of Scranton because we can't
11 afford them.

12 What got me the best today was
13 Mr. Hazzouri was a former councilman that
14 sat up there, and I'll finish up, that sat
15 up there for over 12 years or might have
16 been 12 years, at least 12 years I should
17 say, made a quote to the ABC News today,
18 "Scranton is a great city. It's fantastic
19 that this mid-Atlantic city is getting in
20 the spotlight."

21 First of all, we are in the
22 situation today because of Mr. Hazzouri and
23 the other people that came before him.
24 Mr. Hazzouri, along with Mr. Pocius and
25 other council people, collect a pension that

1 the City of Scranton, residents of the City
2 of Scranton went and fought with him to give
3 it back and they refused, so before a former
4 councilman tells me how great a mid-Atlantic
5 city, which we are not mid-Atlantic is, I
6 think you should give your pension back and
7 help out the city. Thank you.

8 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next
9 speaker is Lee Morgan.

10 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

11 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

12 MR. MORGAN: You know, I think we
13 have to make a determination on -- I mean,
14 there is no doubt there is paralysis in city
15 government and, you know, former Governor
16 Rendell has been on TV, I saw him two or
17 three days ago discussing the situation of
18 Scranton. We can sit here all day and we
19 can condemn everyone, but, you know
20 something, everything that's happened in
21 this city, all of these people were elected
22 by the residents. Mayor Doherty has been
23 reelected a few times. I don't know,
24 councils have basically come and gone. Some
25 members of the council have sat here for a

1 very long time.

2 You know, the truth is that all of
3 the legislation came past the council. We
4 have listened for a long time how council
5 had no answers to any of the fiscal problems
6 we were experiencing or they couldn't get
7 answers, and I'm not troubled that we are
8 getting national exposure for this because
9 this just points out how broken government
10 is across this whole country, not just here
11 but in the Congress and the Senate.

12 I mean, basically you have the same
13 abilities as the Congress and the Senate
14 does. Have you got the powers of subpoena,
15 but you haven't used them. Okay, now, I
16 have been coming here over 20 years and I
17 have listened to everything and to say that
18 the mayor -- and, look it, I don't really
19 get along with Mayor Chris Doherty, but you
20 know something, this city was distressed
21 before he became mayor and there has been
22 mismanagement of this city for so long that
23 all the young people have fled this city for
24 40 years and when we take a look at what the
25 Scranton Sewer Authority is doing when they

1 are borrowing they are putting their
2 payments way out in front of them. They
3 have a hard time borrowing money because of
4 the amount of senior citizens that are here.
5 I mean, we have to also realize that the
6 council didn't care for SAPA, the
7 Scranton/Abington Planning Association's
8 comprehensive plan. Now, I brought that to
9 council debates and I don't know, nobody
10 wanted to talk about it, but I was prepared
11 to talk about it. This city needs jobs. We
12 have gone through all of the neighborhoods,
13 we have condemned homes to make a demand in
14 my opinion for the conversions of office
15 space in the downtown into apartments.

16 And the one thing that we are really
17 not talking about here in any Recovery Plan
18 is the \$100 million that we owe to the
19 pensions. I mean, really this plan needs to
20 go to the voters to let them decide. They
21 have made very poor decisions in the past.
22 But, you know, we can all talk here about
23 what the solutions are and when the state
24 comes here they are offering us \$2 million
25 they went in a Recovery Plan. No, they are

1 just trying to hold the residents of this
2 city hostage and they want to push something
3 through this council that really isn't going
4 to benefit the residents because if the
5 residents were being benefited here you
6 wouldn't have "For Sale" signs on houses and
7 all the young people wouldn't be fleeing the
8 city for the last 40 years, all right? Our
9 population was over 100,000 people when I
10 was a child here, now we are down to 70.

11 And you listen to all of the
12 politicians talk. They are only interested
13 in protecting the bond insurers in my
14 opinion, okay, and I think that it's time to
15 put politics aside, it's time to put a
16 Recovery Plan together, and it's time to
17 present it to the people here and let them
18 make a choice, and I just don't hear enough
19 respect for the residents of this city and,
20 I mean, look it, there is lot of them have
21 just given up on the whole system of voting.
22 That's not a new occurrence.

23 We have the people who have had -- a
24 lady who came here in the last couple of
25 weeks talking about she is knocking on some

1 doors. So, I mean, you know, a plan has to
2 include everybody and I think we have to
3 realize that the city residents receive low
4 pay, a very vast majority of them, and I'm
5 not sure that they can afford any tax
6 increase, all right, without pointing to the
7 authorities and all of these I don't know --
8 all of these things that take us off the
9 true path and the true path and the question
10 I have is if our elected officials on
11 council didn't use their powers of subpoena
12 for decades and looked the other way then
13 did we really have any representation?
14 Because you know something, Mr. Rogan, you
15 hit it right on the head. We have had one
16 rubber stamp council after another,
17 including this one, okay? I mean, take a
18 look at what's occurred.

19 Now, I came here and I asked council
20 about the former cages at the Nay Aug Park,
21 I haven't seen anybody prosecuted for that.
22 When are we going to see something? We talk
23 about dangerous dogs, there has been tons of
24 other people that have come and talked about
25 issues. We have pumped hundreds of millions

1 of dollars into the downtown and nothing in
2 the neighborhoods and blight is in every
3 neighborhood. Thank you.

4 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Our next
5 speaker is Gary Lewis.

6 MR. LEWIS: Good evening. I suppose
7 congratulations of some form are in order.
8 The city has successfully blackmailed the
9 stay into funding the financial negligence
10 of this administration. In doing so, we
11 have also managed to turn Scranton into an
12 international news story.

13 As usual, I am here tonight to talk
14 about the city's financial issues. I want
15 to start with a recap of some scary numbers.
16 We have \$101 million in outstanding city
17 debt. We have more than \$55 million in
18 outstanding authority debt. We owe more
19 than \$90 million to the city pensions.
20 Altogether, we have nearly \$330 million
21 dollars in total long-term obligations and
22 you want to borrow more.

23 You will need to issue 23 to 25
24 million dollars in new bond issues in order
25 to repay the state and fund the 2012

1 deficit. That means by the end of the 2012
2 you will have about \$130 million in
3 outstanding city debt.

4 All of this borrowing does not fix
5 the problem. In 2013, we will have a
6 structural deficit of \$10 million. We will
7 have \$8.2 million due in debt service, and
8 that's just for the current debt. We will
9 also owe about \$1.4 million to the unions
10 because of the recent arbitration
11 settlement. We are \$20 million in the hole
12 before we even add in unpaid bills from
13 2012.

14 So what's the plan? We have \$2.6
15 million in net assets as of 12-31-2010,
16 that's the most recent audit available. We
17 have nothing left to sell. The revenue
18 generators that have been discussed, a local
19 sales tax, a commuter tax, a higher wage
20 tax, these all require state approval. We
21 have also talked about a new parking meter
22 system that will bring in about \$300,000.

23 We can't even manage our current tax
24 system. A few weeks ago there was a
25 gentleman here talking about how he got

1 charged twice for his garbage fee when he
2 was trying to sell his home. Today the
3 Scranton Times has an article how about 11
4 people slipped through the cracks and didn't
5 get billed for their garbage fee. We are
6 collecting real estate taxes of less than 87
7 percent.

8 I don't trust the city through
9 taxes, you can't even manage what you
10 already have. So I ask again, what are you
11 going to do? You can't borrow and tax your
12 way out of this hole. No one wants to
13 discuss Chapter 9, it's an indelible stain
14 the mayor calls it, but no one else has a
15 plan. You are our community leaders. We
16 look to you to steer the ship of state
17 through this fiscal storm. It's time to
18 stop arguing and grandstanding and going on
19 the national media shows. It's time to do
20 your job. No more borrowing, no more taxes.
21 Thank you.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

23 MR. JOYCE: Our next speaker is Les
24 Spindler.

25 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,

1 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
2 homeowner and taxpayer. Mr. McGoff, glad to
3 see you could join us tonight on time, I
4 guess there was no baseball game.

5 First of all, I want a speak about a
6 caller to WILK talk radio yesterday, he said
7 he works in the city but doesn't live here
8 and he watches the council meeting and the
9 host asked if the Legion of Doom still comes
10 to the meeting and he said, "Yeah, they are
11 like the plague, they never go away."

12 I take great offense to that.
13 Myself and other people have been coming
14 here year after year after year trying to
15 help this city and we have jerks like this
16 calling, writing letters to the editor
17 making disparaging remarks about us. He
18 want onto criticize the unions and saying
19 how the mayor is bashed weekly. Well, you
20 know what, Mister, the mayor deserves to be
21 bashed weekly, he brought all this upon
22 himself. Why do you a think a few years ago
23 he tried to run for governor and then
24 lieutenant governor and then ended up
25 running for state senator and got his butt

1 kicked. He knew that was going to happen,
2 the poop has finally hit the fan and it's
3 come back to bite him in the face and now he
4 is here and he couldn't get out of Dodge and
5 now he is paying the consequences.

6 He and his rubber stamp councils,
7 including Mr. McGoff, brought this all upon
8 themselves and it proves, like I said, when
9 he tried to get out of Dodge a few years
10 ago, so he deserves everything that is said
11 about him.

12 Next thing, the article the other
13 day in the Doherty newsletter about the
14 lawyers screwing up the sewer -- about the
15 storm water being sold, the storm water
16 system, it's just another example of
17 incompetence in this administration. Chris
18 Doherty's attorneys didn't know that we
19 couldn't put \$5.4 million in his Recovery
20 Plan because the storm water system can't be
21 sold. The Sewer Authority hasn't been owned
22 since the 1960's. Paul Kelly isn't smart
23 enough to know this. No wonder we are in
24 such bad shape. The mayor is incompetent,
25 his administration is incompetent, that's

1 why we are in the shape we are in now.
2 People have to wake up next year and elect a
3 new mayor and start turning this city
4 around.

5 Another thing, I almost threw up the
6 other day when I read in the paper about
7 Chief Duffy, soon to be former Chief Duffy
8 leaving. And, Councilman Rogan, you made a
9 quote saying, "Everyone in this city is sad
10 to see him go."

11 Well, that's not true. I, for one,
12 am not sad to see him go. He lied right to
13 my face about a crime that was committed and
14 was covered up by Chief Elliott, by Ray
15 Hayes and Mayor Doherty, I asked him to look
16 into it, he said he would and he didn't, so
17 he told me a bold faced lie. There is two
18 people who are falsely imprisoned in police
19 headquarters, illegally strip searched,
20 terrorized, they won't -- they are not sad
21 to see him go and I personally know police
22 officers that aren't sad to see him go. So,
23 you know, when you make comments like that
24 you should talk -- or think before you talk
25 because not everybody is sad to see the

1 chief go. If there is any cigar smokers in
2 Dunmore and Dickson City they better watch
3 out.

4 Yesterday there was a crash at
5 Spruce Street and Franklin Avenue, the
6 lights are out there, there have been stop
7 signs up there for a few weeks. What caught
8 my eye was this crash happened the same time
9 the fire in West Side, the Dunmore Fire
10 Department had to respond to this crash. We
11 have the Dunmore Fire Department showing up
12 at crashes and our mayor is given back grant
13 money to hire firefighters. If these cars
14 caught on fire these people would have been
15 french fried by the time the Dunmore Fire
16 Department got there.

17 This is a tragedy. The mayor has to
18 hire these firefighters back. As Mr. Judge
19 said, there is brownouts all over, fire
20 stations are closing and it's ridiculous.
21 There is going to be a tragedy in this city,
22 like we have said before, and it did come
23 true. This guy has to get on the ball and
24 hire these firefighters and take the \$3.1
25 million.

1 One funny thing about this crash,
2 each of the drivers said they thought they
3 had the green light. Those lights have been
4 turned off for weeks, so I think they must
5 have been either drinking something or they
6 were on their cell phones.

7 Mr. Loscombe, I spoke about this
8 months ago and there was an article in the
9 paper that the Linden Street bridge
10 construction was going to start in July, did
11 you hear anything about that because it's
12 still sitting there and nothing is being
13 done?

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: The last conversation
15 I had they were bidding out in July for the
16 work and that was it. Like I said, I didn't
17 have a chance, I was going to try and get up
18 there today to get some information because
19 I'm still concerned with Robinson Street,
20 too.

21 MR. SPINDLER: I have a two quick
22 questions. Since council can't seem to get
23 together with the mayor, you made our own
24 budget, why don't you just come up with your
25 own Recovery Plan?

1 MR. JOYCE: Well, the Recovery Plan
2 we are hoping to get together with the mayor
3 now that we have all agreed to have a public
4 meeting. We have made suggestions to the
5 mayor for the Recovery Plan, however, not
6 all of those suggestions have been included.

7 MR. SPINDLER: Lots of luck with
8 that trying to get a public meeting with the
9 mayor. It's not going to happen. One last
10 thing, I know last Saturday was the deadline
11 for the Parking Authority to meet all their
12 defaults and Attorney Hughes isn't here,
13 does anybody know if that happened?

14 MR. JOYCE: I do not know if that
15 happened, but, Mrs. Krake, can we please ask
16 that of Attorney Hughes.

17 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Spindler, I have the
18 answer, the Parking Authority is still up
19 and running, Mr. Scopelliti still has the
20 position and is still collecting his salary
21 and I will be addressing it further under
22 motions.

23 MR. SPINDLER: Okay, thank you.

24 MR. JOYCE: Our next speaker is Doug
25 Miller.

1 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
2 Doug Miller, Scranton.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

4 MR. MILLER: I'd just like to begin
5 briefly this evening by responding to Steve
6 Corbett, WILK. You know, the last few weeks
7 he has spent the majority of his time on his
8 show chastising the council majority, name
9 calling, calling council members names,
10 saying that the council is dull, they have
11 no solutions, doing every thing he can to
12 paint a rosy picture and make our wonderful
13 mayor look so brilliant.

14 You know, he also went on to make a
15 comment that I just found totally absurd and
16 that was that Councilman Loscombe was one of
17 the worst councilmen ever and that
18 Mrs. Evans has no leadership. Just
19 completely comical, but yet again this is
20 the mentality we are dealing with yet he
21 fails to talk facts. He doesn't want to
22 talk facts, he wants to be like the rest of
23 the media in this community, such as the
24 Scranton Times and put a political twist and
25 spin on everything and just mislead the

1 public, and again, praise the mayor which he
2 has got quite the attention from the media,
3 but with this council and with that camera
4 right there the truth comes out every
5 Thursday night at 6:30, so they continue to
6 put the spin on it and mislead all they
7 want, but in this chamber we don't lie in
8 here, the truth comes out and I think Steve
9 Corbett needs to get that through his head.

10 But I did take the other time to
11 call into the show because he did totally
12 disgust me and I felt I needed to go on the
13 show and defend the council with his
14 ridiculous comments and, of course, I was on
15 hold for approximately 34 minutes and he
16 waited up to two minutes before his
17 commercial break to put me on. He knows
18 darn well who I am, I have called him, I've
19 had issues with him the past and I'm not
20 intimidated by him, I'll put him in his
21 place any time, and I did. Of course he
22 didn't like what I had to say and he cut me
23 right off as has frequently -- he frequently
24 does with other callers, but I told him that
25 it must be real nice to sit behind a

1 microphone every day and tell us how to run
2 the city and put political spin on
3 everything. And he said, you know, you are
4 a wise guy, you know, mocking me and
5 everything else, but it's the truth. It
6 must be easy to sit behind a microphone just
7 like it must be easy to sit behind a
8 computer or an artist desk and write
9 political cartoons and chastise people and
10 yet not at one time do I recall any of these
11 people coming up this podium like I have and
12 people in the audience who have been coming
13 up here for decades have I seen him coming
14 here and yet Steve Corbett is going to go on
15 the radio and tell us how to run the city.

