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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, September 10, 2015

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
(Not present)

PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

JOSEPH WECHSLER

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: 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. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. ROGAN: Mr. McGoff is still
14 hospitalized and he will be missing this
15 evening's meeting. He remains in all of our
16 prayers.

17 A couple of other announcements,
18 there was an executive session held at 5:15
19 this evening regarding contract
20 negotiations.

21 Secondly, a motion will be made to
22 suspend council rules to move Item 6-B on
23 tonight's agenda to Seventh Order for final
24 passage. This was in order for a business
25 to be in compliance with the purchase

1 contract, it was requested by the Law
2 Department.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
4 motion to appoint Councilman Rogan as
5 temporary Chairperson for the Committee on
6 Rules.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

8 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
9 those in favor signify by saying aye.

10 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

11 MR. EVANS: Aye.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

15 MR. GAUGHAN: I'd like to make a
16 motion to appoint Councilmen Evans as
17 temporary Chairperson for the Committee on
18 Community Development.

19 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

22 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

23 MR. EVANS: Aye.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 Please dispense with the reading of
3 the minutes.

4 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. TAX
5 ASSESSOR'S REPORTS FOR HEARING DATES TO BE
6 HELD SEPTEMBER 30 AND OCTOBER 7, 2015.

7 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
8 If not, received and filed. Do any council
9 members have announcements to make?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I have one. I
11 mentioned this last week, but it is going to
12 be a great event so I'll mention it again.
13 Sunday, September 20, from 3 to 7 there is a
14 fundraising event in remembrance of the
15 Kathleen Cavanaugh, a victim of domestic
16 violation. It is outdoors at Pat McMullen's
17 217 East Market Street. It is \$20 per
18 person and all proceeds benefit the Women's
19 Resource Center of Lackawanna County. Thank
20 you.

21 MR. EVANS: I have one. Share the
22 Journey. It's a suicide awareness and
23 prevention walk. It will be held Saturday,
24 September 12, 2015, at 9 a.m. from the
25 Lackawanna County Courthouse. I have had

1 the honor to participate the last several
2 years and it's a very, very worthwhile cause
3 so if you can make it please do.

4 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

5 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
6 PARTICIPATION.

7 MR. ROGAN: Our first speaker
8 tonight is Joan Hodowanitz.

9 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
10 taxpayer and resident. Last week I asked
11 about the use of tax revenues to pay for the
12 funeral expenses of Patrolman John Wilding,
13 who died on July 12. I also asked if he, at
14 that time, was covered by life insurance,
15 death and disability insurance and workmen's
16 compensation. No one made any answer to me
17 at that time and I wasn't surprised because
18 I asked out of the blue, but then I come to
19 tonight I noticed Item 5-H, a resolution to
20 contract with Trident Insurance Solutions,
21 Incorporated, to provide insurance services
22 to the City of Scranton, life, disability
23 and dental insurance for four years from
24 March 1, 2015, through February 28, 2019.

25 Now, there is about 200 pages of

1 backup so I only Xeroxed about \$17 worth of
2 paper this time, you should note that in the
3 contract Article I needs to be proofread
4 because it's three years there and not four
5 years, but there is a memo from David
6 Bulzoni, the business administrator, dated
7 April 10, April 10, five months ago, in
8 which he says, I quote, "The contract with
9 the existing insurers, Voya for life and
10 disability, and Delta Dental have expired."

11 So I'm asking you again was
12 Patrolman Wilding covered by any insurance
13 on July 12 since you have this resolution
14 pending? Do you intend to pass this
15 retroactively?

16 MS. GAUGHAN: Mrs. Hodowanitz, if I
17 can answer you for a second, I don't about
18 Officer Wilding and his situation, but I did
19 ask, you know, what happened between April
20 and now, why -- what was the reason for the
21 a lapse. I haven't heard a response yet
22 from the administration, but it was a
23 concern of mine because the memo was dated
24 in April and we have waited five or six
25 months and now the contract is on the agenda

1 so what was the hold up was my question.

2 MS. HODOWANITZ: I didn't see
3 anything in the paperwork or the background
4 or backup explaining that five-month delay.
5 I think that's unconscionable. It there is
6 any question about us covering firefighters
7 or police or DPW workers or city employees.
8 I pay taxes for a reason and I expect some
9 employees to be covered. You don't send
10 firefighters into the Sandone Warehouse, we
11 almost lost four people that week, so I
12 still want to know why we used tax revenues
13 to pay for Wilding's funeral.

14 MR. ROGAN: I can answer that one
15 for you, and I apologize I wasn't at the
16 meeting last week, but I did see your
17 question while watching the replay. I asked
18 the mayor that question on Monday he said
19 that it will be the policy of his
20 administration to pay for the funeral of
21 anyone -- any city employee who dies in the
22 line of service. He said he believes it's
23 the right thing to do.

24 MS. HODOWANITZ: Then why do we have
25 insurance and workmen's compensation claims?

1 MR. ROGAN: Well, I know with life
2 insurance many times the claim won't come in
3 until after the funeral needs to be paid
4 for. I didn't ask that specific question,
5 but when I meet with him this week I will
6 ask about the life insurance.

7 MS. HODOWANITZ: I did a
8 Right-to-Know request asking to see any
9 written policies, is it going to be a
10 backdating written policy because this is a
11 first heard?

12 MR. ROGAN: Again, I can ask, the
13 mayor did say it will be the policy of his
14 administration.

15 MS. HODOWANITZ: I've asked for a
16 copy of the union contracts and everything
17 else and I understand his intent, but I
18 think it's wrong that a city that's got
19 serious financial difficulties to be doing
20 that when there is a mechanism, it's called
21 life insurance, accidental death and
22 disability insurance, workers' compensation,
23 and we also pay that ultimately as
24 taxpayers. I don't understand why we are
25 going into the contingency fund. If we had

1 had a major catastrophe how much money would
2 you want to set aside? Is he going to put a
3 line item in the 2016 budget?

4 MR. ROGAN: Again, this is something
5 that hopefully it doesn't happen --

6 MS. HODOWANITZ: In this case I
7 disagree.

8 MR. ROGAN: -- for a very long time.

9 MS. HODOWANITZ: We should properly
10 cover our employees and there are mechanisms
11 set aside for that. Any other city doing
12 this that you know of?

13 MR. ROGAN: I don't know, but I do
14 agree that it was the right thing to do.
15 Sometimes money isn't everything.

16 MS. HODOWANITZ: In this case I
17 don't agree. I think we should be using the
18 mechanisms that are designed. When we had
19 9/11 New York City couldn't pay that bill,
20 that was paid out of other mechanisms. I
21 understand the intent and it's proper that
22 we do care for Patrolman Wilding and his
23 family, but there is a right way to do it
24 and a wrong way to do it. Thank you. I'll
25 have more next week.

1 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Les
2 Spindler.

3 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
4 Council. Les Spindler, city resident,
5 homeowner and taxpayer. I knew Mr. McGoff
6 was having health issues, I'm sorry to hear
7 that he is hospitalized. I know he hasn't
8 been here in a very long time and I think if
9 he can't come here every week I think he
10 should step aside and let someone else be
11 appointed in his position. If he can't
12 uphold his responsibilities I think he
13 should resign and let someone else take
14 over. Again, I don't wish him any ill, but
15 if he can't be here we should have five
16 council people up there, and I can't
17 remember the last time he was here. I would
18 hope he sees the light and resigns and let's
19 someone else takes over.

20 Moving on, I think it was last
21 meeting before the break where the
22 recyclable consultant was discussed and
23 Councilman Gaughan said, "The state told us
24 to pay \$5,000 for that consultant," why in
25 the world would we listen to anything that

1 the state tells us?

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, Mr. Spindler,
3 the state recommended it, we could have said
4 no.

5 MR. SPINDLER: But why would we do
6 anything the state recommends? PEL is the
7 state. They have been telling us what to do
8 for approximately 23 years now and we are
9 worse off now than when we started so why
10 would we do anything the state recommends or
11 tells us? It's ridiculous. We are just
12 paying PEL millions after dollars all of the
13 time and not doing a thing to help us out.

14 Now, I'll bring up a touchy subject,
15 it has been a touchy subject for me for
16 about nine years when my dog was attacked by
17 two pit bulls. I have come to this council
18 year after year after year saying we need a
19 dangerous dog ordinance and I have done much
20 research on this, I have all the paperwork
21 here. Pittsburgh has it, bigger cities than
22 us and in August 12th's paper there is a
23 story about in July where a gentleman's pit
24 bull attacked a lady's service dog, which
25 was a chihuahua, and killed it, and the

1 gentlemen was cited, but citing people isn't
2 going to stop them from having dangerous
3 dogs. In Pittsburgh they have ordinances
4 where you have to have special insurance,
5 you have to fences around your yard a
6 certain height, we need something like in
7 this city because there have been too many
8 attacks by pit bulls. People keep telling
9 me, oh, they are nice dogs, it depends on
10 how they are raised, I don't believe that
11 either because you don't hear about poodles
12 attacking Chihuahuas or all you hear is pit
13 bull attacks, and like I said, it's time the
14 city stepped up and made some kind of
15 ordinance for dangerous dogs before -- it's
16 terrible that animals getting killed, but
17 sometimes they meet with a child and then it
18 will be too late.

19 Lastly, the terrible fire at Sandone
20 Tire that Ms. Hodowanitz spoke about the
21 four firefighters, there were four
22 firefighters in there lost, they were low on
23 Oxygen and Chauffeur John Rivers when he
24 heard the call that they needed help he ran
25 in and saved four lives. I think this man

1 should be brought in here and given a
2 proclamation. Not only that, I think he
3 should be honored by the city. This man is
4 a real hero because if it wasn't for him we
5 could have had a real tragedy. We could
6 have lost more men and that would have been
7 awful so he saved four lives, I don't think
8 there is enough we could do to honor him
9 because what he did was no regard for his
10 life, he ran into that building and saved
11 four lives because God knows what would have
12 happened if he didn't do that. Maybe
13 someone else would have, but we'll never
14 know what happened. I think council should
15 honor him with a proclamation, we have
16 honored people that did a lot less than
17 that, a proclamation, he saved four lives
18 and I think he deserves a big honor. That's
19 all I have tonight. Thank you.

20 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

21 MR. EVANS: Mr. Spindler, do you
22 have a copy of that ordinance from
23 Pittsburgh?

24 MR. SPINDLER: No, I don't.

25 MR. EVANS: Can you get us a copy of

1 the ordinance?

2 MR. SPINDLER: I don't have a copy
3 of the ordinance, you can go on-line.

4 MR. EVANS: All right.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Type in dangerous
6 dogs.

7 MR. EVANS: Okay, thank you.

8 MR. ELLMAN: Council. Ronnie
9 Ellman. Mr. Evans, if I may, can I ask you
10 what you were doing at 4:00 this morning?

11 MR. EVANS: I hope I was sleeping.
12 I was.

13 MR. ELLMAN: How about that rest of
14 you gentleman, and I use that term loosely,
15 but what were you three doing at 4:00 this
16 morning?

17 MR. GAUGHAN: Changing a diaper.

18 MR. ELLMAN: Anybody in their right
19 mind would be sleeping.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: I know, I wish I was
21 sleeping.

22 MR. ELLMAN: You know what I was
23 doing? I was listening and smelling this
24 stinking diesel truck, this painted up pile
25 of junk that's in my driveway day in and day

1 out when I go through this. That's because
2 you people just won't do nothing about it.
3 You can't tell me that doesn't diminish
4 every house value in the area around me
5 because several people said we ought to go
6 down and ask for a tax reduction. I can't
7 back my car out safely because the driveway
8 is about 10 feet wide, I have to go
9 completely perpendicular to the sidewalk
10 before I can turn my wheel because that
11 truck goes to the sidewalk, so somebody told
12 me phone the cops every time you want to go
13 out and I can't do that, but the police told
14 me if I have an accident it's my fault.

15 I have talked to several people that
16 complained about a couple of trucks and
17 house trailers and boats, none of it weighs
18 15,000 pounds, I own a dump truck, I bought
19 it for parts. It's no where near, as big as
20 it is, it doesn't weigh 15,000 pounds and I
21 have promised you wouldn't want it parked in
22 front of your house. It's about 15 years
23 old and looks it.

24 This is so simple to do something
25 about this. This tool is just used to

1 harass me when he wants to. The truck could
2 easily be parked right across the street,
3 there is a big area that's empty at night
4 and when -- sometimes it's parked a block up
5 the street, but to just show you what I go
6 through, eight, nine o'clock at night he
7 starts his car, takes it a half a block down
8 street, then he goes and gets the truck,
9 brings the truck back and parks it in the
10 driveway. 4:00 in the morning he moves the
11 diesel truck out into the street, goes and
12 gets his car and parks it again. If that's
13 not pure harassment you tell me what it is.
14 It's somebody that just doesn't know how to
15 think straight, that's what it is. I'll let
16 that go, you know.

17 You people could change all of this
18 not just for me, these antiquated codes in
19 the city there are several of them that are
20 30, 40 years old. You know, they are not --
21 they are not for the new centuries. There
22 has been so much talk all the time about
23 downtown. You guys are so interested in
24 downtown and bringing business back, you
25 know, you have forgotten about the

1 neighborhoods that pay for downtown. Let me
2 say this about that, you people have one of
3 the best tools of any city anywhere right
4 under your fingertips and you are not using
5 it, you are trying to sell it, that's
6 parking. Who ever heard of something so
7 stupid, of course, that's the advice we get,
8 sell a business that's making money that can
9 rejuvenate downtown. I can remember, I
10 don't know when it was, 10 or 12 years ago
11 Jimmy Klee and I drinking coffee at Frank's
12 Cafe, I don't remember -- I don't know if
13 any of you know, he used to go in there all
14 of the time and for some reason he was
15 telling me, he said something like if a
16 couple of businesses could have some free
17 parking where the meters are, he had all
18 kinds of ideas that he mentioned at the time
19 to bring business back. It's just -- it's
20 not gone forever. I'm always accused of
21 wanting to see Boscov going broke and
22 everybody else that's not true. I love this
23 city, you know, I have told you a dozen
24 times I don't have to live here. I had a
25 phone call this week from a friend in

1 Atlanta and he said, "You ought to come down
2 here we'll play golf all the time and this
3 and that and the other thing."

4 He is like a DeNaples in Atlanta,
5 he's a multi-millionaire. I said, "No, I'm
6 just going to stay up here. I like it up
7 here, I like the people," but you need to
8 think about doing something constructive
9 with parking and for once I can see where
10 you might need a consultant or somebody to
11 tell you what to do, but you have got the
12 key right there to rebuild downtown that you
13 own for crying out loud. Even if you lose
14 money you would get increased tax money from
15 some businesses coming in and staying there.

16 And lastly, I'm going, I saw in the
17 paper today where the utilities want to
18 fight this law that you passed, don't let
19 them bluff you for God's sake, the city --
20 they make the biggest mess of streets it's
21 impossible to go down the streets that they
22 fixed. They tore out a huge whole across of
23 me for six months, cars were hitting it and
24 you can hear him in the middle the night,
25 the hubcaps were all over the neighborhood,

1 they just don't seem to care about the
2 streets. I went down last night going to
3 eat, I went down Keyser Avenue, they have
4 made cuts already where that was paved.
5 It's just -- you don't let them get away
6 with what they are doing to the city. Thank
7 you.

8 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.
9 Is there anyone else who would like to
10 address is council?

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
12 citizen of Scranton, fellow Scrantonian. I
13 read a discouraging piece of news in the
14 newspaper that your right to work tax, you
15 can call it LST, but it's a right to work
16 tax is falling short. We all know when they
17 give us this great summary about how
18 everything was going if something falls out
19 the taxes go up, that 6 percent goes up, and
20 you ask them what could happen to make that
21 tax go up? Obviously, a lot of things could
22 happen to make that tax go up, but you are
23 doing nothing to stop the 6 to 12 percent
24 tax increase that's coming. You know it's
25 coming and nothing they have done is going

1 to make living in the city any more
2 reasonable. Even if they sold the Sewer
3 Authority the cost to the residents of this
4 city would rise. The Parking Authority if
5 they sold that and sold the garages, but I
6 doubt anybody would want to buy them, but if
7 you go out and lease them along with the
8 meters you have to get, like, the meters
9 bring in the revenue somewhere like a
10 million, 1,200,000 a year in revenue. Are
11 you willing to give up say 20-year leases,
12 20 million or 30 million dollars in lost
13 revenue from the parking meters? You are
14 not. You are not doing a darn thing to stop
15 what's going to happen and it's going to
16 happen. I know there isn't much you can do
17 other than get up there and vote for a 3
18 percent tax increase even though you know
19 it's going to put us in the hole, but
20 something has to be done.

21 Somewhere you have to get off the
22 nonprofits. They are the only one that
23 could stop up us from sliding into the mine
24 voids. That's it. And you don't know much
25 about doing anything about it. They are

1 profit making, not the school, but what they
2 made in profits on some of the other
3 businesses that they run should be taxed.
4 There is no reason why they can't be taxed.

5 Another thing is if all of the
6 businesses aren't paying a fair share of
7 their city tax something has to be done
8 there. I mean, if you telling me all of the
9 burden is falling on the residents of this
10 city and the business are avoiding paying
11 their mercantile tax that's criminal. They
12 should be brought up. Somewhere along the
13 line we should ask for an investigation of
14 the Single Tax Office and force them to do
15 what they are supposed to do. Now, I know
16 it's a tough thing because a lot of that
17 would be guesswork because you don't know, a
18 man has a plan he hires people in and out.
19 Some people work under the table, some
20 people work for three hours, six hours,
21 seven hours, I know it's tough, but it's got
22 to be done. In other words, the burden on
23 the city residents is going to be too great.
24 It's already breaking a lot of people's
25 backs. Their cushions are being destroyed.

1 Their savings are being ate up and that's
2 not right.

3 Your job as elected was to protect
4 the residents of the city, not the city
5 employees, the residents. Of course they
6 are residents, too, so you got to make some
7 protection to the employees and to the
8 residents on employees. I know there is a
9 thousand people that are either retired or
10 active in the city, that's a huge voting
11 block and I don't know if you want to give
12 up that voting block to be tough, but you
13 got to do something. The people are
14 entitled to a decent wage and a pension and
15 I believe in that and something's got to be
16 done to make sure at least they will have
17 their pension and a decent wage, but if you
18 do nothing but sit here it won't be done.
19 Eventually all the assets will be sold from
20 the city and a receivership will come in
21 anyway and run the city because there will
22 be nothing left and that's what you are
23 headed for. You are heading for a deep void
24 and there is -- somewhere along the way you
25 got to get the nonprofits and the people who

1 are not paying their fair share to pay their
2 fair share and that's -- and then you also
3 got to look at what's happening down there
4 in the Tax Assessment, how many people we
5 got lowering their taxes and that's another
6 thing you got to watch for.

7 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

8 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
9 Dave Dobrzyn, resident, taxes paid, fees
10 paid, dog license. Okay, once again I'd
11 like to repeat something about ECTV, if that
12 doesn't get settled with Comcast so I hope
13 they are listening, they are out of my
14 house. They are too expensive already and
15 90 percent of the reason that I had them was
16 so that I could watch things that I produced
17 and make sure I wasn't making mistakes.
18 Occasionally I watch the council to make
19 sure that I said something right, but that
20 it sounded right.

21 On the sewer, sale of the sewer
22 plant, that will not bear well, under most
23 of those plants the city subsidized rural
24 development and their bills go down and our
25 bills go up and that's money that could be

1 ground. I don't care what they think, the
2 roads are terrible and a large portion of
3 the damage is them. Up on the 100 block of
4 Wheeler Avenue I heard an account of a
5 resident who complained month after month he
6 smelled gas, finally got fixed, they still
7 smelled gas, five other locations, or four
8 or five were fixed, you can go up there and
9 see it for yourself it's like a washboard,
10 and the reason at that they did it one at a
11 time was so that they didn't have to pave
12 the street. So gee thanks, gas company.

13 Oh, and by the way, here's an
14 article where they plan to export gas,
15 liquify it and export it and the Chamber of
16 Commerce supports that. Well, they are not
17 representing me on that because that means
18 that I'm going to be paying the same money
19 that somebody in Europe or Japan or anywhere
20 else without these natural resources,
21 despite the fact that the environmental
22 impact is here, despite that fact.

23 And on these grants, block grants
24 and so forth, maybe we should be looking
25 into, as Joe mentioned, Keyser Avenue. Now,

1 anybody in their right mind isn't going go
2 to Dunmore anymore because you have a
3 400-foot pile of trash that stinks like all
4 hell and smells like an open grave, and I
5 was up there years back hunting for parts
6 with a truck company repair facility that I
7 worked for and believe me it didn't smell
8 pretty. It didn't smell pretty and I was
9 wondering who was down there, maybe a few of
10 the mafia favorites for all I know.

11 And on this EMT tax I certainly hope
12 that everybody that's paying it is having it
13 turned over because that's a common, common,
14 common thing with local and small employers
15 all over, they don't turn in the taxes that
16 they deduct, they stick them in their
17 pockets and just hope that they'll get by
18 and if he they get caught.

19 And, finally, I would just like to
20 say the meters on Mulberry in front of the
21 "U" have to go. They are a traffic hazard,
22 they are a pain in the neck and if you try
23 to avoid them and you had a police car
24 behind he might have justice to pull you
25 over to see if you have been drinking. They

1 are terrible. They are terrible. They got
2 half the street narrowed, now it's time for
3 the parking meters to just go south. No
4 parking on Mulberry Street on those blocks.
5 Thank you and have a great night.

6 MR. ROGAN: Thank you very much. Is
7 there anyone else who would like to address
8 council?

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening.
10 Marie Schumacher. First, I'd like to
11 congratulate the fire department grant
12 writers committee on the receipt of the
13 SAFER grant. That was certainly good news
14 that was in the paper today.

15 On 7-C tonight could somebody
16 explain what the need is and what the cost
17 is?

18 MR. ROGAN: It sounds like it will
19 be a HUD legal matter compliance issue. As
20 for the cost, I'd have to look.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: It sounds like it,
22 what is it? You have the backup; right?
23 You all have the backup so is not in the
24 backup?

25 MR. GAUGHAN: I believe -- yes, this

1 is mandated by HUD, by the federal
2 government. Every time you do the
3 consolidated plan you have to have a company
4 come in and do an analysis of the
5 impediments to fair housing.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: What is the cost
7 and is it being paid out of the city
8 operating funds or is it OECD, coming out of
9 the OECD administration funding?

10 MR. GAUGHAN: I believe it's coming
11 out of the administration funding, but I'll
12 double check. I think the cost is \$12,500,
13 but I'll double check on that, too.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: But it's in Seventh
15 Order tonight so it will be a done deal.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, I mean, it
17 doesn't make a difference because we have to
18 do it.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah. Well, it
20 does. I mean, there is a lot of
21 administrative funding in the OECD budget,
22 so it would be nice if they paid for it,
23 plus they still are not paying any rental
24 fee; right?

25 MR. ROGAN: No, but we are saving by

1 not having to pay rent. When the city was
2 out of city hall we were paying rent and --

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: I understand that
4 was one of the reasons for bringing them
5 back so we would get -- okay, thank you, but
6 as long you are ready to talk, Mr. Rogan,
7 I'm ready to hear what you found out about
8 the Jersey Central building down there that
9 you months ago said you would find out what
10 was going on with that building.

11 MR. ROGAN: As of right now there is
12 no progress.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: So made over a
14 million dollar investment in a roof that --
15 for no use whatsoever.

16 MR. ROGAN: At this point yes, but I
17 would just like to remind you that the North
18 Scranton Junior High School building the
19 same thing happened, a new roof put on and
20 that actually saved the building. That's
21 why we have the rehab project going on there
22 right now.

23 MS. SCHUMACHER: What year was
24 the -- did Jersey Central get that funding
25 for the roof?

1 MR. ROGAN: I don't know, but that
2 roof was put of recently, probably in the
3 last 10 years.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Has
5 PEL, I guess it would be you, Mr. Evans,
6 provided the impact of the parole
7 preparation tax as a replacement for the
8 mercantile?

9 MR. EVANS: I know that study is
10 ongoing and that's one of the problems that
11 we are having is it's taking longer than we
12 anticipated. They are still working on
13 that.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: What is the
15 estimated completion date?

16 MR. EVANS: Well, we hope something
17 in the last quarter of this year as far as
18 that concerned so.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I thought it
20 was for the budget for this year --

21 MR. EVANS: Well, yeah, it turned
22 out to be far more difficult than they
23 anticipated.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And has --
25 have you followed up with the tax collector

1 or with the mayor since he was the tax
2 collector for the last four years on those
3 figures you provided?

4 MR. EVANS: I'm going to discuss
5 that in motions.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. What
7 about the combination of property taxes, the
8 assessment, separate assessments, etcetera,
9 rates, millage rates for the improvements
10 and the land, what is the status of that?
11 That was also a revised recovery plan issue.

12 MR. EVANS: That was another thing
13 that turned out to be very, very complicated
14 and they are still looking into it, but I
15 don't hold much hope for it only because of
16 when they tried to get different
17 calculations it was they just couldn't get
18 it to work, you know, as far as lowering the
19 millage on land versus increasing it on
20 improvements, but it's still being looked at
21 by PEL.

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. And then
23 what about the real estate, it seems last
24 week there were -- there was a comparison
25 this year to last year on collection of real

1 estate taxes, well, and the other taxes,
2 too, but the real estate tax it looks as
3 though if you take out the tax increase we
4 are running about \$400,000 behind, is that
5 expected to complete at the end of this
6 year?

7 MR. EVANS: Are you referring to the
8 assessed valuations or are you referring to
9 the real estate?

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: On the tax
11 collected, real estate taxes collected.

12 MR. EVANS: Yeah, that's probably
13 close to -- you know, I'll talk a little
14 about that in motions as well.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. I'll finish
16 up the others and bring some new ones next
17 week. I would like to get back on the
18 double pension issue next week and the
19 possibility of bringing some of those people
20 in.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: And just, I want to
22 correct myself, the contract with -- for
23 OECD for the consolidated plan is \$17,425.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank you.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there

1 anyone else who would like to address
2 council?

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

5 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Wechsler, do you
6 have any motions or comments?

7 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, thank you,
8 Mr. Rogan. A few items to discuss. First,
9 it was mentioned already, Marie Schumacher
10 already mentioned this, the good news about
11 the SAFER grant that we were awarded
12 yesterday, and I also would like to thank
13 members of the fire department who put this
14 grant together along with Senator Casey and
15 Congressman Cartright, we worked on this
16 feverishly to get it done and actually it
17 was quiet smooth, a smooth process this
18 time. Part of the reason why it went so
19 smoothly what I feel is that we hired some
20 firemen on our own previously the grant
21 being award and in addition the fact that we
22 be able to get these new firefighters on
23 some staff hopefully by January it will
24 allow us to keep firehouses open and also to
25 cut the amount of overtime that we have in

1 spending, so overall it's a win for the city
2 and it's a win for the neighborhoods and I
3 congratulate the fire department on getting
4 that done.

5 I also spoke this week to Chief
6 Graziano concerning the plan for an
7 application for an LSA to perhaps purchase
8 the National Guard sight up in East
9 Scranton. From speaking to the chief, if we
10 are able to secure this without any
11 additional costs to the city it sounds like
12 a very good idea. The site itself is
13 prepared for classrooms, it's prepared for
14 heavy equipment, it could serve as a
15 secondary emergency center. It could serve
16 as an emergency city hall if necessary.

17 One of questions that I did have
18 with the chief was at some point in time
19 there was a lot of diesel trucks and things
20 like that up there and the chief informed me
21 actually that that site -- there is a
22 federal site and there is a state site, and
23 right now the city is only concerned with
24 the federal site. The federal site does not
25 have the problems of the liquids, that site

1 is the state site and that's already owned
2 by another person, so we don't have any
3 brown field remedies facing us if we do
4 secure the grants to purchase this site, so
5 it's something that ongoing, we are going to
6 look at it very carefully and if it does not
7 cost us anymore money and I think it's a
8 good idea that we pursue it.

9 Also, tonight with the comments that
10 when were made concerning the paving
11 ordinance, since I'm on city council the
12 largest complaints that we all field is
13 about the potholes in the city. The
14 majority of the potholes in the city aren't
15 potholes, they are pave cuts. We had worked
16 hard to get this ordinance together to help
17 remedy some of the situations. The
18 utilities did have an opportunity to comment
19 on the plan while we were working on it, so
20 I don't mind having discussions with them
21 right now if there is something we can tweak
22 with it, but the ordinance is not going to
23 thrown out and if it requires the city to go
24 to Court for us to protect our residents
25 then I think that's something that we are

1 going to have to do.

2 All of us on council this week were
3 also contracted by the Reverend Katherine
4 Simmons about some problems that they had in
5 the Midtown area as a result of the Sandone
6 fire, I think Councilman Gaughan is going to
7 talk a little more about it in his motions,
8 but we did speak to her and just to
9 alleviate some of the concerns we have not
10 seen a huge fire in our city like this in
11 quite awhile, so I think it's time we
12 revisit some of our protocols in terms of
13 knowing what type of facilities we have in
14 the city that may present potential problems
15 like this in future so this is a good
16 starting point for us to kind of reevaluate
17 where we are in terms of safety in the city.

18 This weekend was a great weekend in
19 the city. I attended La Festa a few times,
20 had an enjoyable time on Sunday. I was able
21 to have brunch at the Back Yard Ale House
22 and then go over and walk around the La Festa
23 square and it was just outstanding, and from
24 speaking to some of the vendors there a lot
25 of the people were out-of-towners, people

1 from different areas that come to our city
2 and that is what we are shooting for.

3 Also, I was fortunate enough to
4 attend the Railfest which brought even more
5 people into the city, more people to come
6 and visit us and once again outside people
7 filling up our hotel rooms and spending
8 money in our city. Two very successful
9 events.

10 I would like to comment on
11 Mr. Spindler about Mr. McGoff, Mr. McGoff is
12 a duly elected council person, Mr. McGoff
13 can serve at his pleasure on this board.
14 Even though Mr. McGoff has not been
15 attending meetings, we have been in contact
16 with him on an ongoing basis, he has
17 provided me with insight on matters that we
18 are talking about right now and I totally
19 disagree that there is any reason for
20 Mr. McGoff to resign. And that's all I have
21 right now. Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Wechsler.
23 Mr. Evans, do you have any motions or
24 comments?

25 MR. EVANS: Yes, thank you. I'll

1 comment a little bit on what Marie said, I
2 have a little bit different spin on the
3 whole lack of property tax increase. What I
4 see happening is that when you increase
5 taxes 58 percent first thing residents do
6 they line up at the door of the Assessment
7 Office to file appeals, and that's what is
8 taking place, and this year with a double
9 digit increase they have done the same
10 thing.

11 An abnormal amount of Scranton
12 residents have gone to the Assessor's Office
13 asking for a lower assessment which in turn
14 lowers their property taxes and justifiably
15 so because our assessment is a joke. So
16 what is happening is we are watching our
17 improvement values actually decrease from
18 \$360,000 million last year to \$305 million
19 this year. That's a sign of a city that is
20 not growing so we have to do something about
21 that and do something about it quickly, so
22 that's sort of a roundabout way to answer
23 your question and that's what I am really
24 concerned about is we have to stop the
25 double digit tax increases and give people

1 an incentive to stop going for
2 reassessments, we have to get a reassessment
3 done in order to have fairness across the
4 board for our residents, but that's for
5 another discussion.

6 I want to clarify last week's
7 discussion on the mercantile tax a bit. At
8 city council's direction PEL has been doing a
9 study to research the impact of replacing
10 the mercantile tax with a broader and more
11 equitable payroll tax. This is allowed for
12 under the latest revised Act 47 recovery
13 plan. However, it is like-for-like tax and
14 whatever the amount of tax collected for the
15 mercantile tax will be the baseline for the
16 payroll tax when it's implemented and cannot
17 be increased after that occurs, so while we
18 expected the study to be completed by now
19 which would have allowed for this to move
20 ahead and switch over to the payroll tax it
21 is clearly more complicated than all of us
22 anticipated, but one of the most interesting
23 pieces of information we received because of
24 this ongoing study was that nearly 2,400
25 businesses were identified as eligible for

1 payroll tax yet, less than 400 or less were
2 identified as currently paying the
3 mercantile tax.

4 While not every business that would
5 pay a payroll tax would also be eligible to
6 pay mercantile tax, but this number is
7 shocking to say the least. About
8 approximately 17 percent of those identified
9 as eligible to pay payroll tax are currently
10 paying the mercantile tax.

11 Our conversation at some of our PEL
12 meetings have been basically we are ready
13 and we could immediately switch over to the
14 payroll tax with the current numbers as our
15 baseline. However, as mentioned above two
16 things have happened: One, the single fact
17 that we are not ready; and secondly to the
18 fact that the level of participation on
19 those eligible to pay the mercantile tax and
20 those actually paying is credible, and not
21 in a good way. This is underperforming.
22 This is one of the reasons why I do not like
23 the mercantile tax. It's difficult to
24 collect, it is underreported, and it unfair
25 to businesses that pay it as those opposed

1 -- or those that don't pay it don't.

2 In general, it's a nuisance tax that
3 drives businesses from the city so we should
4 make every effort now to increase those
5 levels of collection at least for the 2016
6 budget and in transition to use a payroll
7 tax in 2017 at the higher level.

8 Now, I'd like to talk about my favor
9 subject, which is actually growth. I would
10 like to continue this conversation, a
11 concept and a conversation on growth, a
12 concept that is rarely heard from within the
13 walls of city hall. We talk about budgets,
14 we talk about monetization of authority, we
15 talk about our distressed status, we talk
16 about recovery plans and we talk about
17 pension reform, in fact, I talk about
18 pension reform a lot, but growing our way
19 out is something that's rarely a topic for
20 discussion.

21 At past city council meetings I have
22 talked at length about the success story of
23 Allentown, Pennsylvania, because of their
24 designation as a NIZ or a neighborhood
25 improvement zone, a remarkable development

1 to both authored and received by a forward
2 thinking state senator in the Lehigh Valley
3 by the name of Pat Brown. Because of this
4 designation now, Allentown has either built,
5 is under construction, or is planning to
6 build \$1.2 billion in development in the
7 downtown corridor and along the Lehigh
8 River. Because of its success, the state
9 has developed a second program, a sort of
10 NIZ like which is called a city
11 revitalization improvement or CRIZ. The
12 cities of Bethlehem and Lancaster received
13 that designation last year.

14 Under this designation, certain
15 state and local revenues generated by new
16 and existing businesses within the CRIZ, as
17 well as contractors working on the CRIZ
18 county's projects can be used to pay debt on
19 bonds and loans that are issued for
20 qualifying capital improvements in the zone,
21 thus creating tremendous opportunity for
22 growth and development.

23 A CRIZ designation would be a
24 long-term investment by the state, the city
25 and businesses and property owners and the

1 economic health and well-being of Scranton.
2 In the discussion with the developers and
3 some of our state delegation this is the
4 kind of game changer that could help us grow
5 our economy after the last seven years of no
6 growth or little growth.

7 In conversations with State Senator
8 John Blake over the summer, the current
9 budget talks may yield an opportunity for
10 additional designations for a CRIZ. The
11 senator has been a staunch supporter in
12 getting this for Scranton and certainly
13 would be our ally in Harrisburg, but we must
14 be prepared to act if that happens, so I
15 would just suggest the following. I would
16 like to draft a letter to send to the state
17 leadership and the House and Senate, the
18 Governor's Office, as well to the northeast
19 delegation expressing the importance of
20 obtaining a CRIZ designation for the City of
21 Scranton to be signed by city council after
22 comment and review by all of us.

23 I would also like to send a draft
24 letter to the mayor recommending that the
25 administration begin the process of

1 reviewing the application submission
2 requirements so that we are ready to roll on
3 day one when and if in opportunity arises.
4 Again, this letter to be signed by Scranton
5 City Council after members had an
6 opportunity to review it and comment on it.

7 We can't sit on the sidelines and
8 watch as cities like Allentown, Bethlehem
9 and Lancaster all develop while we wonder
10 what happened while we are not not going to
11 sign pending legislation to put Scranton
12 into receivership. That's all I have.
13 Thank you.

14 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Gaughan,
15 do you have any motions or comments?

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I do, thank you.
17 First, I'd like to send my condolences and
18 prayers out to the family of Harry McGrath
19 who recently passed away. Mr. McGrath was
20 the former Lackawanna County Democratic
21 Chairman and he will be missed by all in the
22 City of Scranton.

23 I also would like to remember
24 everyone had passed away on September 11,
25 2001, in what was a national tragedy that we

1 sometimes I think forget as we, you know,
2 move farther and farther away from that
3 terrible date, so I would like to remember
4 all of those people who perished on that
5 day.

6 I would like to read into the record
7 a letter that we received, council received
8 September 9, from Bill Fox, the city tax
9 collector. "Dear Sirs: As of August 31,
10 2015, we have collected \$2,235,256.48 for
11 the LST tax. The amount budgeted by the
12 city is \$4,287,500. The reason we stated
13 that the budgeted amount may not be met is
14 because the fourth quarter of 2015 is not
15 due until January 31, 2016, so monies
16 received by the city for collections being
17 2015 will include the fourth quarter of
18 2014, which was at the previous rate of \$52,
19 and the first, second and third quarters of
20 2015. These collections would also include
21 prior year delinquent taxes collected during
22 2015.

23 Also, the exemption amount on wages
24 was increased from \$12,00 to \$15,600. This
25 will reduce the amount that the wage earner

1 is required to pay."

2 I'd like to thank Mr. Fox for his
3 quick response to our questions. I did not
4 receive anything yet from the mayor or the
5 administration. I'm concerned about what
6 the plan is for covering this potential
7 shortfall and what the impact will be on our
8 2016 budget so hopefully we will be able to
9 have that conversation and receive
10 correspondence from the mayor and
11 administration as soon as we quickly
12 approach budget season.

13 In the caucus I discussed setting up
14 a caucus with NEPA text deals, a gentleman
15 from Hazelton would like to come up and
16 speak to city council and eventually the
17 administration on offering free text
18 messaging service to reach out to citizens
19 of Scranton. I think it will be very
20 helpful, I've talked about it numerous times
21 here on council so hopefully this will be an
22 informative session for my colleagues and I
23 and we will update you on that as we move
24 forward.

25 Mr. Wechsler mentioned the pave cut

1 lawsuit, I think it's simple. We must
2 protect our streets and we must protect our
3 infrastructure. Something is wrong in this
4 city when you drive up streets, for example,
5 like Mary Street in North Scranton that was
6 just paved three years ago and the street is
7 an absolute disaster so either there is not
8 coordination, I really don't know what the
9 issue is, but the legislation at least as
10 far as I was concerned and the
11 administration, and I was happy that they
12 sent it down, was that you would have to
13 pave in certain instances curb to curb, so
14 it wasn't a little pave cut, it stretched
15 across curb to curb and would make less of
16 an impact on the street so I would hope that
17 the administration would stand strong on
18 this and that we will continue to work
19 towards protecting our streets and really
20 our neighborhood because in the end it's the
21 taxpayers who are suffering here.

22 I did ask last week for a response
23 on the \$1 million in savings from the police
24 and fire contracts, another thing that I'm
25 concerned about how wee tracking this, if

1 we've that goal yet. Again, as I mentioned
2 we are quickly approaching the 2016 budget
3 so I would hope in the near future we would
4 hear from the mayor on this, these are
5 savings that were touted. I hope we meet
6 the \$1 million, but I would like to see how
7 we are doing that and how we are tracking it
8 and what the status of that is.

9 I did receive a complaint from a
10 citizen in the 1100 block of Sloan Street.
11 This is the second complaint about speeding
12 so I would ask Mrs. Reed if she would send
13 correspondence to Chief Graziano and asked
14 that that be looked into.

15 The paving bids for Phase II of the
16 \$2 1/2 million paving project were opened
17 this Wednesday, September 9. There were
18 three bidders, Pennsy Supply, American
19 Asphalt and Krieger Construction. Just a
20 reminder that Phase II includes city streets
21 in North Scranton, West Scranton and Keyser
22 Valley.

23 And I would just like to comment on
24 what Mr. Spindler said tonight, and I agree
25 with what Mr. Wechsler had said. I do not

1 agree with asking Mr. McGoff to resign. I
2 will, and I know my colleagues will, stand
3 behind Mr. McGoff until he overcomes his
4 medical issues and that is all I have for
5 this week. Thank you.

6 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.

7 MR. EVANS: Mr. Rogan, if I may add
8 and reinforce that as well, no one has more
9 respect for Mr. McGoff than myself and my
10 colleagues and we will do whatever
11 Mr. McGoff wants us to do. We will wait for
12 him patiently and we expect him to come
13 back. That's all I have for now.

14 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, and I guess I
15 planned on bringing that up as well I guess
16 we'll start there. Two things that two
17 speakers that I often times agree with
18 brought up that I strongly disagree with are
19 the comments made regarding Mr. McGoff and
20 the comments regarding Officer Wilding's
21 funeral.

22 As my colleagues said regarding
23 Mr. McGoff, we have been in contact,
24 constant contact with him regarding many
25 issues that are going on. I don't believe

1 it would be appropriate for him to resign at
2 this point in time.

3 Regarding Officer Wilding, I don't
4 think it's too much for the city to do to
5 pay for a funeral for somebody who died
6 while keeping us safe, just something I
7 believe. I also believe, this is an
8 unrelated issues that wasn't resolved the
9 way I would like it to be resolved, is that
10 Veteran's groups shouldn't have to pay for
11 the Showmobile, which is another issue that
12 I talked about prior to the August recess.

13 Obviously, the city is very
14 concerned about the bottom line, but in
15 instances such as these for veterans, for
16 fallen police officers, fallen firefighters
17 the city should do anything they can to try
18 and help and I do think it is reasonable for
19 the city to pay for the funeral for a fallen
20 officer.

21 Sticking with some of the public
22 safety issues, you know, Councilmen Wechsler
23 brought this up and so did some of my other
24 colleagues, an excellent job by the Fire
25 Department regarding the Sandone fire. I

1 was actually in Dunmore when that fire first
2 started and you could smell it all the way
3 up in Dunmore. That smoke blanketed the
4 town, it wasn't a traditional house fire,
5 and just from talking to some of the men on
6 the fire department and some of the accounts
7 in the newspaper, you know, and that's why I
8 have always respected the job that these
9 guys do, and as I said before, when we were
10 running out of the burning building they are
11 running in, and especially a building filled
12 with tires falling all over the place and
13 shoots every where, you know, bringing the
14 tires from one floor to another, an
15 excellent job by the Fire Department and all
16 that were involved with that as well.

17 I'm very happy that the city was
18 approved for the SAFER grant. Keeping our
19 fire houses open and keeping them at a
20 acceptable staffing level is something that
21 I strongly believe in and it needs to be a
22 priority of city government. I did speak
23 with the mayor this week regarding the
24 staffing at the fire department and as was
25 mentioned by Councilmen Wechsler the hiring

1 of the five officers to maintain that level
2 was critical in being able to get the SAFER
3 grant because there is a minimum level that
4 needs to be maintained and my hope is with
5 this grant we would keep some of the fire
6 houses that have been browned out from time
7 to time open to better our public safety.

8 The La Festa Committee did an
9 excellent job, I had a great time, ate a
10 little bit too much, but as always well
11 done.

12 Councilmen Gaughan brought up last
13 week about the LST tax being behind and this
14 is something that I am very concerned about
15 as well. This was -- unfortunately, the
16 state every time the city tries to do
17 something they give us very few options,
18 this was one of the options that was given
19 to us so it is important that we make sure
20 that that tax is being collected, it is
21 being collected appropriately not only by
22 the tax office, but by employers as well who
23 are often times responsible for withholding
24 that money and turning it over to the city.
25 I wouldn't be surprised if part of the lag

1 is on the part of the employers as well, so
2 I don't know what the tax office's plan to
3 deal with that is, but the employers have to
4 be an equal part in this equation as well.

5 The double pensions were brought up
6 and I will note I believe that we should
7 have some sort of questioning session here
8 in council chambers. I know that there was
9 some hesitance on my colleagues' part, but I
10 did speak to Attorney Minora about it and I
11 think what we will do is we'll speak after
12 this to contact the state police and see if
13 anything of that nature would be a hindrance
14 to any investigation they have going on then
15 go from there, but I agree we need answers.
16 This has been six, eight months and we
17 haven't heard a thing other than we know the
18 city is out millions of dollars.

19 I know that for the individuals that
20 are receiving the double pensions that will
21 play out in the courts as to whether there
22 is a settlement or whether a judge makes
23 that decision, but as far as how it happened
24 and to make sure it doesn't happen again
25 those are answers that we still don't know

1 and we definitely need to find out.

2 Finally, council is introducing
3 tonight the 2016 Community Block Grant Fund.
4 Obviously, there are many great programs
5 that apply for this funding and there is
6 only a small pool of money, but I will go
7 through what is currently proposed and there
8 can be some amendments made, there are some
9 that I feel should be made, I'll see what my
10 colleagues think. There will be a public
11 hearing next week and then a 30-day comment
12 period before final passage.

13 So starting at the top of the list
14 the first item is \$200,000 proposed for the
15 administration and coordination of
16 Scranton's OECD business loan program and
17 site infrastructure improvements to benefit
18 low to moderate income persons to draft job
19 creation.

20 The second item on the list, one
21 that is very, very important for our
22 neighborhoods, \$300,000 for funding for five
23 full-time community development police
24 officers in low to moderate income areas.

25 Next, \$200,000 in funding for

1 demolition and disposal of blighted and
2 abandoned properties through the City of
3 Scranton.

4 Next, \$5,000 for the Catherine
5 McAulley Center, scattered parking around
6 the city. I think I might need to get a
7 little more information on that one. That's
8 a little bit vague.

9 Next, United Neighborhood Center of
10 NEPA, develop youth program \$10,000. United
11 Neighborhood Center, SCOLA Learning Center,
12 \$10,000. United Neighborhood Center to
13 serve the low income children of the City of
14 Scranton, Project Summer Hope, \$25,000.

15 Next, and this is the largest
16 amount, the largest dollar amount that I
17 will be reading off, and it's one of the
18 most important as well, \$685,000, that's for
19 paving and curb cuts in low to moderate
20 income areas. As has been reported by the
21 newspaper, this year is going to be the most
22 paving that's ever been done on the streets
23 in the City of Scranton. There is much more
24 that needs to be done. Our infrastructure
25 has been crumbling for decades and this is

1 another good step towards repairing those
2 roads.

3 The next item payment of Section 108
4 loan, that is for the Scranton Hotel
5 \$225,000.

6 The next item \$180,000 this is one
7 that I think will upset a lot of people, is
8 the Section 108 payment to the Steamtown
9 Mall Partners so that is because of this
10 default \$108,000 that is being spent out of
11 this program instead of being spent on
12 paving or for many of these community groups
13 that are listed in here.

14 The administration costs for CDBG
15 administrative costs \$480,000. CDBG funds
16 for the HOME program for administration,
17 \$20,000.

18 The Boys and Girls Club, a
19 neighborhood version of the Scranton and
20 Scranton School Districts low income
21 neighborhoods to provide a program, \$18,237.

22 St. Joseph's Center for the
23 mother/infant program, \$5,000.

24 City of Scranton sidewalk and street
25 scape improvements, \$75,000.

1 City of Scranton Parks and
2 Recreation \$225,000 for the Novembrino Pool
3 Complex. This has been something that has
4 been on the agenda for a long time and it's
5 a project that I know we all desperately
6 want see completed.

7 The Weston Park Senior Little
8 League, \$18,500. Marvin Dutch Little
9 League, \$50,000. The Hill Neighborhood
10 association \$15,000 for acquisition of
11 vacant and landed lots.

12 The Scranton Fire Department
13 \$100,000. Purchase of a fire truck for
14 Engine No. 7.

15 The next allocations are for the
16 HOME program, \$220,000 for rehabilitation of
17 homes in the City of Scranton. \$60,000,
18 this one is for a nonprofit community based
19 organization to help staff to develop
20 affordable housing in the community.

21 The next item is \$40,000 to be used
22 reasonable administrative and planning costs
23 in compliance with the HOME home rules.

24 \$50,000 for the rental
25 rehabilitation program.

1 And, finally, \$25,000 for the
2 housing acquisition and rehabilitation
3 program.

4 Obviously it's a quite lengthy list
5 and I'm sure there will be much more
6 discussion on these items as the next few
7 weeks move forward, and that is all I have
8 for tonight. Thank you.

9 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
10 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
11 NO. 58, 2014, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "GENERAL
12 CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2015" BY TRANSFERRING
13 \$63,477.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
14 01.401.13090.4299 (NON-DEPARTMENTAL
15 EXPENDITURES-CONTINGENCY) TO THE ACCOUNTS
16 LISTED BELOW TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR
17 CADETS TRAINING AT HACC AND EMT TRAINING
18 REIMBURSEMENT AND 10% MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE
19 2014 AFG GRANT FOR SCBA PURCHASE.

20 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
21 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
22 introduced into its proper committee.

23 MR. EVANS: So moved.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

25 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All

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

3 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

4 MR. EVANS: Aye.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

8 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
9 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
10 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
11 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO
12 IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR
13 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
14 TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
15 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT
16 PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY
17 SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG) PROGRAM FOR THE
18 PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2016.

19 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
20 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
21 introduced into its proper committee.

22 MR. EVANS: So moved.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

24 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
25 those in favor of introduction signify by

1 saying aye.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

3 MR. EVANS: Aye.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

5 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
6 have it and so moved.

7 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
8 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION
9 OF A STOP SIGN (R1-1) WITH EXCEPT RIGHT TURN
10 (R1-10P) BELOW IT, BE INSTALLED AT THE
11 NORTHWESTERLY INTERSECTION OF RIDGE AVENUE
12 AND ASH STREET AND THAT THE EXISTING ONE-WAY
13 SIGNS BE REMOVED AT THE INTERSECTION OF
14 RIDGE AVENUE AND MYRTLE STREET AND NEW
15 ONE-WAY (R6-1L) SIGNS BE INSTALLED ON A
16 CHANNEL THERE AND ALSO AN ADDITIONAL ONE-WAY
17 (R6-1L) BE INSTALLED NEAR 927 RIDGE AVENUE.

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

21 MR. EVANS: So moved.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

23 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
24 those in favor of introduction signify by
25 saying aye.

1 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

2 MR. EVANS: Aye.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

6 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
7 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
8 NO. 47, 2013 AND FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 44,
9 2014, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
10 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE
11 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
12 ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED
13 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
14 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
15 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
16 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)
17 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG)
18 PROGRAM BY AMENDING BOTH THE 2014 AND 2015
19 ACTION PLAN TO ACCEPT, RECEIVE AND DISBURSE
20 GRANT FUNDS FOR BOTH THE "NOVEMBRINO POOL"
21 ACTIVITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$220,000.00 AND
22 THE "PINE RIDGE SWIMMING COMPLEX" IN THE
23 AMOUNT OF \$45,000.00 THAT TOTALS \$265,000.00
24 UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
25 PROGRAM (CDBG) ADMINISTERED BY THE U.S.

1 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
2 AND TRANSFERRING THESE FUNDS TO THE 2015
3 ACTIVITY ENTITLED "RECONSTRUCTION OF CITY
4 STREETS TO INCLUDE HANDICAPPED CURB CUTS".

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

8 MR. EVANS: So moved.

9 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

13 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

14 MR. EVANS: Aye.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

18 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
19 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF HAL DONAHUE,
20 1518 VINE STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, AS
21 A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION,
22 EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 4, 2015. MR. DONAHUE IS
23 BEING APPOINTED TO A THREE (3) YEAR TERM
24 THAT WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2018.

25 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll

1 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
2 introduced into its proper committee.

3 MR. EVANS: So moved.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

5 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
6 those in favor of introduction signify by
7 saying aye.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

9 MR. EVANS: Aye.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

13 MS. REED: 5-G. FOR INTRODUCTION -
14 A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL
15 HANLEY, 800 WOODLAWN STREET, SCRANTON,
16 PENNSYLVANIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN
17 RELATIONS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 4,
18 2015. MR. HANLEY IS BEING APPOINTED TO A
19 THREE (3) YEAR TERM THAT WILL EXPIRE ON
20 SEPTEMBER 4, 2018.

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

24 MR. EVANS: So moved.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

1 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

2 MR. WECHSLER: Yes, Mr. Rogan. I
3 would just like to thank Mr. Donahue and MR.
4 Hanley for stepping up to become part of
5 this commission. As we spoke about last
6 week, that needs to be staffed to cover some
7 of the potential problems in our city and I
8 would like to thank them.

9 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely. If there
10 anyone else that is interested in becoming a
11 member of this committee, they can contact
12 the mayor's office because there are some
13 vacancies.

14 MR. EVANS: I would concur on that
15 and say I give Mayor Courtright credit on
16 this because he is getting it back on track
17 and he is appointing some very, very good
18 people.

19 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor of
20 introduction signify by saying aye.

21 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

1 MS. REED: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
3 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
4 AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TRIBEN
5 INSURANCE SOLUTIONS, INC. TO PROVIDE
6 INSURANCE SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
7 LIFE, DISABILITY AND DENTAL INSURANCE FOR A
8 FOUR (4) YEAR PERIOD FROM MARCH 1, 2015
9 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2019.

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

13 MR. EVANS: So moved.

14 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

15 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

16 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.
17 Mrs. Reed, if we can send a second letter
18 request to the mayor asking what the hold up
19 was with this deal; and secondly,
20 Mrs. Hodowanitz brought up a good point
21 about a possible lapse in coverage and what
22 the process was there and, you know, I mean,
23 I said this last week, it's a concern. I
24 mean, the memo was written in April and now
25 it's just getting on our agenda so if this

1 is being held up it makes me question what
2 else is being held up and why it's being
3 held up so I think it's something that we
4 should look into.

5 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the
6 question? All those in favor of
7 introduction signify by saying aye.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

9 MR. EVANS: Aye.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

13 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
14 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
15 115, 2015 - AN ORDINANCE - SALE OF TAX
16 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
17 1427 CAPOUSE AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
18 TO FMP REALTY, LLC, 1110 SAGINAW STREET,
19 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, FOR THE
20 CONSIDERATION OF \$4,001.00.

21 MR. ROGAN: You've heard reading by
22 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

23 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I move
24 that Item 6-A pass reading by title.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

1 MS. ROGAN: On the question? All
2 those in favor signify by saying aye.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

4 MR. EVANS: Aye.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

8 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
9 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 116, 2015 - AN
10 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
11 100, 2015, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "APPROVING
12 THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE
13 CURRENTLY OWNED BY KOSMART ENTERPRISES, INC.
14 NO. R-14852 TO 16TH WARD, LLC. FOR USE AT
15 306 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA AS
16 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL
17 BOARD" TO CORRECT A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR IN
18 THE CAPTION OF THE ORDINANCE TO THE CORRECT
19 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NO. R-14902 AS
20 STATED IN THE BODY OF THE ORDINANCE.

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

23 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I move
24 that Item 6-B pass reading by title.

25 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

1 MS. ROGAN: On the question? All
2 those in favor signify by saying aye.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

4 MR. EVANS: Aye.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

8 MS. WECHSLER: Mr. Chairman, I make
9 a motion to suspend the Rules and move Item
10 6-B into Seventh Order for final passage.

11 MR. ROGAN: At this time I'll
12 entertain a motion that council suspend the
13 rules and place Item 6-B into Seventh Order
14 for final passage.

15 MR. EVANS: So moved.

16 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

20 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

21 MR. EVANS: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

25 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR

1 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES- FOR
2 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 170, 2015 -
3 APPOINTMENT OF MARION E. GATTO, 12 FRANK
4 WAY, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18504, AS A
5 MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
6 LACKAWANNA COUNTY LAND BANK TO A FIVE (5)
7 YEAR TERM WHICH WILL COMMENCE ON AUGUST 6,
8 2015 AND IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON AUGUST 6,
9 2020.

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

13 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

19 MR. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

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

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

1 RESOLUTION NO. 171, 2015 - APPOINTMENT OF
2 LINDA B. AEBLI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
3 OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
4 DEVELOPMENT, FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON, 906
5 SKYVIEW DRIVE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18505,
6 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
7 LACKAWANNA COUNTY LAND BANK TO A FIVE (5)
8 YEAR TERM WHICH WILL COMMENCE ON AUGUST 6,
9 2015 AND IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON AUGUST 6,
10 2020.

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

14 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

1 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
2 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
3 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 172, 2015 -
4 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
5 CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
6 EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH
7 URBAN DESIGN VENTURES, LLC, 212 EAST SEVENTH
8 AVENUE, HOMESTEAD, PENNSYLVANIA 15120 TO
9 PERFORM AN ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR
10 HOUSING CHOICE FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
11 PENNSYLVANIA.

12 MR. ROGAN: What is the
13 recommendation of the temporary Chair for
14 the Committee on Community Development?

15 MR. EVANS: As temporary Chairperson
16 for the Committee on Community Development,
17 I recommend final passage of Item 7-C.

18 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

19 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
20 call, please?

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

24 MR. EVANS: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

3 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
4 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

5 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
6 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION
7 RESOLUTION NO. 173, 2015 - AUTHORIZING THE
8 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
9 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO SIGN AND SUBMIT
10 THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF
11 TRANSPORTATION ("PENNDOT") APPLICATION FOR
12 TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL
13 PERMIT NO. 02007 FOR THE MODIFICATIONS OF
14 THE EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE
15 INTERSECTION OF GREEN RIDGE STREET (SR 6011)
16 AND CAPOUSE AVENUE.

17 MR. ROGAN: What is the
18 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
19 Committee on Public Works?

20 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
21 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
22 passage of Item 7-D.

23 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

4 MR. EVANS: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

10 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION
11 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
12 ADOPTION RESOLUTION NO. 174, 2015 -
13 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
14 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
15 CONTRACT WITH A&M ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION
16 INC. TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC
17 SIGNALIZATION FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON FOR
18 THE PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR FROM SEPTEMBER 1,
19 2015 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2016.

20 MR. ROGAN: What is the
21 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
22 Committee on Public Safety?

23 MR. WECHSLER: As Chairperson for
24 the Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
25 final passage of Item 7-E.

1 MR. EVANS: Second.

2 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
3 call, please?

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

7 MR. EVANS: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

13 MS. REED: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION
14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION
15 RESOLUTION NO. 175, 2015 APPOINTMENT OF
16 SUSAN BLUM CONNORS, 2630 BIRNEY AVENUE,
17 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE
18 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE AUGUST
19 24, 2015. MRS. CONNORS IS BEING APPOINTED
20 TO A THREE (3) YEAR TERM THAT WILL EXPIRE ON
21 AUGUST 24, 2018.

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

25 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

6 MR. EVANS: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

12 MS. REED: 7-G. FOR CONSIDERATION
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION
14 RESOLUTION NO. 176, 2015 APPOINTMENT OF
15 ROBERT A. JOHNS, 833 NORTH REBECCA AVENUE,
16 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE
17 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE AUGUST
18 24, 2015. MR. JOHNS IS BEING APPOINTED TO A
19 THREE (3) YEAR TERM THAT WILL EXPIRE ON
20 AUGUST 24, 2018.

21 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chair for
22 the Committee on Rules, I recommend final
23 passage of Item 7-G.

24 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

25 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll

1 call, please?

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

5 MR. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

9 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
10 Item 7-G legally and lawfully adopted.

11 MS. REED: 7-H. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
12 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR
13 ADOPTION RESOLUTION NO. 177, 2015 RATIFYING
14 AND APPROVING THE SUBMISSION AND EXECUTION
15 OF THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF
16 SCRANTON (APPLICANT) TO THE COUNTY OF
17 LACKAWANNA (COUNTY) FOR A LACKAWANNA COUNTY
18 COMMUNITY RE-INVEST PROGRAM (CRP) GRANT TO
19 REPAIR AND REPLACE SCRANTON'S "SPIRIT OF
20 AMERICA DOUGHBOY" AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
21 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO
22 ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF SUCCESSFUL, TO EXECUTE
23 A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT AND DISBURSE
24 THE GRANT FUNDS FOR THE REPAIR AND
25 REPLACEMENT OF THE ORIGINAL VIQUESNEY

1 "DOUGHBOY".

2 MR. ROGAN: What is the
3 recommendation of the temporary Chair for
4 the Committee on Community Development?

5 MR. EVANS: As temporary Chairperson
6 for the Committee on Community Development,
7 I recommend final passage of Item 7-H.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

9 MR. ROGAN: On the question? I
10 wasn't here last week and I would just like
11 to thank Councilmen Wechsler for his hard
12 work on this. I know that statute means a
13 lot to a lot of people within the city,
14 especially our veterans, and the veterans in
15 South Side specifically. Roll call, please?

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

19 MR. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

25 MS. REED: 7-I. FOR CONSIDERATION

1 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
2 ADOPTION RESOLUTION NO. 178, 2015 -
3 RATIFYING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND
4 SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE
5 CITY OF SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT TO THE
6 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DCED) FOR A LOCAL
8 SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT (GAMING FUNDS) MONROE
9 COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$713,435.40 FOR THE
10 CITY OF SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED
11 TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF A NEW KME 100' MID
12 MOUNT AERIAL TRUCK TO REPLACE A 2001 FERRARA
13 TRUCK AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
14 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT THE
15 GRANT, IF SUCCESSFUL, COORDINATING AND
16 DISBURSING THE GRANT FUNDS TOWARD THE
17 PURCHASE OF THE NEW AERIAL TRUCK.

18 MR. ROGAN: What is the
19 recommendation of the Chair for the
20 Committee on Public Safety?

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

24 MR. EVANS: Second.

25 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll

1 call, please?

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

5 MR. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

11 MS. REED: 7-J, FORMERLY 6-B, FOR
12 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR
13 ADOPTION -- FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 116,
14 2015 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 100,
15 2015, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "APPROVING THE
16 TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE
17 CURRENTLY OWNED BY KOSMART ENTERPRISES, INC.
18 NO. R-14852 TO 16TH WARD, LLC. FOR USE AT
19 306 PENN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA AS
20 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL
21 BOARD" TO CORRECT A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR IN
22 THE CAPTION OF THE ORDINANCE TO THE CORRECT
23 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NO. R-14902 AS
24 STATED IN THE BODY OF THE ORDINANCE.

25 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chairperson

1 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
2 final passage of Item 7-J.

3 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

4 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
5 call, please?

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Wechsler.

7 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I hereby declare
14 Item 7-J legally and lawfully adopted. If
15 there is no further business, I'll entertain
16 a motion to adjourn.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Motion to adjourn.

18 MR. ROGAN: 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