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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, June 9, 2016

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:

- JOSEPH WECHSLER, PRESIDENT
- PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
- WAYNE EVANS
- WILLIAM GAUGHAN
- TIM PERRY

- LORI REED, CITY CLERK
- KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. WECHSLER: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
15 motion to table agenda item 7-A.

16 MR. ROGAN: Second.

17 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

19 The reason that I'm asking to table this
20 agenda item is because it came to my
21 attention that this legislation would
22 negatively effect a business that has been
23 in place for 59 years over in Greenridge,
24 Brunetti's. So we going to take this week
25 to see if we can work something out so that

1 this does not negatively effect that
2 business.

3 MR. PERRY: Yes on the question.
4 After finding out this information I believe
5 I would like to due my due diligence and
6 take time, go on sight and just make sure
7 there is absolutely nothing else that can be
8 done to kind of compromise because when
9 someone has been in business that long we
10 owe it to ourselves as a body, as the city
11 administration's to the community to make
12 sure we are doing everything possible to end
13 this amicably.

14 MR. ROGAN: I agree with my
15 colleagues, and although we cannot supercede
16 state law I think there has to be some sort
17 of accommodation that can be made to help
18 satisfy the state law, but also help a
19 long-time business owner in the City of
20 Scranton.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else? All
22 those in favor signify by saying aye.

23 MR. PERRY: Aye.

24 MR. EVANS: Aye.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Opposed? I will vote
3 "no". The motion passes. Item 7-A is
4 tabled. Dispense with the reading of the
5 minutes.

6 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. TAX
7 ASSESSOR'S RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATE
8 HELD MAY 18, 2016.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
10 comments? If not, received and filed.

11 MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
12 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE TO BE HELD JUNE 22,
13 2016.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
15 comments? If not, received and filed.

16 MS. REED: AGENDA FOR THE BOARD OF
17 ZONING APPEALS MEETING HELD JUNE 8, 2016.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
19 comments? If not, received and filed.

20 MS. REED: 3-D. MINUTES OF THE
21 REGULAR MEETING OF THE LACKAWANNA COUNTY
22 LAND BANK HELD ON MAY 13, 2016.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
24 comments? If not, received and filed. Do
25 any council members have announcements at

1 this time?

2 MR. PERRY: I have one
3 announcements. The Minooka Lions will be
4 conducting their annual Minooka Golf Classic
5 at Pine Hills Country Club on Saturday, July
6 23, 2016. The golf classic is one their
7 largest fundraising efforts and all proceeds
8 go to various community projects such as
9 scholarships, Willes Eye Hospital, holiday
10 food baskets, the children's Christmas and
11 Easter parties as well as other projects
12 which, I mean, to be honest there is just
13 too many to mention here. They just do a
14 really good job.

15 In order to continue with these
16 worthwhile projects, the club is seeking
17 sponsorships for each hole from local
18 businesses. The donation to sponsor a hole
19 is \$100. The company's name is displayed on
20 a golf hole during the tournament. This is
21 a tax deductible contribution and it's
22 greatly appreciated by the Lion's Club.

23 If you are interested in golfing,
24 the cost is \$85. It's a shotgun start
25 tournament. It begins at 1 p.m. and

1 includes dinner at the course. If
2 interested, you can contact Joe Walsh at
3 570-961-3216 or 570-575-8005. That's all I
4 have.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: I have two. First,
6 the Recycling Center will accept TV's and
7 computer monitors along with other
8 electronics such as printers, towers,
9 peripherals through June from Lackawanna
10 County residents. They must provide photo
11 ID. The fee of \$1 per pound will be in
12 place July 1.

13 The second announcement is that
14 North Scranton Neighborhood Association will
15 be holding a park cleanup at McLane Park,
16 otherwise known as Rockwell Park this
17 Saturday at 9 a.m. All residents of North
18 Scranton and anyone else who would like to
19 join and help clean up the park are
20 encouraged to attend. Thank you.

21 MR. WECHSLER: I have two. I think
22 currently right now the group from the
23 Greenhouse at Nay Aug Park are out front
24 planting flowers in the city planters and we
25 do appreciate their efforts to make the city

1 beautiful.

2 On Saturday, the Auxiliary of
3 General Theodore J. Wynn, VFW Post 25 will
4 have a chicken bar-b-que from 3 to 8 p.m. at
5 the post's hall on Rockwell Avenue. The
6 cost is \$10 and there will be music, raffle
7 and beverages.

8 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
9 PARTICIPATION.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Joan Hodowanitz.

11 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
12 citizen and taxpayer. On the city's website
13 on the home page you're seeing -- first when
14 you see for the mayor was his state of the
15 city address for 2015. Is he going to give
16 one for 2016?

17 MR. WECHSLER: I have not heard
18 anything about it yet.

19 MS. HODOWANITZ: Is there a
20 requirement in the Home Rule Charter that he
21 give that once a year?

22 MR. WECHSLER: I believe so.

23 MS. HODOWANITZ: For shame. Okay.
24 Any information on the status of the 2015
25 audit?

1 MR. WECHSLER: Just the same
2 information we provided last week.

3 MS. HODOWANITZ: It's unfortunate.
4 The one thing Rossi did I that really liked
5 was those weekly updates that he would send
6 in about what was outstanding in term of
7 information. It's amazing, but we are
8 almost halfway through the year, so it's
9 moving along, and I shouldn't have to say
10 this but the 2015 audit is now nine days
11 late. Just in case you forgot, I'll make
12 sure to remind you once a week.

13 MR. EVANS: Joan, I did take at the
14 PEL meeting about that and we feel that
15 Rainey & Rainey should be done relatively
16 soon.

17 MS. HODOWANITZ: I'm sorry, say
18 again?

19 MR. EVANS: Rainey & Rainey should
20 be done with the pre-audit sometime probably
21 in July.

22 MS. HODOWANITZ: Well, that's good,
23 but Rainey & Rainey shouldn't be doing the
24 work, they should have trained the city
25 employees to do the work with their

1 oversight and supervision and quality
2 control because this is the last year of
3 their contract; is that not correct:

4 MR. EVANS: Yes.

5 MS. HODOWANITZ: So I hope they have
6 done their training job well, but we shall
7 see.

8 MR. EVANS: We shall see.

9 MS. HODOWANITZ: Next Wednesday,
10 June 15, is the Pension Board meetings are
11 coming up for the month of June. Have we
12 heard anything on who got collected to
13 replace Mellon Bank as the pension manager
14 and trustee? Their contract runs out at the
15 end of June and the pensions are such a
16 sensitive subject I'm surprised we got the
17 bids in May and there hasn't been a word --
18 there were at least five bids put in, two
19 were late and were rejected.

20 MR. EVANS: I know Mellon is not
21 interested that's for sure.

22 MS. HODOWANITZ: I'm sorry?

23 MR. EVANS: My understanding is
24 Mellon is not interested.

25 MS. HODOWANITZ: I know, they

1 clearly weren't. I'm not surprised. Have
2 we heard what the bid for city engineer?
3 No? Not Mr. Pocius? We don't know? Okay.

4 I was very impressed by the articles
5 in this morning's paper with regard to the
6 parking garages and the lease. I think
7 Mr. Lockwood did a fine job on those
8 articles. More than anything else, I was
9 disturbed by what I sensed was an attitude
10 within the city among the leadership. Some
11 of the officials, at least that, well, you
12 know, we don't have to do a certain thing,
13 we don't have to bid out the Electric City
14 Garage, but, you know, maybe that would have
15 been the right thing to do for the citizens.
16 Maybe had that been bid out we would have
17 gotten a higher amount of money than
18 Mr. Basalyga would have given us, I don't
19 know, but there does seem to be that
20 attitude, you know, we have deadlines in the
21 Home Rule Charter and, well, we can't meet
22 them and no explanations known, never met
23 them so we don't worry too much but, you
24 know, if something is legal it's not
25 necessarily right, and I think a lot of

1 citizens feel the same I d. This business
2 of not having access to the lease agreement
3 because it hasn't been completed yet, yet we
4 scheduled a meeting, a public hearing for
5 June 23, I don't understand. It's a little
6 bit like putting the cart in front of the
7 horse. At what point is that document going
8 to be available for the public to review
9 because what's point of the public attending
10 the meeting if we can't ask logical coherent
11 questions we have no time to review that
12 document, I don't understand. It's almost
13 like the way we do the city budget every
14 year, you know, having to beg for the drafts
15 so that we can comment on it. Does anybody
16 have a feel for what that lease agreement is
17 going to be completed and available for
18 review?

19 MR. WECHSLER: No, we had an
20 executive session a week ago. We were
21 provided with information that we were --
22 confidential information that we are not
23 able to share.

24 MS. HODOWANITZ: And I understand
25 that.

1 MR. WECHSLER: There is a timeline
2 to it, but we don't have -- we haven't
3 gotten a timeline.

4 MS. HODOWANITZ: I just don't
5 understand the logic of scheduling a public
6 hearing when the documents not available for
7 the public and no one knows when it's going
8 to be made available. I lose out on the
9 logic of that. And just very quickly, if
10 could you comment during motions on the
11 status of the financing for the Court award.
12 Thank you.

13 MR. WECHSLER: I can answer that
14 right now, we were told last week that it's
15 on schedule.

16 MS. HODOWANITZ: Whatever that
17 means.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Well, June 30 is the
19 schedule so it's on schedule.

20 MR. EVANS: My understanding is the
21 money will be in the accounts on June 29 for
22 disbursement on June 30.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Carl Kupchunas.

24 MR. KUPCHUNAS: Good evening. My
25 name is Carl Kupchunas. I'm a life-long

1 resident of lower Greenridge. One of the
2 reasons I'm here this evening is to invite
3 everyone here and everyone watching to our
4 annual block party, the Mary Mother of God
5 Parish as Holy Rosary Church in North
6 Scranton will be conducting our annual block
7 party next weekend, June 16, 17 and 18 at
8 our parish center on West Market Street by
9 Cole Muffler. The block party is between 6
10 and 11 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and
11 between 5 and 11 p.m. on the Saturday. The
12 block party will include the following live
13 entertainment: On Thursday, Jo-Jo the clown
14 will start the evening between 6 and 8 p.m.
15 followed by the chatter who will play until
16 11, and on Friday one of the best bands in
17 our area, Picture Perfect will play from 7
18 to 11. On Saturday, Jim Cerminaro will be
19 featured between 5 and 6:30. Later Floxie
20 Morgan on stage between 7 and 11. This
21 year's entertainment should be enjoyable for
22 everyone.

23 We have a variety of games for
24 adults and children. Adults will enjoy our
25 annual raffle, the big six wheel as well as

1 several other games. For the children, we
2 have plush animals, lollipop tree, kids
3 corner, which will include face painting,
4 sand art and many more games and fun. We
5 can't forget about our annual diaper derby
6 which we run Friday June 17 at 7 p.m. All
7 children up to three years of age are
8 invited to run for the roses. Ribbons and
9 prizes will be award at the medal stand.

10 Other features of our block party
11 are dining around, baskets galore, book
12 nook, an ice cream truck, bingo and many
13 more. New this year is a pro race obsession
14 where you remotely drive race cars around
15 the 20-foot track, which should be fun for
16 everyone. We also have some of the best
17 food around. In addition to the usual
18 burgers, hot dogs, fries, pizza, potato
19 pancakes and usual block party food and
20 beverages, a stand from our neighbors and
21 friend at Shilo Baptist Church will feature
22 the best chicken and ribs that you ever had.
23 If you miss our block party, you'll miss the
24 best food and entertainment in the entire
25 summer season. We hope to see you there

1 next weekend, rain or shine, and thank
2 everyone who comes. If you would like to
3 volunteer, please call the parish office at
4 342-4881.

5 In other matters, I agree with a
6 speaker last week who said there should be
7 some ordinance about joggers and pedestrians
8 who walk and run down the middle of the
9 street instead of using the sidewalk. This
10 creates a very dangerous situation for not
11 only the motorists as well as the runners,
12 also. Many of the city streets are not that
13 wide and it creates a very dangerous
14 situation. Please consider an ordinance, if
15 there is already one on the books, to
16 require that both joggers and pedestrians
17 use the sidewalk instead of running down --
18 walking and running down the middle of
19 street.

20 Finally, I have a some concerns
21 about some blighted properties in my
22 neighborhood. A few weeks ago, our
23 neighbors had a meeting with Jody Cordaro
24 about plant renovations to take place in the
25 Scranton Lace Work building, which would

1 have made this abandoned building an asset
2 to our community. As of now, there hasn't
3 been any word in over two years.

4 Also, in the 1400 block of Mylert
5 Avenue, the former Advanced Steel
6 Fabricators building is also equally in bad
7 shape. The building has no roof and partial
8 walls. Please let me know if they are
9 planning to either demolish or repair this
10 building before somebody gets hurt walking
11 or driving by it. Also, does anyone know
12 the status of the Lace Works building
13 renovation? I thank you for your time and I
14 hope everybody has a great summer.

15 MR. EVANS: If I may about the Lace
16 Works, my understanding is that the
17 developer may be appearing before the
18 Scranton School District on June 27 to
19 discuss that project.

20 MR. KUPCHUNAS: I hope they do
21 something with it. This is terrible. The
22 kids are throwing rocks against the
23 building. I mean, it's overgrown with
24 weeds. There is a fire there at least a
25 couple of times a year. I mean, the

1 neighborhood is getting -- it would have
2 been beautiful if they did remodel like he
3 promised and now it's just getting worse and
4 worse every day.

5 MR. EVANS: Well, I think it's
6 starting to have some movement, that's what
7 the meeting is all about.

8 MR. KUPCHUNAS: Well, thank you very
9 much. I appreciate it.

10 MR. EVANS: You're welcome.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Michael Connolly.

12 MR. CONNOLLY: Hello there, how are
13 y guys doing? I just moved here from
14 out-of-state and I wanted to see if we could
15 get some letter of recommendations for some
16 of the people who work at the Office of
17 Economic and Community Development for the
18 wonderful job they did, the timeliness of
19 how it was all worked out and I wanted to
20 thank you guys for having things like this
21 for people like me. I wanted to thank Linda
22 it's A-E-B-L-I-E, it's pronounced Aeblye,
23 executive director. Lisa Carroll, director
24 of housing, Kelly Lucas, she was the one
25 that handled my particular deal, and Judy

1 Luciano, she is an administrator assistant
2 and it's a wonderful thing, it helped me a
3 lot. It welcomed me to Scranton and these
4 folks really work hard and they deserve, you
5 know, it's not always a catch you do
6 something wrong in the world sometimes, you
7 know, do something nice for people. And,
8 also, I'm kind of involved in bringing some
9 jobs into area, I wanted to thank George
10 Kelly, I don't know if you gentlemen know
11 him, but he another asset. Is he here? Oh,
12 there he is. He is another asset to this
13 and thank you very much.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

15 MR. WECHSLER: George brought his
16 own crowd with him. Very nice, George.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Well played, sir.
18 Well played.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Therese Brunetti.

20 MS. BRUNETTI: Good evening. At
21 this time, I just want to thank council for
22 postponing our tabling the situation that
23 involves our --

24 MR. WECHSLER: Excuse me, could you
25 just state your name for the record, please?

1 MS. BRUNETTI: Therese Brunetti.
2 Brunetti's Pizza, 1924 Sanderson Avenue in
3 Scranton. I invite all of you to please
4 come by the business and meet with my
5 husband and I and see if we can come up
6 with, like you had said, some kind of a
7 reasonable solution. We are all very
8 concerned with the safety of everyone,
9 that's our first priority, so I just want it
10 thank you for giving me the opportunity to
11 do this. If you need to get in touch with
12 me at the business it's 344-2829, and it's
13 myself and my husband Michael that are there
14 at any time, okay? Thank you so much.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Jenny
16 Collins.

17 MS. COLLINS: Hi. I'm Jenny
18 Collins, I own Windmere Sign Company in
19 Scranton for the last 20 years and I am here
20 in support of Brunetti's market as well.
21 I'm glad to hear that the council is eager
22 to support local businesses like Therese and
23 Michael's in the city and make sure that
24 their business is not adversely effected by
25 such a decision so I thank you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Ellen
2 Strotz.

3 MS. STRATZ: Stratz.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Stratz, I'm sorry.

5 MS. STRATZ: Hi. My name is Ellen
6 Stratz and I just wanted to find out what
7 the proper procedures are for installing
8 stop signs. I have gone to the engineer's
9 office and the city inspector's office and I
10 can't get a clear answer.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: We can forward a
12 request to the city engineer if you give us
13 the intersection that you --

14 MS. STRATZ: A letter was actually
15 sent to his office three weeks ago and I
16 haven't heard anything back yet.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay, what was the
18 intersection?

19 MS. STRATZ: Aker and Landis in West
20 Scranton.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. And the other
22 question I have is there going to be
23 anything put on the books as far as the
24 flying of drones?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Good question. I

1 don't know if that's has been discussed yet
2 in the city. I know in other cities it has.

3 MS. STRATZ: I have a neighbor --

4 MR. MINORA: If I may explain --

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Oh, sure.

6 MS. STRATZ: -- who is flying a drone
7 over my house.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Our solicitor is going
9 to -- no, that's okay.

10 MR. MINORA: The FFA has regulations
11 on the use of drones so we are -- we the
12 state and cities are preempted from
13 legislating on that area. There are
14 regulations. You would have look on the FFA
15 website, I don't know what they are but I
16 know they are.

17 MS. STRATZ: Okay, but what about
18 for -- I know that they can like be in
19 commercial areas, but what about residential
20 areas because I have a neighbor who is
21 flying his drone over my house.

22 MR. MINORA: All drones are
23 regulated by the FFA.

24 MS. STRATZ: Okay, so I should
25 contact them to get the regulations?

1 MR. MINORA: It's Federal Aviation
2 Administration.

3 MS. STRATZ: Right. Well, I happen
4 to have that number, I looked, but I wanted
5 to know if there was anything specific on
6 the books.

7 MR. MINORA: I'm saying we are
8 unable to do that. We are preempted by
9 federal legislation in that area.

10 MR. ROGAN: Your best bet might be
11 to contact Congressman Courtright's Office.
12 They might be able to open an inquiry for
13 you and some of those regulations.

14 MS. STRATZ: Okay, thank you.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Ron Ellman.

17 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council.
18 Tuesday night I was at Luigi's up in
19 Mountain Top and this young lady my age came
20 over to me and asked how come I never really
21 partake in the conversations that are
22 current to the city. One reason is I don't
23 have a computer, and secondly is all of the
24 obstentiated (phonetic.) Nonsense that's in
25 the paper that I don't have much faith in.

1 I think I could pass it onto that there is
2 just so many informed talented people come
3 before this council for their few minutes
4 and I'm not one of them. I think people
5 they had to know their capabilities. That's
6 her answer I guess, but I think in the 15
7 years or so that I have been down here, been
8 longer than that, that I have
9 accomplished -- made a couple of
10 accomplishments, but I remember a year half
11 ago when I stood here and got ridiculed
12 about putting a mall -- a marketplace in the
13 mall, I know the mall wasn't ours, but we
14 needed some influence and I'm so happy so
15 now that you people took over that idea and
16 did something with it because I think that
17 marketplace if it's informal like Allentown
18 and Pottstown where I go will be very, very
19 successful.

20 And, secondly, I want to thank
21 someone. I took Slugo, the Bassett hound
22 for a walk to the river Monday morning, when
23 I come back they had paved the street, north
24 Main, and I don't -- this is boiling hot, I
25 didn't even know that. The man jumped off

1 the steamroller, he said, "Don't put that
2 dog -- don't cross that street," he said,
3 "pick him up."

4 I said, "You don't pick up the
5 Slugo."

6 It's just like picking up a 100
7 pounds of jelly or something, you know, so
8 this gentlemen took the steamroller and went
9 and back and squirted water on the street
10 for me and another gentleman stopped traffic
11 because Slugo's little legs are like that
12 and it takes him awhile to walk. This
13 foreman should be proud to have two
14 conscientious people like this working for
15 him. It was such a nice, unnecessary
16 kindness.

17 And I know the American Water is
18 putting in new pipes in West Side, what's
19 going to happen to these new streets?

20 MR. GAUGHAN: They did tell us that
21 they were coordinating with the utility
22 company.

23 MR. ELLMAN: They are?

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

25 MR. ELLMAN: I didn't know that.

1 That just dawned on me money that they're
2 putting -- because my plumber phoned me and
3 he told me he wants to come over and put an
4 inexpensive pressure valve in my house
5 because the new pipes have more pressure
6 than being brand new, and he said they are
7 blowing the safety valves on water heaters
8 and, you know, the heaters for the winter
9 heaters, and I think everybody needs every
10 penny they could scrape together for our new
11 taxes every year, that's why I just
12 mentioned that, but he told me it's just an
13 expensive valve you put outside of the water
14 and it doesn't -- water where it comes into
15 the house, and again, I want to thank those
16 two men for helping me with the dog, and the
17 paving looks beautiful. They have done the
18 sewers by my house and even in the street
19 for some reason, but, you know, the other
20 part of Main Street, Jackson and Main there
21 must be is a four-inch drop on the sewer,
22 it's terrible. It's like this (indicating)
23 and somebody needs to address it. Thank
24 you.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Is there anyone else
2 who would like to address council?

3 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
4 citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian.
5 I'm, too, had a lot of questions about the
6 Electric City garage. Are we referring to
7 the annex only or the old Globe Store garage
8 that's attached to this?

9 MR. EVANS: The old -- I think it's
10 the old Globe store.

11 MR. WECHSLER: The whole Electric
12 City garage.

13 MR. EVANS: It's all connected now.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Then obviously the
15 front part is not ready to fall apart, we
16 know that, and we also know that the theatre
17 is grandfathered in for so many free parking
18 spaces above that section of the garage, so
19 whatever they said about him doing this and
20 that, it's hogwash. He is already
21 grandfathered in so many free parking spaces
22 in the annex part of the Electric City
23 garage, and the only thing I can see is the
24 county buying the Globe Store, all of a
25 sudden that section of the garage becomes a

1 gold mine. To anyone with brains we know
2 that. They plan to lease it to the -- well,
3 they are going to charge the people who work
4 for the county. That's why the county
5 should have been offering to buy that
6 garage, that section of the garage anyway
7 instead of this quick deal, and to many laws
8 requires the same as 1-A law. I mean, our
9 2A city is the same as Philadelphia and
10 Pittsburgh. All properties that they
11 consider we'll put it consider that they can
12 get rid of is supposed to be put out on bid.
13 Now, how they figured they are going to get
14 this quick deal with this garage is beyond
15 me. No thing on it, I didn't even see the
16 price they were going to give.

17 You know and I know too much deal
18 making is being done with this project and
19 not necessarily to the goodness of the
20 people of Scranton. If we wanted to sell
21 the garage we should offered it to the
22 county or to any other individual that
23 wishes to buy that garage because now it
24 becomes a gold mine. Unless you are willing
25 to condemn that garage, which I don't think

1 you are. Now, we said you would have to be
2 torn down. That means it would have to have
3 been condemned. Did the city engineer
4 condemn it? Are people still using that
5 garage? Whatever you do, don't sit there
6 and stonewall the people. That gives the
7 impression that you are not very honest and
8 that's not right. I'm sure you are all
9 honorable people and want to do best for the
10 city so I assume you would want the best
11 price for that garage if it has to be sold,
12 but don't give us hogwash saying that it has
13 to be torn down because the annex was built
14 the same time as the mall and you are not
15 tearing the mall down so chances are you are
16 not going to tear down the annex, and the
17 annex is where the free parking for the
18 theatre is. If you read when they built it,
19 you will find out it's grandfathered in, so
20 many free spots in that annex for the
21 theatre.

22 I ain't going to give you too much
23 because I'm waiting to get more data on it,
24 but I can see what's going on and it's not
25 very good. Like they say, if anything

1 smells like cheese it usually stinks like
2 cheese and this deal does do that, it falls
3 into that category. I'm sorry to hear it.
4 I'm sorry to see that they would even think
5 of doing something like that, but to try and
6 say the garage has to be torn down and it's
7 not condemned or the annex doesn't have free
8 parking for the theatre that's hogwash.
9 Thank you.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, Marie
11 Schumacher. As we will not be permitted to
12 ask questions at the caucus on the parking
13 asset sale will you, our elected officials
14 and representatives, agree to provide us
15 with the questions you intend to ask by the
16 close of business Tuesday the 14th of June
17 so that we, your constituents, may provide
18 additional questions for which we would like
19 answers? Anybody willing to do that?

20 MR. EVANS: I'm not sure what I'll
21 be asking until --

22 MR. WECHSLER: I would rather have
23 you provide us questions because --

24 MR. EVANS: We'll fill the gaps in.

25 MR. WECHSLER: -- I see things

1 differently.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Further --

3 MR. WECHSLER: Would you be willing
4 to offer them to us, our questions?

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: You are the elected
6 officials, you do what --

7 MR. WECHSLER: I will have questions
8 and I will ask questions as the meeting goes
9 on.

10 MR. EVANS: Right.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: I will. Further,
12 would council advise Scranton Parking
13 Authority it should not hold any public
14 hearing and/or vote on any lease or contract
15 or agreement of any kind until the agreement
16 to be voted on has been electronically
17 available to the public for at least a full
18 seven-day week? I would appreciate if all
19 would send a letter to them advising them
20 that would be a smart thing to do.

21 Switching just a little bit, it's
22 been over three months since I understand
23 the books have closed on 2015 and I would
24 like to know if we finished 2015 with a
25 surplus or a deficit and in what amount? Do

1 we --

2 MR. EVANS: Well, I'll try to get an
3 answer for you, but I would assume it was a
4 balance budget, but I'll find out.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: During the past
6 week did anyone follow-up to see if a LERTA
7 may be modified if Clover, the property
8 owner down On Dixon Avenue, is not in
9 compliance with the plan on which the LERTA
10 was based?

11 MR. EVANS: I reviewed the LERTA
12 that language and there is nothing in the
13 language that talks about any of the issues
14 that we brought up.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Even though that
16 was based on --

17 MR. EVANS: It was -- you know, I
18 had a copy of the ordinance, I'll be glad to
19 give you a copy.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, I would like
21 that. Thank you. Has a contract to
22 determine the actual cost of trash
23 collection begun and been let, and if so to
24 whom and what completion date and can the
25 statement of worth be made accessible to the

1 public?

2 MR. EVANS: It hasn't started yet,
3 but it will be accessible.

4 MR. WECHSLER: We just approved the
5 application for the grant last week.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Before I get back
7 to the urgent need for reassessment and
8 showing many of the City of Scranton
9 property owners are being overcharged to the
10 benefit of the balance of the county
11 property owners, I ask that you consider
12 adding some metrics. Two possible
13 candidates. First, in April you passed File
14 of Council No. 21 defining and authorizing
15 tax exemptions from real property tax in
16 order to improve deteriorating real property
17 in certain areas of the City of Scranton.
18 Would you please begin reporting monthly how
19 many qualified permits have been pulled?

20 MR. EVANS: Sure. That is back on
21 the agenda tonight, by the way, because --
22 I'll explain that later.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: Fine. Second, each
24 month the tax collector reports on
25 year-to-date collections comparing the

1 current year with the prior year and percent
2 of change. The last one I saw for the last
3 month shows we are lagging, we are not even
4 meeting the tax increase, so since Mayor
5 Courtright did not follow through on his
6 commitment to provide electronic access to
7 the backup for each agenda item, not has his
8 council taken any initiatives in that
9 regard, a trip must be made to city hall to
10 the council's office during business hours
11 to obtain the data the tax collector
12 provides, so may I suggest you begin a
13 monthly report on how the year-to-date
14 status for each property compares with that
15 of the cash flow document. I think that
16 would be very beneficial.

17 And that brings up the yet another
18 issue, on January 28 you authorized a
19 contract with Muni Services to provide
20 online financial data presentment services.
21 When will we see a product online? What
22 financials are they going to report online
23 and when will see the product? You get an
24 answer for that for next week?

25 MR. EVANS: I'll try.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: My statements that
2 I have on the -- may I finish on the
3 reassessment need? You asked what the
4 average, and we all, again, setting the
5 stage, the common level ratio reflects the
6 level of assessments at a particular time or
7 given year and it's further defined in the
8 Pennsylvania Law, "Common level ratio shall
9 mean the ratio of assessed value to current
10 market value used generally in the county as
11 last determined by the State Tax
12 Equalization Board."

13 Now, since July of last year we
14 should be getting a new one soon it's, six
15 pit and like three three, and I reported
16 last week how -- you know what I reported
17 last week, but you asked what was the
18 average. Well, sadly, the average for the
19 city was 7.6, and for the rest of the county
20 it was 11.6. 53 percent higher than the
21 city. That's screams for help and --

22 MR. EVANS: It does.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: And the property
24 sine I stopped doing the daily logging of
25 each property, 59 of the 135 properties that

1 have been sold since I believe starting the
2 19th of March, 44 percent of the sales in
3 Scranton are below the common level ratio,
4 44.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you very much.
6 Thank you.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: One more.

8 MR. WECHSLER: You are past your six
9 minutes, so please --

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, I'll hold it
11 for next week. Thank you.

12 MR. WECHSLER: You'll have to
13 squeeze it in. Anyone else?

14 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
15 Dave Dobrzyn, resident and taxes paid. Fees
16 paid. This effects Scranton, it reads,
17 "Pennsylvania has been hit hard by plant
18 closures and job losses," it's on NAFTA, and
19 right here, and I'll show it to the
20 audience, it's right about where Scranton,
21 Pennsylvania. Currently, we have about 35
22 people on the floor at Chamberlain or
23 General Dynamics, it's listed as General
24 Dynamics here, and why is it a NAFTA job
25 loss? Because NAFTA is lopsided, and that's

1 what I have been talking about for a year
2 now. With small towns like us or small
3 cities. Here we have a major employer and
4 the tanks shells are probably being imported
5 from Mexico. We are paying taxes to the
6 federal government and money goes to Mexico
7 and the jobs go to Mexico and here we are.
8 Military industrial complex, Globalman.
9 Maybe we can beg them if we are involved in
10 an altercation for some free material. Now,
11 contact your Congressman and tell them scrap
12 their outsourcing of jobs and trade packs,
13 please.

14 On this Parking Authority deal, it's
15 peculiar, I agree with somewhat of what Andy
16 said, but I seen in there where someone is
17 buying it and releasing it back to the
18 organization that's taking it over and I
19 wonder who is on the books for the repairs
20 for that other garage and that's my
21 question. Are we going to have the money
22 funneled off from the rest of garages to fix
23 that one while somebody else owns it and
24 that's I don't know. That's a good pretty
25 contorted situation there, so certainly it's

1 bad enough we are dumping the gold mine but
2 then on top of it we are fixing that gold
3 mine up after it's in somebody else's hands.

4 And the treasury deal, what is the
5 deal with that deputy tax collector?

6 MR. EVANS: I don't know, your guess
7 is as good as mine. I don't know what the
8 deal is. I'm trying to figure that out.

9 MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah, it's peculiar.

10 MR. EVANS: It's if the case the tax
11 collector becomes incapacitated.

12 MR. DOBRZYN: What?

13 MR. EVANS: If the tax collector
14 becomes incapacitated this is the person
15 that is in line to take his position so
16 there is I guess there is continuity there,
17 but I think it's kind of weird to be honest
18 with you.

19 MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah, yeah. I could
20 see that I guess. We did have a tax
21 collector that was incapacitated most of the
22 time a few years back.

23 MR. EVANS: Why it's being done now,
24 I'm not sure.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Mr. Dobrzyn, I do have

1 something here it says that it is a
2 formality, Section 22 of the Local Tax
3 Collection Law, allows for an appointment of
4 a deputy with the approval of a municipality
5 for which the tax collector was elected.
6 The deputy's role would be to collect and
7 settle taxes in the event of the
8 incapacitation of the tax collector. The
9 deputy must be qualified, certified,
10 completed the education requirements and
11 criminal background check. This gentleman
12 we will be voting on tonight is the current
13 tax collector of Old Forge. He will not
14 work in the Single Tax Office, he is not
15 paid, this is not a paid position, he
16 wouldn't collect any salary, so it's just a
17 formality.

18 MR. EVANS: Sort of like being the
19 runner up to Ms. America.

20 MR. DOBRZYN: Well, we do in case
21 somebody becomes incapacitated. I'm not
22 making fun of you guys, but I just had a
23 question on that. The Nay Aug Park
24 Authority I found out for myself is every
25 Monday, the first Monday of the month at

1 7:00 p.m. and I will be up there because I
2 have some concerns. I don't want to keep
3 beating up on you guys about the cigarette
4 issue when it's, like I said, stop smoking
5 and you're helping your health fix
6 potentially, but, you know, there is nothing
7 worse than having a concession stand where
8 people aren't attending. Thank you and have
9 a good night.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else?

11 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.

12 MOTIONS.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Perry?

14 MR. PERRY: Yes, I have a couple of
15 things. Just to brush up from last week
16 there was a couple of questions, one was
17 about the Sandone Tire Company if they are
18 going to give us any kind of monetary relief
19 or a donation to offset some of the costs
20 that we have and replace some equipment for
21 the fire department. I'm still working on
22 that so I don't have any hard answers for
23 you on that one.

24 The second one was the bike law, and
25 I was able to pull off some information.

1 This is a Pennsylvania law as it refers to
2 bicycles. Every person riding a bicycle
3 upon the streets, alleys or public places
4 shall be subject to the provisions of all
5 statutes of the Commonwealth and ordinances
6 of the city applicable to the operations of
7 any vehicle.

8 In other words, they are allowed on
9 the streets. They have to abide by stop
10 signs, streetlights, anything a car or
11 motorcycle has to follow so that's
12 bicyclists. Sidewalks are absolutely
13 prohibited for bicyclists, and bicycles
14 shall operate as close to the right-hand
15 curb as conditions will be permitted and
16 they are allowed to ride in tandem, two at a
17 time to the far most right side.

18 The driver's responsibility when it
19 comes to bicycles in the city, operators of
20 a motor vehicle have the responsibility of
21 passing bicyclists with a four-foot distance
22 between them and the bike. So if there is
23 an instance where you do want to pass the
24 bicyclist, you need to give them a four-foot
25 curb on when they can pass.

1 Third thing, which I believe was
2 already answered before was the police and
3 fire court award and that is a scheduled for
4 closing on June 29, but that's everything I
5 have today.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Mr.
7 Rogan?

8 MR. ROGAN: Yes, just two items
9 tonight. First regarding the parking
10 situation on Sanderson Avenue, I am going to
11 make a point to come out and visit you next
12 week on lunch time so you get a little bit
13 of business as well from me but, you know,
14 I'm glad to see that this is tabled and
15 there has to be some sort of arrangement
16 that can be made here. I understand that
17 there was an error made a long time ago, but
18 when businesses have been operating under a
19 certain set of rules for as long as you have
20 and it has been very successful in the City
21 of Scranton we need to do everything we can
22 to accommodate the businesses in the city.
23 There is already enough obstacles to do
24 business in Scranton, we don't want to
25 create any further ones.

1 Next, it was nice hearing a good
2 compliment for our Office of Economic and
3 Community Development and I have another
4 good piece of good news in that vein as well
5 for tonight. About a year ago, I believe
6 about a year ago, myself and Councilman
7 Evans, Jessie Ergott from Neighbor Works of
8 Northeast PA met with Wayne's office
9 regarding first time homebuyers and how to
10 stimulate that market, and I'd like to thank
11 Mr. Bulzoni and the mayor for getting
12 legislation to us that really was --
13 Councilman Evans took the lead and then we
14 met again with Jessie and his group and got
15 that together, so I do want to talk a little
16 bit about that, and this is right from the
17 legislation.

18 It says, "Whereas, through a
19 partnership between Scranton City Council
20 and Neighborhood Works of Northeastern
21 Pennsylvania, the Scranton Home Assistance
22 Program will provide incentive programming
23 for home buyers to purchase single family
24 homes within the City of Scranton; and,
25 whereas, the goal of Scranton Home

1 Assistance program is to bring properties
2 back on the tax role by way of offering cash
3 assistant to homebuyers purchasing homes in
4 the Scranton area. Through the assistance
5 of Neighbor Works and Scranton City Council,
6 homebuyers will be offered a \$5,000 grant
7 towards purchasing a single family home with
8 the city limit. The grant award will be
9 utilized to provide homebuyers with exterior
10 improvements to their new homes that may
11 have otherwise been postponed or neglected
12 as well as improvements that may increase
13 the property value.

14 Some of the parameters of this
15 program are a little bit different than
16 through the Office of Economic Development
17 first time homebuyer's program. These are
18 the eligibility criteria. The home must be
19 the primary residence for the buyer. The
20 home, of course, must be in the City of
21 Scranton limits. The purchase of the home,
22 the home price must not exceed \$120,000.
23 \$5,000 must be utilized for exterior home
24 improvements and/or repairs made to the
25 property. It must be meet the requirement

1 of the lender and mortgage insurer, the
2 property must be a single family one-unit
3 residence including approved condominiums.

4 And, finally, manufactured housing
5 is allowed when combined with an FHA first
6 mortgage home loan and the home must be on a
7 permanent foundation. If exterior repairs
8 are not needed, the homebuyer may utilize
9 \$5,000 towards interior health and safety
10 repairs such as HVAC upgrades, security,
11 fire alarms, and insulation where needed.

12 Additionally, access to free
13 additional light improvements will be
14 offered to the recipients of these grants
15 through Neighbor Works. They have a great
16 skilled volunteer program. One of them that
17 is pretty well know is Paint the Town that
18 does go through specific neighborhoods and
19 try to spruce up the homes of many times
20 older citizens who can't either afford or
21 can't physically do that work themselves.

22 And, finally, free counseling will
23 be available for first time homebuyers
24 through this program as well. So this is a
25 great program that I think will help

1 stimulate home ownership within the City of
2 Scranton, and in particular first time
3 homebuyers, and not only will it make it
4 easier for people to buy homes but those
5 exterior improvements will hopefully
6 increase the value of all homes in those
7 neighborhoods, so I am very glad to see that
8 after probably a year this legislation is
9 finally coming up for a vote, but this is
10 legislation will be a big help for the city
11 and it's something that I hope that we can
12 expand upon if this pilot program is
13 successful and it can be funded much more
14 through our OECD applications. Thank you.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

16 Mr. Evans?

17 MR. EVANS: Thank you. I'd like to
18 expand on that a little bit and thank
19 Councilman Rogan for all of his hard work
20 involved as well. To give a little history
21 lesson, it goes back to when we passed a
22 foreclosure registration ordinance that
23 Councilman Rogan brought the company in to
24 talk about with us and what that does is
25 register all of the foreclosed properties

1 within the City of Scranton, it creates a
2 database for the city. We know who the
3 owners are and who the contact personnel are
4 with all of the foreclosures, the problem
5 with the property, high grass, weeds, broken
6 windows, etcetera, the city knows who to
7 contact immediately and our thought process
8 was the city is going to gain about 30, 35
9 thousand dollars in revenue from that, so
10 why put that money in the black hole once
11 again. We decided to go out and try to find
12 a program that would help citizens and help
13 home owners and foster homeownership as well
14 as improve the neighborhoods by giving
15 grants hopefully mostly for exterior
16 improvements and we have evaluated the --
17 there is no income guidelines so a lot of
18 people that were excluded from other
19 programs can be included in this programs so
20 it's a two-fold approach, a perfect
21 private/public partnership in both cases,
22 and so I want to thank Councilman Rogan
23 again for bringing the initiative, the first
24 part of it, and working together with me to
25 the second part of it and all of the

1 councilmen for being supportive of both
2 initiatives in the very beginning.

3 We talked about the reassessment
4 again, one of my favorite subjects. To give
5 a little background on the common level
6 ratio, the CLR, which Marie stated was 6.33,
7 what we are referring to is the state comes
8 in and does a study on the market value
9 based on the sales this year and that's
10 where the number comes from. So what Marie
11 -- it's very interesting what she is doing,
12 what she is basically finding out is that
13 you take the assessed value of your property
14 and you multiply that by the common level
15 ratio that should be what your market value
16 is. For example, if you have a \$20,000
17 assessment and you multiply it by 6.33, your
18 property should be worth \$126,000 --
19 \$126,600 and what we were finding is a large
20 majority of the sales are below what should
21 be considered the market value and that's a
22 dangerous situation to have.

23 So by every standard conceivable we
24 need a reassessment. There is no question
25 about it. It would be a positive for

1 economic development, it would bring about
2 tax fairness for the first time in over 45
3 years to our citizens and I think the point
4 is that Scranton is getting the brunt of the
5 impact of not having a reassessment more
6 than other areas because their market values
7 are going up and their assessments are
8 staying the same.

9 Another issue, the leachate line, we
10 asked for Attorney Shrive to give us a
11 report by June 15, you sent that letter;
12 right?

13 MS. REED: Yes.

14 MR. EVANS: Prior to next council
15 meeting we expect to have his opinion back
16 to us, that's our request. We did put a
17 hard date on it so hopefully that will
18 happen next week, and everything else I will
19 wait to discuss during agenda items. Thank
20 you.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Mr.
22 Gaughan.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you, just a
24 few items. First, we received a couple of
25 complaints about properties on Hampton

1 Street that had overgrown grass so we sent
2 that along to Licensing and Inspections
3 Department and hopefully that's taken care
4 of. We also received a stop sign request at
5 the corner of Prospect and Fig Street that
6 we will send along to the city engineer.
7 I'd also like if we could contact the
8 administration and ask that they update the
9 city zoning board website to include recent
10 and future agendas. The last agenda posted
11 is from 2014.

12 I'd also ask this week that we send
13 a letter out asking why the Recreation
14 Authority is paying to have a city police
15 officer patrol Nay Aug Park for three hours
16 daily for the duration of the season at a
17 cost of \$35 and the total cost comes to
18 \$5,880 for the entire season. I'd like to
19 know why we are doing this and why the
20 Recreation Authority has to pay for this.
21 Shouldn't this be a regular duty of whoever
22 is in charge of that area, and as far as I
23 know this was never done in the past, so I
24 am asking for additional clarification on
25 that.

1 I also recently learned that the
2 Governor's northeast regional office has
3 moved from the Oppenheim building in
4 downtown Scranton to Pittston. This to me
5 is both infuriating and baffling. Scranton
6 is the county seat and is largest city in
7 Northeastern Pennsylvania. Did Mayor
8 Courtright or anyone from this city fight to
9 keep them here? This leads me back to my
10 question that I have asked numerous times,
11 who is fighting for the City of Scranton.
12 I'd like to send a letter to find out if any
13 effort was made on the part of the Mayor
14 Courtright and his administration to keep
15 the Governor's office in downtown Scranton,
16 and I'd also like a letter to go to the
17 Governor's office why the regional office
18 was taken out of Scranton sent down to
19 Pittston. To me, this is embarrassing.

20 Since I have been on city council, I
21 have been trying to work with Mayor
22 Courtright and his administration on
23 improving the communication between city
24 hall and the citizens of Scranton. One of
25 the things that is being discussed, which I

1 fully endorse, is a communications platform,
2 a mobile application called C-Click Fix where
3 citizens can report non-emergency issues
4 like potholes, faded stop signs and other
5 things and governments will track, manage
6 and reply making the community better
7 through transparency, collaboration and
8 cooperation. This would be a brand new way
9 for citizens to report quality of life
10 concerns quickly and easily from smart phone
11 applications as well as from the city
12 website. The concerns will be submitted
13 directly to the city department where they
14 would be routed and assigned to the
15 appropriate area based on the location and
16 type of problem.

17 I felt since I have been on city
18 council that many of the city's problems are
19 related to communication. People feel that
20 they call city hall and are sent 100
21 different directions and either never get an
22 answer or can't get in touch with the proper
23 person who can handle their problem. I'm
24 hopeful that in the near future, we can
25 streamline some of these problems and become

1 more efficient at taking care of the issues
2 that our citizens have on a daily basis.
3 And that is all I have this week. Thank
4 you.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,
6 Mr. Gaughan. Just to summarize some of the
7 comments that were made by my colleagues, I
8 think it's very encouraging that the
9 administration and council continues to
10 provide assistance to stimulate and
11 encourage investment in the city. Tonight
12 on our agenda alone I believe there are
13 three different items that encourage that
14 development in the city and we are
15 aggressively trying to get people buying
16 homes in the city and taking the properties
17 off the abandoned list, and hopefully these
18 efforts will start to pay dividends, and if
19 they don't it's not for lack of trying. We
20 have made considerable efforts. Mr. Rogan
21 and Mr. Evans worked on the homebuyers
22 program, Mr. Gaughan works on the land bank
23 and we have all been supportive of the tax
24 abatement and other programs that we have
25 been encouraged, actually getting the county

1 and the school board on board with that so
2 we are making aggressive efforts to combine
3 our government efforts to focus on Scranton
4 and hopefully see some dividends from these
5 programs.

6 And on a lighter note, on Sunday
7 Councilman Evans and I learned how to
8 barbecue 100 chickens at a time, which was
9 quite interesting, and even though we passed
10 the no smoking ordinance, Connor's Park was
11 filled with smoke from the chicken fire, so
12 we have learned a valuable skill. If it
13 doesn't work out on city council, we can
14 always go out and barbecue chickens. That's
15 all I have.

16 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
17 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO
18 EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO THE AGREEMENT OF
19 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AND MEMORANDUM
20 OF UNDERSTANDING BY AND BETWEEN THE
21 LACKAWANNA COUNTY LAND BANK, COUNTY OF
22 LACKAWANNA, CITY OF SCRANTON AND SCRANTON
23 SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR LAND BANK ACQUISITION
24 AND RESTORATION OF BLIGHTED, VACANT,
25 ABANDONED AND TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTIES.

1 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
2 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
3 introduced into its proper committee.

4 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

5 MR. EVANS: Second.

6 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
8 First of all, I'd like to thank George Kelly
9 from the County's Economic Development
10 Office for coming in and talking to us and
11 explaining this intergovernmental
12 cooperation agreement tonight. He is a
13 great asset to our community. I'm extremely
14 pleased to finally be voting on this
15 agreement between the Lackawanna County land
16 bank, the City and the Scranton School
17 District. The concept of the land bank is
18 to acquire and purchase vacant and
19 underutilized property with a future goal of
20 productive reuse of the land. As we all are
21 aware in the City of Scranton vacant,
22 abandoned and tax delinquent properties
23 impose significant costs on neighborhoods by
24 lowering property values, decreasing tax
25 revenues, and undermining community

1 cohesion. Many of these vacant overgrown
2 lots dot our neighborhoods and become major
3 eyesores that frustrate our neighbors. Land
4 banks allow local governments to overcome
5 barriers that inhibit redevelopment of these
6 problem properties. It makes it easier for
7 developers, nonprofits, and individuals to
8 acquire vacant publically owned land.

9 For example, the disposition of tax
10 delinquent properties can be challenging
11 when delinquent taxes exceed the property's
12 market value or when there is no clear title
13 to the property. The affordable housing
14 stopped benefits from land banks. In the
15 event that vacant lots cannot be developed
16 due to lots irregular shape or small size,
17 land banks can assemble adjoining parcels to
18 create a larger, more marketable property.
19 This would be particularly helpful for many
20 properties in our city.

21 Across the country, land banks have
22 become an effective tool to address these
23 challenges, reversing the cycle of decline
24 and decay, facilitating the transfer of
25 vacant property, and most importantly

1 promoting economic development and
2 neighborhood stabilization.

3 So I fully endorse this agreement
4 between the county and the city and the
5 school district and I look forward to
6 working with all of the officials to make
7 sure that we can improve our neighborhood
8 and increase economic development and take
9 care of these problem properties in our
10 neighborhoods. Thank you.

11 MR. EVANS: On the question, I have
12 to say that I don't think anyone is happier
13 than myself and Councilman Gaughan for
14 seeing this on the agenda tonight, but we
15 continue to beat the drum to get this issue
16 in the forefront, and I hope in some small
17 way all of us here helped move this forward,
18 and again, I'd like to thank George Kelly
19 for coming tonight and giving us an update
20 on where the land bank is, and you have our
21 full support as you move forward with this
22 very, very valuable tool. Thank you very
23 much.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I was impressed
25 with Mr. Kelly's presentation tonight. He

1 has a good plan on how to begin this
2 process. He has a good handle on where
3 potential funding will be coming from that
4 will minimize the cost and eliminate the
5 cost to taxpayers in the city, so I'm very
6 encouraged by having Mr. Kelly in charge of
7 this plan and I really anticipate it to be
8 successful.

9 MR. ROGAN: I would agree with all
10 of the comments that my colleagues made and
11 as Councilman Wechsler mentioned the
12 majority of the items on or agenda tonight
13 are all geared towards economic development
14 of the city and towards stabilizing our
15 housing stock in the city. So there is not
16 going to be a cure all to fix some of the
17 problems the city has had over many decades,
18 but a combination of these different
19 initiatives that the city council and the
20 administration and the county have been
21 pursuing will hopefully come together to
22 really promote economic development within
23 the city and to, first, stop people from
24 leaving the city; and secondly, bring many
25 people back into Scranton who have left or

1 are looking to relocate here, so I'm very
2 optimistic regarding all of these items that
3 we are voting on tonight.

4 MR. PERRY: Yes. I also want to
5 thank Mr. Kelly. Basically what this is
6 going to boil down to in the ordinance is
7 streamline. What this land bank is going to
8 do for us it's going to take our blight and
9 it's going to take a streamline approach to
10 get that on the tax rolls as soon as
11 possible. That's about as simple as I can
12 put it and, you know, we are all on board
13 for this, and like we talked about. There
14 is many initiatives that we have out there
15 trying to, you know, increase that by, as
16 Mr. Evans said, and grow our way out of our
17 issues that we are having here in Scranton,
18 and as Mr. Wechsler said, you know, whether
19 these bleed down quickly have a great effect
20 on our city or run flat, it's not for lack
21 of the trying by this council. Day in and
22 day out we talk about economic development
23 and growth all the time and that's a
24 forefront and I know that's been our credo
25 from the beginning.

1 So, again, thank you again for your
2 presentation, it was very helpful, and I
3 have high expectations of this. Thank you.

4 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
5 introduction signify by saying aye.

6 MR. PERRY: Aye.

7 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

8 MR. EVANS: Aye.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
11 ayes have it and so moved.

12 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
13 AN ORDINANCE - APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE
14 ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES BY EMINENT
15 DOMAIN, DEED IN LIEU OF CONDEMNATION,
16 AGREEMENT, OR OTHERWISE OF ANY AND ALL
17 RIGHTS, LICENSES, PERSONAL PROPERTY,
18 EASEMENTS, INTERESTS, OR TITLES IN REAL
19 ESTATE AND/OR STRUCTURES REQUIRED IN ORDER
20 TO OBTAIN FEE SIMPLE TITLE TO SAID
21 PROPERTIES TO COMPLETE THE LACKAWANNA RIVER
22 LOCAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT.

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

1 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

2 MR. EVANS: Second.

3 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

5 These two properties are the last two that
6 need to be acquired as part of the FEMA Army
7 Corp project and will complete the hazard
8 mitigation plan. Passage of this
9 legislation will allow the city to acquire
10 these two properties, settle with the
11 current owners and demolish them and then
12 they will remain as open space.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, on the question,
14 we tend to forget that the flood project is
15 still going on in the city. There has been
16 a lot of areas that have already been
17 completed and we still have a small piece
18 that's not done yet, a very important piece
19 that's not done yet and a lot of the people
20 that worked on this to get it to this point
21 are either no longer involved in government
22 or have moved on, and I think we have to
23 take a look back and thank those people for
24 their commitment that they showed to this
25 project so many years ago. It was another

1 project that we were told was never going to
2 happen, we were never going to get flood
3 relief in the city, and through the hard
4 work and combination from neighborhood
5 groups, neighborhood groups through the City
6 of Scranton and through our state reps and
7 state senators, congressmen, senate, it with
8 through the whole gamut to get this
9 completed and the current levy project has
10 saved the city several times already in just
11 the past 15 years or so that it's been up so
12 it's been a huge success. It's saved
13 neighborhoods in the city and when this is
14 completed it will truly be -- you are never
15 100 percent safe because it's the river and
16 you could be on the side of the floods, but
17 this does make us feel much safer.

18 All those in favor of introduction
19 signify by saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
25 ayes have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
3 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPROVE
4 THE USE OF THE SCRANTON HOME ASSISTANCE
5 PROGRAM (SHAP) AS AN INCENTIVE FOR
6 PROSPECTIVE HOMEBUYERS TO PURCHASE SINGLE
7 FAMILY HOMES WITHIN THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

8 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
9 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
10 introduced into its proper committee.

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. EVANS: Second.

13 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
15 I would just like to first thank Councilmen
16 Evans and Rogan for their efforts on this
17 program. I believe that this is going to be
18 a great benefit to families who are
19 investing in the city and I think we all
20 recognize that it's time that we invest in
21 those families and I think that this program
22 accomplishes that. Thank you.

23 MR. ROGAN: I know I spoke on this
24 at length, but I really have to thank Jessie
25 Ergott and Neighbor Works. They have been a

1 great partner to the city not only with this
2 program, but with the paint the town and the
3 many other programs they are doing and I
4 know they were brought up during our
5 presentation with the county, working with
6 the county hand-in-hand as well, so we
7 really have to thank them for everything
8 they have been doing for the city and the
9 county.

10 MR. EVANS: On that issue my thanks,
11 too, I don't know think many people realize
12 the Neighbor Works as they do now, it's a
13 nationwide housing organization, and again,
14 Jesse does a great job and, again, also, I
15 should have made this announcement earlier,
16 Over the Edge is happening this Saturday in
17 downtown Scranton and the money, the
18 proceeds, go to Neighbor Works. They are
19 repelling off the Bank Towers building so
20 people around during the day on Saturday
21 please stop down I'm sure it will be lot of
22 fun.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Just one quick
24 comment on this, this is another example of
25 how neighborhood groups and community works

1 continue to push and push and push for
2 improvement to our city. They don't get
3 discouraged they continue to push and as
4 they get stronger we are able to help them
5 more. This program is something that will
6 be -- go from painting houses to buying
7 house, I just think it's a great
8 achievement.

9 All those in favor of introduction
10 signify by saying aye.

11 MR. PERRY: Aye.

12 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

13 MR. EVANS: Aye.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
16 ayes have it and so moved.

17 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
18 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
19 NO. 21, 2016 AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "DEFINING
20 AND AUTHORIZING TAX EXEMPTIONS FROM REAL
21 PROPERTY TAX IN ORDER TO IMPROVE
22 DETERIORATING REAL PROPERTY IN CERTAIN AREAS
23 IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON, ESTABLISHING AN
24 EXEMPTION SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURES FOR
25 OBTAINING EXEMPTIONS, AND PROVIDING FOR

1 NON-PERMISSIBLE EXEMPTIONS AND LIMITING
2 AMENDMENT THERETO" BY AMENDING SECTION 10.
3 EFFECTIVE DATE TO CHANGE THE RESPONSE TIME
4 FOR APPROVALS BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE
5 CITY OF SCRANTON AND LACKAWANNA COUNTY BOARD
6 OF COMMISSIONERS FROM THIRTY (30) DAYS TO
7 NINETY (90) DAYS.

8 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
9 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
10 introduced into its proper committee.

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. EVANS: Second.

13 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

14 MR. EVANS: On the question, this is
15 basically a modest change. What happened
16 was the clock ran out on us on this before
17 we can get this to the school board and to
18 the county so I do appreciate we really knew
19 about it before, but we started pressing the
20 issue on Monday and I do appreciate the Law
21 Department getting on this right away so we
22 have it for tonight and then next week, the
23 following week, so we meet the school board
24 schedule of June 27 for their vote as well
25 and then after that it will go to the

1 county, so everybody working together to get
2 this done and so happy -- I'm not happy it's
3 back on the agenda, but I'm happy that we
4 are moving forward with it.

5 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
6 introduction signify by saying aye.

7 MR. PERRY: Aye.

8 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

9 MR. EVANS: Aye.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
12 ayes have it and so moved.

13 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
14 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
15 NO. 22, 2016, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED
16 "DEFINING AND AUTHORIZING TAX EXEMPTIONS
17 FROM REAL PROPERTY TAX IN ORDER TO STIMULATE
18 RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND OTHER BUSINESS
19 ACTIVITY IN CERTAIN AREAS IN THE CITY OF
20 SCRANTON, ESTABLISHING AN EXEMPTION SCHEDULE
21 AND PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING EXEMPTIONS,
22 PROVIDING FOR NON-PERMISSIBLE EXEMPTIONS AND
23 LIMITING AMENDMENT THERETO" BY AMENDING
24 SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE TO CHANGE THE
25 RESPONSE TIME FOR APPROVALS BY THE SCHOOL

1 DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND
2 LACKAWANNA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
3 FROM THIRTY (30) DAYS TO NINETY (90) DAYS.

4 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
5 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
6 introduced into its proper committee.

7 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

8 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

12 MR. PERRY: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

14 MR. EVANS: Aye.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
17 ayes have it and so moved.

18 MS. REED: 5-G. INTRODUCTION AN
19 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
20 57 OF 1996 (AS AMENDED), ENTITLED "DEFINING
21 AND AUTHORIZING TAX EXEMPTIONS FROM REAL
22 PROPERTY TAX IN ORDER TO STIMULATE
23 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS IN
24 THE CITY OF SCRANTON, ESTABLISHING AN
25 EXEMPTION SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURES FOR

1 OBTAINING EXEMPTIONS, PROVIDING FOR
2 NON-PERMISSIBLE EXEMPTIONS, AND LIMITING
3 AMENDMENTS HERETO" BY AMENDING SECTION 10.
4 EFFECTIVE DATE TO CHANGE THE RESPONSE TIME
5 FOR APPROVALS BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE
6 CITY OF SCRANTON AND LACKAWANNA COUNTY BOARD
7 OF COMMISSIONERS FROM THIRTY (30) DAYS TO
8 NINETY (90) DAYS.

9 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
10 entertain a motion that Item 5-G be
11 introduced into its proper committee.

12 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

13 MR. EVANS: Second.

14 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
15 those in favor of introduction signify by
16 saying aye.

17 MR. PERRY: Aye.

18 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

19 MR. EVANS: Aye.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
22 eyes have it and so moved.

23 MS. REED: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
24 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF THE
25 APPOINTMENT OF GARY PROPERSI AS DEPUTY TAX

1 COLLECTOR FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON SINGLE
2 TAX OFFICE ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPALITY AND
3 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE ACT
4 164-2014 APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY TAX
5 COLLECTOR FORM.

6 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
7 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
8 introduced into its proper committee.

9 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

10 MR. EVANS: Second.

11 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

12 MR. ROGAN: On the question, I know
13 it's been brought up that it's more of a
14 formality than anything, but I do question
15 why a Single Tax Office employee couldn't be
16 appointed as a deputy, I think it would make
17 more sense to have somebody that knows the
18 system as a deputy as well as someone who
19 lives in the City of Scranton. I will vote
20 to introduce this legislation, but I will be
21 looking for answers to those questions.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: I think it said the
23 deputy must be qualified, which means
24 someone with the certification that has
25 completed the education requirements and a

1 criminal background check so I'm not sure if
2 anybody in the Tax Office has that
3 certification.

4 MS. REED: No.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: I think that's why
6 they want --

7 MR. ROGAN: Yeah, you would think
8 somebody would if they are working in that
9 office.

10 MR. WECHSLER: My opinion on that is
11 I believe there is a few former tax
12 collectors -- former tax collectors that
13 reside within the city that would be willing
14 to do this and may be a better option. I
15 don't know why they got someone from Old
16 Forge so I would be looking into that, also.

17 All those in favor of introduction
18 signify by saying aye.

19 MR. PERRY: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. EVANS: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
24 ayes have it and so moved.

25 MS. REED: 5-I. FOR INTRODUCTION - A

1 RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF MAUREEN
2 MCNICHOLS, 551 NORTH HYDE PARK AVENUE,
3 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF
4 THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY
5 FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM,
6 EFFECTIVE JUNE 6, 2016. MRS. MCNICHOLS'
7 PRIOR TERM EXPIRED ON JUNE 1, 2015 AND WAS
8 HELD OVER TO JUNE 1, 2016. HER NEW TERM
9 WILL EXPIRE ON JUNE 1, 2020.

10 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
11 entertain a motion that Item 5-I be
12 introduced into its proper committee.

13 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

14 MR. EVANS: Second.

15 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
16 those in favor of introduction signify by
17 saying aye.

18 MR. PERRY: Aye.

19 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

20 MR. EVANS: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed? The
23 ayes have it and so moved.

24 MS. REED: 5-J. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
25 RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF THOMAS

1 BORTHWICK, 719 NORTH SUMNER AVENUE,
2 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF
3 THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY
4 FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM
5 EFFECTIVE JUNE 6, 2016. MR. BORTHWICK'S
6 CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON JUNE 1, 2016 AND HIS
7 NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE JUNE 1, 2021.

8 MR. WECHSLER: At this time, I'll
9 entertain a motion that Item 5-J be
10 introduced into its proper committee.

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. EVANS: Second.

13 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes, I would just like
15 to say how great of a job Mr. Borthwick is
16 doing on the Board. He has been in contact
17 with me a number of times regarding issues
18 to help both the city and the Parking
19 Authority and anyone who knows Tom and
20 myself knows we are on complete opposite
21 ends of the political spectrum, but that
22 just shows how two people within the city
23 need to work together to get things moving
24 so I am glad to vote this reappointment.

25 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of

1 introduction signify by saying aye.

2 MR. PERRY: Aye.

3 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

4 MR. EVANS: Aye.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

8 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. NO
9 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

10 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A - PREVIOUSLY
11 TABLED.

12 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE
13 COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE
14 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 29, 2016 - CREATING AND
15 ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY ESCROW ACCOUNT NO.
16 02.229619 ENTITLED "2016 AWARD BONDS" TO
17 ACCEPT FUNDS RECEIVED FROM A LEASE AGREEMENT
18 REFUNDING THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S
19 VARIABLE RATE DEMAND LEASE REVENUE BONDS,
20 SERIES OF 2008 AND TO DISBURSE THE FUNDS
21 RECEIVED FOR PAYMENT OF THE POLICE AND FIRE
22 AWARD SETTLEMENTS.

23 MR. WECHSLER: What is the
24 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
25 Committee on Finance?

1 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
2 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
3 passage of Item 7-B.

4 MR. ROGAN: Second.

5 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?
6 Roll call, please?

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

8 MR. PERRY: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

12 MR. EVANS: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
17 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully
18 adopted.

19 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
20 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION
21 - RESOLUTION NO. 40, 2016 AUTHORIZING THE
22 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
23 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO SUPPLEMENTAL
24 ENGINEERING AGREEMENT NUMBER 041746-D WITH
25 BUCHART-HORN, INC. TO FURTHER SUPPLEMENT THE

1 AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE THE REVISED
2 DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)
3 PROGRAM ASSURANCE FOR FEDERALLY-FUNDED
4 AGREEMENTS; TO REVISE THE
5 NONDISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT CLAUSE;
6 TO INCLUDE THE REVISED CONTRACTOR INTEGRITY
7 PROVISIONS; TO INCLUDE THE AMERICANS WITH
8 DISABILITIES ACT PROVISIONS; TO INCLUDE THE
9 REVISED SECTION ENTITLED "PUBLICATION 442
10 SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSULTANT AGREEMENTS FOR
11 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SERVICES"; AND FOR AN
12 INCREASE IN COST UNDER PART III OF THE
13 AGREEMENT OF \$12,210.96 FOR THE ROCKWELL
14 AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT.

15 MR. WECHSLER: What is the
16 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
17 Committee on Public Works?

18 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
19 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
20 passage of Item 7-C.

21 MR. ROGAN: Second.

22 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?
23 Roll call, please?

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

25 MR. PERRY: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

2 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

4 MR. EVANS: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
9 declare Item 7-C legally and lawfully
10 adopted.

11 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
12 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS- FOR
13 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 41, 2016
14 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
15 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
16 SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO.
17 041222-E WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF
18 PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING
19 AND RE-ALLOCATING THE FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR
20 DESIGN, RIGHT OF WAY, UTILITY COSTS AND
21 CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FOR THE ROCKWELL AVENUE
22 BRIDGE PROJECT.

23 MR. WECHSLER: What is the
24 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
25 Committee on Public Works?

1 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
2 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
3 passage of Item 7-D.

4 MR. ROGAN: Second.

5 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?
6 Roll call, please?

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

8 MR. PERRY: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

12 MR. EVANS: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
17 declare Item 7-D legally and lawfully
18 adopted.

19 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION
20 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
21 RESOLUTION NO. 42, 2016 APPROVING THE
22 FINANCING BY THE SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH
23 AND WELFARE AUTHORITY OF CERTAIN CAPITAL
24 PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF MARYWOOD
25 UNIVERSITY, A PENNSYLVANIA NOT-FOR-PROFIT

1 CORPORATION SERVING THE PUBLIC; DECLARING
2 THAT IT IS DESIRABLE FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY
3 AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF
4 SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,
5 AND THE AREA SERVED BY MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY
6 TO HAVE THE PROJECTS PROVIDED BY AND
7 FINANCED THROUGH THE AUTHORITY; DESIGNATING
8 THE MAYOR OF THE CITY, OR, IN HIS ABSENCE,
9 THE PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY
10 COUNCIL, AS THE PERSON TO ACT ON BEHALF OF
11 THE CITY COUNCIL AS THE "APPLICABLE ELECTED
12 REPRESENTATIVE" WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE
13 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED;
14 AUTHORIZING SUCH MAYOR OF THE CITY OR THE
15 PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY
16 COUNCIL OF THE CITY TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS
17 ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY AS
18 SUCH "APPLICABLE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE";
19 AND AUTHORIZING OTHER NECESSARY AND
20 APPROPRIATE ACTION.

21 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
22 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
23 passage of Item 7-E.

24 MR. ROGAN: Second.

25 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

1 Roll call, please?

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

3 MR. PERRY: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

5 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

7 MR. EVANS: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
12 declare Item 7-E legally and lawfully
13 adopted.

14 MS. REED: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
15 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
16 RESOLUTION NO. 43, 2016 - AUTHORIZING THE
17 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
18 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A SETTLEMENT
19 AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF
20 SCRANTON ("CITY") AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 229
21 ("THE UNION").

22 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
23 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
24 passage of Item 7-F.

25 MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

2 Roll call, please?

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

4 MR. PERRY: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

8 MR. EVANS: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
13 declare Item 7-F legally and lawfully
14 adopted.

15 MR. WECHSLER: If there is no
16 further business, I'll entertain a motion to
17 adjourn.

18 MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Meeting adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER