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02 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL

03 PUBLIC HEARING

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05 IN RE: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 129, 2005 - AN ORDINANCE -

05 AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 86, 2004

06 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF

06 A LIQUOR LICENSE IN THE NAME OF EDWARD AND

07 ALICE KAKAREKA T/A THE FIRESIDE INN, BOROUGH OF

07 MOSCOW, LICENSE NO. R-20511 TO BMM

08 ENTERTAINMENT, INC., FOR USE AT THE RITZ

08 BUILDING, 222 WYOMING AVENUE, SCRANTON,

09 PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS REQUIRED BY THE

09 PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD IN ORDER TO

10 CORRECT AN ERROR IN THE LICENSE NUMBER.

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14 Held:

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15 Thursday, April 21, 2005

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17 Time:

18 6:45 p.m.

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19 Location:

20 Council chambers

20 Scranton City Hall

21 340 North Washington Avenue

21 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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25 Lisa M. Graff, RPR

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01 Court Reporter

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01 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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02 MR. GARY DIBILEO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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03 MS. JANET E. EVANS, VICE-PRESIDENT

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04 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

05

05 MR. JOHN POCIUS

06

06 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

07

07 MR. MARK WALSH, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

08

08 MR. JAY SAUNDERS, CITY CLERK

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09 MS. KAY GARVEY, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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01 MR. DIBILEO: Roll call, please,

02 Kay.

03 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

04 MR. McTIERNAN: Here.

05 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

06 MS. EVANS: Here.

07 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

08 MR. POCIUS: Here.

09 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

11 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Here.

13 The purpose of said Public Hearing

14 is to hear testimony and discuss the following:

15

16 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 129, 2005 - AN

17 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO.

18 86, 2004 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE APPROVING

19 THE TRANSFER OF A LIQUOR LICENSE IN THE

20 NAME OF EDWARD AND ALICE KAKAREKA T/A THE

21 FIRESIDE INN, BOROUGH OF MOSCOW, LICENSE

22 NO. R-20511 TO BMM ENTERTAINMENT, INC.,

23 FOR USE AT THE RITZ BUILDING, 222 WYOMING

24 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS

25 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR

0005

01 CONTROL BOARD IN ORDER TO CORRECT AN

02 ERROR IN THE LICENSE NUMBER.

03

04 MR. DIBILEO: We have a sign-in

05 sheet for anyone interested in speaking on this topic,

06 and there's no one signed in. Would anyone like to

07 speak on this topic? Seeing that there's no one,

08 we're going to adjourn and be back for seven o'clock

09 for our regular meeting. Thank you.

10 (HEARING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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01 C E R T I F I C A T E

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02 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
03 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
03 notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and  
04 that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to  
04 the best of my ability.

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08 LISA M. GRAFF, RPR

08 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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02 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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08 Held:

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09 Thursday, April 21, 2005

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11 Time:

12 7:00 p.m.

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14 Location:

15 Council chambers

15 Scranton City Hall

16 340 North Washington Avenue

16 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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23 Lisa M. Graff, RPR

24 Court Reporter

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01 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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03 MR. GARY DIBILEO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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05 MS. JANET E. EVANS, VICE-PRESIDENT

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09 MR. JOHN POCIUS

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11 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

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13 MR. MARK WALSH, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

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15 MR. JAY SAUNDERS, CITY CLERK

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17 MS. KAY GARVEY, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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01 MR. DIBILEO: Please stand for

02 the Pledge of Allegiance. Please remain standing for a

03 short prayer. Kay, can we have a roll call, please?

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

05 MR. McTIERNAN: Here.

06 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

07 MS. EVANS: Here.

08 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

09 MR. POCIUS: Here.

10 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

13 MR. DIBILEO: Here. Before we

14 dispense with the reading of the minutes, we have some

15 distinguished guests with us this evening, and I'd like

16 to inform everyone that we have members of the Scranton

17 High School Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity basketball

18 team with us this evening to receive a proclamation,

19 and we also have Scranton High School diver and swimmer

20 Matt Nonnenberg, and we're very pleased to have  
21 everyone here tonight.  
22 So, what we'll do is we'll read  
23 Matt's proclamation first, and then after that, we'll  
24 bring up the basketball team to be honored, basketball  
25 teams.

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01 So, I'd like to ask my fellow  
02 Council members to joining me up front for the reading  
03 of the proclamations.  
04 If Matt and his family would like  
05 to come forward, please, and his coach, also. The  
06 proclamation reads: Whereas, the Council of the City  
07 of Scranton is desirous of honoring Matt Nonnenberg,  
08 who is the son of Martin and Linda Nonnenberg of North  
09 Scranton and is a member of Scranton High School's  
10 swimming and diving team; and whereas, Matt is a senior  
11 at Scranton High School where he excels in driving, as  
12 he is the PIAA District II Champion for 2004 and 2005  
13 seasons; and whereas, since joining the swimming and  
14 diving team in his freshman year, Matt has reached many  
15 goals and has obtained the distinction of All State  
16 Honorable Mention for 2005; and whereas, Matt's other  
17 accomplishments include 12th place at States 2005, 14th  
18 place at States 2004, Lackawanna County Champion in  
19 2004 and 2005, Champion of the Abington Heights Diving  
20 Classic in 2005; and whereas, Matt holds the record for  
21 diving at Scranton High School and also broke the  
22 record at the Lackawanna County Championships this  
23 year; and whereas, not only does Matt excel as a diver,  
24 he is also an honor student and a member of the German  
25 club, where he was awarded an all-expense paid trip to  
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01 Germany after winning an essay writing contest in his  
02 German class; and whereas, during his high school  
03 career he has participated in numerous other  
04 activities, such as, student council, track and field,  
05 as well as soccer in his freshman year; and whereas,  
06 Matt has brought pride to Scranton High School and is a  
07 great example of a student athlete who conducts himself  
08 with class and discipline; and whereas, Matt's coaches  
09 are head coach Frank McGuire, Assistant Coach Kevin  
10 Callahan, and Diving Coach Matt Montouro; and whereas,  
11 after graduating from high school, Matt plans to  
12 continue his education in the hopes of becoming an  
13 industrial arts teacher.  
14 Now, therefore be it resolved on  
15 Thursday, April 21, 2005, Scranton City Council wishes

16 to congratulate Matt Nonnenberg, his parents, coaches  
17 and teachers for their outstanding achievements and  
18 extend or best wishes for success in all their future  
19 endeavors.

20 Be it further resolved that this  
21 proclamation be made a permanent part of the minutes of  
22 this Council as lasting tribute to Matt Nonnenberg.

23 Congratulations, Matt.

24 MR. McGUIRE: I'd just like to say  
25 congratulations to Matt for the honors that he's  
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01 achieved and the recognition you brought to Scranton  
02 High.

03 This being such a big football and  
04 basketball area, people can't fully appreciate what he  
05 has accomplished and the effort that it takes, but he  
06 has represented himself and our school and city very  
07 well. Congratulations.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. What we'll do  
09 is I'll read the proclamation, and as I read the team  
10 members' names, as your name is read, please come  
11 forward, we'll give you a proclamation and ask you to  
12 stand off to the side because we'll need the extra room  
13 here up front, okay?

14 Now this proclamation reads:

15 Whereas, the Council of the City of Scranton is  
16 desirous of honoring the Scranton High School  
17 Basketball Team for their achievements during the 2005  
18 season; and whereas the Knights were the undefeated  
19 league champions for 2004-2005 season; and whereas, the  
20 Knights' overall record for 2004-2005 season was 23-4;  
21 league record of 18-0; versus District II opponents  
22 22-1: The J.V. team's record for 2004-2005 was 22-0;  
23 and whereas, The Scranton Knights Basketball Teams'  
24 overall record for the last three seasons was 66-13;  
25 and league record 45-3; and a J.V. record of 63-2; and  
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01 whereas, the Knights Basketball Teams' other  
02 accomplishments are 2003-2004 Lynett Tournament  
03 Champions and league second half champions, 2003-2004  
04 and 2004-2005 District II AAAA runner-ups, 2004-2005  
05 Lynett Tournament Champions and State Tournament  
06 Qualifiers for AAAA; and whereas, the members of the  
07 team are: Phil Bartocci, Stephen Draper, Lamar  
08 Johnson, Yasiim McMillan, Alex Walsh, Steve Chmiel,  
09 Karrington Grissett, Jarret McGahee, A.J. McKenna, John  
10 Muta, Corey Walsh, Bobby Crofton, Mike Doherty, Robert  
11 Fisch, Ryan Gilhooley, Paul Golden, Dan Scherle, Mike

12 Simpson, Mike Weeks and Jaray Pelier; and whereas, the  
13 team is coached by Head Coach Tony Battaglia; and  
14 Assistant/J.V. Coach. Leo Ciullo.

15 Now, therefore, be it resolved,  
16 that on Thursday, April 21, 2005, Scranton City Council  
17 wishes to congratulate the scranton high school  
18 basketball team, their parents, coaches and school, on  
19 their outstanding achievements and extend our best  
20 wishes for success in all their future endeavors.

21 Be it further resolved, that this  
22 proclamation be made a permanent part of the minutes of  
23 this Council, as lasting tribute to the Scranton High  
24 School Basketball Teams. Congratulations, guys.

25 MR. BATTAGLIA: On behalf of  
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01 Scranton High School and the Scranton Basketball  
02 program, I'd just like to thank the City Council very  
03 much for this honor.

04 These guys worked super hard all  
05 year in the off season and during the season to attain  
06 some of the goals we have, and I appreciate the  
07 City Council recognizing that. Thank you very much.

08 MS. EVANS: Fellas, if you can  
09 wait just one minute, we brought someone very special  
10 in to congratulate you.

11 A retired N B.A. player,  
12 Mr. Darryl Dawkins, is here tonight, so if you can wait  
13 one second, I'm sure he would like to say hello and  
14 congratulate you himself.

15 MR. DIBILEO: This is  
16 Chocolate Thunder we're talking about. This is the  
17 real deal.

18 MR. DAWKINS: We've got some big  
19 boys up in here tonight. Congratulations to Matt first  
20 and congratulations to the team. Coach, I got to  
21 congratulate you, because I coach and I know how hard  
22 it is to keep guys on the right track, but you guys  
23 have done a great job and you deserve to be here.

24 I came here because last year I  
25 was here to try to help save the West Side Boys Club, I  
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01 volunteered to bring in ex-Sixers, volunteered to bring  
02 in my basketball team free of charge to help raise the  
03 money to save the club, you dropped the ball on that  
04 one.

05 I know you didn't want to see me  
06 back here again, but I'm back. I understand that crime  
07 is up among the young kids because you are taking

08 everything from them, they've got nowhere to go.  
09 You complain about them being on  
10 the streets in front of your business, why take  
11 everything from them?  
12 What about the parks you got where  
13 you're charging them too high fees to get into the  
14 prestigious parks? Kids can't pay that. The only  
15 place you go and pay to play is Chucky Cheese, and  
16 you're trying to tell me you're turning your parks into  
17 Chucky Cheese, huh?  
18 I'm here on behalf if Janet Evans,  
19 who's my friend, and I want to get her re-elected, I  
20 want to get Gary elected for mayor. Election season is  
21 coming up, and you guys got to use your votes wisely.  
22 You got to vote for people who care about your kids and  
23 want to do good things in your community.  
24 If you don't, things will remain  
25 the same and it's your own fault. You got to get out  
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01 and vote.  
02 As you look at this basketball  
03 team, as you look at Matt who's up here, it's proof  
04 that good things can be done right here in Scranton.  
05 You don't have to go outside to get nobody.  
06 We got a long way to go, Scranton.  
07 I'm volunteering my help once again. Gary, Janet, I'm  
08 in your court 100 percent.  
09 I also brought a picture for each  
10 one of the guys, but I wanted to give you all a little  
11 love down the line.  
12 MR. DAWKINS: And also, you know I  
13 coach the Valley Dogs up in Allentown and coach  
14 Willie Chandelier, who is one of my star players, and  
15 he just made practice last night, we'll play again  
16 tomorrow night, and it's proof, man, that good stuff  
17 comes from Scranton. So, you guys keep on getting your  
18 books. If you don't go there, you'll see me. Good  
19 luck.  
20 MR. DIBILEO: Hey, thanks to the  
21 basketball team and congratulations very much. Thanks  
22 for coming tonight. Appreciate it.  
23 Okay. Before we dispense with the  
24 reading of the minutes, I will -- I guess we have to  
25 recognize Darryl Dawkins for being here tonight  
0011  
01 congratulating the basketball team, and we appreciate  
02 him coming.  
03 Also, we were informed of very

04 unfortunate news today of the passing of a very valued  
05 employee of the City of Scranton, and we were saddened  
06 to hear of the passing of Morris Jackson, Jr.  
07 Morris was more than just a valued  
08 employee, he was a true gentleman and a friend to so  
09 many of us, and we certainly will absolutely greatly  
10 miss Morris. We congratulate him and are thankful for  
11 all the work he did for the City of Scranton.  
12 Morris was originally appointed  
13 March 13 of 1989, as database manager for the  
14 department of business administration under  
15 Mayor Wenzell.  
16 He took the position of labor  
17 standard office construction coordinator and A.D.A.  
18 compliance person under Mayor Doherty, and then in  
19 January of '03, to the present, Morris has been the  
20 recreation specialist, department of the parks and  
21 recreation, and we are very saddened by his passing,  
22 and we want to extend our condolences to the Jackson  
23 family, and we're certainly going to miss Morris very,  
24 very much. If anyone else would like to comment, they  
25 may do so at this time.

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01 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, would  
02 it be appropriate to have a moment of silence right  
03 now, we'll stand and have a moment of silence for  
04 Morris?

05 MR. DIBILEO: Very good idea.  
06 Let me ask for a moment of silence on the passing of  
07 Morris Jackson, please, if we can all stand. Thank  
08 you.

09 Now if we can dispense with the  
10 reading of the minutes.

11 MR. WALSH: Third order. 3-A,  
12 CONTROLLER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING MARCH 31,  
13 2005.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any  
15 comments on 3-A? If not, received and filed.

16 MR. WALSH: 3-B, APPLICATIONS AND  
17 DECISIONS RENDERED BY THE ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING  
18 HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2005.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any  
20 comments on 3-B? If not, received and filed.

21 MR. WALSH: 3-C, PETITION FOR NO  
22 TRUCKS ALLOWED SIGNS ON SAGINAW STREET.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any  
24 comments on 3-C?

25 MR. POCIUS: Yes, Mr. President.

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01 I would like to make a motion that we send this  
02 petition to the Bureau of Police and also to the city  
03 engineer for a joint study, bring their findings back  
04 to City Council in the form of a report to see if it  
05 warrants this and if we would have to do it then by  
06 ordinance, but my motion is that we forward this to the  
07 police department and the city engineer for reporting  
08 back to Council on this petition.

