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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, July 2, 2014

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:

ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN LOSCOMBE
(Not present)

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

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. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe. Mr.
9 Gaughan.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

13 Dispense with the reading of the
14 minutes.

15 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

16 MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON POLICE PENSION
17 COMMISSION MEETING HELD MAY 28, 2014.

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

20 MS. REED: 3-B. THE 2013 COMBINED
21 AUDIT REPORT FOR THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA
22 HEALTH AND WELFARE AUTHORITY RECEIVED ON
23 JUNE 25, 2014.

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

1 MS. REED: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
2 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD ON JUNE 18,
3 2014.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
5 If not, received and filed.

6 MS. REED: 3-D. SINGLE TAX OFFICE
7 CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON REPORT FOR
8 JUNE 2013-2014.

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

11 Any clerk's notes?

12 MS. REED: Nothing, Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Anything
14 from council members? I would just say just
15 a reminder of the Fourth of July celebration
16 on the Fourth at 10:30 at Nay Aug Pool.
17 Again, a very nice event and hopefully it
18 will be well attended.

19 Also, I believe tomorrow evening the
20 Philharmonic is appearing at courthouse
21 square, I'm not sure of the start time on
22 that, but every year a great event to begin
23 the Fourth of July weekend.

24 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
25 PARTICIPATION.

1 MR. MCGOFF: JOAN Hodowanitz.

2 MS. HODOWANITZ: Good evening,
3 Council. Joan Hodowanitz, city resident.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

5 MS. HODOWANITZ: I just want to say
6 that I was happy to see that presentation
7 made tonight, whether you agree with
8 Mr. Amoroso's proposals or not, at least we
9 have something in hand that we can discuss
10 and move on down the road with resolving the
11 city's financial problems. I'm sure a lot
12 of people have questions and concerns, but
13 at least we in not in limbo, and I think
14 that's a major accomplishment just getting
15 past that point.

16 And I'm also happy to see that the
17 city is going to place the slides and the
18 accompanying report on the website by
19 tomorrow at noon, so that's wonderful. We
20 can get to look at in great detail again.

21 I managed to get a copy of the
22 Composite Pension Board minutes from the
23 meeting that was dated May 28, I couldn't do
24 it last week because the copier was down,
25 because I had a question on one of the

1 paragraphs in the report. This is going to
2 be page two, you probably have all seen this
3 report, and I am just going to read it. I
4 thought I could read and write English, but
5 this paragraph loses me so I'll just read it
6 as it's written. In bold print it says,
7 John O'Shea. John O'Shea apparently is the
8 president of the board and represents the
9 police. John O'Shea... and then in normal
10 print, "Stephanie Eberhart, she handles
11 Mellon's checks not for the pension. I
12 contacted her awhile back because heard
13 Mellon was making out the checks for the
14 award in 1998 that the police got an extra
15 10 percent in their pension, it comes out of
16 the general fund. How they've got any
17 doesn't know. He thinks they got a check
18 back either they got it back or we didn't or
19 we are paying it out of the pension fund.
20 It should be paid from the city's coffers
21 because it was contractual issue. He
22 thought it was straightened out but he just
23 noticed it now."

24 I do not understand that paragraph.
25 Can somebody translate it into English for

1 me?

2 MR. MCGOFF: I can't.

3 MS. HODOWANITZ: The reason I
4 mentioned it is we have had -- we have a
5 history of problems with accounting in the
6 city and sometimes there is significant
7 problems, like thinking Mr. Boscov owed us
8 money from 1998, which he didn't. Be that
9 as it may, I'm wondering has there been a
10 June Composite Board meeting and have these
11 minutes been approved? Because normally,
12 you know, these meetings start out, you
13 know, oh, let's skip the reading of the
14 minutes, you know, we'll accept them as they
15 stand and apparently that's how this meeting
16 went from the prior one. Opening the
17 meeting before the minutes of the previous
18 meeting, looking for a motion to accept or
19 deny, motion to accept. You know, and then
20 there is people go on and this is a red
21 flag. A red flag in the sense we don't know
22 what is being talked about here. It
23 obviously money, because it references a
24 check, you know. It involves a pension and
25 the city coffers and, you know, I would --

1 if I could find out when the next Pension
2 Board meeting or the Composite Pension Board
3 meeting is I would very much like to go and
4 ask the board members what are you talking
5 about?

6 Also, I think when the board
7 prepares minutes they need to be prepared
8 with some attention to detail that they are
9 legible, okay? I can't believe that -- this
10 was put out a meeting.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Let me just, Mrs. Reed,
12 when is the Composite Pension Board meeting?

13 MS. REED: It's held on the fourth
14 Wednesday of the month at 11 a.m. here in
15 council chambers.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Fourth Wednesday of
17 every month.

18 MS. HODOWANITZ: I'll be here with
19 bells on my toes and a ring in my nose,
20 okay? But this kind of language is just
21 unacceptable. This is an important document
22 and if this is the way we treat these things
23 no wonder we are all confused and chasing
24 our tails, you know? My goodness. You
25 know, I mean is this stream of consciousness

1 writing from municipal employees?

2 MR. MCGOFF: Hopefully it's
3 consciousness.

4 MS. HODOWANITZ: At any rate, I will
5 be there and try to find out what's going
6 on, but it's little things like this and we
7 just move on down the road like it's
8 unimportant and it's important. It may
9 nothing, it may be a red flag. Thank you.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Ozzie
11 Quinn.

12 MR. QUINN: Thank you. Good
13 evening. Ozzie Quinn, Hill Neighborhood
14 Association president. This Monday I must
15 have interviewed without a doubt over 200
16 families that are trying to swim free at the
17 Nay Aug Park. As you know, there is a fee
18 charged there by the Scranton Municipal
19 Recreation Authority, and those people are
20 angry. There is no doubt about it, okay?
21 And one of the things that they are angry
22 about is that if they go into the pool area
23 with their six year old to watch the little
24 boy or girl swim they are charged \$5, you
25 know, even if they wear their street clothes

1 and don't go near the water. I mean, that's
2 pathetic. That's really pathetic.

3 And I have the deed for Nay Aug Park
4 right here, and I'm not taking it out of
5 context, okay, but I want to say, okay, I am
6 going to read this here, "And assigns
7 through the only proper use on behalf of the
8 said party, of the second party and it's
9 successors and assigns forever as and for a
10 free public open park forever and for no
11 other use intent or purpose whatsoever."

12 How did this Recreation Authority
13 get in there? Now they are in there and
14 they are charging fees and in 2004 they are
15 stopping all of those poor kids from
16 swimming up there at Nay Aug. Well, this
17 year they are not stopping them because they
18 are getting free passes and they are going
19 to up there every day and are going to swim,
20 you know, and that's started yesterday.

21 Now, I just want to say one thing,
22 how did they get there these authorities?
23 They had to have that power. They are not
24 elected officials. The Zoning Board, how
25 did it get to power to let a variance go

1 through three weeks ago tonight on a dogleg
2 in a nice neighborhood where people have
3 invested in their homes for 20, 40, 60 years
4 and they have let a variance go through for
5 18 parking spaces. How does that happen?
6 How does that happen? Because of the fact
7 it's corruption. Now, corruption isn't
8 going to jail, corruption in the form of bad
9 government is the worst thing that can
10 happen.

11 And you know what, gentlemen, you
12 people are responsible and previous councils
13 are responsible because of the fact that you
14 approved every person that's put on a board.
15 You rubber stamp it. You don't look at
16 credentials. You do not look he
17 credentials. You have a people on that
18 zoning board that should even be in the
19 room. It's terrible. You have a people
20 that make decisions for the taxpayers in the
21 City of Scranton against people swimming at
22 Nay Aug Park when the deed prohibits it.
23 You know why? Because they are able to
24 circumvent it someplace and the council
25 approves it. You got to stop rubber

1 stamping these appointments. You got to
2 start looking at their background and see if
3 they have any type of credentials. It's
4 ashamed. It's a terrible shame that this is
5 happening and it's been going on for a long
6 time and I think the council now could put a
7 stop to it.

8 I just wanted to say one other thing
9 is the fact that when leave this podium,
10 when I speak at this podium if you have to
11 address me, address me, okay? I'll try to
12 answer a question. But when I sit in that
13 seat, okay, and when motions come and
14 somebody makes a remark what I said it's
15 totally wrong because I can't rebut that
16 remark and this has been happening. Every
17 time someone speaks at this podium they sit
18 down and nobody says anything on the council
19 but as soon as motions come and they say, so
20 and so, yeah, I think that guy is crazy, you
21 know, and all of this and you are out of
22 order and all of this stuff.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Actually, Mr. Quinn --

24 MR. QUINN: A person cannot rebut
25 it.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Actually, Mr. Quinn,
2 the Rules of Council you should not
3 interrupt you unless you ask us a question.

4 MR. QUINN: The Rules of Council,
5 you have many, many times discussed issues
6 with -- and I'm not going to get into a
7 debate with you, okay? You have discussed
8 this many times with people since the Year
9 1800 people have discussed this matter,
10 okay, back and forth, communication. It's
11 cowardly when somebody sits down there and
12 you make a remark against them.

13 MR. MCGOFF: No, it's not.

14 MR. QUINN: Some of them are
15 derogatory. Now, I want you people to go up
16 there to the Hill section and look at that
17 site which they approved that variance,
18 please.

19 MR. MCGOFF: I have been there.

20 MR. QUINN: And do you agree -- do
21 you agree with that parking situation there?
22 The cars coming out of that dogleg?

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

24 MR. QUINN: You do?

25 MR. MCGOFF: I think that's what the

1 original intent of that space was.

2 MR. QUINN: That was a house in
3 there. That was a house in that empty lot
4 where the parking cars are. You didn't even
5 look at it.

6 MR. MCGOFF: I'm up there every day.

7 MR. QUINN: You are saying that it
8 wasn't original intent.

9 MR. MCGOFF: It seemed to be.

10 MR. QUINN: There was a house there
11 until last year. Are you serious? Where
12 are you going to park now? See, you have no
13 idea what's going on.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Dave
15 Dobrzyn.

16 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Dave
17 Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, all taxes and
18 fees paid. Appreciate those with the money
19 to do the same.

20 Last week I felt I was a little
21 stern, and certainly you people are caught
22 in a whirlwind, Act 47 EMT tax, once again,
23 that's 1 percent, with a \$15,000 a year
24 income it's 33 hundredths of a percent, of
25 \$50,000 it's five -- a half a percent of

1 30,000 and it's a 168 thousandths of a
2 percent at 90,000. It's not a winning
3 situation for us. It's not revenue neutral
4 and there is winner and losers. The income
5 tax will go up to in the state to 4.5
6 percent under Act 76 and 7 percent sales tax
7 on things that you never, ever have paid tax
8 on before.

9 Now, getting back to the Parking
10 Authority, that's in the library the night
11 that the Parking Authority testified and 90
12 percent of the problem wasn't
13 Mr. Scopelliti, it was building one garage
14 after one another and then handing them out
15 for free. Handing spaces out for free.
16 Andy was up here, Andy Sbaraglia that back
17 then and he stated that there were giving
18 away \$275,000 worth of free parking a year
19 to the Hilton and then we built the other
20 one and Molly Brantigan's and that one on
21 the 100 of south -- or North Washington
22 Avenue next to the renovated building down
23 there, the Connell building, that parking
24 garage that was in there was totally
25 sufficient. There was hardly a crack in the

1 concrete. I remember they threatened to
2 arrest somebody if they went up there again,
3 the person that said that.

4 And now I didn't have a chance to
5 watch Mr. Amoroso's full -- I'm responsible
6 for feeding the troops and, believe me, they
7 need to be fed, if I don't feed them I'm in
8 trouble so the Sewer Authority, I talked to
9 a river activist and consultant the other
10 day, I'm sure you all know him, I'll tell
11 you his name if you ask me outside of here,
12 but he said it would be wiser to sell the
13 first born of each household into slavery
14 than to liquidate the sewage treatment
15 plant. And that stands true. You will pay
16 double, you will pay a 1,000 a year just for
17 sewer instead of the 450 or 500.

18 Now, last week I was standing out
19 talking to a fireman and one of the people
20 that work with ECTV and a big huge pickup
21 truck sped by, probably 50 miles per hour,
22 and then our solicitor I waived to him on
23 the corner and another one went ripped by
24 going east on Mulberry Street and right up
25 through the University at least 45, 50,

1 miles an hour and he didn't hit any red
2 lights so he just kept going at that speed
3 and I think we can make a lots of money on
4 those speeders because it doesn't matter
5 what you are doing, I mean, you might as
6 well take a gun and shoot at people if you
7 are going to drive like that.

8 And once again, I'd really
9 appreciate if I could get an answer on
10 Steamtown endorsement before the end of the
11 summer here or the recess. It really would
12 be nice if you sent a letter endorsing them,
13 but I was on a trip last week and they are
14 about 60 percent. So, you know, that diesel
15 as opposed to steam really kind of hurts the
16 situation.

17 And on the mall loan, it would be
18 lovely to find out whether or not the loan
19 that Boscov gave was given to when the state
20 was involved as a subordinate loan that
21 might never be collected once again.

22 On collections of these trash fees
23 and stuff, I think there is sufficient room
24 and there might even be a apartment house,
25 Mr. Hickey the one solicitor mentioned that,

1 there even may be apartment houses where
2 three on four units are paying one trash
3 fee, so it's imperative that we get on this
4 and dig it out because I can't keep
5 affording to pay for everybody else.

6 And once again, on the 33 percent,
7 I'll just be a minute, tax exempt property,
8 sue the state, please, in Federal Court
9 because this is unjust. We can't keep
10 paying for everybody else. If you took that
11 money that would have come in and added it
12 up even if you just kept it at a housing
13 tax, you would have a low bill. Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Ron Ellman.

15 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Hello.

17 MR. ELLMAN: You thought you'd
18 switch days and I'd forget to come, didn't
19 you? See, I know what you are up to.

20 MR. MCGOFF: I'm trying to confuse
21 you.

22 MR. ELLMAN: Oh, well, you know, I
23 know some of you, this room used to be half
24 full anyway of people. It seems like people
25 have lost faith in the council and our

1 representatives in Harrisburg. It's like I
2 said last week, I support council, I know
3 you're our only resource that we can -- that
4 the taxpayers have. You know, every time I
5 read about Senator Blake and I have talked
6 to him outside, I like him, but he seems
7 like he turns things around where the
8 taxpayers are all the bad guys and Al Boscov
9 and downtown and the Universities are the
10 victims.

11 This city has been borrowing money
12 for 75 years to make payroll. That seems
13 like what was going to be looking forward to
14 your children and your grandchildren are
15 going to inherit. It's just getting worse
16 and worse. We don't get nothing for our tax
17 dollars except some good policing and fire
18 department. And the sanitation department
19 I'm happy with, they come and do their job
20 and leave.

21 You know, maybe if -- like I said,
22 I'm not picking on Mr. Blake, but maybe if
23 he was surrounded with four or five of these
24 crime ridden projects he might feel a little
25 differently about things in general. Maybe

1 if his house taxes were doubled like most of
2 ours he might feel different. He needs to
3 come down from that ivory tower onto the
4 streets where people are and see how things
5 they are not like he is thinking. You know,
6 like I said, he is more worried about
7 downtown. There has money never been spent
8 on neighborhoods all over town. Downtown
9 has had its chance. It's over with. You
10 know, it's not that I wish it, it just -- I
11 was at Boscov's last weekend it's just the
12 place is just deserted. I don't know why,
13 you know.

14 I think our politicians have
15 forgotten who put them in those seats. You
16 know, July 1, you know, thousands of people
17 Corbett took away thousands of people's
18 medical? There is people lining their
19 pockets with oil money, and they have taken
20 away thousands of I guess it's the Access
21 card, I'm not really sure, but their dental
22 bills and everything are off, they are gone.

23 You know, I believe that we have
24 just infested Harrisburg with a bunch of;
25 floor flushing windbags, not all them, but

1 there is just a bunch of them that have
2 forgotten about the people of this state,
3 city and county. Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.
5 Anyone else who wishes to address council?

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
7 council. Marie Schumacher.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Good evening.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: I have to start
10 tonight by thanking the A team of the DPW, I
11 have been blessed, I guess you would say,
12 with three storm drains on my -- adjoining
13 my property and one of them was sinking,
14 shall we say, and then developed a big hole
15 and somebody must have reported it because a
16 couple of days ago a horse appeared on it
17 and then yesterday they arrived and found
18 that it was only supported on three sides.
19 This was part of the East Mountain Road
20 project and they had to dig it out and they
21 had to put the fourth side so it would be
22 properly supported. They poured the
23 concrete yesterday, came back today and
24 finished the job other than the setting of
25 the asphalt. They did a fantastic job, they

1 cleaned up and I salute them.

2 But, there is a but, not anything to
3 do with the DPW's A-team, but the fact that
4 job wasn't done correctly first. I don't
5 know why we continue to pay people the
6 second time when I don't know how we write
7 our contracts, that should have still been --
8 I mean, that's not even ten years old, it
9 was done improperly, it should have been
10 done by the contractor for free. The same
11 thing with the police headquarters, those
12 sidewalks down at the police headquarters
13 started crumbling very earlier on. It's
14 2005, that's not even ten years. Should
15 have gone back to the contractor and said,
16 "Do the job correctly."

17 And we've got to start watching
18 that. We are wasting a lot of money doing
19 things over the second time.

20 Second on tonight's Seventh Order,
21 do we have the definition for what
22 educational parking is?

23 MR. MCGOFF: I do.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: And whether the
25 annual license fee is \$1? Instead of being

1 a \$1 Per space is a flat fee of 50 whether
2 you have five parking spaces or 500?

3 MR. MCGOFF: I'll answer the first
4 one. Educational parking is an expansion on
5 student parking and educational parking
6 applies to students, faculty, staff who park
7 at educational institutions.

8 MS. SCHUMACHER: Even if they pay?
9 Even if they are charged? Then I'm against
10 it. Okay. If that's not specified, if it's
11 provided for free, okay, if they are I'm
12 against it. And then the second one?

13 MR. MCGOFF: To my knowledge, was it
14 a \$1 per space?

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Being changed from
16 a \$1 a space to a flat \$50 fee.

17 MR. MCGOFF: I thought it was up to
18 \$50 fee.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: That's not what it
20 says here. It says, "Annual license and fee
21 of \$1 per space to a flat fee of \$50 per
22 year."

23 So, again, maybe you could hold that
24 one for another week because I don't think
25 that's too far either.

1 I do have comments on 5-D, but there
2 is time next week and 7-D I spoke my peace
3 last week, I don't think we need to go
4 backwards on that park.

5 And then Mr. Gaughan, did you and
6 Pat Rogan work out who is going to respond
7 to the questions that I asked last week and
8 I sent copies before I went to bed last
9 Thursday night --

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Since that's --

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- my question.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, that's
13 Mr. Rogan's committee, so I don't know if he
14 got those questions.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Do you have the
16 answers tonight that you will be sharing?

17 MR. ROGAN: I didn't receive an
18 e-mail. I do have an answer for the one
19 from two weeks previous regarding the park,
20 but I didn't receive an e-mail. And my
21 e-mail is not the city e-mail it's --

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: It didn't kick back
23 -- well, then you need to provide it -- -

24 MR. ROGAN: It's on the city's
25 website.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, that's what I
2 sent it to, the city.

3 MR. ROGAN: No, but it's
4 Patrogan1@gmail.com. My city e-mail was
5 filled with spam so I switched to this about
6 a year ago to Gmail.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Is it case
8 sensitive? Is it Pat Rogan--

9 MR. ROGAN: PatRogan1 --

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Number sign one or
11 just one?

12 MR. ROGAN: -- one @gmail.com.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'll resend it, but
14 essentially what I have asked for is of the
15 roughly \$1.7 million that we had loaned out
16 in the loans that were in litigation when
17 you gave the report back in I believe it was
18 March of last year how of that has been
19 collected, how much has been written off and
20 then how much of the category of currently
21 -- current on their loans as of March last
22 year what is the status of those? Are they
23 all current, have any defaulted?

24 MR. ROGAN: Sure, if you could --

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: So I would

1 definitely like that next week.

2 MR. ROGAN: If you could e-mail that
3 to me I'll give that Ms. Aebli. And on the
4 other question that I wasn't here last week
5 regarding the park, I know you asked about
6 regarding the park in the 500 of Lackawanna,
7 in June -- I'm sorry, in March of 2014 the
8 finding of facts and decisions was issued
9 Board of Claims, and I think that was
10 reported in the paper. Following that
11 point, on June 2 Sardoni Construction
12 appealed the decision and PennDOT filed a
13 petition for review on April 14, so it looks
14 like litigation will take place.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Of this year?

16 MR. ROGAN: Of '14.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and then just
18 one more quick, it will be a yes or no, has
19 the IT software that the state was buying
20 for us been installed and is it being
21 utilized, and if not when will it be?
22 Anybody know that?

23 MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry?

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: The IT software
25 that the state was buying for us has that

1 been installed and is it operational or is
2 it yet to come and if it's yet to come when
3 will it be operational?

4 MR. MCGOFF: I thought that they
5 were in process of replacing the computers
6 at police station, that they were upgrading
7 here. I'm not sure what stage that is, to
8 honest.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: No, this is just
10 software for the operations of the city.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Right.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: That the state was
13 buying for us.

14 MR. MCGOFF: It was all kind of the
15 same plan so I'm not sure at what stage they
16 are at.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Maybe you
18 could get that for me next week. Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else who cares
20 to address council?

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

22 MOTIONS.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler?

24 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,
25 Mr. McGoff. Tonight we had quite a lengthy

1 presentation by Mr. Amoroso concerning the
2 state of the city financially. I was
3 pleased with the fact that the entire
4 administration was here, including cabinet
5 members. The city, as was discussed, is
6 going to put as much as they can information
7 on the website. What I would suggest though
8 at this time is as we move forward for such
9 an important decision I would like to see if
10 he could make some arrangements for some
11 type of town meeting and that we could get
12 everyone's input on this information and it
13 would be more or less just for an opinion
14 session, some people may have some different
15 ideas.

16 As stated before, I have said this a
17 few times, this is the last chance that the
18 City of Scranton has to get its financial
19 house in order and move forward. If we
20 aren't successful in getting our act
21 together then it's -- our future as a city
22 is in doubt, so I would like to get as much
23 input at possible from the citizens of the
24 city, as much input at possible from other
25 stakeholders. Part of the presentation was

1 putting a small burden on our non-residents,
2 I'd like to get input from them so I'd like
3 to see as the summer progresses perhaps we
4 can put together some type of a town meeting
5 or hearing.

6 On Monday night I attended along
7 with Mr. Gaughan and Mr. McGoff we attended
8 the neighborhood summit meeting, which once
9 again was well attended by all
10 representatives of the administration. Each
11 of the department heads gave reports on what
12 they are doing in terms of helping the city
13 and there's a lot of progress being made in
14 terms of improvements in each department of
15 the city, and it was a very well attended
16 and the offering was -- a lot of good
17 offering were made.

18 I'd also like to thank the La Festa
19 Committee for their commitment that they
20 have made to the city in refurbishing the
21 Electric City sign. It shows that people
22 are interested in helping our community, and
23 in addition to that today we just found out
24 that Allied Services has committed \$10,000
25 for free swimming in the city.

1 Mr. Quinn, I know you are there, I
2 will not answer comments during the comment
3 section.

4 MR. QUINN: Here we go again.

5 MR. WECHSLER: That comment section
6 is reserved for you to speak. My comments
7 are reserved to this portion of the meeting.

8 In terms of what you spoke of
9 tonight, many of the appointments made to
10 authorities are made by the mayor and ours
11 is purely an exception, and you should be
12 aware of that because you served on the
13 board. You were an appointment to the
14 planning commission for many year. You
15 served in that capacity.

16 MR. QUINN: Why didn't you say that
17 when I was up there? Why didn't you say
18 that when I was up there.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Quinn, you are out
20 of order.

21 MR. QUINN: He is out of order.

22 MR. MCGOFF: No, he is not.

23 MR. WECHSLER: And in terms of what
24 the council does, we started this in January
25 before any appointment is made the council

1 receives a resume from the applicant and we
2 do not go forward until we receive that
3 resume, so we are doing our homework in
4 terms of checking into people and what their
5 commitment is to the city. Thank you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

7 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. I'll also
8 address that issue, and this is for any
9 speaker, if they would like an answer during
10 their comment time I'd be happy to answer
11 during that period of time or if they would
12 like, you know, wait until motions I would
13 wait until motions. It doesn't matter to me
14 when I give a response. I know a lot of
15 speakers don't like a response during the
16 comment period because the time is limited.

17 Also, regarding appointments, I have
18 never voted for an appointment that hasn't
19 provided a resume to city council. This is
20 a practice that started under the previous
21 city council, it's a practice that we
22 continued to employ, I'm sure there is at
23 least a dozen that I voted against, even
24 people that I knew and liked just because
25 they wouldn't pay the courtesy to city

1 council to send us a resume and a letter of
2 the interest, so that's how I feel regarding
3 appointments.

4 Back to the hot topic of the night
5 the report that was presented to us, I'm
6 very happy to see that a lot of other items
7 were put in there besides the tax side.
8 Obviously, the real estate tax increase and
9 the possibility of a commuter tax are items
10 that we are all going to have to think long
11 and hard about.

12 The other items, on the other hand,
13 I think are much more cut and dry and they
14 are issues that could have been tackled a
15 long time ago, the sale of the parking
16 garages. The city is hemorrhaging money on
17 these garages each and every year and there
18 is no reason for the city to keep throwing
19 good money after bad with these garages. By
20 selling them I believe Mr. Amoroso had in
21 his report a \$20 million price tag. By
22 earning that \$20 million it's actually 40
23 for the city because using that money to
24 accelerate our debt repayment we are
25 saving -- we are pretty much saving a dollar

1 of interest for every dollar of principal
2 that's paid down. That's a fiscally smart
3 decision. That's something that we need to
4 look to where we can.

5 Obviously, the debt service in the
6 city is one of the constraints in the budget
7 along with the pension, they are two of the
8 bigger issues. So by doing that we cut down
9 our debt service and we also rid ourselves
10 of an asset that bleeds millions of dollars
11 in repairs and it's not producing for the
12 city.

13 I'm glad that Councilman McGoff
14 brought up the question regarding the
15 meters. I don't think anyone would support
16 the sale of the meters, they are a true
17 asset of the city as they bring in over a
18 million dollars every year and that's
19 something that keeps growing as we work to
20 enhance our meter program in the City of
21 Scranton.

22 The sale of the Sewer Authority,
23 that's another item that I support. By
24 selling the Sewer Authority for let's use
25 the sum \$20 million again and using that as

1 a lump sum into the pension fund, by doing
2 that we put that \$20 million to work for the
3 city. It could sit in the fund and grow.
4 Historical returns are on the conservative
5 end. Mr. Amoroso he used 8 percent growth
6 per year. When you are a growing, you know,
7 when we are growing our 401-K's at 8 percent
8 year it's a nice little savings, but it's
9 not a huge amount of money. When you take
10 \$20 million and grow that, that's money that
11 every year thereafter we are not going to
12 have to put into that fund because it's
13 earning -- you know, it's earning money for
14 us, so I also support exploring the sale of
15 that, the outright liquidation of the Sewer
16 Authority, which I have supported for all of
17 my five years on this board.

18 Breaking up the payments of the
19 arbitration awards to the unions, it's
20 another item that I think we should look
21 into. I think the previous administration
22 should have negotiated a payment structure
23 that would have been easier to obtain
24 financing for, and it would have been more
25 palatable to many of the banks to loan us a

1 small portion of those funds instead of the
2 whole ball at once.

3 And we have to keep in that although
4 the arbitration award hasn't been on the
5 front burner at public meetings and, you
6 know, in the press, that interest is ticking
7 every day, so every day that goes by that
8 the city isn't acting on a Court award is
9 more money that it's costing the taxpayers,
10 so that issue has to be resolved.

11 On the elimination of the business
12 privilege and mercantile tax, that tax is a
13 nuisance tax, it's a hindrance to businesses
14 in the City of Scranton, and it makes it
15 harder for job producing companies to move
16 to the city. We could get a lot of good
17 press and we could have a lot of good will
18 of the business community by eliminating
19 those taxes and that would bring jobs into
20 the City of Scranton. We need to encourage
21 pro-growth policies such as the elimination
22 of these taxes to get the city to move
23 forward.

24 PILOTS. PILOTS have always been a
25 struggle. I know they weren't talked about

1 too much tonight, one of the things that I
2 would hope the city would explore and I
3 think we have seen, hopefully the beginning
4 of that with the \$10,000 check from Allied
5 for kids to swim it's instead of going from
6 a system where we ask for a check from an
7 institution to go to a system where we ask
8 for a service or funds for a specific
9 project. Maybe the University, we could ask
10 the University of Scranton for additional
11 money for paving and we dedicate it
12 specifically to the Hill Section, or we
13 could ask Allied Services for funds and we
14 could dedicate those funds that are donated
15 specifically to their area, because at the
16 end of the day the City provides service to
17 those areas anyways and any cost savings we
18 could realize for payment in lieu of taxes
19 is certainly a bonus.

20 Regarding help from the county and
21 the state, unfortunately, the City of
22 Scranton has since been left behind when it
23 comes to state help and county help, and I
24 think, you know, what I do like about this
25 plan is that unlike PEL's previous plans it

1 doesn't rely upon legislation changing
2 either through the state or through the
3 county. PEL's plans that have come to us
4 before had always relied on maybes. Well,
5 if this passes then you can pursue this
6 item. This plan seems much more realistic.

7 A couple of things on the negative
8 side of the plan, obviously the real estate
9 tax increase and the possibility of a
10 revamping at commuter tax. I think there is
11 issues that I think all of us on council
12 have to look at long and hard before making
13 a final decision, but I think all of these
14 other items listed previously can help defer
15 so we have a much smaller increase in those
16 other line items.

17 The only part of plan that I wish
18 would have been included that wasn't was
19 privatization of the city refuse collection.
20 That's something I long supported. I think
21 it would save us money in the long run to
22 have it done privately, but that wasn't
23 included in the plan.

24 I hope that council will take action
25 on these items for however they are going to

1 vote over the course of the next few months
2 to get everything in place prior to the
3 budget being introduced. That was another
4 past problem where budgets would be
5 introduced with items that still had to be
6 approved in January, so I think by being
7 proactive and voting on some of these items
8 such as the sale of the Parking Authority,
9 Sewer Authority prior to the budget it will
10 help make it a lot easier to create a
11 realistic budget at the end of the year.

12 And finally, just two other
13 comments, I agree with Councilman Wechsler,
14 I would also support the idea of a town hall
15 meeting to get input from residents. I
16 think it would be great, we could have it
17 here in council chambers. Maybe we could
18 find a night in month of August since we
19 aren't meeting where we could have maybe an
20 agenda-less meeting just to have public
21 input. As you know, I did want to meet
22 throughout the month of August, but I think
23 a town hall style meeting may even be more
24 productive than a regular meeting so it
25 would be good to have that.

1 And finally, one issue that I
2 brought up briefly two weeks ago was the
3 issue of the Cedar Residence, the halfway
4 house, the old Pennswood Manor and this
5 issue, it's more of a zoning issue but it's
6 a neighborhood issue in South Scranton where
7 this was shot down by our local zoning
8 board, it was appealed to the state -- or to
9 the next level, it was shot down again, a
10 variance was never approved and right now
11 the Court case is pending at the state level
12 to approve a variance to operate a halfway
13 house at the old Pennswood Manor.

14 Unfortunately, while these appeals
15 are processing the residents can operate.
16 From some of the research I've done it's
17 entirely legal for them to operate while the
18 appeals is pending. If that isn't bad
19 enough for the neighbors in South Scranton,
20 to make things worse I learned from some of
21 the neighborhood watch folks in South Side
22 that Lackawanna County is now subsidizing
23 this halfway house.

24 So if my colleagues would agree, I
25 would like to send a letter to Lackawanna

1 County Commissioners urging them to
2 reconsider subsidizing with any taxpayer
3 dollars a halfway house at Cedar Residence
4 in South Side. Would that be agreeable?

5 MR. MCGOFF: Agreeable by me.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

8 MR. ROGAN: And, Mrs. Reed, I'll
9 send you all of that information tomorrow in
10 that letter.

11 That's all I have for tonight.
12 Thank you. Actually one more, I always
13 forget one thing. I would like make a
14 motion to in Councilman Loscombe's absence
15 to appoint Councilman Wechsler as temporary
16 chair for the Committee on Public Safety.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Second.

18 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor
19 signify by saying aye.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

21 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

23 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
24 ayes have it and so moved.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan?

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. Just
2 two items. Tonight we will be introducing
3 legislation regarding permit parking in the
4 900 block of Prescott Avenue. Next week on
5 the July 10 meeting we will have a public
6 hearing concerning this matter at 5:30 here
7 in council chambers.

8 And finally, I received numerous
9 complaints from residents who live on Park
10 Drive near Hilltop Manor in South Scranton.
11 The residents are complaining of various
12 disturbances including loud noise and
13 fireworks late at night. This has been an
14 ongoing issue for the residents in this
15 area, so council has decided to send a
16 letter to the Housing Authority and Police
17 Chief Graziano making them aware of those
18 various issues. And that is all I have.
19 Thank you.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. I, too,
21 would like to respond to some comments that
22 were made. The appointment of people to the
23 authorities and boards is not a corrupt
24 process. The appointments are vetted by
25 both council and the administration. The

1 people that serve on these boards they are
2 citizens and taxpayers in the City of
3 Scranton. We may disagree with them at
4 times, but I believe that they are honest,
5 concerned people with the best interest of
6 the City of Scranton in mind, and I believe
7 the comments made tonight about the people
8 serving on these authorities and boards was
9 very insulting to the members who do serve.
10 As I said, I believe that these are, you
11 know, good, hardworking citizens in the City
12 of Scranton with an interest in the city.

13 As far as the presentation that was
14 made earlier by Mr. Amoroso, I would just
15 like to comment that many of the
16 recommendations made by Mr. Amaroso are
17 already works in progress. The city has
18 been very proactive in dealing with many of
19 the issues that were presented this evening.
20 I know for a fact that, you know,
21 Mr. Bulzoni has been working very diligently
22 on many of the recommendations that were
23 made this evening and the implementation of
24 this program that was presented is something
25 that's already in process and hopefully

1 something that we do bring some of these to
2 fruition during the 2014 year and that they
3 do not carry over to 2015. We need to -- we
4 need to work quickly on some of these and I
5 know that the city administration feels the
6 same way.

7 One of the things that Mr. Rogan did
8 mention was the meter revenue and while I
9 have gone back and forth with whether it's
10 advantageous to sell the meter revenue and
11 all I believe that the one of the things
12 that came out of this was that the meter
13 revenue would be dedicated to the payment of
14 any debt that would result from the
15 refunding of or the refinancing of the SPA
16 deal. And again, I think that this is --
17 something of that nature gives greater
18 confidence to the investment community that
19 we are dedicating certain funds to certain
20 issues and I think that that's a great idea
21 rather than putting it into the general fund
22 where it can go anywhere. Dedicated debt
23 service I believe is a great idea, and was
24 mentioned again, the recommendation from
25 Mr. Amaro there are a number of areas

1 where it's advised to do dedicated debt
2 service, so happy to see many of the things
3 that were included in the proposal and we
4 will be, you know, carefully looking at and
5 reviewing the proposals and recommendations
6 that were made and hopefully many of these
7 will come before us for vote for the end of
8 the year. And Fifth Order.

9 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
10 AN ORDINANCE - ESTABLISHING PERMIT PARKING
11 ONLY IN THE 900 BLOCK OF PRESCOTT AVENUE ON
12 BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET 901 TO 949 AND 902
13 TO 956 WHICH INCLUDES ALL THE RESIDENCES,
14 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF APARTMENTS LOCATED
15 ABOVE COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES.

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

19 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

20 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

21 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
22 those in favor of introduction signify by
23 saying aye.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

1 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
2 ayes have it and so moved.

3 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
4 AN ORDINANCE - CREATING AND ESTABLISHING
5 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO. 02.229610 ENTITLED
6 "GERRITY PARK" FOR THE RECEIPT AND
7 DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER
8 GRANT APPLICATION.

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

12 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

13 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

17 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

18 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

20 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
21 ayes have it and so moved.

22 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
23 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
24 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND
25 ENTER INTO AN AUTOMATED RED LIGHT

1 ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT AGREEMENT (ARLE)
2 REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 04R128 WITH
3 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT
4 OF TRANSPORTATION REGARDING THE ADDITION OF
5 A LEFT TURN SIGNAL HEAD AT WASHINGTON
6 AVENUE/ELM STREET, CITY OF SCRANTON,
7 LACKAWANNA COUNTY.

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

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

13 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question,
15 just some additional information on this
16 agenda item. The City of Scranton has
17 applied for and received an automated red
18 light enforcement transportation enhancement
19 grant and it is necessary for the city to
20 execute and enter into an ARLE reimbursement
21 agreement to receive funds in the amount
22 \$75,000 for the design and construction of
23 the left turn signal head at the
24 intersection of South Washington Avenue and
25 Elm Street in the city's of South Side.

1 In spite of the addition of the
2 turning lane, a modification of the signal
3 head is required to avoid turning vehicles
4 sitting through several cycles at peak
5 period.

6 This grant was applied for in 2010
7 by then city engineer Brian Swanson and it
8 was awarded April 25, 2011, and it is a much
9 needed project. Thank you.

10 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor of
11 introduction signify by saying aye.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

15 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
16 eyes have it and so moved.

17 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
18 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE
19 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF
20 SCRANTON TO SIGN AND SUBMIT THE PENNSYLVANIA
21 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ("PENNDOT")
22 APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL FOR
23 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PERMIT NO. 40110 FOR THE
24 MODIFICATIONS OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE
25 INTERSECTION LACKAWANNA AVENUE AND STEAMTOWN

1 MALL DRIVEWAY/MIFFLIN AVENUE IN DOWNTOWN
2 SCRANTON AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF
3 THE COUNTY OF LACKAWANNA TRANSIT SYSTEM
4 INTERMODAL FACILITY.

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

8 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

13 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

14 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

18 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
19 RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING A DONATION
20 OF THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED (\$3,600.00)
21 DOLLARS FROM AMOS TOWERS MANAGEMENT
22 ENTERPRISES, INC. PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF
23 SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF
24 TOOL BOXES INCLUDING MISCELLANEOUS HAND
25 TOOLS FOR 9 OF THE CITY'S APPARATUS.

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

4 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

6 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? I
7 will say that I know that this is at least
8 the second year in which the Amos Tower
9 Management, Incorporated, has offered or
10 given to the fire department a substantial
11 donation, and it's something that they have
12 negotiated with the fire department, it's
13 something that the fire department felt that
14 they needed, and so I would like to thank
15 Amos Towers Management Enterprises for their
16 donation to the fire department.

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

19 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

22 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
23 ayes have it and so moved.

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

25 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.

1 33, 2014 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE
2 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE
3 CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO LEASE
4 AGREEMENTS WITH WEST SCRANTON LITTLE LEAGUE
5 FOR VARIOUS LITTLE LEAGUE, T-BALL, FARM
6 LEAGUE, TEENER LEAGUE, MISS-E LEAGUE,
7 BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FOR USE OF CITY OWNED
8 PROPERTY IN CONNECTION WITH APPROVED LITTLE
9 LEAGUE, T-BALL, FARM LEAGUE, TEENER LEAGUE,
10 MISS-E LEAGUE, BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
11 ACTIVITIES FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD
12 COMMENCING APRIL 15, 2014 AND ENDING APRIL
13 14, 2017.

14 MR. MCGOFF: You've heard reading by
15 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

16 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
17 pass reading by title.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

19 MS. MCGOFF: On the question? All
20 those in favor signify by saying aye.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

1 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
2 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
3 FINANCE -FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL
4 NO. 30, 2014 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
5 NO. 30, 2012 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING
6 A TAX FOR GENERAL REVENUE PURPOSES ON
7 OPERATORS OF PARKING SPACES AT THE RATE
8 OF FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) UPON EACH PARKING
9 TRANSACTION AND ESTABLISHING ANNUAL LICENSE
10 PROCEDURES AND FEES AND PROMULGATING THE
11 RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING RULES AND
12 REGULATIONS ON PARKING TRANSACTIONS PURSUANT
13 TO THE LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT 53 PA. C.S.A.
14 6901 ET SEQ. BY AMENDING SECTION 1.
15 DEFINITIONS BY ADDING THE EXEMPTION OF
16 EDUCATIONAL PARKING; AMENDING SECTION 3.
17 ANNUAL LICENSE BY CHANGING THE ANNUAL
18 LICENSE AT A FEE OF ONE (\$1.00) DOLLAR PER
19 SPACE TO A FLAT FEE OF FIFTY (\$50.00)
20 DOLLARS PER YEAR; AMENDING SECTION 5.
21 RETURN
22 AND PAYMENTS BY CHANGING MONTHLY TO
23 QUARTERLY AND IN ADDITION TO CITY ADD OR THE
24 CITY'S DESIGNEE AND AMENDING SECTION 6 TO
25 ADD A DESIGNEE TO THE OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF

1 THE PARKING TAX.

2 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
3 recommendation of the Chair for the
4 Committee on Finance?

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

8 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

20 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
21 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
22 ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 31, 2014
23 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO 79, 2012
24 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE "REPEALING ALL PRIOR
25 ORDINANCES REGARDING FINES TO BE IMPOSED FOR

1 POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS' RESPONSES TO
2 FALSE ALARMS IN THE CITY; ESTABLISHING
3 FINES TO BE IMPOSED FOR THE ACTIVATION OF AN
4 ALARM DEVICE WHICH IS DETERMINED TO BE A
5 FALSE ALARM BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OR FIRE
6 DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION
7 AND ENFORCEMENT OF SAID FINES; AND
8 PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS
9 ORDINANCE" BY AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS,
10 ELIMINATING A SECTION, RENUMBERING AND
11 ADDING A NEW SECTION TO PROVIDE FOR A
12 GRADUATED FEE STRUCTURE AND TO INCREASE
13 COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OF SAID SERVICE
14 CHARGES AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPEAL
15 PROCESS.

16 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
17 recommendation of the Chair for the
18 Committee on Public Safety?

19 MR. WECHSLER: As temporary
20 Chairperson for the Committee on Public
21 Safety, I recommend final passage of Item
22 7-B.

23 MR. ROGAN: Second.

24 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
25 call, please?

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
9 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

10 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
11 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - FILE
12 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 32, 2014 - AUTHORIZING
13 THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS
14 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A
15 LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WEST SCRANTON LITTLE
16 LEAGUE FOR USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY FOR A
17 ONE (1) YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING APRIL 15,
18 2014 AND ENDING APRIL 14, 2015. PER SECTION
19 9 OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT THE WEST SIDE
20 FALCONS JUNIOR FOOTBALL TEAM WILL ENTER INTO
21 A THIRD PARTY AGREEMENT WITH THE WEST
22 SCRANTON LITTLE LEAGUE FOR USE OF THE
23 LACKAWANNA LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD FOR THE
24 MONTHS OF JULY THROUGH NOVEMBER 2014 AS
25 SPECIFIED IN THE LEASE AGREEMENT.

1 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
2 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
3 passage of Item 7-C.

4 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

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

16 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -
18 RESOLUTION NO. 63, 2014 - RATIFYING AND
19 APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF
20 THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF
21 SCRANTON (APPLICANT) TO THE COUNTY OF
22 LACKAWANNA (COUNTY) FOR A LACKAWANNA COUNTY
23 COMMUNITY RE-INVEST PROGRAM (CRP) GRANT FOR
24 THE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT FELLOWS PARK AND
25 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

1 CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF
2 SUCCESSFUL, TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT
3 AND ACCEPT AND DISBURSE THE GRANT FUNDS FOR
4 THE CITY OF SCRANTON IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT
5 FELLOWS PARK.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
7 motion to table Item 7-D.

8 MR. ROGAN: Second.

9 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? 7-D
10 is being tabled because there are a number
11 of questions regarding this grant and
12 whether or not it will be in the best
13 interest of Fellows Park and the community
14 around Fellows Park to enter into this
15 agreement to make these improvements, so
16 city council will further investigate the
17 nature of the agreement and grant and
18 whether and what can be done with it.

19 All those in favor of tabling Item
20 7-D signify by saying aye.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

22 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MS. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
25 ayes have it and so moved.

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Prior to adjournment, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe Fourth of July. Please enjoy the Fourth of July weekend, but be responsible and also please be thoughtful of others as you celebrate. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

MR. MCGOFF: This meeting is adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER