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02 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL

03 PUBLIC HEARING

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05 IN RE: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 133, 2005 - ESTABLISHING

05 THIRTY (30) MINUTE PARKING AT CERTAIN SECTIONS

06 OF THE CORNER OF ASH STREET AND PRESCOTT

06 AVENUE, KNOWN AS PETERSBURG CORNERS,

07 SPECIFICALLY ALONG ASH STREET FROM

07 FARBER COURT TO THE INTERSECTION OF PRESCOTT

08 AVENUE ALONG THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF ASH STREET,

08 AND ALONG PRESCOTT AVENUE FROM THE INTERSECTION

09 OF ASH STREET TO AND INCLUDING 953 PRESCOTT

09 AVENUE ON THE WESTERLY SIDE OF PRESCOTT AVENUE

10 ONLY.

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12 Held:

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13 Thursday, June 2, 2005

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15 Time:

15 6:45 p.m.

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17 Location:

18 Council chambers

18 Scranton City Hall

19 340 North Washington Avenue

19 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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23 Lisa M. Graff, RPR

24 Court Reporter

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02 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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04 MR. GARY DIBILEO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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07 MS. JANET EVANS, VICE-PRESIDENT

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09

10 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

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12

13 MR. JOHN POCIUS

14

15

16 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

17

18

19 MARK WALSH, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

20

21 MR. JAY SAUNDERS, CITY CLERK

22

23 MS. KAY GARVEY, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

24

25

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01 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. We're going

02 to call this public hearing to order, and I would like

03 Kay to do 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.

14 The purpose of said public hearing is to hear

15 testimony and discuss the following:

16 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 133, 2005 -

17 ESTABLISHING THIRTY (30) MINUTE PARKING AT

18 CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CORNER OF ASH STREET AND

19 PRESCOTT AVENUE, KNOWN AS PETERSBURG CORNERS,

20 SPECIFICALLY ALONG ASH STREET FROM
21 FARBER COURT TO THE INTERSECTION OF PRESCOTT
22 AVENUE ALONG THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF ASH STREET,
23 AND ALONG PRESCOTT AVENUE FROM THE INTERSECTION
24 OF ASH STREET TO AND INCLUDING 953 PRESCOTT
25 AVENUE ON THE WESTERLY SIDE OF PRESCOTT AVENUE
0004

01 ONLY.

02 Now, we have a sign-in sheet for
03 anyone wishing to speak on this topic, and there's
04 nobody signed in. Is there anyone here that would like
05 to comment on this public hearing?

06 ATTORNEY BARRETT: Good evening,
07 Council. My name is Matt Barrett, and I'm an attorney
08 representing the market, and I would just request
09 approval of the ordinance as written and as submitted.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Thank you.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Is there anyone else
13 that would like to comment on this public hearing? If
14 not, we'll call it to a close. We'll be back at
15 seven o'clock for our regularly-scheduled meeting.

16 (HEARING WAS CONCLUDED.)

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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.

05

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08 _____
08 LISA M. GRAFF, RPR

08 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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02 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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16 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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07 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

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09 MR. JOHN POCIUS

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11 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

12

13 MR. MARK WALSH, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

14

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. If we can

14 dispense with the reading of the minutes, please,

15 Mr. Walsh.

16 MR. WALSH: Third order. 3-A,

17 AGENDAS AND MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON REDEVELOPMENT

18 AUTHORITY MEETINGS HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2005 AND

19 WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2005.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any

21 comments on 3-A? If not, received and filed.

22 MR. WALSH: 3-B, MINUTES OF THE

23 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE AUTHORITY REGULAR

24 BOARD MEETING HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any

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01 comments on 3-B? If not, received and filed.

02 MR. WALSH: 3-C, Clerk's notes.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Saunders,

04 please.

05 MR. SAUNDERS: Mr. President,

06 last week Councilman Courtright discussed the \$400,000.

07 The number is actually \$400,000. I think we're talking
08 \$480,000 or \$440. The number is \$400,000 from the
09 Pittston Avenue project.

10 I spoke with Sara Hailstone about
11 this money, and she said that all the bills are not
12 into the Army Corps. as of yet, and that when the bills
13 are in, they will know exactly where that money stands.
14 The City is committed to paying
15 10 percent of the overall project. They're ranging it
16 from \$4 million to possibly \$5 million. They have no
17 idea where this is going to end up, but they anticipate
18 that that \$400,000 will be spent on that project.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Well, Jay, I
20 don't know if you did it already, but I'd just like if
21 they can each week send me just a little note saying no
22 more information, here's some information. I want a
23 weekly report on that, if that's possible.

24 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes, I'll pass that
25 onto her.

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01 MR. COURTRIGHT: A handwritten
02 note is fine.

03 MR. SAUNDERS: I will discuss that
04 with Sara tomorrow.

05 The alley on South Decker Court
06 that was discussed last week, a little bit on
07 Walgreen's side and going down, I think it might be the
08 200 block of South Decker Court, I sent all the
09 requests out, Mr. DiBileo talked about this last week,
10 I sent all the requests out. Because of the unusual
11 circumstance, not on every alley are we going to send
12 down reports on speed bumps, but we requested the speed
13 bumps for that alley due to the unusual circumstance
14 that is happening up there with all the traffic with
15 Walgreen's and the Sunoco Mart.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah, the A Plus
17 convenient store is right there on the 200 block of
18 South Decker.

19 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah, so that is
20 all sent out and prepared. Once again, I have to say
21 that that is an unusual request that we put those speed
22 bumps in. I know that it has happened in the past over
23 in South Side behind, I believe it's Smith's
24 Restaurant, but, you know, I'm hoping that we'll hear
25 something on that soon.

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01 MS. EVANS: Did you also make the
02 request of Walgreen's to clean up the graffiti?

03 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah. I talked to
04 Mr. Fiorini about that. He actually is here tonight.
05 He could brief you on that. He went through the whole
06 situation and he knows it a little better than I do,
07 but he is here tonight.
08 Watson Street and South Main
09 Avenue, this is something that -- a petition was
10 brought to our attention last week. I just want to
11 update council that that has been passed onto
12 Mike Wallace looking for all of the angles and the
13 possibilities of what we could do on the corner of
14 Watson and South Main.
15 I'm waiting for a response back on
16 that one, and when I do have that, I will bring that
17 back to Council. I don't have that as of yet. They
18 just got that in their hands, so you have to give them
19 a little time on that one.
20 MS. EVANS: Mr. Saunders, did you
21 receive the petition regarding, I think it's the 1700
22 and 1800 block of Olive Street to remove permit
23 parking?
24 MR. SAUNDERS: That is in my hand
25 as we speak, and I'm going to explain that story right
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01 now, too.
02 This petition, I believe, was
03 brought in two weeks ago, two weeks ago, and I just
04 grabbed it off my desk before we walked out here, and I
05 do want to let the people know in the 1700 and 1800
06 block, it will be on next week's agenda.
07 I talked to Kay and Neil about
08 this, about where I had misplaced this, but I do have
09 it now, and this will be on next week's agenda.
10 MS. EVANS: Very good.
11 MR. SAUNDERS: Okay. Thank you.
12 That's all I have, Mr. President.
13 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
14 Mr. Saunders. Regarding the South Main Avenue and
15 Watson Street neighborhood and the people that signed
16 the petitions down there, ask Mr. Wallace if he
17 could -- I think what they're concerned about is truck
18 traffic that's heavy on that corner, and ask
19 Mr. Wallace if he would write to you to let you know if
20 all the zoning procedures were followed and if any
21 variances or special exceptions would be required for
22 that truck traffic that's there currently.
23 MR. SAUNDERS: I'll talk to him
24 tomorrow, also.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Thank you.

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01 MR. WALSH: Fourth order, citizen

02 participation.

03 MR. WALSH: Okay. We have a

04 sign-in sheet, and the first person on the sheet is

05 Andy Sbaraglia.

06 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,

07 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, Jay made a

08 comment at the last meeting about MMI setting up some

09 kind of site to report lamps that are out.

10 MR. SAUNDERS: MEM. It's "slout".

11 If you have a -- I did report this in the last one and

12 a couple meetings ago, that if you do have a

13 streetlight out, there's a grid number there, street

14 location, it's www.slout.com.

15 If you -- I mean, instead of

16 calling City Hall or calling MEM, you can get right

17 Online, punch that in. They send you a response time

18 shortly thereafter to tell you that the light will be

19 repaired on this day and when. Hopefully it's working.

20 MR. SBARAGLIA: Do we own the

21 streetlights?

22 MR. SAUNDERS: We've been through

23 this before. I think that, Council, they're going in a

24 progression to take over the streetlights. I don't

25 know, we haven't had the final word on it. We had them

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01 this for a caucus.

02 MR. SBARAGLIA: I'm just

03 wondering, why are we repairing streetlights that we do

04 not own?

05 MR. SAUNDERS: Well, if it's

06 PP&L's responsibility, MEM will refer that to PP&L.

07 The streetlights that they are responsible for, they

08 are handling.

09 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. Then really

10 all this is is a site for them to call up PP&L and tell

11 them a light is out?

12 MR. SAUNDERS: No. They handle a

13 lot of the lights in the City of Scranton right now and

14 they are changing the lights and taking care of them,

15 so a lot of those are their responsibility.

16 MR. SBARAGLIA: You're talking

17 about city owned lights.

18 MR. SAUNDERS: City owned.

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah. Well,

20 there's city owned lights and there's also lights

21 that's owned by PP&L.

22 MR. SAUNDERS: So, when they get a

23 request for PP&L's lights --

24 MR. SBARAGLIA: They just ask as

25 an intermediate and call PP&L, is that what it is?

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01 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes.

02 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. We did have

03 a crew that used to take care of our city lights, what

04 are they doing?

05 MR. POCIUS: As long as I was

06 here, Mr. Sbaraglia, the lights were owned by PP&L and

07 they did all the streetlight maintenance until this MEM

08 agreement.

09 MR. SBARAGLIA: No, our city

10 lights. We had somebody that went around changing our

11 city lights.

12 MR. POCIUS: No, we never did, as

13 far as I know. I think we still have people that

14 maintain the traffic signal lights, the bulbs in those

15 lights.

16 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. But not --

17 our city lights are also done by PP&L, but now they're

18 done by MMI, is that what we're saying?

19 MR. SAUNDERS: MEM.

20 MR. SBARAGLIA: MEM. Okay.

21 That's the story on it. But we still do not own our

22 streetlights, so that's there. Whether it's in the

23 process or not in the process, we still don't own them

24 and we're still paying on that loan and we're still

25 paying PP&L, I presume, for the electricity for those

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01 lights, and we didn't get no break yet, right?

02 I assume not, because why would

03 they give us a break if we don't own the lights? I

04 guess the whole break that was going to come is we're

05 allowed to buy power from anywhere we want to buy it,

06 and I presume if we could buy, you know, our lighting

07 from somewhere else, we can do it at a cheaper rate,

08 but since we don't own our lights -- this is two years.

09 Do you know what the delay is?

10 MR. SAUNDERS: I know that some of

11 the issues that we talked about with MEM in caucus are

12 legal issues that, you know, if PP&L disputes

13 something, they take it to the next step, which would

14 be a legal issue. From there on, I can't answer that.

15 MR. SBARAGLIA: So actually when

16 this deal was done, there was really very little chance

17 of us acquiring these lighting within the foreseeable
18 future.
19 I don't know why we were borrowed
20 the money to buy the lights and then we never bought
21 the lights, which still it's two years down the line
22 and we still don't own the lights. It's probably
23 longer than two years now.
24 I wish we can really, really, you
25 know, get into this and really see what the problem is
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01 if we are ever going to use the lights and how much
02 money is left in that fund to buy those lights.
03 We can end up in a position now
04 where we don't even have the money to buy them lights,
05 because you have no idea what PP&L even wants for
06 them.
07 Have you ever seen any figures
08 that PP&L says we want "X" amount of dollars for those
09 light fixtures?
10 MR. SBARAGLIA: Mr. Sbaraglia, I'm
11 not 100 percent sure what you're talking about on that
12 situation. Like, I don't know if you understand how
13 the deal is working, but the money is in place and we
14 are making money on that money, if I'm correct. We're
15 not spending the money for that, they gave us money to
16 purchase those lights.
17 MR. SBARAGLIA: We borrowed the
18 money to purchase the lights.
19 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes.
20 MR. SBARAGLIA: Nobody gave us
21 money, so we're paying interest on that money that we
22 borrowed. Now, I don't know if we're borrowing at a
23 greater rate than we're getting on the interest.
24 If we're only getting one and a
25 half percent interest on some of these loans that we
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01 have up in the bank in Dunmore, God knows what we're
02 getting on these light fixture money.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Andy, let me stop
04 you real quick. Mr. Saunders, who engineered the deal
05 between the City of Scranton and MEM Company?
06 MR. SAUNDERS: Who was the
07 representative from the city?
08 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah.
09 MR. SAUNDERS: I don't know. I'd
10 have to say Rob Farrell and Len Kresefski probably.
11 They are the financial guys.
12 MR. DIBILEO: Because it would

13 make sense to have Mr. Sbaraglia be able to speak to
14 that person who has all the specifics about that
15 relationship.
16 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah, it'd be nice
17 to know, because somewhere -- when you borrow money to
18 buy something, usually you have an idea of what it's
19 going to cost to buy it.
20 I never seen any figures at all,
21 but I did know that they used some of that money to pay
22 off an indebtedness that the city had at that time.
23 MS. EVANS: Jay, I think when we
24 had MEM in, was it Mr. Kearns?
25 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes.
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01 MS. EVANS: Told us that the
02 transfer from PP&L to the city was going to occur in
03 either March or April, and could you just give him a
04 call and ask him if indeed that came to fruition and,
05 you know, if so, can he just send that along to us?
06 MR. SAUNDERS: Okay.
07 MR. SBARAGLIA: It would still
08 come back to you, I presume, wouldn't it? You do have
09 to sign off on this deal, I presume.
10 When they come up with a figure
11 "X" amount of dollars, we're ready to buy these
12 fixtures, do you all have to sign off on this deal
13 again? Will it come before you, is what I'm saying?
14 MR. DIBILEO: Not that we're aware
15 of, not that we're aware of.
16 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. Then it's
17 best to find out what is going on then. Thank you.
18 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.
19 MR. POCIUS: Mr. Saunders, maybe
20 it would be helpful if Mr. Sbaraglia, remember
21 Bob Kearns passed out that spreadsheet kind of like how
22 this was all going to work, and I don't know if that
23 was confidential or not. If it's not confidential, I
24 mean, it might have had a confidentiality thing to it,
25 I'm not sure. If it doesn't, can we give it to him?
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01 MR. SAUNDERS: I don't have a
02 problem with that.
03 MR. POCIUS: I don't remember if
04 it was confidential or not. Sometimes in a deal such
05 as this, it's a little contractual, there may be a
06 confidential in it. If it's not, can we present it to
07 him and check it out?
08 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah, I can talk to

09 Bob Kearns about that tomorrow and I will reach
10 Mr. Sbaraglia.
11 MR. POCIUS: Remember it had a
12 spreadsheet with the numbers and how this was all going
13 to work?
14 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah.
15 MR. POCIUS: Thank you.
16 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
17 Mr. Saunders. Jim Stucker.
18 MR. STUCKER: How are you doing?
19 Hi, Mrs. Evans.
20 MR. DIBILEO: Hi, Jim.
21 MR. STUCKER: Okay. On
22 Parrot Avenue, my buddy just told me yesterday told me
23 kids are running across, cars are going pretty fast,
24 motorcycles are going fast up on Parrot Avenue by the
25 Sloan ballfield up by Judge's Lumber.
0016
01 There's people trying to get
02 across, kids running back and forth to the ballfield
03 and they can't get across on account of the cars are
04 running pretty fast and people are afraid of the
05 cars -- people and parents are complaining that kids
06 are walking across and they're afraid a car is going to
07 hit a kid.
08 MR. DIBILEO: Speeding on
09 Parrot Avenue?
10 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, yeah, really
11 bad. I was up there Saturday. I had a hard time
12 getting down on the main road.
13 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. I'll have
14 Mr. Saunders look into that and have somebody out there
15 to take a look at it to try to slow people down.
16 MR. STUCKER: We need a sign for
17 school kids, like for school.
18 MR. DIBILEO: School crossing?
19 MR. STUCKER: Yeah. We need a
20 sign for school crossing, that's what Pat told me to
21 ask for for up there.
22 MR. DIBILEO: Jay, can you look
23 into that, please?
24 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes, I will.
25 MR. DIBILEO: Okay, Jimmy. Thank
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01 you.
02 MR. STUCKER: We still got a
03 little -- we still got a hole on Moosic Street. We
04 still got a hole on the edge of the road going into the