09 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

10 MR. DIBILEO: We have a motion on  
11 the floor and a second. On the question? All those  
12 in favor, signify by saying aye.

13 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

14 MS. EVANS: Aye.

15 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

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

19 MR. WALSH: 3-D, clerk's notes.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Saunders,  
21 please.

22 MR. SAUNDERS: Mr. President, a  
23 letter that was sent out on April 13, to the Scranton  
24 Sewer Authority about a problem at 1920 North  
25 Washington Avenue, crews from the Scranton Sewer  
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01 Authority performed maintenance on the catch basin  
02 April 12. We sent it out -- I guess they heard it on  
03 the meeting here.

04 They flushed it, cleaned it, and  
05 they assured proper use from it. Councilwoman Evans  
06 asked that we send that down to the Scranton Sewer  
07 Authority, and that has been completed.

08 The 500 block of Taylor Avenue,  
09 permit parking that we passed an ordinance recently on  
10 that, the signs are up and permit parking is taking  
11 place on Taylor Avenue.

12 The 100 block of Cedar Avenue that  
13 we recently passed an ordinance on that, the letter  
14 went out today to put the signs up there and to get the  
15 ball in motion moving that from 15 minutes to a half  
16 hour parking.

17 We received a letter -- first we  
18 sent a letter out to Congressman Kanjorski about the  
19 CDBG money to express our -- on President Bush's budget  
20 that we were not for the cutting of the CDBG money, we  
21 passed it -- we did this by motion, we sent the letter

22 out to the Congressman, the Congressman researched  
23 this, took it to Washington with him. I guess other  
24 cities have been doing this, sending letters in  
25 disapproval of the CDBG funding being cut.

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01 Congressman Kanjorski said he  
02 feels the same way we do, he will fight, as we are  
03 fighting, and will continue to do so until he sees this  
04 through.

05 He said he will keep us updated on  
06 the situation, and we appreciate the effort from him.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Jay.

08 Please extend our thanks to the Congressman for that  
09 work, please.

10 MR. SAUNDERS: I will send that

11 out tomorrow. The new police cars that we've talked  
12 about over and over, they are in, they're being  
13 processed down at the DPW yard now.

14 There are six new cars. They will  
15 be hitting the streets shortly, and there will be two  
16 used detective cars that will also in service as of  
17 late this week, which would be tomorrow, or early next  
18 week. That's all I have, Mr. President.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. And,  
20 Jay, I apologize for this, but could you look into the  
21 problem that Vera Labukas is having that I think I  
22 mentioned to you earlier?

23 MR. SAUNDERS: Oh, yes, yes.

24 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

25 MR. SAUNDERS: I'll check that  
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01 out. I'll get on that tomorrow. I have the paperwork  
02 and everything.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

04 MR. WALSH: Fourth order, citizen  
05 participation.

06 MR. DIBILEO: Before I call up the  
07 first speaker, allow me to saying that we're creeping  
08 closer to an upcoming May 17th election, and people  
09 sometimes tend to become more passionate around this  
10 time of year as elections approach.

11 I'd like to remind speakers to be  
12 mindful of the fact that political preferences should  
13 not be aired here. I wish I had an opportunity to say  
14 that before Darryl Dawkins spoke, but he actually spoke  
15 before citizens participation, which I did not realize  
16 was going to be the case, and I don't think I was going  
17 to correct him or I might get thundered.

18 But, you know, we are here to hear  
19 concerns of citizens and how those concerns affect them  
20 as taxpayers, so, of course, those comments are always  
21 allowed.

22 So, I just want to remind speakers  
23 of that prior to citizens participation. And with that  
24 said, the first speaker on the list is Regina  
25 Yetkowskas.

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01 MR. YETKOWSKAS: Regina  
02 Yetkowskas. I interrupt my general presentation on the  
03 details of Mr. Doherty's fiscal conduct to alert  
04 Scranton's residents about our tax money that will be  
05 improperly spent and wasted if Councilman John Pocius  
06 and candidate for Council Alex Hazzouri are allowed to  
07 collect pensions from the city's pension fund.

08 As of now, both Mr. Pocius and Mr.  
09 Hazzouri contributed to the city's pension fund. Their  
10 contributions were matched by money the city also paid  
11 into the fund from our taxes.

12 We all know that Mr. Pocius will  
13 continue to contribute into the pension fund, unless he  
14 is stopped by the officers of the fund or the court.

15 We all know if Mr. Hazzouri is  
16 elected to City Council, he will resume contributing  
17 into the pension fund, unless he is stopped by the  
18 officers of the fund or the court.

19 Over the past months, a number of  
20 persons came to this podium and talked against Pocius  
21 and Hazzouri being enrolled in the pension fund and  
22 contributing to it in order to later receive pensions  
23 from it.

24 Our tax money will go to pay them  
25 pensions to which, in my opinion, they are not legally  
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01 entitled. Scrantonians who spoke against the Pocius  
02 and Hazzouri membership in the pension fund all  
03 referred to Scranton's Home Rule Charter as prohibiting  
04 them from entering the fund and from receiving the  
05 pension.

06 Those persons were correct,  
07 because I am going to quote the relevant -- over the  
08 past month a number of persons came to this podium and  
09 talked against Pocius and Hazzouri being enrolled in  
10 the pension fund and contributing to it in order to  
11 later receive pensions from it.

12 Our tax money will go to pay them  
13 pensions to which, in my opinion, they are not legally

14 entitled.  
15 Scrantonians who spoke against the  
16 Pocius and Hazzouri membership in the pension fund all  
17 referred to the Scranton's Home Rule Charter as  
18 prohibiting them from entering the fund and from  
19 receiving the pensions.  
20 Those persons were correct,  
21 because I am going to quote the relevant charter  
22 section for all to hear. When the people do hear the  
23 quote from the charter, I feel confident they will  
24 agree with me and all who spoke before me.  
25 The applicable part of the Home  
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01 Rule Charter, Section 304 states, Each Councilperson  
02 shall receive such salary as Council shall from time to  
03 time ordain.  
04 No salary increase shall become  
05 effective until the date of commencement of the terms  
06 of the Councilpersons elected at the next regular  
07 election after such salary increase, provided that such  
08 election follows the adoption of such ordinance by at  
09 least six months.  
10 Now, this is the important part of  
11 the quotation, Councilpersons shall receive no other  
12 compensation direct or indirect for the performance of  
13 their duties. They shall be entitled to the actual  
14 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.  
15 I suggest to all Scrantonians that  
16 when the city contributory to the pension fund on  
17 behalf of Mr. Pocius and Mr. Hazzouri, it is  
18 compensation prohibited by the Home Rule Charter  
19 Section 304, and, therefore, they are not entitled to  
20 be members of the pension fund.  
21 We all know two members of the  
22 pension fund filed a lawsuit to prevent both Pocius and  
23 Hazzouri from receiving a pension. This lawsuit is  
24 important to the people, because if Pocius and Hazzouri  
25 are successful, it will open the flood gates for all  
0020  
01 members of City Council now and forever into the future  
02 to enter the city's pension fund, have the city  
03 contribute for them, in addition to their  
04 contributions, and then collect a pension for the rest  
05 of their lives.  
06 As always, the people are left  
07 holding the bag and paying for their pensions contrary  
08 to Section 304 of the Home Rule Charter.  
09 Initially I have two serious

10 problems with this pension mess, first is why the court  
11 has been holding up its decision for over a year. All  
12 hearings on the matter have been held. All that's  
13 needed is the court's decision. Could it be that  
14 politics has reared its ugly head to prevent a prompt  
15 decision?

16 I once read in a book a saying  
17 that applies to the court and all lawyers involved in  
18 the case, it says, Justice delayed, is justice denied.  
19 Why can't we have a decision now and stop the terrible  
20 delay?

21 I want to preface my second  
22 serious problem with the statement that I do not have,  
23 nor did I see, the Constitution and bylaws of the  
24 pension fund, nor do I have or saw the rules,  
25 regulations or minutes of the pension fund which  
0021

01 controls, A, who is eligible to become a member of the  
02 pension fund; B, how does an individual remain a member  
03 of the pension fund; and most important, C, under what  
04 circumstances can a person be removed from the pension  
05 fund?

06 My second serious problem,  
07 therefore is, Why did the officers and directors of the  
08 pension fund expel Mr. Pocius and Mr. Hazzouri from  
09 membership in the fund a long time ago or even now?  
10 Return the money they contributed  
11 and let them under go the expense to file a lawsuit to  
12 try and convince the court that they should have not  
13 been removed.

14 I have a great fear that if the  
15 court orders Pocius and Hazzouri to be removed from the  
16 pension plan, a new Doherty rubber stamp Council will  
17 then move to amend the City Home Rule Charter and the  
18 people will pay and pay.

19 By the way, throughout all of the  
20 talk and discussion on the pension mess, the people did  
21 not hear one word from Mr. Doherty. His silence can  
22 only mean that he approves the raid on the pension  
23 fund.

24 We can actually stop Pocius and  
25 Hazzouri from collecting illegal pensions by our  
0022

01 conduct at the polls. Thank you.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Thank  
03 you. Andy Sbaraglia.

04 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,  
05 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, last week I

06 asked when we worked out a deal with the Sewer  
07 Authority to sell them our DPW site, right, because  
08 they said we're in dire need of funds, were them funds  
09 used before the TAN money came into account? Does  
10 anybody know when them funds were used?

11 MR. DIBILEO: Has anyone become  
12 aware of an answer to that?

13 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I had  
14 a conversation this week with Mr. Kresefski, and he was  
15 trying to get the information to me as to what the --  
16 I'm sure you're talking about the line of credit.

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah.

18 MR. POCIUS: As soon as I get  
19 that, I'll make it available to everyone here.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,  
21 Mr. Pocius.

22 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. Now I have  
23 another article. I'm not going to get into it too  
24 deeply tonight, we have a long program. This deals  
25 with what happened with our tax base.

0023

01 We lost the county -- the school  
02 board had a thing overall we lost \$1.7 million was  
03 taken away from our tax base within the last -- well,  
04 last year basically, and of course the school board  
05 took the most brunt of it, but the city did take the  
06 brunt, too.

07 Did anybody ever decide to appeal  
08 any of these appeals? Because when the county  
09 commissioners were bringing these subjects up, they  
10 said they offered the city to actually go down to these  
11 appeals, these people want to appeal their properties.  
12 I wonder if anybody actually ever  
13 took the county up on that, because you know we took a  
14 heck of a hit. And with all the KOZs and now all of  
15 the properties that are evaluated, it has to fall  
16 somewhere, because the money still has to be spent. The  
17 city still has to go.

18 And if we're going to lose our tax  
19 base being eroded because nobody cares, because all  
20 we're going to do is raise taxes and make up the  
21 difference, it's not the way to go.

22 MR. DIBILEO: Andy, are you saying  
23 that it's \$1.7 million from the property tax revenue  
24 side?

25 MR. SBARAGLIA: That's what the  
0024

01 paper said.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.

03 MR. SAUNDERS: Mr. President, he

04 is correct or close to the number there, but the city

05 and the school district, I know, are discussing -- are

06 in discussions about appealing this.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

08 MR. SBARAGLIA: Because, you know,

09 nobody brought it up, but I guess it should have been

10 brought up a lot earlier, because this thing went down

11 when the county decided to change the way the tax

12 office appeals worked, where they, you know, they put

13 in, what was it, 20 people and so forth in a revolving

14 thing?

15 But at that point they did say

16 that they did invite the city and the school board to

17 attend these things, because as you can see, \$1.7

18 million in loss is a big loss, and the school board

19 can't make up the difference.

20 They said they would make it up

21 this year, but they can't make it up next year. So,

22 any increase in taxes on the school board leaves little

23 room for the city to increase your taxes, which you've

24 got to do, too.

25 So, somewhere along the line

0025

01 something really has to be done, and you should push

02 the mayor any way you can to make sure that we can get

03 some input. Maybe we can't even change it now, maybe

04 it's too late, but you should think about it.

05 Like I told you before, the whole

06 mall is worth under \$400,000 on the tax rolls, and that

07 is a big, big piece of property. For that to be under

08 \$400,000, you can imagine what happened to all these

09 other properties in the city. So, really, that is the

10 first thing.

11 I'm going to mention something

12 with Whistle's. They want a refinancing on their loan,

13 it's not that I oppose it, because it's a loan

14 basically, but it shows you what is happening, you're

15 pouring money after money after money into downtown

16 area, and all it is is a sieve. The money just comes

17 and goes.

18 You should be surprised how much

19 of our CommD money we put into the theater. True, it's

20 nice to have a movie theater, but we spent a lot of

21 money on it repairing it when they upgraded it. And

22 you've got to look into all these things.

23 I mean, we're pouring money,

24 money, money into the downtown area that's not going to  
25 bring a penny back to us. We'll all be dead before it  
0026

01 even comes close. I thank you.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Andy.

03 I'm going to look into that situation. Jim Stucker.

04 MR. STUCKER: How you doing,

05 Mr. DiBileo?

06 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening, Jim.

07 MR. STUCKER: Jay, how are you

08 doing? I want to see about that guy had that -- I

09 think I gave it to you, a note, when Jay Saunders was

10 on vacation.

11 MR. DIBILEO: What did the note

12 say again, Jimmy?

13 MR. STUCKER: The guy said he had

14 a big hole someplace.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah. Jim, you're

16 talking about the hole near the alley?

17 MR. STUCKER: Yeah. There's a guy

18 that gave me a note down the street here last Thursday,

19 and he -- I gave it to the guy here, the guy with the

20 yellow tie. I gave it to him, because Jim was on

21 vacation.

22 MR. DIBILEO: Jim, I think I still

23 have that note, and I'll pass it on to them.

24 MR. STUCKER: Okay. What about

25 Moosic Street, the alleyway? I called down there. I

0027

01 called WWPL or what do you call it?

02 MR. DIBILEO: DPW.

03 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, I called them.

04 They said they were going to send them over. They

05 never did.

06 MR. DIBILEO: Jay, do you know

07 anything about that?

08 MR. SAUNDERS: The only thing I

09 know about that is that since Jim has brought that to

10 our attention, we've sent a couple letters.

11 MR. STUCKER: I don't understand,

12 why did you do other people's homes, every block I can

13 think of, and they don't do ours? Ours is more

14 important. Somebody is going to get -- twist their

15 arrange ankle or get a flat and bust their tire. We

16 have people up and down that alley every day.

17 MR. SAUNDERS: I'll check into it,

18 Jim.

19 MR. STUCKER: And I give you a

20 little -- I give her, Kay, a little white paper, I give  
21 her a name from the cops.  
22 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.  
23 MR. STUCKER: I gave her. Yeah,  
24 the cops came over my house, two of them, they told me  
25 to mention to you about the cops came up my alley about  
0028  
01 the guy with the little red car come up my alley pretty  
02 fast, and the cop wrote that note to give to you.  
03 MR. COURTRIGHT: Oh, okay, Jim. I  
04 know who these guys are, I'll talk to them.  
05 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Jim.  
06 Thank you very much, Jimmy.  
07 MR. STUCKER: They did a lot of  
08 work over there.  
09 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right.  
10 MR. DIBILEO: Appreciate it.  
11 We're going to look into that pothole for you.  
12 MR. STUCKER: Yesterday we had a  
13 big wreck on Moosic Street, a Blazer came across the  
14 street, right, across Moosic Street, right where the  
15 gas station is, smashed the fence, hit the guy, smashed  
16 a van, the front of the van yesterday.  
17 MR. DIBILEO: Wow, we hope nobody  
18 got hurt, Jim.  
19 MR. STUCKER: No. A lady was  
20 wondering what happened. They had a wreck, and a white  
21 van and a Blazer plowed right into the lady's fence.  
22 MR. DIBILEO: Wow.  
23 MR. STUCKER: Yeah.  
24 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Jim.  
25 Appreciate that.  
0029  
01 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, all right.  
02 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Jay, you'll  
03 get back to him on that.  
04 MR. STUCKER: Oh, I got to get a  
05 note from you to make a note for me for the parties.  
06 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah, okay.  
07 I'll let you know.  
08 MR. STUCKER: I got the bike  
09 tonight, so --  
10 MR. DIBILEO: All right. Good.  
11 MR. STUCKER: So, I don't know how  
12 I'm going to get over.  
13 MR. DIBILEO: I'll get you there,  
14 buddy, we'll get you there.  
15 MR. STUCKER: All right.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Les

17 Spindler.

18 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,

19 Council. Les Spindler.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Last week Reverend

22 Simmons was here, she made a request for a police

23 officer to appear at the town hall meeting, which was

24 yesterday, about gangs and guns, her request was denied

25 for a policeman to show up.

0030

01 This is just another example of

02 this administration's lack of concern about public

03 safety. Something's got to be done eventually.

04 I have an article here from Monday

05 morning's paper. Scranton police said they were called

06 to a fight in the 1300 block of Mulberry Street at

07 1:42 a.m. and found Matthew Bafa lying in the roadway

08 with injuries to his face and head having suffered a

09 major concussion and sinus fractures.

10 Now, this is the second brutal

11 attack we've had in the last few months. Gangs are

12 moving into the area, and all Chris Doherty wants to do

13 is fix up parks.

14 We need new police cars, more cops

15 on the street, and maybe these things won't happen, our

16 neighborhoods will be safer.

17 We'll have nice parks, but nobody

18 will be in the city here to appreciate them. It's time

19 for a change. Thing got to move on.

20 Moving on to something else, for

21 over a year now I asked about line painting on a few

22 streets, the corner of Spruce Street and Franklin

23 Avenue going down Spruce towards Mifflin, it's three

24 lanes, there's no lines on the road at all.

25 People are making turns from the

0031

01 straight lane turning -- going straight from the

02 turning lane, they're just doing what they want to do.

03 There have been no lines there for over a year.

04 MR. DIBILEO: Les, I spoke to Dave

05 Medici from that department this week, a couple of days

06 ago, he told me that the line painting will begin very

07 soon, very shortly.

08 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. The same

09 thing to the entrance at the Steamtown Mall, there's,

10 like, three or four lanes there, people are going

11 straight from whatever lane they want, they're turning

12 from whatever lane they want. Nobody knows where  
13 they're going.

14 Okay. Lastly, the mess that's on  
15 Euclid Avenue, do you know if that's going to get taken  
16 care of?

17 MS. EVANS: I requested that again  
18 for you last week, so hopefully we're going to see a  
19 difference.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Because pretty soon  
21 when everything grows in, all the garbage will be  
22 hidden and it will be another year it's not picked up.  
23 That's what happened.

24 MS. EVANS: I keep pursuing it,  
25 Les.

0032

01 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you.

02 MS. EVANS: You're welcome.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Joanne  
04 Williams.

05 MS. WILLIAMS: Good evening,  
06 Council.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

08 MS. WILLIAMS: Joanne Williams,  
09 homeowner and taxpayer, the City of Scranton.

10 I'd like to take this time to  
11 thank DPW for the hard work that they did last  
12 Saturday. They did a great job. Our roads were really  
13 neglected over the past 20 years.

14 Also, I'd like to thank Mayor  
15 Doherty and the administration for the renovation of  
16 Connell Park that's going to be happening and for all  
17 city parks.

18 I'd also like to thank the mayor  
19 and administration for the highest bond rates in the  
20 city's history and for creating 3,000 new jobs.  
21 I'd like to thank him for the  
22 renaissance of downtown and for bringing our city back  
23 to a city that we can be proud of.

24 MR. DIBILEO: Please, no speaking  
25 from the audience as the speaker has the podium.

0033

01 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. I have  
02 to include in this thank you Mr. McTiernan, Mr. Pocius,  
03 Mr. Murphy, Mr. McCormick and Mr. Alex Hazzouri, for  
04 with their help, we saw some dreams come true.

05 I'm not going to stoop to their  
06 level, I'll just continue speaking. Thank you.

07 Also, Mr. DiBileo, you want the

08 residents of this city to be informed; am I correct?

09 MR. DIBILEO: Yes.

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. A few months

11 ago I asked a question that I never got an answer on,

12 how many city employees does your insurance business

13 insure?

14 MR. DIBILEO: Well, I did give an

15 answer to that, Joanne, so I'm not going to revisit

16 that again.

17 MS. WILLIAMS: You don't want to

18 revisit that?

19 MR. DIBILEO: No.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: Because I don't

21 think I got that answer.

22 MR. DIBILEO: All right. If

23 you'll stay after the meeting, I'll be happy to give it

24 to you.

25 MS. WILLIAMS: I have other

0034

01 commitments, but maybe we can speak at some other time,

02 because I would really like to know.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Absolutely.

04 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Fine.

05 Mr. DiBileo, I'm going to say something, I come down --

06 and I want my time not to run, Jay, I'm sorry, okay --

07 I come down here, not every week, I come down here

08 because I love this city and I'm proud of it, and I get

09 heckled constantly by people in this audience, and I

10 think it's about time you use the gavel a little more.

11 I don't think it's fair to me.

12 And that's why a lot of people

13 tell me, a lot of residents tell me they will not come

14 before this podium to speak positive about this city

15 because of some, not everyone, because of some. But

16 let it go for now, right?

17 The new high school, too,

18 Mr. DiBileo was spoke about, right?

19 MR. DIBILEO: Yes.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: And you know what,

21 I'm going to thank Mark Walsh for the new high school.

22 Mark, you were on the board that time and you had a lot

23 to do with building that new high school, but I was

24 co-chairman of the children's committee at that time,

25 just a question, were you at the ground breaking

0035

01 ceremony?

02 MR. DIBILEO: No, I wasn't.

03 MS. WILLIAMS: I didn't think I

04 saw you there. You should have been.  
05 MR. DIBILEO: I'm sorry I wasn't  
06 there. Just for the record, I was coaching my  
07 daughter's soccer team that day?  
08 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, it would have  
09 been nice to see you down there.  
10 MR. DIBILEO: I didn't want to  
11 take time off from my family for a photo shoot about  
12 the new school, but that's okay. Go ahead.  
13 MS. WILLIAMS: I understand, but  
14 that's fine. I want to move on. Also this evening at  
15 Chris Doherty's rally, Mayor Doherty's rally, I saw  
16 your bus mobile parked across the street from there.  
17 Is this how you -- is this the immature example that  
18 you're going to set to run our city? I thought it was  
19 very immature.  
20 MR. DIBILEO: We're not going to  
21 talk about political campaigns --  
22 MS. WILLIAMS: Oh, you let other  
23 people speak, Mr. DiBileo, about public campaigns.  
24 MR. DIBILEO: -- and/or political  
25 preferences. No, I did not.  
0036  
01 MS. WILLIAMS: Oh, yes, you did.  
02 MR. DIBILEO: Hold on. Please, no  
03 speaking from the audience, please.  
04 MS. WILLIAMS: Is this the first  
05 week that you're starting this now? Is this the first  
06 week because you saw me come to the audience this  
07 evening?  
08 MR. DIBILEO: Joanne, as you know,  
09 and I don't want to take time from you, as you know I  
10 have used my gavel numerous times when anyone makes  
11 comments from when you're speaking or anyone else.  
12 MS. WILLIAMS: No, you haven't,  
13 Mr. DiBileo. You haven't been fair, Mr. DiBileo.  
14 MR. DIBILEO: Before you chastised  
15 me this evening, I used it three times.  
16 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, you seem to  
17 use it when you see me come to this podium. You are  
18 not fair with me, and you also keep your favorite  
19 people up here speaking and speaking. You're just not  
20 fair.  
21 But, you know what, like I've  
22 always said, you're very -- you're unfair. The people  
23 know that, you know?  
24 And I'm going to tell you, I'm  
25 going to tell you one more time, and people have said

0037

01 -- see the heckling going on? And you let it go on.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Excuse me. Joanne,

03 I am trying my best. Please, excuse me.

04 MS. WILLIAMS: You're trying your

05 best?

06 MR. DIBILEO: Allow me to speak.

07 MS. WILLIAMS: You're allowing the

08 audience to shout at me. That is not appropriate.

09 MR. DIBILEO: Joanne, excuse me

10 one second. First of all, nobody is shouting, but,

11 please, I would ask, once again, no one to speak in the

12 audience when someone is at the podium, please, or

13 we'll have to ask somebody to leave.

14 MS. WILLIAMS: You know,

15 Mr. DiBileo, it comes down to this, and if I have to

16 come down every week and just say this, I will --

17 MR. DIBILEO: I know, that if I

18 can't run a meeting, that -- go ahead.

19 MS. WILLIAMS: Mr. DiBileo, let me

20 speak. I'm speaking now, okay? If you -- you can

21 laugh all you want, but you cannot run a Council

22 meeting, and you will never be able to run a city.

23 And maybe next week or maybe a

24 month from now -- see -- maybe I can get Oprah Winfrey

25 to come down, like some people get people to come here,

0038

01 or maybe someone can script me on how to write things.

02 You're a very sad case for this city. And to let this

03 go on, it's very sad.

04 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Thank

05 you, Joanne.

06 MS. WILLIAMS: You proved exactly

07 who you are.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Joanne.

09 Please, please, we have to maintain order. Thank you.

10 Thank you. Joanne, as always, you're welcome to be

11 here. I appreciate your comments. Thank you. And I

12 do apologize. I would prefer no one speak when you're

13 speaking or anyone else is speaking. Thank you very

14 much. Please. Erik Johnson.

15 MR. JOHNSON: Gary, can I let Judy

16 speak?

17 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. Judy Laske,

18 sure.

19 MR. JOHNSON: Can she take her

20 child with her?

21 MR. DIBILEO: Uh-huh.

22 MS. LASKE: I didn't know how much  
23 more time I would get to be back there without him  
24 disturbing anybody.  
25 We came down. Well, first my name  
0039  
01 is Judy Laske, and I'm a resident and homeowner of  
02 Scranton. This is my little boy Jacob, who you've also  
03 kindly have said numerous prayers for him. The prayers  
04 have paid off, so we're very grateful. So, Jacob wants  
05 to say thank you. Say thank you. Thank you.  
06 He has to learn sign language. He  
07 cannot talk right now. We're still working on that.  
08 He was diagnostic with autism spectrum disorder, which  
09 we have early intervention, which I'd love to thank  
10 them people.  
11 We have a speech therapist coming  
12 every week. He has made a tremendous improvement, so  
13 we definitely want to thank everybody. So, this is  
14 what you're praying for.  
15 MS. EVANS: And we're going to  
16 continue praying.  
17 MS. LASKE: That's what I would  
18 ask, because you know, what prayer is the power for  
19 everything, and it really does make a difference,  
20 whether people want to believe it or not.  
21 It is making a difference, and I  
22 fully believe that is why he is here today, for me to  
23 love him for the rest of my life, and for everybody to  
24 see how cute he is.  
25 And he's a character. He's blue,  
0040  
01 so I'm hoping -- I have white on, I'm hoping I can get  
02 out of here without turning blue like the Smurfs.  
03 But I do want to also mention  
04 something that you might consider for the pools. When  
05 I was growing up as a little girl, over at Weston Field  
06 we had swim teams.  
07 I don't know if anyone remembers  
08 that or not, but there was a swim meet every summer up  
09 at Nay Aug. I believe that if the kid are paying for  
10 swimming, they should get something in return besides  
11 just playing or whatever.  
12 I think there should be free swim  
13 lessons for children that cannot swim, because that's  
14 where I learned how to swim, was over at Weston Field,  
15 and I'm very proud to say that. I was once a lifeguard  
16 over there. I loved it, and it's very rewarding.  
17 I'm 30-plus years old, and when

18 you hit over 35, you don't mention how old you are, so  
19 I won't. You tend to appreciate things when you get  
20 older, when you have children of your own, as I do.  
21 You have your trophies, you have  
22 your ribbons to show your children, you show your  
23 children you were not in trouble when you were a  
24 teenager, that you stayed out of trouble, that you had  
25 a good time and you don't have to make trouble, you  
0041  
01 don't have to be in mischief or anything else or  
02 causing trouble anywhere, that you could do something  
03 good with your life and enjoy it at the same time.  
04 So, I was wondering if maybe you could check into that.  
05 MS. EVANS: Sure. I'd be very  
06 glad to. I remember that, Judy.  
07 MS. LASKE: And there was also at  
08 Weston Field in the wintertime, there was also a swim  
09 team there. It was -- like, in the summertime the  
10 meet -- I believe, forgive me if I'm saying the wrong  
11 names, but I believe it was Pettinato and Novembrino  
12 that had the meet that supplied all the trophies and  
13 everything.  
14 There was a huge trophy at the  
15 end, who would be the championships. We won it  
16 several, several times, which I am proud to say.  
17 It was between Nay Aug, I believe  
18 it was Connell Park, I believe Weston Field and Weston  
19 Park and Capouse were combined, if I'm not mistaken, I  
20 could be wrong, because I was a little girl at that  
21 time, but I know there was three or four teams.  
22 And I loved it. And I think, you  
23 know, the mayor likes to bring everything else back  
24 that you have to pay for, well, how about giving  
25 something back to the citizens in return for their  
0042  
01 money?  
02 Let's see where the money is going  
03 to, instead of not knowing where it's going to, and,  
04 you know, the squandering and everything else. I think  
05 it would be wonderful for these kids to have an  
06 opportunity to have, like, what the mayor calls, you  
07 know, childhood memories, well, we all have them, and  
08 that's one of mine. And I would really appreciate it  
09 if maybe you can check into that.  
10 MS. EVANS: I will.  
11 MS. LASKE: And also one more  
12 thing, I'm so glad to hear my road is on the paving  
13 list. It's just been, like, three years. And I wanted

14 to get a hold of Kevin Murphy and say, Well, you  
15 promised me three years ago, but at least it's getting  
16 done, because my car sounds like -- I don't even want  
17 to say what it sounds like, but it's a brand new car  
18 and it sounds terrible.  
19 But that's about it. So, we  
20 wanted to come down and thank everybody. I don't know  
21 how much longer I'll be able to come down, because I'm  
22 expecting another baby. So, it probably won't be too  
23 much.

24 MS. EVANS: Congratulations.

25 MS. LASKE: So, I just wanted to

0043

01 come down and thank everybody. I don't want everybody  
02 to think I didn't appreciate what everybody was doing.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Well, thank you very

04 much, Judy.

05 MS. LASKE: So, for Jacob and

06 myself, thank you.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Judy.

08 MS. LASKE: Blow kiss. No? Okay.

09 Thank you very much.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Jacob is beautiful,

11 and good luck with your upcoming baby.

12 MS. LASKE: Thank you. As long as

13 I have a healthy baby, I don't care what it is.

14 Everybody thinks I want a girl, and I'm, like -- I have

15 one girl, believe me, that's enough.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Erik

17 Johnson.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Erik Johnson,

19 taxpayer, Scranton. It seems like everything has

20 quieted down now and we're all in order now. Let's

21 hope it keeps that way, instead of becoming a circus.

22 Today I tried to look up a budget

23 and revenues that -- between Scranton and other cities,

24 an update for 2004. This is what I ran into.

25 What used to be printed for the

0044

01 libraries of Pennsylvania by the State Pennsylvania

02 Department of Community and Economic Development, a

03 formal book binder covering, all cities and boroughs of

04 every county in Pennsylvania municipalities, revenues

05 and expenditures and debt, which a Scranton or any

06 citizen was able to use it and able to view it of any

07 printed information from the spread sheet.

08 This procedure made it possible

09 for anyone to compare our Scranton municipalities

10 revenues and expenditures with any and all the  
11 remaining cities or boroughs of Pennsylvania, while it  
12 is no longer printed for the convenience of our  
13 Scranton citizens or any other city or town of  
14 Pennsylvania citizens.  
15 The last one available covered the  
16 year of 1997, in which you could compare Scranton from  
17 other cities. Any update after 1997, you would have to  
18 use only the internet computer from your Scranton  
19 library, and then if you need -- you would need a disk,  
20 which would only cover the City of Scranton without  
21 any access to other cities to compare their budget of  
22 revenues and expenditures to our City of Scranton.

23 My son, a policeman in  
24 Wilkes-Barre, visited me last night after nine o'clock.  
25 He told me Scranton has a nice improved face-lift  
0045

01 downtown and near the school, and including the school  
02 and Nay Aug Park, which is nice, but chances are  
03 depending on where you're coming from.

04 If you hit a pothole on Mulberry  
05 or any street, you can break down -- break your car  
06 down, and you'll never get a chance to see the park or  
07 even make it to downtown Scranton or the mall.

08 Another issue, this is how  
09 politics can be revengeful. False criminal harassment  
10 accusations by a certain neighbor numerous times in  
11 which police were called, who advised me to find North  
12 Scranton and Green Ridge magistrate for action.

13 It fell deaf ears, and he told me  
14 to pray about it, while others in the same neighborhood  
15 took only one of their complaints to this same -- of  
16 the same neighbor and got action by the same  
17 magistrate.

18 He disciplined him and fined that  
19 same neighbor \$3100, in which I find their rights were  
20 honored, while my rights were violated because of  
21 political reasons and being a taxpayer.

22 Bottom line, I'm glad that I  
23 campaigned for Judge Trish Corbett years ago and would  
24 do it all over again. Yes, politics can be dirty and  
25 prejudice. Thank you for letting me speak.

0046

01 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

02 Fred Budzinski.

03 MR. BUDZINSKI: On that petition,

04 on that petition is 47 names. Now, I moved in the

05 Jermyn seven years ago when it opened. There was a no

06 parking zone down there, and there's four now. On each  
07 end there's the same. Cars are parking in there now  
08 and there's no meter. Sometimes a car parks there and  
09 it may be there for hours.

10 Tuesday we had the Lackawanna van  
11 picks up about 13 or 16 to take them up to the grocery  
12 store once a week. When they come back, they got to be  
13 in the middle of the street, and it's hard with all  
14 them groceries to get out.

15 On that petition are mostly senior  
16 citizens probably up to 93 years old. There's one  
17 woman there 93 years old, her daughter comes and picks  
18 her up once a week to take her to the doctor's. And if  
19 that car can get to the curb, this woman can slide  
20 right on the seat. As it is, they'd probably have to  
21 carry her to the car to take her to the doctor that  
22 way. And so much for that. We appreciate it if you  
23 can put them markings -- remark them as soon as  
24 possible.

25 Now, on the KOEZ, I think the  
0047

01 Kaplan's Furniture was KOZ, on the other side of the  
02 Ritz Theater it was KOZ, and across the street there's  
03 an empty building, I think it was John's, it has been  
04 empty for years. I think that building could be KOZ,  
05 it's right across the street.

06 Look into that one. Because I've  
07 been talking to a store manager, and he brought that  
08 point up to me. See if that building is KOZ or if it  
09 can be KOZ, because perhaps he would probably be  
10 interested. That's a fact.

11 Now, the parking lot is sold. I  
12 don't know if it was sold all the way up to where that  
13 was where Johns was. Like, before I mentioned a couple  
14 of weeks ago, they have a store there, they got the  
15 parking, the manager of the store can have that they're  
16 honored the parking. Well, that's about it for now.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Fred.

19 Fred, we're going to look into this no parking  
20 situation at the Jermyn.

21 MR. BUDZINSKI: That is serious.

22 MR. DIBILEO: It could be possibly  
23 unmarked right now.

24 MR. BUDZINSKI: The maintenance  
25 man put a little mark, but it should be printed no  
0048

01 parking. It was there originally, but it's worn out

02 because of the weather and everything.  
03 MR. DIBILEO: We'll get the police  
04 out there and look at that and we'll have Jay Saunders  
05 look into it, too. Thank you.  
06 MR. BUDZINSKI: Thank you.  
07 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Fred.  
08 That's it for the sign-in sheet. Are there any other  
09 speakers?  
10 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus. Needless  
11 to say, and by the way I look, I just got out of the  
12 shower and I happened to turn on the television.  
13 I left my dog home alone to chew  
14 all my furniture just to get over here. When I go  
15 home, I won't have any furniture.  
16 Joanne Williams, there's a way to  
17 speak and there's a way not to speak. Some of things  
18 she was saying, like, maybe she wanted her time when  
19 other people were speaking, I can understand that, but  
20 there's a way to say things. Don't say, I get my time,  
21 dah, dah, dah, dah, dah.  
22 Mr. DiBileo, please do not take  
23 that personally, what she was saying, because trust me,  
24 there are thousands and thousands and thousands and  
25 thousands of people in the City of Scranton that know  
0049  
01 you know how to run a Council meeting, and certainly  
02 can run a city without a doubt.  
03 MR. DIBILEO: Well, I don't take  
04 it personally, and I appreciate that.  
05 MS. FRANUS: Well, just know that  
06 there's people, like myself, that are home listening to  
07 this that don't believe a word she says.  
08 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.  
09 MS. FRANUS: And they certainly  
10 know where she was coming from, and it's -- this is an  
11 outrage that she, you know -- I'm sure there's many  
12 things that Mayor Doherty does right, and many people  
13 love him, which is fine, but there's a way to speak and  
14 not to speak.  
15 I mean, I'm sure you do some  
16 things that are wrong, just like everybody else does,  
17 but you have the good qualities, as Mr. Doherty does,  
18 too. So, let the people decide for themselves. And  
19 this is not a place to discuss -- to push political  
20 agendas, as Mrs. Williams tried to do.  
21 And I'd almost like to apologize  
22 for the way she treated you. It was horrible.  
23 MR. DIBILEO: Well, she has a

24 right to say what she'd like to, Fay, and I appreciate  
25 your concern.

0050

01 MS. FRANUS: It was a little bit  
02 short of harassment really.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah. We can handle  
04 it.

05 MS. FRANUS: Oh, I know you can,  
06 but you shouldn't have to be subjected to that. And  
07 that's all I have. And it doesn't matter how many  
08 people have insurance with you. That's your business,  
09 it's private. It's your own personal business.

10 Well, that's all I wanted to say.

11 I have to go home and try to find a house now. Good  
12 night.

13 MR. DIBILEO: Thanks, Fay, and I  
14 appreciate your concern. Thank you.

15 MS. HALPIN-MEDALLIS: City

16 Council, good evening. My name is Grace Halpin  
17 Medallis, and I'm a resident, homeowner and formerly  
18 worked in the Scranton Police Department.

19 Just to recap, three families

20 filed a lawsuit against the City of Scranton because of  
21 storm water overflow which floods our neighborhood and  
22 private properties.

23 The storm water is the  
24 responsibility of the city, and so is the drain. The  
25 environmental issues of tires and garbage are ignored

0051

01 by the city and EPA and are within plain view.

02 We have had many flooding events

03 in the 1200 block of Pierce Street since the inception  
04 of the Village of Tripp Park Development.

05 I've contacted many local, state

06 and federal officials to help in my efforts to resolve  
07 the problem, however it is not corrected.

08 You have to experience a

09 bureaucratic nightmare to understand people's

10 frustration and what drives them to these meetings.

11 My past training in the police

12 department and life experiences has prepared me to be  
13 solution orientated.

14 I would have been the last person

15 to think that I would have a problem with this

16 administration in solving this flood issue. First of

17 all, my husband and I voted for Mr. Doherty in the

18 election. We are just two constituents. We were not

19 contributors.

20 Mr. Doherty also attends our  
21 church. Never would I think that I would be treated so  
22 poorly and have to sue to protect our home, never have  
23 I seen any administration handle a matter so  
24 deliberately indifferent. Thank goodness notice for  
25 the morals of the DPW workers. They shake their heads  
0052

01 in disbelief.

02 My husband's parents built the  
03 home in 1955, like many in Scranton. He was a war  
04 veteran. They were very proud to have built this  
05 home. This was their greatest investment. I  
06 absolutely love it.

07 We have a great neighborhood.

08 It's somewhat dated, but it still has that neighborhood  
09 appeal. We have a lot of elderly in the neighborhood  
10 who have been here 50-plus years. The neighbors look  
11 after them because many are unable to cut their grass,  
12 shovel their walks or carry their recyclables to the  
13 curb.

14 The men handle this in the  
15 neighborhood, no matter how exhausted they are. That's  
16 the Scranton most know. We are getting new families  
17 with kids, and thankfully we found that they have the  
18 same values in trying to improve their properties.

19 Unfortunately, myself and two  
20 other families had to sue the City of Scranton because  
21 of the storm water runoff. In the latest storm, just  
22 as the water was pouring into the street, the developer  
23 of the Village at Tripp Park Development arrived.  
24 From that point on, the water  
25 raged down the street for hours, just like a river. It  
0053

01 as if you got water tanker trucks and just emptied them  
02 out in the neighborhood. It would be like emptying  
03 Mountain Lake on East Mountain and let it flood out the  
04 neighborhood.

05 I contacted my husband to close  
06 his business and to get home fast. He already had our  
07 property sandbagged, but needed to get more bags down  
08 to protect the neighbors.

09 I contacted Mr. McTiernan on  
10 City Council and he later arrived. All he could say  
11 was, I'm blown away, I'm blown away. I can't believe  
12 this. We can't either.

13 He contacted Mr. Jay Saunders and  
14 Mr. Parker, the city engineer, while meeting with the  
15 neighbors. I had already contacted Mrs. Parker, and

16 she is always gracious enough to get in touch with her  
17 husband.

18 DPW didn't arrive for hours. Even

19 Mr. McTiernan couldn't get them there. We never had a  
20 water problem. We don't live near a river. This isn't  
21 normal, and our neighborhood will not put up with  
22 this. I don't think anyone should. Responding to our  
23 calls for help is not considered correcting the  
24 problem.

25 Solving this is a priority for me.

0054

01 In 1998, when my father-in-law was leaving the house  
02 for the last time in an ambulance and going to hospice  
03 care, his last words to me in the house were, Please  
04 take care of the homestead. I always have and I always  
05 will.

06 Never did I think those words  
07 would have such meaning now. On October 18, 2002, in  
08 the mayor's office, Mayor Doherty and Mr. Parker blamed  
09 former Mayor James Connors and former engineer Mr.  
10 Belinski for this.

11 This is 2005. This is ludicrous.

12 I don't blame them, never have, never will. They have  
13 been gone since 2001. These plans keep changing when  
14 the people fight the city.

15 Representative Cawley funnelled  
16 money to the city to help, Representative Staybach  
17 thought this was an environmental disgrace and needed  
18 to be cleaned up.

19 Mr. Medallis, was 84-years-old,  
20 and I always enjoyed the stories he told of local  
21 government shenanigans from years past. He had a lot  
22 of wisdom. He used to tease me about being a democrat,  
23 because he was a staunch republican.

24 On election day I would be  
25 thrilled if I could persuade just one person to vote in  
0055

01 spirit on behalf of Charlie Medallis. He would have  
02 especially get a charge of Republican voters standing  
03 up for his homestead.

04 I'm sure he even cherishes his  
05 Democratic daughter-in-law's vote, none the less, in  
06 this election. He now understands from above why she  
07 made his son register to vote when getting the marriage  
08 license.

09 From the bottom of my heart, I ask  
10 all voters that you go out and vote against this  
11 indifference to the ordinary person. To all

12 homeowners, this could happen to you.

13 To all children who were entrusted

14 with their parents' home, please support me in this

15 endeavor.

16 To Mr. Doherty, I say, You need to

17 take ownership for this disgrace. Your vocabulary does

18 not include, it shouldn't have happened, we made a

19 mistake, I am sorry. The buck stops here. These are

20 words that the best leaders use. Thank you for your

21 time.

22 MR. DAVIS: I've been talked to by

23 Mrs. Evans, and I talked to Mr. Courtright yesterday,

24 and I shook hands with Mr. DiBileo yesterday.

25 There seems to be a problem that

0056

01 people feel there are gangs moving into the area, etc.,

02 etc., etc., and that's been true for the last 20

03 years. I don't know if you realize it, but probably

04 you don't realize that.

05 Most of the people that we know

06 here do not really know where the gangs actually

07 inhabit Scranton when they come into it. Where do they

08 come to?

09 They would come to a poor

10 environment, if they possibly could, because there they

11 have money. There they can sway themselves upon

12 families who don't have enough money. So, therefore,

13 poverty is one of the reasons why they come into an

14 area.

15 What do they do? They try to

16 recruit. If they find a recruitment is not possible,

17 they move on, just that nicely. They are very well

18 managed, they are very well disciplined, they know what

19 they're doing. They're looking for a town where they

20 can shop their wares.

21 Now, yesterday at Bethel AME, it

22 was an alarm. There was an alarm that went off for us,

23 and we had been sitting back and sort of just letting

24 it go saying, No, it's not a problem.

25 And then two of our kids that

0057

01 graduated from Scranton High were caught in a sweep. A

02 young man that got beat up on the Hill, they got put in

03 jail. They didn't have nothing to do with it, but the

04 cops said everybody was going.

05 And they're still in jail. And

06 they won't go to court until Monday. This is an

07 experience we hope our kids don't have to go through.

08 To be falsely accused and placed  
09 in jail is not something that we relish. And I know  
10 that there's nothing that you can do, but I want you to  
11 be aware, that's what I'm asking you to do, is to be  
12 aware of what befalls us daily, and it's something that  
13 we have to correct.  
14 But when we correct it, we want  
15 more sensitivity from the policemen. We want them to  
16 know who they're arresting.  
17 If a person that they're arresting  
18 has a mother and father or has a mother only that they  
19 can call and lives right here in the city and has lived  
20 here in the city, then they should do so.  
21 Thank you for your time. I'm glad  
22 to see Mr. Dawkins come, I'm glad to see -- as a matter  
23 of fact, I sent him down to the Boys Club to shake the  
24 hands of the kids down there, too.  
25 But our kids have done beautiful  
0058  
01 things in this town, and they've -- not all of them are  
02 in problems, and not all of them have been problems,  
03 even to their parents.  
04 Mr. Courtright, did you find what  
05 I said was true?  
06 MR. COURTRIGHT: No, that's what I  
07 was just telling Mr. DiBileo. After I left Bethel AME,  
08 I went to look where you told me, and I couldn't locate  
09 it. You said there was trees blocking it and  
10 everything right behind Lackawanna College, correct,  
11 where you make the turn?  
12 MR. DAVIS: It's right on Adams  
13 Avenue as you make -- just as you come off Vine Street.  
14 There is a sign there, but it's right behind a tree.  
15 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. I was  
16 on the curb going out onto the --  
17 MR. DAVIS: There's nothing beyond  
18 that curb.  
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. I'll  
20 go back and look again.  
21 MR. DAVIS: So, therefore, if we  
22 take that sign from where it is, just place it across  
23 the street where everybody can see it, it might do the  
24 job.  
25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. I went  
0059  
01 down a half a block the other direction. I'll go down  
02 tomorrow and take a look.  
03 MR. DAVIS: I gave it -- I called

04 Kay and I gave her the directions, also.  
05 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. I'll take  
06 a look at it.  
07 MR. DAVIS: Thank you. The lines  
08 are being painted, I heard it on the news tonight, I  
09 think, eventually.  
10 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.  
11 MR. MORGAN: Good evening,  
12 Council.  
13 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.  
14 MR. MORGAN: Mr. DiBileo, you had  
15 stated when a previous speaker was speaking that you  
16 thought information was important; isn't that correct?  
17 MR. DIBILEO: Yes.  
18 MR. MORGAN: Well, I hope  
19 Mr. Saunders was here, but he's not here at the present  
20 time, I had requested information regarding all the  
21 authorities and the money they might owe to the state  
22 or the federal government, and that information still  
23 hasn't come yet, and I think that we really need to go  
24 back to, once again, the subpoena, because, you know,  
25 we can talk about not being partisan here at this  
0060  
01 podium and not being Democrats, not being Republicans,  
02 but we have not information.  
03 So, how do you have an educator  
04 voter who's going to go to the poles and vote for  
05 information and make a smart choice when he has none?  
06 And we really don't know what  
07 shape the city is in, we have no idea. You know, we  
08 keep hearing things. You know, a very troubling thing,  
09 especially that troubles me, is that there's a rumor  
10 we're going to close firehouses here in neighborhoods.  
11 That's the most ludicrous thing I've ever heard in my  
12 entire life.  
13 And for the life of me, I can't  
14 understand why this city doesn't have an advanced life  
15 support unit.  
16 Now, I'm going to be honest with  
17 you and tell you, you know, I brought it to Council and  
18 I said, Hey, let's go talk to the hospitals, and in  
19 lieu of taxes, let them give us a nurse practitioner,  
20 which is just leaps and bounds above a paramedic.  
21 I mean, this is somebody who can really save their  
22 life.  
23 We've got a lady, who was a  
24 previous speaker here, talking about her property and  
25 her homestead, and I think that people have to realize

0061

01 that people who were born and raised here and who had  
02 generations here, I mean, my great-great grandfather  
03 had a barbershop on Cedar Avenue.

04 You know, and those things run  
05 very deep, and you're very proud of this city, and no  
06 matter where you are, even if you move to California,  
07 inside you will always be a Scrantonian. It will  
08 always drive you home.

09 And I just think it comes to this  
10 Council to realize that they've got to make some tough  
11 choices here, and you have to inform the electorates,  
12 because you have the power of 61. You're here all the  
13 time.

14 All the authorities can hide,  
15 everybody can do everything they want to do to try to  
16 deceive us and mislead us, but you, Council, have the  
17 power of subpoena, and it's just -- it's really  
18 heartbreaking that it hasn't been used to this point.

19 And, you know, some people may  
20 say, Well, it's a political ploy because it's election  
21 time. No, it's not. It's something that should have  
22 been done a long time ago, and maybe it will open  
23 everybody's eyes.

24 And, you know, it has very little  
25 to do with who the mayor is, because in previous  
0062

01 administrations, it should have been done to other  
02 mayors.

03 You know, we talk about how this  
04 city is in decline, in a very serious decline, and how  
05 so many people here are senior citizens. Well, it's  
06 pretty obvious, there's no growth here.

07 We talk about raising taxes and  
08 raising taxes and raising taxes, and there was a  
09 gentleman who stood here that was a basketball player  
10 at one time, I don't know who he is, I'm not a big  
11 spots person, but I'll tell you this much, he has  
12 enough common sense to know that you can't steal  
13 everything off the children in your neighborhoods and  
14 expect them to be fine upstanding citizens, when all  
15 you've taught them to do is wander the streets.

16 And that's where we are here. And  
17 we talk about potholes, now, I don't know if people  
18 know this or not, but this city is responsible. If you  
19 damage your car in a pothole, this city is responsible.  
20 And if you have to go to court  
21 against the city, they don't have a leg to stand on,

22 because they have officers who patrol the streets here,  
23 they know where every pothole is, and they're under an  
24 obligation to fix it. Irregardless, there is no excuse  
25 for it. And if you go to court, you will win every  
0063

01 single time.

02 And the other thing I have here

03 is, you know, freedom of speech is so important, okay?

04 Now, Mrs. Williams got up here and she spoke. You

05 know, whether we agree with what she says or we

06 disagree, even if it's extremely hard to listen to it,

07 it's very important that we do, it's very important

08 that we respect other people's rights to freedom of

09 speech, because that's the bedrock of our country, and

10 that's probably one of the most important things we

11 have.

12 And I, you know, in closing I'd

13 just like to say that, you know, I really think we also

14 need to reconsider a playground program in this city.

15 I can't for the life of me understand why the Scranton

16 school district and the City of Scranton can't come

17 together on something so important.

18 And, you know, we talk about gangs

19 here, and they're just starting now. In five or ten

20 years, people won't be coming out of their houses.

21 Why? Because we've left a problem fester to the point

22 where it's out of control.

23 And all we do in this city is we

24 legislate and move blight from one part of this city,

25 from the hill, when I was a kid, to now South Side, and

0064

01 from South Side, it will go somewhere else.

02 We need a long-range strategy

03 that's going to answer these problems. I don't know

04 who the mayor will be in the next election, but whoever

05 it is has to have backbone, insight and enough ability

06 to stand up and fight the good fight.

07 And I'd say to the next mayor or

08 this mayor, take the door off your office, and that way

09 it's always open, and put a pot of coffee on and hand

10 out sodas to any of your constituents who want to come

11 in here, and let's hear what everybody has to say and

12 let's all get involved and turn the city around. Thank

13 you.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

15 Mr. Morgan.

16 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Good evening,

17 Council. I won't get upset if somebody laughs at me

18 while I'm up here, so don't worry about it.  
19 Just a couple things that I'd like  
20 to correct from before, and hope my name isn't brought  
21 up here again next week, but, oh, well.  
22 The \$1 million bond insurance that  
23 was brought up here by a previous speaker -- or, I'm  
24 sorry, that we had a good bond rating, we were never  
25 told about the \$1 million -- the \$1 million that we had  
0065  
01 to pay for bond insurance. It was one of the things  
02 that was hid from us, one of the many.  
03 Mr. DiBileo, somebody raised a  
04 question before about the employees, I don't know the  
05 exact number, but I looked into it, as well, before,  
06 and it's under 20, maybe, I don't know if you knew that  
07 or not, but very little. I think we have 600 and some  
08 employees, 500 and some, so 1 percent maybe.  
09 It was also a comment that was  
10 made up here before that maybe we should bring Oprah  
11 Winfrey here next week, I just think that high school  
12 basketball players, the gentlemen would rather a  
13 basketball player than Oprah Winfrey, not that I have  
14 anything against her, but I think that they would  
15 greatly appreciate Darryl Dawkins, instead of Oprah  
16 Winfrey.  
17 So, if it's Mrs. Evans or whoever  
18 is responsible for it, I'd like to thank you. At least  
19 somebody of power knows what we're going through here  
20 in this city.  
21 On the corner of Nay Aug Avenue  
22 and Green Ridge Street, right where the CVS pharmacy  
23 is, there is a massive depression that is there, and I  
24 almost lost my vehicle when I came around that corner.  
25 I wish somebody could look into that, but it's getting  
0066  
01 worse as the days go on.  
02 MS. EVANS: Charlie, I think  
03 that's at Ross street and Green Ridge.  
04 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Ross, thank  
05 you.  
06 MS. EVANS: Or Ross Avenue. I've  
07 turned that in twice before, so I'm sure the DPW is  
08 aware of it by now, and it's my hope, as well, that  
09 that's fixed as soon as possible, because it is large  
10 enough to take about a quarter of your car.  
11 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Absolutely.  
12 MS. EVANS: Into its breadth.  
13 MR. POCIUS: Mr. Newcomb, is it

14 inside the curb line on Green Ridge or is it back?

15 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Right on Ross

16 Avenue, more --

17 MR. POCIUS: More on Ross?

18 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Yeah. I

19 thought it would be a state issue, also.

20 MR. POCIUS: Okay.

21 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: It's definitely

22 on Ross Avenue, not on Green Ridge Street. I thought

23 that same thing.

24 MR. POCIUS: Okay.

25 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Did we find out

0067

01 anything more about the QRS system, quick response

02 system? Is that going on deaf ears, also?

03 MR. POCIUS: I only had a

04 brief -- you asked me to ask, I only had a brief

05 conversation with the mayor this week at one time, and

06 I didn't get a chance to bring it up, but I will the

07 next time I get a chance to talk to him at length over

08 something, okay?

09 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Also, there is

10 a huge problem, and it kind of becomes personal with

11 me, because my grandmother lives on this block, my

12 brother, my family members, it's also my homestead, and

13 I live two blocks away.

14 The 1600 block and 1700 block of

15 Dickson Avenue, there is a company that is there, the

16 former Eureka Building, and I believe it's

17 Daron Northeast, I believe, is the name of the company,

18 and I don't know exactly what they do, but all day

19 long, I was there today for a while and I counted 11

20 trucks in two hours, semi-trucks, come up there to make

21 deliveries and pick up things, and the dirt that those

22 people on that block have to literally shovel like snow

23 every day is unbelievable.

24 There's people that are on that

25 block that are having health problems. There's a

0068

01 17-year-old boy that was diagnosed asthma because of

02 this problem.

03 Literally every week people have

04 to go out there and shovel dirt that is in front of

05 their house. My grandmother every single day has a

06 cake crusted amount of dirt on her car that she parks

07 in the back.

08 Whoever gave permission for this

09 company to be in a residential area, I don't even want

10 to know what I should say to be done to these people,  
11 because it is a complete industrial problem in a  
12 residential area and it's unbelievable.

13 MS. EVANS: Charlie, I know what  
14 you're talking about. I've been down there, as well,  
15 and I had reported on that situation twice since I've  
16 been on Council, because the residents have come to see  
17 me about that.

18 And as I had stated before, even  
19 when they closed their doors and their windows, their  
20 home, the interior of their home is still covered with  
21 dust.

22 And they also added, at that point  
23 at least, that the noise level was very disruptive  
24 continuing well beyond what a noise ordinance provides  
25 for and beginning at about -- between five and 6 a.m.

0069

01 So, they have no rest and they're  
02 subjected to such a level of dirt and dust every day of  
03 their lives, and sadly, here I am, you know, a year  
04 later and I'm still waiting to hear whatever happened  
05 with that situation.

06 Evidently not too much, because as  
07 I traveled by at least weekly, I see the dirt on the  
08 cars, I see the dirt on the street, and it's -- you'd  
09 have to be blind not to see the clouds of dirt rising  
10 from that business.

11 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: It's getting  
12 worse as the time goes on, because they're getting  
13 busier. So, I'm going to make this a personal mission  
14 and I'm not going to let it drop, because it's personal  
15 to me, not that it shouldn't be taken care of, but can  
16 we send a letter to this mayor and ask him if he -- if  
17 somebody can go over there and meet with these people  
18 and try to straighten something out, because it's  
19 becoming a health issue for people that are there.  
20 The dirt is a nuisance, the noise  
21 is a nuisance, but it's becoming a health issue. If I  
22 can just add a couple other things here.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Charlie, we're  
24 really beyond the five minutes.

25 MS. EVANS: I used some.

0070

01 MR. DIBILEO: Oh, okay. Go ahead.

02 Then finish up.

03 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: I just have two  
04 thing I want to touch on. Regina had spoke before  
05 about the pension issue, I wholeheartedly agree with

06 her that it is a problem.

07 And if you honestly think about

08 it, it's going to cost us a lot of money. And do we

09 know, and I'll ask it in general, do we know, is the

10 city representing individuals for this, or is it

11 private, private attorney?

12 MR. POCIUS: I'll tell you. It's

13 Attorney Hickey.

14 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: So, the city is

15 paying?

16 MR. POCIUS: The city was sued,

17 yeah, the city and the council were sued.

18 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Okay. So, we

19 have to pay the legal fees on top of possibly the

20 pension payments then?

21 MR. POCIUS: My understanding, and

22 I'll stop right here, Mr. Hickey is handling it under

23 his guise as the city solicitor, assistant city

24 solicitor, so there's no out-of-pocket legal expenses.

25 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: And finally,

0071

01 the deed, what's going on with the deed since it's

02 almost May, we can't get anywhere, we can't use the

03 power of subpoena, did the mayor finally answer the

04 question for Mr. Farrell?

05 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Walsh or

06 Mr. Saunders, do you have any information on that?

07 MR. SAUNDERS: Attorney Walsh and

08 myself had talked to Attorney Farrell about that, and

09 we have yet to get a response on that.

10 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: So, then I ask

11 Council before I stand down, if you can give me an

12 answer, what can we do? We've been waiting since

13 October, how long are you going to wait until this is

14 resolved?

15 It's going to be May pretty soon.

16 Can we do anything further? You're not getting any

17 responses. People talked before about communication,

18 we don't seem to get it.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Well, at this point,

20 you know, we're beyond the five minutes, and maybe

21 somebody during motions might have a comment on it,

22 Charlie.

23 MR. NEWCOMB, JR: Well, then I

24 just ask you, if Mr. Farrell doesn't give an answer,

25 let's step up to the plate and use that power.

0072

01 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

02 MR. GERVASI: Good evening, ladies  
03 and gentlemen. My name is Dave Gervasi, firefighter  
04 with the City of Scranton.  
05 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.  
06 MR. GERVASI: I want to touch on  
07 just a few things that were brought up tonight.  
08 Actually let me just finish off what I was going to say  
09 last week, because I ran out of time. There was  
10 questions about arbitrations that are going on between  
11 the unions and the city, and I can go on for an hour  
12 about that, but we were talking about the costs.  
13 Our estimates were fairly  
14 accurate, with the city approaching \$700,000 in legal  
15 fees. I called our treasurer today in our union, and  
16 we are well over \$100,000 in our legal fees, and that  
17 comes right out of our union dues.  
18 You know, the loser is not only us  
19 in spending our union dues on the city taking us to  
20 arbitration all the time, and we didn't take them, they  
21 took us in the two most expensive ones because of  
22 violations of our contract, you know, that money was  
23 used for a lot of better things, we had a lot of better  
24 things to do with that money, not only pay our per  
25 capita to our state association, our international, but  
0073  
01 a lot of that money was donated for letters we received  
02 about sick children and letters we receive about other  
03 unions that may need some help.  
04 We always used that money to our  
05 own members who may have a sick child and we always  
06 take care of their expenses as they went to and from  
07 Philadelphia, their different expenses they had.  
08 We raised money for MDA, we raised  
09 money for Make A Wish Program, we give all -- numerous  
10 of our guys have their favorite charities,  
11 Red Cross, and whenever they want to have something, we  
12 always give them the up-front money to start off so  
13 they don't have to raise money to get these things  
14 going.  
15 I want to apologize to some of  
16 these charities, because we haven't been as generous as  
17 normal, so it's not just us losing money, a lot of  
18 other people lose money when you're dragged into court  
19 constantly.  
20 Mrs. Williams, I totally respect  
21 what she has to say, and I don't think anybody should  
22 be heckling her either, I just think that she might be  
23 a little misinformed about certain things.

24 I hope she forgets when she says  
25 Mr. DiBileo cannot run a meeting. Me and Mr. DiBileo,  
0074  
01 believe it or not, everyone thinks that we're, like,  
02 these buddy-buddy things, we don't agree on a lot of  
03 things either.  
04 We, you know, there's different  
05 philosophies that go on, but one thing about  
06 Mr. DiBileo, is I remember the old Council, where we  
07 came up here, and all of a sudden they said they have  
08 to paint this building and they tore the cameras down  
09 and they went on this show all over the city, and it  
10 was obvious that they were just trying to keep people  
11 from speaking, especially during the referendum  
12 campaign, and I just want everyone to know, just give  
13 some fairness here, that Mr. DiBileo was the one who  
14 pushed to have this thing done as quick as possible and  
15 to have these cameras reinstalled, because where they  
16 are now operating was supposed to be a kitchenette for  
17 the personnel department or something like that, and  
18 that was Mr. DiBileo that got these cameras running  
19 again, if it wasn't for him.  
20 Another thing that Mrs. Williams  
21 was saying that I can't let go of, because it was very  
22 frustrating to hear, and I am being facetious on this  
23 one, I grew up with Mark Walsh my whole life, and I'm  
24 not going to let somebody come up here and make a  
25 falsehood like he is totally responsible for building  
0075  
01 that new high school. You can't get that credit, Mark,  
02 because I know there was many other people involved  
03 there. I believe one is sitting in this room.  
04 MR. WALSH: Yes. I'm glad you  
05 said that. I'd probably get a phone call from several  
06 school directors tonight saying we had a little bit to  
07 do with it. In fact, I sat next to Mr. DiBileo, who  
08 was very instrumental in the building of that new  
09 school.  
10 MR. GERVASI: I thought so.  
11 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.  
12 MR. GERVASI: One other thing,  
13 there was some mention of the pension, I am one of the  
14 principals of the lawsuit against Mr. Hazzouri and  
15 Mr. Pocius, and I am really not talking about it, but I  
16 think there was some misinformation brought up here  
17 today that there's possibly delays by the Court to wait  
18 until after the election, I don't believe that's true.  
19 Things kind of run slow in the

20 courthouse. Their work load is overwhelming, for not  
21 only the staff, but the judges, and I think that will  
22 come about.

23 There was a preliminary objection  
24 filed by the city's attorney and Mr. Pocius' attorney.  
25 It was a rounding defeat on our side, and I think it's  
0076

01 going to proceed to the final decision soon.  
02 I believe one of the words that  
03 the judge used was their objections were disingenuous  
04 at best. It's very obvious in the Home Rule Charter.  
05 I pride myself on not taking on a  
06 court case or taking on an arbitration, unless I know  
07 it's a winner, because I don't want to waste anyone's  
08 money, including my own. So, that's about all I have  
09 to say.

10 And one more statement that  
11 Mrs. Williams made that there's 3,000 new jobs, I think  
12 if she looks around at some of the hulks and the  
13 buildings, Angelica, right down the street, there was  
14 numerous people, numerous families left this city since  
15 this mayor has been in office, numerous jobs have been  
16 lost, and for the gains to be made, where is the taxes  
17 from these entities?

18 I think you look at when you're  
19 told that we're building an incubator downtown to  
20 foster new businesses and entrepreneurialism and you  
21 give them KOZ and tax-free status to his friends from  
22 the Chamber of Commerce, and then you take a large  
23 company that was paying taxes in the city in a place  
24 that's paying taxes in the city and you move them into  
25 this incubator that's supposed to foster new growth.  
0077

01 It was a bunch of baloney when  
02 they told you that, and it was absolutely a bunch of  
03 baloney now. This was -- all KOZs are, and you can  
04 just study Philadelphia and you study Pittsburgh,  
05 because it's happened there, all KOZs are is when  
06 you're the mayor, the governor gives you lots of money  
07 to give to your friends so they give money back to the  
08 mayor and back to the governor. That's how the system  
09 works. It's pay to play, and nobody is going to tell  
10 me any different. Thank you very much for letting me  
11 speak.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Just for  
13 the record, I want to say that Mr. Walsh deserves equal  
14 credit regarding the building of the new Scranton High  
15 School, because he sat right next to me and every one

16 of those votes, and we were voting the same. Go ahead,  
17 Ray.

18 MR. LYMAN: Raymond Lyman. I want  
19 to say, Gary DiBileo, that's right, you and Mr. Walsh  
20 did, and you should get an award for that.

21 MR. DIBILEO: No, we don't deserve  
22 that.

23 MR. LYMAN: Mrs. Williams had no  
24 right to do that to you, hollering at you like a dog.  
25 I mean, you run this Council, an excellent job, and I  
0078

01 think you can be a good mayor.

02 Mr. Doherty can't run as a mayor.

03 The way he runs as a mayor is a joke.

04 MR. DIBILEO: Okay, Ray. We have  
05 to leave that topic right now. Thank you.

06 MR. LYMAN: Now, let's talk about  
07 the deeds at Nay Aug Park, these mayors all knew about  
08 the deeds, the deeds, so did Chris Doherty, and so did  
09 the Parks and Recreation Authority, and Paul Kelly,  
10 they knew all along, and we didn't know, the Council,  
11 we were left in the loop.

12 It was only when Les Spindler  
13 found out and when the public found out the truth, and  
14 Doherty and the Park and Recreation Authority put that  
15 five-dollar fee and we were stuck paying that.

16 I think that the Attorney General  
17 should come in and investigate this. I think something  
18 illegal, because that was free and forever.  
19 Since they -- he knew, because all  
20 these other mayors never charged a fee. Because I went  
21 up to that park, and there was never a fee.  
22 And yet, this Paul Kelly is not  
23 coming up with a decision. And a lawyer would just go  
24 like this and say, decision a go, one, two, three. And  
25 he's going (UNTRANSCRIBALE) like this and just excuses.  
0079

01 Use your subpoena power, get him down here, demand it.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Did you have  
03 anything else on another topic, Ray?

04 MR. LYMAN: Because we're coming  
05 into May, and those kids and those adults are going to  
06 be paying five dollars.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Well, we hope that's  
08 not the case.

09 MR. LYMAN: It's going to happen.  
10 Mark my word, it's going to happen again. And then who  
11 is going to get blamed? It ain't going to be Doherty,

12 Gary, it's going to be you and the Council, that's who  
13 they're going to blame, unless you subpoena him.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Ray.

15 MS. KRAKE: Good evening,  
16 Council.

17 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

18 MS. KRAKE: My name is Nancy

19 Krake. It just seems to me that Joanne Williams maybe  
20 could use a little cheering up, maybe you can give her  
21 a ride in the Gary bus, maybe that will cheer her up a  
22 little. She seems fond of that, so --

23 MR. DIBILEO: Actually she rode in  
24 the St. Patrick's Day Parade when I was a school  
25 director on my truck I had, but that was a few years  
0080

01 back.

02 MS. KRAKE: See, she has a longing  
03 to rekindle this relationship.

04 MR. DIBILEO: But we don't want to  
05 mention that right now.

06 MS. KRAKE: For the people who  
07 don't know who Mayor Doherty is, conveniently there's a  
08 picture in the paper of him coming to your  
09 neighborhood.

10 It's election time and he's

11 finally acknowledging that there actually are  
12 neighbors. If you see someone in your yard putting up  
13 a Doherty sign that looks like the picture, it may be  
14 the mayor.

15 He might be in a city vehicle

16 accompanied by a clerical worker on a Saturday morning.

17 If he comes to your door, maybe you can ask him some of  
18 the questions we've been posing for the past four

19 years: Why he wouldn't agree to competitive bidding to  
20 hold costs down, why has he mortgaged our future with  
21 the debt he has incurred, why is he against checks and  
22 balances and monitoring the city's finances, why does  
23 he charge children to swim in our public pools, and why  
24 are there two standards for citizens of Scranton, one  
25 for working families with the second highest wage tax  
0081

01 in the state, and the other standard for  
02 multi-million-dollar companies that pay no taxes.

03 More double standards, we were  
04 told Attorney Mark Walsh, since he didn't have the

05 experience, didn't deserve as much money as  
06 Attorney Hickey was paid when he was solicitor for  
07 Council, yet all of the mayor's cabinet and

08 administrative hires have received \$2,783,875 in raises  
09 and job creations over this mayor's term.

10 None of these people had

11 experience in any of these particular jobs; for

12 example, one of these persons being the human resources

13 director received \$58,400 in pay raises over the

14 mayor's four years, that, in addition to the \$131,600

15 base pay for the job. That's a lot of money, Mark,

16 maybe you should have went for the human resources.

17 This mayor is just waiting to hand

18 you the bill for his deficit spending. Can we afford

19 four more years? Thank you.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

21 MS. STULGIS: I'm Ann Marie

22 Stulgis, and I'm president of the police union. I

23 wanted to update you. We had the health care committee

24 meeting, which I credit you people with making

25 possible, and it was actually more of an organizational

0082

01 meeting, since we still aren't able to even begin to

02 look at any figures or anything, because the city has

03 yet to supply this company with any of that

04 information, even though it's almost a year now that

05 we've hired them.

06 Also, I wonder if you could help

07 me out, there's seems to be a little bit of a mystery

08 about town, and perhaps one of you can help me out.

09 You see, in February I was

10 notified that we would have six new marked patrol cars,

11 at the latest by the second week of March. Well, it's

12 well past the second week of March, and those six new

13 marked Impalas are nowhere to be found.

14 In the meantime, we're short of

15 cars, police officers are driving cars that are

16 mechanically not sound, they're dangerous, and

17 somewhere there's six brand new marked Impalas, nobody

18 seems to know where they are.

19 I'm wondering if perhaps someone

20 could check into it, just because I certainly would

21 hope that they aren't being held off to suddenly

22 appear, you know, the 11th or 12th of May to make a

23 nice headline on the front page. I just --

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Ann Marie,

25 they're down at DPW now.

0083

01 MS. STULGIS: Are they planning on

02 putting them in service?

03 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't know for

04 sure. Jay, do you have any idea when they plan on  
05 putting them --  
06 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah. I talked to  
07 Chief Elliot about that today. He said they're down  
08 DPW. I don't know the terminology and what they do to  
09 those cars, but he said they're working on those cars  
10 and they will be on the road shortly.  
11 MS. STULGIS: Well, I sincerely  
12 hope that they're just not being held off to be used as  
13 a political ploy.  
14 Also, I'd like to share with you a  
15 little bit of a history lesson taking you back to April  
16 of 2001, when then Councilman Doherty stated that  
17 charging underprivileged children to use pools defeated  
18 the purpose of public pools.  
19 In November of 2001, he also  
20 claimed he would become the sixth councilmen if he was  
21 elected mayor.  
22 In December of 2001, he had the  
23 city's purchasing department print labels for his  
24 luncheon.  
25 In January of 2002, he had the  
0084  
01 door to the mayor's office frosted because people were  
02 gawking.  
03 In April of 2002, Council asked  
04 the mayor to attend Council meetings.  
05 In May of 2002, he spent thousands  
06 of dollars on flower pots and trash cans.  
07 In July of 2002, he decided he  
08 wanted to sell the golf course. He was against it when  
09 the previous mayor wanted to sell it.  
10 In August of 2002, he began  
11 contract negotiations with the fire department. It was  
12 then when he announced that he intended to eliminate  
13 benefits for the spouses and children of any  
14 firefighters killed while they were fighting a fire.  
15 In 11 of 2002, he added eight  
16 grant officers and gave pay raises totalling \$210,000.  
17 In December of 2002, he spent  
18 \$300,000 on Christmas lights.  
19 In March of 2003, the  
20 administration refused to pay anything to the city  
21 employees who were fighting the war in Iraq.  
22 In April of 2003, the city lost an  
23 arbitration to the police in the amount of \$50,000;  
24 however, this arbitration that they lost was giving the  
25 city in excess of over \$300,000 a year, because the

0085

01 water company was paying the city \$5.00 an hour every  
02 time a policeman was there, which was 24 hours a day.

03 In May of 2003, Scranton was

04 called A Business Burnout by Forbes Magazine.

05 In June of 2003, he spent

06 \$1 million to buy insurance for a better bond rating.

07 In November of 2003, 17 union jobs

08 were eliminated, six non-union jobs were given raises.

09 In December of 2003,

10 Mr. Greco was given his fourth contract since January  
11 of 2002, for \$100,000.

12 In December of 2003, \$20,000 was

13 budgeted for the Nay Aug Wildlife Center, while two

14 union clerical floaters were cut, three OECD workers

15 were cut, the flood secretary was cut, maintenance

16 worker was cut and salary was reduced for the new

17 Council solicitor.

18 In December of 2003, glass was

19 used as cinder on streets. I guess I'll finish this

20 next week.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

22 MR. McANDREW: Good evening,

23 Council. Larry McAndrew.

24 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening. It's

25 been a long evening tonight, and I don't want to take

0086

01 up too much time, but I just want to mention a couple

02 of meetings that I've attended this week that I think

03 are quite important.

04 One was Tuesday evening at the

05 Scranton High School. It was the Scranton Tomorrow

06 organization had a presentation of what their vision of

07 what this community, what this city, could look like in

08 the next several years, and I have to agree with their

09 assumptions of what we could and what could happen for

10 our community.

11 It all comes down to cooperation,

12 cooperation through education. Our school board must

13 cooperate with our City Council and with our

14 government.

15 Our education, it must start with

16 our children at the elementary level, not the high

17 school level where they're already considering

18 college. Large industries look at this and the

19 community at all the ethnic groups.

20 I also attended a meeting

21 Wednesday at Bethel Church about crime and violence in

22 this city. What brought out to me was this one  
23 speaker, his name is James Williams.  
24 As Mr. Davis often speaks here,  
25 this Mr. Williams is a black person who should be proud  
0087  
01 of his heritage. He is a leader. He's showing the  
02 youth there in that area the right from wrong, how not  
03 to be involved with violence.  
04 He has formed basketball clinics,  
05 and I guess he also is in charge of other  
06 organizations. I wish that Mr. Williams would step  
07 forward and speak at this City Council -- at this  
08 podium, that he would also have a meeting with  
09 Mr. Hayes, public safety director, to see what can be  
10 done for the minorities in this city, to see what could  
11 be done, also, for the Latinos that live in this city,  
12 also.  
13 As a city in order to survive and  
14 in order to develop, we must all come together, we must  
15 all cooperate. I don't know who is going to be mayor,  
16 I don't know who is going to be on the school board, I  
17 don't know who is going to be on our City Council, but  
18 we must all work together to reach our goals.  
19 It was nice to be at that Scranton  
20 meeting Tuesday evening to see what possibly could  
21 develop. Our arts and our culture could be a lot  
22 better than what it is.  
23 Our downtown area could see much  
24 more improvements than just KOZ. Our police department  
25 could have neighborhood police bicycle enforcement and  
0088  
01 a patrolman in each neighborhood. We could have  
02 moderate and more equipped vehicles to work with.  
03 This is what I hope and pray for the City of Scranton.  
04 Election Day is 26 days away from  
05 us today. Our future is in our hands. As I received a  
06 letter from former governor Howard Dean stating this  
07 again, The future is in our hands. We have control of  
08 it.  
09 The citizens and voters of  
10 Scranton must take this under consideration and must  
11 make the decision come 26 days from now that every one  
12 individual vote counts in every election year. Make  
13 your vote count. Thank you very much.  
14 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,  
15 Mr. McAndrew. Thank you. Are there any other  
16 speakers? Chris Sledinski.  
17 MR. SLEDINSKI: You forgot me,

18 Gar. Be a gentleman, right, Jay? I want to thank you  
19 guys, what you guys did for the City of Scranton right  
20 now. Go out and vote. Thank you.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Very good words,  
22 Chris. Thank you. If there's no further speakers.

23 MR. WALSH: Fifth order. 5-A,  
24 motions.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. McTiernan, do  
0089

01 you have any motions or comments?

02 MR. McTIERNAN: Thank you,  
03 Mr. President. Two comments, first of all, I'd like to  
04 thank the gentleman from Johnson Controls, who gave us  
05 a presentation on a preliminary proposal regarding an  
06 energy savings program. Hopefully we can explore that  
07 in more detail to save the taxpayers money.

08 Second of all, in the past few  
09 weeks many speakers have talked about opportunities for  
10 the youth of Scranton, and while it is surely  
11 regrettable that the Boys Club, a private industry,  
12 decided to close its West Side facility, and that  
13 affected a lot of folks we all know, certainly some  
14 relatives of ours, I'm sure, I think it's important  
15 that we point out that the Scranton School District,  
16 specifically the five secondary schools and the  
17 elementary schools, run programs designed specifically  
18 for the youth, and it's worthwhile to point out the  
19 fact, No. 1, they're free; No. 2, they're not  
20 discriminatory and they take care of any child who  
21 walks through the door.

22 They're all staffed by qualified  
23 professionals, and they're paid for in advance. All  
24 the youth of this community have to do is take  
25 advantage of those programs.

0090

01 Many of them are operated year  
02 around, and they range from academic programs, artistic  
03 programs, social programs, cultural programs, and of  
04 course athletic programs, which get the most press.

05 But I think it's important to find  
06 that although we are lacking some opportunities,  
07 there's a large number of opportunities still  
08 available, all people need to do is take advantage of  
09 them. Thank you, Mr. President.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

11 Mr. McTiernan. Appreciate that. Mrs. Evans, any  
12 motions or comments?

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

14 Mr. McTiernan, if you remember last year,  
15 Director Gilbride gave us a list of all of those summer  
16 opportunities that are offered by the Scranton School  
17 District, so maybe we would be able to obtain another  
18 copy and circulate that once again, because you're  
19 absolutely right.

20 Also, to the interested residents  
21 of Scranton, particularly our senior citizens, I have  
22 good news about your crosswalks. Painting will begin  
23 next week in order of priority, and the top three  
24 projects are, first, Jackson Heights and the West Side  
25 Senior Center, then East Elm Street and South  
0091

01 Washington Avenue, specifically the painting of traffic  
02 lanes and Luzerne Street and Meridian Avenue.

03 Also, Mr. Davis, who frequently  
04 speaks at Council meetings, mentioned beautiful  
05 crosswalks at Scranton Prep at several prior meetings.  
06 They were produced using experimental tape from  
07 PennDOT. First the ground is heated, I'm told, and  
08 then the hot tape is laid, which adheres to the  
09 asphalt.

10 This is a more expensive process  
11 than painting, but it lasts longer for a period of two  
12 to three years, I'm told. So, this indeed may be  
13 something we should be looking into.

14 I also want to take a minute to  
15 thank Pat McMullen, Dave Medici, who makes all the  
16 signs, Gene Reed, who takes care of lights, and Kim  
17 Kandell, for all their wonderful and tireless work they  
18 perform each day for all the people of Scranton.  
19 They do an outstanding job, and they do deserve our  
20 thanks.

21 I was thrilled about the \$5,000  
22 Pinebrook cleanup of an abandoned lot. Pinebrook was  
23 neglected for many years now, and I think finally  
24 they're up and coming again.

25 And I was also asked to read an  
0092

01 announcement, Scranton Tomorrow announces the Scranton  
02 Riverfront cleanup for the Lackawanna River will be on  
03 Saturday, April 23, 2005, from 9 a.m. to twelve noon.

04 The Scranton Riverfront Cleanup is  
05 the 2005 signature project of the City Pride Initiative  
06 and is part of the Great Pennsylvania Cleanup. It will  
07 focus on cleaning the west side of the river from  
08 Olive Street to the Lackawanna Avenue bridge.  
09 Over 80 volunteers are needed for

10 Saturday's event. Scranton Riverfront Cleanup  
11 volunteers are asked to meet at 8:45 a.m. next to the  
12 Olive Street Bridge, across from the Ice Box Plaza.  
13 Scranton Tomorrow will provide  
14 gloves, garbage bags, all necessary tools and water  
15 donated by Pocono Pure Water and Pennsylvania American  
16 Water Company.  
17 Project partner Lackawanna  
18 Heritage Valley will provide a free lunch for  
19 participants immediately following the event.  
20 This year's City Pride corporate  
21 sponsor is Pennstar Bank. And to register for the  
22 Scranton Riverfront Cleanup project, please call  
23 Chris Paterson at Scranton Tomorrow at 963-7576.  
24 And I do have 15 or so requests,  
25 five of which I will read only. First dredge Leggett  
0093  
01 Creek, remove sediment and rock to reduce flooding.  
02 There's been excessive rainfall and flooding this year  
03 which added to the buildup.  
04 This should be done, and in fact  
05 used to be done, during prior administrations every  
06 two to three years. And I made this request in 2004,  
07 but it was not done.  
08 Also, we talked about this in  
09 caucus tonight, I have requested a proclamation to  
10 honor Christine Munchak of her election as Pennsylvania  
11 State President of PTA.  
12 The corner of Parker Street and  
13 Boulevard Avenue, and this came to my mind when  
14 Mrs. Medallis was speaking earlier, because it sounds  
15 as if these residents are experiencing a very similar  
16 problem.  
17 We have five residents and two  
18 businesses which are flooded by overflowing storm  
19 drains. In fact one resident had to purchase a second  
20 new water heater after the last storm a few weeks ago.  
21 So, I was wondering, Jay, if we  
22 can please schedule a meeting with Ralph Pappas,  
23 George Parker, Jack Lennox, operations manager of SSA  
24 and these residents to try to determine a solution,  
25 because this area really receives no attention when the  
0094  
01 Plot area floods.  
02 Also, the abandoned lot at the  
03 corner of Wood Street and North Rebecca Avenue, remove  
04 tires, hot water heater and debris. And this is my  
05 third request for this.

06 Also, pave the 500 block of Burke  
07 Street in Minooka, and there are photos attached to  
08 that request.  
09 And the corner of Briggs and  
10 Horatio off of Keyser Avenue, a one to two foot hole  
11 opened up at the end of a resident's driveway after the  
12 last flood, and she believes that there is a damaged  
13 pipe underneath that. She did call the city engineer,  
14 but met with no satisfaction.

15 And finally, I have to say I was  
16 so pleased to hear that the permit parking signs were  
17 installed in the 500 block of Taylor Avenue. In fact,  
18 I received an Email recently notifying me of that  
19 action, that I just wanted to read quickly: Thank you  
20 for following up to finalize this long-awaited request.  
21 One note, I believe, Mr. Pocius  
22 mentioned during motions that the request was sent up  
23 on March 18, possibly he's confusing this request with  
24 a recent one submitted in January for the 500 block of  
25 Monroe Avenue.

0095

01 I know that our traffic study was  
02 completed and approved and that our request had reached  
03 order Sixth last November, and I thought reached  
04 seventh order.

05 Anyway, thank you all for  
06 revisiting and finalizing this request for relief in  
07 our Hill Section neighborhood. Keep up the good work  
08 and thanks.

09 So, I am very glad that this  
10 request has finally been resolved, and I do apologize  
11 for our dropping the ball on that for so many months.  
12 I think we're inundated with so many requests, and we  
13 really do try to meet and solve all of those problems,  
14 and in the effort to do so, sometimes some things may  
15 just fall by the side while we're assuming or we're  
16 waiting for a response from a particular department to  
17 indicate that the job has been completed. And that's  
18 all I have. Thank you.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,  
20 Mrs. Evans. Mr. Pocius, any motions or comments?

21 MR. POCIUS: I will be very  
22 brief. Last week I spoke briefly on a situation in the  
23 2600 block of Pittston Avenue, a flooding problem. I  
24 was able to research back in our files at our office  
25 and I found some preliminary work that was done there a  
0096

01 while ago, so I've provided all that information to

02 city engineer George Parker, and George is going to do  
03 some more investigating now that he has some actual  
04 plans in front of him, so hopefully we're going to --  
05 it's a big project, and we're going to see if we can  
06 get some estimates together and maybe look for some  
07 outside sources for some money there that could be  
08 eligible for some different types of funding.

09 Just quickly, I, too, was  
10 approached on the 500 block of Burke Street, and that  
11 is scheduled for mechanized patching this year. That  
12 will be taken up in the paving season by DPW forces.  
13 And also just another one on  
14 paving, Apghar Place, which is a court that runs east  
15 and west over in the West Scranton, I received a  
16 complaint on some potholes. Well, I talked to  
17 Mr. Matthews today, and the condition of the court  
18 warrants that he will again pave that with DWP forces  
19 from Main Avenue down to the Clover Field someplace.  
20 Quite a few blocks of it. So, they are going to do  
21 some in-house paving this year. That's all,  
22 Mr. President.

23 MS. EVANS: John, do you know, are  
24 they going to level it off? I think the problem for at  
25 least one block there was that it was so uneven; in  
0097

01 other words, raised in the middle and lowered on both  
02 sides that it was very difficult to even navigate your  
03 car through there.

04 MR. POCIUS: I spoke only very  
05 briefly today with Mr. Matthews, and he said that the  
06 problem could be solved by paving, rather than trying  
07 to do a -- the amount of material that will be needed  
08 for a patch to try to level and everything will be just  
09 wasted.

10 So, he looked at it, he said he  
11 thinks he could get that done in the very near future  
12 with weather permitting when they start their city,  
13 like, the DPW type of paving. It's called a mechanized  
14 patch, I guess.

15 MS. EVANS: Best news tonight.

16 MR. POCIUS: Not just potholes,  
17 but they will use their own equipment.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,  
19 Mr. Pocius. Appreciate that. Mr. Courtright, any  
20 motions or comments?

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Two motions  
22 first, Mr. President. I make a motion to have a public  
23 hearing on the transfer of \$55,000 from the

24 administration to neighborhood policing, and that would  
25 take place on April 28 of '05 at 6:15 p.m.

0098

01 MS. EVANS: Second.

02 MR. DIBILEO: We have a motion on  
03 the floor and a second. On the question? All those  
04 in favor, signify by saying aye.

05 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

06 MS. EVANS: Aye.

07 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

08 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

09 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The  
10 ayes have it and so moved.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: And one more  
12 motion that I would ask Jay, you know, to advertise  
13 these appropriately, make a motion to have a public  
14 hearing on the transfer of \$5,000 to Sloan Baseball  
15 Field from the administration, and that public hearing  
16 would also be 4/28/05 at 2:30 p.m.

17 MS. EVANS: Second.

18 MR. DIBILEO: We have a motion on  
19 the floor and a second. On the question? All those  
20 in favor, signify by saying aye.

21 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The  
0099

01 ayes have it and so moved.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: Former

03 Councilman Brian Reap, I spoke with his dad the other  
04 day, and he was very impressed by a police officer  
05 that's doing a great job down in the north end, and  
06 that police officer's name is Chris Kocius, so I thank  
07 Mr. Reap, Sr., for his comments and we thank Chris  
08 Kocius for all of his good work down there.

09 On what I consider to be a very  
10 serious note here, I was contacted by members of the  
11 public safety for the fire department about a situation  
12 back in the 3200 block of Pittston Avenue, and if I  
13 may, and I know we're late here tonight, but I think  
14 this is well deserving of the time, here is a letter  
15 from the superintendent of the fire department to the  
16 assistant chief, Please be advised that a structure  
17 located at 3215 Pittston Avenue has been condemned by  
18 the city for numerous code violations.  
19 It was discovered during an

20 inspection of the facility that a very large amount of  
21 discarded foam products are being stored there.  
22 Efforts are currently under way to effect a removal of  
23 these foam products, which should be completed shortly.

24 This memo is to make you and all  
25 of our men aware of this potentially dangerous  
0100

01 situation and to exercise caution in the event of a  
02 fire at this building. I will keep you updated on the  
03 process of these removal of these foam products.

04 And I guess the reason it was  
05 brought to my attention was this letter was dated  
06 December 9 of 2004.

07 My understanding is the products  
08 were being stored there are similar and the same as  
09 ones that caught fire up in Archbald where several  
10 people were taken to the hospital.

11 I got a, I guess we can call it a  
12 Hazmat sheet, and, you know, just part of it says toxic  
13 gases and smoke released by burning of foam, this foam,  
14 can be incapacitating or fatal to human beings if  
15 inhaled.

16 So, they are very concerned that  
17 nothing has been done yet. It's back in the Minooka  
18 section. I think they said Mr. Pocius might have --  
19 it's something -- knows something about this at one  
20 time.

21 MR. POCIUS: The neighbors told me  
22 that the stuff is being taken out of there as we speak,  
23 but maybe it's not all out, but it has been taken out.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay.

25 MR. POCIUS: Portions of it. I  
0101

01 can't say it's finished, Bill.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. And I  
03 try to picture in my mind exactly where the building  
04 is, and I didn't have a chance, I spent several hours  
05 on this today, but I couldn't get back there to take a  
06 look at it.

07 MR. POCIUS: It's Warner and  
08 Pittston, it's the old Consolidated. I think it is a  
09 Poly-Hi building at one time. It was a plastics plant  
10 for years thee.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. And I  
12 guess the major concern is this, is that someone, I  
13 believe it might have been Mr. Fiorini or one of the  
14 fire chiefs, I'm not sure, sorry about that, but had  
15 given them 48 hours recently to get this stuff out of

16 there, because it has been going on since December 9,  
17 and they were rather upset.  
18 And I, you know, I said is it all  
19 right if I mentioned it, guys? And they were so upset,  
20 they said, Yeah. I guess when they were given the 48  
21 hours, the mayor said, No, we're going to give them  
22 more time, and they're very, very upset about that.  
23 So, I said, Let me go and  
24 speak to Mr. Fiorini. I spoke to Mr. Fiorini today on  
25 the steps downstairs here, and he said the bottom line  
0102  
01 is, he's the man that's in charge of this, and if they  
02 are not taking that stuff out by tomorrow, he will  
03 start citing them tomorrow. So, within the 48-hour  
04 period, not the extended period that the administration  
05 wanted to give to them.  
06 So, for all the neighbors in  
07 Minooka that are concerned and for the firefighters  
08 that might potentially have to go into that fire,  
09 Mr. Fiorini guaranteed me they would start to be cited  
10 tomorrow if that material wasn't being removed.  
11 So, hopefully that will come to a  
12 good conclusion and no neighbors or firefighters will  
13 be affected by it. And that's all I have,  
14 Mr. President. Thank you.  
15 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,  
16 Mr. Courtright. That certainly sounds like a dangerous  
17 situation that has to be dealt with, like  
18 Mr. Fiorini said, immediately, so let's hope that gets  
19 taken care of now.  
20 I just want to let everyone know  
21 that I attend a neighborhood meeting this week, as did  
22 you, at Bethel AME Church, and it was a pretty  
23 interesting meeting.  
24 Members of Men United For A  
25 Greater Philadelphia came to Scranton and met with  
0103  
01 neighborhood crime watch organizations at the Bethel  
02 AME Church, and that group of individuals, and it was  
03 not only men, it was some women, too, mothers that have  
04 lost sons and daughters to gang gunfire, and that's  
05 exactly what they are trying to fight against, fight  
06 against gangs.  
07 Obviously Philadelphia has a much  
08 greater problem than Scranton at this point in time,  
09 and these people I admired them, because you can just  
10 see in their eyes that they have seen it all, that they  
11 have seen death of young people to gang gunfire, and

12 they're very concerned about not allowing what's  
13 happened in Philadelphia to happen in other parts of  
14 the state, so they're making four stops across the  
15 state, and Scranton was their second stop.  
16 They explained that first kids  
17 fight with their fists, and then it turns into fighting  
18 with sticks, and then it turns into fighting with  
19 knives, and then it turns into fighting with guns, and  
20 that's exactly when it becomes very deadly.  
21 So, I think we have to learn a  
22 lesson from these people who have experienced what  
23 these people have, and I think we have to fight for our  
24 kids and fight against gangs with sound public safety  
25 and sound police patrols and hopefully that we can have  
0104

01 the criminals go elsewhere or go to jail by a sound  
02 public safety force in Scranton.  
03 An example, I think, of this is  
04 something that Mr. Courtright just brought up, we are  
05 attempting to write legislation and funnel some  
06 additional monies, \$55,000 to greater police  
07 protection, police patrols that had previously been  
08 slated for consultants, so I think that that would be  
09 better spent at this point in time fighting against  
10 gangs through sound public safety.

11 Something else I'd like to mention  
12 is last week some neighbors came to the podium  
13 regarding flooding concerns, flooding in areas that  
14 there are only a few homes that are affected, and  
15 Merrifield Avenue is one, and I just wanted to inform  
16 everyone that I spoke with Mr. Parker, he's continuing  
17 to research the situation involving the Merrifield  
18 Avenue flooding, he's coming to the realization that  
19 there's different areas that are contributing to what's  
20 happening at Merrifield Avenue, and he's working on  
21 correcting those situations. So, he's going to have  
22 more information for us soon.  
23 The Sandy Banks Area or Gordon  
24 Avenue at Anthony Street, down off of Olive Street, I  
25 went down there today, I met with the gentleman who was  
0105

01 here last week, John Litwinski, and we are hoping  
02 that -- we're hoping that the Sewer Authority is going  
03 to be able to help that neighborhood out, because that  
04 is where sewers back up through what was an open sewer  
05 opening, whatever you might call that sewer drain, and  
06 the Sewer Authority has been out there, has covered  
07 that up already.

08 Now hopefully we'll get with the  
09 Sewer Authority to help correct the problem and  
10 hopefully help it from occurring again.  
11 And the last thing is the  
12 Pierce Street problem that Grace Medallis has talked  
13 about, unfortunately for that situation, Mrs. Medallis  
14 has, you know, filed a lawsuit, because obviously she's  
15 put up with that problem for such a long time, and I  
16 actually don't blame her for filing a lawsuit, but  
17 because of that Mr. Parker said that he's unable to  
18 really work on the problem at Pierce Street for  
19 Mrs. Medallis because of the lawsuit that has been  
20 filed. So, we'll have to see what the result of the  
21 lawsuit is.

22 And the last thing, it's that time  
23 of year for boys and girls of summer to start throwing  
24 the balls around, and it's baseball season, and over  
25 the next two weekends there's going to be many  
0106

01 little league and missy league opening days.  
02 I want to wish all the little  
03 leaguers and missy leaguers the best of luck this year  
04 as we begin a new season, and I actually hope to attend  
05 as many opening days as I possibly can. And that's all  
06 I have. Mr. Walsh.

07 MR. WALSH: Fifth order. There is  
08 no fifth order business this evening. Sixth order.  
09 6-A, READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 128, 2005 -  
10 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF PARKING  
11 SPACES AND PARKING METERS ALONG A DESIGNATED SECTION OF  
12 THE 100 BLOCK OF LACKAWANNA AVENUE FOR PURPOSES OF  
13 COMPLYING WITH PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF  
14 TRANSPORTATION (PENNDOT) REQUIREMENTS FOR A HIGHWAY  
15 OCCUPANCY PERMIT FOR THE INGRESS AND EGRESS OF THE NEW  
16 PARKING GARAGE ON ADAMS AVENUE.

17 MR. DIBILEO: You've heard reading  
18 by title of Item 6-A. What is your pleasure?

19 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I move  
20 that Item 6-A pass reading by title.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

22 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?  
23 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

24 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

25 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

0107

01 MS. EVANS: Aye.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

04 ayes have it and so moved.  
05 MR. WALSH: 6-B, READING BY TITLE  
06 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 129, 2005 - AN ORDINANCE -  
07 AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 86, 2004 ENTITLED AN  
08 ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A LIQUOR LICENSE IN  
09 THE NAME OF EDWARD AND ALICE KAKAREKA T/A THE FIRESIDE  
10 INN, BOROUGH OF MOSCOW, LICENSE NO. R-20511 TO BMM  
11 ENTERTAINMENT, INC., FOR USE AT THE RITZ BUILDING, 222  
12 WYOMING AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS  
13 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD IN  
14 ORDER TO CORRECT AN ERROR IN THE LICENSE NUMBER.  
15 MR. DIBILEO: You've heard reading  
16 by title of Item 6-B. What is your pleasure?  
17 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I move  
18 that Item 6-B pass reading by title.  
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.  
20 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?  
21 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.  
22 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.  
23 MR. POCIUS: Aye.  
24 MS. EVANS: Aye.  
25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.  
0108  
01 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The  
02 ayes have it and so moved.  
03 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I'd  
04 like to make a motion that we suspend our rules  
05 allowing 6-B to be placed in seventh order for further  
06 consideration this evening.  
07 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.  
08 MR. DIBILEO: Motion on the floor  
09 and a second. On the question?  
10 MS. EVANS: Yes. I'm very pleased  
11 with that motion, because I know there has been such  
12 trouble with the paperwork inadvertently, and the owner  
13 has been waiting so long to get his business moving, so  
14 I think this is a very judicious decision.  
15 MR. DIBILEO: If there's no  
16 further questions, all those in favor, signify by  
17 saying aye.  
18 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.  
19 MS. EVANS: Aye.  
20 MR. POCIUS: Aye.  
21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.  
22 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The  
23 ayes have it and so moved.  
24 MR. WALSH: Seventh order. 7-A,  
25 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY

0109

01 DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 126,  
02 2005 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 73, 1999, ENTITLED,  
03 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER  
04 Aphrophilus OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE  
05 ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED  
06 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
07 PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
08 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP  
09 (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)  
10 PROGRAM, BY CHANGING THE PURPOSE OF PROJECT NO. 99-87,  
11 ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING  
12 SERVICES.

13 MR. DIBILEO: What's the  
14 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on  
15 community development?

16 MR. McTIERNAN: As the chairperson  
17 for the committee on community development, I recommend  
18 final passage of Item 7-A.

19 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

20 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

21 Roll call, please, Kay.

22 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

23 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

24 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

0110

01 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

02 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

03 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

04 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

05 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

06 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby  
07 declare Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

08 MR. WALSH: 7-B, FOR CONSIDERATION

09 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

10 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 127, 2005 - APPROVING THE

11 TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE IN THE NAME OF

12 DEFAZIO'S RISTORANTE, INC., 143 COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES,

13 GOULDSBORO, PENNSYLVANIA, THORNHURST TOWNSHIP, LICENSE

14 NO. R-21270 TO TASTE OF ITALY OF SCRANTON, LLC FOR USE

15 AT 208 MEADOW AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505 AS

16 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

17 MR. DIBILEO: As chairperson for

18 the committee on rules, I recommend final passage of

19 Item 7-B.

20 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

21 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

22 Roll call, please, Kay.

23 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

24 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

25 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.

0111

01 MS. EVANS: Yes.

02 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

03 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

05 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

06 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby

08 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

09 MR. WALSH: 7-C, FOR CONSIDERATION

10 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION

11 NO. 135, 2005 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

12 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN

13 AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

14 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) TO ACCEPT

15 THE ACT 101, SECTION 902 RECYCLING DEVELOPMENT AND

16 IMPLEMENTATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$388,829.

17 MR. DIBILEO: What's the

18 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on

19 finance?

20 MS. EVANS: As chair for the

21 committee on finance, I recommend final passage of

22 Item 7-C.

23 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

24 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

25 Roll call, please, Kay.

0112

01 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

02 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

03 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

04 MS. EVANS: Yes.

05 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

06 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

07 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

08 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

09 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby

11 declare Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MR. WALSH: 7-D, FOR CONSIDERATION

13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -

14 RESOLUTION NO. 136, 2005 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

15 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF

16 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO

17 REFINANCE A LOAN FROM THE COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

18 REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM, IN AN AMOUNT OF \$200,000.00  
19 WITH WHISTLE'S, INC.

20 MR. DIBILEO: What's the  
21 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on  
22 finance?

23 MS. EVANS: As chair for the  
24 committee on finance, I recommend final passage of  
25 Item 7-D.

0113

01 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

02 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

03 Roll call, please, Kay.

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

05 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

06 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

07 MS. EVANS: Yes.

08 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

09 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

10 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

12 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

13 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby

14 declare Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

15 MR. WALSH: 7-E, FOR CONSIDERATION

16 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

17 COUNCIL NO. 129, 2005 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL

18 NO. 86, 2004 APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A LIQUOR LICENSE

19 IN THE NAME OF EDWARD AND ALICE KAKAREKA T/A THE

20 FIRESIDE INN, BOROUGH OF MOSCOW, LICENSE

21 NO. R-20511 TO BMM ENTERTAINMENT, INC., FOR USE AT THE

22 RITZ BUILDING, 222 WYOMING AVENUE, SCRANTON,

23 PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA

24 LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD IN ORDER TO CORRECT AN ERROR IN

25 THE LICENSE NUMBER.

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01 MR. DIBILEO: As chairperson for

02 the committee on rules, I recommend final passage of

03 Item 7-E, formerly 6-B.

04 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

05 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

06 MR. WALSH: Mr. DiBileo, on the

07 question, the public has an opportunity to comment,

08 since we've moved that particular motion from sixth

09 order to seventh order.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Would anyone like to

11 comment on 7-E, which is formerly 6-B? If not,

12 Mr. Walsh, I'll now make the motion as chairperson for

13 the committee on rules, I recommend final passage of

14 Item 7-E, formerly 6-B.  
15 MR. POCIUS: I'll second it again.  
16 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?  
17 Roll call, please.  
18 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.  
19 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.  
20 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.  
21 MS. EVANS: Yes.  
22 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.  
23 MR. POCIUS: Yes.  
24 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.  
25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

0115

01 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.  
02 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby  
03 declare Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.  
04 Seeing no further business on the agenda, I'll  
05 entertain a motion we adjourn.  
06 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.  
07 MS. EVANS: Second.  
08 MR. DIBILEO: We're adjourned.

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11 (MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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01 C E R T I F I C A T E

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02 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
03 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
03 notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and  
04 that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to  
04 the best of my ability.

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08 LISA M. GRAFF, RPR

08 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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