

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Thursday, July 21, 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 moment of reflection
2 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. Dispense with
14 the reading of the minutes.

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
16 BREAKDOWN OF ELIGIBLE SALARIES FOR THE
17 LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT FOR THE MONTHS OF
18 APRIL, MAY AND JUNE, 2016.

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

21 MS. REED: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
22 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE TO BE HELD AUGUST 3,
23 2016.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
25 comments? If not, received and filed.

1 MS. REED: 3-C. CONTROLLER'S REPORT
2 FOR MONTH ENDING JUNE 30, 2016.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Are there any
4 comments? If not, received and filed.

5 MS. REED: 3-D. CHECK RECEIVED IN
6 THE AMOUNT OF \$50,028.62 FROM SCRANTON
7 HOUSING AUTHORITY, WHICH IS PAYMENT IN LIEU
8 OF TAXES.

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

11 MS. REED: 3-E. TAX ASSESSOR'S
12 RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD JUNE
13 29, 2016.

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

16 Do any council members have
17 announcements at this time?

18 MR. PERRY: I have one. Lackawanna
19 County Courthouse will host a memorial for
20 both members of fallen police and
21 correctional officers in the recent weeks.
22 The service will start at 1 p.m. on the
23 Washington Avenue side of the courthouse
24 square by the flag poles and run for about a
25 half an hour. The event will honor the nine

1 officers killed in Dallas, Baton Rouge and
2 Kansas City, as well as the Luzerne
3 correctional officer who died in an
4 altercation with an inmate on Monday. So,
5 please, anybody able to come out and support
6 your local officers it would be greatly
7 appreciated. Thank you.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Anyone
9 else?

10 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
11 PARTICIPATION.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Fay Franus.

13 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.
14 First, I'd like to ask when they talk about
15 the recyclable fine, they said not to exceed
16 \$300. That could be anywhere from \$1 to
17 \$300, what is it?

18 MR. WECHSLER: No one knows yet
19 that's why we --

20 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

21 MR. WECHSLER: No one knows yet
22 that's why we are just getting the
23 information.

24 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

25 MR. WECHSLER: No one knows yet, we

1 are getting the information. That was a
2 part of the caucus.

3 MS. FRANUS: And, also, say if you
4 don't pay it one day, the first day, is that
5 going to be another \$300?

6 MR. WECHSLER: Once again, I would
7 anticipate that at the beginning it would be
8 warnings, not fines. I would anticipate in
9 the beginning they would be warnings, not
10 fines.

11 MS. FRANUS: Joe, I'm sorry.

12 MR. WECHSLER: I would anticipate
13 they would be warnings not fines in the very
14 beginning.

15 MS. FRANUS: In the very beginning,
16 but how did you pass an ordinance next week,
17 I believe? How did you pass an ordinance up
18 there if you don't know what the fee is?
19 Like, it's going to be passed, but if you
20 don't even know the answers how are you
21 going to pass the ordinance before you know
22 the answers?

23 MR. WECHSLER: That's why there is
24 one more week.

25 MS. FRANUS: So you will have the

1 answer next week? Okay, then here is
2 something else I'd like to address, I
3 believe at the Greenridge Neighborhood
4 Association meeting last -- two weeks ago or
5 something like that, Mark Seitzinger went
6 around in the neighborhood and got two and a
7 half sheets of people that needed quality of
8 life fines and, Mr. Gaughan, you thought
9 that was good, there was like 30 people, I
10 don't agree with that. I think this quality
11 of life, first of all, I don't believe
12 neighbors should be squealing on neighbors.
13 It causes a lot of dissension in the
14 neighborhoods. I think they should not -- a
15 lot of times people are in the hospital, a
16 lot if senior citizens can't do the work
17 themselves and they can't even -- they
18 couldn't even try to find a young boy or
19 somebody to do it for them so what are these
20 people supposed to do? Why can't you change
21 this to give them a warning for at least two
22 weeks to get the work done, not just give
23 them an out and out fine?

24 And another thing, when these
25 policemen or these city inspector, the city

1 inspector Jack Mattise, he's the best
2 Scranton's ever had, but if the policemen go
3 by and these other parking officials go by
4 on the ticket that they give the person,
5 whoever it is, they should say, "I drove by
6 today," name them, police officer, officer
7 so and so, "and I saw year grass was too
8 high or your couch was on your porch," and
9 name the person. Otherwise, these people
10 with the neighbors are calling up on them
11 and that's not right. So instead of like
12 everything else you are doing, you are doing
13 all this, this ordinance has been in effect
14 for like 30 years and you have never
15 enforced and now you need money that you
16 can't pay your bills so you are going after
17 the taxpayers again. It's outrageous.

18 So in 1995 we had an ordinance for
19 my neighborhood, Bellevue, for trucks, \$300
20 fine. It's a cave area. The house behind
21 me caved in, my garage caved in, the house
22 down the street caved in, not one truck was
23 stopped since in 21 years. You need money,
24 why don't you go over the trucks going
25 through Bellevue. There are signs every way

1 you get in, Luzerne Street, Broadway, Third
2 Street, everywhere you look. I asked the
3 policemen at the ball field, "Are you here
4 to stop the trucks?"

5 He said, "What trucks?"

6 So I went to see Chief Graziano and
7 they said something about the weight truck.
8 Well, Clarks Summit they have a weight
9 truck. Patty Lawler, the mayor up there,
10 they are stopping trucks right and left so
11 why can't Scranton when we have a danger,
12 when a truck goes down my street my house
13 shakes so is there something you can do
14 about that and get this weight machine going
15 again? I mean, this is 21 years and not one
16 truck is stopped. I'm telling you, there is
17 going to be a lawsuit. I mean, I have been
18 in council at least six or seven times
19 telling you about this and not one thing is
20 done.

21 So instead of negative enforcement,
22 fining people all the time, why don't you do
23 positive enforcement. Why don't you take
24 like \$100 or so of our garbage fee and
25 recycle, why don't you encourage people to

1 recycle? Take money out of their garbage
2 fee instead of fining them \$300. You
3 already said at these meetings we are
4 already paying too much, the \$300 garbage
5 fee is more than that we should be paying
6 but we still have to pay it. My friend
7 lives in Clarks Summit, she's a senior
8 citizen. She pays like \$92 four times a
9 year, but because she is a senior citizen
10 she only has to pay \$51 four times a year.
11 That's a big discount.

12 And, Mr. Evans, you said there was
13 going to be a senior citizen discount, but I
14 don't think hear anything more about that.
15 I heard about you pay your garbage fee by
16 the first payment in May you get 10 percent
17 off. That's \$30. Big whoop. That's a
18 nothing.

19 MR. EVANS: Well, to a lot of people
20 it's a lot of money.

21 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

22 MR. EVANS: To some people it's a
23 lot of money.

24 MS. FRANUS: Well, what happened to
25 the senior citizen discount? Clarks Summit

1 they give you 40 some dollars off a senior
2 citizens.

3 MR. EVANS: That's why we are
4 pursuing the study and see if we can do a
5 per bag, but technically that's your senior
6 citizen discount.

7 MS. FRANUS: Would you consider a
8 positive reinforcement for the garbage for
9 recycling?

10 MR. EVANS: I absolutely agree with
11 that. Absolutely.

12 MS. FRANUS: Well, then there
13 shouldn't be a fine then so before you do
14 this ordinance next week why don't you
15 consider taking money out of the garbage fee
16 and not fining anybody for recycling? You
17 will get a lot of people recycling that way
18 so don't you think that's worth it?

19 MR. WECHSLER: I think actually the
20 fee is intended more for commercial.

21 MS. FRANUS: No, but the fee will
22 still apply to residential. We will still
23 have to pay. Can I ask one more question?
24 How are they going to -- are they going to
25 go through our garbage to see if we don't

1 recycle? How do they do that?

2 MR. WECHSLER: I would imagine at
3 some point they may.

4 MS. FRANUS: How else would they
5 know?

6 MR. WECHSLER: Well, just as an
7 example, at the landfill they do that. They
8 open people -- companies that are supposed
9 to put certain things in their garbage they
10 do open it.

11 MS. FRANUS: I'm talking about
12 residential.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Like I said, that may
14 happen.

15 MR. ROGAN: I think the better
16 solution would be to see if they have a blue
17 can or a red can out with their garbage.

18 MS. FRANUS: Not everybody has
19 newspapers. You don't know, and a lot of
20 people don't have cans. You can't just
21 guess they don't have recyclables.