16 Come on down, Steve, and tell us
17 what you got, what's your solution besides
18 constant banter and silliness. You know, I
19 think the way we need to deal with Steve
20 Corbett is like we deal with a whiny, crying
21 infant, a little child, we give him a little
22 pacifier. We plug it right in the mouth and
23 we shut him right up. Well, I have a
24 pacifier for Steve Corbett. I understand he
25 is out of town, he is in Ireland, he should

1 stay there, quite frankly, but take the
2 pacifier and plug his mouth because you know
3 what, nothing relevant or intelligent comes
4 out of his mouth, so what do you do with
5 somebody like that you plug their mouth shut
6 until they have something relevant to say.
7 That's how you deal with Steve Corbett.

8 So I would say to council you
9 dealing with a complete babbling fool, just
10 stay the course and continue doing what you
11 are doing.

12 Now, onto some more serious matters
13 tonight, I would like to take the time to
14 address the DCED letter that we received
15 today. It's my personal opinion that this
16 is just an attempt by DCED and the mayor and
17 the Pennsylvania Economy League to once
18 again manipulate and force council to pass
19 the mayor's Recovery Plan. This time they
20 are offering the city \$2 million and I
21 believe a \$250,000 grant. I truly believe
22 this is just an attempt to buy the mayor's
23 Recovery Plan, buy a 78 percent tax
24 increase, and continue to just take complete
25 shots at the taxpayers of this city, place

1 burdens on them that they just can't afford
2 this time.

3 You know, we heard tonight that we
4 are going to consider a mediation and we're
5 going to sit down with the mayor and DCED
6 publically. You know, I don't know what,
7 you know, time frame we expect the mayor to
8 come in here, I have been waiting for him
9 for ten years and haven't seen him. The
10 only time we have seen him here is when he
11 casts his vote for Councilman McGoff and
12 when he was here begging for mercy for his I
13 believe 40 plus million dollar borrowing
14 plan for the Parking Authority, so if we
15 obviously believe we are going to see Chris
16 Doherty here I think we need to get out of
17 fantasy land, it's not going to happen, and
18 it's my opinion that we should tell DCED to
19 go play because they are not looking out for
20 our best interest, they haven't for the last
21 20 plus years and their ploy here to handle
22 the \$2 million and think they are doing us a
23 favor is just completely nonsensical. They
24 are not looking out for us, they are looking
25 out for themselves, and as I said, we need

1 to just walk away from them and handle these
2 matters ourselves.

3 I think it's time that Chris Doherty
4 holds himself accountable, as I said. You
5 know, obviously, as we know, has mismanaged
6 the city tremendously. He is incompetent
7 and he is blaming everybody but himself
8 throughout the whole process. You know,
9 it's truly unfortunate and I know we have
10 made national news recently, as we all know,
11 and it's quite embarrassing to be honest
12 with you because we are the laughing stock
13 of the nation whether we want to believe it
14 or not. Nothing good is coming out of this.
15 Scranton looks bad and we have Chris Doherty
16 to thank for that.

17 He has gone on TV time and time ago
18 again, he's pointed the finger at council,
19 pointed the finger at the people in the
20 audience, taxpayers, he blames everybody but
21 himself, so I think it's time for Chris
22 Doherty to look in the mirror and, you know,
23 you can say I'm into the props, but, you
24 know, I brought a gift for the mayor, too
25 tonight. You know, he wants to blame

1 everybody but himself. Well, I would ask
2 Chris Doherty tonight to come on down and
3 tell me what you see in here, and we'll get
4 his answer, and you know what, it's a
5 two-sided mirror. So you know what, he can
6 bring his past rubber stamps councils down
7 and they can look in the other side and they
8 can tell me what they see in there as well
9 because they are the ones that have gotten
10 us to where we are today and we can thank
11 them for it.

12 You know, we want to talk about a
13 Recovery Plan, and I'll be real brief here,
14 we want to talk about a Recovery Plan and we
15 want to talk about the banks and last week
16 we had a discussion between Councilman
17 McGoff and Attorney Hughes, and you know I
18 thought Attorney Hughes did a really great
19 job basically summing it up. It is quite
20 simple here, the banks should be willing to
21 sit down and negotiate with the city.

22 You know, we have been going on and
23 we have been working with a Recovery Plan
24 that's been expired since 2005, and not one
25 time has a Recovery Plan ever been an issue

1 since 2005. We have gone to banks numerous
2 times to seek borrowing and it's never been
3 and issue and now all of sudden it is, and I
4 do agree with Attorney Hughes there is
5 collusion going on. You know, Mr. McGoff
6 wanted to get into an argument with Attorney
7 Hughes. I guess now all of a sudden he is
8 an attorney now.

9 It is very simple, it's not complex.
10 We want to make it complex, but it's not.
11 The bottom line is there is collusion, there
12 is an attempt to manipulate the story and
13 point the finger at this council and put all
14 of the blame on you when you have had
15 nothing to do with this and here you are
16 with solutions to a Recovery Plan that you
17 were told were going to be a part of the
18 mayor's Recovery Plan, do we see them in
19 there, No? So you see what kind of man we
20 are dealing with here and nothing is going
21 to change.

22 So I'd ask you to tell DCED, "Go
23 play, take your money, we don't want it,"
24 because they are not looking out for us,
25 they are looking out for themselves and they

1 want us to ram this mayor's Recovery Plan
2 down our throats and continue to place
3 burdens on the taxpayers of this city and
4 it's not fair. Thank you.

5 MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Mr. Miller.
6 Gerard Hetman.

7 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.
8 Gerard Hetman from the Lackawanna County
9 Department of Community Relations. First to
10 follow-up on the request made to me last
11 week by Councilman Rogan regarding the
12 financing for the fireworks that were part
13 of the Scrantastic Spectacular celebration
14 on courthouse square on the evening of July
15 3. As I provided in response to Mr. Rogan
16 early this week, the fireworks were paid for
17 through corporate sponsorship by Intercom
18 Pocono Northeast as part of their
19 sponsorship package for the show. Several
20 people asked me, friends of mine, why the
21 giant tookie bird on top of the garage that
22 same evening, so there is your response to
23 that, Mr. Rogan.

24 MR. ROGAN: Thank you for your quick
25 response, I appreciate you getting an e-mail

1 the next day. Very prompt.

2 MR. HETMAN: That's what we are here
3 for. Thanks for your cooperation.

4 Secondly, your announcement
5 regarding an issue that we have been asked
6 about in our office many times and possibly
7 you folks as well on council, the sale of
8 the former seats from PNC field. Basically,
9 just released from Joseph D'Arienzo, our
10 county communications director, your change
11 to own a piece of the Lackawanna baseball
12 history has arrived. The Lackawanna County
13 Commissioners, the multi-purpose stadium
14 authority announce that the seats from PNC
15 Field will be available for purchase on
16 Saturday, August 4, at the ballpark from 10
17 a.m. to 2 p.m. The seats will be sold as is
18 in quantities of four for \$25 per seat.

19 In an effort to help the community
20 and its various leagues, the Stadium
21 Authority and Commissioner's office are
22 offering seats fee of charge to the
23 Lackawanna County little leagues and
24 community softball teams that may be in need
25 of riser mounted seats for their facilities.

1 The organizations must note that the seats
2 being riser mounted this method of
3 installation may not be adaptable for all
4 facilities. While the seats will be gratis,
5 a cost will be incurred to retrofit the
6 seats to their needs unless the group can
7 get a sponsor.

8 All little leagues or softball teams
9 interested in the free seats should contact
10 the SWB Yankees director of facility
11 operations, Joseph Milano, at 570-969-2255.
12 Leagues and eventual use will be required to
13 show proof that their facilities are in need
14 of the seats. Local teams and leagues will
15 have until Saturday, July 28, to make their
16 request for the riser mounted seats. The
17 groups must pick up the seats by 10 a.m. on
18 August 4. And again, that number for
19 Mr. Milano was 570-969-2255.

20 In addition, I'd like to make an
21 announcement regarding the 8th Annual
22 Scranton Jazz Festival which will be held
23 the weekend of August 3 through 5 downtown
24 at the Radisson Lackawanna County Station
25 Hotel in the trade shack, quote/unquote.

1 There is a number of jazz-related acts
2 playing. I must note that I'm not a
3 particularly dedicated jazz fan, but for
4 those who there are a number of names that
5 should be recognized locally and regionally.
6 This is also all the same weekend we have
7 both the August edition of First Friday
8 Scranton taking place on Friday evening and
9 also the Lackawanna County basketball
10 three-on-three tournament on the 100 and 200
11 blocks of Wyoming Avenue, so it should be a
12 very exciting fun filled energetic evening
13 downtown, as my coworkers in various
14 departments says about most of our events
15 there will be something for everyone.

16 So we have some posters I would like
17 to leave with your office, and again, we
18 always appreciate when we see those posters
19 and those handouts put up outside of the
20 council chambers. I have had several people
21 from the audience tell me, "I saw that event
22 or heard about that event and got the
23 details outside of the chambers," so we do
24 appreciate with your cooperation with that
25 and I also do have some pamphlet-sized

1 brochures that we would like to leave maybe
2 with the city clerk and put them someplace
3 in city hall where they would be accessible
4 to the public. We know many people come
5 into the office and I would like to leave
6 that in an accessible position.

7 Finally this evening, regarding our
8 summer concert series, the next act in our
9 noon concert series will be this Friday,
10 July 13, with the West Third Street Band
11 tomorrow afternoon at 12:00 noon time on
12 courthouse square, and Saturday evening the
13 next one of our Saturday evening concert
14 series is the Bob Monroe School House Rock
15 children's concert taking place from 5 p.m.
16 to 7 p.m. on courthouse square, and this
17 evening's courthouse square drive-in movie,
18 which begins at 9:00, will be Mama Mia, and
19 the voting is still open so you can vote for
20 that fifth and final movie at
21 LackawannaCounty.org via the on-line poll.
22 Anything else this evening? Thank you for
23 your cooperation.

24 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

25 MR. JOYCE: Thank you very much.

1 Our next speaker is Bill Jackowitz.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,
3 South Scranton resident and member of the
4 Scranton Taxpayers' Association, founder of
5 the Legion of Doom. Mr. Joyce, yes or no
6 answer, yesterday I was told we had \$1.1
7 million in the city budget; is that correct?

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes. We have that in
9 cash, yes.

10 MR. JACKOWITZ: So we went from
11 5,000 to 1.2 million?

12 MR. JOYCE: Yes, that is correct.

13 MR. JACKOWITZ: Thank you. Mr.
14 Joyce, did Janet Evans call and say why she
15 is not here tonight?

16 MR. JOYCE: I did speak to her
17 earlier and she said that she was not
18 feeling well.

19 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, so in other
20 words she was sick?

21 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

22 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, I can live
23 with that. Okay, how did we not know that
24 we owned the sewer system? Mr. McGoff, can
25 you tell me that?

1 MR. MCGOFF: I wasn't involved in
2 it, so I don't know.

3 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, but you were
4 supporting the mayor's Recovery Plan which
5 included selling the sewage, shouldn't you
6 have researched it?

7 MR. MCGOFF: I have no knowledge of
8 who owned the Sewer Authority --

9 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay.

10 MR. MCGOFF: -- or water conveyance
11 system.

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: I understand, you
13 were supporting something you had no
14 knowledge of, okay.

15 MR. MCGOFF: And I never I supported
16 the mayor's Recovery Plan.

17 MR. JACKOWITZ: Well, you sure
18 sounded like you were. Maybe I'm wrong, if
19 I'm wrong the other council members will
20 correct me, but it sounded to me like you
21 have been pushing the Recovery Plan every
22 week.

23 Garbage fees, how did we not know
24 who owes garbage fees and doesn't ow garbage
25 fees, Mr. Loscombe?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: How do we not know?

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, how do we not
3 know?

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: It was a surprise to
5 me today. That situation was in the KOZ
6 area, so apparently they slipped through the
7 cracks up there.

8 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. Mr. Rogan,
9 how did we not know that the Parking
10 Authority was \$100 million in debt?

11 MR. ROGAN: We did.

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: We had four garages
13 and four ticket readers, how did we not know
14 that the Parking Authority was \$100 million
15 in debt?

16 MR. ROGAN: Well, short answer or
17 long answer?

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: Short answer.

19 MR. ROGAN: The short answer --

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: Give the long answer
21 on your time.

22 MR. ROGAN: Sounds good. The short
23 answer is the Parking Authority under Mr.
24 Scopelliti has been very deceptive regarding
25 the financial situation.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. Nonprofits.
2 My personal opinion the only way we are
3 going to get out of this mess is for the
4 nonprofits to give us money, and I'm not
5 talking about \$300,000 or \$100,000, I'm
6 talking the University of the Scranton first
7 year two million; Lackawanna College, one
8 million; medical school, one million, and
9 we'll go down from there until the City of
10 Scranton gets back on its feet and the mayor
11 needs to push this.

12 Five years ago I sat in this seat
13 right there -- or, correction, Mayor Doherty
14 sat in that seat right there and I sat in
15 that seat right there, when Judy Gatelli was
16 sponsoring the nonprofit organization
17 committee that she formed and I asked the
18 mayor eyeball to eyeball, "Are you going to
19 support this, Mayor Chris Doherty?"

20 And he told me, "Yes, he was."

21 Well, guess what, five years have
22 gone by or maybe six years, I'm not sure on
23 the exact time and he has not supported
24 nothing. So, until -- quite honestly,
25 council, you are spinning your wheels in the

1 sand because you are \$100,000 here and you
2 are a million dollars here, it's not going
3 to solve our problems, we need big money.
4 We need millions for the next couple of
5 years to get back on our feet.

6 The second thing we need to do is we
7 need to start hiring from outside of the
8 City of Scranton. We are hiring incompetent
9 friends and family members who do not know
10 what they are doing, and I just proved that
11 because I asked you guys questions and every
12 one of those questions we have either a city
13 treasurer or a CEO of the Parking Authority
14 or Redevelopment authority, business
15 administrator who lost \$3 million his first
16 month on the job and found it, and seriously
17 incompetent people running the City of
18 Scranton. We need to hire from outside of
19 the City of Scranton and bring in competent
20 people with new ideas, fresh ideas and turn
21 this city around. Otherwise, we are going
22 to be distressed for another 30 years.

23 As far as DCED's offer it's nothing
24 but a Band-Aid. \$2.1 million is going to do
25 us absolutely nothing. So, please, do not

1 submit to the Stockholm theory, do not give
2 into the hostage takers. Please do not.
3 \$2.1 million is going to solve a temporary
4 problem for a very short period of time,
5 it's not going to help us, as a matter of
6 fact, it's going to make the situation worse
7 because when this \$2.1 million is gone and
8 we have to start paying it back we are not
9 going to have the money to pay it back and
10 we are going to be right back in a worse
11 situation so, please, let's use common
12 sense. College degrees are fine, but common
13 sense is a heck of a lot more important than
14 a college degree will ever be and
15 StreetSmart is much smarter than anything
16 you will ever learn in any University, I'll
17 tell you that right now.

18 Alex Hazzouri, I couldn't believe
19 WNEP actually interviewed Alex Hazzouri.
20 Alex Hazzouri is one of the reasons why we
21 are in the situation we are in now, and then
22 on the 6:00 news last night on WNEP they
23 interviewed a guy walking down the street
24 talking on a cell phone. The guy had no
25 idea what the person asking the question he

1 is talking about. He is on a cell phone.
2 Go out and interview real citizens of the
3 City of Scranton. Go out and interview real
4 taxpayers, you know, don't interview people
5 who live in the city, interview people who
6 pay taxes in the city. The majority of them
7 are senior citizens, and that includes the
8 national news media, go out there and
9 interview the people who pay the taxes, not
10 somebody sitting on a park bench or somebody
11 walking down the street who has no idea or a
12 clue, they don't even know what a city
13 council is and they probably don't even know
14 we have a mayor. So, I mean, let's use some
15 common sense here. Common sense goes a long
16 way in life, I'm telling you that right now,
17 and that includes the media.

18 And as far as Nay Aug Park goes,
19 Mr. McGoff, that's your committee, Parks and
20 Recreation and DPW, can you tell me who paid
21 for the fireworks display on Saturday night
22 at Nay Aug Park?

23 MR. MCGOFF: I believe part of it
24 was the Recreation Authority and there was a
25 corporate sponsor, I'm not sure who the

1 corporate sponsor was.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, can you please
3 find out for me, please, and also find out
4 what money the Parks and Recreation used to
5 pay for it? Was it the swimming money, was
6 it the Christmas tree light money? What
7 money did they use or was it tax money?
8 That would be very helpful. And basically
9 that's it. I hope you all have a good day
10 and a good night and I hope you come up with
11 some solutions and solve these problems
12 because I'll tell you what the citizens in
13 this city are disgusted.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Joyce, before the
16 next speaker comes up I just want to make
17 one comment on what Mr. Jackowitz said, the
18 fireworks, the big issue last week at the
19 meeting, as we know there were two fireworks
20 displays, we inquired if the county, I asked
21 who paid for them, we also inquired with the
22 Recreation Authority and the city as who
23 paid for those. The county I received an
24 e-mail the next day with an answer. With
25 the ones the Recreation Authority and the

1 City paid for at Nay Aug we still haven't
2 received a response and this just shows the
3 problem with the lack of communication
4 between with city council on even a simple
5 answer like who paid for fireworks in the
6 city. We haven't received an answer as of
7 yet.

8 MR. JOYCE: Does anyone else wish to
9 address council?

10 MS. STULGIS: Good evening. My name
11 is Ann Marie Stulgis. I can't help but -- I
12 didn't intend to speak about this, but after
13 seeing the -- putting the people against the
14 wall, "We'll give you this free money, if
15 you pass a Recovery Plan," we have had a
16 Recovery Plan since 1992. Somebody tell me
17 how we benefited because we weren't \$330
18 million in debt back then like we are now,
19 so what did a Recovery Plan do? And you
20 can't have a Recovery Plan if you don't have
21 reciprocity. Trust me. I have been dealing
22 with it for eight years. I dealt with the
23 mayor and the Recovery Plan and if you don't
24 have reciprocity he can do anything he wants
25 as he is doing right now at \$7.25 an hour

1 having city workers work for that, but the
2 Recovery Plan said no raises for anybody in
3 the city, so he froze police and firemens'
4 wages for '03, '04, '05, '06, '07, '08, '09
5 and 2010 because a Recovery Plan said, "No
6 wage increases for any city employees. "

7 However, before our former HR
8 director came into office she got a gigantic
9 raise. I believe the first raise was ten
10 grand and she got several more after that.

11 And part of the problem besides a
12 Recovery Plan that doesn't have any teeth,
13 is that we are a one newspaper town, if you
14 want to call it a newspaper, so you don't
15 find the truth and a perfect example is the
16 fact that we hired that HR Director the
17 Scranton Times had on the front page how he
18 was only hiring qualified people and how are
19 new HR Director had a business degree.
20 Actually, it was a fashion merchandising
21 degree with a class in how to make
22 millinery. That's an HR Director. That's
23 the qualified people that were hired by this
24 administration, and that's why if you don't
25 have reciprocity in a Recovery Plan then the

1 mayor can do anything he wants, he can
2 violate it, and there is not a darn thing
3 you can do about it. He can only hurt the
4 workers that are working for hourly wage and
5 that's what's going on here for the last 11
6 and a half years. Believe me.

7 Now, to speak of our debt, people
8 don't have any clue about what's happened
9 here. When this mayor came into office the
10 first thing he did was open the budget and
11 increase it, and he proceeded to increase it
12 every year thereafter. Remember, he froze
13 police and firefighters wages, but the
14 budget continued to grow and grow and he
15 also borrowed millions. Everybody remember
16 the 47 million he borrowed at one point?
17 The ten another time, a couple of more
18 million here and a couple of more million
19 there, so we are up to \$330 million
20 long-term debt, which before he is done it's
21 going to be a half a billion.

22 Everyone blames the workers. The
23 workers didn't spend the money. Where did
24 the money go? If the budget nearly doubled
25 and our public safety workers we in a pay

1 freeze for nine years, where did the money
2 go? It didn't go on equipment. If you go
3 down and look you will find a whole bunch of
4 police cars are owned by the police officers
5 because most of the police cars in this city
6 wouldn't pass a real inspection. The
7 exhaust, people have actually been sickened
8 and had medical treatment because of the
9 exhaust in the police cars. Wheels have
10 fallen off of police cars in the past, they
11 are not safe. We have had brake failures on
12 police cars. He didn't buy police cars,
13 that's for sure, maybe he bought one or two,
14 but in 11 years with how many miles we have?

15 And then you look at what he has
16 done to the fire department. Last week that
17 I counted we had three, if not four days
18 minimum, where this city had three working
19 fire engines. Three to cover 27 plus square
20 miles. Three. It's a recipe for disaster.
21 It's a recipe for disaster. So don't
22 buckle, stay strong, because this guy, this
23 is \$2 million they are throwing in your
24 face, they think you can be bought. Don't
25 do it. If you can't get a fair plan, we

1 don't need it. It didn't do anything for us
2 anyway, he violated it right on through and
3 what good do it do. DCED didn't say
4 anything, PEL only cares about collecting
5 their check from the state, that's all that
6 matters to them. I know, I tried to talk
7 with them. A waste of time.

8 Just stay strong and make sure you
9 do the right thing for the people and most
10 of us know. Most of us know what's really
11 going on. Good luck.

12 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

13 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else who
14 cares to address council?

15 MR. DOBRZYN: I'll bring thi up
16 right away, last week I complained about it,
17 also, on that fireworks business it was not
18 announced. That Park Authority should
19 resign. That's terrible. It's bad enough
20 that we are spending money that the city
21 doesn't have and then turn around and not
22 even announce it so people don't have an
23 opportunity to attend. I was a little tired
24 that day, but I would have attended had I
25 known for sure that it was fireworks up

1 there. It's ashame. Now I'm stuck paying
2 the bill. Thank you, Park Authority.

3 And I'd like to -- oh, first of all,
4 I'm Dave Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton,
5 taxes and fees paid. We had an issue and an
6 ordinance passed, 10 percent tax increase
7 and a borrowing of ten million and I would
8 like to know what threw the monkey wrench
9 into that deal which would have basically
10 put us an even keel for this year that would
11 we could consider where we want to go. I
12 heard a lot in supermarkets in the last week
13 and it would be to your advantage to go over
14 that because from what I understand then the
15 76 percent came out, which is really 95 over
16 three years, and all of this other stuff and
17 that's the monkey wrench, so please explain
18 that during motions even if you just spend a
19 minute on it, a lot of people are confused
20 out there.

21 And I talked to our union steward
22 from the DPW, the tipping fee for recycling
23 is zero dollars, so every pound of garbage
24 that -- or recycling that winds up in the
25 garbage is costing the next guy money.

1 Unfortunately, that's the kind of the stuff
2 we don't have time for with all of these
3 constant crises and misinformation flying
4 around.

5 And last week I spoke of an audit,
6 well, what my idea of an audit was is a full
7 audit of the current accounts due or payable
8 and the inaccuracies are and holdbacks are
9 what the problem was. I think that ten
10 years might be too much for a big bite for
11 the situation we are in, but we don't need
12 to find out that somebody borrowed another
13 \$5 million out of this fund or that fund to
14 pay the other fund and because he owed money
15 to the other fund and going back and forth
16 and that's where it all got started with
17 the -- it was spending that you people were
18 not made aware of it and it's just ashame
19 and sadly no Recovery Plan until all of the
20 accounts are in, every last -- it doesn't
21 have to be every last dime, but it certainly
22 can't be, "Well, ooh, I forgot about this
23 four or five million that we owed this guy
24 or that guy or the next guy, and we owe
25 Municipal Energy Management Fund."

1 And, you know, it's goes on and on
2 and on, but we really need time to sit down
3 and get this straight and then whatever tax
4 increase has to be has to be, and since a
5 basic fact since '07 the working class in
6 this country, say people under 50 grand a
7 year or so or making quite a bit more, have
8 lost 40 percent of their worth through
9 pensions, losses and housing value losses
10 and so forth and since 1970 the upper
11 working class has lost 30 percent and the
12 lower working class has lost 60 percent, and
13 many of these households have negative
14 worth.

15 And it's just -- I don't know where
16 the money is going to come from with those
17 people. I mean, some of us are treading
18 water, but treading water is okay and a
19 rising tide floats all ships, but if you are
20 treading water you just drown all the faster
21 with the rising tide.

22 And shame on the sewer. And the
23 parking meters, I don't know what the
24 intelligence or what the reasoning of
25 selling the Parking Authority, our meters

1 with money that they are going to give us
2 that we are going to owe anyway. What's the
3 point? It's just unimaginable. It's just
4 really ashamed, but there is too much going
5 on here and we have to hold our ground, and
6 I apologize to all of the city workers that
7 aren't getting their paychecks, but at some
8 point it's just going to get worse unless it
9 gets corrected.

10 And I'll make it quick, the golden
11 parrot goes out to once again the bankers
12 that lost \$30 million in our public safety
13 pension funds and now you are not good
14 enough to loan any money because you don't
15 have any cash value. Bawk, bawk.

16 And Mike Turzai by once again
17 announcing that this voter ID was just a
18 ploy to disenfranchise voters. Shame on
19 him. Have a good night. Bawk, bawk.

20 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Does anyone
21 else wish to address council? Chrissy.

22 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Jackie, you
23 handsome devil, you. Well, jack, those guys
24 are working, they are a doing a good job in
25 this city. They do a good job. Keep it up

1 down there. Thank you.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thanks, Chrissy.

3 MR. VITRIS: Okay, my name is Sam
4 Vitris. I have a question, and I think we
5 have to answer it, and I think all of you
6 people have to answer this question. Why
7 are we broke? What's the question? Why are
8 we broke. Quick answer, Mr. Rogan?

9 MR. ROGAN: I would say we are broke
10 because over the past few decades the city
11 has spent too much money, population has
12 left the city --

13 MR. VITRIS: Okay, that's the
14 long -- that's past. We have \$70 million
15 worth of revenue that comes into this city;
16 correct? Mr. Joyce?

17 MR. JOYCE: Yes, approximately,
18 about that.

19 MR. VITRIS: Why are we broke?

20 MR. JOYCE: Because we currently
21 can't get the financing for unfunded debt.

22 MR. VITRIS: Why?

23 MR. JOYCE: Refinancing.

24 MR. VITRIS: Why?

25 MR. JOYCE: The banks are requesting

1 that as part of that we need a Recovery
2 Plan.

3 MR. VITRIS: We have been listening
4 to that for how long, four, six, eight, ten
5 weeks?

6 MR. ROGAN: Longer.

7 MR. VITRIS: Longer. Okay, why?
8 Why? Why? Why? That's what all you people
9 have to ask yourselves and the mayor has to
10 ask why. Why are we allowing this to go on?
11 When will it end? They are only questions.
12 There are answers. They are solvable. Help
13 us, help the residents, help the workers,
14 get it done. This is nuts. Thank you.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: We can resolve it
16 tomorrow with a 78 percent increase, but we
17 are not prepared to do that.

18 MR. VITRIS: Why, why, why? I don't
19 care. That's -- you were elected, that's
20 what I said in the last couple of weeks.
21 Tax increases are the responsibility, yes or
22 no, of elected officials, not the workers.
23 You know that, Jack, you are a worker.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: That's correct.

25 MR. VITRIS: And I'm a homeowner,

1 everyone out there is a homeowner, nobody
2 likes tax increases, nobody. Cost of
3 government goes up, either we figure
4 something out here or your workers are going
5 to be making \$7.25 an hour and I'm only
6 asking the questions why. \$70 million of
7 revenue come into this city for 2012. The
8 banks are requiring a plan. Why, why, why
9 don't we have it? That's all.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Why are they
11 requiring a plan when they haven't had one
12 since 2005? We passed an ordinance for
13 borrowing for \$9.85 million, which didn't
14 require a plan, and a 10 percent tax
15 increase to cover that. As our solicitor
16 said last week, there is collusion going on.
17 Someone went to the banks, particularly
18 these agencies, and said, "Don't give it to
19 them until they hold our people hostage with
20 a Recovery Plan," and I'm not going to sell
21 my soul to the public, the employees or
22 myself for the Recovery Plan that can't be
23 for everybody.

24 We didn't reduce your pay, the mayor
25 did unilaterally. He never came to us and

1 asked us for any advice, so to stand there
2 and accuse anybody of cutting the employees'
3 pay --

4 MR. VITRIS: I didn't say that. Oh,
5 no. Oh, no. I did to the say.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: This time he had --

7 MR. VITRIS: Jack, I did not say
8 that. You are turning this into --

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: I just want to tell
10 you something, I have a brother-in-law that
11 works in your department and he has been
12 harassed by several employees in that
13 department because of me.

14 MR. VITRIS: Who? Bobby? Never.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Yes.

16 MR. VITRIS: Never. No way.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: And there is no
18 reason he should go to work every day and be
19 harassed because of the decisions we made --

20 MR. VITRIS: First of all --

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: -- when are working
22 for you.

23 MR. VITRIS: -- this is why, this is
24 why -- this is the exact -- I asked some
25 questions and we turn political. This is

1 why.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: I tried to give you
3 the correct answer --

4 MR. VITRIS: These are the
5 questions.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: You don't want to
7 hear it.

8 MR. VITRIS: I am hearing it. I was
9 ready to walk away. I was hearing it and
10 you stopped me and you gave me a political
11 speech I don't want to hear. Jack, I
12 respect you.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: I respect you, too,
14 Sam.

15 MR. VITRIS: Why, why, they are just
16 questions.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Did you ask the mayor
18 why?

19 MR. VITRIS: Yes.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: What's his answer?
21 City council --

22 MR. VITRIS: His answer is, "It's
23 council's budget, there's \$16 million worth
24 of borrowing, they refuse to fund it?"

25 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris --

1 MR. VITRIS: So I come up here -- I
2 come up here and I ask a simple couple of
3 questions, why?

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: We have provided
5 these answers for weeks.

6 MR. VITRIS: A couple of whys. If
7 you are saying the banks are in collusion
8 with the mayor then I want me, you, the rest
9 of the workers or union heads to walk into
10 the banks and I want to find out which banks
11 you are talking about and --

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'd be happy to take
13 you to all of the banks and we'll find out.

14 MR. VITRIS: That's what we got to
15 do.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Exactly.

17 MR. VITRIS: To find out who is
18 lying.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: And the let public
20 know which banks did not want to help the
21 city.

22 MR. VITRIS: All this political
23 infighting has got us no where. That's my
24 only point.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: The only thing --

1 MR. VITRIS: That's my only point.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: The only thing we
3 have is doing what's right or doing what we
4 are told to do in a Recovery Plan that is
5 not a benefit to the residents.

6 MR. VITRIS: Was there a motion made
7 tonight, did I hear when I came in, to have
8 the mayor come to a public caucus with DCED?

9 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

10 MR. VITRIS: Is that -- has the
11 mayor been notified of this meeting?

12 MR. JOYCE: No, not as of yet. That
13 was something that I just got this letter.

14 MR. VITRIS: See, this is where we
15 are going here --

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: The mayor has been
17 invited week after week, Sam.

18 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris, the motion
19 was made an hour ago, our staff hasn't had
20 time to send the letter to the mayor.

21 MR. VITRIS: Right.

22 MR. ROGAN: It was made an hour ago.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: He was been invited
24 week after week. We actually sent letters
25 previously, have we not, Mrs. Krake, asking

1 the mayor to appear here?

2 MS. KRAKE: We have sent many
3 letters on many different issues.

4 MR. VITRIS: That's not what I'm
5 saying, I'm saying we have done that before,
6 so now if he doesn't come, right, is the
7 meeting off?

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, apparently.

9 MR. VITRIS: That's my question.
10 They are questions.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Who are we going to
12 meet with if -- -

13 MR. VITRIS: It's a simple question.
14 Is the meeting off if he doesn't come?

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, our meeting is
16 with him so I would assume that it's off.

17 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris --

18 MR. VITRIS: No, the meeting is with
19 the couple of different parties.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: The mayor is this key
21 to this whole city, he is the mayor.

22 MR. VITRIS: Right. So you made a
23 motion, right, to get the ball rolling.

24 MR. ROGAN: Correct.

25 MR. VITRIS: To get the ball rolling

1 and we don't know if the mayor is coming.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: That's correct. This
3 here letter we received today stated that a
4 meeting with the mayor and PEL and DCED. We
5 just announced we would be happy to meet
6 with them. We received this this afternoon.
7 I received it in my mail when I came in this
8 evening.

9 MR. VITRIS: Well, I think the mayor
10 if this is -- and this is a good thing.
11 This is a good thing, Jack.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Of course it is if he
13 comes.

14 MR. VITRIS: This it a great thing,
15 but we got to get the mayor here.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: That's what we been
17 saying for months.

18 MR. VITRIS: If the meeting is off
19 because the mayor don't come, well, then
20 this is a bad thing, too.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: It shows where he
22 stands with the public now.

23 MR. VITRIS: We got to get this
24 started and, you know, she is saying we sent
25 numerous letters, Nancy sent numerous

1 letters -- -

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, she did.

3 MR. VITRIS: Well, now maybe it's
4 time we get this thing resolved.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: I agree with you
6 there, Sam.

7 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris, you should
8 go to the mayor as well.

9 MR. VITRIS: Oh, I have. Oh, Pat,
10 oh, I have.

11 MR. ROGAN: I have been saying --

12 MR. VITRIS: Lots of times.

13 MR. ROGAN: I have been saying for
14 two months that all five members and the
15 mayor need to sit down, and as Councilman
16 Loscombe said the 78 percent tax increase is
17 not going to pass. If the mayor wants a
18 Recovery Plan he has to come and sit down
19 with council and negotiate. There are ideas
20 we have, there are ideas the mayor had and I
21 said before the meeting started, not one of
22 us up here or the mayor is going to have
23 everything that they personally want in the
24 plan. That's how compromise works. The
25 mayor --

1 MR. VITRIS: That's right and I
2 agree and that's great.

3 MR. ROGAN: And the mayor has --

4 MR. VITRIS: And I think, and this
5 is my opinion, I have been around a long
6 time, when you talk to people you can get
7 through to people. You can come to together
8 and you can compromise, right? That's the
9 only reason I came here because I'm confused
10 why are we broke. That's all. \$70 million
11 worth of revenue flows in to the city, why
12 are the city employees making \$7.25 an hour
13 and the mayor is claiming on that day that
14 we got our checks there was only \$5,000 in
15 the bank when there is \$70 million worth of
16 revenue that flows through these -- through
17 this city. So it's confusing to me, just us
18 workers, right, and we would like our
19 leaders to figure out, right, like, why we
20 are broke. That's all. And how do we get
21 out of this so we can stop the infighting.

22 I mean, that's all. I don't want to
23 come here, I don't want to come here and
24 complain, I don't want to come here and
25 argue with anybody, just I'm here to try to

1 understand why we are broke. That's all.
2 That's all. Thank you.

3 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Vitris.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

5 MR. JOYCE: Is there anybody else
6 who wishes to address council?

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening.
8 Marie Schumacher, city taxpayer.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: First some agenda
11 items, 3-B how many of these structures do
12 we have in the city that are in that report
13 and what are the worse cases, if any, or do
14 they all pass?

15 MR. ROGAN: I haven't had a chance
16 to review the report yet.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Has anybody?

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: What item was that
19 again?

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: 3-B.

21 MR. JOYCE: 3-B, the final copy of
22 the 2012 bridge inspection report.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, I guess the
24 answer is you don't know. Okay, 5-C and D,
25 maybe it's just me, but I have a problem

1 with people who continue to be reappointed
2 to very long, in this case five-year
3 assignments to authorities or commissions.
4 It seems to me that there could be a
5 better -- that other people should be given
6 an opportunity to contribute in this manner
7 and also all sections should be represented
8 and the fact that these two are within --
9 apparently within houses of one another
10 makes me wonder how the balance, and maybe
11 you can all tell me during motions or before
12 you vote on this, how many people are from
13 what section of the city on that commission.
14 I would like to have that information.

15 And now I'll proceed to our current
16 crisis, first I'm very happy to hear the
17 letter that was read tonight. I think
18 that's a step in the right direction. I do
19 have a couple of questions. First is, am I
20 correct in assuming there is an agreement on
21 the revenue shortfall for 2012 and on the
22 structural deficit anticipated for next
23 year?

24 MR. JOYCE: Is there an agreement
25 between council and the administration are

1 you stating?

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yes.

3 MR. JOYCE: I would say there is a
4 pretty fair agreement.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: So what are you
6 saying that the revenue shortfall is for
7 2012?

8 MR. JOYCE: About \$5 million
9 depending on if we receive the unfunded
10 borrowing and refinancing.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: And the structural
12 deficit for next year, is there an
13 agreement?

14 MR. JOYCE: I don't have the plan in
15 front of me right now, but I believe that
16 was somewhere in the -- before I give you a
17 concrete answer I would like to go back and
18 get the plan.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Okay, next
20 week is fine. Thank you. How many contacts
21 have been made with the county commissioners
22 regarding completing the reassessment, which
23 has cost the city property taxes to run 35
24 percent lower each year than it would have
25 if reassessment had been completed?

1 MR. ROGAN: I know we did make
2 numerous -- we did send numerous letters, we
3 did let our representative from the county
4 that attends the meetings --

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did you have any
6 responses whatsoever?

7 MR. ROGAN: I don't believe so.

8 MR. JOYCE: I was in a meeting with
9 the county commissioners about a month and a
10 half ago and I did bring up reassessment and
11 they said that it's something that's just
12 too costly for them at this time.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did you tell them
14 how costly it is for the city?

15 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Unfortunately, you
16 know, they are -- it's still too costly.
17 That's the answer.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: I would suggest
19 they could do some reprioritization.

20 Next question, how many contacts
21 have been made with our two reps and our
22 state senator regarding expediting the
23 school property tax elimination?

24 MR. JOYCE: I believe our office has
25 sent letters; correct, Mrs. Krake?

1 MS. KRAKE: I have to verify that
2 that we sent them, but we will get you that
3 answer next week.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thanks,
5 Nancy, I'll send you an e-mail in the
6 morning.

7 Has anyone on council consulted with
8 any of the businesses regarding the commuter
9 tax and what impact at that will have, both
10 intended and unintended consequences of a
11 commuter tax, which, as you know, I am
12 opposed to?

13 MR. MCGOFF: I haven't.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Surveyed any
15 business owners, Mr. McGoff? Mr. Rogan?

16 MR. ROGAN: No, and I'm still
17 undecided on where I stand on that as well.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Mr. Joyce?

19 MR. JOYCE: I have spoken to a few
20 business owners who have voiced various
21 opinions.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Mr. Loscombe?

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Pretty much the same
24 as Mr. Joyce, no one in particular.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. And are

1 the unions included, I missed that if you
2 said that, in the mediation with DCED and
3 the mayor? Are they party to these --

4 MR. ROGAN: I don't believe so.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: No, not according to
6 the letter.

7 MR. JOYCE: Not according to the
8 letter, no.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Last
10 Tuesday, the day before yesterday, OECD held
11 a hearing on next year's action plan.
12 Sadly, for circumstances that were
13 unavoidable, I was eight minutes late and
14 the hearing had been closed due to no
15 participation at all. I think that's sad.
16 I'm sorry nobody from council took the time.
17 I will now have to take the time to write
18 something, but I will tell you what I will
19 be proposing and what I would have proposed
20 Tuesday night is that henceforth or at least
21 the next several years all CDBG monies be
22 used to help the senior citizens who fall
23 below a certain income level, disabled vets
24 and the disabled in general to help them
25 with any increase that is forthcoming in

1 property tax. Since several others have
2 gone over maybe I continue with a just a few
3 more minutes?

4 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Yeah, I
6 think we could put liens on homes so that
7 when they homes are sold that these people,
8 and I'm quite sure, I played around with it
9 and I'd be happy to sit down with Mr. Joyce,
10 I do believe that if we get the same level
11 of funding that we got this year we could be
12 able to do that and give our senior citizens
13 a break on any increases that are
14 forthcoming.

15 And then I will close tonight with
16 something that was in the LA Times, you may
17 have all read it, it was an the bankruptcies
18 that have occurred, the three recent, but it
19 also talked about one that happened four
20 years ago and it says, "Vallejo was in a
21 similar bind when it filed for bankruptcy
22 four ago. Now, Mayor Osby Davis wonders if
23 the painful road to recovery was worth the
24 cost. The Bay area city of 112,000 was
25 forced to shut down two of it's fire

1 stations and today fixes just 10 percent of
2 its crumbling roads. It's workforce,
3 including police and firefighters, is about
4 half of its prebankruptcy size and those
5 people are left "insanely overworked."

6 Meanwhile, Vallejo spent \$10 million
7 on legal fees. It ended up with employee
8 contracts that Osby thinks the city could
9 have struck more cheaply if it had stayed
10 out of Bankruptcy Court and turned to the
11 bargaining table. His advice to other
12 cities on the financial brink, don't do it.
13 It takes an enormous toll on everyone, Davis
14 said, and you have the stigma of being a
15 bankrupt city. How do you come out of being
16 a bankrupt city to one that is a desirable
17 place to live."

18 And since you have to come up with a
19 plan regardless of whether it's -- whatever
20 it's called, even if you go into bankruptcy,
21 I suggest this is a great first step. You
22 all need to get together, put everything
23 aside and come up with a workable five-year
24 budget rather than a revised Recovery Plan
25 that begins next year. Thank you very much

1 for your time.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Schumacher, if I
3 may, Mr. Joyce? From the mayor's revised
4 Recovery Plan the projections for 2012, '13,
5 '14 and '15, if that's what you were going
6 to look for.

7 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I was.

8 MR. MCGOFF: The deficit for 2012
9 projected is \$4.2 million. Projected for
10 2013 is \$5.5 million. For 2014, \$13.7
11 million, and for 2015 \$14.2 with a
12 cumulative deficit of \$37.7 million.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Was there a single
14 item that caused the increase to go from 5.5
15 to --

16 MR. MCGOFF: I'm looking at one
17 little chart.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Then maybe
19 next week you can see what caused that to
20 jump by more than double. Thank you.

21 Mr. JOYCE: Is there anyone else?
22 Just off the cuff, I believe it was the
23 refinancing that caused it to go up
24 significantly in 2014 because the mayor's
25 Recovery Plan assumes that we would be

1 refinancing debt this year and next year.

2 MS. CHILIPKO: Good evening,
3 Council, Mary Chilipko, Scranton resident
4 and taxpayer.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

6 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

7 MS. CHILIPKO: I just had a few
8 thoughts, but now I have a few questions.
9 Well, my first idea, my first suggestion to
10 save the city money, I think we should sell
11 the street sweeper. I think it's a useless
12 piece of equipment that usually is in my way
13 on Olive Street when I'm trying to get to
14 the mall.

15 I think will might be an uproar,
16 there was a question earlier about the
17 Parking Authority, Mr. Rogan, and I told you
18 I had hoped you were wrong, but I came here
19 and started to come to meetings with faith
20 that there would be an end to the Parking
21 Authority and I felt almost assured that
22 these guys would be out of jobs and be
23 turned over and that would be a good thing,
24 so if on somebody's time if they could
25 answer that question what is it.

1 MR. ROGAN: I will addressing that.

2 MS. CHILIPKO: Mr. Joyce, how do we
3 go from -- I'm not good at math, but how do
4 we go from \$5,000 to \$1.2 million? Can you
5 answer that later in your --

6 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I will answer that
7 during motions.

8 MS. CHILIPKO: I always see good and
9 bad in everyone, but as far as Chief Duffy,
10 I just don't understand why he is still in
11 the news. My opinion he bailed on his crime
12 watchers, his neighbors, his department. I
13 don't know the reasons, I don't know why,
14 but I think it's crazy at this point
15 announcing where he going. I witnessed an
16 accident in Dickson City last night, three
17 police vehicles showed up and they seemed to
18 know how to handle the accident on their
19 own. They seemed okay up there.

20 On a good note, I think we should
21 move on, and we seem to lose focus so many
22 times, but I have had an e-mail with Captain
23 Graziano as far as the neighborhood goes,
24 and it seems there already will be a good
25 relationship with the new interim chief and

1 that I'm very happy about. I'm happy to see
2 some fellow workers here from our
3 neighborhood and I also want to mention
4 about people working together as far as the
5 captain and I wish to commend, and I hear
6 the word grandstanding now over and over
7 again, but I wish to commend Pat Rogan and
8 Jack Loscombe. You are not grandstanding
9 when you come to our small neighborhood
10 meetings and listen and try to offer
11 suggestions on what we should do as a
12 neighborhood. That's not grandstanding.

13 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

14 MS. CHILIPKO: As far as the Times,
15 and I never got in on that, but I like the
16 Doherty newsletter and I see how it works
17 now. I just see this gentleman over in the
18 corner and he comes and writes and writes
19 and writes every week, I just wonder what he
20 is writing. Maybe he has an assignment like
21 we did in school, "I must not write what
22 really happens. I must not write what
23 really happens."