05 alleyway where I live.
06 I want to know could you get signs
07 put up that says no parking on Moosic Street. We had
08 no parking last year on that street, and they're still
09 parking.
10 I know they put them up last year.
11 They took them down. It says no parking on
12 Moosic Street all the way up. We need extra lines on
13 that.
14 MR. DIBILEO: Jay, check into
15 that, would you?
16 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah. And, Jim, if
17 you want to stop by the office after the meeting or
18 during business hours, we would be happy to give you a
19 petition for that. Fill out a petition and have the
20 neighbors sign it and then we'll send it through the
21 proper channels.
22 MR. STUCKER: All right. Okay.
23 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Jim.
24 Thanks a lot.
25 MR. STUCKER: Our garbage was
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01 picked up today.
02 MR. DIBILEO: Oh, good. Good
03 news, Jim. Thanks a lot. Les Spindler.
04 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
05 Council, Les Spindler.
06 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.
07 MR. SPINDLER: First of all, I
08 have a couple safety issues. The fire hydrant I talked
09 about last year that was overgrown by weeds on
10 Euclid Avenue, well, it's overgrown again. It's barely
11 visible. I drive by there every day. If another week
12 goes by, you're not going to find that fire hydrant.
13 MR. DIBILEO: What block is that
14 on?
15 MR. SPINDLER: I don't know what
16 block, it's on Euclid and Bullworth.
17 MR. DIBILEO: Euclid and
18 Bullworth.
19 MR. SPINDLER: It's a tall red
20 fire hydrant. The weeds are, like, they're almost this
21 high, and that fire hydrant is barely visible.
22 And that's in the daytime. At night, I'm sure it's
23 impossible to see. Another week goes by, you won't see
24 that fire hydrant.
25 MR. DIBILEO: Jay, see if you can
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01 have something done about that, please.
02 MR. SPINDLER: Do we know whose
03 responsibility that is? I was told that's the water
04 company's responsibility; is that true?
05 MR. DIBILEO: I'm not certain.
06 Does anybody know?
07 MR. SAUNDERS: I think the
08 maintenance may be to the fire hydrant, but the grounds
09 around it I think would be in the city right of way.
10 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Another
11 thing, I was looking out my front door Saturday, just
12 looking on the telephone pole, the street signs were
13 gone. The two street signs on the telephone pole,
14 they're gone. Somebody took them off the pole. I
15 think that's another safety issue.
16 I mean, if there's an emergency
17 vehicle trying to find the street there, they're not
18 going to know. So, when I'm done here, I'll give Kay
19 the street to do something about that.
20 MR. DIBILEO: Please, yes.
21 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. My wife
22 ordered pizza the other day and they couldn't find the
23 house.
24 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.
25 MR. SPINDLER: Something else I
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01 brought up quite a few weeks ago about the line
02 painting, the entrance to the mall, that still wasn't
03 done. You said when weather permits, the weather has
04 been permitting.
05 And the corner of Spruce and
06 Franklin, as the people are making turns in the
07 straight lane, they're going straight in the turning
08 lane and it's pretty dangerous. I go that way every
09 single day.
10 MR. DIBILEO: Which intersection
11 is that, Less?
12 MR. SPINDLER: The entrance to the
13 mall, the Steamtown Mall, and the corner of Spruce and
14 Franklin.
15 MR. SAUNDERS: Mr. Spindler, I
16 know they're doing a signalization project in downtown.
17 I don't know when they're going to do that, but they're
18 changing some streets to a one way and they're taking
19 lanes out, and I don't know if -- maybe they're not
20 painting for that reason, but I will check into that.
21 I know this project is due shortly.
22 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Oh, one

23 other thing, the Lackawanna Avenue bridge, is there an
24 update on that? Is that ever going to be fixed or
25 replaced or anything? It's terrible.

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01 MR. DIBILEO: Do you have any
02 information on that, Jay?

03 MR. POCIUS: Jay, why don't you
04 contact Mr. Parker, because I know the design firm is
05 out of York that has that contract, Bukhart Horn and
06 maybe he can get us a status, an update on where
07 they're at with it.

08 MR. COURTRIGHT: You know, Les, I
09 spoke to Gaynor Cawley when I was in Harrisburg a while
10 back, and I think that he told me that he had something
11 to do with putting some money aside for fixing that
12 bridge and the one up a little further going into
13 West Side, so I think there's some monies in place.
14 I'll give him a call and --

15 MR. SPINDLER: I'm just wondering,
16 because I drive that way every day and it's a mess.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: It's terrible.

18 MR. POCIUS: The old historic
19 bridge is under design by Bukhart Horn and the one up
20 on West Lackawanna, that's under design by
21 Peters Associates.

22 MR. SPINDLER: Now, is that the
23 State's responsibility or is that the city or is it a
24 joint --

25 MR. POCIUS: They're local

0022

01 bridges, Les, and we get -- the funding is 80 percent
02 federal, 15 percent state, and we have a 5 percent
03 match, which is an OECD match, so we're only spending
04 five cents on the dollar for design and construction,
05 and all the monies are basically in place, but these
06 projects aren't moving as fast as say some of the other
07 ones, you know? Maybe that's a meeting we should get
08 an update on that in the future.

09 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Thank you.
10 Yesterday's paper, it says Mayor and unions spar over
11 greater program and Workers' Comp.
12 The Doherty administration is
13 circumventing union attempts to derail a jobs program
14 aimed at cutting workers' compensation costs by making
15 building greeters part-time workers.
16 Now, these men worked years and
17 years and earned the right to collect workman's comp.
18 They risked their lives every day going out on the job,

19 and Mayor Doherty wants to take their Workman's Comp.
20 away from them to cut costs.
21 I think when Mayor Doherty wants
22 to cut costs, he should look no further than himself.
23 His first day in office he spent \$30,000 on office
24 furniture. I don't think everybody in this room
25 collectively has \$30,000 in furniture.

0023

01 He spent \$30,000 in one day his
02 first day in office. He spent hundreds of thousand of
03 dollars on consultants. \$60,000 a year on NDC. I
04 don't know how many millions of dollars on loans.
05 But I think when Mayor Doherty
06 wants to cut costs, he should look no further than
07 himself. Thank you.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

09 Mr. Spindler. Bob Bolus.

10 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council,

11 Bob Bolus.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

13 MR. BOLUS: I don't know if

14 anybody looked at the Times this past -- I think it was
15 Saturday or Sunday, but we had this picture of the
16 mayor standing with a group of Vets. What I found
17 interesting on the bottom line it said, Paid for by
18 Chris Doherty.

19 Now, in the past I think if there
20 was a picture to be taken, I think the Scranton Times
21 graciously would have done it for free, but I don't
22 know of any other Vets that would have stood there.
23 But I asked myself, Well, if that
24 was one picture that he paid for, could he show us
25 another photograph when the Vets came home?

0024

01 Could he show me a picture
02 standing in front of the Gino Merli Center with the
03 Vets over there? Or how about our employees in a group
04 picture, not one, but a group when our employees came
05 home from Iraq? I didn't see any of those photographs,
06 and I'd like to see them. That tells about the Vets.
07 And I'm not using the Vets as an
08 issue. They're the people who gave us our freedom, and
09 I'm sure they can speak for themselves. They don't
10 need me here, but I just take a hard look at things and
11 say, Why pay for an ad when you should do it for free
12 and represent all the people, including all the Vets.
13 Last week, Mrs. Evans, you were
14 out doing a good deed out in the hall, and I did want

15 to congratulate you for taking the lead on
16 Dickson Avenue and what went on in Minooka, what you've
17 done at the neighborhoods for the people in the area.
18 I think you should hear it from
19 all of us that I don't think the mayor was out there
20 prior doing it, when now he's trying to take credit for
21 it, and I think people should recognize you for the
22 lead you and some members of Council have done.
23 MS. EVANS: Thank you.
24 MR. BOLUS: Which brings up
25 another thing I would like you to take the lead on. I
0025
01 have a baseball team I sponsor, and it's a women's
02 softball team and they play at the South Side Complex,
03 and last night I was there.
04 Now, last week one of my
05 secretaries who plays there had spoken to
06 Mr. Scopelliti about filling in home base. I mean,
07 it's a huge hole there. Somebody is going to break
08 their leg. The girls can't even hit the ball properly
09 because they're off center. I mean, they're standing
10 on a mound leaning into a hole, and it was there last
11 night, and I wanted to talk about that tonight.
12 About the rest rooms, maybe
13 Chris Doherty could take some of the money from
14 wherever he's got it spread around and put it into the
15 South Side Complex. If his sister was playing there or
16 his nieces or an aunt or someone else, he'd probably go
17 down and fill it in himself.
18 So, maybe give the direction.
19 Tell your troops to march, go down to South Side and
20 take care of the real people. Those are the real
21 people. They come here to play. They come here to use
22 our facilities, which is a question I've asked myself.
23 Who are the real people in
24 Scranton? Are they the only ones that voted for
25 Chris Doherty? And what about all the rest of us?
0026
01 Does Scranton have a line drawn in it now that
02 separates Green Ridge from the rest of us?
03 I want people to really think
04 about who you are and what purpose you serve in this
05 city if you're not part of the real Doherty clan of
06 people, which we know KOZs and non-profits and
07 supporters, they get something for nothing, not the
08 people that work for it.
09 If we sit here and we keep going
10 back and forth with this, I don't know where it's going

11 to. Now, I'm one who is for a lot of things in the
12 area. I spoke to people who actually got charged at
13 Nay Aug going into the zoo, and I will be more than
14 glad to leave Kay my phone number.
15 If anybody wants to call me, I
16 will give you their names. They would like to speak to
17 any of the Councilmen and verify what I'm saying here
18 today or what went on up there. And they're extremely
19 credible people from the area.
20 I'm one who likes to see things
21 done. I'm the first one for free speech, and I'm the
22 last one that would challenge anybody not to come here
23 and speak.

24 But, you know, I watched the last
25 couple of weeks, and I brought many issues before
0027

01 Council, and so have many people here, but one of the
02 issues is, Mrs. Harrison has come here and she's raised
03 issues of criminal things with somebody or somewhere
04 like that, and I'm just asking, is this the proper
05 venue to bring that or should it be administrative?
06 Should Council guide her or whatever may be? Should
07 she have legal representation doing this?
08 Because we only hear one side of
09 the story, as we always have with the administration.
10 We never hear both sides.

11 And I don't know if this is the
12 proper venue that Council can do anything regarding
13 these issues, that maybe have an attorney do what is
14 necessary or have an investigative issue or some other
15 type of body to do this, and I think Council has to
16 address some of these concerns, because we all come
17 here with issues and Council graciously listens to
18 everything we hear and do, but I believe something like
19 that has to go to a proper venue for the enforcement,
20 if in fact there's something wrong, and I'm not saying
21 there is, and I'm not saying there isn't, I wasn't
22 there, and I don't think anybody else was, but we are
23 only hearing one side, and I don't know if this is the
24 proper place to do that. Thank you very much.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
0028

01 Mr. Bolus.

02 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President,
03 Mr. Bolus makes a good point. We do have a city ethics
04 commission. Is this the venue for something like this,
05 Mark? Just a question. I don't want to dwell on it a
06 long time. Maybe just take a look at it and just see.

07 MR. WALSH: No. The issues that
08 were raised at the podium, this isn't the correct venue
09 for it, and there is, I believe, an ethics commission.
10 I haven't seen it at work since I've been here, but --
11 MR. POCIUS: I haven't either, but
12 I --
13 MR. WALSH: And I also believe
14 that Ms. Harrison may have mentioned the fact that she
15 was employing council using the legal system, so it's
16 not something we really want to get into here.
17 But the bottom line, the answer to
18 the question is, this really is not the proper forum.
19 MR. DIBILEO: Let me ask,
20 Mr. Walsh, does that preclude her from speaking if she
21 wishes?
22 MR. WALSH: No. I mean, she has
23 her first amendment right to speak, so I don't think
24 she's precluded from speaking, but in terms of whether
25 or not she could accomplish anything, that's another
0029
01 story, because I think she's got to go to the correct
02 forum in order to try and get any relief which she
03 believes she's entitled to.
04 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
05 Mr. Walsh.
06 MR. BOLUS: I believe that
07 properly answers the question for everyone here, that
08 we do have the right of free speech no matter what, but
09 as Mr. Walsh said, we should seek the proper forums to
10 get the results that are proper for the individuals.
11 MR. DIBILEO: That's right.
12 Dierdre Belles.
13 MS. BELLES: Good evening,
14 Council. My name is Deirdre Belles, I'm a resident of
15 the City of Scranton. I live on the 1600 block of
16 Dickson Avenue, which you probably already know the
17 issue I'm going to raise is regarding the first,
18 second and third shift operations of Daron Block.
19 Not only do I feel this
20 establishment is an eyesore to our community, but it is
21 also detrimental to our health, not just for the
22 elderly and the people who are already respiratory
23 impaired, but for our children, as well.
24 With this operation at all times
25 during the day come 20, 30, 40 trucks sometimes
0030
01 barrelling down Dickson Avenue with no regard to speed
02 limits, carrying with it exhaust fumes, noxious fumes,

03 dust, dirt, aggregate that we are inhaling and
04 ingesting into our bodies and leaving behind a layer of
05 soot and grease that coats our front lawn, our front
06 porch, our furniture and our lungs, as well.
07 My husband is a mason tender by
08 trade and he is recommended by OSHA, if not sometimes
09 mandated by OSHA to wear protective respiratory gear
10 when handling these types of materials, so you can
11 understand why I feel that it is appalling that the
12 city can continue to let its tax-paying residents
13 breathe this into our lungs, our children's lungs,
14 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
15 I am an asthmatic myself, my
16 children are not, yet their respiratory conditions have
17 increasingly become worse over the past couple of years
18 as the business of Daron Block has increased in volume,
19 as well.
20 And also just one other thing,
21 Mrs. Evans, I want to thank you for taking the lead on
22 this project and forging ahead. I know there's a lot
23 of progress being made.
24 All water goes down stream and all
25 the air blows uphill, too, for all of those in upper
0031
01 Green Ridge that seem to not think this is a problem.
02 Thank you.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
04 Ms. Belles.
05 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Belles,
06 Mr. Fiorini is here tonight, and I know that he wants
07 to discuss Dickson Avenue and the issues that you've
08 raised, and in addition I'll address more of it at that
09 time and let you know what the progress with DEP and
10 others has been.
11 MR. DIBILEO: Sure, why don't you
12 go ahead, Mr. Fiorini.
13 MR. FIORINI: Good evening,
14 Council. My name is William Fiorini, I'm director of
15 permits, licenses and inspections. Before I go ahead
16 and talk about -- may I approach Council?
17 MR. DIBILEO: Sure.
18 MR. FIORINI: What I handed you
19 right now, DEP gave them a citation of December of last
20 year to correct the fugitive dust emissions, and what
21 that law states is anything created on that property
22 cannot leave that property, such as dust, etc.
23 And there's also a letter of
24 response back from Daron Products to them, it would be

25 the last sheet, in which they replied back to DEP, and
0032

01 it's a paving program keeping the earth moistened with
02 calcium, etc, and to keep the mud off the streets.

03 All right. Today I had a meeting

04 with the owners and management at eight o'clock this

05 morning at Daron Products. I gave them 60 days to

06 comply with the paving, water truck and a machine that

07 has a brush on it to clean up after they pave daily.

08 What I told them was it's good

09 housekeeping and they have to do that. The aggregate

10 piles they already have lengthened the height of them

11 down to below the height that they stock the block, so

12 that if they should happen to blow, it can't blow

13 across because the blocks are protecting it.

14 But I went out and felt the

15 aggregate myself, it's moist and it's very course. So,

16 the major problem there is the dust created from the

17 truck going in and the forklifts.

18 And they assured me that they will

19 go ahead and within 60 days have what I required them

20 to do, otherwise I will cite them every day that it

21 isn't done.

22 I will put a letter out to that

23 effect. I haven't had time yet to do that. The other

24 thing, remember I mentioned to you last week about the

25 railroad bed that runs parallel to that, they

0033

01 approached the Lackawanna Railroad Company, which is

02 the county, and the county did not even want to discuss

03 a rail crossing.

04 They are willing to put a road in

05 and the rail crossings in, so I'm asking Council for

06 help with the railroad company, force them to allow

07 Daron to put the rail crossing in there. That will

08 eliminate all the truck traffic off of Dickson Avenue.

09 The other thing in the meantime, I

10 will have signs posted with no truck parking or trucks

11 idling between 7 p.m. at night until 7 a.m. in the

12 morning, and that should eliminate a lot of these

13 trucks that sit there and wait to go in.

14 Also, the owners, I told them I

15 would like to see a letter go out to all their

16 suppliers not to come there before the plant opens up,

17 that they can go right in and off the streets.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Fiorini, we'd

19 be happy to give you any assistance you need in helping

20 you with this situation.

21 MR. FIORINI: I think I'm going to
22 need some assistance with the county on this. I think
23 even a letter coming from me may not mean much, but
24 from you people, you know, it should mean a lot more.
25 MR. DIBILEO: We'll get right on
0034
01 it, just let us know who you need it written to.
02 MR. FIORINI: All right. I'll
03 find out who the contacts are and I'll get back to you.
04 But I think that's a long-term solution, but at least
05 the company is willing to do this, and they wanted to
06 do it before, even before I mentioned it to them, and
07 that's the best way that they can operate that plant.
08 I mean, we cannot -- because that
09 road is the only access going to that plant, we cannot
10 stop truck traffic from going there, because, you know,
11 we're really shutting them out and we can't do that.
12 So, if you have other --
13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mr. Fiorini, can
14 I ask you a question on a different matter seeing --
15 MR. FIORINI: I have your answer
16 for that one, too. The demolition contractor will be
17 there tomorrow morning to finishing tearing down the
18 hotel.
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you so
20 much. I thank you for going out there today. I called
21 Mr. Fiorini earlier this morning about a problem at the
22 old Pisa Hotel, and he went right out this afternoon
23 and they're going to be there tomorrow. I'm sure the
24 gentleman next door and all the people in the
25 neighborhood will be very happy to hear that. Thank
0035
01 you. I appreciate it.
02 MR. FIORINI: It will be done
03 tomorrow. Stocki Demolition, okay, he took the third
04 floor off, but that was a danger there, so he had other
05 work to get completed, but he promised me he'd be there
06 tomorrow morning, okay?
07 MR. COURTRIGHT: Terrific. Thank
08 you. Will he stay there until it's done now?
09 MR. FIORINI: Yes.
10 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right.
11 Terrific. Thank you.
12 MS. EVANS: I'm glad to hear that.
13 I have that on my list for tonight.
14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah. I was out
15 there today and I saw where it caved in.
16 MR. FIORINI: By the way, we towed

17 eight vehicles out of Green Ridge today, okay?

18 MS. EVANS: Excellent. Very good.

19 MR. FIORINI: That's all I have.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you.

21 MR. POCIUS: Bill, can I ask you

22 one question?

23 MR. FIORINI: Sure.

24 MR. POCIUS: The 60 days, is that

25 something that's reasonable, I mean, as far as -- the
0036

01 only thing is, it sounds like a long time with -- if

02 you cited them and took them to the magistrate and you

03 gave them something like 15 days, you could probably

04 say it's unreasonable.

05 MR. FIORINI: I think it's

06 reasonable.

07 MR. POCIUS: That's what I'm

08 trying to get at, that it may sound like a long time,

09 but it's reasonable in the view of a court of law or a

10 magistrate.

11 MR. FIORINI: I think it is,

12 because they already have a signed contract with a

13 paving contractor, all right? They haven't come in for

14 a permit yet, but all it is is to come in and get a

15 permit and get started on it.

16 They bought a water truck already,

17 it's a used one, and they're having the bar in the back

18 that spreads the water repaired and the truck's

19 surface, so they already have that.

20 And I asked them if that was

21 enough time, 60 days, and they said that was fine, so

22 it was all agreed on in the meeting, and I believe if

23 someone gives me their word, I expect it to be kept,

24 okay?

25 MR. POCIUS: Very good.

0037

01 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Fiorini, I was

02 going to say, as soon as you have the details of what

03 you want us to write-up, contact Mr. Saunders and we'll

04 get it to you the same day.

05 MR. FIORINI: All right. Thank

06 you.

07 MS. EVANS: I just wanted to add,

08 I had spoken with DEP about the situation, and they had

09 indicated there had been several incidents of

10 violations at Daron and they were -- they are going to

11 forward that list to me, and I'll --

12 MR. FIORINI: I think you have it.

13 MS. EVANS: Well, this is one, but
14 there were others.

15 MR. FIORINI: Okay.

16 MS. EVANS: So, that list will be
17 forthcoming shortly. They also indicated that the air
18 quality of course is under their jurisdiction. The
19 health problems that have been experienced, however,
20 are not.

21 And so, as I mentioned earlier
22 tonight when speaking with some of those residents, you
23 would need to contact the Department of Health, and I
24 do have that phone number for you, so if you can remain
25 after the meeting, I will give that to you.

0038

01 MR. FIORINI: What basically
02 happens with the Department of Health and DEP, I'll get
03 the complaints, I look at them. If I can't handle it,
04 then I have to go back to them and then they will come
05 in and take care of it.

06 MS. EVANS: Right. And I
07 understand we have one health inspector, but I don't
08 think her duties align with --

09 MR. FIORINI: No. They exceed
10 healthwise.

11 MS. EVANS: Right. I think she's
12 more involved with, if I'm not mistaken, perhaps
13 inspecting restaurants and businesses like that for
14 those types of --

15 MR. FIORINI: Right. But we do
16 get a lot of complaints on health and then we have to
17 weed everything out and say, Can we handle it or can't
18 we handle it?

19 If we can't, then she will make a
20 phone call to the state department on it and then they
21 take over.

22 MS. EVANS: Okay. And also, I
23 received notification today in fact that DEP was out
24 there today, and their determination was that there is
25 dust and dirt migrating off site, and it isn't

0039

01 particularly from the storage area, but from the
02 remainder of the property, and they will be contacting
03 shortly Daron to let them know what they need to do
04 immediately, because they also, as you indicated
05 tonight, told me that a paving program is scheduled for
06 July, but they were very concerned with the interim
07 period from now until July, because accordingly what's
08 transpiring on their property is, Well, it's a safety

09 hazard, a health hazard.

10 MR. FIORINI: It is. I mean, I
11 saw it today.

12 MS. EVANS: Right. What they
13 indicated is that, this was a field inspector, that
14 they want this addressed immediately so that there is
15 some type of relief, significant relief, from now until
16 the time that the paving occurs, and I believe next
17 week, because he was unavailable this week, I'm going
18 to speak to the supervisor as a follow-up on what they
19 intend to do in terms of relief for the immediate
20 future, but I think some of the things you mentioned
21 tonight, such as the water truck, that will certainly
22 help to alleviate the situation.

23 I believe DEP also wants them to
24 clean the street of the aggregate, and they indicated,
25 as well, that they're going to be checking on them
0040

01 regularly.

02 So, I think great progress is
03 being made, thanks to you, and I appreciate everything
04 you've been doing, particularly the meeting you had
05 with them today.

06 And I know the State has indicated
07 to me that the city has to work very closely hand and
08 hand with the State on this, because their office is
09 overextended covering an 11 county area, and so they
10 certainly can't monitor the situation on a daily basis,
11 but they do expect that, you know, the city would step
12 in and almost take the lead, and I believe that's what
13 you're doing.

14 MR. FIORINI: Right. The other
15 thing is, even if they pave it, it's still
16 housekeeping. There will still be some dirt when the
17 forklift goes off the pave to pick up the pallet of
18 block and bring it and put it on the truck, so there
19 will be that area there, which I also told them that
20 they're going to have to keep calcium chloride on that.
21 As the block are removed, they're going to have to
22 keep that wet down with calcium.

23 MS. EVANS: And they do indicate
24 in there their response that you gave us, that that is
25 what they did according to the letter of January 3 --
0041

01 MR. FIORINI: Initially.

02 MS. EVANS: -- right, but
03 evidently either that hasn't been done frequently
04 enough or, you know, there had to be some problem

05 there, that all of this now --

06 MR. FIORINI: Has come to a head.

07 MS. EVANS: Yes.

08 MR. FIORINI: I'll keep on it.

09 MS. EVANS: This is a very serious

10 health hazard, and I think they were coming very close

11 to becoming a public nuisance, which I know your office

12 would never permit.

13 MR. FIORINI: No. If it became a

14 public nuisance, they would be cited on that. Just as

15 well if they don't get this done in 60 days, they will

16 get cited every day that they don't have it done.

17 And once it's done, you know, if

18 they don't keep up the maintenance, I'll be done there

19 again and citing them for it.

20 MS. EVANS: Mr. Fiorini, I would

21 appreciate it if you would remain on top of this.

22 MR. FIORINI: I will.

23 MS. EVANS: And you in conjunction

24 with the DEP, I'm certain that the situation can be

25 rectified to the satisfaction of all the residents.

0042

01 MR. FIORINI: The thing is if they

02 don't comply with what I want, all I have to do is pick

03 up the phone and call DEP, and then they'll take them

04 to court.

05 MS. EVANS: You wouldn't have any

06 idea how many citations, how many notices of violations

07 rather can be served to a business before they would be

08 cited by DEP?

09 MR. FIORINI: I don't know the

10 answer to that. I could find out for you, if you want

11 me to.

12 MS. EVANS: Yes, please.

13 MR. FIORINI: Okay.

14 MS. EVANS: So, thank you again.

15 And, you know, as I said, please stay on top of this,

16 and I will speak with all of you who are interested

17 after the meeting and give you that phone number for

18 the Department of Health.

19 MR. FIORINI: Thank you.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

21 Mr. Fiorini.

22 MR. POCIUS: Mrs. Evans, from my

23 experience with DEP in different other types of things,

24 they don't tolerate much more than one of many times,

25 you know? They don't.

0043

01 MS. EVANS: I would think not.
02 MR. POCIUS: They're very good
03 people.
04 MS. EVANS: In fact, that
05 inspector, Oh, he wasted no time coming out there, so
06 I'm very impressed with their immediate response, and
07 they are taking this very seriously.
08 MR. POCIUS: Very good.
09 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.
10 Jane Corcoran.
11 MS. CORCORAN: Hello. My name is
12 Jane Corcoran, I'm a West Side resident of Scranton,
13 and I'm here regarding the Dickson Avenue problem. May
14 I approach the bench? I just want to show you these
15 pictures of my grandchildren. I'll get them back in a
16 moment.
17 I just want to tell Mr. Saunders
18 thank you so much. Chivalry is still alive in your
19 name for helping me. Thank you the other day.
20 And the aggregate that they're
21 speaking was moved closer to my daughter's house now
22 out of nowhere, and I feel Mr. Fiorini's a man of his
23 word, so I'm, like, feeling good about this.
24 I don't know, I do think it should
25 be covered, the aggregate, with this company and with
0044
01 any other company in Scranton that has aggregate, I
02 think it should be covered, like, in a shell or
03 something of that manner.
04 And why I wanted to show you the
05 pictures, that building is going to be there 20 years,
06 but who is going to be working it? If these kids end
07 up sick fifteen years from now with God only knows what
08 kind of lung diseases or what have you because they've
09 been breathing this for 15 or 20 years, and I'd like to
10 know how that even got -- something of that nature even
11 got built.
12 You know, I can see maybe a couple
13 stores or something in an R-2 zone, but that's
14 something that belongs, you know, out in the, you know,
15 in a really industrial section.
16 And, you know, people's lives are
17 in danger, I consider, because my own daughter has had
18 already, and she's a severe asthmatic, more asthma
19 attacks. The kids never knew what an antibiotic was
20 until they bought the house. They didn't know what an
21 antibiotic is. They know what it is now, though.
22 And enough is enough on that. I

23 wanted to tell you, Mr. Pocius, years ago I had a
24 problem with, oh, I don't know what it was, something
25 was going on, and I called, and they said, Oh, well
0045
01 somebody will get back to you. All right.
02 Well, I almost fell off the chair
03 when you called me back personally, and I thought, how
04 wonderful, you know? Now that's a man of his word. I
05 mean, you called me. Little me, I'm a nobody, yet you
06 called me back, you know, you told me everything that
07 was going on, straightened it out, and I appreciated it
08 very much.
09 I know everybody takes hits up
10 here, you know, but I think everybody is basically
11 trying to work for the good of the city, you know.
12 I'm going to be coming down, and I
13 can talk the dog off the back of a meat wagon, and I'll
14 be doing it, but Mr. Saunders was wonderful to me the
15 other day.
16 I did everything backwards, I have
17 to do it all over again, and you were wonderful that
18 time for me, and I like to leave everything on -- like,
19 thank God I have a sense of humor, so I'll leave
20 everything in a sense of humor mode.
21 You know, all the construction
22 companies, I asked the one guy, What do you call that?
23 Oh, it's a job trailer. I thought, A job trailer? I
24 said, That's something that, like, Paris Hilton will be
25 getting her make-up put in. Call it a shanty like they
0046
01 did in the old days.
02 My dad was in the construction
03 business, a shanty. A job trailer, you think you're
04 getting your make-up or something. Let's get back and
05 call it a shanty.
06 And I do have some pictures I'll
07 bring next week of women I took, they could be your
08 wives for all I know, I don't know, when the park was
09 being built.
10 My granddaughter and I were
11 bringing over stuff for the guys to drink and paper
12 towels and she was coloring the nails up at Nay Aug,
13 and I took some pictures of women, and I want to bring
14 them down so you can give them to whoever they are, I
15 don't know who they are. So, I'll bring those
16 pictures down so you can give them to whoever they are,
17 okay? I enjoyed speaking to you, and I'll be talking
18 again.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

20 Ms. Corcoran.

21 MS. EVANS: MR. Fiorini, could you

22 also find out, you know, as was just indicated that the
23 aggregate pile has been moved close to the road, could
24 you maybe talk to them about that?

25 And I think last week you had

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01 indicated that you suggested to them they should cover
02 these piles or perhaps construct a silo or something of
03 that nature, so if you could follow up on that for us,
04 please, and find out, as I said, No. 1, Why the pile
05 was moved closer to the street, and then how they
06 intend to address that.

07 MR. FIORINI: Okay. Well, they

08 moved the piles that were there toward the rear
09 further. And I don't know if they noticed that, they
10 piled the block, I think two more tears higher, closer
11 to the fence back as a buffer area for anything
12 blowing, but I'll check into that. I'll go down there.

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

15 Lee Morgan.

16 MR. MORGAN: Good evening,

17 Council. The first thing I'd like to say is that as
18 you can see by what is taking place here today when
19 Council works together, good things happen, and, you
20 know, I think it's just a good thing to acknowledge
21 that Council is working together on this issue,
22 Mr. Fiorini, I believe, is doing the best he can, and I
23 just hope everybody stays on top of it, and I think
24 that everybody realizes how important this issue really
25 is.

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01 The other thing I have is, on

02 June 15 at nine o'clock in Judge Walsh's chambers
03 there's going to be a hearing, well, not in his
04 chambers, in his courtroom, there's going to be a
05 judgment issued in regards to the South Side Sports
06 Complex, and I'd like to ask all Scrantonians to come
07 to the courthouse on that day and show your involvement
08 in things in the city, because I think we have to
09 acknowledge the city is and has been going in the right
10 direction in some degree for a long time, and I really
11 think the catalyst that's moving the city is not the
12 Council and it's not the mayor, it's the people, and I
13 think the people are becoming involved.

14 And I just would like to applaud

15 everybody. And if there's really one thing they can
16 all do, it would be to show up and let everyone know
17 how important the South Side Sports Complex is.
18 I think some very unfavorable
19 decisions have been made, but they can be reversed.
20 The University of Scranton can be given its money back
21 and we can retain that asset, because it is heavily
22 used, and I think we should retain it.
23 The other thing I have is, you
24 know, it's another summer is coming and we have no real
25 growth, as far as I'm concerned, in a playground
0049
01 program, and I really think it's important that, you
02 know, we get something like that off the ground.
03 So, what I'd like to do is I'd
04 like to give people a website address, and I would like
05 to get their ideas, and maybe we can all come together
06 and maybe next year the residents and concerned
07 individuals can try to create this, since possibly the
08 government doesn't have the money, and that web address
09 is [\[email protected\]](#)
10 I'd like to create a committee to
11 look into that, and I would also like to see the city
12 get really involved in youth programs. A gentleman
13 came here who worked for the city a month or so ago and
14 stated all the good things the City of Scranton used to
15 do in regards to programs for children, whether it's
16 basketball or just a host of programs, and I really
17 think we need to go back to that.
18 You know, when Mrs. Simmons comes
19 here, she talks about the gang problems, there's other
20 issues going on in the city, and I think you have to
21 give people options, and I think the one option we can
22 give children is to involve them in many different
23 things and get their attention. And when you have
24 their attention, then evidently drugs and gangs won't
25 be on their mind because they'll be occupied, and
0050
01 that's what we really need here. So, that's all I
02 have. Thank you.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
04 Mr. Morgan. And that's it for the sign-in sheet. Are
05 there any other speakers?
06 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Good evening,
07 Council.
08 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.
09 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: I also want to
10 thank you, Mrs. Evans, for getting on top of this

11 Dickson Avenue project. One of the neighbors down
12 there told me today they were calling you the
13 Erin Brocavitch of lower Green Ridge, so I just wanted
14 to pass that message across to you.
15 I also saw that on Green Ridge
16 Street and Ross Avenue, I thank Council for sending to
17 get that fixed.
18 A problem over in Keyser Valley is
19 in the 200 block of North Cameron Avenue, I think it's
20 Reeves Street, I'm not sure of the intersection, the
21 water basically sits there for days.
22 We just purchased a home over
23 there, and literally the water is in front of the house
24 for four or five days after the floods. I don't know
25 if the city or engineers can do something.

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01 I know in front of our home and
02 the home next door the curb is elevated about, I'd say,
03 6 or 8 inches so the water doesn't come up into the
04 yard, so I don't know -- there's no sewer on that
05 corner, so I don't know if something can be done to
06 elevate the street a little bit to get the water down,
07 I don't know what it is, but I'm thinking of in the
08 summer with the mosquito problem, let alone in the
09 winter with the ice that would be there.

10 So, I don't know even if you can
11 just send somebody out there to look at it, obviously
12 you can't see anything now, but in the next rainstorm
13 you can definitely see something. I'll even take
14 pictures and bring them next time, if that will help.
15 Up at Nay Aug Park at the Davis
16 Trail, I know we paid, I believe it was \$9,000, I'm not
17 sure of the exact amount, to get this trail, I don't
18 know, fixed after a storm or whatever happened up
19 there, but, boy, if you take a walk up there, that's a
20 very, very unsafe situation when you walk down into
21 that trail to go down into the gorge.

22 That is, in my personal opinion, a
23 lawsuit waiting to happen. I mean, there's unlevel
24 rocks. It just seems to me that all they did was put
25 railings up to hold yourself so you don't kill yourself

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01 as you're walking down into the gorge.
02 I mean, this is definitely an
03 issue that needs to be addressed, especially with the
04 amount of money that has been put into Nay Aug Park.
05 One person slips down there, how the heck are you going
06 to get them out? That's my question.

07 Also, weren't we, maybe if we can
08 look into this, I think I recall it, but I'm not sure,
09 are we paying somebody to maintain the fish pond that
10 it up by the Everhart Museum, if we can find that out,
11 because I went by there today and there's no fish in it
12 and it's a pretty nasty site, so I don't know what is
13 going on up there, but that also needs to be addressed
14 for all the money that has been pumped into that park.
15 A safety issue, Engine 9 on Main
16 Avenue, it was brought to my attention that for the
17 last year, year and a half, the firemen in that station
18 have been sending letters to the administration. On
19 top of that building there's a repeater tower for the
20 police department, and attached to the tower is four
21 lies, I guess, that come into the roof, and one of them
22 is completely gone, and in a wind storm they said they
23 actually get nervous that that tower is going to come
24 down.
25 And if you drive by there and you
0053
01 look at the tower, I don't know how high it is, but if
02 that comes down, that's going to do some damage on Main
03 Avenue.
04 So, that is definitely something
05 that needs to be addressed and has been trying to be
06 addressed by the firemen in that station for over a
07 year.
08 MR. SAUNDERS: Charlie, that's
09 Engine 9?
10 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Yeah, on Main
11 Avenue. I also caught wind of a new program that's on
12 Channel 61, From The Mayor's Office, and it just amazes
13 me that -- well, first I'm glad to see that the mayor
14 watches City Council meetings, first of all, and second
15 of all, now that I know the mayor is watching the
16 meetings and we can talk to him directly, I think it
17 would be much better if he came here and sat and
18 answered our questions, instead of watching the meeting
19 today and then tomorrow or the next day going to his
20 office after three and a half years and addressing some
21 of these issues.
22 And I know the quick response
23 system I brought up and I beat like a dead horse, but I
24 was told by somebody that's supposedly close with this
25 mayor over the past two weeks that -- I asked him about
0054
01 this quick response system and how I can get a hold of
02 this mayor to ask him, I said, Council sent letters, I

03 called X-teen amount of times and blah, blah, blah,
04 which that's exactly what it's like, and I was told by
05 this person, and like I said, it didn't come from the
06 mayor, but it's only a rumor, that the mayor is not
07 going to implement this quick response system, and one
08 of the reasons is because somebody quote/unquote like
09 me is behind it and the mayor doesn't like me too much.
10 Which is fine, I can care less who
11 likes me, but the bottom line is that is a horrible
12 attitude, if this is true, for somebody who runs the
13 city to have because of one individual person that
14 presents facts to people that you don't agree with, to
15 hold the city at large for public safety.
16 And if that's the case, they
17 should be ashamed of themselves to say something like
18 that. But did we find out anything more?
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: We sent the
20 original letter that I had sent and sent it down
21 again. I think we just sent it recently, so I haven't
22 gotten an answer.
23 Originally the answer they gave me
24 was that the mayor wasn't going to do it until there
25 was a contract with the unions, that was the answer I
0055
01 got, and then I came up with the second thing, the idea
02 and thought that maybe he would go for, but evidently
03 he didn't go for that one either.
04 So, probably not going to do it,
05 Charlie, until they get a contract. I would like to
06 have it implemented as much as you, and I don't think
07 it's going to happen until they get a contract, to be
08 honest with you. We're trying.
09 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Yeah, I don't
10 think so either. But real quick, the situation, I
11 wasn't here last week, the situation that happened up
12 in the Hill Section obviously was a very unfortunate
13 situation with the outcome with the police officers
14 what had happened, but first I'd like to say that my
15 heart goes out to those police officers because of the
16 situation that they were put in, and it's obvious that
17 they reacted in the right manner for that, but it's
18 very unfortunate that that situation happened.
19 And this should open up our eyes
20 to realize how important the police officers are and
21 how much we need them on the street.
22 And talking about this quick
23 response system, right next door to there is
24 Engine 15, and I'm not saying that anything -- I'm not

25 jumping to conclusions saying that anything -- the
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01 outcome could have been different in any way at all,
02 but if this quick response system was implemented,
03 those firemen were right next door and maybe they could
04 have had some of the equipment to get started on the
05 situation before the ambulance personnel arrived. So,
06 this is another eye opener, I think, that would benefit
07 us tremendously for this quick response system. Thank
08 you.

09 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
10 Mr. Newcomb. Mr. Newcomb, I certainly hope that that
11 would not be true, what you had mentioned, because I
12 hope someone's feelings for someone else would not
13 influence trying to put together a program that's going
14 to benefit the community, and I would like to think
15 that that's not true. Mr. Davis.

16 MR. DAVIS: I caught the end of
17 your caucus with the young man over the 7-D and 7-E.
18 \$250,000, isn't that a quarter of a million dollars? A
19 quarter of a million dollars, you give me a quarter of
20 a million dollars, I'll rebuild Tech Central.
21 Seriously. I'll put every kid to work in Scranton,
22 without a doubt, without a problem.
23 Now, if we're going to start
24 loaning that kind of money for guaranteeing jobs at
25 \$34,000 for the middle and low income, maybe we ought
0057

01 to start at home, because we have a lot of people who
02 are unemployed right here in Scranton, people who no
03 longer even desire to go to the Career Links to get
04 jobs or to fill out their resumes, etc.
05 We have kids that sort of laugh at
06 us and say, Go to Career Links? For what? I'd rather
07 go down to this sign up and work as you can, temporary
08 employment, get as much as you can, work as long as you
09 can and go on your business, but it doesn't give them
10 any kind of -- any kind of a standard to go by.

11 But at any rate, thank you for
12 holding him up. Thank you for asking him questions. I
13 didn't hear an answer. I didn't hear one single answer
14 that he gave that explains what kind of program are
15 they going to bring into Scranton for a quarter of a
16 million dollars.

17 Now, maybe you heard it, I didn't
18 hear it. That's No. 1. No. 2, I'm not one to
19 disparage or to speak badly of the police in what they
20 do in Scranton or how they do their duties, but I would

21 ask Mr. Courtright to check on that 120 course that's
22 being given, and besides that, also ask
23 Mr. Courtright about that sign for pedestrians
24 crossing, which has not been moved as of yet. And the
25 guys came to me and said, Jim, if you want us to, we'll
0058
01 just pick the sign up and we'll move it across the
02 street and we'll plant it again.
03 MR. COURTRIGHT: I was told it was
04 moved.
05 MR. DAVIS: When?
06 MR. COURTRIGHT: Maybe two, three
07 weeks ago.
08 MR. DAVIS: I was there yesterday.
09 MR. COURTRIGHT: Not moved? All
10 right. They told me they moved it.
11 MR. DAVIS: Okay. They do that.
12 They told Kate about the lines in front of Prep were --
13 you know, we're used to that, but we're not -- we don't
14 like it.
15 I mean you have to understand that
16 when communities don't like something, they start
17 having problems with their kids because the kids don't
18 respect the community because the community can do
19 nothing for them, and we're not doing anything for our
20 kids.
21 Mr. Morgan just came here and he
22 spoke to you about a program, a summer program. Do we
23 ever need it. We need a program. We need a summer
24 program so bad right here in Central City. We got kids
25 that want to come from North Scranton to do nothing
0059
01 else but war. They come down here to war, that's what
02 started that in front of the Mid-Town Apartments. It
03 was a gang. It was not a gang, it was just a bunch of
04 guys like we had when we were 18, 15, 16 years old over
05 somebody's sister or somebody's this or somebody's
06 that.
07 We got together and said, Hey,
08 look, let's settle this now. But these guys are not
09 settling out with fists anymore, they bring clubs, they
10 bring this, they bring that. Somebody is going to get
11 hurt seriously, and we don't want any more
12 indiscriminate killings.
13 And I call Erin Dermody an
14 indiscriminate killing. I disagree with anybody that
15 says that that was good police work. I have been in
16 warfare, and I know that you don't shoot into a room

17 with that many civilians unarmed with that kind of
18 fuselage. Twelve, 14, 15 bullets were fired. That's
19 not good policemen's work. That's fear. Nine out of
20 ten times.

21 And excuse me for not going along
22 with the crowd and not saying that I'm proud of what
23 they do, but I had ten kids that just came through the
24 juvenile system because the police wrote them up as
25 being the perpetrators of the crime.

0060

01 When we sat down in front of
02 Geroulo, who was the judge, he says, No, it wasn't
03 written up properly by the police, it wasn't recorded
04 properly by the police. The wrong people were arrested
05 or they should have arrested all of the kids, not just
06 the black kids.

07 This has happened too many times
08 in Scranton. Our black kids are get records that we
09 can't get rid of. They can't go in the service, they
10 can't go into college, they can go no farther than what
11 they're doing because of their backgrounds. And it's
12 not fair, it's not just.

13 We're talking about justice now.

14 We are not talking about hearsay. But a quarter of
15 million dollars, thank you very much. Stop that until
16 they come through with a program that says that is
17 going to be for this and we guarantee them jobs to this
18 many people. This -- that's a pig in a poke, as far as
19 I'm concerned.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

21 Mr. Davis.

22 MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mr. President, if

24 I could just say something. Actually I want to wait
25 for Mr. Davis to sit down because I don't want to argue

0061

01 back and forth with you.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Certainly.

03 MR. COURTRIGHT: I disagree with
04 you. The State Police investigated the police work
05 that was done, the State Police found no wrongdoing. I
06 don't think they did it out of fear, I think they're
07 trained. It's very unfortunate this woman died, I
08 don't think anybody is happy about that, but to say it
09 wasn't good police work, I'm not a professional when it
10 comes to that, and I do not believe you are. That's
11 why they had an independent agency, the State Police,
12 come it and investigate that.

13 So, I'm just stating my opinion.

14 You stated your opinion, I'm stating my opinion. I
15 think it was good police work, and that's all I want to
16 say.

17 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

18 Mr. Courtright.

19 MR. BUDZINSKI: Fred Budzinski,
20 Jermyn Apartments. Mr. DiBileo, you were talking about
21 Redner's down by the high school --

22 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah. You know, I
23 want to stop you real quick, Mr. Budzinski. Last week,
24 I don't know if you recall, but while you were speaking
25 I actually got up and left the room. When I came back
0062

01 in, the conversation was about, you know, how you
02 wished there was a downtown supermarket, and I actually
03 missed the part, Fred, where you said that a gentleman
04 named Dave from Gerrity's Market actually drove you,
05 and I thought that was fantastic.

06 So, I actually apologize for
07 trying to recommend somewhere else to you when
08 Gerrity's was doing such a great job for you.

09 MR. BUDZINSKI: Any supermarket,
10 as far as I'm concerned, but Gerrity's -- don't forget,
11 Gerrity's is local. They started with that little
12 store on Washburn Street, and now it's built up to
13 seven and eight stores, you know what I mean?

14 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah. See, I
15 thought you were walking to a supermarket, and I
16 thought that might have been the closest one, the one
17 that I mentioned.

18 MR. BUDZINSKI: Anyway to get back
19 to Gerrity's, I was there Tuesday, and this Dave, he
20 said the manager wanted to see me, you know? So, I
21 talked to the manager. Now, I'm not putting you on
22 this one, and he said Ma Gerrity is watching this,
23 watching this, you know, Council meeting.
24 Now, you're there laughing. Now,
25 this is the truth. And you can check this out. You're
0063

01 in West Side, go check it out.

02 MR. DIBILEO: I know she is,
03 because she called me this week.

04 MR. BUDZINSKI: All right. You're
05 not giving me the business and that.

06 MR. DIBILEO: And I was honest
07 with her. I told her I did get up and leave the room
08 and I didn't hear the part about you getting a ride

09 from one of her employees. So, I --
10 MR. BUDZINSKI: And the manager
11 told me she's thinking about it. I told him, While
12 she's thinking, you better make a move, because
13 otherwise some other supermarket might think it's a
14 good deal and jump into that. Personally I don't care,
15 you know, just so anyone goes in there.
16 So, anyway getting back to
17 Redner's, I talked to a few people that used to shop at
18 Redner's, and they told me there used to be a bus goes
19 in there and a bus comes out, and it only takes ten
20 seconds to go in and ten seconds to go out, and there's
21 no buses going in there now, and these Colt Buses go to
22 all the other supermarkets.
23 And one question I got, Why?
24 Why don't that bus go in there, because these people
25 would go back to shopping at Redner's.

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01 And one reason they said when they
02 do shop and if they walk up that hill to Linden Street,
03 you know, they're tired. And they don't want to cross
04 the street by the high school with all that traffic
05 down there, you know, they don't want the to cross the
06 street, that's one reason they don't, and they would
07 like to have that bus go back in there, ten seconds in
08 and ten seconds out, and I would like to know why they
09 stopped going in there. Thank you.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

11 Mr. Budzinski.

12 MR. WOOD: Good evening. My name
13 is Lee Wood. I was here about a month ago and I was
14 representing Mr. Ortega, I read a statement from him.
15 We're back here tonight because Mr. Ortega has not
16 received any phone calls or any communication.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: I have the letter
18 right here. We sent it out to Mr. Fiorini back on the
19 23rd. He hasn't gotten back to us yet. So, that's
20 about a week ago that we sent it to him. Maybe he's
21 just a little bit busy.

22 I did ask, and if you don't mind,
23 and if you don't want to, that's fine, if you had a
24 copy of whatever violations -- they weren't from the
25 police department, correct, they were from the

0065

01 inspections department; is that correct?

02 MR. WOOD: Right.

03 MR. COURTRIGHT: You know, if you
04 wanted to tell Kay after the meeting or later or now on

05 the side specifically what they were for, but we sent
06 the letter out. Would you like a copy of the letter I
07 sent. You're more than welcome to have it. We sent it
08 by Jay's name so he gets in trouble for everything, you
09 know?

10 But I'm sure he'll give us a
11 response soon. It only went out on the 23rd. And I
12 know to you that's a long time, but he's got a lot of
13 things on his plate, that gentleman. So, it's a week.
14 But as soon as he responds back to
15 us, I will certainly let you know. That's the only
16 reason I haven't gotten back to you, is because I
17 haven't gotten an answer yet.

18 MR. WOOD: All right. I'm going
19 to move down. He has another statement. It was
20 concerning a neighbor of his that's harassing him.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think you need
22 to talk to the police department for that one or your
23 local magistrate. I don't think we -- we can't get
24 involved in that, I don't believe.

25 MR. WOOD: Okay. All right. And
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01 the other letter, I guess, Mr. Fiorini --

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: He's the
03 gentleman that's in charge of that department.

04 MR. WOOD: And he hasn't --

05 MR. COURTRIGHT: No. And I said,
06 we only sent it out to him on the 23rd, which is
07 approximately a week ago, and he's, as you can -- I
08 don't know if you heard prior, he's very busy. He has
09 a lot of things on his plate. I'm sure he will get
10 back to us. He's pretty prompt. And as soon as I get
11 it, I will call you personally and tell you what his
12 response was. We didn't forget about you, I'm waiting
13 for the answer myself.

14 MR. WOODS: All right. Thank you.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
16 gentlemen, and thank you, Mr. Courtright, for following
17 up on that as quickly as you did.

18 MR. NEVEROSKI: Ladies and
19 gentlemen, Bob Neveroski. I'm going to read a letter,
20 but first I'd like to make a little comment. I'm going
21 to refer to Achilles, and I'm sure Mrs. Evans and
22 Mr. McTiernan, as teachers, knows who Achilles was.
23 Achilles in Greek Mythology was a
24 warrior. He was arrogant, egotistical, pompous, and
25 when he walked into a room he carried a horn so he

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01 could blow it himself to tell everybody Achilles was
02 here.
03 As we all know, Achilles got
04 killed in Troy, he got shot in the heel with an arrow,
05 so his attempt at immortality failed. Now I'd like to
06 read my letter.
07 I had sent a copy of this letter
08 to everybody here. Dear President DiBileo, Subsequent
09 tot he HNA's request to the City Council at their
10 May 26, 2005 meeting via my recommendation to have
11 Mr. Bob Ozzie Quinn considered for a public
12 proclamation for his outstanding work at the Nay Aug
13 Gorge and subsequently the Davis Trail, the following
14 is requested to be considered in place of this
15 proclamation.
16 I met with Mr. Quinn, and as Greek
17 Mythology has it, Achilles entered a room by blowing
18 his own horn to let the people be aware of his
19 presence. The attempt for his immortality failed.
20 Mr. Quinn is not a vein person.
21 As a substitute for the
22 consideration of a City Council proclamation,
23 Mr. Quinn has requested since sincerely that the gorge
24 area be proclaimed a sanctuary for those who lost a
25 loved one, also for students to learn of the geological
0068
01 and cultural evolution of the City of Scranton and to
02 remain in place for people to relax and focus.
03 Lastly, upon the designation of
04 the gorge, of the Nay Aug Gorge, as a natural national
05 landmark, the National Park Service provided a plaque
06 noting its uniqueness and designation.
07 We request that this existing
08 plaque be placed within the gorge with an accompanying
09 plaque in remembrance of the many who lost their
10 lives.
11 I talked to some people who had
12 lost children up there, men and women died there, and I
13 think it would be a nice reflection for the city to do
14 that.
15 I have a picture of the
16 presentation of the plaque from 1990, so evident this
17 plaque has been languishing somewhere in the city for
18 15 years.
19 It's public property, it was given
20 to the people of the City of Scranton by the United
21 States Government, and it should be here. And we'd
22 like to see another plaque for the people who did pass

23 away in that gorge.

24 I have letters here, and there's

25 more in the Hill office, of what transpired up there to
0069

01 do this. So, you're welcome, I'll fax everything down

02 to you. Thank you very much.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

04 Mr. Neveroski. I think that's a reasonable request,

05 and I appreciate Mr. Quinn's involvement in the gorge,

06 and that's something that we'll try to take care of.

07 Thank you.

08 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, may I

09 add that Mr. Quinn and I served on the planning

10 commission from 1986 until that time, and he -- his

11 efforts were relentless in getting this done, and we

12 assisted him, the commission did at the time, by moving

13 this forward.

14 He was the catalyst that really

15 drove this and pushed it and pushed it, so - and I

16 don't have the plaque, Bob, because I was the only one

17 here in 1990, so I don't have it, I'm just teasing you,

18 but maybe we can find it or get a replica made and get

19 it put up there. That's a very good idea.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Jay, if you could

21 help us with that, please. Okay. Appreciate that.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council.

24 My name is Nancy Krake. What I'd like to speak about

25 tonight isn't actually as Mr. Bolus was saying earlier,

0070

01 in fact many times when I speak this probably isn't the

02 exact forum, because I know that this particular body

03 doesn't always have the solutions, but I know that it

04 does make what goes on in the city heard, so that being

05 said, this reflects maybe a need for more

06 accountability and this administration's need to

07 respect their fellow workers.

08 The city's administration has

09 decided after three and a half years to install a

10 different financial computer system, in fact, it came

11 before Council.

12 It's really too bad they aren't

13 listening to the clerks and workers that know how goods

14 and services must be purchased and paid for in a

15 municipality. All they're interested in it seems is

16 reducing their own individual work loads.

17 The mayor has boasted about hiring

18 accountants. Unfortunately they do not add anything to

19 a production setting.

20 The Pennsylvania Economy League

21 added workers, not accountants, in the first recovery

22 plan, and they added them to -- one of the offices was

23 the business administrator's office. These jobs were

24 eliminated by the current administration.

25 Now we have middle management

0071

01 bloat throughout the city and work is being done

02 improperly. An example of this is the city pays for

03 goods and services without verifying they have been

04 received.

05 Department heads no longer sign

06 off upon receipt of goods that were ordered. Packing

07 slips, when available, are no longer required to be

08 part of the backup when cutting a check.

09 They told me the files were too

10 messy with all these packing slips. I know this

11 because I went back to a job I had before I was bumped

12 out of it, and I was not pleased at all what they had

13 done to it.

14 We do, however, have binders full

15 of useless reports simply because the system generates

16 them, so they must mean something, is what I was told.

17 They are just not quite sure what that something is,

18 but they placed them all in binders and they were lined

19 up on the wall. Very interesting.

20 When this new system is in place,

21 the management rights and this administration's code of

22 silence, because when I was upstairs, every time I

23 asked a question, they all Emailed each other in the

24 room and they picked up their little cell phones. It's

25 very amusing actually.

0072

01 Their code of silence, I'm sorry I

02 lost my place, would allow them unfeathered reign over

03 purchases and allow them to bypass the controls which

04 were previously built into the old system.

05 In the new computer system, the

06 administration specified how they wanted their work set

07 up down to the last detail. They failed to listen to

08 what the people who actually do work on the system

09 need. They just guess at how the clerks' work should

10 be set up. That's how little we matter to them.

11 We are about to go down the same

12 path as we did with ADP. That is the tragically

13 over-priced redundant payroll system.

14 Once the mayor said to me, We're

15 smart people. He wasn't referring me, he was referring
16 to his people. Well, smart people admit when they
17 don't know how to do something, smart people follow the
18 procedures required by law and they utilize the
19 experienced clerks and workers that were doing this
20 work long before they came along, and these workers
21 will be doing these jobs long after they are gone.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

24 Mrs. Krake.

25 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening. I'm
0073

01 Nelson Ancherani.

02 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

03 MR. ANCHERANI: I apologize if I

04 sound like a broken record, but I believe an answer is
05 due concerning the \$200 a month appreciation pay for
06 all city employees returning from Iraq.

07 On the mayor's show on

08 Channel 61, the mayor praises veterans, returning
09 military personnel that served in Iraq and all veterans
10 and them also.

11 Mr. Pocius, since you have an open
12 door to the mayor's office, I would ask you to ask the
13 mayor to recognize these brave Americans and brave
14 citizens of the City of Scranton.

15 MR. POCIUS: Mr. Ancherani, I'm

16 going to stop you for a second here, okay? I made the
17 motion that we look into this, okay? I made the motion
18 openly here. We looked into it. Mark came back and
19 said there's no funds appropriated, it may not be able
20 to be done this year. We really looked into it.

21 I mean, if you think I wave some

22 kind of magic wand or anything I want, I get, that's
23 not the story.

24 MR. ANCHERANI: Well, I have an

25 answer for where the money could come from. If you
0074

01 want to wait and listen --

02 MR. POCIUS: I'll listen to it,

03 but I'm going to tell you, this is --

04 MR. ANCHERANI: And it's budgeted
05 already. The money is budgeted.

06 MR. POCIUS: Well, Mr. Ancherani,

07 I was going to tell you one more thing, the bottom line
08 is that this Council could ask that it be done, and if
09 it's there, I would hope it would be done, but --

10 MR. ANCHERANI: It's there. It's

11 there.

12 MR. POCIUS: Well, you got all the
13 answers, Mr. Ancherani, so let's hear where the money
14 is going to come from.

15 MR. ANCHERANI: Okay. Anyway, the
16 money for those employees was budgeted prior to them
17 leaving for Iraq.

18 MR. POCIUS: What line item?

19 MR. ANCHERANI: It was budgeted
20 for each one of them.

21 MR. POCIUS: Where?

22 MR. ANCHERANI: In the budget, in
23 the budget.

24 MR. POCIUS: See, if I question
25 you, you don't like it, do you?

0075

01 MR. ANCHERANI: I'm just telling
02 you where it's coming from.

03 MR. POCIUS: Where?

04 MR. ANCHERANI: In the budget.

05 MR. POCIUS: Where in the
06 budget?

07 MR. ANCHERANI: Under the line
08 item for each employee of the city. When you put down
09 for the police department and it's --

10 MR. POCIUS: You're not answering
11 my question, Mr. Ancherani. Where?

12 MR. ANCHERANI: If I make a
13 certain amount of money --

14 MR. POCIUS: Where? Under
15 compensation -- is it a line item under compensation?
16 Could we find that out, Jay?

17 MR. ANCHERANI: It's in the
18 budget.

19 MR. POCIUS: I'll ask that we find
20 that out so I can answer Mr. Ancherani intelligently
21 next week. If it's there, under what line item and
22 where the appropriation is, because if it's there, I'll
23 stand up and cheer to get it done, okay?

24 MR. ANCHERANI: It's under each
25 individual officer.

0076

01 MR. POCIUS: The budget is not
02 listed that way, Mr. Ancherani, you know that, so why
03 are you telling me that it's listed that way?

04 I don't want to be argumentative
05 with you, but the bottom line is -- I don't want to be
06 argumentative with you, but, you know --

07 MR. ANCHERANI: It's in the total
08 amount for the amount of officers in the police
09 department.
10 MR. POCIUS: Like I told you, if
11 it's budgeted and they're entitled to it, I'll stand up
12 and cheer that it gets done.
13 MR. DIBILEO: Excuse me. Excuse
14 me one second. Jay, for next week's meeting, get an
15 answer on, you know, if that money is budgeted
16 somewhere in the budget so that, you know, we don't
17 have to argue between us.
18 MR. POCIUS: We can say, Take it
19 from here.
20 MR. SAUNDERS: I don't -- I'm
21 having trouble understanding this. Are you saying that
22 it's budgeted as per officer?
23 MR. ANCHERANI: No, as a total
24 amount for every -- for the police department.
25 MR. COURTRIGHT: He's saying
0077
01 there's salary, Jay, there's salary for police
02 officers.
03 MR. POCIUS: Can we find that out?
04 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes.
05 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mr. Ancherani,
06 are you saying that, if I could interrupt you for one
07 second, are you saying that there was "X" amount of
08 dollars budgeted for police officers?
09 MR. ANCHERANI: Yes.
10 MR. COURTRIGHT: And then these
11 gentlemen were not paid that money --
12 MR. ANCHERANI: Yes.
13 MR. COURTRIGHT: -- because it was
14 reduced because they got, I don't know what kind of pay
15 they call it, they get pay if they use supplemental
16 pay, so it was taken away from them, so he's saying
17 that money remains -- am I correct me?
18 MR. ANCHERANI: Yes.
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: He's saying --
20 MR. POCIUS: Can we verify that?
21 MR. COURTRIGHT: He's saying that
22 money remains there under salaries.
23 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah, I will check
24 on that. I don't know if they --
25 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think that's
0078
01 what you're saying, isn't it? Recollection.
02 MR. ANCHERANI: Right. You said

03 it the way I tried to. I'm sorry.
04 MR. COURTRIGHT: I didn't want to
05 jump in.
06 MR. DIBILEO: You're saying that
07 there's a savings of at least the amount of money that
08 you're proposing --
09 MR. ANCHERANI: That they weren't
10 paid.
11 MR. DIBILEO: In their salary line
12 item.
13 MR. ANCHERANI: Right, that they
14 weren't paid.
15 MR. DIBILEO: Jay, if you can get
16 an answer on that for next week.
17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Did you
18 understand what I was saying, Jay?
19 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes.
20 MR. DIBILEO: And bring it up in
21 notes of interest, clerk's notes. Thank you.
22 MR. ANCHERANI: Anyway, in that
23 mayor's show he also said, I have to say thank you, we
24 appreciate what you have done for us. Thank you. I
25 have to say thank you. We appreciate what you have
0079
01 done for us. So, why not do something for them?
02 I'm going to keep asking that question until I get an
03 answer one way or another. Thank you.
04 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
05 Mr. Ancherani. Are there any other speakers?
06 Mr. Walsh.
07 MR. WALSH: 5-A, Motions.
08 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. McTiernan,
09 motions or comments?
10 MR. McTIERNAN: Nothing at this
11 time, Mr. President.
12 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
13 Mr. McTiernan. Mrs. Evans, motions or comments?
14 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Jay, are
15 you and the mayor continuing to meet with PEL weekly?
16 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes. The last
17 couple weeks we have not met, but we will be meeting.
18 Last week was Monday we were off, and the other week
19 something else happened, but, yes, we are continuing to
20 meet with them.
21 MS. EVANS: Can you tell me why I
22 haven't received any PEL summaries, though, in several
23 months?
24 MR. SAUNDERS: I believe that the

25 last one was given to me, I'd have to check that, but I
0080

01 will check on it.

02 MS. EVANS: Okay. I was looking
03 through what I do have at home, and I noticed I'm
04 missing March, April, May, so --

05 MR. SAUNDERS: They're always
06 probably a month behind, so I will check on that.

07 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And I'd
08 like to have those three months and then be kept
09 current from that point, please.

10 MR. SAUNDERS: Excuse me. Is it
11 April, May and June?

12 MS. EVANS: March, April and May,
13 and of course June just began, so --

14 MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Also, can we determine
16 if and when Jefferson Avenue, the area boarded by Elm
17 Park and the old YWCA will be paved from curb to curb?
18 I think about a year ago or so there was a water main
19 break and the street was decimated by the utility
20 company, and now only a strip is there, and I don't
21 know if it's a state road --

22 MR. POCIUS: No. I didn't mean to
23 interrupt, Mrs. Evans, it's always been a bone of
24 contention. The state route is the Expressway, and
25 actually if you go to the left, I don't know if you
0081

01 could still -- in front of the Radisson Hotel is a
02 state route, and Spruce Street is a state route, too,
03 and Wyoming Avenue, so Jefferson is not a state route.

04 MS. EVANS: Okay. Then obviously
05 they're not responsible, but I think we need to get in
06 touch with the utility company and ask them when they
07 intend to rectify the situation and pave that
08 properly.

09 Next, Attorney Walsh, I noticed,
10 received a response from Fire Chief Davis regarding the
11 Flexible Foam warehouse in Minooka, and it was during
12 the Council meeting of April 28, 2005, that I first
13 asked for some answers, and in fact it was April 21,
14 when Councilman Courtright exposed this situation, and
15 I asked basically, first, Why was the foam allowed to
16 sit for four and a half months; second, why was
17 Flexible Foam never cited for blatant disregard of code
18 violations; third, who exposed the fire department, the
19 city inspectors and the City of Scranton to such
20 monumental liability; and fourth, and probably most

21 importantly, who exposed the people of Minooka and the
22 fire department to a possible catastrophe?

23 Now, this letter is a written

24 response, but it's not an acceptable answer. I would
25 say it even took weeks to create this smoke and mirrors
0082

01 response.

02 In an emergency, a potential

03 health hazard to hundreds and hundreds of people, you

04 know, you don't allow dangerous materials to sit for

05 four and a half months, you don't order everyone off

06 the case in January, and then months later in a six-day

07 period, this foam is all removed.

08 And if the person who is

09 responsible for endangering Minooka and jeopardizing

10 the fire department is, you know, allowed to escape

11 responsibility, I think we've open the door to similar

12 occurrences in the future.

13 What's to prevent any business

14 from calling its powerful friend in city government to

15 get them off the hook? And, you know, will we be as

16 fortunate next time? I just don't know.

17 So, I still request the name of

18 the individual who is responsible for allowing

19 Flexible Foam to endanger our people for four and a

20 half months.

21 And, you know, as I said, there is

22 a response here, but I take issue with some of the

23 responses that are provided. First of all, it

24 indicates fire and city inspectors were on the scene

25 regularly.

0083

01 I don't know how that could have

02 occurred, when on January 20, of 2005, Chief Davis

03 suspended any further actions concerning that

04 property.

05 And from all of the individuals

06 within the safety committee with whom I've spoken, you

07 know, I've been led to understand that situation was

08 hands off and no one was inspecting that.

09 It also notes that the owner was

10 out of the country for several weeks. Well, several

11 weeks equals what? You know, because we're talking

12 about four and a half months here.

13 So, several weeks, is that four

14 and a half months? I would imagine not. And I had

15 heard it was actually less than several weeks whatever

16 they considered that to be.

17 And then there was a shift in
18 management, but, again, I've learned that shift didn't
19 occur until April, after the fire in the Archbald
20 facility. So, this still does not explain what
21 occurred and who ultimately is responsible.
22 Next, I received a copy of a
23 letter from a city resident, and I think, I don't know
24 if everyone else on Council received it yet, but I'm
25 just going to run through this quickly, it's from a
0084
01 resident of Keyser Valley to Mr. Catulla and NCC.
02 As an adjacent resident of your
03 business, I'm very displeased with your company's lack
04 of attention to a problem brought to several of your
05 managers since May of 2004.
06 I visited your company on several
07 occasions and spoke to at least three different
08 managers about the use of foul language by your
09 employees while outside at lunch and on breaks.
10 I visited your company on at least
11 three different occasions in the summer of 2005. Each
12 and every time I was assured that this problem would be
13 rectified.
14 Your managers relayed to me that
15 they also informed you of my complaints and that you
16 would address the issue. To date, nothing has been
17 done.
18 I suggested that the employees be
19 relocated to the opposite side of the building away
20 from the residential area. In my opinion, this was a
21 very simple request that your company has refused to
22 consider.
23 I informed your manager that I was
24 going to take my complaint to the neighborhood
25 association and was asked to please not go to the
0085
01 meeting, that they would take care of the problem
02 immediately.
03 Today there was another incident
04 involving loud vulgar language by your employees. I
05 informed your company's management that I have small
06 grandchildren that spend time at my home. They also
07 have many friends, as I do, with small grandchildren
08 that swim at my home all summer.
09 I will not have them subjected to
10 language that they are not accustomed to, nor do I
11 condone around children.
12 I'm planning to attend the next

13 neighborhood meeting to inform them of my concerns.
14 I'm also sending a copy of this letter to City Council
15 with the hope that if you fail to address this
16 situation, they may intervene.
17 I'm confident that they would not
18 condone the type of behavior exhibited by the employees
19 of a company operating in the city, particularly one
20 under contract with the city.

21 Now, I would agree, the writer is
22 correct, and I do not condone such behavior by a
23 company which is under contract to the city, and I am
24 aware that representatives of NCC visited this resident
25 just yesterday to address this letter and her

0086

01 complaints, and later that evening, in fact, they
02 returned a second time with a young female employee who
03 apologized to the resident, but the resident, as much
04 as that was appreciated, insists that it's not that one
05 young woman alone, it's numerous employees, male and
06 female, and her only request has been that the picnic
07 tables be moved from the area that borders these
08 residences to the opposite side and that would be
09 satisfactory to her.

10 So, what I'm asking NCC to do is
11 simply be a good neighbor, and if possible, just move
12 those tables, because, you know, this resident has
13 emphasized to me that she's gone 'round and 'round and
14 'round more than enough times now, and, you know,
15 they've made promises, and the promises were kept for
16 approximately a week, and then there was a return to
17 that typical behavior.

18 On Monday, I attended a Memorial
19 Day service at Keyser Valley Community Center, and it
20 was a beautiful ceremony. And President DiBileo I saw
21 there and Councilman Courtright, as well, and hundreds
22 of people, according to the principal speaker,
23 Tom Munley.

24 And I'd like to thank everyone who
25 was responsible for this annual event, particularly boy
0087

01 scout Troop No. 4, members of the VFW Post 6528,
02 Mr. Joseph Silvester, the post commander, and
03 Mary Alice Burke, President of Keyser Valley Community
04 Association and her officers, and also Patsy Capalongo,
05 who always keeps us smiling.

06 And a brief announcement I was
07 asked to make, The annual ice cream social conducted by
08 Upper Hill Ecumenical Committee will be held on June 15

09 at 7 p.m. at Saint Peter's Lutheran Church. Saluting
10 Our Military will be the theme this year with a flag
11 folding ceremony as written in the manual of the
12 U.S. Air Force Academy.
13 This ceremony is a dramatic and
14 uplifting way to honor the flag and the military.
15 Tickets for the social are \$.50 for children and \$3 for
16 adults and can be purchased through members of the
17 committee.
18 Since 1976, the churches of the
19 Petersburg corners have been involved in the
20 presentation of US Savings Bonds to students from our
21 city, and the cost of these socials generally have been
22 used for social outreach within the community.
23 They have helped needy families,
24 local agencies, and as I already mentioned, these three
25 bonds; however, they indicate that their resources are
0088
01 depleted, and so if there are any individuals or
02 businesses who would like to make a contribution,
03 please contact the committee or send a donation to the
04 Upper Hill Ecumenical Committee, care of Jean Marie
05 Warpus, 201 Mary Lane, Scranton, PA 18505.
06 Also, if anyone is interested in
07 helping the Family Readiness Group, which I spoke to
08 last week to see their family and our soldiers off
09 before deployment to Iraq, please call 587-6710 days,
10 343-4265 evenings, or send donations to an address that
11 you will see on your TV screen at the conclusion of
12 this evening's meeting.
13 And then finally, I know you're
14 all over here thinking, when, finally I do have two
15 pages in fact of citizens' complaints and requests,
16 Mand I'm certainly not going to read all those, but
17 there are just a very few here that the citizens have
18 asked me to -- well, actually had me promise to read.
19 First of all, at 1630 South Irving
20 we have trees growing into power lines and the roots
21 have destroyed the sidewalk, so if we can get
22 Mr. Santolli out there to take care of that.
23 Also, Jay, maybe you would know
24 about this, has a meeting been scheduled regarding the
25 flooding problem on Parker Street caused by the storm
0089
01 drains?
02 Several weeks ago I asked that a
03 letter be sent to Mr. Parker and Mr. Lennox from the
04 Scranton Sewer Authority to schedule a meeting that the

05 residents can attend as well so that they can hopefully
06 come up with a solution to a problem that's been
07 plaguing them and the businesses on Parker Street.
08 MR. SAUNDERS: I haven't heard
09 anything back from either of those gentlemen yet.
10 MS. EVANS: Okay. Let's maybe put
11 a call into them to see if we can haste this up before
12 we have any further flooding up there.
13 Also, Coney Island on Lackawanna
14 Avenue and Buona Pizza have requested a 30-minute
15 parking sign in front on their businesses on Lackawanna
16 Avenue, and I was wondering, you know, if you could get
17 in touch with them, if we could maybe take a look at
18 that and try to get the appropriate procedure in
19 motion.
20 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah. I could take
21 a look at that. They're going to be doing a ton of
22 work on that street there. I'm not even sure if that's
23 worth us doing that, but I an get the ball in progress
24 for when that work is completed.
25 MS. EVANS: Even that would be a
0090
01 help.
02 MR. SAUNDERS: Are there parking
03 meters in front of there now?
04 MS. EVANS: I don't believe -- not
05 in front of Buona. I'm not sure about Coney Island,
06 but I do know, you know, they're very anxious about
07 this. Business has suffered, so they would be very,
08 very pleased with a 30-minute parking sign.
09 MR. SAUNDERS: Okay.
10 MS. EVANS: Also, I had asked a
11 couple weeks ago about St. Joe's Melokite Church, the
12 parking signs there, the no parking signs, if they
13 could be altered so that individuals would be able to
14 park during the time of church services.
15 MR. SAUNDERS: That wasn't done?
16 MS. EVANS: No. I was there this
17 week, and the no parking signs are still there. And
18 while we have Mr. McMullen out there for that problem,
19 if he could take a look at 124 North Cabrini, there's a
20 parking lot across the street, and the first two
21 parking spaces are for handicapped parking, and there
22 is a sign there that indicates such; however, the sign
23 is all faded, and as a result, others are parking in
24 those spots. So, if he could get a new handicapped
25 parking sign on that lot for those two spaces please.
0091

01 MR. SAUNDERS: Are they on your
02 list?

03 MS. EVANS: Uh-huh. That's it.

04 Thank you.

05 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

06 Mrs. Evans. Mr. Pocius, any motions or comments?

07 MR. POCIUS: Yeah, a few

08 comments. I, too, agree with Mr. Courtright and his

09 statement before, and I'm not going to lengthen this

10 any more than it is, but let the professionals make the

11 judgments on the situation that happened on Ash Street

12 and let it in their hands. And I just agree with you,

13 Bill, let's move on. Let the officers move on and

14 let's put it behind us.

15 Mrs. Evans, I, too, did receive a

16 call from Mr. Catula concerning that situation, and he

17 assured me that he would do everything in his power to

18 rectify the situation, so he was concerned. And I just

19 said, Okay, John. If it's brought up, just make sure

20 it gets taken care of on your end, because you have a

21 lot to do with this in controlling your people and so

22 on. Hopefully it will be taken care of.

23 And also just one other thing, as

24 far as this \$200 bonus for the returning servicemen, I

25 mean, it seems like I'm on the dime on this thing here,

0092

01 and basically I made the motion that if it's -- let's

02 look at it. If it's there, let's do it.

03 And I don't really feel that, you

04 know, I'm the one that's going to be picked on every

05 week in case this doesn't happen as the one that failed

06 this through.

07 Believe me, if this money is

08 entitled to these servicemen, I'll be the first one to

09 get on the bandwagon to get it done. Whatever has to

10 be done, we'll get it out.

11 If it's owed to them, they're

12 entitled to it, they'll get it. So, I guess we've got

13 to plan, Mr. President, that Jay's going to find out

14 the account, and if it's there, we can make a motion

15 again to take it from the accountant and pay them.

16 Let's just put an end to it. And that's all I have.

17 Three things, and that's it. Thank you.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Thank you. I

19 agree with you regarding the situation with

20 Mr. Ancherani saying that the money is funded, so

21 hopefully, Jay, you'll have an answer for us next week

22 on that involving the salaries that were involved.

23 I also, just quickly before I call
24 on Mr. Courtright, want to also agree with
25 Mr. Courtright's statement earlier involving the
0093

01 incident up at Petersburg Corners.
02 I think that we have a very
03 professional police department who are highly trained,
04 and I think that, you know, they made the call that had
05 to be done at that particular time, and I don't think
06 you can fault anyone, you know, for doing their job as
07 a professional the way they did.

08 It's just unfortunate that what
09 occurred did occur, and we just have to try to move on
10 from that. But you just wanted to agree with you on
11 that.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you.

13 MR. DIBILEO: With that,

14 Mr. Courtright, if you have any motions or comments.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: This is maybe the
16 fifth week I brought this up. I don't know how I'm
17 going to get this resolved. I know, Jay, you sent a
18 letter out on this.

19 And I don't want to keep, you
20 know, it's not a pleasant subject, but down at
21 Weston Field, I'm continually being told by the
22 neighbors there, and I guess I've got to say this on
23 the air, I really don't care to do this, that at
24 certain times the facilities maybe on a Sunday are not
25 open at Weston Field, and then at other times, because
0094

01 I guess there was a Port-a-Potty there, people don't
02 want to walk inside, we've got people that are, and,
03 again, I apologize for saying this, they're urinating
04 alongside of the building that was burned out down
05 there Weston Field, and the neighbors don't appreciate
06 that.

07 So, I really don't think it's too
08 much to ask to get this Port-A-Potty back there. And
09 who did you send a letter to, Jay? I forget.

10 MR. SAUNDERS: Bob Scopelliti.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. If we
12 can please ask him if he can do this for us. I mean,
13 these please don't want to see this, and I don't blame
14 them.

15 I was told by a -- because of my
16 involvement with law enforcement, I was told by a
17 member of a law enforcement agency that the FBI was in
18 our area last week and they held a seminar from Monday

19 until Friday, I believe it was from Monday to Friday up
20 at Marywood College and it was on terrorism, and, you
21 know, the guy said, Jeez, I thought maybe I'd see you
22 there, and I said, Well, I didn't know anything about
23 it.

24 He said he believes he saw
25 Ray Hayes and I believe Officer Boneham there, and,
0095

01 Jay, I would just ask maybe if we can send a letter to
02 Ray that if something like that does come up in the
03 future and it's something that we should be made aware
04 of or are able to go to, we certainly don't want to go
05 to anything we're not entitled to go to, if they would
06 make us aware of that.

07 You know, something happened in
08 our area and I didn't know about it, I was a little
09 embarrassed there.

10 A lot of calls yesterday afternoon
11 and last night, the police cars. There's two of the
12 new police cars are out on the road, my understanding
13 is, and I think I have been saying here on this
14 Council that there's six police cars coming.
15 I'm being told there's only five.

16 And I know, Jay, you called down to Dave Elliott's
17 office today. Did we ever get a response?

18 MR. SAUNDERS: I discussed it with
19 Tom Bell, and in everybody's defense here, I was tied
20 up all day, I didn't get back to him on the situation.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: All right. Here
22 is a question I would like to pose to them. And if I
23 was wrong, I was wrong, but I was under the impression
24 there was six cars and a paddy wagon or transport
25 vehicle, whatever you want to call it, so that would
0096

01 mean a total of seven.

02 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah.

03 MR. COURTRIGHT: If that's
04 incorrect --

05 MR. SAUNDERS: They were the
06 questions that I asked him.

07 MR. COURTRIGHT: If there's
08 another car, a wagon that comes, let me know, but if we
09 can just find out where we stand. And by the way, the
10 officers are happy for the two that they got right
11 now. Hopefully more to come.

12 I apologize to this woman, she was
13 here last week, I can't remember her name, I think it
14 might have been Mrs. Boyle, whose husband was a

15 dedicated DPW worker, you know, you go by something
16 every single day of your life and you don't notice, and
17 I go by that park three times a day, and I wasn't quite
18 sure what she was talking about.

19 And I went up there this week, and
20 I'm assuming that the city is maintaining the grass
21 cutting, because it was cut and everything, and I don't
22 think it's too much to ask -- she's right, there's a
23 lot of people walking up and down the avenue now
24 because the weather is nice, and maybe we can ask, Jay,
25 I don't know if it would be the DPW or Parks and
0097

01 Recreation, if we can have a bench put there.
02 And if they can't do that, if they
03 can let me know and maybe we'll see if we can do a
04 little bit of a fundraiser or somebody donate a bench
05 for that area, because I think there's a lot of people
06 that are senior citizens that walk up and down there
07 and they might want to sit there and talk.
08 It's a residential area. It's
09 near Schlager and Main Avenue, almost on the corner of
10 Schlager and Main across the street.

11 MR. POCIUS: It's called Powderly
12 Park.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right.

14 MR. POCIUS: That's Powderly Court
15 right there.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: There's a
17 memorial thing there. And I apologize. I go by it
18 every day, I just never pay attention to it. So, if
19 you can ask. If they can do it, fine. If not, I'll
20 find out a way that we can get a bench up there.

21 This isn't really city business, I
22 hope you forgive me. I ran into a bunch of Dunmore
23 baseball players today, and I just want to say hi to
24 them. They watch these Council meetings. So, they
25 said, We'll be watching you tonight. So, Hi to those
0098

01 baseball players from Dunmore. I believe it's Dunmore
02 High School. I didn't know them, and evidently they
03 recognized me.

04 On a good note, last year at one
05 time on the 10 of Blair down in the Weston Field area
06 and the 10 and 11 and 12 of Diamond, we had some
07 problems with the roads and Jay had sent a letter out
08 or Kay or somebody sent a letter out for me to
09 Mr. Parker to see if we could get something done there,
10 and at the time I guess we weren't able to do it, but,

11 you know, it's a year later, but now something is
12 getting done. So, we appreciate that for
13 Blair Avenue and Diamond Avenue.
14 I'm not trying to be greedy here,
15 but I also asked about the 300 of Lowell Street down in
16 the Plot, they have a problem there specifically in
17 front of 354, if Mr. Parker might shoot over there when
18 they're doing those streets. It's only a block away, I
19 believe, and look at that. That would be greatly
20 appreciated. And that's it. Thank you.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
22 Mr. Courtright. I just want to quickly say, too, I
23 wasn't going to say anything, but Mr. Catula from
24 Northeast Credit and Collection must be pretty
25 concerned about the incident that was occurring up
0099

01 there, because he also called me, and he this week
02 promised that he was going to handle the situation, so
03 hopefully that will be done.

04 MS. EVANS: I hope so, too, but I
05 can tell you the resident is very, very wary, and, you
06 know, when she had indicated to me that when the two
07 representatives of the business visited her yesterday
08 afternoon, and she requested that the picnic tables be
09 moved, they would not agree to do so.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Was Mr. Catula
11 there, Jan? Was he there himself or no?

12 MS. EVANS: I don't believe so.

13 But evidently they were sent by him, because --

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: He's a pretty
15 reasonable guy.

16 MS. EVANS: -- there was a
17 discussion of a letter. And like I said, that was
18 followed up last night by a visit of an employee who's
19 apologize when, you know, it's not a situation -- now,
20 again, I'm not a resident, so I've not witnessed this,
21 but I'm just relaying what I've been told and what has
22 been written to us, that it's not simply one person
23 who's doing this. And she almost felt as if that young
24 woman were the sacrificial lamb.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah. Well,
0100

01 hopefully it will be rectified quickly, because I know
02 the resident involved, and I know that she's not
03 stretching a story here.

04 MS. EVANS: Right. It's the
05 truth.

06 MR. DIBILEO: This week it was

07 announced that the city pools would open on June the
08 11, I believe, which I think is the day after the
09 Scranton City Schools close, and that I watched on the
10 news that Mr. Scopelliti, the Parks and Recreation
11 Director, announced that the fee would be a dollar to
12 swim at the pools, and that would be at all the pools
13 other than Nay Aug Park, because Nay Aug Park is
14 governed by the Scranton Recreation Authority and they
15 determine what's charged up at Nay Aug Park, so I'm
16 sure that everybody is hoping for a great pool season,
17 and that would include hoping for great weather this
18 year. So far it hasn't been the case, but hopefully
19 it's going to happen sooner or later.

20 But, you know, regarding the fee
21 that Mr. Scopelliti had mentioned, since I've been on
22 City Council, the fee has been zero and one dollar for
23 those city pools all but Nay Aug Park, and I believe I
24 voted for each of those fees, if I'm not mistaken, but,
25 you know, since then I've given it a lot of thought
0101

01 about the fee at the city pools and I've come to the
02 conclusion and I've stated -- actually stated my
03 intentions here publicly that I believe swimming for
04 residents of Scranton should be free.

05 I feel that swimming is one
06 benefit that should be covered by the tax dollars of
07 the city residents. Now, I do realize that there are
08 costs associated with the pools, you know, there's no
09 question about that, and I really believe that because
10 of that, that the city should accept donations to help
11 cover the costs of the pools in operating the pools,
12 and I think that people would be willing to donate,
13 such as they do at the Wildlife Center at Nay Aug Park.
14 They do donate, and because of
15 that, I don't think there would be a big drop-off in
16 the revenue that's currently received. You know, and
17 most people I think could afford the one dollar fee,
18 but not all people can afford that by any means.

19 I do believe that there should be
20 a fee for adult non-residents. I think all children
21 should not pay a fee, regardless of where they live.
22 But I think if you are a non-resident and you don't
23 live in the city, that you should pay a fee.
24 I do also realize that people
25 aren't turned away that can't forward to get into the
0102

01 pools, at least I've been told that, but I don't think
02 that that's the point.

03 I think that there's a level of
04 embarrassment that is associated with someone not
05 having or not being able to afford the fee to get into
06 the pool, and I think because of that, I think you're
07 going to have a certain number of people stay away
08 because of that level of embarrassment.
09 You know, you don't want to walk
10 up to the gate and say, You know, I don't have the
11 money, I can't afford it, and be embarrassed and need
12 to be let in, you know, as a result of that.
13 But I think that all Scrantonians,
14 especially children, should be able to walk through
15 those gates of each pool with their head held high.
16 And I'm not talking about Nay Aug Park, because as we
17 all know, you know, the Recreation Authority governs
18 that.
19 I think the fact that they have
20 the total say is a little bit ridiculous, in that
21 elected officials don't have a say in what's charged at
22 Nay Aug Park, but I would hope that the Scranton
23 Recreation Authority would follow our lead on this and
24 believe the same way that some or maybe all of us do
25 about swimming should be free.

0103

01 And I think they should charge
02 what they feel like is appropriate for use of the
03 waterslide. It's been \$5 for the last couple of years.
04 If they feel as though it has to be left at \$5 or
05 dropped, that's perfectly fine in my opinion.
06 But, you know, with that said, I
07 want to make a motion involving the pool fee, if I
08 may. And I've written it down here. I would like to
09 make a motion -- I'd like to ask Mr. Walsh if he would
10 prepare legislation to allow for free swimming for all
11 city residents at all city pools, with the exception of
12 Nay Aug Pool, and request that the city accept
13 donations towards the cost of operating the pools and
14 that a fee should be imposed for non-resident adults.
15 And I make that in the form of a motion.
16 MS. EVANS: Second.
17 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. We have a
18 motion on the floor and a second. On the question?
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question,
20 Mr. DiBileo, if I could just add my two cents, I know
21 your motion is about the pools, other than Nay Aug, if
22 the Recreation Authority is going to reconsider about
23 Nay Aug, you know, I, too, believe you've got to charge
24 something for that slide, you've got to maintain it,

25 there's no two ways about it, but I would like to see
0104

01 the kids swim there for free and whatever the fee maybe

02 you can charge for the waterslide, I understand

03 something needs to be charged, it's got to be

04 maintained it's not a cheap piece of equipment.

05 I just in my heart feel \$5 is a

06 little bit much, if they could consider dropping that.

07 And I know we have no say in it, but if they can kind

08 of help me out with that one, I would really appreciate

09 it.

10 I think it's a little bit too

11 much, \$5 for some people. And that's all I have on the

12 question. Thank you.

13 MS. EVANS: I had seen that

14 announcement on television, as well, and I had also

15 heard that the Recreation Authority will be meeting on

16 Monday, June 6, and since I had already inquired as to

17 whether or not they would be issuing free swim passes

18 this year, and their response was that decision would

19 be forthcoming at their June meeting, I just happened

20 to do a little bit of research into the recent past,

21 and I found some very interesting comments on the

22 Scranton Times' Website.

23 And this take us back to the year

24 2001, and the headline says, Swimming may be free in

25 summer. Want To Take The Plunge And Not Pay A Penny.

0105

01 If City Council has its way, swimming at all seven of

02 the city's pools will be free this summer, but for now

03 children, whether they live in the city or not, will be

04 wading and not paying.

05 And if you'll just bear with me

06 while I read a little bit more, there are a lot of

07 pools in certain parts of the city that are virtually

08 empty, Councilman Reap said at Monday night's meeting.

09 Maybe we can offer a way for kids

10 to swim for free. Lets put some kids in them and let

11 them swim. Getting more bodies into the pools was just

12 one reason Council voted unanimously to work on the

13 legislation necessary to eliminate the admission fee

14 before the swimming season begins in mid-June.

15 Another reason was an attempt to

16 lure teens to the pools and keep them out of Nay Aug

17 Gorge and other local swimming holes that could be

18 dangerous.

19 Councilman Doherty agreed with the

20 plan, adding that charging underprivileged children to

21 use the pools defeated the purpose of having public
22 swimming spots.
23 So, I don't know that what was
24 good for everyone in 2001, wouldn't still be good for
25 everyone in 2005.

0106

01 I'd like to think that maybe
02 tomorrow's headline for this Council meeting would be,
03 Swimming May Be Free In The Summer. Want To Take The
04 Plunge And Not Pay A Penny?

05 MR. McTIERNAN: Mr. President, if
06 I may. I had some conversations with some of the folks
07 involved with the Rec. Authority, and there were
08 indications that there would be a separation of the
09 fees and a reduction in line with other city pools.
10 I don't want to speak for them
11 specifically, but that there would be some
12 consideration for that, and I expect that that will
13 happen. They were just casual discussions. I can't
14 verify those specifically, but I think that's
15 forthcoming.

16 The second thing regarding your
17 motion, I agree with parts of it, but I'm wondering if
18 we could add specifying the age of those children.
19 There were a lot of conversations
20 had regarding young adults at the parks and at the
21 pools, and I'm wondering -- I think I could support an
22 age limit or a specified age, but I feel relatively
23 strongly that we should be considering continuing to
24 levy that fee for young adults.
25 I'm not prepared to put a number

0107

01 on that right now, an age, but I also would like you to
02 consider that we do not charge guardians or chaperones
03 of young children.

04 I think that your motion is good
05 in its intent, but to fine tune it I think would
06 probably make it, at least from my perspective, it
07 would make it a little more fair, a little more
08 reasonable, but I would be in favor of that motion if
09 we were to continue to charge a fee as currently
10 prescribed for, I don't know, 13, 14, 15-year-old
11 children, I guess is what we would call that, young
12 adults So, that's just for discussion, if you would
13 consider amending your motion or at least considering
14 that for the time being. That's all, Mr. President.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. The only
16 fee we're talking about would be the adult to

17 non-residents. And you make a good point, you know, at
18 which point are you an adult non-resident, and I would
19 think possibly in the neighborhood is what I'm
20 thinking.

21 MR. POCIUS: That's the legal age,
22 isn't it? I'm not sure.

23 MR. DIBILEO: So, I would be happy
24 to amend my motion, and I think 18 years of age is
25 pretty close to the legal limit when you become an
0108

01 adult for non-resident adults over 18 years of age
02 required to pay a fee is something that I would like to
03 include in my motion, if I may.

04 MR. WALSH: All you would have to
05 do then, Mr. President, is make a motion to amend your
06 motion to include that language, which then it would
07 have to be seconded, which then would vote on the
08 motion to amend the motion, and if that passes, then
09 you would vote again on the motion as amended.

10 So, again, just so that, you know,
11 we don't get confused, if you wish to have the motion
12 amended, you can make a motion to amend the motion or
13 anybody there could make a motion to amend the motion,
14 and if that's seconded, then you would vote on whether
15 or not you're going to amend the initial motion.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. If there's no
17 further questions, at this point I'll make a motion to
18 amend my motion to include that adults -- non-resident
19 adults over the age of 18, 18 and older, would be
20 charged a fee.

21 MR. McTIERNAN: So, resident
22 adults will not be charged?

23 MR. DIBILEO: All city residents,
24 I'm proposing, are free, all city residents, children
25 and adults alike, all children, even if non-resident
0109

01 children, I think, should not pay a fee, but
02 non-resident adults 18 -- over the age of 18, I'm
03 suggesting that we charge a fee to.

04 MR. WALSH: Over the age of 18?

05 MR. DIBILEO: Let's say 18 and
06 over.

07 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll second that.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. We have a
09 mowing on the floor and a second. On the question?

10 MR. POCIUS: I want to comment on

11 the first one, but I guess I'll get my comments in now.

12 I'll go along with whatever we're trying to accomplish

13 tonight, because obviously in 2001 I voted for free
14 swimming in the city, but my concern would be I would
15 hope we could get some businesses and entrepreneurs to
16 step up to kind of make up whatever difference is
17 needed to kind of fill that little gap of funding that
18 would make the chlorine and the chemicals above and
19 beyond, so I'll go along with it.
20 I think what we've got to
21 really -- just on the question, as Mr. Walsh is
22 drafting this, that he would use his legal expertise to
23 put the proper wording and just make sure that we -- if
24 that would stand, what would you say, Mark, the test of
25 a challenge.

0110

01 MR. WALSH: We'll try and do it so
02 it withstands the challenge. We'll give it our best.

03 MR. POCIUS: I remember we talked
04 about even, like, making senior citizens at one time,
05 and there was a point, like, where that was, and I hate
06 to say it, but maybe it was -- on another issue that
07 might have been discriminatory, do you know what I'm
08 trying to say?

09 Whatever you come up with that
10 will stand the test that we're not challenged and have
11 to go through -- or spend more time in court or
12 whatever trying to fight this thing. But I'll move
13 along with the thing and I'll support it.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. We have a
15 motion on the floor and a second.

16 MR. WALSH: This is to amend the
17 motion.

18 MR. DIBILEO: To amend the original
19 motion. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

20 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

21 MS. EVANS: Aye.

22 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

24 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. By a 5-0 vote,
25 motion carries.

0111

01 MR. WALSH: And now, Mr. DiBileo,
02 because we now have a motion as amended, now you're
03 going to call for the vote on the motion as amended.

04 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.

05 MR. WALSH: All in favor of the
06 motion as amended.

07 MR. McTIERNAN: Sure. Absolutely.

08 I'm going to vote in favor of this motion, but I want

09 to be clear that I've spoken several times about having
10 strong feelings about whether or not there should be
11 fees, so I'm going to vote forward to move this along,
12 but I still would like to consider it.

13 I still have a feeling that there
14 should be some fees levied, so, again, I won't vote to
15 be negative against it, but I want to reiterate
16 something that I've said all along since, I suppose,
17 the campaigns and a lot of my very first interviews
18 with Ms. Shedlock that I thought a pool fee is
19 important, it allows some responsibility, and the part
20 that I do struggle with is, of course, I do not want it
21 to be exclusive for any particular underprivileged
22 group.

23 But I do want to express I do have
24 a concern and I do have reservations about complete
25 free swimming, so just to be on the record for that so
0112

01 that we're not accused of flip-flopping or anything
02 like that. I still have those reservations. That's
03 all, Mr. President. Thank you.

04 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

05 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mr. President, on
06 the question, and not to prolong this and forget what
07 we're doing here, but I think some people feel, and I
08 think maybe the intention of the one-dollar fee at the
09 other pools feel was a deterrent for children, and I
10 hope I don't get yelled at for this, 13, 14, 15 years
11 old that were hanging around at these pools causing
12 trouble, and it probably did help in that, it probably
13 was a deterrent, because every day they weren't going
14 to come down there and pay a dollar and cause trouble.
15 But I think it's a matter of

16 policing, rather than charging, you know. I think -- I
17 know we're stretched on police officers, and I think
18 the intent sometime were the officers that were in the
19 school during the year would be available to be around
20 the pools, and that didn't seem to work out, I think,
21 because a lot of officers accrue, you know, vacation
22 time and whatnot, but I think we have to ask our police
23 department to try to be available and be in those areas
24 as much as possible where these pools are to keep these
25 handful of troublemakers out of there, and that's all I
0113

01 have. I think the one-dollar fee was in part enacted
02 because of that.

03 MS. EVANS: And, you know, if I

04 might add to that, though, if you do have an individual

05 who has misbehaved, and you know, is ejected from the
06 pool, there should be a consequence for that; in that,
07 you know, if you are asked to leave or told to leave,
08 then you cannot return.

09 Depending on, you know, the
10 severity of this, you can't return for a month or you
11 can't return for the remainder of the summer. You
12 know, there are other ways around this, rather than
13 trying to, let's say, regulate everyone or punish
14 everyone, because, you know, you can't pick and chose
15 in that manner even within a school system.

16 Everyone, you know, is invited,
17 you know, everyone has the same opportunities and
18 everyone has to live with the same rewards and
19 consequences.

20 So, I really think that, you know,
21 the financial burden, as you said, Mr. Courtright,
22 isn't the proper road to take, but let's look at, you
23 know, other measures, policing it and having
24 consequences for misbehavior.

25 MR. McTIERNAN: Mr. Courtright, if
0114

01 I could ask possibly you in your role as public safety
02 or Mr. Walsh as our solicitor, thinking of -- I don't
03 know the level of responsibility that lifeguards have
04 regarding their stature, and I'm thinking about some
05 school laws regarding the stature of principals,
06 referees, they're elevated with regard to assault, so
07 that if you are assaulting a PIAA official or a school
08 official, the penalties are more severe.

09 I'm also thinking about some
10 resort communities where lifeguards are elevated in
11 terms of the Crimes Code, that they're elevated to a
12 higher level so that that penalty that you're referring
13 to, Mrs. Evans, if that lifeguard is not elevated in
14 terms of stature, it would just be possibly simple
15 assault or a misdemeanor; whereas, if we could elevate
16 the status of lifeguards legally, and I don't know the
17 process to that, but if we could elevate their status
18 so that they are protected and that an assault or a
19 disorderly towards those elevated employees or public
20 figures, that carries a larger penalty. I know that
21 that's done in some communities, I just don't know what
22 we have here.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah, I think
24 that's an excellent suggestion. Mark, if you can look
25 into that and it's possible for us to do that, I would

0115

01 be --

02 MR. WALSH: I'd be happy to.

03 MS. EVANS: And even if you post
04 this notice at each facility so that it's, you know,
05 available, everyone sees it so that you can't say, Oh,
06 I didn't know or, you know what I mean, there are
07 rules, live by the rules.

08 MR. McTIERNAN: We also need,
09 Mr. Courtright, possibly, and I don't know who would be
10 responsible for this, but defiant trespass is fairly
11 clearly defined, that once you're warned to leave, that
12 it becomes defiant trespass if you return.

13 And I think our pool employees
14 need to know that they need to record or be trained in
15 how to have someone leave the property and warn them
16 not to return, dates, times, descriptions, so that if
17 they do return, it isn't just simple trespassing and a
18 warning, it becomes defiant trespass.

19 And, again, I don't know the laws
20 behind that, I'm just suggesting that if we are looking
21 to do this and we need to increase the teeth and
22 security at the pools, then I think there's a big
23 picture we have to look at.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah. Excellent
25 suggestion. I agree 100 percent with you. I'll look
0116

01 into the part about, you know, defiant trespass, and
02 then Mr. Walsh can see if there's something that we can
03 do about elevating them, I'd most certainly be in favor
04 of that.

05 MR. McTIERNAN: And not that they
06 would have arrest powers, but anything committed
07 against them would be with greater consequence.

08 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah,
09 absolutely. Excellent suggestion. Thank you.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Now, if there's no
11 further questions and if we remember the first
12 amendment --

13 MR. McTIERNAN: Just don't ask
14 Mr. Walsh to explain that again, because I got lost.

15 MR. POCIUS: Call for the vote.

16 MR. DIBILEO: I'd like to see that
17 all those in favor of said motion as amended signify by
18 saying aye.

19 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

20 MS. EVANS: Aye.

21 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
24 ayes have it, so moved. Thank you. Appreciate that
25 Last September we as a City

0117

01 Council dealt with the Community Development Block
02 Grant funding that was awarded to various projects, and
03 we received a certain set of projects from the
04 administration, City Council made several amendments,
05 and at that time I spoke to Mayor Doherty about one
06 project in particular that City Council and he were in
07 favor of funding. That project is the
08 North Scranton Neighborhood Association's Providence
09 Square Phase II Project.

10 Now, if everyone recalls, the
11 Providence Square Project is from Providence Square
12 right down to Oak Street is phase one of that
13 Providence Square project, and that's all new
14 sidewalks, all new curbing, all new period lighting,
15 and it's really starting to take shape and it's really
16 sprucing up North Scranton very nicely.

17 Now, the phase two of the project
18 would continue the project from Oak Street down to
19 Bulls Head, and that would be a nice longer addition
20 onto the project.

21 The figure that was kicked around
22 at that time was \$87,500 for the design portion of that
23 project. I asked the mayor if he'd like City Council
24 to include that with our amendments, but he said at
25 that time that he would handle it.

0118

01 Now, to this date, still the money
02 has not been awarded to North Scranton Neighborhood
03 Association, and I'm not blaming anyone, but we don't
04 want to jeopardize the continuation of this great
05 project for North Scranton.

06 And with that said, I'd like to
07 make a motion that, and if you can just listen to me
08 clearly so that we don't misunderstand, I'd like to
09 make a motion to inform the mayor that City Council
10 still supports this project, Providence Square
11 Phase II, and that we request him, if possible, to fund
12 the project and at his earliest convenience. And I
13 make that in the form of a motion.

14 MS. EVANS: Second.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. We have a
16 motion on the floor and a second. On the question?
17 All those in favor, signify by 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. I appreciate Council's

24 concurrence on that.

25 Thirdly, I attended also, as

0119

01 Mrs. Evans said earlier this week, Monday, Memorial

02 Day, the Memorial Day services at Keyser Valley

03 Community Center, and I spoke to one veteran that day

04 who was a little unhappy about a situation, he was

05 unhappy with the fact that the plaque for the

06 U.S.S. Scranton, which is a ship or submarine, a

07 submarine, there's a plaque for it, was at one time

08 proudly displayed here at City Hall, and he wasn't

09 happy with the fact that, according to his information,

10 it's not being currently displayed.

11 As a matter of fact, I asked

12 Mr. Saunders if he could take a walk around the

13 building and see if he could find the plaque for the

14 U.S.S. Scranton, and, Jay, I don't think you were able

15 to locate it.

16 MR. SAUNDERS: No. I couldn't

17 find it.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. So, in the

19 spirit of Memorial Day, which was three days ago, I'd

20 like to ask that the administration to once again

21 consider displaying the plaque for the U.S.S. Scranton,

22 if they would so kindly do so.

23 And I'm not going to make that in

24 the form of a motion, because I don't think we actually

25 need to, I think we just need to ask if they would

0120

01 consider that.

02 MR. POCIUS: Let's find it.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Let's find it.

04 Someone said -- as a matter of fact, this veteran said

05 that, and he could be wrong, he thought it was stored

06 with the mayors' portraits in wherever the portraits

07 were stored in City Hall at one time.

08 Now, we were successful at getting

09 the mayors' portraits back up and displayed in this

10 room, and I would say that, I don't want to speak for

11 all the council members, but maybe we can find a home

12 for the U.S.S. Scranton right here in this room or if

13 the administration would like to find a different place

14 for it to be displayed possibly on first floor.

15 MR. POCIUS: Just get it up.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MR. DIBILEO: But if we can get

18 that up, that would be terrific.

19 Almost near the end here. I want

20 to congratulate all area graduates. This coming week,

21 next week, graduates will be graduating from

22 Scranton High School and West Scranton High School.

23 You know, it's really hard to

24 believe that it's that time of year again. It just

25 goes by in a flash. And, you know, I just want to say

0121

01 that whatever the plans are for the graduates from all

02 schools, not only the two city height schools, but we

03 wish everyone health, happiness and all the luck in the

04 world with your future endeavors.

05 And the same good wishes go out to

06 all the students throughout the city as they're

07 entering their summer vacations. We want to wish them

08 the same thing for their summer vacations and have a

09 great summer, and free swimming along with that, if you

10 don't have a pool in your backyard.

11 And lastly, I want to wish

12 Happy Birthday to our own Kay Garvey, who celebrated a

13 milestone birthday, I'm not going to say what the

14 number was.

15 MS. EVANS: A gentleman never --

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: 29, I think.

17 MS. EVANS: -- tells a lady's age,

18 nor does he ever ask.

19 MR. DIBILEO: And I'm not even

20 thinking about it.

21 MS. EVANS: Good.

22 MR. POCIUS: Happy Birthday.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Happy Birthday to

24 Kay Garvey. And lastly, our own solicitor here had an

25 operation last week. People may not have noticed his

0122

01 arm is in a sling, and I just want to send our get well

02 wishes to our trusty Solicitor Mark Walsh in his

03 recovery on his shoulder.

04 MR. WALSH: Thank you.

05 MR. DIBILEO: And that's all I

06 have.

07 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, you

08 brought up a very good point, and I think

09 congratulating the graduates is an excellent thing, but

10 due to the recent expose in the Scranton Times on the

11 perils of DUI and drunken driving, please have a safe
12 alcohol free summer that you don't ruin a terrific
13 future by doing something foolish.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Excellent point.

15 MR. POCIUS: It just hit me, Gary.

16 MR. DIBILEO: As we all know, I

17 hate even to mention it, but going back to when I was

18 in school, you know, it always seems like around this

19 time of year sometimes tragedy occurs, and, you know,

20 you let your guard down because you think you got it

21 whipped, and, you know, that's at the time when your

22 guard is down that bad things can happen, and, you

23 know, we just have to stay focused. Everybody has to

24 always stay focused, especially our graduates at this

25 time of year. Celebrate sober and drug free.

0123

01 MR. POCIUS: And, parents, don't

02 provide alcohol at the graduation parties, because I've

03 heard it's done, and it's not a good practice. So, you

04 have a lot of responsibility yourselves.

05 MR. DIBILEO: Excellent point,

06 Mr. Pocius. Thank you very much. That's all I have

07 under fifth order.

08 MR. WALSH: 5th order. 5-B, FOR

09 INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING THE ZONING

10 ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ALTER THE USES

11 TABLE FOND AT PAGE 3-6 OF THE ORDINANCE, SPECIFICALLY

12 MISCELLANEOUS USES, TO REQUIRE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION FOR

13 THE CREATION OF SURFACE PARKING LOTS FOR INSTITUTIONAL

14 USES ON LOTS ON WHICH A PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE DID NOT

15 STAND AS OF JANUARY 1, 1993.

16 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll

17 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced into its

18 proper committee.

19 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

21 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

22 MR. POCIUS: Just on the question,

23 Mr. Walsh, would you work closely with Mr. Saunders on

24 this, because I know zoning -- any amendment to the

25 zoning ordinance requires a tedious -- it's a very

0124

01 scheduled-type of thing under the Municipal Planning

02 Code with planning commission reviews and responses and

03 public hearings, so would you get a schedule for us as

04 to what has to transpire so this can pass and not be

05 challenged?

06 MR. WALSH: I will, of course,

07 meet with Mr. Saunders on that, and also I believe this
08 was sent down by the solicitor's office, so both
09 Mr. Saunders and I have full intention of trying to
10 meet with them with respect to this legislation.
11 MR. POCIUS: Because I know
12 there's time frames and when it has to be advertised
13 and a public hearing and you can't have a vote until
14 the planning commission has a chance to review it. You
15 need county comments. It's all spelled out in the
16 MPC, so --
17 MR. McTIERNAN: Would it be wise
18 to speak about possibly suspending different rules or
19 requesting a stay, because I was out there recently and
20 there's equipment on lot.
21 MS. EVANS: Yes. I drive by every
22 day.
23 MR. McTIERNAN: If a resolution is
24 in place, then --
25 MR. POCIUS: What I'm saying is I
0125
01 know what -- and if -- what I'm saying is from my
02 experience in being here so long, we passed a zoning
03 ordinance when we were on Council and we did some
04 amendments, you have to follow the state law to do it,
05 just -- I mean, we've got to follow it. I don't think
06 it will uphold a challenge, Bob, but --
07 MR. McTIERNAN: No. I mean, I
08 understand that. Is there a possibility that we can
09 ask for, I don't know if I'm using the words correctly
10 from legal parlance, but an injunction to prevent
11 any -- from that work from going any further, because
12 barring a decision on our part, and the law as it is
13 today they can start work --
14 MR. POCIUS: I think if we get
15 this introduced tonight --
16 MR. McTIERNAN: That would be a
17 pendency situation?
18 MR. POCIUS: It could be a pending
19 ordinance. I don't know. Everybody has to get their
20 heads together. It's a legal thing, so I think the
21 best thing is move ahead, get it in the committee and
22 see where we have to go with it.
23 MS. EVANS: I had also heard,
24 though, that some of my neighbors are interested in
25 doing just that, hiring an attorney an filing an
0126
01 injunction, and I'm also going to ask Council to
02 consider going back to something I mentioned maybe two

03 or three weeks ago, that as this proceeds, I'm just
04 going to tweak this a bit, Council could write a letter
05 to the planning commission and the zoning board, if
06 indeed it's going before those, expressing our
07 opposition to the construction of a parking lot in that
08 area for even the reasons noted in our ordinance, so
09 that we, you know, we are officially on record before
10 these bodies as opposing the construction of this lot.

11 So, I'm just going to ask you to think about that.

12 MR. SAUNDERS: In the backup here
13 it states that it won't go in front of the planning, it
14 will go in front of the zoning, though. That's what
15 this ordinance is putting it in place.

16 MR. POCIUS: But on a special
17 exception, the planning commission is asked to give a
18 recommendation, I think, to the zoning board.

19 MR. SAUNDERS: So, we should send
20 it to both.

21 MR. POCIUS: Just follow the
22 ordinance, follow the state code, and that's where it
23 has to go.

24 MR. SAUNDERS: Okay.

25 MR. DIBILEO: If there's no
0127

01 further questions, all those in favor, signify by
02 saying aye.

03 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

04 MS. EVANS: Aye.

05 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

06 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
08 ayes have it and so moved.

09 MR. WALSH: 5-C, FOR INTRODUCTION
10 - AN ORDINANCE - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT
11 659 WALES STREET NEAR LEGGETT'S CREEK, SCRANTON,
12 PENNSYLVANIA, TO PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
13 (PAWC), 100 NORTH PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, WILKES-BARRE,
14 PENNSYLVANIA 18701, FOR THE SUM OF \$4,000.00.

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

18 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

20 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

21 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

22 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

23 MS. EVANS: Aye.

24 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

0128

01 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

02 ayes have it and so moved.

03 MR. WALSH: 5-D, FOR INTRODUCTION

04 - A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

05 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN

06 INVENTORY AND INSPECTION REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

07 NO. 048738 WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

08 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (PENNDOT) TO REINSPECT THE

09 LOCAL BRIDGES IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON.

10 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll

11 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be introduced into its

12 proper committee.

13 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

15 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

16 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

17 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

18 MS. EVANS: Aye.

19 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

22 ayes have it and so moved.

23 MR. WALSH: 5-E, FOR INTRODUCTION

24 - A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF JERROD HANDY,

25 1604 PINE STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18510 TO

0129

01 SERVE A STUDENT MEMBERSHIP ON THE HUMAN RELATIONS

02 COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE MAY 26, 2005. MR. HANDY IS A

03 STUDENT AT SCRANTON HIGH SCHOOL AND HE WILL BE

04 REPLACING GINA CAVOTTO WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON APRIL 5,

05 2005. MR. HANDY'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON APRIL 5, 2006.

06 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll

07 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be introduced into its

08 proper committee.

09 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

11 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

12 All those 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: 5-F, FOR INTRODUCTION

20 - A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF ANTHONY BAUMAN,

21 1623 JACKSON STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504 TO
22 SERVE A STUDENT MEMBERSHIP ON THE HUMAN RELATIONS
23 COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE MAY 26, 2005. MR. BAUMAN IS A
24 STUDENT AT WEST SCRANTON HIGH SCHOOL AND HE WILL BE
25 REPLACING LINDSEY NICHOLS WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON APRIL
0130

01 5, 2005. MR. BAUMAN'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON APRIL 5,
02 2006.

03 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll
04 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be introduced into its
05 proper committee.

06 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

07 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

08 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

09 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

10 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

11 MS. EVANS: Aye.

12 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
15 ayes have it and so moved.

16 MR. WALSH: Sixth order. There is

17 no business at this time. Seventh order. 7-A - FOR

18 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

19 - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 120, 2005 -

20 AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 68, 2004, (AS AMENDED),

21 ENTITLED, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

22 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE

23 ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED

24 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

25 PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

0131

01 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

02 (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)

03 PROGRAM, BY TRANSFERRING \$5,000.00 FROM

04 PROJECT NO. 05-31, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, TO

05 PROJECT NO. 05-05.13, SLOAN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION.

06 MR. DIBILEO: What's the

07 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on

08 community development?

09 MR. McTIERNAN: As the chairperson

10 for the committee on community development, I recommend

11 final passage of Item 7-A.

12 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

13 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

14 MS. EVANS: I'm just very pleased

15 to see this finally reach seventh order, and I know

16 it's a minimal amount of money, but it's a start, and

17 I'm hoping that in the next round we're able to assist
18 them even more.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. If
20 there's no further questions, roll call, please, Kay.

21 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

22 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

23 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.

24 MS. EVANS: Yes.

25 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

0132

01 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

02 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

03 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

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

07 MR. WALSH: 7-B, FOR CONSIDERATION

08 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR

09 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 121, 2005 - AMENDING

10 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 68, 2004, (AS AMENDED), ENTITLED,

11 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

12 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE

13 ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED

14 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

15 PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

16 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

17 (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)

18 PROGRAM, BY TRANSFERRING \$55,000.00 FROM

19 PROJECT NO. 05-31, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, TO

20 PROJECT NO. 05-96, NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE PATROL.

21 MR. DIBILEO: What's the

22 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on

23 community development?

24 MR. McTIERNAN: As the chairperson

25 for the committee on community development, I recommend

0133

01 final passage of Item 7-B.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

03 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

04 MS. EVANS: I'm hoping again that

05 in this fall's allocations we can see even more

06 allocated toward neighborhood police patrols and

07 increase their numbers, because they're badly needed

08 throughout the city.

09 MR. POCIUS: How about this as a

10 suggestion, possibly if any of these areas qualify with

11 the pools, maybe some of these additional officers, if

12 it's one or two, could be stationed in those areas.

13 Just a possibility.
14 MS. EVANS: Good thinking.
15 MR. POCIUS: I got an idea every
16 once in a while.
17 MR. DIBILEO: If there's no
18 further questions, roll call, please, Kay.
19 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.
20 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.
21 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.
22 MS. EVANS: Yes.
23 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.
24 MR. POCIUS: Yes.
25 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

0134

01 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
02 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby
04 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.
05 MR. WALSH: 7-C, FOR CONSIDERATION
06 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR ADOPTION - FILE
07 OF COUNCIL NO. 133, 2005 - ESTABLISHING THIRTY (30)
08 MINUTE PARKING AT CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CORNER OF ASH
09 STREET AND PRESCOTT AVENUE, KNOWN AS PETERSBURG
10 CORNERS, SPECIFICALLY ALONG ASH STREET FROM
11 FARBER COURT TO THE INTERSECTION OF PRESCOTT AVENUE
12 ALONG THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF ASH STREET, AND ALONG
13 PRESCOTT AVENUE FROM THE INTERSECTION OF ASH STREET TO
14 AND INCLUDING 953 PRESCOTT AVENUE ON THE WESTERLY SIDE
15 OF PRESCOTT AVENUE ONLY.

16 MR. DIBILEO: What's the
17 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on
18 public safety?
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: As chairperson
20 for the committee on community development, I recommend
21 final passage of Item 7-C.
22 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.
23 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?
24 Roll call please, Kay.
25 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

0135

01 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.
02 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.
03 MS. EVANS: Yes.
04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.
05 MR. POCIUS: Yes.
06 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.
07 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
08 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

09 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby
10 declare Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.
11 MR. WALSH: 7-D, FOR CONSIDERATION
12 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR
13 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 143, 2005 - AUTHORIZING THE
14 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY
15 OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A
16 LOAN FROM THE COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN
17 PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 03-150 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
18 \$250,000.00 TO PREFERRED PRODUCE & FOOD SERVICE, INC.
19 TO ASSIST AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT.
20 MR. DIBILEO: What's the
21 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on
22 community development?
23 MR. McTIERNAN: As the chairperson
24 for the committee on community development, I recommend
25 final passage of Item 7-D.
0136
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: Ms. 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 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR
17 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 144, 2005 - AUTHORIZING THE
18 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY
19 OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A
20 LOAN FROM THE COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN
21 PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 03-150 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
22 \$250,000.00 TO 321 DEVELOPMENT L.P. TO ASSIST AN
23 ELIGIBLE PROJECT.
24 MR. DIBILEO: What's the
25 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on
0137
01 community development?
02 MR. McTIERNAN: As chairperson for
03 the committee on community development, I recommend
04 final passage of Item 7-E.

05 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

06 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

07 MS. EVANS: Yes. I think this is

08 the loan that I questioned Kevin Wilson about during

09 tonight's caucus, what businesses precisely.

10 MR. SAUNDERS: Councilwoman, it's

11 the PNC building downtown on Spruce and Wyoming.

12 They're revitalizing that building and recruiting to

13 bring new people in that building. It's the old PNC

14 building or Bank Towers.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Is this a new owner?

16 MR. POCIUS: It needs it. It

17 needs a facelift.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Not who, but

19 is it a new owner?

20 MR. SAUNDERS: Yeah.

21 MR. POCIUS: Yeah, I heard of

22 several new owners.

23 MS. EVANS: And what business are

24 they putting in there?

25 MR. SAUNDERS: I don't know.

0138

01 MS. EVANS: Or are they just

02 renting the space?

03 MR. POCIUS: This could be

04 renovations and so on. It's to help them to build. I

05 think they could use this for renovations or whatever

06 to help them get a jump start. It's a loan, and I

07 think this one might have had the eight employees.

08 MS. EVANS: Right, right. So,

09 those eight employees may be construction --

10 MR. POCIUS: No, I think it's

11 permanent employees. It's permanent employees. But

12 see, whatever they do, hopefully these businesses will

13 generate permanent employment.

14 MS. EVANS: Yes.

15 MR. SAUNDERS: That's all I have.

16 MS. EVANS: Okay. So, basically

17 we're renovating that building, but we don't know what

18 business is going into it?

19 MR. SAUNDERS: No.

20 MR. POCIUS: A lot of times you

21 don't really.

22 MR. SAUNDERS: Not until it's

23 renovated.

24 MR. POCIUS: You try to draw

25 maybe, I don't know, attorneys' offices, there's

0139

01 doctors in there. My foot doctor is in there. You
02 know, maybe they're just trying to -- it's a pretty
03 busy building on the far end, but it's probably the
04 front where the bank was occupied, you know, where the
05 big lobby was, I would say.
06 I'm only guessing it's for
07 renovations, but, I mean, it's an eligible project and
08 it is in the downtown and it probably needs our help.
09 MS. EVANS: Okay. That's it.
10 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.
11 If there's no further questions, roll call please, Kay.
12 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.
13 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.
14 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.
15 MS. EVANS: Yes.
16 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.
17 MR. POCIUS: Yes.
18 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.
19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
20 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.
21 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby
22 declare Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.
23 Seeing no further business on the agenda, I'll
24 entertain a motion we adjourn.
25 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.
0140
01 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.
02 MR. DIBILEO: We're adjourned.
03
04 (MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

LISA M. GRAFF, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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