22 MR. ROGAN: We do need to get more
23 cans.

24 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

25 MR. ROGAN: We do need to get more

1 cans out to the people.

2 MS. FRANUS: Well, that's not the
3 point. The point is you can't tell the
4 people that aren't recycling because they
5 don't have stuff out in the trash.

6 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Joan
7 Hodowanitz.

8 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
9 city resident and taxpayer. It never
10 occurred to me before but Item 3-D, the
11 check received for \$50,000 from the Housing
12 Authority in payment in lieu of taxes, I
13 wonder how they come up with the figure of
14 \$50,000 because doesn't the Scranton Housing
15 Authority have acres and acres of housing
16 with Hilltop and Valley View and Midtown
17 apartments? Does anybody anyone have any
18 idea how they come up with the figure of
19 \$50,000? Because if that was all privately
20 owned real estate I think the tax bill would
21 be considerably higher. It's just an aside.

22 The 2015 city audit is 51 days late,
23 as you well know. Also, next month when you
24 are on recess I expect that the State
25 Auditor General will be presenting his

1 report on his latest audit of the municipal
2 pension funds and I hope that there is
3 another public press release that the
4 citizens can attend and that hopefully some
5 of you will attend to see what he reports as
6 to the health of pension funds. Hopefully
7 there has been a significant improvement.

8 Also, right behind the August recess
9 will be the 2017 operating budget cycle, and
10 coming in fast and furious. Now, I have to
11 agree with recent comments made by Marie
12 Schumacher and an editorial in the
13 Times-Tribune with regard to long-term
14 funding of pay increases and new hires that
15 we have been relying in the past with grants
16 which would pay for something like the first
17 three years, then after that it falls on the
18 shoulders of the taxpayers, and I'm not
19 opposed to new hires and I'm not opposed to
20 pay increases where they are warranted, but
21 we have been using grants as a method of
22 getting these things passed without regard
23 to how do we maintain payments into the
24 future for many years to come, and I think
25 it's time to starting with the 2017

1 operating budget that the administration is
2 asked to come up with a policy for how we
3 are going to sustain those payments, and
4 this goes back to 2014. If you recall, the
5 business administrator was given a
6 significant pay raise which would be paid for
7 by a grant. I think it was something over
8 \$23,000. Now, this is the third year, so
9 starting next year that pay raise comes out
10 of taxpayer's pockets.

11 And, again, those pay increases and
12 new hires they may well be justified but we
13 have not addressed the issue of how we are
14 going to pay them in the long run.

15 Also, the June controller's report
16 is out and I was surprised that it did not
17 reflect the \$40 million bond for the police
18 and firefighters' Court award. That's not
19 reflected in the June report even though I
20 understand it was completed in the month of
21 the June, even some of the checks may have
22 gone out in the month of June. I would
23 be looking closely at the July report to
24 see if that's been corrected and those
25 figures have been adjusted, and in addition

1 to the wage tax that we should have been
2 receiving from those four award payments and
3 the pension fund contributions including
4 that whopping \$1.6 million that went out in
5 July.

6 One interesting thing I saw in the
7 June report, however, was Rainey & Rainey
8 under professional services in the BA's
9 Office, \$1,681.25. This is the second and
10 final year that we have a contract from
11 Rainey & Rainey to assist the BA's Office in
12 the preparation of the annual audit. And,
13 again, it is late again this year, hopefully
14 it will done before the end of the fiscal
15 year, but I'm wondering how is the BA's
16 Office going to fair next year when Rainey &
17 Rainey is not in there to hold their hand.
18 It will be interesting.

19 And, finally, I agree with the
20 recent editorial in the Times, if the city
21 is not going to sue the Sewer Authority and
22 Keystone Sanitary Landfill with regard to
23 the leachate line and the recent incident, I
24 agree with the Times that council should
25 consider holding it's own hearings. Since

1 you have subpoena power, you need to then,
2 you know, continue with this investigation
3 because the public has both a right and a
4 need to know what happened. This is not
5 just a Greenridge issue, this is a Scranton
6 issue and it affects every resident and
7 taxpayer in the city. Thank you.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Before the next
9 speaker comes up, I would like to ask
10 members of the audience if they are going to
11 have conversations please have them in the
12 hall. It's quite disrespectful to the
13 speaker at the podium and it is distraction
14 to us as well, so if you are going to have a
15 conversation I'd like you to have it out in
16 the hall, please. Thank you. Dave Dobrzyn.

17 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, council.
18 Dave Dobrzyn, resident. Once again, call
19 your senators and congressmen. Call the
20 president, tell him to can their trade
21 packs. They have resulted in nothing but
22 poverty and unemployment problems. You
23 can't launch a career at 55, 58 years old
24 because your plant to wherever.

25 I'd like to thank again council for

1 sending their letters regarding Steamtown
2 and requesting -- requesting replacement of
3 the appropriations that this evaporated
4 after the sequestered and one little thought
5 came to my mind possibly the Chamber of
6 Commerce. They are the biggest lobbyists in
7 town so I think it's a good idea if you
8 could.

9 Now, onto recycle, first of all,
10 recycling is a good policy. If you throw a
11 can today in the -- an aluminum can in the
12 recycle there is a good chance that it will
13 be in somebody's refrigerator by
14 Thanksgiving. Once again, somebody Adams or
15 whatever from the aluminum. But, also, I
16 think there should be ample warnings and we
17 consider smaller fines if that's the way
18 it's going to be to start out. You don't
19 want to go hog happy and have everybody
20 going crazy on it.

21 And on anything with per bag, first
22 of all, it should be per barrel. And,
23 secondly, trash removal is as important
24 safety as police and fire. You could have
25 rats, skunks, animals of all types dragging

1 diseases like rabies, there was just a
2 rabies case what up at Lackawanna State Park
3 a few days ago, so you really don't want
4 that element coming into town and I don't
5 mind when I come up here on having numerous
6 times come home and trash thrown on my side
7 of the apartment house or whatever and in
8 other place a girl couldn't pay her bill and
9 she just piled it up in back of the adjacent
10 property. My dog got sprayed by a skunk.
11 It got to the point where you couldn't walk
12 out on the porch without a skunk wandering
13 around. It attracts the wrong things and,
14 furthermore, if somebody tosses a bunch of
15 trash on your lawn and they are smart enough
16 not put their utility bills or something in
17 it that it can be traced, who pays for it?
18 Who gets struck paying for it? You know, I
19 called the police and say, "Well, we would
20 like to help, Mr. Dobrzyn, but we really
21 can't do anything about it. We can't run a
22 big investigation here," and so the small
23 businesses in town are paying as much --
24 close to \$1,000 a year for trash removal and
25 I talked to one person and he thought it

1 would be a great idea if we could put all of
2 the cardboard boxes out and paper products
3 and stuff like that and have it removed by
4 the city for a much smaller fee. It
5 definitely goes without saying that he could
6 save a lot of money there, and if he don't
7 pay that whatever it is, \$70 a week or
8 whatever it comes out to or \$30 a week or
9 \$70 a month or 80, they don't take it. You
10 know, they just stop after the first month.
11 That's it. The trash piles up. Like, I
12 lived through 60's when I was a young kid
13 and I remember the trash strikes in New
14 York. You might remember it, Wayne, you old
15 geezer, right? And, I mean, it was just
16 piled, piled, piled. The whole sidewalk was
17 just a path so you really can't have trash
18 not being removed. I don't want anybody's
19 trash not being removed or if they have to
20 pay for it they decided to move it up the
21 block.

22 And I just like to make one quick
23 statement on the apartment houses, do we
24 have an ordinance that if a rental property
25 goes empty a year it goes back to a single

1 dwelling. Many of our houses are just too
2 large and have that.

3 MR. EVANS: Reverts back to the
4 zone.

5 MR. DOBRZYN: We need to reconsider
6 that ordinance. Thank you and have a good
7 night.

8 MR. EVANS: Thank you.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Gerard Hetman.

10 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.
11 Gerard Hetman from Lackawanna County's
12 Community Relation's Department. To begin
13 this evening, the Lackawanna County
14 three-on-three basketball tournament will
15 take place from Friday to Sunday, July 29
16 through 31, set in the 100 and 200 blocks of
17 Wyoming Avenue once again. We have done
18 this the last few years and the reason why
19 we keep coming back to downtown Scranton is
20 that it's a big hit with players, families,
21 local businesses and lots of other folks who
22 like to see the downtown traffic. We get a
23 really good response back from it and we
24 appreciate the cooperation with from city
25 departments to help us put the event on.