24 Anyway, moving on, as far as the
25 mayor and Alex Hazzouri, does anyone know if

1 Advocacy Alliance is a nonprofit
2 institution?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: No.

4 MS. CHILIPKO: Is Advocacy Alliance
5 a nonprofit institution?

6 MR. JOYCE: I'm not sure off the top
7 my head, I don't know if other council
8 members do.

9 MS. CHILIPKO: Can we find out?

10 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

11 MS. CHILIPKO: Because there is an
12 awful lot of property around Jefferson
13 Avenue, buildings that say, "Advocacy
14 Alliance," so it is a good place for him to
15 be in mid-Atlantic city.

16 I have some ideas, as far as Steve
17 Corbett, Doug, you gave him too much
18 publicity and, Jack, don't you dare call in
19 there, don't take the bait. I got hung up
20 on once and that was enough for me. Stay
21 away from it. Stay away from the
22 ridiculous, which is what a -- has become a
23 big part of our city, and as far as the
24 Newcomb family hasn't even settled as far as
25 the chief goes, and I'm backtracking, but

1 there is a big settlement, who will pay
2 that?

3 As far as bills are concerned, the
4 metal at Nay Aug was never explained, who
5 scraped it. They never explained who paid
6 cleaned up after the lovely fireworks show.
7 We don't know if Carl Servino ever got
8 billed for the illegal demolition by the DPW
9 of property that he purchased, and what
10 about what happened to the rental
11 registration? All of these things in here
12 that just sound so good and they don't
13 happen but they are options for revenue.
14 What happens? Maybe you can answer some of
15 this later.

16 I just came back from Cooperstown
17 and it's so depressing to come home. There
18 is no signs, there is no -- my biggest thing
19 right now there is no painted lines on the
20 street. I think everybody should come in
21 and start to come in here with one idea a
22 week of how to make things better. We are
23 the people who could do it. You see more
24 people here at council and I'm happy to say
25 that.

1 As far as the public meeting, I
2 think we will need to bombard him with
3 calls, the mayor. I think we need to sit at
4 his office and I think it's time for the
5 people to work with council and get these
6 things done, and as I said before, I see how
7 hard you work and I thank you for coming to
8 our small neighborhood meetings. It means a
9 lot to us. Thank you.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mary, I believe I
11 also saw a "For Sale" sign on the chief's
12 house today, too.

13 MS. CHILIPKO: Yes, it's for sale.
14 There is a Nasser real estate on it. It's a
15 good sign.

16 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else who
17 wishes to address council?

18 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
19 MOTIONS.

20 MR. JOYCE: Mr. McGoff, do you have
21 any comments or motions?

22 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, please. First,
23 Ms. Schumacher, just to follow-up as I
24 looked through the plan the primary
25 difference in the projection was the Supreme

1 Court award annual debt service. It jumps
2 from in 2013 the total jumps from like 6
3 million to 15 million in expenses and it's
4 primarily that award. That may have changed
5 with the agreement that was reached between
6 the unions and the mayor, I don't know, that
7 projection may be different at this point in
8 time because I believe that was based on a
9 \$14.5 million obligation at the time.

10 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I believe that is
11 correct.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Secondly, the rental
13 registration, I'll take care of the simple
14 thing first, the Human Resources Department
15 has not moved on appointing -- or I
16 shouldn't say appointing, putting anybody
17 into the position of doing the rental
18 registration. Apparently in the legislation
19 there was something in for a rental
20 registration coordinator in the budget,
21 there was something in for a rental
22 registration assistant and the claim is they
23 were not sure which we were looking to fund
24 and, therefore, there was never an attempt
25 to fill that position. I think -- and that

1 upsets me quite a bit that we worked hard to
2 get this thing put together and if there
3 were a discrepancy it probably should have
4 been addressed immediately after the
5 legislation had passed.

6 I have spoken with human resources
7 and I said that we would -- I would try and
8 get together with other council members and
9 determine what it is that we would like to
10 do with that, whether we were going to get a
11 position or a separate position. I thought
12 all along that we were at this point in time
13 since it was done so late that it would be a
14 union position that they would appoint or
15 bid it through the union, put somebody in
16 that position for this year and look at it
17 for next year, but it hasn't been done.
18 Hopefully, we can rectify that in the very
19 near future so that we can realize the goals
20 of the rental registration legislation.

21 The letter that we received today
22 from Secretary Walker, this was a letter
23 that was initiated through a conversation
24 with the mayor and the secretary. This is
25 something that came out of a discussion that

1 the mayor had with DCED and I would assume
2 that if the mayor is pushing DCED to do
3 something that he would, in fact, attend the
4 meeting our be party to a mediation with
5 council and with the other entities.

6 I think this is an opportunity that
7 we need to take advantage of. I don't think
8 that we can look at \$2 million and say we
9 don't need it. At this point in time, we
10 need every cent that we can and I'm not
11 advocating that we go in and -- and I have
12 never advocated that we just adopt the
13 mayor's Recovery Plan. I think that, and I
14 have said all along, that this is -- and
15 Councilman Rogan has agreed, this is
16 something that we need to sit down with the
17 mayor and discuss. This is something that
18 needs to be a compromise or amalgamation of
19 the ideas that will be followed. This is
20 something that needs to be a plan for the
21 future, a legitimate plan for the future.
22 This is what the banks had asked for, so
23 that they -- going forward so that they
24 could have some credibility or some reason
25 to believe that the city had a plan for

1 repaying debt.

2 I think we've kind of gone back and
3 forth with ideas, there has been a lot of
4 words, but I don't think there has been a
5 lot of communication in dealing with this
6 Recovery Plan and I think here's an
7 opportunity, here's an incentive, here's a
8 2.25 -- two and a quarter, you know, million
9 dollars incentive to sit down and do
10 something. This could take care of a
11 short-term -- the short-term problem that we
12 have. We need cash. Two million dollars, I
13 believe, would be sufficient to reimburse --
14 or I don't I don't want to say reimburse,
15 but to take care of the shortfall from last
16 week's payroll and plus probably fund
17 another payroll period which we sorely need
18 to do. The \$250,000 grant would go a long
19 way to satisfying some issues with Blue
20 Cross so that we can maintain health
21 insurance for all of our employees.

22 I think this is something that we
23 need to do without qualification, without
24 putting anything out there saying, we need
25 to sit down, no excuses, no past history,

1 none of that. We need to sit down and get
2 this done and it's the only way in which we
3 are going to get any type of short-term
4 resolution. This is a great incentive, I
5 think it's an opportunity that we can't pass
6 up.

7 As far as the one question why are
8 we broke? I don't think there is a simple
9 answer to that. There is -- in 2011 council
10 chose to put \$16 1/2 million worth of
11 unfunded debt into the budget as a revenue
12 item. We have yet to realize that. Once we
13 put that into the budget we placed our --
14 the budget became dependent upon the banking
15 community, and over the past six months we
16 have somehow turned the banking community
17 against us.

18 Now, I know everyone says it's a
19 simple answer. It's not simple. There is
20 no reason for the banks to collude against
21 us. Rather than working on supposition and
22 saying, oh, the banks must be in collusion,
23 I called a number of the bankers and said,
24 "Why are we -- why are you reluctant to go
25 ahead with unfunded debt when it's

1 guaranteed, when there is a guaranteed
2 millage to pay for it?"

3 I received two -- a couple of
4 answers, basically three reasons. One, they
5 want to see some plan for the future. Call
6 it a Recovery Plan, call it a finance plan,
7 call it a five-year budget, I don't care
8 what you call it, they want to see some plan
9 for the future, so that they know that there
10 is a reasonable, reasonable chance that they
11 are going to be repaid on the loan.

12 As far as the guarantee was
13 concerned, I asked the one banker, I said,
14 "Why is there a problem, there is a 10
15 percent increase, millage increase."

16 He said, "There was a guarantee on
17 the SPA loan and council voted to not pay
18 it."

19 He said, "Obviously, guarantee the
20 council or guarantee on loans doesn't mean
21 anything, so even though there is a 10
22 percent guarantee, we are not sure that it
23 would ever be paid and so, therefore, we
24 backed away."

25 And the third reason, and this was

1 after last week's meeting, one banker said,
2 "After you accused of us collusion, I don't
3 think there is one bank in this community
4 that's going to want to do business with
5 city council."

6 So little by little we have turned
7 the banking community against us. Where do
8 we go to plug a \$16 1/2 million hole in this
9 budget? We have been living off whatever
10 revenues are coming in. We may make it
11 through this quarter, but what happens in
12 the last quarter when tax revenues are gone
13 and we don't have any money? And then we
14 are literally looking at being completely
15 broke and absolutely payless paydays are an
16 option. We are looking at, I forget what
17 the line of credit is that we have that's
18 due, that needs to extended, I think it's
19 something like \$6.5 million at the end of
20 this year. It that gets called in there is
21 another 6 1/2 or whatever that amount is
22 that the city is on the hook for.

23 We need to solve these problems and
24 we need to find some way, some source for
25 solving it. If the banks aren't going to

1 help us, and I think at this point in time
2 even with an adopted Recovery Plan I don't
3 think the banks are going to be there.
4 Maybe I'm wrong and I had hoped up until
5 this point in time that right now I'm not
6 sure, so I think we have to start looking
7 for some alternative sources for this
8 unfunded debt. I don't know where to go.
9 I'm not sure where to go. Do you go to
10 private industry? Are their private -- is
11 there private industry out there that would
12 be willing to lend the city money?

13 We criticize the University of
14 Scranton, the most successful business in
15 the City of Scranton is probably the
16 University, why not --

17 MR. ROGAN: It is a business though.

18 MR. MCGOFF: It is a business
19 though, absolutely, but there are businesses
20 out there that may have the funding that we
21 could use. Do we go to other government
22 entities? We need to find some source for
23 this unfunded debt and the sooner we do it
24 the better off we are going to be.

25 Maybe with the Recovery Plan maybe

1 the banking community will turn around and,
2 you know, offer something hopefully, but we
3 need to do something quickly or else we are
4 in trouble.

5 The other thing I wanted to talk
6 about was I meant to go to -- I intended to
7 go to a meeting with the county where we
8 have discussing the proposal or proposed by
9 Senator Blake for property tax relief which
10 amounted to a 1 percent sales and use tax
11 for Lackawanna County. I think that is
12 something that really needs to be looked
13 into. The meeting was with a number of
14 government entities, including other
15 counties, so rather than just Lackawanna
16 County being the only county trying to
17 implement this that surrounding the counties
18 would also be included I believe
19 representatives from Luzerne and Monroe
20 County were there, if I'm correct, this is
21 has been done in I believe Allegheny County
22 and in Philadelphia with some success, and
23 for the long-term I think this is --
24 something that is -- something that really
25 should be considered by the city and by the

1 county.

2 And lastly, just a last mention of
3 the Recovery Plan, there will be a Recovery
4 Plan at some point in time as long as we
5 remain in distressed status under Act 47
6 it's a requirement to have a Recovery Plan.
7 If we are going to at some point in time
8 implement a Recovery Plan I would much
9 rather see us do it now so that we get some
10 benefit from it than keep pushing this off
11 until some time in the future when there is
12 no benefit to it, and again, I'm not
13 advocating PEL's plan, I'm not advocating
14 the mayor's plan, I am advocating that all
15 the entities get together and put together a
16 plan that will be useful to the City of
17 Scranton and going forward. Something that
18 everyone can agree to and something that is
19 workable for the future. And that's all.
20 Thank you.

21 MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Mr. McGoff.
22 Mr. Rogan, do you have any motions or
23 comments?

24 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Thank you. Just a
25 couple of comments on some of the things

1 Mr. McGoff mentioned. I agree that all of
2 council and the mayor need to sit down and
3 so far the mayor has been unresponsive to
4 council, as we all know.

5 Mr. McGoff, since you have the best
6 relationship with the mayor would you be
7 able to get in touch with him to see if he
8 would meet with all five members council?

9 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

10 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Next, the
11 rental registration, Mr. McGoff also
12 mentioned, and I don't know if anyone saw in
13 the news the past few days that the City of
14 Sunbury was proposing a one strike and you
15 are out law for people renting to drug
16 dealers, and I called the City of Sunbury to
17 pull a copy of the ordinance and I thought
18 based on what was in the news that it was
19 just specific to drug dealers, but what it,
20 in fact, is it's a rental registration
21 ordinance. And I am going to give our city
22 clerk a copy so she can provide all of the
23 other members of council a copy and there
24 are some good things in here that I think
25 the City of Scranton can look towards. The

1 one that has gotten the most attention is
2 that if somebody is convicted of conduct
3 declared illegal under the Pennsylvania
4 Crimes Code, the Liquor Code or the
5 Controlled Substance Device and Cosmetic
6 Act, basically a drug dealer, they won't be
7 allowed to receive an occupancy permit
8 within the entire city, which I think is
9 something that would go a long way in
10 stopping the slumlords in our city who don't
11 care who they rent to. They don't care if
12 they are selling drugs out of the house.
13 They don't care if they are making meth in
14 the back, all they care about is getting
15 that check. If they know at the end of the
16 day by putting a stop to them through a law
17 like this it would really cut down on the
18 slumlords in the city, and I will give a
19 copy of this to our city clerk to pass along
20 to everyone.

21 It seems some of the components in
22 here were similar to our rental
23 registration, some I think go a little bit
24 further than I really like and I think it's
25 something we could look into it, and I know

1 it's been mentioned when we did discuss the
2 rental registration that we would if any
3 other areas came up we would revisit it so I
4 hope we will do that.

5 Next, I will address some of the
6 comments that have been made by speakers and
7 by the mayor and the national media
8 regarding the current crises facing the
9 city. Mr. Vitris asked why are we broke.
10 It sounds like a very simple question. And
11 there really are two issues right now, one
12 that Mr. McGoff addressed is the cash crisis
13 where we don't have enough money currently
14 on hand to pay our bills. Could that be
15 resolved by getting a loan, having a
16 business leader donate money to the city or
17 loan money to the city in the short-term?
18 Absolutely. We would be able to make
19 payroll until the end of the year. But
20 looking long-term we have to realize how we
21 got into this mess.

22 You know, the other problem is much
23 of the leadership in the area doesn't
24 understand the problem. Just a couple of
25 days ago Senator Blake, State Senator Blake,

1 and the mayor went on national media
2 claiming that the crises the city faces
3 isn't permanent. They are delusional if
4 they believe that. Here are the facts.
5 Mr. Vitris brought this up earlier, the city
6 brings in approximately \$70 million
7 annually, but we are spending 80. It can't
8 last. When the mayor took office Mayor
9 Connors budget was \$56 million
10 approximately. Currently we are around \$84
11 million. That's exactly a 50 percent
12 increase in ten years, and up until the last
13 year the mayor has solely controlled the
14 budget because he had a very favorable
15 council who agreed with his vision for the
16 city. If we want to go back even further,
17 Mayor Doherty was making budgets from
18 council.

19 When a family realizes they are
20 spending far more money than they are taking
21 in it's not long before you wind up in
22 Bankruptcy Court or you make changes that
23 need to be made. All of the politicians in
24 the city, council, the mayor, Senator Blake,
25 they need to start living in the real world

1 and realize that they can't tax and spend
2 our way out of the problem, you need to make
3 actual reforms.

4 Some of the other things that have
5 happened over the last ten years, as I
6 mentioned, the budget has increased by 50
7 percent, which is a substantial sum when you
8 are talking about \$56 million and \$84
9 million. It's more money than any of us in
10 this room will probably make in our
11 lifetimes.

12 The mayor also raised taxes 25
13 percent in 2007, so he is spending 50
14 percent more than he was when he took office
15 and he increased taxes 25 percent.

16 Also, some of the wasteful spending.
17 In 2008, just one year after raising taxes
18 25 percent on all the people in the city, he
19 spent \$300,000 on a dog park. For a period
20 of time it was the most expensive dog park
21 in the nation until somebody, who was a
22 little less bright than Mayor Doherty, spent
23 close to a million dollars on a dog park in
24 California. Now, we expect that out of
25 California, we don't expect that in

1 Scranton, Pennsylvania.

2 Dog parks are nice, tree houses are
3 nice, but when you can't afford to pay your
4 bills and when you are raising taxes, as
5 Mayor Doherty has done, you spend money on
6 the essentials. I have said this since the
7 first day I have walked in here as a council
8 member that the most important job of
9 government, whether it be local, state or
10 federal is to keep the people safe. That's
11 your public safety. Over that ten-year
12 period, as was mentioned before, from 2003
13 to 2010, the public safety employees have
14 not seen a pay increase, but the mayor still
15 blames them and the mayor chose to fight the
16 unions in Court instead of sitting down,
17 just look he is choosing to fight a battle
18 with city council right now and keeping the
19 employees of the city in the middle on
20 national TV instead of coming here to a city
21 council meeting and negotiating with us.

22 I make no secret where I stand. I
23 disagree with the mayor, but we have to work
24 together and make a compromise. He has to
25 know from the comments made from these

1 meetings and the newspaper that his 78
2 percent tax increase is not going to pass.
3 It's just not going to happen. So if he
4 thinks he is just going to keep pushing
5 pressure on and the city -- or the city
6 council to pass this Recovery Plan plan, we
7 will wind up in Bankruptcy Court before we
8 wind up passing his plan. He needs to come
9 and negotiate. It's that mentality that he
10 has had since day one when he has been mayor
11 that has got us into this mess.

12 Just in today's paper headline,
13 "Scranton Mayor to Amend Revised Recovery
14 Plan." When asked how, and this is about
15 the storm water conveyance, and I admit I
16 believed the mayor as well. It's my mistake
17 and I think we all did, we shouldn't have
18 believed him, we should have checked it, and
19 Mrs. Schumacher mentioned it to me, and we
20 didn't do what we had to do, but the mayor
21 said -- and I'm willing to admit that a
22 mistake was made, and that's the difference
23 between council. What the mayor states in
24 the newspaper is when asked how we could not
25 have known the storm water sale was

1 possible, the mayor said, "We were told by
2 our lawyers that it could be done. They
3 told me we could do it, but we couldn't."

4 This is, again, the mayor is
5 scapegoating somebody else. Every time
6 something happens he blames somebody else
7 other than himself. We had an issue a few
8 months ago \$3 million magically appeared. I
9 called for Mr. McGowan's resignation. The
10 mayor defended him. The mayor controls
11 these appointments. He controls his staff.
12 If he wants a new business administrator
13 tomorrow or a new city solicitor it's done.
14 That's the power of the executive branch of
15 government. Unfortunately, council doesn't
16 have that power, we can only legislate and
17 appropriate money. Do I think the attorneys
18 for the city and business administrator
19 their salaries should be slashed even more
20 than the 10 percent we cut it last year?
21 Absolutely.

22 The mayor also mentioned, and as I
23 have been saying for at least two months
24 now, I want to sit down with him, even
25 though all of the disagreements we have, I

1 think we should sit down with all five
2 members of council and the mayor, and that
3 has not happened. The mayor says about
4 meeting with city council, "Mr. Doherty has
5 declined to attend council meetings. This
6 isn't about a circus."

7 If council is a circus the mayor
8 must be the clown because he is the one that
9 refuses to come here and try to work with
10 us.

11 Another article in the Scranton
12 Times, "Scranton sends delinquent garbage
13 collection bills to 11 homeowners who
14 slipped through the cracks."

15 This goes onto say, "If we were not
16 contacted, we don't start billing them
17 because we don't know about them.
18 Ultimately, it's the responsibility of the
19 new owner to notify city hall," said
20 Mr. Boland.

21 He also said the city bears some of
22 the blame and should be able to notice the
23 problem. Mayor Chris Doherty said, "We have
24 been aware of it and are correcting the
25 problem."

1 I was always under the assumption
2 that to move into a building you have to
3 have an occupancy permit issued by the city.
4 If that permit is issued, the city would be
5 aware that people are living in that home.

6 Also, the mayor is now aware of it
7 and is correcting the problem. He has been
8 mayor for over a decade and it's the same
9 excuse every time. Same thing when the
10 money went missing. Well, we are correcting
11 the problem. How many terms is it going to
12 take for this guy to get something right?
13 And the mistake is, and it's not all his
14 fault, it's the incompetent staff which is
15 his fault. If he hired competent people
16 mistakes like this wouldn't happen.

17 Another government agency that is
18 controlled by the mayor is the Parking
19 Authority, and we received a letter from
20 them with some of the questions we had about
21 the money in the reserve fund, and some of
22 the highlights here, and as you recall I was
23 the only member of the council to vote
24 against bailing out the Authority six times
25 because I knew at the end of the day

1 Mr. Scopelliti would keep his job. The
2 deadline has passed, Mr. Scopelliti is still
3 the head of the Parking Authority, he is
4 still running it into the ground, and to
5 make matters worse a week after council
6 voted to bail out the Parking Authority it
7 was revealed that they had an emergency fund
8 of around \$3 million. Council inquired, we
9 finally received a response.

10 As of December 31, 2010, the balance
11 of the SPA investment account was \$3.2
12 million. As of June 30, 2012, the balance
13 was \$4.3 million. So while Mr. Scopelliti
14 was sitting in this chair begging the city
15 to bail him out they had money in a reserve
16 fund. And they go on to list that when --
17 on the first vote council did the right
18 thing and rejected the bailout they were
19 under the assumption they weren't going to
20 receive a \$1 million from the city
21 taxpayers, so they transferred \$1,035,948.50
22 from the reserve fund to pay so they didn't
23 go into default. A week later when council,
24 other than myself, voted to bailout the
25 Parking Authority the trustee received

1 \$1,035,948.50 from the City of Scranton for
2 funds due under the lease and deposited it
3 into the debt service fund. 6-18, trustee
4 transferred \$1,035,948.50 back into the
5 reserve fund.

6 Last week's payroll we were about a
7 million dollars short to make full payroll
8 to the city employees. Had the mayor and
9 four members of this city council not bailed
10 out the Parking Authority we would have had
11 the funds to pay payroll. It's right here
12 in black and white.

13 To make matters worse, some members
14 of the council had said by I believe it was
15 July 9, correct me if I'm wrong if that's
16 not the date, that the Parking Authority
17 would be placed into receivership --

18 MR. SPINDLER: The seventh.

19 MR. ROGAN: The seventh, thank you,
20 Mr. Spindler and it would be placed into
21 receivership and Mr. Scopelliti and the rest
22 of the leadership that has been mismanaging
23 the Authority would be gone. We are well
24 past that date, Mr. Scopelliti is still
25 drawing a check, and to make matters worse

1 that check he is drawing is because in part
2 of the million dollars that was transferred
3 over to them.

4 So to sum of last month of the
5 Parking Authority, the big debate that's
6 happened with the Parking Authority, because
7 they were bailed out Mr. Scopelliti is
8 collecting a paycheck. Also because they
9 were bailed out, city employees are
10 receiving minimum wage. I am very upset
11 about this vote, it was the most frustrated
12 I have been since I have been council.
13 Everyone knows how I feel about bailouts and
14 to make matters worse, as I stated, there
15 was a debt service reserve fund in place.

16 And again, I don't blame the members
17 of council as much because again they were
18 fooled. Mr. Scopelliti sat here saying, "We
19 are broke," just as the mayor was either
20 incorrect or lied about being able to sell
21 the storm water conveyance system. We
22 cannot take these people at their word.
23 They have had a track record over the years
24 of mismanagement and incompetence and
25 deception.

1 I don't believe for a second that
2 Mr. Scopelliti, the head of the Parking
3 Authority, happened to forget that they had
4 \$3 million in a reserve fund. They wanted
5 the taxpayers' money, that's why they came
6 here, and they got what they wanted. Now
7 the city coffers are a million dollars
8 lighter and the Parking Authority has
9 replenished the reserve fund with that
10 million dollars and we are in the same place
11 as we were a month ago, except for a million
12 dollars of taxpayer money has been flushed
13 down the toilet.

14 Finally, some citizens' issues. As
15 was mentioned earlier, I did attend the
16 Pinebrook Neighborhood Association meeting
17 with Councilman Loscombe and it was good to
18 talk to everyone in the neighborhood about
19 many of the issues facing the city, in
20 particular the debt crises that's going on,
21 and even though right now much of the focus
22 has been on financial issues, we can't let
23 blight and crime in this city go to the
24 wayside, so I do have a list of requests.

25 Before I get to those though, one of

1 the articles in today's paper, "Scranton
2 Police Probe Home Invasion." This was on
3 New Street in the Pinebrook neighborhood,
4 and from what I understand the address is
5 312 and 314 New Street. Now, this is one of
6 the rooming houses that I had spoken about a
7 month ago when I went down and toured
8 Pinebrook with some of the residents, sent
9 letters to the appropriate officials within
10 the city, and nothing happened.

11 The rooming houses owned by
12 Mr. Sherman in this neighborhood are a
13 detriment who have lived in Pinebrook their
14 whole lives. It's not fair to the taxpayers
15 and the neighborhood to be overrun by a
16 person who is renting to drug addicts,
17 people who are criminals, criminals have
18 been picked up there numerous times. It's
19 not fair to the neighbors in that
20 neighborhood to have to put up with that
21 just because some slumlord wants to make a
22 profit.

23 I will again ask Mrs. Krake, and I
24 will hand this to you and e-mail it to you,
25 can we please send a letter to Licensing and

1 Inspections and the police department
2 inquiring about 312 and 314 New Street, I do
3 have more information on here. Also, 612
4 Mineral Avenue, 617 Mineral Avenue and 1137
5 Capouse, and I actually could go on, there
6 are more than these few I mentioned that are
7 causing problems, and every neighborhood in
8 this city the taxpayers deserve to live in a
9 nice neighborhood where they can raise their
10 family and not have any problems. Everyone
11 has a problem from time to time and they
12 deal with it, but when it's a constant
13 nuisance from the same properties it's not
14 fair to those people.

15 The mayor is asking the residents to
16 pay 78 percent more in taxes, but when we
17 send requests in to try and help people we
18 don't get any results and it winds up being
19 on the front page of the Scranton Times
20 about a home invasion when this issue was
21 brought up at city council a month ago that
22 this residence is a problem, but he hasn't
23 listened.

24 That being said, after listing 20
25 minutes worth of disagreements with the

1 mayor I still am willing to meet with him
2 because it's the right thing to do. I won't
3 compromise on my values of not raising taxes
4 by 78 percent and leaving other revenue
5 ideas on the table and not even making any
6 cuts. As it's been mentioned by many people
7 here and the media, the mayor is notorious
8 for paying the people who have supported
9 him, whether it be union support or whether
10 it be administrative support extremely high
11 salaries. At one point in time I believe the
12 business administrator was making \$80,000;
13 is that correct?

14 MR. JOYCE: It was \$85,000.

15 MR. ROGAN: \$85,000. And the mayor,
16 who is the CEO, makes 50. I have said it
17 before and I'll say it again, the CEO of the
18 city, Mayor Doherty, should be the highest
19 paid then everyone should fall in line after
20 that.

21 The mayor has also taken care of his
22 friends with overtime, and I know,
23 Mr. Vitris, you are not going to like to
24 hear it, but I'll say it while you are here,
25 I'll say it when you're not here, the DPW

1 everyone knows the abuse of overtime that
2 has been going on in that department. In
3 the winter when there is a snow storm we
4 want our guys out there cleaning the roads,
5 nobody minds paying overtime, but when you
6 see street sweepers out on the weekends
7 people say, "Hey, we are tens of millions of
8 dollars in the hole, we are paying overtime
9 to clean the streets," and the streets need
10 to be cleaned, but --

11 MR. VITRIS: Pat, can did you ever
12 ask why? I shouldn't interject, but did you
13 ever ask why that happens? Did you ever ask
14 maybe the police called and there was a car
15 accident and --

16 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris, if you would
17 like to talk after the meeting --

18 MR. VITRIS: We should, but you
19 shouldn't say that unless you talk first.
20 That's the problem with this council. It's
21 all talk without before -- it's talk after
22 the fact.

23 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris, I have said
24 the same thing and, like I said, I'll say it
25 when you are here, I'll say it when you're

1 not here.

2 MR. VITRIS: But you don't even ask
3 why though. That's my point. There is
4 nobody -- the police called and there was --

5 MR. ROGAN: So every Saturday, and I
6 don't want to get into a discussion with you
7 because the public comment time is over, but
8 you are saying that every Saturday the
9 street sweeper has been out because there is
10 a car accident, so every Saturday at 9 a.m.
11 there is a car accident.

12 MR. VITRIS: No, that's not true.
13 That's not true. Check the records. That's
14 not true.

15 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely check the
16 records.

17 MR. VITRIS: The street sweepers
18 aren't out every Saturday. Check the
19 records.

20 MR. ROGAN: Are you going to do
21 something?

22 MR. JOYCE: Mr. Vitris, if you could
23 please --

24 MR. VITRIS: That's the problem, you
25 are just sitting up there saying that. You

1 are sitting up there saying that. There is
2 a payroll record, go and check it. Well,
3 you shouldn't be allowed to say that, Frank,
4 I know, but that's wrong.

5 MR. JOYCE: I understand your
6 frustration, but it is Mr. Rogan's turn to
7 speak.

8 MR. VITRIS: Okay. As long as the
9 truth has to be told eventually, but that --
10 check the records. That's all.

11 MR. ROGAN: We can check the
12 records.

13 MR. VITRIS: That's all. Check it.

14 MR. ROGAN: If we look at the DPW
15 the amount of overtime that's been allocated
16 for the DPW in the last year and the
17 positions that were eliminated from the DPW
18 in the last year that haven't been filled by
19 the mayor --

20 MR. VITRIS: Pat, is an extra
21 \$100,000 --

22 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris --

23 MR. VITRIS: -- spent in DPW going
24 to the problems in this city?

25 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Vitris, this isn't

1 your time --

2 MR. JOYCE: It's not time for public
3 comment.

4 MR. VITRIS: But it's just a bashing
5 of a certain group of guys. That's all it
6 is. It's just one bashing right after
7 another every week. Is a 100 grand going to
8 solve the problem of the 16 million we are
9 in trouble with? That's all.

10 MR. JOYCE: Mr. Vitris, could you
11 please refrain from commenting. It is
12 Mr. Rogan's turn to speak. The public
13 comment section is over. I understand that
14 there is things that you may not agree with
15 that Mr. Rogan has to say, but it is his
16 turn to speak and it is his right to say
17 what he feels.

18 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
19 Thank you, Mr. Vitris, for allowing me to
20 speak now. Getting back to what I was
21 saying, and you mentioned just yelling out
22 that \$100,000 isn't going to save the city,
23 you are right, but 100,000 here and 100,000
24 there and 100,000 there is going to save the
25 people a lot of money, and I wanted to

1 mention before when you were going back and
2 forth with Mr. Loscombe and he mentioned he
3 is not going to vote for a 78 percent tax
4 increase you mouthed the words "I don't
5 care," and I know you don't care about the
6 tax increase. You are a union
7 representative, you are here to represent
8 your union, I understand that. We are to
9 represent the people of the city and the
10 city employees. We are not just looking out
11 for one group, and there is no question that
12 the DPW has been the mayor's favorite union
13 over the last ten years. They are the only
14 one that hasn't been dragged into Court by
15 the mayor year after year after year. The
16 police and the firemen have been in a battle
17 with the mayor and it's because the mayor
18 has targeted them because they didn't
19 support him in the election. The DPW --

20 MR. VITRIS: Oh, this is -- no. No.

21 (Whereupon Mr. Vitris approaches the
22 podium.)

23 MR. VITRIS: Now, if we are going
24 to be chastised -- if we are going to be
25 chastised for freely negotiating our

1 contract --

2 MR. JOYCE: I'd like to make a
3 motion to recess.

4 MR. VITRIS: We freely negotiated
5 that contract and that has to end.

6 MR. JOYCE: Do I have a second?

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

8 MR. VITRIS: If we are going to be
9 chastised, Pat, because we freely negotiated
10 a contract you got a problem. This is why
11 you cost the city \$15 million because people
12 can't talk. Freely negotiate.

13 (A brief recess was taken.)

14 MR. JOYCE: I call this meeting back
15 to order.

16 MR. ROGAN: I'll finish my comments
17 very briefly, and I apologize to the
18 residents for the disruption. There is no
19 question that myself, members of the DPW
20 have a big difference of opinion. I believe
21 the DPW refuse should be privatized, I have
22 said it numerous times. Mr. Vitris, like I
23 said, I don't want to get into a debate with
24 you here, if you want to talk afterwards we
25 can talk all you want, we have a big

1 difference of opinion, and this is a problem
2 with the city right now it turns into a
3 yelling match that we don't need. We need
4 to have all parties at the table, cool heads
5 and work together. Everyone has passionate
6 beliefs, and like I said before, when it
7 comes to a Recovery Plan it's not going to
8 be the Pat Rogan plan, the Bob McGoff plan,
9 the Frank Joyce plan, the Chris Doherty
10 plan, it's going to be the city's plan and
11 the city taxpayers and the city employees
12 that are going to have to live under that
13 plan. It's a very important thing that we
14 are going to do.

15 As was mentioned, when you call this
16 a Recovery Plan or a five-year budget, it's
17 a fiscal plan for the city. The past
18 Recovery Plans, they have not worked. The
19 mayor has violated them constantly. Act 47
20 has not worked. It's why we are in the hole
21 we are in, but, as I said before, I hope
22 that we can all sit down and get together
23 and work it out, and I think I have spoken
24 enough tonight, and that's all I have.

25 MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Mr. Rogan.

1 Mr. Loscombe, do you have any motions or
2 comments?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, I have a few
4 comments. Mr. Rogan, I'm glad you mentioned
5 Sunbury because I happened to catch that
6 blurb, so I thought that would be a good
7 idea for us to look at and incorporate.

8 And the Parking Authority, yes, I
9 did vote to -- I didn't vote to bail them
10 out because I never thought they would make
11 the commitment and I still don't believe
12 they will, without our solicitor here I'm
13 not sure because there was a couple of days
14 there where they considered holidays or
15 stuff like that, but I will be totally
16 disappointed if it doesn't go into
17 receivership, and I would be first to admit
18 if it doesn't that I made a mistake on that
19 vote and I will not vote to provide them
20 with any more funding.

21 Next, one of our speakers here
22 mentioned something earlier and I was just
23 wondering, Mrs. Krake, if we could send a
24 letter to Chief Davis to see what the
25 protocol is for taking city vehicles out of

1 the city with noncity employees as
2 occupants, also.

3 I do want to express my appreciation
4 to all of our city employees. I mean, it's
5 been hard. I know it's been hard. We can
6 sit here and say we didn't create this mess,
7 which is the truth, we are trying to look
8 out for everybody in the long run, we are
9 trying to protect the taxpayers, we are
10 trying to protect the employees, and it's a
11 tough tightrope to follow here, but I think
12 this council has been achieving that.

13 Are we the laughing stock on
14 national TV? I don't know, depends on who
15 you ask. You know, we have been getting the
16 blame and they say the blame game, the blame
17 game, Mr. McGoff said we put it in our
18 budget, but, you know, the last couple of
19 budgets we have started out in the hole
20 which we didn't even know about, and that's
21 something our Finance Chair can address on
22 those issues, I'm won't elaborate.

23 Is it my fault because I said the
24 banks are in collusion, they are not going
25 to deal with us. I don't know. Mr. McGoff

1 stated it was, and not me personally, but
2 the fact that council stated that and the
3 banks won't deal with us because of that.
4 Well, you know, I find that onerous because
5 if a banker didn't feel guilty I think he
6 would, you know, still deal with us. So,
7 Mr. McGoff, what I'm asking is if you could
8 provide me with the name of the banks that
9 you spoke to and what their response was
10 because I plan on going to all of the banks
11 personally who are on that list and getting
12 their answers and finding out what was going
13 on there because I still cannot believe 2005
14 we have not had a Recovery Plan and we had
15 free borrowing continuously since that time,
16 but it seems when there is a new council
17 majority all of a sudden they are trying to
18 ram a Recovery Plan down our throat, and
19 that's why he believe there is collusion
20 because we had the borrowing in place with
21 the taxes to cover it, and until we get the
22 proper answers and we speak to all of the
23 banks, and again, I hope you will provide me
24 with who you spoke to because it would
25 provide me without duplication there because

1 I will continue to go down the list.

2 You know, as Mr. Vitris said, and
3 Sam and I go back a long way, Sam, you know,
4 we are West Siders, we could be hot heads
5 and go back and forth and we have always had
6 gentleman discussions, you asked a question
7 why are we broke, and I think each of us
8 tried to answer it, but the truth is I don't
9 think any of us can answer it until there is
10 a full audit done of where the money has
11 gone over the last ten, 11 years. That's
12 when we are going to know why we are broke.

13 You know, it's no secret, and I'm
14 not picking on anybody, but, you know, this
15 administration is trying to play unions
16 against the council and stuff like that and
17 we all know that and the difference is the
18 DPW union hasn't been put in this position
19 where the police and fire have over the last
20 ten years so they know how to handle it.
21 You know, there is a little bit of, you
22 know, disgruntledness on all of the unions
23 parts, but, you know, when I hear some of
24 the comments made from public works
25 employees, and this is where I differ, you

1 know, we can differ here, Mr. McGoff and I,
2 we can differ Mr. Joyce, Mr. Rogan and I
3 differ, and I have said it before, I am not
4 in favor of privatizing the DPW. I think
5 just like police and fire we have to keep
6 that in the city. We have to have control
7 of that, and I stand here and say that.

8 And, you know, I believe every
9 employee in the city has done a tremendous
10 job, especially under the stress right now,
11 and I know the stress is there, and I
12 apologize for shouting before, and I know
13 you are speaking passionately, too, for
14 your -- the men you represent, but these are
15 tough times and it's the game that the
16 administration has tried to set us up to,
17 divide and conquer, get the unions split up,
18 that's how he has won before.

19 You know, and then he turns around
20 and says because of the unions we have to
21 raise the taxes, we have to do this, we have
22 to do that, not because I misspent funds
23 over the years, I have given out no bid
24 contracts, those are the truths. And as
25 Chris Kelly calls me, "'Da troot", I'm going

1 to carry that monicker thanks to the Times,
2 but he can call me whatever he wants and so
3 can Corbett, and so could anyone out here, I
4 know I can sleep at night. I know what I'm
5 doing is for you.

6 I have nothing to gain. You know,
7 unlike -- just to go off a little bit,
8 unlike other elected representatives, like
9 the mayor, none of us have the power or the
10 ability here to appoint people to positions
11 or jobs or give anything away. Unlike
12 school directors, none of us here have the
13 authority or the power to give jobs or
14 contracts or anything like that away.
15 Unlike commissioners or senators, we do not
16 have any powers other than to fight for you.
17 There is nothing for us to gain. We are not
18 gaining any other jobs from this, we are not
19 gaining employment for any family members.
20 In fact, in my case it's worked the
21 opposite. I have lost jobs for family
22 members because of my stance here due to
23 politics. That's how dirty the politics is
24 in this area.

25 And I'm tired of it and I have been

1 here fighting to try and straighten that
2 out. It's one man, but the whole system
3 around this area is getting to that point.
4 If the public can't see we are not in this
5 for any benefit that we are going to gain
6 except to help the city that we all love
7 then there is something wrong. There is
8 something wrong with the media and the
9 press. But again, I appreciate all of you
10 employees in the city for working under this
11 distress that they have been working under
12 and we are working hard to resolve this and
13 I feel confident that within a few days this
14 may be resolved given the right minds
15 prevail.

16 And I do want to thank the
17 firefighters for, you know, the work on that
18 fire at West Side. This goes back, again,
19 it was mentioned about the fire grant. I
20 stated it in here, I stated it here time and
21 again, when that \$3.5 million was given back
22 we weren't going to benefit at all. It
23 wasn't going to bring out the brownouts, and
24 I live in West Side, West Side covers a
25 large area and that Luzerne Street station

1 is closed more than it's open. The engine
2 company in downtown is closed more than it's
3 opened. That's critical with all of these
4 high rises we have in this area.

5 You know, they can say we have a
6 truck company here and we have rescue over
7 there, I have tried to explain it before,
8 you can pull on a scene with a chief's car
9 and you can pull on scene with a rescue, you
10 can pull on scene with the ambulances or the
11 truck company, but until you get one of
12 those engine companies there you might as
13 well take your garden hose out because
14 that's where water is coming from.

15 It's a military that's made up of
16 teams. They all have their jobs, but to
17 knock them out synchronization only
18 jeopardizes your safety and your lives, and
19 again, as I stated before, and this is my
20 belief, I think if he had the opportunity,
21 because it's been known from the day this
22 mayor got in he has had a vendetta against
23 the police and fire, if he had his way it
24 would have only been those two departments
25 that got the reduced pay, but he couldn't do

1 it that way.

2 And by showing the money he has
3 turned back he screwed up the COM-D funding,
4 there would have been 13 more police
5 officers on the street, there would have
6 been more firefighters to keep the stations
7 open for a free \$3.1 million, people don't
8 like me using that word free, but somebody
9 else is going to get that \$3 million, it
10 would have been better spent here.

11 I want the first person that losses
12 their life in this city to ask the mayor was
13 it worth \$3.1 million because that's how I
14 feel. That's what he puts it price on
15 because of his vendetta against the public
16 safety unions, and he is trying to turn all
17 of those unions against council as a reason
18 their pay was reduced when we weren't even
19 contacted about it. We find out from the
20 newspaper, like everything else.

21 But to go off that, Mr. Jackowitz
22 mentioned the nonprofits. We had sent a
23 letter out several weeks ago, Mrs. Krake, to
24 all nonprofits, did we ever receive any
25 response?

1 MS. KRAKE: I believe we distributed
2 one response from the University of the
3 Scranton, and I remember there may have been
4 one other one, I'm not sure.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: I don't remember
6 seeing that one. You know, we had asked
7 them to get themselves together and form a
8 committee, but I think it's time we get a
9 public committee together to help us to go
10 knock on the doors of these nonprofits. I
11 mean, they watch the same news and read the
12 same newspaper every day and, you know, if
13 they don't want to come up with it I don't
14 know what to say, at least to help their
15 host city out to get out of this hole.

16 Now, just to go back to the Recovery
17 Plan, again, I had my opinions on the
18 Recovery Plan. As I stated before, since
19 2005 we haven't had a Recovery Plan yet the
20 banks have been loaning us money without
21 question. All of a sudden since the
22 majority is in here we have to have a
23 Recovery Plan. I find it interesting.

24 Several weeks ago we said the DCED
25 and PEL was part of this problem -- was the

1 major problem for the Supreme Court ruling.
2 They pushed the city to keep going and
3 appealing and appealing and when we said
4 they should contribute they responded that
5 they had no money, they wouldn't contribute,
6 the city is on their own, blah, blah, blah.
7 Now, all of a sudden today when I come in in
8 my mailbox there is a letter that Mr. Joyce
9 read before offering \$2 million, but what
10 worries me is why all of a sudden the banks
11 are requiring this, and again, I said before
12 I have my suspicions and my beliefs. But,
13 you know, if you read their letter there,
14 "This mediation will take place at a
15 mutually agreed upon location and the
16 negotiation of the terms of the amended
17 Recovery Plan will be exclusively the
18 responsibility of city council and the
19 mayor," but this is what worries me, "and
20 subject to the Pennsylvania Economy League's
21 judgment as to the feasibility of the
22 proposed amendments."

23 That's wide open, folks. We could
24 agree to anything at that point and all PEL
25 has to say is, "No, we don't like it."

1 Where does that put us then? Does that put
2 us back to square one? Do we mediate again?
3 It doesn't give any answers. You know, they
4 are forcing us to have a plan agreed to by
5 August 1. That gives us a lot of time,
6 doesn't it?

7 I just think we have managed to get
8 ourselves in the hole with this plan, I
9 don't think we are getting to get out, you
10 know, with a new plan. Again, I mean, it's
11 been said here, we can argue back and forth,
12 a Recovery Plan is not -- the one we have
13 had so far hasn't been worth the paper that
14 it's printed on. They have been violated by
15 the administration time and time again, and
16 it's the same organization, PEL.

17 I would be more inclined to discuss
18 this, I mean, I'll definitely meet with the
19 mediator in public with the mayor, all of
20 us, there is no doubt, I'll do anything I
21 can to work to save the city, but I do
22 believe that they should in that plan, and
23 as been stated here before by other members,
24 I would be happy to see PEL replaced. You
25 know, you work for any business and you are

1 there 20 years, and we're far deeper in debt
2 now than we are in 20 years ago, you
3 wouldn't have your job, yet they continue to
4 keep PEL there driving this ship, and to me
5 just in my two and a half years experience,
6 you know, we have been excused of being
7 political before, but I think there is
8 politics involved there to the n'th degree.

9 Under Mayor Connors they had to give
10 up a public safety chairman, however, under
11 Mayor Doherty he is was able to put a -- not
12 chairman, public safety director there at a
13 significant pay, so it depends on who the
14 mayor is and who is working with on the
15 Recovery Plan and who is in office and, you
16 know, it's interesting I didn't see
17 Mr. Rendell's comments on the news or
18 anything like that, but, you know, I think
19 he played as big a part of this as anybody,
20 you know, and that's coming from a Democrat.

21 But we are in this position, there
22 is still the question goes why are we broke?
23 Sam, honestly, we gave it our best shot, but
24 the only reason we are going to know why we
25 are broke is if we have a true forensic

1 audit that shows where money went
2 unnecessarily, and that's why the employees
3 are getting hurt, and it didn't come to this
4 precipices overnight, it's been working this
5 trail for a long time. We just tightened
6 the purse strings two years ago and now we
7 are here, but I won't belabor it anymore,
8 and I do want to thank you for listening to
9 me, and that's all I have to say tonight.
10 Thank you.

11 MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.
12 Early this week I received some troubling
13 news from our business administrator, Ryan
14 McGowan. Thus far the city has yet to
15 collect anything from the parking tax that
16 Scranton City Council enacted earlier this
17 year. The parking tax is a new tax that was
18 an integral part of the 2012 operating
19 budget as amended.

20 As per PEL's recommendations,
21 \$500,000 in new revenue was budgeted for
22 this tax. The administration has failed to
23 send out any notices of the parking tax to
24 appropriate garage and lot owners as well.
25 In the midst of a financial crisis, the

1 mayor should be realizing revenue from this
2 tax to avert a 78 percent tax increase.

3 Also troubling is the city's failure
4 to collect rental registration fees. Thus
5 far the city has only realized \$8,955.05 in
6 rental registration revenue. Once again,
7 the city has dropped the ball instituting
8 that rental registration program. When
9 faced with such a steep financial crisis,
10 one would think that the city would be
11 aggressively pursuing these revenue streams
12 but the mayor is not.

13 A few months ago business
14 administrator Ryan McGowan and Mayor Doherty
15 and Councilwoman Evans met to discuss the
16 Recovery Plan and other related issues along
17 with myself. At that meeting, Councilwoman
18 Evans and I discussed the need for a parking
19 meter enhancement program in Scranton, such
20 as StreetSmart or something similar. At
21 that time the mayor assured us that an RFP,
22 request for proposals, in case anyone didn't
23 understand that acronym, would be issued. I
24 contacted our business administrator, Ryan
25 McGowan, to see if an RFP was issued for

1 this program. To date, an RFP has not been
2 issued. Our business administrator, Ryan
3 McGowan, replied that an RFP would be issued
4 next week. Again, this is more troubling
5 news for the taxpayers of Scranton, this is
6 just another example of the city dropping
7 the ball on an opportunity to generate
8 revenue rather than increase the taxes 78
9 percent. An RFP should have been put out
10 months ago. The mayor promised an RFP would
11 be issued. I wonder if I had not contacted
12 our business administrator, Ryan McGowan, if
13 there would have even been a promise to
14 issue an RFP next week.

15 And, further, I know that nonprofits
16 come up quite a bit, and I just want to talk
17 a little bit about nonprofits. I learned
18 from our business administrator, Ryan
19 McGowan, that the city thus far has
20 collected a mere \$22,779.93 in PILOTS,
21 payments in lieu of taxes from nonprofit
22 institutions. This payment actually came
23 from the Scranton Housing Authority I
24 discovered by doing some research.

25 Over the past week I researched some

1 of the tax returns of the large nonprofit
2 institutions in our city. By reviewing the
3 tax returns of some of the nonprofits, one
4 can see their actual revenues and actual
5 expenses.

6 For example, the University of the
7 Scranton's total revenue for the 2010 tax
8 year was \$227,883,304 while they had
9 \$185,038,181 in expenses.

10 Johnson College, according to their
11 2010 tax return reported their total revenue
12 for the year at \$9,037,101 while they had
13 \$7,216,023 in total expenses.

14 Lackawanna College's total revenue
15 for the 2010 tax year was \$21,697,146 while
16 they had \$20,178,246 in expenses.

17 Marywood University, according to
18 their 2009 tax return reported their total
19 revenue for the year at \$93,226,411 while
20 they had \$88,559,137 in total expenses.

21 Allied Services total revenue for
22 the 2010 tax year was \$37,833,661, while
23 they had \$34,300,413 in total expenses.

24 CMC Hospital, according to their
25 2009 tax return, reported their total

1 revenue for the year as \$154,189,392 while
2 they had \$166,598,587 in expenses.

3 Overall, when scrutinizing six of
4 the larger nonprofits institutions
5 respective tax returns the total revenue of
6 such nonprofits is \$553,867,015
7 approximately, while their total expenses is
8 about \$500 million on an annual basis.

9 Consider this, if the sixth
10 aforementioned larger nonprofits donated a
11 mere .25 percent of their reported revenue
12 to the city, the city would realize \$1, 384,
13 667.54. Of course, the city has never
14 realized an amount even close to this from
15 nonprofits, however, considering what we
16 have realized this year \$22,779.93 and our
17 current fiscal crisis, it behooves the mayor
18 to immediately approach the nonprofits and
19 seek assistance.

20 The mayor should be aggressively
21 seeking payments in lieu of taxes from the
22 nonprofits as mayors in other cities, such
23 as Providence Rhode Island where Brown
24 University has agreed to contribute millions
25 of dollars to the city to lessen the burden

1 on taxpayers. Mayor Doherty still insists
2 on raising taxes 78 percent and our garbage
3 fees.

4 Concerning the audit, Scranton City
5 Council has yet to receive an audit status
6 report from Business Administrator, Ryan
7 McGowan, as requested weeks ago. As of June
8 28, according to correspondence from Rossi &
9 Rossi there had been a number of open items
10 that still need resolution before the 2011
11 audit can be completed and subsequent exit
12 conference can be held, and I know that we
13 just received another letter in our mailbox
14 tonight and there are still a number of open
15 memos, actually there is over ten, and I
16 know from before in the last audit status
17 report that was issued from the BA over a
18 month ago it was projected that the audit
19 would be completed in mid-July and we are
20 now in mid-July and we have a bunch of the
21 open issues.

22 So, Mrs. Krake, with this in mind,
23 can you ask Mr. McGowan and ask him for a
24 status report for the 2011 audit. Speaking
25 of Mrs. Krake, our city clerk, Nancy Krake,

1 reported to me that as of the PEL meeting
2 that occurred Tuesday our business
3 administrator, Ryan McGowan, stated that the
4 city had \$477,177 in cash. Also, our city
5 clerk reported to me that Evie Rafalko
6 McNulty informed her that the check was
7 being issued to the city to \$315,000 in real
8 estate transfer tax revenue. This is a
9 total of \$792,477. And, Mrs. Krake, do you
10 know when that real estate transfer tax
11 revenue check was forwarded to the city?

12 MS. KRAKE: Yes. We ran a revenue
13 status report and that's currently been
14 deposited as of the 10th of July and we have
15 since even running it later this afternoon
16 received another \$300,000 in earned income
17 tax.

18 MR. JOYCE: Okay. The city also
19 received checks from the Single Tax Office
20 this week totaling \$427,342.13. The
21 breakdown of these checks is as follow:
22 \$13,942.83 in business privilege and
23 mercantile tax was collected and
24 distributed. \$12,649.68 in local service
25 taxes was collected and distributed and

1 \$467,00.62 in current and delinquent 2011
2 real estate taxes collected and distributed.

3 With the money that the city had on
4 Tuesday coupled with the real estate
5 transfer tax revenue and the checks that
6 were recently sent from the Single Tax
7 Office the sum of all of these funds is
8 \$1,219,813.13, which from my understanding
9 is enough to make full payroll.

10 With this in mind, Mrs. Krake, along
11 with the audit status report please formally
12 ask Mr. McGowan if payroll will be made for
13 the city employees next pay period.

14 In addition, can you please request
15 a report of money submitted by Berkheimer on
16 a weekly basis?

17 Ladies and gentlemen, it is clear
18 that the mayor has made little to no effort
19 to collect alternative sources of revenue
20 that have both promised and enacted by
21 Scranton City Council. It seems like the
22 mayor just simply wants to raise taxes and
23 fees. Why should city council consider this
24 onerous tax increase when he refuses to
25 realize revenue for alternate sources such

1 as StreetSmart or other programs like it
2 that would generate a good windfall of money
3 for the city, maybe it's not \$10 million,
4 but it's something that could lower that 78
5 percent tax increase? And as your city
6 councilman I pledged not to support the 78
7 percent tax hike and continue to work hard
8 to solve our current financial crisis.

9 And I do have a few citizens'
10 requests tonight. A resident reported to
11 Scranton City Council's office that 1411
12 Slattery Street is an absolutely disgrace, a
13 fire trap and a health hazard to the
14 surrounding neighborhood. After being the
15 sort of much illegal drug activity and other
16 illegal activities the apartment house has
17 been condemned and now the out-of-town
18 landlord is letting the property become an
19 overgrown haven for rats, mice, and feral
20 cats. The structure itself has floors which
21 are rotted through and the neighbors fear a
22 fire would spread quickly to homes that are
23 very close to this property.

24 Mrs. Krake, please forward this to
25 Director Seitzinger and ask him to handle

1 the situation appropriately.

2 I have also been informed by several
3 West Scranton residents that the portion of
4 Jackson Street that connects with St.
5 Francis Cabrini Avenue is blocked off and
6 they wish to know why. Residents fear that
7 if there is an emergency in the area it
8 would lead to a catastrophic event.

9 Mrs. Krake, with this in mind can we
10 please contact Director Dougher and inquire
11 why the section of Jackson Street is blocked
12 off and when again it will reopen, and that
13 is all I have for tonight.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: That was actually,
15 Robinson Street, that's what I had mentioned
16 before the --

17 MR. ROGAN: The sink hole.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. According to
19 the paper two weeks ago the state was
20 supposed to take care of it, but nothing has
21 been done, just the horses sitting there.
22 That's two accesses to west side that are
23 blocked right now. Thank you.

24 MR. JOYCE: No, thank you actually.
25 I did receive a few e-mails on that and I'm

1 glad I know now what that is.

2 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AMENDING FILE OF
3 COUNCIL NO. 83, 2009, FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
4 40, 2010 AND FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 53, 2011
5 ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
6 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE
7 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
8 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED
9 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
10 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
11 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
12 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)
13 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)
14 PROGRAM", BY TRANSFERRING \$480,320.84 FROM
15 THE NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE PATROL, 10-96,
16 NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE PATROL, 11-96, AND
17 NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE PATROL VEHICLES, 11-96.2
18 TO PROJECT 12-04 RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND
19 HANDICAP CURB CUTS.

20 MR. JOYCE: 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. MCGOFF: Second.

25 MR. JOYCE: On the question? All

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

6 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
7 have it and so moved.

8 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. APPOINTMENT OF
9 JAMES SCANLON, 929 RICHMONT STREET,
10 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER
11 OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION FOR AN ADDITIONAL
12 FIVE (5) YEAR TERM. MR. SCANLON'S CURRENT
13 TERM EXPIRES ON JULY 12, 2012 AND HIS NEW
14 TERM WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 12, 2017.

15 MR. JOYCE: At this time I'll
16 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
17 introduced into its proper committee.

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

20 MR. JOYCE: On the question?

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Mrs. Krake, can we
22 please send letters requesting resumes to
23 both Mr. Scanlon, and Mr. -- I wouldn't
24 butcher his name, but on 5-D.

25 MR. JOYCE: And I agree with my

1 colleague, Councilman Rogan, that we should
2 have a resume in place or a letter of
3 interest before giving the approval to these
4 appointments. I just looked in the backup
5 and I didn't see a resume in there either,
6 so hopefully they could submit their resumes
7 by next week when they are seeking to be a
8 part of these boards. Okay. All those in
9 favor of introduction signify by saying aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

13 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
14 have it and so moved.

15 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. APPOINTMENT OF
16 ELMER J. NALEVANKO, 1000 RICHMONT STREET,
17 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER
18 OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION FOR AN ADDITIONAL
19 FIVE (5) YEAR TERM. MR. NALEVANKO'S CURRENT
20 TERM EXPIRES ON JULY 12, 2012 AND HIS NEW
21 TERM WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 12, 2017.

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

25 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

2 MR. JOYCE: On the question? All
3 those in favor of introduction signify by
4 saying aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
9 have it and so moved.

10 MS. KRAKE: 6-A. READING BY TITLE -
11 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 44, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE-
12 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
13 CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
14 ACCEPT AND DISBURSE GRANT FUNDS IN THE
15 AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 FROM SANOFI PASTEUR U S
16 PHILANTHROPY DIVISION FOR THE CITY OF
17 SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR
18 SCRANTON POLICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP.

19 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading by
20 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

21 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
22 pass reading by title.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

24 MR. JOYCE: On the question? All
25 those in favor signify by saying aye.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

2 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

4 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
5 have it and so moved.

6 MS. KRAKE: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
7 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 45, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE
8 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
9 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND
10 EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION AND IF
11 SUCCESSFUL A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT THE
12 FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE OFFICE OF
13 ATTORNEY GENERAL COMMUNITY DRUG ABUSE
14 PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF
15 \$1,000.00.

16 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading by
17 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?

18 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B
19 pass reading by title.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

21 MR. JOYCE: On the question? All
22 those in favor signify by saying aye.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

1 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
2 have it and so moved.

3 MS. KRAKE: 6-C. READING BY TITLE -
4 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 46, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE-
5 AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 33, 2012
6 ENTITLED "ESTABLISHING A NO PARKING ZONE IN
7 THE 900 BLOCK OF NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE
8 S.R. 3023) ON THE WESTERN MOST SIDE OF SAID
9 STREET PURSUANT TO THE HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY
10 PERMIT APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH
11 MEDICAL COLLEGE FROM SR 3023 SEGMENT 0090
12 OFFSET 1000 TO SR 3023 SEGMENT 0090 OFFSET
13 1219 FOR A DISTANCE OF TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN
14 (219) FEET" TO CORRECT THE INCORRECTLY
15 IDENTIFIED SEGMENT NUMBERS OF SR 3023.

16 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading by
17 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?

18 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-C
19 pass reading by title.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

21 MR. JOYCE: On the question? All
22 those in favor signify by saying aye.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

1 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
2 have it and so moved.

3 MS. KRAKE: 6-D. READING BY TITLE -
4 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 47, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE
5 - PROVIDING FOR THE CONFIRMATION AND
6 DEDICATION OF MCCARTHY STREET AS A PUBLIC
7 STREET IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
8 PENNSYLVANIA.

9 MR. JOYCE: You've heard reading by
10 title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?

11 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-D
12 pass reading by title.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

14 MR. JOYCE: On the question? All
15 those in favor signify by saying aye.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

17 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

19 MR. JOYCE: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
20 have it and so moved.

21 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
22 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
23 FINANCE FOR ADOPTION -FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
24 42, 2012 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
25 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND

1 EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION AND IF
2 SUCCESSFUL A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT THE
3 FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE BJA FY 12
4 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT
5 ("JAG") PROGRAM LOCAL SOLICITATION IN THE
6 AMOUNT OF \$24,354.00.

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

10 MR. ROGAN: Second.

11 MR. JOYCE: On the question? Roll
12 call, please?

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

20 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I hereby declare
21 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

22 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
23 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR ADOPTION
24 -RESOLUTION NO. 26, 2012 - ACCEPTING A NINE
25 THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY FIVE

1 (\$9,995.00) DOLLAR CONTRIBUTION FROM ANTHONY
2 DILEO T/D/B/A NORTHEAST INSURANCE AND
3 FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS PRESENTED TO THE CITY
4 OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT.

5 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
6 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
7 passage of Item 7-B.

8 MR. ROGAN: Second.

9 MR. JOYCE: On the question? Roll
10 call, please?

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes. I hereby declare
19 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

20 If there is no further other
21 comments or business I'll entertain a motion
22 to adjourn.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Motion to adjourn.

24 MR. JOYCE: This meeting is
25 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER