

COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON

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HELD:

Monday, September 16th, 2019

LOCATION:

Council Chambers  
Scranton City Hall  
340 North Washington Avenue  
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Maria McCool, RPR  
Official Court Reporter

1 C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

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PATRICK ROGAN, PRESIDENT - absent

TIMOTHY PERRY, VICE PRESIDENT

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

KYLE DONAHUE

MARY WALSH DEMPSEY

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE

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

3  
4 MR. PERRY: Roll call, please.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

6 MR. PERRY: Here.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

8 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

9 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

10 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Present.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

14 MR. DONAHUE: I would like to make a  
15 motion to appoint Councilman Perry as temporary  
16 Chair for the Committee on Rules.

17 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Second.

18 MR. PERRY: On the question? All  
19 those in favor signify by saying aye.

20 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

21 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

23 MR. PERRY: Aye. The ayes have it  
24 and so moved.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: I would like to make a

1 motion to table Item 7-F -- or 7-P, rather,  
2 sorry.

3 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Second.

4 MR. PERRY: On the question. Miss  
5 Lewis has notified the office that she withdrew  
6 her name as a member of the Ethics Board. All  
7 those in favor signify by saying aye.

8 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

10 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

11 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? The ayes  
12 have it and so moved. Dispense with the  
13 reading of the minutes.

14 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. TAX  
15 ASSESSOR'S RESULTS REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD  
16 AUGUST 28, 2019.

17  
18 3-B. CITY OF SCRANTON RECYCLING REPORT DATED  
19 AUGUST 2019.

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

22 MR. PERRY: Do any Council members  
23 have any announcements at this time?

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I have one. Now  
25 this will be the last time I make this

1 announcement because the benefit is this  
2 Saturday. But there is a benefit that's being  
3 held for two of my uncles. It's called  
4 Together For The Trentlys. It benefits  
5 supporting John and Billy Trently.

6 Friends and family have planned a  
7 benefit for John and Billy Trently. Both  
8 brothers were diagnosed with cancer within two  
9 weeks of each other.

10 John has advanced prostate cancer  
11 and Billy has multiple myeloma. Together along  
12 with their families, they are facing this  
13 battle. The benefit will be this Saturday,  
14 September 21st from 4 to 8 p.m., at St. Mary's  
15 Center in Scranton to help defray the cost of  
16 treatments and travel expenses to Sloan  
17 Kettering Hospital in New York City.

18 Tickets are \$20 and available at the  
19 door. There will be basket raffles, basket of  
20 cheer, 50-50, entertainment, food, wine and  
21 beer. Please come out to support two wonderful  
22 men and their battle with cancer. Thank you.

23 MR. DONAHUE: I just have one quick  
24 one. The City of Scranton Office of Economic  
25 and Community Development is preparing their

1 Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan  
2 and its analysis of impediments to fair housing  
3 choice.

4 As part of the planning process, the  
5 City is conducting a survey to identify  
6 residents needs in the community and ideas on  
7 what the City residents would like to see funds  
8 used for. Please take a few minutes and  
9 complete the survey which can be found at the  
10 top of the City's website Scranton PA dot gov.  
11 Thank you.

12 ATTY. DEMPSEY: I do have two brief  
13 announcements as well. Good evening everyone  
14 and thank you for attending this evening. The  
15 members of City Council received a letter dated  
16 September 6th, 2019, from a young girl age  
17 nine. I don't want to give her name or address  
18 or privacy reasons.

19 But it says, thank you for giving me  
20 lots of books to read at the public library.  
21 Thank you for making sure I have clean water to  
22 drink. Thank you for giving me a park to play  
23 in with lot of trees.

24 So I want to thank her for taking  
25 the time and for doing her civic duty by

1            sending us a letter. And I want her to know  
2            how much we appreciate that letter.

3            The second thing I would like to  
4            announcement is this Saturday, I have my pink  
5            on if you noticed. It's the Susan G. Komen  
6            Race For The Cure in downtown Scranton. In  
7            this City where -- in this valley, I should  
8            say, where it seems like the diagnosis of  
9            cancer is so pervasive and so ubiquitous,  
10           anything we can do to eradicate this insidious  
11           disease is always helpful.

12           The Susan G. Komen Foundation has  
13           donated over 10 million dollars to breast  
14           cancer research and over 25 million dollars to  
15           funding a program in this general area. Their  
16           efforts are so significant and since their  
17           inaugural year it has absolutely I bet you  
18           quad -- more than quadrupled. It has to be 20  
19           times.

20           I participated in it. And each time  
21           you see it, it just gets larger and larger.  
22           One of the final things I would like to say  
23           about that is the unification of the City  
24           during this event it goes out Wyoming and down  
25           North Washington.

1                   And I'll start to see as I come to  
2                   work and go back to work on Wyoming and North  
3                   Washington Avenues, each of the City -- not  
4                   each and every one but most of the City  
5                   businesses along those ways, the restaurants,  
6                   the truck and auto centers, the banks and the  
7                   auto dealership and any other smaller business  
8                   along that route will start to decorate their  
9                   windows in a show of solidarity for anybody who  
10                  is either walking in that race, fighting breast  
11                  cancer or walking in that race in general or  
12                  walking in that race in memoriam of a loved  
13                  one.

14                  So registration still remains open.  
15                  It's this Saturday. I looked at mine via  
16                  Facebook and I was able to register today. So  
17                  I would encourage everyone who can to  
18                  participate. And again, breast cancer does not  
19                  discriminate. It affects men and women alike.

20                  And again, I will repeat, I'm sure  
21                  there's no one in this audience who has not  
22                  been affected by cancer in some way or manner.  
23                  So I'm sure they would appreciate any help we  
24                  can assist in. Thank you.

25                  MR. PERRY: Thank you. And I'll



1           just give some more details on that race. As  
2           Attorney Dempsey said it's going to be  
3           September 21st. The Race For The Cure will be  
4           held downtown. The race day schedule begins at  
5           6:30 a.m., Courthouse Square with a 5K run  
6           beginning at 8:30 a.m., and the walk beginning  
7           at 8:45.

8                         Please be mindful of any potential  
9           road closures and the safety of runners and  
10          walkers as you are travelling throughout the  
11          downtown area on Saturday.

12                        And also just a remainder for the  
13          speakers tonight just to state their name for  
14          the record before they speak. That's all I  
15          have. So with that, we'll go into FOURTH  
16          ORDER.

17                        (The following speakers offered  
18          public comment:

19                                 Joan Hodowanitz

20                                 Bob Bolus

21                                 Fay Franus

22                                 Ron Ellman

23                                 Marie Schumacher

24                                 Lee Morgan

25                                 Dave Dobrzyn

1 Gary St. Fluer  
2 Norma Jefferies)

3  
4 MS. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A

5 Motions.

6 MR. PERRY: Mr. Donahue, any motions  
7 or comments tonight?

8 MR. DONAHUE: Yes, real quick, Mrs.  
9 Schumacher, I understand your frustration with  
10 the signs for 81 on East Mountain Road. So,  
11 Miss Reed, would we be able to send a request  
12 to PennDOT to see who put those signs up?

13 And then also with the cardboard  
14 recycling, I have some questions that I'm  
15 putting together on that too. But I think that  
16 requirement was pushed back until at least  
17 January 6th where we won't have to meet that  
18 requirement until then.

19 I'd like to also just start off by  
20 thanking the Career Technology Center Culinary  
21 Arts Program and chef Mark McAndrew for hosting  
22 their seventh annual First Responder  
23 Recognition luncheon last week up at the Career  
24 Technology Center for members of the Scranton  
25 Police and Fire Department.

1 All culinary students did a  
2 tremendous prepping and serving lunch while  
3 also giving thanks to the first responders who  
4 serve our community.

5 I also received complaints at a  
6 neighborhood meeting this week from neighbors  
7 regarding a property the 508 Tioga Avenue  
8 concerning a large amount of lumber in the yard  
9 coming all the way out to the street and also  
10 old oil drums on the property both of which the  
11 neighbors believe are potential fire hazards.

12 So, Miss Reed, would you be able to  
13 pass along those complaints to the LIPS  
14 Department as well as the fire inspector? And  
15 one thing I did forget to mention last week but  
16 the house at 1218 Oliver Place that Mr. and  
17 Mrs. Labroski{sic} brought to our attention at  
18 our last meeting in July before Council's  
19 recess was demoed on Saturday, September 7th.

20 Also last week Council received an  
21 update on the status of the new Novembrino  
22 splash pad and recreation area. Construction  
23 on the building should be completed by the end  
24 of the year and the splash pad should be  
25 finished by June 1st of next year.

1                   On Friday, Mayor Evans and myself  
2 met with representatives of the school district  
3 including Acting Superintendent Mrs. McTiernan,  
4 Chief Recovery Officer Candice Finnan, Business  
5 Manager Pat Laffey, School Directors Barb  
6 Dixon, Katie Gilmartin and Tom Schuster to  
7 restart discussions on potential areas where  
8 the City and School District can share  
9 services.

10                   Since there's a been a change in  
11 leadership in both the City and the School  
12 District both the Mayor and district leadership  
13 are committed to developing a working  
14 relationship between those two entities. Topic  
15 of discussion included unifying the discount  
16 period for property taxes amongst the City,  
17 school district, and county; a HUP test for  
18 nonprofits, potential areas for joint  
19 purchasing, technology initiatives, grant  
20 writing and also the painting of crosswalks at  
21 intersections with school crossing guards.

22                   Councilman Gaughan and myself will  
23 continue to provide updates as we continue to  
24 move through this process. And I'll save the  
25 rest of my comments for agenda items. So

1           that's all I have for now.

2                       MR. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Donahue.  
3           Attorney Dempsey, any motions or comments  
4           tonight?

5                       ATTY. DEMPSEY: Thank you, Mr.  
6           Perry. Just a few comments, consistent with  
7           what we spoke about with Miss Jefferies, I did  
8           want to thank Scranton Tomorrow for putting  
9           those banners in downtown Scranton. Most of  
10          them I think are up right now and they run from  
11          Lackawanna Avenue to Mulberry Street and  
12          Franklin Avenue to Jefferson Avenue. And they  
13          really look nice.

14                      I'm not sure of the process by which  
15          they decided them or came up with the theory or  
16          dynamic behind them but they really are  
17          beautiful. There's one outside my office. So  
18          I would like to thank them for their efforts.  
19          And I think thus far everything I've seen them  
20          do they've been a great partner with the City.

21                      I spoke to Mr. Bulzoni this morning  
22          on the budget. And he had told me that is  
23          moving along accordingly and in accordance with  
24          his schedule. The PEL has requested that we  
25          have that to them no later than November 18th.

1           And I think additional e-mails were just sent  
2           out to all the departments today asking for  
3           figures and formulas so that that could be  
4           worked on and put in.

5                       That's why I hesitated to answer the  
6           question that was presented to me before.  
7           These are still working documents. And what  
8           I've learned in the law is if you give an  
9           answer on a working document you're probably  
10          doing yourself a disservice until a final  
11          document is provided.

12                      I also asked on the status of the  
13          audit. I believe someone had mentioned that  
14          last week. And quite frankly I had the same  
15          question. And I was advised that we do have a  
16          new audit team this year, Jones Kohanski{sic}.  
17          I do understand that has led to somewhat of a  
18          delay in getting some of the data and that  
19          unlike the previous auditor we had who had a  
20          three year term, so in the second and third  
21          year of the term, all they had to do type in  
22          data and everything was set up for them.

23                      This one may take a little bit  
24          longer than we expected. Miss Hodowanitz, you  
25          had asked about whether I think additional data

1 was going to be provided to them in light of  
2 what happened with the political corruption. I  
3 think the initial answer that I got for right  
4 now is no. I believe they are going to be  
5 working with the data that they have.

6 And any additional data is received  
7 by Council or the Mayor or the Administration  
8 at any later date we can certainly amend that  
9 or change that or ask for a more detailed audit  
10 in accordance with our Council rules.

11 Mr. Donahue and I attended a meeting  
12 with the Green Ridge neighbors and they  
13 expressed a concern to me that I'm going to ask  
14 that we send a letter to the Department of  
15 Parks and Recreation, more specifically  
16 Mr. Fallon.

17 We did a cleanup at Pretzel Park out  
18 in Green Ridge two weeks ago and I really think  
19 it's a relatively simple solution. But they  
20 are very large lights and they need bulbs and  
21 that the outlets, most of them, if not all of  
22 them were not working. So we would ask that  
23 those be rectified or fixed. The neighbors do  
24 like to put holiday decorations out there.

25 I also did receive an oral request

1 from one of the principals out in that area as  
2 well about crosswalks. And quite frankly, as  
3 I'm moving more about the City and talking to  
4 different neighbor groups I do think crosswalks  
5 are an issue and want to speak about more.

6 So I've asked them to put that into  
7 writing and once that's put into writing we'll  
8 follow up on that more. There is two private  
9 schools out in Green Ridge and there's also a  
10 public school, Robert Morris. And I'm actually  
11 going to drive around tomorrow night and try  
12 and see which ones need to be clarified or just  
13 made brighter for most instances because there  
14 are as in all neighborhoods young kids.

15 If there is any other issues on  
16 those in other neighborhoods that people want  
17 to speak to me on I would be happy to listen to  
18 them. And finally, last week I reached out to  
19 other neighborhood groups that might want to  
20 speak to me.

21 I did hear from the Plot  
22 Neighborhood Group. I'll be meeting with them  
23 later this month. And I'm also going up to the  
24 Hill Section to meet with them as well. That's  
25 all. Thank you.



1 MR. PERRY: Thank you very much.

2 Mr. Gaughan, any motions or comments tonight?

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, first I want to  
4 send my thoughts and prayers out to the family  
5 of Mike Melnick. I had the opportunity on  
6 several occasions to talk to Mr. Melnick who  
7 was a Councilman in the City for 16 years. And  
8 he was also friends with my parents.

9 To be a Councilman in this City for  
10 16 years I think is an unbelievable feat. He  
11 was a dedicated public servant. And he was  
12 just an all around nice person with a big heart  
13 who had a lot of friends because of his  
14 personality and the way he was able to talk to  
15 people as if he was talking to them and not at  
16 them.

17 So that was one of his great  
18 qualities. So again, I want to send my  
19 thoughts and prayers out to his family and I'm  
20 glad that this Council recognized him earlier  
21 in the meeting.

22 I would like to make a motion now  
23 that City Council send a letter to the  
24 Licensing and Inspections Department asking for  
25 a plan of action to deal with a blighted

1 property at 342 Harrison Avenue.

2 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Second.

3 MR. PERRY: Okay. We have a motion  
4 and a second. On the question.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.  
6 I was on the phone earlier today with a  
7 resident who lives right next door to this  
8 property. I am trying to fight on behalf of  
9 the neighbors here. I was out at this property  
10 about two months ago.

11 I know that the Licensing and  
12 Inspections Department was out there. So they  
13 are not ignoring the problem. The homeowner  
14 apparently cut the grass. But this property is  
15 literally in my opinion falling apart. The  
16 neighbors who live next door are afraid if  
17 anything happens in terms of a fire that their  
18 house would also go up as well.

19 And they really should not have to  
20 live next to this property in this condition  
21 any longer. So I would just ask as I made the  
22 motion that the Licensing and Inspections  
23 Department come up with some sort of plan of  
24 action to deal with this property once and for  
25 all. And by the way just to add, this

1 property -- no one has lived in this home for  
2 25 years. Thank you.

3 MR. PERRY: All in favor of the  
4 motion say aye.

5 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

7 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

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

10 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd also like to make  
11 a motion to send a letter to Police Chief Carl  
12 Graziano and the Scranton School District  
13 Superintendent alerting them of an issue with  
14 speeding and parking issues on Perry Avenue  
15 which is in front of West Scranton Intermediate  
16 School. I'd like to ask them for an assessment  
17 of the situation and also what safety measures  
18 may be implemented to solve this problem.

19 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

20 MR. PERRY: There's a motion on the  
21 floor. Is there a second?

22 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

23 MR. PERRY: There's a motion and a  
24 second. On the question?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I have been in

1 contact with this resident. And I know several  
2 of the other neighbors are concerned about this  
3 issue as well. A few weeks ago we received a  
4 complaint. The DPW was quick to act on it.  
5 And they put up children at play signs.

6 Unfortunately, this did not solve  
7 the problem. So I just want to take a second  
8 and read into the record an e-mail I received  
9 from this resident late this afternoon.

10 "We moved to this residence on  
11 Parrot Avenue three years ago. I'm very  
12 concerned with the speeding that takes place on  
13 this road. Many people use this as a shortcut  
14 through this side of the City to avoid traffic  
15 lights.

16 However, they speed very quickly in  
17 both directions. My children as well as the  
18 neighborhood children play football, baseball  
19 and kickball across the street. They ride  
20 their bikes and enjoy the neighborhood as  
21 children should.

22 It is a school zone. And there is  
23 no reason people should be flying up the street  
24 after stopping at the stop sign at Parrot and  
25 Fellows Street. Myself and other neighbors are

1 very concerned for our children's safety.

2 Dismissal from the West Scranton  
3 Intermediate School is an even larger issue.  
4 Children walk out in front of the road, cars  
5 parked to pick children up, and the traffic  
6 goes very quickly around the cars."

7 She mentions that two slow children  
8 at play signs were installed and she also put  
9 up a large flag on her property alerting cars  
10 not to speed. No one pays attention to the  
11 signs. So hopefully this letter that's sent to  
12 the police chief and the superintendent, they  
13 will come up with some sort of plan of action  
14 maybe to install additional safety measures to  
15 take care of that issue. Thank you.

16 MR. PERRY: All those in favor  
17 signify by saying aye.

18 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

20 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

21 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? Ayes  
22 have it and so moved.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. I received  
24 from a resident on East Mountain several  
25 complaints up there. So one of them was on

1 East Mountain Road they would like to have the  
2 edge on the right-hand side heading to Engine  
3 10 trimmed.

4 When they trim they ask that the  
5 trimmings could be picked up and not left  
6 behind. They end up covering the catch basins.  
7 Also Mountain Lake Road on East Mountain needs  
8 to be trimmed. The bushes are so high that  
9 residents cannot see animals and other things  
10 that run out into the road.

11 So we did receive a response from  
12 Mr. Gallagher, the DPW Director. And he  
13 informed Council that the brush hog is out of  
14 service for multiple repairs, some of which are  
15 safety concerns. So that is an issue. We did  
16 not get an idea when that might be back in  
17 service. But I just wanted to make sure that  
18 the resident is aware of that.

19 Also Mrs. Jefferies has asked  
20 several times for an update on the Street Sign  
21 Program. So I just want to read an e-mail that  
22 we received again from DPW Director.

23 Gene Reed and Dave Medici who are  
24 the two employees in the Sign Department in the  
25 City -- by the way, we only have two employees

1 in the Sign Department. They have been  
2 trained. Harry Baker who is the Vice President  
3 of KS Engineering who is the company that  
4 worked with the DPW to implement this plan  
5 worked with both employees for three days in  
6 the field.

7 There is a very large inventory as  
8 you could imagine and you had pointed out on  
9 several occasions of poor signs to be  
10 addressed. Again, I reiterate there is only a  
11 two-person crew to do this.

12 In addition to street signs, stop  
13 signs, do not enter signs, one way signs and  
14 other safety related signs are a priority.  
15 There was several of them that were identified  
16 as needing to be replaced.

17 The two employees in this department  
18 plan on using a biweekly sweep in different  
19 areas of the City, two weeks in South Side, two  
20 weeks in North Scranton, so on and so forth.  
21 Whatever they could accomplish in two weeks in  
22 that part of the City with safety signs and  
23 intersection signs they will.

24 He asked us to please remember they  
25 are a two-man crew. This is another job given

1 to them along with their existing duties that  
2 they perform daily. Since its inception, this  
3 program's inception, they've had work through  
4 some technology glitches.

5 They were without service. They  
6 have iPads that they have to type into. That  
7 since has been taken care of. Everything that  
8 they upgrade, any signs, stop sign, street  
9 signs go into a database that is saved. So we  
10 are keeping that data as we move forward which  
11 I don't think to this magnitude had been done  
12 before.

13 So that is the update on the street  
14 signs. So if you have any other questions just  
15 let me know. But I just want to say I  
16 appreciate both Mr. Reed and Mr. Medici for all  
17 the work that they do. They do really care  
18 about this City and they are doing a great job.

19 Also on that, DPW vain and City  
20 vehicle fleet that we've been talking about and  
21 has been in the newspaper the last few weeks, I  
22 had floated an idea to the Administration about  
23 two weeks ago in regards to installing GPS on  
24 all City vehicles for that matter.

25 As I mentioned last week, many other



1 municipalities do this on a regular basis so  
2 that they can track where the vehicles go and  
3 then if we're talking about snowplowing and  
4 other things it becomes very transparent  
5 because the residents can actually go on the  
6 website and see where the snowplows have been.

7 So I was very pleased to learn  
8 through Mr. Bulzoni, the Business Administrator  
9 that there is a meeting set for next week which  
10 Mrs. Reed will attend in our absence or anyone  
11 else who wants to attend can go to that. But  
12 it is on the GPS, its functionality and the  
13 costs. So we may have an update on that in the  
14 near future.

15 And finally, I just also want to  
16 thank as it was mentioned Mayor Evans came to  
17 our caucus tonight. And coincidentally I had  
18 several questions on the legislation that we  
19 have on our agenda. But Mr. Evans came,  
20 answered the questions and that's really the  
21 way that I think this should operate and should  
22 have operated for a long time.

23 So I appreciate Mayor Evans coming,  
24 clearing some things up, clarifying some things  
25 with the legislation. As he mentioned before

1           he left he will be back when we do have  
2           legislation on our agenda that needs further  
3           clarification. So again, I just want to thank  
4           him and thank you. Have a good night.

5                       MR. PERRY: Thank you. I just have  
6           two quick things. The first thing is I'll  
7           share some information that I have to Mr. St.  
8           Fluer. I know you discussed about the  
9           Bethlehem comparison and that's something that  
10          we do all the time here for many purposes  
11          because it's such, as you know, a sister city.

12                      So this is in no way to misguide you  
13          or make an excuse. I'm just going to share  
14          information that I found and that you could use  
15          because I think you're on the right track with  
16          a lot of the comparisons.

17                      As you know, they are similar in  
18          population size but the one thing that kind of  
19          sets us apart is the square mileage that we  
20          have. Bethlehem is about 19 and a half square  
21          miles where the City of Scranton is 25 and a  
22          half square miles, which is about 30 percent  
23          larger than Bethlehem with the same population  
24          density or same population with more spread out  
25          density.

1                   And as you know, the biggest cost  
2                   that any municipality has to their budget,  
3                   services, police, fire, DPW. So, you know,  
4                   when you increase the size you'd have to  
5                   increase, you know, the number of police to  
6                   cover that, the number of firehouses, firemen  
7                   and trucks, garbage trucks, employees of that  
8                   size.

9                   And I'm not saying it's a complete  
10                  comparison but if you up 30 percent, the budget  
11                  would go to about 101 which is still a little  
12                  bit shy of what we have. Not all of that would  
13                  carry over, of course, I know. But it's just  
14                  kind of to show you that there is going to be  
15                  a, you know, bigger increase with the size of  
16                  the City.

17                  So I would start with -- and  
18                  something that I was working on before was  
19                  number of firehouses compared to how many  
20                  firehouses do we have active, police officers  
21                  per shift to the amount of police officers that  
22                  we have per shift. And then you could kind of  
23                  get your head around where the actual numbers  
24                  are because the budget can be very intimidating  
25                  and confusing when you're looking at it as just

1 a document and not a living breathing entity  
2 that you see on a daily basis.

3 So I do agree with you there. So  
4 that's just some information from me to you to  
5 use. And if it's something you already know,  
6 I'm sorry for wasting your time. If it's not,  
7 I hope there was some nugget of information  
8 that you could use to further dig because I do  
9 think you are on the right track.

10 Something else that came up tonight  
11 was that long-term maintenance plan that we  
12 have been talking about for a while. One of  
13 the things that I would love to institute and  
14 it might be too late to do this but something  
15 that maybe the new Administration could look at  
16 is to do a mandatory allocation for a long term  
17 maintenance plan which would come right out of  
18 the City budget.

19 It would be a certain percentage of  
20 a maintenance fund that we already have -- a  
21 maintenance program that we already funded,  
22 certain percentage a .05, a .7, something that  
23 would just perpetually increase until something  
24 is needed. And I would also like that  
25 stipulation to include something where the

1 monies could only be taken out of that account  
2 unless it had Council approval.

3 That way we would know we would have  
4 the automatic oversight of the bidding process,  
5 who's in charge of the work, what work's going  
6 to be done and for lack of a better word it  
7 would almost necessitate the communication  
8 between the Administration and the Council.

9 Sometimes it's great. Sometimes  
10 it's not so great. But this is something that  
11 we can do to make it more open and more, you  
12 know, something where it's just more  
13 transparent. I think that would be the way to  
14 go because more times than not and it's very  
15 apparent to me now from being on Council for  
16 almost four years is when you don't have a long  
17 time keeper of buildings and properties and  
18 overall assets, more times than not you kick  
19 the can down the road theory.

20 You know, someone is only here for  
21 four years or eight years and it's, you know,  
22 and you hate to say it but it turns into it's  
23 not my problem situation. I hate to say that  
24 that's the way it is but look at the state of a  
25 lot of our assets. So I think that's how it's

1           being treated. So I think that's why this  
2           long-term maintenance plan it just can't be a  
3           budget item that could be tweaked or reduced.  
4           I think it would have to be something passed by  
5           Council that would have been be a certain  
6           percentage and have to be mandatory.

7                         Now, there is a lot of things that  
8           go into that. I could hear Mr. Bulzoni right  
9           now going, oh, my goodness, you know, there's  
10          something that we have to pay for. Well,  
11          there's a cost to everything. Are we going to  
12          pay now or are we going to pay later because  
13          one way or another we're going to pay.

14                        So I think that is something we need  
15          to take a hard look at especially come next  
16          budget time and the new administration is let's  
17          put something in place for a mandatory  
18          long-term -- a mandatory allocation for  
19          long-term maintenance program that is overseen  
20          by the City Council when it comes time to draw  
21          those monies out for certain funds.

22                        I think that would be a good usage  
23          of it. And after time, you know, you might go  
24          three or four years without using it which is  
25          great. That money just piles up and it stays

1           there and it doesn't move. And then when you  
2           need it, you have it and then it gets  
3           replenished back and forth.

4                        At least then you could actually get  
5           projects done without having to take it from  
6           other accounts. You know, is it a perfect  
7           plan, no. But it's something -- it's a good  
8           starting point for us to discuss. And it's lot  
9           better than what we have now. That's all I  
10          have for tonight. Thank you.

11                       MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
12          AN ORDINANCE - REPEALING SECTION 1 OF FILE  
13          OF THE COUNCIL NO. 12, 2018 OF THE CITY OF  
14          SCRANTON AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF  
15          ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH AND ADOPTING  
16          THE 2015 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY  
17          1 MAINTENANCE CODE, REGULATING AND GOVERNING  
18          THE CONDITIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL PROPERTY,  
19          BUILDINGS, AND STRUCTURES, BY PROVIDING THE  
20          STANDARDS FOR SUPPLIED UTILITIES AND FACILITIES  
21          AND OTHER PHYSICAL THINGS AND CONDITIONS  
22          ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT STRUCTURES ARE SAFE,  
23          SANITARY AND FIT FOR OCCUPATION AND  
24          USE; THE CONDEMNATION OF BUILDINGS AND  
25          STRUCTURES UNFIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY AND USE,

1 AND THE DEMOLITION OF SUCH EXISTING  
2 STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON; PROVIDING  
3 FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND COLLECTION OF  
4 FEES THEREFOR AND AMENDING SECTION 4 OF FILE OF  
5 THE COUNCIL NO. 64 OF 2014 TO REDUCE THE FEE TO  
6 FILE AN APPEAL WITH THE HOUSING BOARD OF  
7 APPEALS BASED UPON THE TYPE OF MATTER AT ISSUE  
8 AND TO PROMOTE RESOLUTIONS OF APPEALS  
9 BEFORE PROCEEDING TO HEARING.

10 MR. PERRY: At this time I'll  
11 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced  
12 into it's proper committee.

13 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

14 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Second.

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

18 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

20 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

21 MR. PERRY: Aye. The ayes have it  
22 and so moved.

23 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -  
24 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL  
25 NO. 64, 2014, AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED)



1 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE QUALITY OF  
2 LIFE AND VIOLATIONS TICKET PROCESS IN  
3 THE CITY OF SCRANTON" TO BE AMENDED IN SECTION  
4 3 BY DELETING NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 7, 20, 21, 25,  
5 26, 28 AND 29 TO REMOVE VIOLATIONS AND IN  
6 SECTION 9 TO REDUCE FINES FOR CERTAIN  
7 VIOLATIONS AND IN SECTION 10 TO REDUCE THE  
8 AMOUNT OF CITATION FINES FOR VIOLATIONS.

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

12 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

13 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question?

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.  
16 I again appreciate the Mayor coming in and  
17 explaining quite a few things as it relates to  
18 this legislation.

19 First of all, I think this is a step  
20 in the right direction in the fact that when  
21 the Mayor was in our caucus tonight and one of  
22 the speakers brought this up as well, what  
23 they're really putting an emphasis on now is to  
24 give people a warning before they issue a  
25 ticket.

1                   So in the past what would happen and  
2                   just as recent as I saw somebody making a  
3                   complaint online is that you have high grass or  
4                   some other citation and you would get 150 or  
5                   \$300 citation without being able to correct the  
6                   problem before you had to go and pay the fine.

7                   So it became a thing of, you know,  
8                   the City going out and penalizing people if  
9                   they had a good excuse, if they were elderly or  
10                  really couldn't get to it or there were health  
11                  issues and so on and so forth.

12                  So according to Mayor Evans what the  
13                  City is now going to do, they come up with a  
14                  door hanger. So if a City inspector goes out  
15                  and you have high grass or some other -- some  
16                  other penalty or you're doing something wrong,  
17                  you'll get a hanger on your door and you'll  
18                  have 48 hours to correct the issue. Again, I  
19                  think that's a step in the right direction.

20                  Some of the other improvements that  
21                  I appreciated is the turnaround in permits  
22                  being approved. Mayor Evans told us that --  
23                  and I know from hearing so many complaints over  
24                  the last few years it was taking a few weeks to  
25                  get a permit approved. That's now down

1           according to him to a few days. So that's a  
2           step in the right direction.

3                         One of the things that I was really  
4           pleased to hear from the Mayor is that they  
5           will no longer be accepting cash in the  
6           Licensing and Inspections Department. Again,  
7           another step in the right direction.

8                         So the Mayor said somewhere in the  
9           span of two or three weeks they will be  
10          unveiling a credit card program so you'll be  
11          able to pay out with a credit card. I think  
12          the crux of this legislation is to make it  
13          simpler, easier to enforce. And, you know, the  
14          goal of this is not to collect money or  
15          penalize people.

16                        It's to change the behavior and it's  
17          to try to improve the properties around the  
18          City. The thing that I did mention to the  
19          Mayor and to my colleagues in the caucus is I  
20          do hope that in the future the City will be  
21          able to come up with some sort of program so  
22          when a City inspector goes out and identifies  
23          an issue such as high grass and actually finds  
24          out that the person is elderly and cannot do it  
25          and cannot afford it that we would be able to

1 provide them some avenue then to go to an  
2 organization or a charity of some sort to get  
3 the help that they need.

4 I agree with what Mayor Evans is  
5 trying to do here. Instead of just handing  
6 somebody a \$300 fine, let's find out what the  
7 problem is and then let's try to work with the  
8 person to solve it instead of, you know,  
9 driving them away or then they go to the  
10 magistrate and that drags on for a couple  
11 weeks.

12 So again, I want to thank him for  
13 coming and clearing quite a few things up and I  
14 think the Licensing and Inspections Department  
15 is starting to move in the right direction. I  
16 think this legislation is a good first step.  
17 Thank you.

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

20 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

22 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

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

25 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -

1 AN ORDINANCE – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
2 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A  
3 DEED OF EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN THE  
4 CITY OF SCRANTON (“GRANTOR”) AND LACE BUILDING  
5 AFFILIATES, LP (“GRANTEE”) GRANTING TO LACE  
6 AFFILIATES, LP THE EASEMENT, RIGHT OF WAY AND  
7 RIGHTS AS ARE SET FORTH BELOW WITH RESPECT TO  
8 THE PROPERTY, WHICH DEED OF EASEMENT AND RIGHT  
9 OF WAY SHALL BE IN THE FORM AS ATTACHED  
10 HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A”.

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

14 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

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

19 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

21 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

22 MR. PERRY: Aye. The ayes have it  
23 and so moved.

24 MS. REED: 5-E. 5.E FOR  
25 INTRODUCTION – A RESOLUTION – AMENDING

1 RESOLUTION NO. 104, 2 2019 ENTITLED  
2 "AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE  
3 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A  
4 BEAUTIFUL BLOCKS PROGRAM PROPOSAL BY AND  
5 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND NEIGHBORWORKS  
6 NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TO ENCOURAGE GROUPS  
7 OF NEIGHBORS TO IMPROVE THEIR HOMES BY  
8 PROVIDING MATCHING GRANTS FOR EXTERIOR  
9 IMPROVEMENTS" TO INCREASE THE GRANT AMOUNT OF  
10 THE BEAUTIFUL BLOCKS PROPOSAL BY AND BETWEEN  
11 THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND NEIGHBORWORKS  
12 NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA AND AUTHORIZE  
13 DISBURSEMENT OF SUCH FUNDS.

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

17 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

19 MR. PERRY: On the question?

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

21 Again, I have to commend the Mayor and the  
22 Administration for making this move. I think  
23 that this program that actually then Councilman  
24 Evans had proposed and looking at Oswego, New  
25 York who did basically the same thing a few

1           years ago.

2                         This was an innovative out of the  
3 box type of program that finally puts money  
4 back into the neighborhoods. We see so much  
5 over the last few years about putting money  
6 into the downtown and that is so important.

7                         But this is a program that gives  
8 money back to the people who are living in the  
9 neighborhoods. And from all accounts and from  
10 what we heard from the Mayor tonight, this  
11 program has been a huge success. So by  
12 putting now \$185,000 of the remaining rental  
13 registration escrow, this program is only going  
14 to expand. And I can't wait to see what it  
15 looks like in a few years. Thank you.

16                         MR. PERRY: All those in favor of  
17 introduction, signify by saying aye.

18                         MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

19                         MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

20                         ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

21                         MR. PERRY: Aye. Ayes have it and  
22 so moved.

23                         MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION –  
24 A RESOLUTION – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 127,  
25 2019 ENTITLED “AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

1 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER  
2 INTO A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN UGI  
3 UTILITIES, INC., ("UGI") THE CITY OF SCRANTON  
4 ("CITY") AND PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY  
5 COMMISSION ("PUC") TO SETTLE LITIGATION FILED  
6 AGAINST THE CITY AND PUC BY UGI" IN  
7 ORDER TO REMOVE THE PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY  
8 COMMISSION (PUC) FROM THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

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

12 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question? All  
15 those in favor of introduction --

16 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Tim, one minute. I  
17 was waiting for Bill.

18 ATTY. GAUGHAN: No, I'm good now. I  
19 don't have any more.

20 ATTY. DEMPSEY: I came to this ball  
21 game a little late. So I understand that the  
22 solicitor -- assistant solicitor Joe Price,  
23 Jr., came in at an earlier date regarding this  
24 lawsuit. And before I approved a settlement, I  
25 really wanted to make sure I understood what



1 was the genesis of the lawsuit, what happened  
2 during the discovery and deposition process and  
3 why, in fact, it was being settled.

4 And a lot of that is attorney/client  
5 privilege and I can't get into it. I can tell  
6 you with my 28 years of experience that I do,  
7 in fact, think that this is a good case for us  
8 to resolve. Joe Price, Jr., explained to me  
9 very clearly why that was the case.

10 One thing that did catch my eye was  
11 the amount of the \$100,000. But what I was  
12 glad to hear is that there was no outlay of  
13 money by the City for that purpose. Joe was  
14 able to get this done for us over a five year  
15 period of time with only a credit to UGI in the  
16 amount of 20,000 over five years.

17 So basically no outlay of money on  
18 behalf of the City because that did have me  
19 somewhat concerned if that was going to be the  
20 case and also that we were not going to pay any  
21 costs or attorney's fees which again, could be  
22 the case in a lot of litigation.

23 So I was pleased about that. The  
24 other thing that caught my eye that I think is  
25 very favorable going forward and again, you're

1           always interested when you have a legal  
2           resolution how can we prevent this from  
3           happening again is he advised me going forward  
4           we're just going to adopt PennDOT guidelines  
5           relative to pave cuts and other issues and that  
6           also going forward, UGI is going to provide a  
7           designated operations representative for the  
8           City which I think is a great idea.

9                         That could be a contact for all  
10           matters regarding paving and gas services to  
11           Scranton residents and any other UGI project.  
12           This should facilitate better communication  
13           between the parties on any issues going  
14           forward. It's not to say we may not have to  
15           look at other things operationally or in terms  
16           of management.

17                         But I am -- I do understand why we  
18           are settling this. And I want to thank him for  
19           his time that he spent with me because, of  
20           course, I had a lot of questions on it. Thank  
21           you.

22                         MR. PERRY: Anyone else? All those  
23           in favor of introduction signify by saying aye.

24                         MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

25                         MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

1 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

2 MR. PERRY: Aye. Ayes have it and  
3 so moved.

4 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

5 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 70,  
6 2019 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
7 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR  
8 AND EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE  
9 CITY OF SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND, IF  
10 SUCCESSFUL, A GRANT AGREEMENT, AND ACCEPT THE  
11 FUNDS RELATED THERETO THROUGH THE BJA  
12 FY 19 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT  
13 ("JAG") PROGRAM-LOCAL SOLICITATION IN THE  
14 AMOUNT OF \$19,914.00.

15 MR. PERRY: You've heard reading by  
16 title of Item 6-A. What is your pleasure?

17 MR. DONAHUE: I move that Item 6-A  
18 pass reading by title.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

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

22 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Aye.

25 MR. PERRY: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR  
3 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR  
4 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 138, 2019 -  
5 AUTHORIZING RE-APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT KEIPER,  
6 406 ROANOKE LANE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
7 18504, TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. MR.  
8 KEIPER'S EFFECTIVE DATE WILL BE JULY 26, 2019.  
9 MR. KEIPER'S TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH THE TERM OF  
10 MAYOR WAYNE E. EVANS.

11 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for  
12 the Committee On Rules, I recommend final  
13 passage of Item 7-A.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

15 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
16 call, please.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

18 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

20 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

24 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
25 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

1 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION  
2 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
3 RESOLUTION NO. 139, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
4 RE-APPOINTMENT OF RAYMOND J. KELLY, 10 FAWNWOOD  
5 DRIVE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, TO THE  
6 CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. MR. KELLY'S  
7 EFFECTIVE DATE WILL BE JULY 26, 2019. MR.  
8 KELLY'S TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH THE TERM OF MAYOR  
9 WAYNE E. EVANS.

10 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
11 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
12 passage of Item 7-B.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
15 call, please.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

19 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
24 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION

1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
2 RESOLUTION NO. 140, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
3 RE-APPOINTMENT OF JACK LOSCOMBE, 3115 PARALLEL  
4 DRIVE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504,  
5 TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. MR.  
6 LOSCOMBE'S EFFECTIVE DATE WILL BE JULY 26,  
7 2019. MR. LOSCOMBE'S TERM WILL EXPIRE WITH THE  
8 TERM OF MAYOR WAYNE E. EVANS.

9 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for  
10 the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
11 passage of Item 7-C.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

13 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
14 call, please.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

18 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

22 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
23 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 141, 2019 – AUTHORIZING  
2 RE-APPOINTMENT OF DONALD WALSH, 1006 DERBY  
3 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18505, AS A  
4 MEMBER OF THE HOUSING APPEALS REVIEW BOARD FOR  
5 AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE  
6 AUGUST 13, 2019. MR. WALSH'S PRIOR TERM  
7 EXPIRED ON NOVEMBER 24, 2018 AND WAS HELD OVER  
8 UNTIL AUGUST 13, 2019. HIS NEW TERM WILL  
9 EXPIRE ON NOVEMBER 24, 2023.

10 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
11 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
12 passage of Item 7-D.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
15 call, please.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

19 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
24 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION

1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
2 RESOLUTION NO. 142, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
3 RE-APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL SALERNO, 1200 BRYN  
4 MAWR STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
5 18504, AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON PARKING  
6 AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM.  
7 MR. SALERNO'S CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON JUNE 1,  
8 2019 AND WAS HELD OVER TO JULY 31, 2019.  
9 HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON JUNE 1, 2024.

10 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
11 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
12 passage of Item 7-E.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
15 call, please.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

19 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
24 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MS. REED: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION



1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
2 RESOLUTION NO. 143, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
3 RE-APPOINTMENT OF PAUL DEANTONA, 333 NORTH  
4 SUMNER AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
5 18504, AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL  
6 RECREATION AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5)  
7 YEAR TERM. MR. DEANTONA'S PRIOR TERM EXPIRED ON  
8 JUNE 17, 2019, AND WAS HELD OVER UNTIL  
9 JULY 31, 2019. HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON  
10 JUNE 17, 2024.

11 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for  
12 the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
13 passage of Item 7-F.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

15 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
16 call, please.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

18 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

20 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

24 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
25 Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted.

1 MS. REED: 7-G. 7.G FOR  
2 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR  
3 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 144, 2019 -  
4 AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF KAREN BAZZARRI, 102  
5 SHORT LANE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 TO  
6 SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC  
7 LIBRARY AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2019. MS.  
8 BAZZARRI IS BEING APPOINTED TO A FOUR (4) YEAR  
9 TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 30, 2023.

10 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for  
11 the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
12 passage of Item 7-G.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
15 call, please.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

19 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
24 Item 7-G legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MS. REED: 7-H. FOR CONSIDERATION

1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
2 RESOLUTION NO. 145, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
3 APPOINTMENT OF JOHN COWDER, 1614 NORTH WEBSTER  
4 AVENUE, DUNMORE, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509  
5 TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC  
6 LIBRARY AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2019. MR.  
7 COWDER IS BEING APPOINTED TO A FIVE (5) YEAR  
8 TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 30, 2024.

9 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
10 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
11 passage of Item 7-H.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

13 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
14 call, please.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

18 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

22 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
23 Item 7-H legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. REED: 7-I. FOR CONSIDERATION BY  
25 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 147, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
2 APPOINTMENT OF JAMIE HAILSTONE, ESQUIRE, 1201  
3 OLIVE STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,  
4 18510 TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON  
5 PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13,  
6 2019. ATTORNEY HAILSTONE IS BEING APPOINTED TO  
7 A FOUR (4) YEAR TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON  
8 AUGUST 13, 2023.

9 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
10 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
11 passage of Item 7-I.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

13 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
14 call, please.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

18 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

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

24 MS. REED: 7-J. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 148, 2019 – AUTHORIZING  
2 APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN LENAHAAN, ESQUIRE, 101  
3 STONEGATE DRIVE, WAVERLY, PENNSYLVANIA,  
4 18471 TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON  
5 PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JULY 30,  
6 2019. ATTORNEY LENAHAAN IS BEING APPOINTED TO A  
7 FOUR (4) YEAR TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JULY  
8 30, 2023.

9 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
10 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
11 passage of Item 7-J.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

13 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
14 call, please.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

18 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

22 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
23 Item 7-J legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. REED: 7-K. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 149, 2019 - AUTHORIZING  
2 APPOINTMENT OF BETSEY MOYLAN, 1502 PITTSTON  
3 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 TO  
4 SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC  
5 LIBRARY AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2019. MS.  
6 MOYLAN IS BEING APPOINTED TO A TWO (2) YEAR  
7 TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 30, 2021.

8 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
9 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
10 passage of Item 7-K.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

12 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
13 call, please.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

15 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

17 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

21 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
22 Item 7-K legally and lawfully adopted.

23 MS. REED: 7-L. FOR CONSIDERATION  
24 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
25 RESOLUTION NO. 150, 2019 - AUTHORIZING

1 APPOINTMENT OF EVIE RAFALKO-MCNULTY, 625 MOLTKE  
2 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 TO SERVE  
3 AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
4 AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2019. MS.  
5 RAFALKO-MCNULTY IS BEING APPOINTED TO A FIVE  
6 (5) YEAR TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 30,  
7 2024.

8 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
9 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
10 passage of Item 7-L.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

12 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
13 call, please.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

15 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

17 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

21 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
22 Item 7-L legally and lawfully adopted.

23 MS. REED: 7-M. FOR CONSIDERATION  
24 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
25 RESOLUTION NO. 151, 2019 - AUTHORIZING

1 APPOINTMENT OF ANNE SALERNO, 1200 BRYN MAWR  
2 STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504  
3 TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC  
4 LIBRARY AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2019. MS.  
5 SALERNO IS BEING APPOINTED TO A FOUR (4) YEAR  
6 TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 30, 2023.

7 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
8 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
9 passage of Item 7-M.

10 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

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

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

14 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

16 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

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

22 MS. REED: 7-N. FOR CONSIDERATION  
23 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -  
24 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 152, 2019 -  
25 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE



1 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO  
2 A COOPERATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE  
3 LACKAWANNA COUNTY LAND BANK AND THE CITY OF  
4 SCRANTON FOR THE DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN LAND  
5 BANK OWNED BLIGHTED AND/OR CONDEMNED  
6 PROPERTIES.

7 MR. PERRY: What is the  
8 recommendation of the Chairperson for the  
9 Committee on Community Development?

10 MR. DONAHUE: As Chairperson for the  
11 Committee on Community Development I recommend  
12 final passage of Item 7-N.

13 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
14 call, please.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

18 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

22 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
23 Item 7-N legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. REED: 7-0. FOR CONSIDERATION  
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 153, 2019 – AUTHORIZING  
2 APPOINTMENT OF AMANDA C. LARA, MS, 223 PROSPECT  
3 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505,  
4 AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION,  
5 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 23, 2019. MS. LARA WILL BE  
6 REPLACING HAL DONOHUE WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON  
7 SEPTEMBER 4, 2018. MS. LARA’S TERM WILL BE  
8 EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND EXPIRE ON AUGUST 23,  
9 2022.

10 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
11 on the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
12 passage of Item 7-0.

13 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

14 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
15 call, please.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

19 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

23 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
24 Item 7-0 legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MS. REED: 7-P previously tabled.

1 7-Q. FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
2 RULES - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 155,  
3 2019 - APPOINTMENT OF ANDREW HELLER, 801  
4 STAFFORD AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505  
5 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS FOR A TWO  
6 (2) YEAR TERM, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 29, 2019. HIS  
7 TERM WILL EXPIRE ON AUGUST 31, 2021.

8 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
9 on the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
10 passage of Item 7-Q.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

12 MR. PERRY: On the question?

13 MR. DONAHUE: Yes, on the question.  
14 By finally appointing a majority of this Ethics  
15 Board, this is the last step to finally  
16 implement a process that sets a high bar for  
17 ethical conduct for not only City employees but  
18 also for City elected officials.

19 Corruption and pay to play politics  
20 have held this City back for far too long and  
21 is long overdue to finally begin to change that  
22 negative perception of this great City which is  
23 why I wouldn't couldn't agree more with a  
24 letter to the Editor in yesterday's Sunday  
25 Times from Sondra Myers that stated and I

1 quote, Citizens need to know that we must act  
2 robustly to get rid of corruption and earn the  
3 right to lose our bad reputation.

4 Let's go for that anticorruption  
5 brand and more important an anticorruption  
6 mindset and activism, end quote.

7 Anticorruption as well as  
8 transparent and open government must be the  
9 mindset that is instilled in each and every  
10 employee and elected official in City  
11 government.

12 Being able to work on behalf of  
13 residents of this City is a privilege that  
14 should be treated as a public service not as a  
15 self-service. This Ethics Code does exactly  
16 that. The campaign finance limited Ethics Code  
17 drastically limits the ability of any current  
18 or future elected officials in this City from  
19 engaging in pay to play schemes.

20 Gone are the days of an individual  
21 being able to donate over \$40,000 over the  
22 course of four years to one candidate because  
23 no one donates that much to one candidate  
24 without expecting something in return.

25 So I just want to close by I want to

1 wish each and every one of the following  
2 appointees the best of luck in this important  
3 endeavor and also to thank them for their  
4 willingness to serve in this extremely  
5 important capacity.

6 MR. PERRY: Roll call, please.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

8 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

10 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

14 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
15 Item 7-Q legally and lawfully adopted.

16 MS. REED: 7-R. FOR CONSIDERATION  
17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
18 RESOLUTION NO. 156, 2019 - APPOINTMENT OF BRUCE  
19 REDDOCK, 101 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
20 PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS A MEMBER OF THE  
21 BOARD OF ETHICS FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM,  
22 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 29, 2019. HIS TERM WILL  
23 EXPIRE ON AUGUST 31, 2021.

24 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
25 on the Committee on Rules I recommend final

1 passage of Item 7-R.

2 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

3 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
4 call, please.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

6 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

8 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

12 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
13 Item 7-R legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. REED: 7-S. FOR CONSIDERATION  
15 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
16 RESOLUTION NO. 157, 2019 - APPOINTMENT OF JOAN  
17 HODOWANITZ, 101 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON,  
18 PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS A MEMBER OF THE  
19 BOARD OF ETHICS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM,  
20 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 29, 2019. HER TERM WILL  
21 EXPIRE ON AUGUST 31, 2022.

22 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chair for  
23 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final  
24 passage of Item 7-S.

25 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

1 MR. PERRY: On the question? Roll  
2 call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

6 ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

10 MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
11 Item 7-S legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MS. REED: 7-T. FOR CONSIDERATION  
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -  
14 RESOLUTION NO. 158, 2019 - APPOINTMENT OF MARY  
15 JO SHERIDAN, 1213 SCHLAGER STREET, SCRANTON,  
16 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF  
17 ETHICS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM, EFFECTIVE  
18 AUGUST 29, 2019. HER TERM WILL EXPIRE ON  
19 AUGUST 31, 2022.

20 MR. PERRY: As temporary Chairperson  
21 for the Committee on Rules I recommend final  
22 passage of Item 7-T.

23 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

24 MR. PERRY: On the question? Just  
25 simply on the question, I just want to send my

1           thanks to everybody here that was -- there was  
2           quite a long list of people that are stepping  
3           up to do their civic duty and filing boards  
4           that needed to be filled. And some spots have  
5           been vacant for a long time.

6                     A lot of that thanks also has to go  
7           to Mayor Evans and the new Administration for  
8           filling those voids. So as you could see, a  
9           lot of things are being done. And I want to  
10          thank people for stepping up and taking care of  
11          it. You know, not too long ago we were in some  
12          darker times.

13                    And as you could tell by some of the  
14          things that we've been moving the last couple  
15          weeks, the City hasn't stopped. It continues  
16          to move and progress and even get better. So  
17          thank you to everybody involved for making that  
18          that happen. Roll call, please.

19                    MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

20                    MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

21                    MS. CARRERA: Attorney Dempsey.

22                    ATTY. DEMPSEY: Yes.

23                    MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

24                    MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

25                    MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.



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MR. PERRY: Yes. I hereby declare  
Item 7-T legally and lawfully adopted. And if  
there is no further business, I'll entertain a  
motion to adjourn.

MR. DONAHUE: Motion to adjourn.

MR. PERRY: This meeting's  
adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

1  
2  
3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
5 notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy  
6 is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my  
7 ability.

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10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 Maria McCool, RPR  
12 Official Court Reporter  
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22 (The foregoing certificate of this transcript does not  
23 apply to any reproduction of the same by any means  
24 unless under the direct control and/or supervision of  
25 the certifying reporter.)