1 The tournament is open to teams for boys and
2 girls. We have age three to four -- or grad
3 three to four brackets, excuse me, up to
4 adults open divisions. Deadline to register
5 is Monday, July 25. You can visit
6 lackawannacounty.org for registration forms
7 and more information, and this year just
8 because of some logistical issues we moved
9 it back one week. Normally, it coincides
10 with first Friday in August, but this month
11 for this year's tournament it does coincide
12 on Saturday with the Scranton Native Arts on
13 the Square that takes place during the day
14 and early evening, so we still should a very
15 good downtown vibe on Saturday with that.
16 Lots of cross traffic and a really fun
17 evening and afternoon in downtown Scranton.

18 Second, as most of us know, Scranton
19 Tomorrow driving downtown movie series
20 starts tonight with Star Wars, the Force
21 Awakens on courthouse square and there are
22 two other dates scheduled as of now. There
23 will be Descendents on August 4 and Zootopia
24 on August 11. All show times begin at 8:45
25 p.m. and this is the sixth year for the

1 series. Again, we appreciate all of the
2 folks that come out downtown and enjoy the
3 evening of movies during the summer.

4 Our third item is actually comes
5 courtesy of the Pennsylvania State Police.
6 This is something we have seen shared on
7 social media. Over the last few years the
8 PSP has really upped their social media
9 strategy and we enjoy seeing that because
10 they put out a lot of information. The item
11 tonight is one of their community awareness
12 bulletins that deals with the Pokemon Go
13 craze. I think we have seen this, even if
14 you not into Pokemon, as I never was, you
15 still catch on, everybody is playing it,
16 people of all ages.

17 The bulletin really gives you a
18 concise one-page summary of the many
19 positive aspects that you see with a
20 development like this, but also some of the
21 potential dangers and pitfalls that could
22 come in various forms with using the game
23 inappropriately, whether it be wandering out
24 into traffic, trespassing onto people's
25 property, be particularly sensitive to

1 property like law enforcement or an
2 emergency facility or a military
3 installation, and also some of the features
4 within the game that if used improperly to
5 expose the user to potential stalking or
6 robbery if someone tried to track them,
7 etcetera, etcetera, I won't go into all the
8 details here, but we'll leave a copy with
9 Council. It's also available on our
10 Facebook and Twitter page with the County,
11 and again the PSP social media.

12 We encourage everyone to follow that
13 along with Scranton Police, had a real good
14 growth in social media presence. We see
15 that from a lot of law enforcement agencies
16 locally, across the country and around the
17 world, so this is just the latest example.
18 We though it's a really good summary of
19 that. We see a lot of people on the
20 courthouse grounds playing it at all hours,
21 most of them have been very respectful. We
22 just ask them to keep that up, especially
23 with regards to emergency vehicles coming in
24 and out of the processing facility.

25 And our last county item for this

1 month, Penn State Extension serves a food
2 safety service safety, food service and
3 safety course taking place two days in the
4 month of August. It's Monday, August 1 and
5 Monday, August 8. Both of those sessions
6 day are at Penn State Worthington Scranton's
7 campus. The cost is \$185 to register. The
8 deadline to register is Wednesday, July 27.
9 Participants can register online at
10 foodsafety.psu.edu or call Nicole at
11 570-421-6430 with any questions.

12 And during the break, I'll certainly
13 keep in touch with councils office and if
14 anything comes up in particular please feel
15 free to contact me or the commissioner's
16 office in general and we'll be able to keep
17 your office posted on any developments. Any
18 comments or questions from council?

19 MR. ROGAN: I thought I saw you
20 playing Pokeman in the back before.

21 MR. HETMAN: It wasn't me. No, I
22 never caught on back then. I was playing
23 Wolverine back in those days, but like I
24 said, we see a lot of people playing in
25 downtown sometimes in front of this

1 building, again, a lot at the courthouse.
2 Many have been very respectful and have done
3 it in a very safe fashion. We hope to see
4 that continue not just here, of course, but
5 anywhere. Like I said, this is a really
6 good one-page summary on that, probably as
7 good as you will see put together so hats
8 off to the PSP. We just wanted to share
9 that information.

10 MR. ROGAN: I never thought I would
11 be commenting on Pokemon at a city council
12 meeting, but downtown business owners have
13 told me because of this game they have
14 actually seen an uptake in business because
15 of the people in the downtown playing the
16 game. There are safety issues as well, as
17 far as safety invasions --

18 MR. HETMAN: Sure. I think it's
19 like anything, I try to explain to my
20 parents, it's like any good innovation,
21 there is a lot of good things with it, there
22 is also some things you have to make sure
23 you avoid or use properly to make everybody
24 has a good time so thanks, folks.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Karin
2 Foster.

3 MS. FOSTER: Good evening, Council.
4 Karin Foster, president of the West Scranton
5 Hyde Park Neighborhood Watch. I'm coming
6 here wearing two hats. First, I wanted to
7 share with the community that we received a
8 grant from Lackawanna County's projects
9 grant and that allowed us to provide a free
10 concert series in West Scranton in three of
11 our parks, and they are on Sunday matinees
12 from 2 to 4, rain or shine. We are almost
13 halfway through the series. Our next
14 concert will be July 24, this Sunday, and
15 the performers are the Classic Rock Express.
16 It's been a very enjoyable family friendly
17 event, and we encourage everybody to come
18 out and bring a chair and bring some
19 refreshments and just have a nice two hours
20 on a Sunday afternoon.

21 Also, I just wanted to remind anyone
22 in the community we do our meetings on the
23 last Wednesday of the month and it will be
24 the -- I believe it's the 27th at 7 p.m. at
25 the west precinct and that's located at the

1 Jackson Street skate park property. That's
2 1304 Jackson for those who don't know.

3 The second hat I'm wearing this
4 evening is that, I'm sorry, the second thing
5 I'm here about is that the neighborhood
6 summit, which is a collaboration of all of
7 the neighborhood groups in the City of
8 Scranton have come together and we are
9 planning a community unit rally in light of
10 the violence to our police in our country.
11 We are reaching out to all of the
12 neighborhood groups that we haven't reached
13 out to yet. We do have another planning
14 meeting on Monday, it's at 7:00 p.m. at the
15 Bank Towers at the seventh floor. We do
16 have a tentative date of July 20, we were
17 working on the finalization of the location
18 and I can come back next week with the final
19 information, but we encourage you to come
20 and join us and it's time that we come
21 together and show that our law enforcement
22 are appreciated in Scranton. Thank you.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you very much.
24 Doug Miller.

25 MR. MILLER: Good evening. Doug

1 Miller, Scranton. You know, just listening
2 to some of the comments earlier this
3 evening, particularly Ms. Hodowanitz,
4 discussing the fact that council having
5 public hearings so that the public can be
6 informed about what transpires in the city,
7 and while I agree with Ms. Hodowanitz's
8 statement that it's a necessity that we have
9 public hearings, I think it also should be
10 noted that we are at the point now where
11 this city government just doesn't have any
12 respect for the residents of this city
13 whatsoever, and I don't believe this council
14 or the administration would even find it
15 necessary to have any public hearing because
16 your actions have proven you don't feel it's
17 important to be transparent. You don't feel
18 it's important to disclose what's going on.

19 I mean look at the ridiculous deal
20 of the Parking Authority. That had to be
21 one of the worst deals in the history of
22 this city. You people let it happen with
23 very little public input, so that's the lack
24 of respect you have for the community. I
25 mean, ultimately I know that that was the

1 deal that was set in stone from day one. I
2 mean, you put on your little dog and pony
3 show for a few months, but we knew this was
4 a done deal right from the get-go because
5 that's how politics works. I'm not an idiot
6 and neither are the people here or the
7 people viewing at home.

8 We have lived in the community long
9 enough and we know that's how you people
10 operate, very disgusting, but yet again
11 another asset that the city losses, a heck
12 of a deal for the parties involved but yet
13 the taxpayers get screwed again, more debt,
14 more silliness, but yet you don't care. You
15 know, we heard it was the only option.

16 You know, that is the most pathetic
17 statement I heard. I believe it was
18 Mr. Evans that stated that, and I believe
19 this council as a whole felt the same, that
20 this was the only option. Well, that's the
21 lazy man approach because you didn't take
22 the time to find a solution to solve the
23 problem. The decisions come from the top.
24 When you are bought and paid for you are
25 told what to do, and that's basically the

1 city in a nutshell. We never look out for
2 the residents of this city. You know, now
3 we are discussing grants for raises. Are
4 you serious? The town is bankrupt. We
5 can't even open up swimming pools. There is
6 blight all over the city, condemnations
7 everywhere. You have a ghost town of a
8 downtown. I guess because of your Pokemon
9 you got some people downtown now, but, you
10 know, that's the flavor of the month.

11 I mean, where is the mindset? I
12 really don't -- I can't comprehend it.
13 There is no common sense. Pay raises, but
14 yet you pound the living hell of everybody
15 in the community, those living here with
16 astronomical tax increases. You overtax
17 people that don't even live here that come
18 here to work. If I were doing that I'd
19 boycott, I'd get the hell out of there, too,
20 and now you are talking about penalizing
21 people if they don't recycle. If I was --
22 you know, my recommendation for this city is
23 boycott that. I wouldn't pay anything until
24 you people actually learn once and for all
25 that the solution to this city's problems

1 isn't forcing people out of their homes, but
2 you don't comprehend that up here and you
3 never will because you're political hacks
4 and that's what political hacks do.

5 We need independent thinkers in this
6 city. People like Marie Schumacher, people
7 like Joan Hodowanitz, people like Lee
8 Morgan, Andy Sbaraglia, Bob Bolus, people
9 that have been coming here for decades who
10 have lived it, who have lived here their
11 entire lives, 40, 50, 60 years, who know
12 what it's like. You people don't understand
13 because you are politicians.

14 You know, Mr. Morgan made a nice
15 comment a few weeks ago that we sent a chimp
16 to outer space with a spacesuit on, didn't
17 mean he was an astronaut and just because
18 you come here every week with your nice
19 Joseph A. Banks suits on doesn't mean you
20 know what you are doing. You play good to
21 the camera, but this city needs leadership.

22 No transparency. We talk about
23 audits. It's all make believe. You need an
24 audit at this point to tell you you are
25 bankrupt? I mean, it's just ludicrous.

1 It's not negativity. You know, people think
2 I come up here and think negative, no, I'm
3 being realistic, there is a difference. You
4 want to play make believe like we are
5 actually going somewhere. Keep following
6 that yellow brick road and see where it
7 leads you. I'm in reality and so are these
8 people when we know that you have us on a
9 suicide mission.

10 Where is Amoroso? The messiah. He
11 was going to save the day. Where is
12 Mr. Courtright, the sixth councilman? What
13 happened to the mayor that campaigned and
14 talked about selling assets was a last
15 resort. Seemed like that was the first
16 thing he did when he took office, that was
17 his first mission. That was part of the
18 grand Amoroso plan. Just ridiculous. And,
19 you know, just don't know where we go from
20 here.

21 Just in regard to 5-C on the agenda,
22 I find that comical. Thank you.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Bob
24 Bolus.

25 MR. BOLUS: If I may, I'd like to

1 hold my comments until Mr. Gaughan comes
2 back?

3 MR. WECHSLER: No, Mr. Bolus, your
4 time starts right now. Thank you.

5 MR. BOLUS: First of all, on "C",
6 Carrie Newcomb. I adamantly oppose her
7 reappointment to the zoning board. In the
8 past, Carrie Newcomb made derogatory and
9 scandalous remarks regarding me and
10 Mr. Miller that was carried nationally on
11 television. She is another disgrace to what
12 leadership is in this city. She brought it
13 on herself. She opened her big mouth up and
14 made her comments. She should not in any
15 way, shape or form continue to represent the
16 growth in this city and I want that on the
17 record.

18 Gaughan and Mr. Wechsler were at the
19 landfill meeting the other day; am I
20 correct?

21 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, we were.

22 MR. BOLUS: Gaughan came in and he
23 introduced himself as a Scranton City
24 Councilman; am I correct on that?

25 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, he did.

1 MR. BOLUS: Was Mr. Gaughan there on
2 official business of the City of Scranton?

3 MR. WECHSLER: No, he was not, I
4 was.

5 MR. BOLUS: But you didn't speak.

6 MR. WECHSLER: I did speak.

7 MR. BOLUS: Did you speak on
8 official business on the City of Scranton?

9 MR. WECHSLER: I read a letter into
10 the record from city council.

11 MR. BOLUS: You spoke on behalf of
12 the city then?

13 MR. WECHSLER: I spoke on behalf of
14 city council.

15 MR. BOLUS: The city council.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Correct.

17 MR. BOLUS: Mr. Gaughan represented
18 himself as a councilman. Was it official
19 business? No, he spoke personally about his
20 issues. He should have introduced himself
21 as Mr. Gaughan, a Scranton citizen. Okay?
22 You guys don't speak for us. Knowing what
23 the landfill is and issues there is not one
24 of you guys sitting here that will leave a
25 bag of garbage in your house for a week or

1 two sitting in the house. The first thing
2 you want to do is throw it the heck out the
3 door, coming in there and making comments
4 without a foundation, you didn't come in
5 with a solution, you didn't come in and say
6 what the alternative would you be, you
7 didn't do anything progressive but figure
8 out how to alienate the people at the
9 landfill.

10 Keep in mind, they control the
11 garbage bills here. You continue to
12 alienate people and they tell you to take
13 your garbage elsewhere. They don't need
14 you, we need them. We need alternatives to
15 what the garbage is. We need creativity and
16 you didn't present none of that. You didn't
17 go to DEP and tell DEP, "This is your
18 situation, this is your problem."

19 You didn't do any of that. You only
20 talked about, oh, it's harmful this and
21 that, but they are all unfounded. There is
22 no scientific evidence to what you guys
23 babbled about. You spoke in a vacuum. You
24 can't do that, okay? And I think it was
25 totally what you did. Come in with a

1 substernal argument, gentlemen, and we'll go
2 somewhere, but don't come in like you God of
3 the mungies and think you are getting
4 somewhere, you are not. There's a whole
5 group of people. Let DEP make the
6 decisions, they are professionals. They are
7 the police of the landfill, it's their
8 responsibility. And keep in mind Scranton,
9 Scranton dumped their garbage in those dumps
10 before they were called landfills. You
11 realize you may be held as accountable as
12 Dunmore and Throop for cleaning those old
13 dumps up? Have you taken that into
14 consideration? I raised that issue the
15 other day. What are you going to do if you
16 get hit with millions of dollars of clean up
17 costs or the landfill decides now to raise
18 the fees?

19 You sold the parking garages, you
20 gave them away. You paid for the parking
21 garage. You bought his parking garage, you
22 guys should have bought it first. You
23 haven't done one thing in the city for a
24 future. You have shown in this city you
25 can't manages assets. It's easy to dispose

1 of them, but the people taking them over
2 they can manage them, and they can make
3 money. Gaughan bitched about, oh, the
4 landfill is going to be 40 years and this
5 and that, but you blew 40 plus years on the
6 garages. None of us are going to be around
7 here but, Mr. Gaughan, your kids are going
8 to suffer. Mr. Wechsler, your grandkids are
9 going to suffer. All of your kids are going
10 to pay the price of this folly by giving
11 away what you've done.

12 You gave the Sewer Authority. You
13 think they are going to sit back and lose
14 money? They are not stupid, they are
15 intelligent people. They are taking it
16 because they can make money, and that's the
17 difference here. You blew a lot of
18 opportunities and you will go down in
19 history for it, trust me when I tell you,
20 but you know all of the money you pay to
21 give this guy and gets a tax break, \$3
22 million assessment on a 20, 30 million
23 dollar property, but you won't go after
24 nonprofits. You won't go after anybody else
25 and put a fee on them, yet you bury the heck

1 out of the people. You are going to chase
2 everybody out of here. You will drive the
3 nail in the coffin of the people.

4 And one other thing I have, with the
5 Hilton down here, we parked the Donald Trump
6 trailer here tonight because there was a
7 Trump rally, yet the Hilton come out and
8 said, "Oh, you can't park here on Adams
9 Avenue by our hotel."

10 What are they paying the city to
11 have exclusivity to that parking on Adams
12 Avenue when there is a sign there that says,
13 "Hilton Parking." How much are they paying
14 for the space that they are taking up there
15 for buses and everything else. \$500 a
16 month? \$1,000 a month? We are being
17 shortchanged. These are just some of the
18 little things that you lose in this city as
19 we go on and on and on with the problems.

20 You have to let DEP make the deal,
21 you have to hope and pray to God the
22 landfill doesn't shut you off. Figure a
23 solution, but don't come in barking. You
24 don't represent me and you don't represent a
25 lot of the opinions of the people in this

1 community regarding what you did with the
2 landfill the other day, Mr. Gaughan. You
3 weren't official, you are a private citizen,
4 and you should have been as much.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bolus.
6 Is there anyone else who like to address
7 council?

8 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
9 citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian.
10 You brought up a landfill issue, in my
11 lifetime the city had two landfills, one at
12 the cemetery, Cathedral cemetery, and the
13 other on top of Snake Road, the one that you
14 have to keep cutting the grass on. They
15 were our garbage dumps at one time, but you
16 talk about recycling, do you know what a
17 high rise is and how the high rise gets rid
18 of their garbage? They drop them down a
19 chute. Whatever you got in the apartment
20 you want to get rid of you drop down that
21 chute. There is no way they could sit there
22 and take papers this way, cans this way,
23 paper this way, they just can't do it. They
24 can't separate their trash so you are going
25 to fine Scranton Housing authority for not

1 separating their trash? I don't know. You
2 got to look at a lot of these things before
3 you do things.

4 I know you are going to take your
5 sabbatical, vacation, whatever you want to
6 call it, I always said you should take six
7 months. Believe me, the city would be much
8 better off without you sitting up there for
9 six months. Look what you did? The gift to
10 the banks, we did not have to pay the
11 Parking Authority's debt, but you felt like
12 you should pay it because you are good, good
13 people, and who is going to have to pay for
14 that? Five men or six men actually pushed
15 it on the residents and they going to have
16 to pay it. If you are going to come around
17 and raise taxes again, there is going to be
18 a revolution. There should be. You didn't
19 do a darn thing to reduce taxes. You raised
20 taxes 100 percent already.

21 You changed a bidding threshold,
22 even though the state says 10,000 should be
23 the limit before you have to -- when you
24 have to bid you raised it almost double.
25 Why? To save a few cents on the Times or to

1 keep deals going out, which I think
2 happened? I think yous people get deals
3 this way and they don't have to come before
4 the people.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Sbaraglia,
6 please, do not say that, because there are
7 no deals. I'm only speaking for these five
8 councilmen, but I would appreciate that you
9 don't make accusations that are unfounded.

10 MR. SBARAGLIA: I wish I could
11 check. I wish I had the authority to check.

12 MR. WECHSLER: I wish you could
13 check, also.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: But I have never
15 called anybody a thief.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Right now you are --

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: With you, I can say
18 it.

19 MR. WECHSLER: You just accused us
20 of taking deals --

21 MR. SBARAGLIA: I said somebody
22 takes deal.

23 MR. WECHSLER: No, you said up here.

24 MR. SBARAGLIA: No, I didn't say
25 that you did, I'd like to see them contracts

1 that you give out under 20,000 to see if you
2 recommend people to get them deals. I'd
3 like to see that.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Mr. Sbaraglia, but we
5 are in line with what the Department of
6 Labor and Industry what standards they set.
7 We are at -- we are not below, we are right
8 at the --

9 MR. SBARAGLIA: No, they said 10,000
10 the state says.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: No, they didn't.

12 MR. SBARAGLIA: Sure they did. It
13 was in the paper. \$10,000 was the
14 threshold. You raised the threshold.

15 MR. EVANS: No.

16 MR. SBARAGLIA: The first council
17 that was before you --

18 MR. GAUGHAN: That is not true.

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: -- set it back.
20 Let's not get into it. You know -- people
21 already.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: You are wrong.

23 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay, let's look at
24 the garages. Why should we guarantee, what
25 is it, NCR borrowing that money through our

1 lease agreement? Why? You are guaranteeing
2 the loan because a lease guarantee is the
3 loan? Why are you doing that? Why should
4 they get all of the benefits you gave and
5 not invest a penny of their own money?
6 Everything is the city doing it. Now you
7 wonder why I think the way I think of?
8 Don't try to give me a lot of bull, I know
9 what's going on.

10 You got to love the city and you
11 peoples really don't. You -- all this
12 quality of life is nothing more than more
13 oppression. I told you before, we are
14 not Ireland, we are Scranton, PA. You can't
15 use the demographics that use -- that the
16 British use against the Ireland people on
17 the people of Scranton. I have come before
18 you many, many times and told you that. You
19 are not Scrantonians. You either profess to
20 be Scrantonians other than saying I may live
21 here. Yeah, you do live here, I guess you
22 have to or you couldn't be elected to
23 council, but believe me, you are not
24 Scrantonians. You don't have the values of
25 a Scrantonian. All you got is the value of

1 how to oppress, and that's what you have
2 been doing. Like the mall, you gave away
3 hundreds of millions of dollars to his
4 company to manage the garage and you sit
5 there and tell me you are not?

6 MR. WECHSLER: Freedom of speech is
7 your right to be, but no one can be more
8 wrong than you are right now. Marie
9 Schumacher.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Marie Schumacher,
11 city resident and taxpayer. I would like to
12 start out with some happy news tonight, I
13 did run into some people who live on
14 Greenbush Street and they are overjoyed that
15 the street is finally repaired and the water
16 issue is resolved and hopefully the street
17 will be maintained for a long time coming,
18 but that sort of segues into what I had
19 planned to talk about tonight which was
20 storm water. It's been since December 10
21 that I came to you with questions on the
22 storm water issue and how we are going to
23 handle it. I will have questions for you
24 next week and I hope that you all have
25 answers this time because you had ten months

1 -- or ten months, seven months at least to
2 look into that issue and I will be looking
3 for answers next week.

4 Third, how much do we get for the
5 grants? How much did we get last year for
6 the 904, Section 904 grants? Two million
7 tons means nothing to me, how much did we
8 get in the grant? I believe that whatever
9 we get for that should be used to offset the
10 \$300 fee and not used for anything but that
11 if you expect people to go on.

12 And the other thing that concerns me
13 somewhat, I believe it was Mr. Rogan who
14 brought this up awhile back about the fact
15 that the people who work at the recycling
16 center sent things that are mixed or they
17 decide are mixed to the landfill instead of
18 be recycled, who decides what is recyclable?
19 I mean, I put my papers in, I put cardboard
20 in, I also keep a bag there anything, empty
21 envelopes, everything I put in. I compost
22 personally, but you know, am I wasting my
23 time doing that because somebody is going to
24 say, "Wait a minute, that wasn't the right
25 kind of piece of paper so we are going to

1 send the whole thing to the landfill?"

2 MR. ROGAN: No, mostly it's certain
3 specialized plastics not so much food and
4 beverage, you know, light fixtures,
5 different items that are not a food and
6 beverage related often are recyclable.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: But you had said
8 that -- so a whole thing would go to the --
9 my whole thing in my blue thing if I put the
10 wrong in would go to the landfill?

11 MR. ROGAN: No.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: And did you say
13 those people work for Mr. DeNaples, and
14 which would benefit going to the landfill?
15 I think you made that statement one time in
16 the past?

17 MR. ROGAN: I don't recall talking
18 about that, but i do remember reading off
19 the list and just from knowledge they pick
20 it out piece by piece, it's not -- you know,
21 a whole truck wouldn't go because of one or
22 two items. They have people that actually
23 pick it out.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and then I'm
25 somewhat troubled by the fact that last week

1 in the caucus Mr. Gaughan asked about the
2 fee and he was reassured by several of you
3 that there was no change, but I see a big
4 change. The old one said, "Any person who
5 shall violate any provision of this division
6 shall upon conviction of a first offense be
7 sentenced to pay for a fine of not more than
8 \$25, and costs for a subsequent offense be
9 sentenced to pay a fine not more than \$300
10 and costs of the prosecution or a default of
11 payment of such a fine and costs to undergo
12 imprisonment for not more than 30 days."

13 That's a big change to go from \$25
14 up to \$300. I'm glad the imprisonment for
15 30 days has gone away, but that to me is
16 very big change.

17 And now I've got a lot of issues. I
18 came in and got a copy of this and it seems
19 to be a hodgepodge of quick pickin' from the
20 old one and coming up with some new things,
21 but it's deficient in a lot of areas, but
22 section one, the last sentence says,
23 "Collection, regulations and fees must be
24 established to implement the program."

25 So we already have a \$300 garbage

1 fee, are we now going to have another fee
2 for recycling? If anybody cares to address
3 that later I would be love to hear that.

4 And then the definitions section,
5 resident. Do residents include group homes?
6 I know we have lot in my neighborhood and
7 they put out many and I don't know how they
8 are classified, but they are not dealt with
9 in here so --

10 MR. EVANS: The use of the group
11 home is classified as a single-family home
12 so they should be recycling and they should
13 be paying the normal garbage fee.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I have a lot
15 mover that you might be interested, but I'm
16 not going to waste my time next week, but
17 you might want to read it carefully because
18 there is spellings of the same thing
19 different places, there is things that
20 aren't in the definitions, for instance,
21 what is white goods?

22 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else?

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: You really need to
24 look at this, it's not good.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Anyone else?

1 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
2 Lee Morgan. You know, Mr. Sbaraglia tonight
3 was fairly upset and I think it was
4 justifiably correct to be upset and
5 generally speaking, you know, the public
6 thinks there is all kinds of deals taking
7 place by this administration and councils,
8 present and previous, and I don't believe
9 how council walks away from their
10 responsibility to the public because the
11 public in Scranton has no rights and that's
12 because they elect people to council, you
13 know, who basically could do a much better
14 job. We have discussions now taking place
15 about the leachate line and council using
16 its powers of subpoena, I heard that
17 mentioned today. The council should have
18 used that power of subpoena long ago for
19 many different issues and it never happened
20 and, you know, whether you are talking about
21 the city's pension problems or sale of
22 public assets, or a host of other things
23 this council has not moved to benefit the
24 public in anyway whatsoever.

25 As a person who has been here over

1 two decades, I really find it comical,
2 really, really find it comical that people
3 in this city can elect people who have no
4 idea what government is and how government
5 should function, and then when they elect
6 them they are amazed that nothing good is
7 happening. And, you know, you take a look
8 at all of the grant money and where it's
9 going, it would be really interesting.
10 There's a lot of things that would be really
11 interesting if you had a council that really
12 wanted to look at what was taking place in
13 the city, but one of the most remarkable
14 things is that when you are paying this 2.4
15 percent wage tax and you are a city resident
16 and you are paying between 60 and 70 dollars
17 a week to live here, you have to really look
18 at yourself in the mirror and wonder if you
19 are out of your mind because you are paying
20 for absolutely nothing.

21 And another person here tonight
22 spoke about your children and your
23 grandchildren being here in the future, I
24 hope that's not true and I hope you give
25 your children and your grandchildren money

1 and send them out of here because there is
2 no reason to be here, there really isn't,
3 because this city is strapped for the next
4 40 or 50 years in debt. And bankruptcy,
5 well, it's a nice sounding thing, but that's
6 not going to give the kind of relief that
7 people might think it will.

8 What would have gave relief was
9 having councils, not just this council but
10 previous councils, pay attention to what was
11 taking place and, you know, I don't think
12 it's fair to say that Mr. Evans said that he
13 was going to hold his nose and vote for
14 things because you know something he is the
15 not the first one person that has done that
16 and, Mr. Evans, you are a realtor and a
17 businessman, and some of these deals were
18 just beyond belief.

19 And where the city is going it's not
20 beyond belief because there is so much
21 despair here, so much poverty here, and it's
22 not just here there is communities in our
23 country that have 30 to 40 percent of his
24 population at or below the poverty level,
25 and foreign manufacturers are coming to

1 American to manufacture cars and finish
2 goods because America's labor rate is cheap,
3 because what the politicians have done to us
4 is destroyed the whole fabric of our society
5 and then you take a look at some of the
6 shootings that are taking place and some of
7 the -- look it, it's just not police that
8 are being killed, it's bailiffs, judges,
9 it's the whole bed rook of the political
10 system that is under fire in this country,
11 and then you have got a president of the
12 United States -- I mean, a candidate for
13 president of the United States, which is
14 Mr. Trump who is running not so much as a
15 Republican because he put the whole
16 Republican party to sleep by himself. Every
17 candidate and all of the money they threw at
18 that candidates made no difference because
19 Mr. Trump, i.e., the American public put
20 every one of those candidates to sleep, and
21 I pay a lot of attention to what's going to
22 happen in the next election because I
23 wouldn't be surprised if Mr. Trump wins this
24 election by a landslide because the American
25 people are tired of the games that this

1 council has played, that this administration
2 has played, and previous administrations and
3 just elected official on every level of our
4 government because we are talking about
5 spending millions and millions of dollars
6 more money in the downtown as a
7 neighborhoods decay further and as we keep
8 just taxing people beyond their ability to
9 pay. Think about that tonight.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. Anyone
11 else?

12 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
13 MOTIONS.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Perry?

15 MR. PERRY: Excuse me, yes, I have a
16 couple of things. The first order of
17 business is if, Mrs. Reed, you can send a
18 letter to the police department, I had a
19 couple of complaints on the corner of River
20 and Cedar Avenue about tractor trailers
21 making the turn and getting stuck and
22 apparently this isn't the first time, it's
23 always about where they bottom out if they
24 try to turn up River and they are going to
25 need assistance with a tow trying to get out

1 so I guess the question is is there an
2 ordinance outlawing tractor trailers on that
3 street and if there is not can we please get
4 a study done to see if you could put an
5 ordinance in place? Thank you.

6 Also, if you can send something to
7 the Housing Authority for me, I want them to
8 contact me personally. I want to thank them
9 for their PILOT, but then I also want to
10 have a little conversation about how they
11 come up with that PILOT. I know they don't
12 really owe us one, an explanation but, you
13 know, I would like one to see if there is
14 any kind of system to it or is there a
15 dartboard that they throw, but either way
16 just to know and also to thank them for
17 their donation, I guess you can say.

18 Also, this past week I want to
19 commend Officer Golden for his act of
20 bravery, if anybody who has read the paper
21 or watched the news he was almost -- he was
22 almost run over trying to make a drug bust
23 in the city and the video is frightening if
24 anybody has seen it, he was -- as he reached
25 in the car he was dragged out of the parking

1 lot onto the street where he was thrown off
2 the car and almost got caught underneath the
3 car as the car sped away from him. I'm
4 happy to report that that guy has been
5 caught very quickly and is in custody right
6 now. So, again, I want to thank him for his
7 selfishness and bravery to protect everybody
8 and keep our city clean and as safe as
9 possible.

10 And fourth, and lastly, to end this
11 on a positive note, I just want to commend
12 Gio Piccolino for rising up against all of
13 this negativity that has been going around
14 lately and actually going out there and
15 making a difference. Anybody who is anybody
16 who hasn't seen it, it's on the local news,
17 he has been in the paper, he has been all
18 over social media, Giovanni is the co-owner
19 of Buona's Pizza on Lackawanna Avenue and he
20 went from police station to police station
21 not just in this city but surrounding cities
22 and just donating pizza. Just a small act
23 of kindness and it went a long way and it
24 really caught fire and, you know, Gio is not
25 the type of guy that is just going to go out

1 there and look for the attention, he just
2 received it because he was doing something
3 that really was heartfelt, and anyone who
4 knows him knows that he does all of the time
5 whether it's bringing to seniors, senior
6 citizens or just your local grandparents who
7 might not be able to leave the house, he'll
8 ask somebody if they have somebody in need
9 and he doesn't bat an eye and he takes care
10 of them and I just want to say thank you to
11 him and thank you to Buona's Pizza, because
12 other than having really good pizza that I
13 go to every St. Patrick's Day during the
14 parade, he really made a mark on the
15 community by rising above and showing what
16 we are made of. I want to thank him for
17 that. That's all I tonight.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

19 Mr. Rogan?

20 MR. ROGAN: Yes, two very brief
21 comments. Regarding the recycling, it isn't
22 the intention of anyone on this council to
23 issue fines for people for not recycling.
24 We need to increase our recycling in the
25 center. It's not only environmentally

1 sound, but it's good business of the city
2 since a tremendous amount of money to make
3 these every year. When we could help the
4 vision and save money same time that's what
5 you call a home run so we need to do
6 everything we can to expand or recycling
7 program and make sure there is full
8 compliance throughout the city. A lot of it
9 rests on us, on getting out recycling that
10 is to residents both the blue and the red
11 bins, on getting the education out on which
12 weeks, you know, which recycling is picked
13 up each week and on getting out on what you
14 can recycle and what you can't recycle.

15 You know, every dollar or every ton
16 of waste that's going to the recycling
17 center it's coming back to us in grants and
18 it's saving us at the same time of not
19 having to pay at the dump, so there are a
20 number of items that need to be accomplished
21 to increase recycling, but I think we are on
22 the right track.

23 As I mentioned during the caucus,
24 I'm a proponent of per bag fee or per can,
25 however you want to phrase it, that would be

1 used mainly to help senior citizens who only
2 have a very small amount of trash. I have
3 always been frustrated at the neighbor that
4 has 30 bags and he is paying the same price
5 the widow who has one bag. Also, by having
6 a per bag fee everyone would recycle. If
7 you are paying based on how much you use
8 that would put people in shape very quickly
9 as far as recycling goes.

10 And, finally, to echo what
11 Councilman Perry mentioned, I think we
12 shared each other's notes, I did want to
13 give a shout out to Giovanni Piccolino, the
14 owner of Buona Pizza for his good deed that
15 has been well-publicized, and as Mr. Perry
16 mentioned, this isn't a one-time thing that
17 Mr. Piccolino has done, he has always given
18 back to the community, whether it be a
19 Thanksgiving dinner for those in the city or
20 just, as Mr. Perry, said bringing a couple
21 of pizzas to somebody who is sick or having
22 a bad day. He is a great guy with a great
23 heart and businesses like Buona Pizza really
24 are what make Scranton great. Thank you.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

1 Mr. Evans.

2 MR. EVANS: Thank you. A couple of
3 brief comments, several decades ago I formed
4 a group called the Anti-Graffiti Network and
5 it was basically a loosely based group of
6 volunteers that went out every Saturday and
7 with five gallons of paint and several
8 brushes and rollers and covered up graffiti
9 and it was very, very effective, and I want
10 to take this opportunity to thank Councilman
11 Perry to who did the same thing last week on
12 his own, covered up an unsightly graffiti
13 sign right on the expressway, a little
14 fanfare, I'm sure he is not happy I'm
15 telling you that he did this, but I want him
16 to know we appreciate what he did on his own
17 and we need more people involved with things
18 like that.

19 This morning I attended a round
20 table discussion on the subject arts for
21 social change. It focused on the arts and
22 the economy. It was moderated by Marlin
23 Williams, deputy director for the Lackawanna
24 County Arts and Culture Department and Laura
25 Petitchi, president of the Scranton Area

1 Foundation. It was a very informative
2 session, and there was a great cross-section
3 of participants, including Karin Foster who
4 is here tonight. Particularly, which is
5 consistent with what I have always felt, is
6 that the arts being a tremendous asset in
7 driving economic growth in the city. We see
8 it all of the time, especially with events
9 like First Friday. As an elected official,
10 I see value in the arts the same as I see
11 the value of our historic buildings and
12 architecture as far as having a positive
13 influence on the economy.

14 Many cities with an active arts,
15 culture and historic district component have
16 translated those successes into tourism and
17 tourism for cities like Scranton and our
18 small business owners means simply increased
19 revenues. It really isn't much more
20 complicated than that. Art, culture,
21 history equal tourism, equal dollars. So we
22 should do everything we can to continue to
23 foster those type of activities, the arts,
24 moving more culture, more historic
25 preservation within our downtown and the

1 rest of our city. That's all I have
2 tonight.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you.

4 Mr. Gaughan?

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. First, just to
6 clear something up, I am positive that the
7 bidding threshold is in line with the state
8 and the Department of Labor and Industry so
9 just to clear that up. That was a false
10 statement that Mr. Sbaraglia made.

11 Paving update from the city engineer
12 was provided to me this week. All of the
13 paving is done throughout the city except
14 the intersection of Penn, Capouse and Olive
15 Street. Pike Street, the drainage pipes
16 were complete, grinding work has to be
17 completed, and then that is going to be
18 paved and I have received several complaints
19 about manhole covers along North Main Avenue
20 between Providence Square and Parker Street
21 and the city engineer did tell us that those
22 are going be evaluated, so I want to thank
23 him for that.

24 I would like, Mrs. Reed, if you
25 could, an update on the implementation and

1 changes regarding the third party
2 administrator, the police and fire pensions.
3 I would like to know where we are with the
4 changes that were agreed to by the police
5 and fire unions in regards to new disability
6 language.

7 About a year ago we discussed
8 legislation requiring that all city job
9 openings be publically posted and
10 advertised, and I'm not sure exactly what
11 happened to that, but I do believe that this
12 is important and I would like to see this
13 accomplished and ready to go by the time we
14 get back from the August recess. Many local
15 government jurisdictions have established
16 local procedures for hiring non-civil
17 service employees and typically those
18 provisions require posting and publication
19 of the employment opportunities and the
20 procedure to interview applicants so I think
21 that we should be looking for the best and
22 brightest to fill any positions in city hall
23 so I believe that we'll have to look at
24 amending the Administrative Code in that
25 respect.

1 I got two citizen complaints I'm
2 forwarding, a building at 129 South Cameron
3 Avenue in West Scranton condemned over a
4 month ago, there is garbage all over and
5 grass and very high and there is foul odors
6 that are concerning the neighbors in that
7 neighborhood. And 1207 South Main Avenue,
8 this will be the second request sent. The
9 property there is people that are dumping
10 there, animals, broken windows, bushes and
11 hedges are very high so if you could send
12 another correspondence to the Licensing and
13 Inspections Department.

14 Also, I requested the number of
15 quality of life tickets that were issued
16 this year and those which were paid, I
17 haven't received that yet, I'd like to send
18 another request on that. And I had a
19 question from a citizen about how these
20 signs are being paid for that are posted
21 along newly paved streets as part of our
22 paving project that say "Your Tax Dollars at
23 Work" and have Mayor Courtright's name on
24 the, so I sent that request July 13 and I
25 have not received a response yet so if we

1 could, again, send that, also. Thank you.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,
3 Mr. Gaughan. Just a few things, I would
4 like to congratulate the organizers of the
5 addiction awareness rally that was held
6 Sunday at courthouse square. It was in
7 memory of Sammi Henehan. Ms. Henehan's
8 parents were there to speak and gave a
9 moving commentary on the passing of their
10 daughter. Based upon what they said there
11 were actually some people that were at the
12 rally that went into rehab that day because
13 of that celebration, and I would just like
14 to thank the organizers of that and if we
15 did help one person it was well worth it.

16 This evening there was some comments
17 made about Mr. Gaughan and my attendance at
18 the Keystone Sanitary Landfill hearing. We
19 did attend it, I was there to represent city
20 council. All city council members have
21 expressed their opposition to the landfill
22 so I did read that letter into the record.
23 The comment was made that we shouldn't have
24 been there, but even if we weren't there,
25 there were 39 other speakers who expressed

1 their displeasure with the landfill as well
2 as several hundred other people who attended
3 just to support those speakers, and as we
4 sit there and discussed it the opposition
5 are aware that there are possibilities of
6 reduction or changes on how our garbage will
7 be handled if the landfill doesn't expand
8 and that is a consequence of this action,
9 but the expansion of the landfill may offer
10 consequences much worse than that.

11 So I was proud that city council was
12 one of the first groups, elected bodies of
13 officials to stand up and not listen to the
14 landfill. Mr. Gaughan went and spoke about
15 his individual situation with young children
16 on the way, so I think that the community
17 when we hear about there is nothing here in
18 this community, the hundreds of people that
19 showed up at the meeting the other day they
20 are there to fight for what we have and when
21 I hear speakers say there is nothing here,
22 they should see the commitment of those
23 speakers at the meeting the other night.

24 I try not to point out when someone
25 is wrong as a council speaker, but tonight

1 I'm going to do it. I'm not a Joseph A.
2 Bank customer. This is LaSalle Sportswear
3 on Webster Avenue, and I'm sure there is
4 some other councilmen, also, who wear
5 LaSalle sportswear. The speakers have a
6 right to say what they like, and I have said
7 this a thousand times, I agree that they
8 have the right to speak I think they bring
9 an energy to council, they keep council on
10 their toes, but I find it disrespectful to
11 accuse us of being dishonest, and whether it
12 was suggested or not said I worked with
13 these four councilmen for many years,
14 Mr. Perry just came on board, I find it
15 disrespectful to accuse us of doing illegal
16 things.

17 You pay not agree with us, this is
18 America, you can disagree all you want and
19 in 40 years we'll find out who was right,
20 council or the opposition that comes to
21 these meetings, but I find it disrespectful
22 to accuse of us of being corrupt. I find
23 that unacceptable. I would not say that to
24 any of you and it just it makes my blood
25 boil, and I know it's not proper for me to

1 comment on it, I shouldn't do it, but I will
2 stand up for my colleagues that I work with
3 every day who tirelessly go out and to be
4 called not Scrantonians, like I said, I
5 can't imagine anything more wrong than that
6 statement. That's all I have this evening.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Can I add one thing?

8 MR. WECHSLER: Sure.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: You just jogged my
10 memory, are we going to send -- last week we
11 discussed sending a letter to the
12 administration regarding the leachate issue,
13 do we -- Solicitor Minora, do you want to
14 jump in there?

15 MR. MINORA: I sent everyone an
16 e-mail this afternoon to take a look at and
17 I was just waiting to get the comments back.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Mr. Minora did send
19 us that letter this week, I think we just
20 got it early this morning, I think we will
21 review it and it is our intent to issue a
22 letter before the end of this term.

23 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
24 RESOLUTION - APPOINTING ROBERT GATTENS, 528
25 ORCHARD STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,

1 18505, AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING
2 APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON. MR.
3 GATTENS WILL REPLACE STEVE BARTNICKI, WHOSE
4 TERM EXPIRED ON JULY 1, 2016. MR. GATTENS'
5 TERM WILL COMMENCE ON JULY 2, 2016 AND
6 EXPIRE ON JULY 1, 2021.

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

10 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

11 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

15 MR. PERRY: Aye.

16 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

17 MR. EVANS: Aye.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

21 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
22 RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTING CARRI NEWCOMB,
23 230 N. CAMERON AVENUE, SCRANTON,
24 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, AS A MEMBER OF THE
25 BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF

1 SCRANTON. MRS. NEWCOMB'S TERM EXPIRED ON
2 JUNE 30, 2016 AND HER NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE
3 ON JUNE 30, 2021.

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

7 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

8 MR. EVANS: Second.

9 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question,
11 I will be voting "no" for this appointment.
12 I feel that we need to move in a different
13 direction on the zoning board.

14 MR. EVANS: On the question, I would
15 take a step back because we went pretty
16 quickly, but I want to comment on
17 Mr. Gattens because he has been a terrific
18 alternate and a true professional and very
19 thoughtful so I think we are doing the right
20 thing by elevating an alternate to a full
21 status zoning member and the zoning board
22 will be well-served by his appointment.

23 MR. ROGAN: On the question
24 regarding both appointments, I know
25 Mr. Gattens and Ms. Newcomb very well and

1 they are both advocates for the community,
2 both on and off of the zoning board.

3 Mr. Gattens has done amazing work with
4 Connors Park over in South Side and I know
5 Mrs. Newcomb has done many charity events
6 for children in West Scranton, so I fully
7 support both appointments. As Mr. Evans
8 mentioned, I do like the idea of alternates
9 becoming full-time members to keep that
10 experience on the board so there is less of
11 a learning curve.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, on the question,
13 I would like thank both of these people for
14 stepping up and serving on the zoning board.
15 I served on the zoning for five years and it
16 is a job that requires a lot of time and a
17 lot of investigation and it is a difficult
18 position because it is almost a
19 semi-judicial position so they are always
20 are winners and losers involved with the
21 zoning board, so I thank both of them for
22 serving. All those in favor of introduction
23 signify by saying aye.

24 MR. PERRY: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

1 MR. EVANS: Aye.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Aye. Opposed?

3 MR. GAUGHAN: No.

4 MR. WECHSLER: The ayes have it and
5 so moved.

6 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
7 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF LEE
8 BORTHWICK, 616 DEPOT STREET, SCRANTON,
9 PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER OF THE
10 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD FOR AN
11 ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM. MR.
12 BORTHWICK'S PRIOR TERM EXPIRED OCTOBER 11,
13 2015 AND WAS HELD OVER TO JULY 18, 2016.
14 MR. BORTHWICK'S NEW TERM WILL BE EFFECTIVE
15 JULY 18, 2016 AND EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 11,
16 2021.

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

20 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

21 MR. EVANS: Second.

22 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?

23 MR. EVANS: On the question, I
24 served with Mr. Borthwick on the HARB and he
25 is a true professional and will do a great

1 job for the city.

2 MR. WECHSLER: All those in favor of
3 introduction signify by saying aye.

4 MR. PERRY: Aye.

5 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

6 MR. EVANS: Aye.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

10 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
11 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
12 44, 2016 - AN ORDINANCE - DESIGNATING THE
13 900 AND 1000 BLOCKS OF ACKER AVENUE AS
14 ONE-WAY IN THE SOUTHBOUND DIRECTION; THE
15 1100/1200 AND 1200 BLOCK TO TAYLOR LINE
16 REMAIN A TWO-WAY ROADWAY; A R6-1L HORIZONTAL
17 LEFT ONE-WAY SIGN BE INSTALLED AT THE
18 SOUTHWEST CORNER OF WEST LOCUST STREET AND
19 ACKER AVENUE AND THAT THE EXISTING STOP SIGN
20 AT THE NORTHWESTERLY CORNER OF ACKER AVENUE
21 AND LANDIS STREET BE PLUMBED TO A VERTICAL
22 POSITION.

23 MR. WECHSLER: You've heard reading
24 by title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

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

1 pass reading by title.

2 MR. EVANS: Second.

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

5 MR. PERRY: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. EVANS: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

11 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
12 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 45, 2016 - AN
13 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
14 122 OF 1990 AN ORDINANCE AS AMENDED ENTITLED
15 "ESTABLISHING A RECYCLING PROGRAM IN ORDER
16 TO COMPLY WITH ACT 101, 1988, PROVIDING FOR
17 REGULATIONS GOVERNING SEPARATION, STORAGE,
18 AND COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS, FOR
19 RESIDENCES, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND
20 MUNICIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AND COMMUNITY
21 ACTIVITIES, AND MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING
22 PROPERTIES; PROVIDING FOR EXEMPTIONS,
23 ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF
24 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE" TO INCLUDE
25 ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS AND UPDATING

1 INFORMATION ON REGULATIONS GOVERNING
2 COLLECTION, SOURCE SEPARATION AND RECYCLING
3 OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, MUNICIPAL,
4 INSTITUTIONAL, MULTI FAMILY DWELLING AND AT
5 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.

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

8 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-B
9 pass reading by title.

10 MR. EVANS: Second.

11 MR. WECHSLER: On the question? All
12 those in favor signify by saying aye.

13 MR. PERRY: Aye.

14 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

15 MR. EVANS: Aye.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

19 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
20 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -
21 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 54, 2016 -
22 APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL WILLIAMS, 1505 COURT
23 STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, AS A
24 MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION
25 AUTHORITY. MR. WILLIAMS WILL BE REPLACING

1 SEAN MCANDREW WHO RESIGNED EFFECTIVE JUNE 6,
2 2016 AND WHOSE TERM WAS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE
3 ON DECEMBER 31, 2017. MR. WILLIAMS' TERM
4 WILL BE EFFECTIVE JULY 5, 2016 AND WILL
5 EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2017.

6 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
7 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
8 passage of Item 7-A.

9 MR. ROGAN: Second.

10 MR. WECHSLER: On the question?
11 Roll call, please?

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

13 MR. PERRY: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

15 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

17 MR. EVANS: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. I hereby
22 declare Item 7-A legally and lawfully
23 adopted.

24 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
25 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR

1 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 55, 2016 -
2 ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
3 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
4 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
5 APPROPRIATENESS FOR WIDMER SIGN COMPANY,
6 2208-2209 AMELIA AVENUE, SCRANTON,
7 PENNSYLVANIA, FOR INSTALLATION OF DS 3 EX
8 5 EX3.25"D HANGING SIGN, NON-ILLUMINATED
9 WITH CNC CUT DIMENSIONAL ½" WHITE PVC
10 LETTERING AND NUMBERS WITH 3MM BRUSHED
11 COPPER TELEPHONE PANEL AND CNC CUT 3MM "RD"
12 WITH WHITE 3M VINYL HAIR DRYER MOUNTED FROM
13 EXISTING BRACKET AT 324 PENN AVENUE,
14 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

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

18 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
19 Committee on Community Development, I
20 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

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-B legally and lawfully
10 adopted. If there is no further business,
11 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

12 MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

13 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