

1

1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING

2

3

4

5

IN RE: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 17, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE -
6 CLOSING AND VACATING THE IDENTIFIED PORTIONS OF HILL
STREET, AN UNNAMED STREET AND UNNAMED ALLEYWAY SHOWN ON
7 EXHIBIT A LOCATED BETWEEN BOULEVARD AVENUE AND OLYPHANT
AVENUE NORTH OF PARKER STREET.

8

9

10

11 Held:
Thursday, April 6, 2006

12

13

14

Time:

15 6:15 p.m.

16

17

18 Location:
Council Chambers
19 Scranton City Hall
340 North Washington Avenue
20 Scranton, Pennsylvania

21

22

23 Lisa M. Graff, RMR

24 Court Reporter

25

.

2

1 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

2

3 MS. JUDY GATELLI, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4

5 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT, VICE-PRESIDENT

6

7 MS. JANET EVANS

8

9 MS. SHERRY NEALON FANUCCI

10

11

MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN (Arrived where noted.)

12

13

14 MR. JOHN MINORA, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

15

16

MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

17

18

19 MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

20

21

22

23

24

25

.

3

1 MS. GATELLI: I'd like to call this

2 public hearing to order. Roll call.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

4 MS. EVANS: Here.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

6 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Here.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan. Mr.

8 Courtright.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

11 MS. GATELLI: Here. The purpose of the

12 public hearing is to hear testimony and discuss the

13 following: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 17, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE

14 - CLOSING AND VACATING THE IDENTIFIED PORTIONS OF HILL

15 STREET, AN UNNAMED STREET AND UNNAMED ALLEYWAY SHOWN ON

16 EXHIBIT A LOCATED BETWEEN BOULEVARD AVENUE AND OLYPHANT

17 AVENUE NORTH OF PARKER STREET.

18 And the first speaker is B.T. Lively.

19 MR. LIVELY: Hello. How are you this

20 evening? Simply, I'm going to read a prepared

21 statement from the neighbors in order to express their

22 concerns and interests as they have requested.

23 First off, the neighbors would like to

24 thank the City Council for the patience and concern

25 that has been showed on this matter.

.

4

1 It has been a great help for the

2 neighbors to have the time to meet amongst themselves

3 and with Mr. Helecko to discuss their concerns about

4 the proposed development and rezoning.

5 We would like to thank Mr. Helecko for

6 the consideration he has shown in taking the time to

7 meet with the neighbors to answer their questions in an

8 open manner.

9 At this time, the neighbors that

10 boarder the proposed development do not wish to

11 directly oppose Council's vote on the rezoning or

12 vacating the two paper streets that Mr. Helecko is

13 requesting, however, the neighbors would like it to be

14 known that they have come to this decision out of a
15 sense of trust.

16 It is their sincere hope that

17 Mr. Holecko will continue his stated intention to be a
18 good neighbor by considering at all times the impact
19 his development will have on their daily lives.

20 It is their sincere hope that

21 Mr. Holecko will follow through with his promise to
22 share his plans with the neighbors during development
23 and construction with an open mind to their concerns
24 and suggestions.

25 The neighbors are also fully trusting

.

5

1 that this Council, the city's planning and zoning
2 boards, as well as the Department of Public Safety and
3 the Department of Public Works will keep in mind the
4 impact that all future decisions concerning this
5 development will have on both their lives and the
6 integrity of the residents of that area in which they
7 live. That is their intentions. Thank you.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you.

9 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

10 (WHEREUPON, Mr. McTiernan entered the hearing.)

11 MS. EVANS: Just one more thing, the
12 ordinances that we discussed at the Green Ridge
13 Neighborhood meeting, I have those for you.

14 MR. LIVELY: Oh, thank you.

15 MS. GATELLI: The next speaker is
16 Eric Holecko. And let the record reflect that
17 Mr. McTiernan is present.

18 MR. HOLECKO: Good evening. I would
19 like to address City Council tonight on the great
20 progress that has been made the past two weeks with the
21 Green Ridge Neighborhood Association in regards to the
22 development of a first class storage facility along
23 Boulevard and Olyphant Avenue.

24 First I'd like to thank B.T. from the
25 neighborhood association for his efforts in
.

6

1 coordinating these meetings and his involvement with
2 his mediation process.

3 Second, I'd like to thank my
4 professional land development team, Bob Mendola, and
5 Ceco Associates for providing me, as well as the
6 neighbors, with information regarding the land
7 development processes.

8 Finally I would like to thank the great
9 neighbors out there in the Green Ridge community. And
10 I do promise to work with them during the development
11 phases and keeping them informed as to my phase
12 process.

13 With that said, I would like to ask
14 City Council to approve the vacation of paper streets
15 and the zoning change as requested. Thank you.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Thank you, and thank you
18 for taking the time to meet with all of the neighbors,
19 answer their questions and provide them with a comfort
20 level about that project. That's what we like to see
21 happen.

22 MR. HOLECKO: No problem. Thank you.

23 MS. GATELLI: Barbara Thiess.

24 MS. THIESS: I just want to say that I
25 want to thank B.T. and Eric for all the help and

.

7

1 Mrs. Evans, who's always there for the people and who
2 stood by us. That's all I want to say, and we want to
3 welcome Eric into the neighborhood. Thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

5 MS. GATELLI: Are there any other

6 speakers? I now declare this public hearing closed.

7 (HEARING WAS CONCLUDED.)

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

.

8

1 CERTIFICATE

2

3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and

4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the

5 notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and

6 that this copy is a correct transcript of the same

7 to the best of my ability.

8

9

10

LISA M. GRAFF, RMR

11 Official Court Reporter

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

.

1

1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

2

3

4

5 Held:

6 Thursday, April 6, 2006

7

8

9 Time:

10 6:30 p.m.

11

12

13 Location:

14 Council Chambers

15 Scranton City Hall

16 340 North Washington Avenue

17 Scranton, Pennsylvania

18

19

20

21

22

23 Lisa M. Graff, RMR

24 Court Reporter

25

.

2

1 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

2

3 MS. JUDY GATELLI, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4

5 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT, VICE-PRESIDENT

6

7 MS. JANET EVANS

8

9 MS. SHERRY NEALON FANUCCI

10

11 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

12

13 MR. JOHN MINORA, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

14

15 MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

16

17 MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

.

3

1 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Please stand for
2 the Pledge Of Allegiance. Please remain standing for a

3 moment of reflection. Roll call.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Here.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

7 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

9 MR. MCTIERNAN: Here.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

13 MS. GATELLI: Here. Dispense with the

14 reading of the minutes.

15 MS. GARVEY: Third order. There's no

16 business at this time. And Clerk's Notes, I just have

17 a few things.

18 A response from Mr. Parker regarding

19 the intersection of Quincy Avenue and Myrtle Street.

20 The intersection has stop signs on Quincy Avenue. He

21 also obtained accident reports for this intersection

22 from December 15, '03 through February 27 of '06.

23 Seven reportable accidents occurred during that time

24 frame.

25 Five of the seven occurred because an

.

4

1 operator's vehicle went through the stop sign. One was

2 due to a snow covered roadway and one was due to a

3 vehicle that caught fire.

4 He also visited again on April 3, and

5 in his opinion there are adequate signs to control the

6 traffic flow. There were no obstructions to

7 visibility, as long as vehicles are parked in

8 conformance to the vehicle code.

9 He does not believe any additional stop

10 signs are necessary. A response from Jack Lennox from

11 the Scranton Sewer Authority regarding storm basins at

12 Jackson and Main Street and the 300 of Phelps Street.

13 Jackson and Main, this is a city storm

14 basin that was blocked solid. Their crews cleaned all
15 debris and opened it. They also cleaned all basins on
16 the intersection. The city will need to repair on one
17 of the basins at this location.

18 300 Phelps Street, this is also a city
19 storm basin that was blocked. They were able to suck
20 out all the debris with their vactor truck and cleaned
21 it out. All basins in that immediate surrounding area
22 were cleaned, as well, and they have contacted DPW with
23 their findings. And that's all I have.

24 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. There was a
25 problem on Cameron and Lafayette Street, a flooding
.
5

1 problem, and we addressed it with Mr. Parker. He sent
2 Mr. Matthews to the area.

3 I also went there with City Assistant
4 Engineer Luciani. They were going to clean the catch
5 basins in that area, but I feel that the problem is
6 beyond cleaning the catch basins.

7 When you go there, you can see that the
8 street is too high in the middle and it just pitches
9 right down in front of that particular house.

10 So, I'm going to see if maybe the

11 engineer from the Sewer Authority will accompany me
12 there and see if we can find another solution to the
13 flooding problem.
14 Just a reminder that there's a cleanup
15 Saturday, South Scranton and part of West Scranton, and
16 we will be meeting at 9:45 Saturday at 705 Pittston
17 Avenue. Do not come if it's raining.
18 The Tripp Park meeting is scheduled for
19 April 20 at five o'clock. I had been up there over the
20 weekend meeting with the neighbors, and there are a
21 multitude of problems in that area. So, the developer
22 has agreed to come to a caucus, and that will be on
23 April 20.
24 The catch basin was fixed at Finney and
25 Oak Street.
.

6

1 I'd like to compile our paving list and
2 send it to Mr. Parker and request that the mayor, Kay,
3 could you do that for me, please?
4 MS. GARVEY: I'm sorry. Could you --
5 MS. GATELLI: Finish compiling the
6 paving list and send it to Mr. Parker and ask
7 Mr. Doherty if he would please bid it out as soon as

8 possible.

9 MS. GARVEY: Okay.

10 MS. GATELLI: Did we ever receive a
11 reply from Southern Union?

12 MS. GARVEY: No.

13 MS. GATELLI: Could you send that
14 letter again, too? I don't like doing letters, but I
15 think in certain circumstances, they're necessary. I
16 know we wrote that over a month ago and haven't gotten
17 an answer. How about the arbitrations? Did you get
18 the totals on that yet?

19 MS. GARVEY: No. I did give that
20 letter to Attorney Farrell, and he was going to look
21 into that. I don't know if that might be quite a
22 lengthy process to do, being that the arbitrations
23 began in 2002 forward with all the information that we
24 requested.

25 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Thank you. The

.

7

1 playground program, is Mr. Morgan here?

2 MR. MORGAN: Right here.

3 MS. GATELLI: I got a phone call from
4 the Boys and Girls Club, and they received many phone

5 calls after we approved that motion last week, and they

6 said that we are replicating services. There is

7 already a playground program.

8 MR. MORGAN: I disagree with that. I

9 don't think it's replicating. I think they're two

10 different things.

11 MS. GATELLI: I'm going to tell you all

12 about it.

13 MR. MORGAN: Okay.

14 MS. GATELLI: It runs for ten weeks in

15 the summer, which is almost the whole summer. It runs

16 from eight to one Monday to Friday. There are four

17 schools that it's held at, West Scranton High School,

18 Whittier School in South Scranton, Northeast

19 Intermediate for the Hill Section and the downtown, and

20 for North Scranton and Green Ridge it's held at

21 Bancroft School.

22 Last year there were 400 children that

23 attended. It's a free program. All you have to do is

24 register, and the registration is also free.

25 If you register for the summer program,

.

8

1 you automatically become a member for the whole year

2 for the Boys and Girls Club. They provide a free lunch
3 to all the students. There's arts and crafts, games,
4 soccer, all outdoor activities. There are certified
5 teachers at every site with assistants. It's called
6 the Park It Program.

7 So, I'm not sure if we find it
8 necessary to do a playground program after I received
9 that information, but, you know, Council can let me
10 know what their wishes are.

11 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Gatelli, if I might
12 jump in here, Mr. McTiernan and I probably about a year
13 and a half ago with the school district
14 representatives, and specifically of the school board,
15 and we were told at that time that many, many programs
16 were in place, not only in the summer, but year round.
17 And I think we took away from that
18 meeting that we would be -- it would be a difficult
19 measure to take, and in many ways a duplication of
20 services.

21 And then last year, in fact, I believe
22 we were given a list of all of the programs offered by
23 the Scranton School District, and they're actually
24 quite extensive in terms of the number of schools and
25 the ages of the children that are included, and it just

.

9

1 seems as if the district has done a very, very good job
2 of reaching out to the children of the community.

3 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Also, the
4 city does fund that program for the Boys and Girls
5 Club, so we are participating. This year it will be
6 \$56,000 that we will be giving the Boys and Girls Club.

7 There will be no meeting next week,
8 April 13. There will not be a next meeting. The next
9 meeting will be April 20. Would any of the Junior
10 Council like to speak?

11 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council,
12 Doug Miller. I would like to start by reminding
13 Council once again about our planting party in Green
14 Ridge. I would like to thank Katrina for this
15 wonderful idea. It was all her idea, and I commend her
16 for this, and I'm really looking for to it. May 6 on a
17 Sunday from eleven to three. Food and drinks will be
18 provided, and we would also like to invite the Green
19 Ridge residents and let them help us.

20 I would again like to thank
21 Mr. McTiernan for allowing us to hold our first Junior
22 City Council meeting. I thought it went very well. I

23 was very impressed with what went on.

24 We had a very large amount of students

25 we met with and a lot of concerns and questions, and I

.

10

1 look forward to future meetings.

2 Last Sunday Jerome Singleton and I had

3 the opportunity to work with Mr. Charlie Spano and

4 Kathy Hardaway at the Steamtown Mall by teaching

5 Lackawanna County citizens how to use the new

6 computerized touch screen voting machines that we will

7 be using in the May primary.

8 I want to thank Jerome for joining me

9 in this, and I would also like to thank Mr. Spano and

10 Mrs. Hardaway for allowing us to come down and

11 volunteer with this. It was a great learning

12 experience, and now when we vote, we will know what to

13 do here.

14 That's all I have tonight. At this

15 time I would ask any other Junior Council members if

16 they would like to address Council, please do so at

17 this time. Thank you.

18 MR. LOCKHEED: Good evening, Council.

19 What I have to say tonight is in defense of the City of

20 Scranton. I happen to like the city very much, and
21 this is geared more towards the people tonight.
22 Not last Thursday, I was a little busy
23 doing the audio, I couldn't speak for the neighborhood
24 meeting, but the Thursday before that there was a lot
25 of Scranton bashing, there was a lot of people who

.

11

1 weren't on their city's side, we could say.
2 You know, you're putting Scranton in
3 the toilet, and I'm just not okay with it. I happen to
4 love the city, and I think it's a great city.
5 You guys, you know, some people, you
6 come up, you say what's wrong with the city, you just
7 -- you usually don't provide too many possible
8 solutions.
9 You know, if you go into something
10 negatively, you are going to come out with something
11 negatively. You know, you can't just take Scranton,
12 crumble it up and throw it on the ground. It's your
13 city, too.
14 You know, there's lots of frustration,
15 and you care more towards these people, but these
16 people are here to help you with your problems in the

17 city, you know?

18 I'm just saying that let's turn your

19 frustration towards the problems in the City of

20 Scranton and turn them to something positive and

21 possibly some positive solutions, since that's exactly

22 what this city needs, you know?

23 We're not going to go anywhere but up,

24 I really think so, and I think that's where Scranton's

25 going, and I think that it would be great if the people

.

12

1 of Scranton would, instead of being upset, just give us

2 some really positive input so we could help you out.

3 That's all I have to say at this time. Thank you,

4 Council.

5 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

6 MS. ORGAN: Hello. Katrina Organ.

7 Mrs. Gatelli recently asked me to keep the public

8 informed of events at Bishop Hannon, so I would just

9 like to say a few things tonight.

10 First, congratulations to the entire

11 boys varsity basketball team. They came in second for

12 the state championship at Hershey.

13 And I would also like to single out

14 Chris Osborne, who was recently named the regional
15 player of the year.

16 Finally on a lighter note, today we had
17 the championship for our school volleyball tournament,
18 it took place this weekend, and it's students against
19 students, and Mrs. Paulik's Punishers came in first.
20 So, that's who I was rooting for, so I just want to
21 mention that. I was really excited about it. Thank
22 you.

23 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. I think it
24 would help if the students kept track of things like
25 that that go on in their school, because we don't
.
13

1 always read the sports section and we don't always see
2 a lot of the students to be able to get that
3 information. So, that would be great if you guys would
4 keep track of different events at your school and who
5 we should honor and recognize. Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Speaking of which, could we
7 not bring in the Bishop Hannon boys basketball team and
8 the St. Paul's eighth grade basketball team --

9 MS. GATELLI: Absolutely.

10 MS. EVANS: -- and honor both with a

11 proclamation, because they've certainly represented
12 this city very well. We're so proud of them, and I
13 think it's time we get them in.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Could we bring the
15 Scranton High girls team in?

16 MS. EVANS: Absolutely. Mr. McTiernan
17 already asked for that, yes. So, I think we will go in
18 the order of the requests. I think we should start
19 with the girls basketball team, because that request
20 proceeded mine, and then we will go to Bishop Hannon
21 and St. Paul's.

22 MS. GATELLI: And probably Chris
23 Osborne should get his own.

24 MS. EVANS: Absolutely.

25 MS. GATELLI: So, you guys maybe try to
.

14

1 decide that stuff. Yes, Douglas. Excuse us, Mr.
2 Gilbride.

3 MR. MILLER: Are we going to have
4 Jerry McNamara in?

5 MS. GATELLI: Yes, but I'm waiting to
6 hear from his mother when he'll be available.

7 Mr. Gilbride, you look so handsome with that tie.

8 MR. GILBRIDE: Thank you very much.

9 Good evening, Council. Again, John Gilbride. Again,

10 like Doug said, it was great to see Junior City

11 Council, everybody, all the students coming out and

12 having an actual valid opinions and issues, a lot of

13 the same ones that a lot of the citizens have, and I

14 just have about just three things that we promised we'd

15 mention, I want to make sure they get heard.

16 The first thing is as far as the paving

17 list goes, Reece Street in North Scranton by the Mobile

18 where Slocum Hollow used to be. Reece Street is -- the

19 up is the one way and you come down. It's pretty bad.

20 And I heard mention of catch basins and

21 flooding with sewers. The 1700 block of Church Street,

22 there's been a lot of flooding there whenever it rains.

23 I'm not sure of details. These are

24 just things that were brought up to be taken under

25 consideration.

.

15

1 And two people came to us about

2 Robinson Park. They said that Scranton workers started

3 a project and then stopped. It was officially ended,

4 but there's fences falling down, and I think there were

5 problems with sidewalks, too. Sidewalks were covered
6 with debris and fences were falling down, so if you can
7 take that into consideration.

8 And River Street and Meadow Street in
9 South Scranton, this should be either -- they want
10 either a third stop sign put in or a stop light because
11 of, I don't know, just some traffic issues.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think they're doing
13 a traffic study on that. I think we've spoke of both
14 of those before, yes.

15 MS. EVANS: Yes.

16 MR. GILBRIDE: Oh, very good. Thank
17 you very much.

18 MS. GATELLI: When did they start that,
19 because as long as I remember, they're doing that
20 traffic study, and they haven't done it yet. Can we
21 find out about that, Kay?

22 MR. GILBRIDE: Yeah. There were two
23 different people that came to us about that. It's a
24 concern.

25 MS. GATELLI: They were supposed to put a
.

16

1 light there. That mini-mart that was a conditional

2 approval from the planning commission, that they would
3 only be approved if they put a traffic light, and that
4 has to be six years or seven years ago.

5 MS. EVANS: Actually, though, since
6 we've been seated, there was a woman, do either of you
7 gentleman recall, a woman who came before us with that
8 issue with those same concerns.

9 MS. GATELLI: It's a very bad
10 intersection.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think -- I really do
12 think there's something in the works. I think the --

13 MS. GATELLI: But we need to find out
14 and we need to expedite it, since seven years is a long
15 time to wait for something. Thank you. That was a
16 very good suggestion.

17 MR. GILBRIDE: Thank you. And one
18 last, I'm not sure what could be done about this, I
19 think it's a county issue, but I had -- one or two
20 different people came up to the podium and spoke about
21 the busses, the Colts busses, and they're not running
22 late enough. There's been problems with kids can't get
23 enough transportation, because they don't have cars and
24 -- oh, not on time. They want them to run later than
25 they are right now. If there could be a letter written

17

1 or anything. And that's all I have. Thank you.

2 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

3 MR. SINGLETON: Jerome Singleton. I'd

4 also like to thank Mr. Spano and Ms. Hardaway for the

5 voting machines. I know a lot of the elderly people,

6 they were actually scared of them and things, but when

7 I was working on them, as I seen, when they were done,

8 they had very high spirits and they were, like, That's

9 easier than I thought. So, I think it went very well.

10 Mr. McTiernan, I would like to thank

11 you for the meeting on Tuesday. I think that went very

12 well, too. And that's all I have. Thank you.

13 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Any other

14 Junior Council member? Anyone else from Council wish

15 to speak?

16 MS. EVANS: Just one quick commercial

17 announcement. You are invited to join the Upper Hill

18 Ecumenical Committee on April 19 from 5 to 8 p.m. at

19 Friendly's for family fun night, and once again, this

20 benefits The Family Readiness Group, HHC-1-109IN. Ten

21 percent of your receipt will be donated to the military

22 families who are here supporting those defending our

23 freedom.

24 So, please make every attempt to enjoy

25 a wonderful meal, and at the same time benefit a

.

18

1 marvelous cause.

2 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. We were going

3 to have a speaker tonight that didn't come, and he had

4 given me a flier about city pride. It is going to be

5 from May 6 to the 13th. It is a community wide cleanup

6 and beautification process sponsored by Scranton

7 Tomorrow.

8 It has been conducted for the past ten

9 years and thousands of volunteers have worked to

10 organized projects to clean city playgrounds, parks,

11 schools and their own neighborhood.

12 If you'd like to get involved, please

13 contact Jennifer Batista at the Scranton Tomorrow

14 office. The number is 963-5901. And I'd like to give

15 this to the Junior Council. Maybe you can make copies

16 and pass it out in the schools.

17 And just one more thing, Mrs. Fanucci,

18 I know you want to talk, but everybody comes here every

19 week and talks about potholes and streets that need

20 taking care of, and I just wanted you to know that
21 every week we get a list of potholes that have been
22 filled by the DPW, and I don't think that we ever
23 acknowledge that.

24 So, I'd just like to read them. I'll
25 read them very fast. 1800 of Farr, Ravine, 100 of

19

1 Franklin, Martha Court, 1000 Tripp Street, Kirst Court,
2 500 of Beech, Popular, 900 of Hearst Court, Nay Aug
3 Park, 100 of Bromley, Colliery Avenue, 700 and 800 of
4 Corey, 300 of Benzelli Court, 2700 of Stafford, New
5 York Avenue, Olive Street, 1000 Clay Avenue, 700 of
6 Gibbons, Crown Avenue, Gardier Road, Sherwood Court,
7 100 of Hemlock, 200 of Walnut, 300 of
8 Soldiers Court, 500 of Bedow Court, 1000 of River, 800
9 of Crossen and Meadow Avenue.

10 So, just so you know that there are
11 potholes that are being filled every week, and
12 rightfully so. Mrs. Fanucci.

13 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I had met with the
14 Junior Council last week after our meeting and we
15 discussed something that I feel is a great asset to
16 their project. They were talking about getting benches

17 for maybe -- how many were we discussing? Do you
18 remember, Doug?

19 MR. MILLER: Two.

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Two benches just
21 for their project, which would be a nice asset to the
22 area. If there is anyone out there who would like to
23 donate, we could put a plaque on these benches, maybe
24 in memorial of someone or just dedicating the benches
25 for someone in the city.

.

20

1 You can get in contact with me through
2 our E-mail system and I will help set something up for
3 the kids.

4 And we were also saying that this might
5 be a project that we'd like to continue all over the
6 city in different spots of the city. So, let's start
7 it here and it will take off. And that's all I have
8 right now.

9 MR. MCTIERNAN: Mrs. Fanucci, I will
10 jump in on that, and Scranton High School Industrial
11 Arts will donate one.

12 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Oh, see. Isn't
13 that nice? Thank you.

14 MS. GATELLI: And they make beautiful

15 benches.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: They make gorgeous

17 benches.

18 MR. MCTIERNAN: They had put one or two

19 benches at Nay Aug when it was first being redone, so

20 we will do that again.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Great. Thank you

22 so much.

23 MS. EVANS: And how about West

24 Scranton? You can't let Scranton outdo you. I think

25 you need to talk to your industrial arts teacher

.

21

1 tomorrow and Mr. Rogan, right?

2 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Krachey will do it.

3 Yeah, he will. All we have to do is give him a chicken

4 patty. That's in honor of Mrs. Sember. They do do

5 beautiful work the kids, don't they?

6 MS. EVANS: You should see some of the

7 chairs they make --

8 MS. GATELLI: Those Adirondack chairs.

9 MS. EVANS: Oh, they're fabulous. They

10 should sell them.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: They should.

12 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else? Anyone else

13 on Council have a comment before we start? The first

14 speaker is Michael Osborne.

15 MR. OSBORNE: Michael Osborne, Scranton

16 resident and also a member of the Cable Advisory

17 Committee. In fact, I am Council's appointee to that

18 committee.

19 I follow the Council meetings with

20 great interest, but cable issues, Channel 61 issues,

21 are always special in my heart. So, as I follow the

22 conversations that have taken place over the last

23 several months as Channel 61 moves away from the

24 funding from the library, I just wanted to propose this

25 idea.

.

22

1 Scranton through the cable contract

2 collects a franchise fee, and through the last contract

3 with the increase in cable services, and, therefore,

4 the increase in cable prices, that franchise fee that

5 the city collects has grown quite a bit.

6 In fact, I think in 1995, it was a

7 little over \$200,000 that year, and I think this year's

8 budget calls for \$750,000. And I think with the last
9 price increase, I think that took place this year or
10 very close to the end of last year, that figure is
11 probably going to go closer to \$800,000.
12 So, I'd like to propose that a portion
13 of that franchise fee be set aside to help with the
14 funding of Channel 61. The fee itself is taken
15 directly from the consumer. Scranton does not provide
16 a service to Adelphia, there's no physical labor
17 involved. It's just a fee that they collect. So, I
18 think it would be something that would benefit Scranton
19 residents to have that, at least a percentage of that
20 money, invested in Channel 61, because they are a
21 channel that has taken it upon themselves to broadcast
22 the various government functions, which I think has
23 raised the level of engagement in the city, the level
24 of debate.

25 There's a great following. There was a

.

23

1 survey done by Adelphia, and it proved that a lot of
2 people were watching the channel, not just the Council
3 meetings, and not just people in the city, but people
4 outside of the city watch it, as well.

5 I think -- I'll digress a little to my
6 only personal opinion, because I think there will be
7 probably some snickering about the city funding it,
8 because I don't think people would tend to think the
9 city would, because I think the general feeling or the
10 rumors have been that they've been trying to shut it
11 down.

12 But I think there's so much available
13 on Channel 61 beyond the Council meetings, that the
14 League of Women Voters, the interviews for the
15 elections, the election night coverage. There has been
16 many presentations by the mayor on the progress the
17 city is making, which I think is tremendous, and also
18 the various county meetings, the zoning board meetings.
19 There's just a tremendous amount of information out
20 there for people.

21 But getting back to the Council
22 meetings themselves, I think, you know, there's a lot
23 of editorials, comments. You tend to see articles
24 describing the Council meetings where they get a little
25 negative because of maybe what some of the speakers say

24

1 or some of their attitudes, but, you know, Channel 61,

2 I think, has done a tremendous job, because they pretty
3 much show the programs without censorship, without
4 prejudice, and I think that's the only way they can
5 show them.

6 If they start censoring anything, there
7 will be all sort of claims of political goings-on. So,
8 I think they do a tremendous job in presenting it that
9 way.

10 I guess what offends me is the concept
11 that me as a viewer cannot distinguish when I'm sitting
12 at home who's being rude or who's being obnoxious,
13 who's not making a point or who is making a point.
14 I mean, I think most people are very
15 capable of distinguishing that, and I think they have
16 to learn that we are watching and we are making those
17 determinations.

18 And I will say, I mean, so many things
19 have come out of it. I mean, the students here sitting
20 to my left, I don't think without Channel 61 and the
21 level of exposure of these meetings that this ever
22 would have happened.

23 And they've been tremendous in their
24 presentations. In fact, I hate to admit, they had me
25 reaching for the dictionary on more than one occasion.

1 So, I would like to see that idea. You
2 know, the budget is coming up in the fall. There's
3 certainly enough time to work the details out and to
4 provide that funding for the channel. Thank you.

5 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

7 MS. GATELLI: I do believe they have
8 the funding for this year in place.

9 MR. OSBORNE: I think their funding
10 goes down each month and that by the first of the year
11 they have to start producing their own funding.

12 MS. EVANS: Yes.

13 MS. GATELLI: Les Spindler. Before
14 Mr. Spindler comes up, I just want to let the children
15 know that Mr. Spindler has offered to volunteer in
16 Tripps Park if you do any cleanups over there, and also
17 Mr. Narsavage said he'd help out, and we really
18 appreciate that.

19 MR. SPINDLER: No problem. Whenever
20 they want to do it. Good evening, Council. Les
21 Spindler, Scranton resident. I couldn't make the
22 meeting last week, but I'm going to speak about

23 something that was spoken about last week.

24 The city lost, I think, its eighth

25 arbitration with the police union's decision last week.

.

26

1 People come up to me time and time and again and say,

2 We're glad we have somebody like you to go up and speak

3 up for us, because a lot of people don't want to come.

4 Mrs. Gatelli, when you meet with the

5 mayor, I mean, I'm speaking for a lot of citizens of

6 this city, they want to know when is the mayor going to

7 stop wasting our tax dollars on all these appeals.

8 MS. GATELLI: Well, that's the question

9 I want to know, too.

10 MR. SPINDLER: I mean, he thinks he's

11 going to win. He's not. He's lost every arbitration.

12 Why does he think he's going to win an appeal?

13 All he's doing is fattening up his

14 high-priced lawyers' wallets, and he's making our

15 wallets skinnier. I mean, it's just our tax dollars

16 going to this, and it's ridiculous.

17 MS. GATELLI: I'm supposed to be

18 meeting either Monday or Tuesday, and I will let you

19 know next Thursday what the results are.

20 MR. SPINDLER: As I said, people come
21 up to me all the time. It's unbelievable how many
22 people watch this, like the last gentleman said.
23 Wherever I go, people come up to me,
24 And we're glad we have somebody like you to go and
25 speak up for us. So, I'm speaking for a lot of the

27

1 citizens of this city.

2 Next thing, Mr. Courtright, I was gone
3 two weeks ago when you said they're going to put a no
4 parking sign on Mulberry Street.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah, that's what the
6 lieutenant told me.

7 MR. SPINDLER: I want to thank you for
8 that.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: You're welcome.

10 MR. SPINDLER: That truck was there a
11 couple days this week again.

12 MS. GATELLI: I'm starting to see them
13 everywhere.

14 MR. SPINDLER: It was gone for about
15 two weeks, I thought maybe they were gone, but it was
16 there two days this week.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah, he's getting
18 some free advertising or trying to anyway, but they're
19 going to put a sign up and then they'll be able to
20 ticket it if it's there.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. The next thing, a
22 few weeks ago I spoke about someone who spoke to me
23 about trying to get a four-way stop sign at North
24 Merrifield and Price by the Lackawanna Little League,
25 was that discussed with Mr. Parker or anyone?
.

28

1 MS. GATELLI: I don't know. I don't
2 recall that.

3 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Kay, did that come
4 down, the stop sign reply?

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: We had so many of
6 them, I don't recall.

7 MS. GARVEY: I don't recall that one.

8 MS. GATELLI: I don't recall that one
9 either.

10 MS. GARVEY: I don't recall, but, no, I
11 don't remember that one at all.

12 MR. SPINDLER: I mentioned it weeks
13 ago.

14 MS. GATELLI: We will put it on. We'll

15 put it on. I don't remember it being on there.

16 MR. SPINDLER: Certain people that come

17 up and go up Price Street towards Keyser Avenue, they

18 go flying. There's kids there during baseball season.

19 The next thing, this was discussed at

20 the Junior Council the other night about the people

21 making less than \$12,000. Well, I know somebody that

22 is in that situation, they had the \$52 taken out. How

23 do they get that back? Is that in their taxes next

24 year?

25 MS. GATELLI: Next year. There's a

.

29

1 form at the tax collector's office that has to be

2 filled in and they'll get the refund.

3 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. Next thing, I

4 want to comment about the Junior Council meeting. I

5 wish -- I didn't even know about it, or I would have

6 loved to have been there.

7 The one thing I want to comment on,

8 it's about the suggestion that Ms. Organ made about

9 having a pizza and a movie at the high school and it

10 said it was met with more than a few giggles.

11 Well, I think whoever giggled was
12 pretty childish and should learn to grow up, because I
13 think it was a great idea. Get kids off the streets
14 and it wouldn't be nearly as much as to go to Cinemark
15 and watch a movie, which is outrageous. I think it was
16 a great idea, Katrina. And that's all I have.

17 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, and thanks for
18 volunteering. Mr. Jackowitz.

19 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening, City
20 Council. Bill Jackowitz, resident, taxpayer,
21 independent registered voter, retired United States Air
22 Force.

23 I would like to start off by
24 recommending that Kay Garvey be given a pay raise. She
25 deserves it.

.

30

1 Okay. Monday's editorial, the opinion
2 about the Recovery Plan and the City Council was
3 uncalled for, nothing more than an attempt by the
4 mayor's backers to circle the wagons and to protect the
5 administration.

6 The writer of that article cannot
7 predict how The Court will be ruling, just like I

8 cannot. So far plaintiffs one, the city zero.

9 Okay. On a positive note, the time has

10 come for City Council to step up to the plate and hit a

11 home run. Three weeks ago all five City Council

12 members said yes when asked if the mayor should be

13 answering the citizens' questions.

14 I would like to see City Council take a

15 vote this evening to send Mayor Doherty a formal

16 invitation to attend either a Council meeting in May or

17 schedule a town hall meeting open to the public and

18 televised.

19 Citizens will be allowed to ask one

20 question, sit down and listen to the mayor's answer.

21 The question will not be preapproved or prearranged

22 prior to the meeting.

23 The mayor will be required to answer

24 the questions directly, no talking around or political

25 spin. The moderator will be responsible to maintain

.

31

1 control. No arguments or personal attack questions.

2 As citizens, we have the right to have

3 our questions answered by our elected officials. In

4 the past four and a half years, this has not happened.

5 My belief is that the situation has been allowed to go
6 unchecked far too long.

7 I also invite the citizens and the
8 junior City Council and the neighborhood associations
9 also to invite the mayor to one of their meetings.

10 Again, I think he needs to be talking to all the
11 citizens, including the junior citizens of the city.

12 Okay. Do not call or E-mail

13 Mrs. Garvey. I hope I get support of all the speakers
14 behind me, and I also hope I get support of all the
15 citizens of the City of Scranton.

16 Do not call or E-mail Mrs. Garvey. She
17 is not elected to any office. Since Mr. McTiernan does
18 not have an E-mail, a government E-mail, call the
19 principal's office at Scranton High School.

20 The Council members are paid \$12,000.

21 Do you guys pay EMS tax on that \$12,000?

22 MS. GATELLI: We pay our EMS tax, yes,
23 we do.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. Just wanted to
25 make sure. Okay.

.

32

1 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, unfortunately we

2 can't get away with it, Bill.

3 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. I just want to

4 make sure, because if you're getting some, I want to

5 get it, too.

6 Okay. The Midwestern states are being

7 destroyed by Tornados, floods and people are dying.

8 The border states are being overrun by illegal aliens.

9 American young men and women, plus

10 Iraqi citizens, men, women and children, are being

11 killed every day fighting for their freedom, and

12 Scranton citizens cannot have their questions answered

13 by their elected mayor and cabinet members. Something

14 is wrong with that picture.

15 City unions and the mayor cannot sit

16 down and work out contract negotiations. How about we

17 restore the pride back starting tonight? Let's start

18 getting the mayor involved, along with you five.

19 City Council, how can you vote yes or

20 no on an issue you know nothing about? The free pass

21 is over. No more excuses, such as I did not -- this

22 did not happen on my watch, I was not here, I know

23 nothing about that issue, so I would vote no. I'm

24 talking to all five City Council members, not just one.

25 Last week I had a conversation with two

1 speakers who attended City Council regularly, the
2 campaign last year. During our conversation, they both
3 stated their property value went up and their roads had
4 been paved. Sounds to me that they played and were
5 paid.

6 The 14,000 voters who voted for
7 Mr. Doherty need to step up to the plate. The 12,000
8 voters who voted for Mr. DiBileo need to continue to
9 ask pertinent questions and demand answers. The only
10 way we're going to get that is to have the mayor
11 himself here. Nobody else can answer it.

12 Like the Junior City Council members
13 said earlier, Yes, there is negative up here. You know
14 why it's negative? Because we can't get answers from
15 our elected city officials, and it's about time we
16 start doing it.

17 And the only way we can get it, the
18 mayor is the commander in chief of this city of
19 Scranton. He needs to address the people, all people,
20 whether they voted for him or voted against him or
21 whether they never voted before in their life.

22 He needs to come here either here or

23 hold a meeting, a town hall meeting, where everyone in
24 the city is invited to that meeting and can ask any
25 question they want of this mayor. I hope you support
. . .
34

1 me, I hope all the presidents of the community --
2 neighborhood communities support me, and I hope all the
3 citizens support me and I hope they over flood you guys
4 with telephone calls and E-mails asking you to do this.
5 And I would like to request an RSVP by
6 the mayor no later than 20 April '06. That's two weeks
7 from today. And that's basically all I have to say.
8 Again, community, the front of the word
9 means communication, the end of the word means unity.
10 That is not happening in the City of Scranton and it
11 has not happened for years, and Junior City Council,
12 pay attention, ask questions.

13 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. I will get
14 together with the Council members and see when it's
15 good for us and we will certainly invite the mayor.
16 Thank you, Bill. Mrs. Shelski.

17 MS. SHELSKI: Good evening, Council.
18 Sylvia Shelski. I came to the Council meeting last
19 week and I asked questions about this property across

20 the street from where I lived, the 300 block of East
21 Locust Street and the 1200 block of Cedar Avenue. Were
22 you able to find out anything about this dumping area
23 where there's no permits for anything?

24 MS. GATELLI: No, but I have made
25 contact with Mr. Fiorini.

35

1 MS. SHELSKI: Is he going to get back
2 to you?

3 MS. GATELLI: Yes, and I will call you
4 at your house and let you know.

5 MS. SHELSKI: You can do that, or I'll
6 attend the next residents' meeting. Thank you very
7 much.

8 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.
9 Stan Narsavage. Before Stan starts, I also have to
10 thank him, Mrs. Cook and Mr. Jackowitz, and Ray Lyman
11 was also here for our non-profit meeting.
12 We made a little headway, and if it
13 wasn't for them, I don't know where we'd be at, because
14 they're doing all the work, and they're to be commended
15 by the whole City of Scranton for their efforts. Thank
16 you very much.

17 MR. NARSAVAGE: Good evening, City
18 Council, and you're welcome, Mrs. Gatelli. I have to,
19 with all due respect, say a few words to the young
20 gentleman from the Junior Council that talked about
21 negativity.
22 Fortunately I had a conversation with
23 Doug right before the meeting and I suggested to him to
24 find out how many of his group here have read the
25 Constitution and Declaration of Independence, I don't
36

1 know if I'm accurate or not, but I don't think this
2 young gentleman that spoke tonight read either one of
3 them, because if he did, he would have read that the
4 founding fathers said it is my duty to come here and
5 question my government.
6 And if I question something that I
7 think is wrong is negative, well, that's his problem, I
8 guess. I don't think it's negative to question
9 something that's wrong.
10 And, also, taking months and months to
11 get answers to questions is the reason we come back and
12 ask the same questions over and over, because they
13 don't get answered. If that's negative, so be it, I

14 guess.

15 But aside from that, Mr. Courtright, I

16 have a couple of questions for you about the CRF loans,

17 in view of the fact that you brokered this deal with

18 the mayor. Where is the program at right now?

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't believe that

20 it's been implemented yet. The process isn't done yet,

21 so there hasn't been any monies released from the CRF.

22 It's still not complete.

23 We spoke to, was it today or yesterday,

24 Kay, that we talked to Mrs. Read?

25 MS. GARVEY: Tuesday or Wednesday.

.

37

1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah. It's not

2 complete yet. The process isn't complete yet.

3 MR. NARSAVAGE: So, this big rush to

4 justice that had to be done in, what was it, 30 days in

5 the beginning?

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right. It's still in

7 the works.

8 MR. NARSAVAGE: It's still --

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes, it isn't

10 completed yet.

11 MR. NARSAVAGE: It's not completed yet.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right.

13 MR. NARSAVAGE: So, there is no money

14 has changed hands, no funds have been --

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: As far as I know, no.

16 MR. NARSAVAGE: Nothing has been --

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: As far as I know, not

18 a penny, as far as I know.

19 MS. GATELLI: I don't think they got

20 the money yet.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right. The process

22 isn't completed, is what I'm being told.

23 MR. NARSAVAGE: Okay.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: You know what we can

25 do, Stan, maybe we can ask Mrs. Reedy to come in and

.

38

1 update us on where we stand with that. That might be

2 interesting for everybody to hear.

3 MR. NARSAVAGE: Well, maybe

4 Mrs. Fanucci could add some help here. I seem to

5 recall a couple meetings to go that she mentioned about

6 talking to Sara Hailstone on many occasions and getting

7 very used to the figures and all the operations that

8 were going on. Maybe she can find out something for
9 us.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I definitely can.

11 MR. NARSAVAGE: Okay. We don't have a
12 meeting next week, right? We have a meeting the week
13 after.

14 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

15 MR. NARSAVAGE: Maybe by then you can
16 find something out.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Absolutely.

18 MR. NARSAVAGE: And while I'm talking
19 to you, Mrs. Fanucci, here about a month or so ago you
20 had mentioned that you were going to talk to Austin
21 Burke and have him come to a meeting, any headway on
22 that?

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: No, that's not --

24 I'm sorry if you misunderstood. What I said that I was
25 going there for meetings. They're having conducting
.

39

1 meetings, and that's where the meetings are going to be
2 held either bi-monthly or whatever the schedule is
3 allowing, and they're going to call me and let me know
4 when the meetings are.

5 I did not say about bringing Austin in.

6 I mean, I definitely can ask him if he'd like to come

7 in to do something here publicly, but that was not --

8 MR. NARSAVAGE: Well, would you ask

9 him?

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Absolutely.

11 MR. NARSAVAGE: Okay. What I'm

12 primarily interested in is I have hear nothing about

13 industry. I hear nothing about jobs. Until we get

14 jobs and industry here, it's a stone wall. Where are

15 you going to go without industry or jobs? And I hear

16 nothing about it from the Chamber of Commerce and

17 Mr. Burke about it. I never hear him say a word about

18 the possibility of companies coming here or they're

19 negotiating with companies or anything at all.

20 So, I would appreciate it if you could

21 look into that for me, and maybe you could have

22 something by, what is it, the 20th, next meeting?

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

24 MR. NARSAVAGE: All right. I guess

25 that's -- my time is up.

.

40

1 MR. LOCKHEED: Mr. Narsavage, I didn't

2 mean that you shouldn't come up here and talk about

3 what is wrong --

4 MS. GATELLI: Jackson, I don't mean to

5 interrupt you, Honey, but we can't get into a dialogue.

6 I don't want you to get into a dialogue.

7 MR. NARSAVAGE: Okay. Thank you.

8 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Narsavage will talk

9 to you after. His bark is bigger than his bite.

10 MR. NARSAVAGE: Don't be too sure.

11 Next is Jim Davis.

12 MR. DAVIS: Assalaam Alaikum. Peace

13 and blessings of Ala be with you. That's what that

14 means, that's what it stands for, and we need it, each

15 and every one of us.

16 I went today over to the Scranton

17 public schools over on the corner of Vine Street and

18 Washington Avenue, and I spoke with the lady that was

19 in charge of the alternate education grants there, and

20 you were saying what programs we have for the kids, et

21 cetera.

22 She gave me a list of, one, two, three,

23 four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, ten different

24 programs that we're supposed to fund, children, from

25 elementary school through high school, and these

.

41

1 programs are supposed to run 12 months out of the year.

2 But for some strange odd reason,

3 there's only one program that funds our students from

4 tenth to twelfth grade, and it seems as though I heard

5 somewhere tonight where the programs only last until

6 one o'clock in the afternoon, all these summer programs

7 that are being held by the Boys Club and everywhere

8 else.

9 What do we do? Do we put our kids in

10 bed at one o'clock or 1:30? You try to put a

11 12-year-old in bed at twelve o'clock or one o'clock.

12 And what are we going to do for the evenings, the early

13 evenings? Nobody cares.

14 Do we realize that our kids are

15 unsupervised in the worst part of the time, at the

16 hardest part of the day, which is after they each eat

17 their lunch, not before they eat their lunch, after

18 they eat their lunch?

19 And I think it's time for everyone here

20 to understand that if the community does not get

21 involved with your programs, your programs are going to

22 fail.

23 These kids are not going to sit home on
24 the front porch somewhere in the afternoons or in the
25 evenings and not cause damage to your community if you
. .
42

1 have nothing for them.

2 We had a program back in the eighties
3 where we put all the kids to work, and maybe you should
4 do that, maybe you should do something about putting a
5 CETA program of some sort where the kids can work.

6 Instead of giving \$200 for overtime to
7 DPW workers, maybe we should hire some of the kids from
8 high school. I know kids that come to me every year
9 and say, I'm underage, what do I need to do in order to
10 get my working papers so I could go to work? My family
11 needs money.

12 I went to the -- there's a department
13 over there at the public school or at the
14 administration building that does nothing else but hand
15 out working papers, but there are certain things that
16 you have to have, and these things I would like the
17 kids that have talked to me to have their parents call
18 this department over there and have them give you or go
19 by there. That's even better. You should get to know

20 what the administration building looks like and where
21 you're going for your -- because you're going to have
22 to go back eventually and prove to them who you are, so
23 you might as well go over there and get the application
24 and get all the requirements of what you must have in
25 order to get working papers.

43

1 And it's very simple, but it's very,
2 very entailed, and they have to stick to it, because
3 it's law.
4 I came upon this, I call it a menu, but
5 you call it a vote thing or something, because it's a
6 menu to me. These are things that really are being
7 sent down to be gobbled up, because we really don't
8 have a chance to change it once it gets on this paper
9 for some strange odd reason.

10 I've sat through four years, six years,
11 eight years, and I've yet to hear a City Council turn
12 that many of these propositions or prepositions or
13 thoughts or ideas of what we should do with the money,
14 the money that goes into the city and goes out of the
15 city.

16 I don't see it being used here to

17 further the background and to know the wherewithal, the
18 quality of life of our children as they come for us. I
19 can't find out why this is true. Why are the African
20 Americans 17 percent unemployment now today in 2006,
21 the same as they were in 2002? We haven't done a thing
22 to change it.

23 And every time I've come here, I keep
24 saying, Why don't we have a city CETA program for our
25 kids? Why don't we do something like that? That would

44

1 really help.

2 At least we would give the kids
3 something like an OJT and they can go forth, they would
4 feel that they can go forth, but we're not doing that
5 either.

6 We just seem to be putting our foot on
7 the kids' necks in more ways than one and we're
8 limiting them, which is wrong. It's a sin, in my book.

9 The programs I have here are Yellowwood,
10 Ciber something, Charter, Sheeba. These are for all
11 the -- for kids that are not making it. These are the
12 kids that are not doing the work that they should be
13 doing by the PSSA, that test that comes out every year.

14 Then we have the Smart Program, we have
15 the Pride Program, we have the Soars Program, the EAP
16 and the Educational Mentors. And none of these things
17 includes a community. And I want to know why.
18 If you'd be so kind as to perhaps in
19 your meetings with the school board or with the mayor
20 or with whomever, find out what we can do about
21 employing our own kids here in the city, instead of
22 letting somebody else take care of it. The University
23 of Scranton has decided they don't have a program this
24 year.

25 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mr. Davis.

45

1 Ray Lyman.

2 MR. LYMAN: Raymond Lyman. I have a
3 couple questions. Number one, I want to ask City
4 Council when they go to their next meeting out at the
5 chambers, if you'd come down to Pine Brook and have
6 your meeting down there at John Adams. Would you think
7 about it?

8 MS. GATELLI: Sure.

9 MR. LYMAN: Because our association
10 would like you to be down there. And the kid who did

11 the audio, which one are you -- was that? Would you
12 set it up down there?

13 MR. LOCKHEED: Sure, if that's where
14 they are going to have it.

15 MR. LYMAN: Okay. And Mr. McTiernan,
16 you donating that bench, how about having that as a
17 memorial to the Veteran who was killed over in Pike
18 County, that soldier?

19 MR. MCTIERNAN: We can consider that.

20 MR. LYMAN: Yeah, because I told the
21 kids about sending a card to that school for, you know,
22 to remember him.

23 We could have that as a memorial to
24 him, you know, the two benches and we can invite his
25 family or the school where he went, representatives,
.

46

1 you know, their principal and that and maybe even have
2 16, 22 or 28 there, the dedication of a little plaque
3 on there.

4 And I have some ideas for the Junior
5 Council. Like, people were complaining about shoveling
6 sidewalks, senior citizens who are disabled and can't
7 shovel it, you know, some of the neighbors.

8 Well, I have an idea, how about if we
9 get some students of neighbor to neighbor helping
10 neighbors? Like, some students -- some students
11 helping the senior citizens and the disabled who can't
12 do it, shovel the sidewalks? I mean, that would be a
13 good idea. You can use that towards credit to
14 graduate. There's an idea.

15 MS. GATELLI: They do need community
16 service hours when they graduate high school, five
17 hours, so maybe they will take it back next time they
18 have a meeting and ask if anyone is interested. That's
19 a good idea.

20 MR. LYMAN: That would be a good idea.

21 And number two, I was thinking about, you know how you
22 have that mentoring program, how some high school kids
23 and middle school, and what is the old Scranton High?

24 MS. GATELLI: Northeast.

25 MR. LYMAN: Northeast that's up there,
.

47

1 how about high school students helping disadvantaged
2 kids who can't -- are not getting too well in their
3 reading and writing and --

4 MS. GATELLI: The school district has

5 those programs, Ray.

6 MR. LYMAN: Yeah, but sometimes some of

7 those kids drop through the cracks. How about if we

8 have some of these kids who are real smart helping them

9 after school hours? That could be something.

10 And, you know, instead of spending

11 money on it, they could volunteer. I mean, that -- you

12 don't need to use it as credit towards college. It can

13 be a voluntary act and it could help.

14 I mean, I see schools -- I say on A&E

15 they were doing that in Los Angeles and San Francisco,

16 and the test scores of disadvantaged students who were,

17 you know, taught by the other students went up because

18 of it, and I thought it could help here.

19 And, you know, I thought maybe they

20 could do something like that. So, that's all I have to

21 say.

22 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Ron Elman.

23 MR. LYMAN: And thanks for mentioning

24 that about me, Mrs. Gatelli.

25 MS. GATELLI: Oh, you're welcome.

.

48

1 MR. LYMAN: Thank you.

2 MS. GATELLI: Ron Elman.

3 MR. ELMAN: Well, did you all miss me

4 last week? I didn't think so. Maybe Ms. Gatelli, you

5 must have missed me.

6 MS. GATELLI: I missed you.

7 MR. ELMAN: Yeah, I thought so. Do you

8 like my shirt? I wore this -- I thought -- my plan was

9 to get in with Mr. O'Malley and Mr. Doherty but I got

10 caught impersonating an Irishman, so I don't know if

11 they are going to shoot me with a potato gun or

12 something, I think. I thought maybe that would help me

13 try to get a KOZ on my house.

14 You know, I got a couple of notes, but

15 I was listening to you about being positive, and you're

16 right, but when you're your age, you can be a dreamer.

17 When you're our age like out here, you

18 have to be a realist, and that means fixing a roof on a

19 house and paying insurance, all these outrageous taxes

20 that are coming up.

21 And like Mr. O'Malley has fired the

22 first salvo about another \$50 million to fix your

23 schools. You know, you can't -- it's hard to be

24 positive and walk around smiling all the time. People

25 think there's something wrong with you.

1 The reason I came, though, last week I
2 was walking around the flea market in Eynon, and two
3 little missies about, I don't know, 11, 12-years-old
4 come up to me and one of them said, I seen you on TV.
5 And I said, Really? On MTV? And before she just
6 blurted out with a statement, you know, that her
7 parents had given her evidently. It said, I went to my
8 car and I wrote this down a few minutes later, Your
9 vicious attack on Mr. Doherty has crossed over the
10 boundaries of good judgment. You owe him an apology.
11 And they didn't say nothing about Mr. O'Malley.
12 And let me say, in no way, like their
13 parents evidently understood it, am I saying something
14 derogatory about these two men. They're both honorable
15 people. I'm talking about their politics stink, to me.
16 I've known Mr. O'Malley for 15 years,
17 and he's always been a gentleman, you know, but he had
18 -- he's under the thumb of the greedy teachers union
19 and just allowed this KOZ program to overwhelm this
20 city. You know, there's no way you can ever get out
21 from not having taxes on property for 15, or what is
22 it, 13 years? You can't.

23 There's, you know, you could have all
24 the real estate sales and taxes, you can't recover from
25 it. It's gone. Like my time up here in a few minutes,
.
50

1 it's gone from me. You can't ever recover it.

2 And this borrowing us out of debt
3 program of Mr. Doherty's is a complete failure. And
4 that's what I'm saying. Their politics are bad. They
5 have bad advisors.

6 You know, I don't know what the problem
7 -- what we can do about all the taxes. This city
8 cannot stand another tax increase for the schools.

9 It's just not fair.

10 I don't know where the administration
11 thinks we're going to get money. Half the city got
12 100-year-old houses. And you people want to buy a
13 100-year-old house in five, ten years? No.

14 Most of you will eventually won't even
15 live here in a few years, and that's going to leave a
16 few of you here. You know, according to statistics,
17 most of you will be gone, and the base is dwindling and
18 dwindling in town. They won't tell me.

19 I phoned everybody in the city for two

20 months, and nobody would tell me how many properties

21 there are, except there's less than 40,000.

22 Well, there my little bell goes. I

23 just wanted to say, I think Mr. Bush got a better plan

24 of getting out of Iraq than Mr. Doherty does of getting

25 out of the \$250 million that you people are going to

.

51

1 inherit. I won't live long enough to worry about it.

2 It's a terrible situation. You know I

3 wouldn't want to be the next mayor of this city. I

4 just -- we're just in terrible -- you know, Mr. -- you

5 mentioned Austin Burke, he pops out of the sand every

6 once in a while and tells us how great everything is

7 and then you don't see him again.

8 It is not great in this city. You

9 know, our mayor and Todd O'Malley our two wealthy men

10 and they are detached from their constituents, just

11 terrible. They just don't realize what it's like.

12 Todd O'Malley's a millionaire attorney

13 and he doesn't have an idea of what I go through, and

14 what a lot of these people out here go through

15 financially.

16 They've raised my car insurance, my

17 house insurance, my antique car insurance doubled

18 because of Katrina, and it doesn't stop, and now he

19 wants to hit us with \$50 million to fix schools.

20 The schools -- it's time the school

21 board bit the bullet. We've got twice as many teachers

22 as we need in this city right now, much less can

23 afford. They're just going to have to back down.

24 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Mr. Elman.

25 MR. ELMAN: Yeah. I was just going to

52

1 say, I wish you guys all the luck in the world when you

2 take over the city. I just feel sorry for anyone

3 having to follow some of the financial disasters that

4 have occurred around here. Thank you.

5 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.

6 Andy Sbaraglia.

7 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia, citizen

8 of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I'm going to read a

9 few things from your write-up that you give. It's

10 actually your resolutions and your ordinances, but I'm

11 going to read a resolution.

12 For introduction, a resolution

13 authorizing the mayor and other appropriate city

14 officials to execute and enter into a grant agreement
15 with the United States of America, Department of
16 Housing and Urban Development in order to accept the
17 grant of \$124,263 relating to the demolition of the
18 Holiday Manor.

19 Now, under H, it's basically the same
20 wording, except you ask for an additional \$72,168. Do
21 we own that property? Do we own the Holiday Manor?

22 MS. GATELLI: I believe it's tax
23 delinquent.

24 MR. SBARAGLIA: I heard that somebody
25 got a thing on it. There's fence around it. I thought

53

1 the bank has a lien on it or some kind of a -- some
2 kind of a deal where they can get this thing when they
3 tear it -- you can't buy this property, I can't buy
4 this property, only this bank could buy this property.
5 So, that means the bank has some type
6 of an agreement with the city either to a lease or
7 something to get that property. I don't think it's tax
8 -- it was tax delinquent, but we got a fence around it
9 and the whole thing, and I don't believe so. In fact,
10 we asked why isn't a lien being put on this property.

11 MS. GATELLI: A lien is going to be

12 placed on the property.

13 MR. SBARAGLIA: For \$200,000?

14 MS. GATELLI: For the full amount.

15 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. That's good

16 enough. Tell me, is this -- this is a grant, I assume,

17 not a 108 loan?

18 MS. GATELLI: No, it's a grant.

19 MS. EVANS: According to the wording of

20 the legislation, it's a grant.

21 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. Just to make

22 sure, because the same wording sometimes is used for a

23 108 loan, too, so that's the reason why I asked.

24 Okay. The second is your 5-D. What is

25 the status of the Scranton Parking Authority? Are they

.

54

1 solvent or not solvent? They're looking to refinance a

2 series 1995 at eight percent interest. Does anybody

3 know what the bonds are on 1995, what the interest rate

4 is?

5 MS. GATELLI: No, but we'll find that

6 out before next meeting.

7 MR. SBARAGLIA: Even the wording is

8 very, very deceiving. We've got all kinds of things in
9 here where it says, Determine to incur lease rental
10 debt in the maximum amount of \$6,300,000 in respect to
11 the projects to be evidenced by bonds to be issued by
12 the authority and secured by rental payment to the
13 authority by the city under a lease, including a fourth
14 supplement lease. Does anybody know what that means?

15 MS. GATELLI: Maybe our attorney knows
16 that. He's familiar with refinancing of bonds.

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, yes, but you
18 would have to study to find out what they're talking
19 about. We're talking about a forth supplemental lease.

20 R. MINORA: Are you asking about the
21 lease?

22 MR. SBARAGLIA: The fourth supplemental
23 lease.

24 MR. MINORA: I believe in general the
25 way most bond issues are structured with authorities,

55

1 there's a lease usually between the authority and the
2 governing body, the municipality.
3 And then if you look along further in
4 that legislation, you will see that those lease

5 payments are generally deferred to the trustee. I
6 think in this case it was J.P. Morgan, which is a bank
7 institution. They're structured that way on the advise
8 of bond counsel.

9 And generally those lease payments are
10 used to defees the bond issue, which is -- to pay down
11 the bond issue in their annual payments. So, the lease
12 is really just a paper document between the governing
13 body and the authority.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Being you know a little
15 about it, do you know what the interest rate is on that
16 1995 bonds?

17 MR. MINORA: I don't know. I was
18 trying to --

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: Because I know what the
20 new interest is going to be percent, so I would assume
21 that this bond -- to make this thing feasible, these
22 bonds would have to be eight and a half or nine
23 percent, because we've got to pay all kinds of fees.
24 When you borrow money, you just don't
25 borrow money, you have to pay people off. You have to
.

56

1 pay the bonding agent. You probably will have to pay a

2 dozen lawyers, and God knows what this is going to cost

3 us.

4 So, unless, the interest rate is low

5 enough at the eight percent, in other words, if they

6 borrow that 12 percent, then that would probably pay

7 off, but if you borrow that six percent and now you

8 want to turn around and refinance at eight percent,

9 that does not make fiscal sense.

10 MR. MINORA: I understand. The only

11 thing I can tell you, there were two debt service

12 statements attached to the legislation. One indicated

13 the average coupon rate of eight percent, one

14 indicating 6.98 percent. So, it may be that the

15 original issue was eight, and it's now going to be

16 6.9 percent.

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, I don't know.

18 I've looked at the bond, if you look at the other part

19 of the bond, the pay back schedule, you see the coupons

20 are at eight percent, and it's pushed out to 1933 -- I

21 mean, 2033.

22 MS. GATELLI: We'll find out that

23 information.

24 MR. SBARAGLIA: I wish you would find

25 out all information on it, because I was told the

1 Parking Authority is sort of in the middle, and I don't
2 know if they're solvent enough.

3 MS. GATELLI: Maybe we can get a copy
4 of their audit.

5 MR. SBARAGLIA: I would assume so.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. GATELLI: I forgot to announce that
8 Attorney Amil Minora is not here tonight, but his
9 younger baby brother is here, John Minora. John, it's
10 a pleasure to have you here.

11 MR. MINORA: Thank you. John, could
12 you look into this for us, this bond?

13 MR. MINORA: Certainly.

14 MS. GATELLI: Maybe consult the
15 attorney from the Parking Authority.

16 MR. MINORA: I would be happy to do
17 that.

18 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Lee Morgan.

19 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

20 The first thing I have is that, you know, last -- the
21 last week's meeting was extremely progressive. I want
22 to say that. I really thought that Council showed an

23 awful lot of vision, and not only for the playground
24 program, but to want to enter into a discussion and try
25 to save the city a ton of money if it can on these
. . .
58

1 contracts and the arbitrations the city keeps losing.

2 You know, what I'm saying here is I

3 think you're starting to show some vision and some

4 focus and you're trying to find the light at the end of

5 the tunnel.

6 And I have to be honest that I begin to

7 think that you're searching for answers, which is a

8 very progressive thing, and it's been a long time in

9 coming.

10 And I really hate to see you back off

11 of the playground program, okay, because I think that

12 has -- that shows the most promise that any Council has

13 ever come forward with in all the time I've come to

14 these Council meetings.

15 And it isn't only that I personally

16 think it's a good idea, this city is beset with so many

17 problems, it's hard to comprehend them all.

18 I mean, we've got to come up with a

19 structured program to keep youth involved. We have to

20 start somewhere.

21 A pilot program would be a good start.

22 It shows leadership, it shows that we have a problem,

23 okay? Myself and Ozzie Quinn, we had a discussion

24 about having a group come forward that had crack and,

25 you know, just drug problems, okay?

.

59

1 I've asked Council to try to do

2 something like that. You know, bring people forward

3 who have problems with drugs and let's have a real

4 discussion.

5 You know, I hope that Council could

6 take that ball, okay? Because the general welfare of

7 the city should go to you.

8 And I think that if you have enough

9 vision to understand that 400 children served by the

10 Boys Club is not the city. There needs to be a

11 beginning here.

12 In the end, there should be a program

13 run 12 months out of the year at Weston Field that

14 keeps the youth in this city involved and various

15 different endeavors, just a very broad spectrum of just

16 leadership.

17 This is the beginning of leadership
18 right here. This has been a struggle. This has been
19 an idea that has been presented to Council after
20 Council after Council, and finally the vision has come.
21 Okay? These are the future leaders.
22 We have a lot more to do. We need
23 small business incubators, but we need this Council to
24 stay focused and move the playground program forward.
25 I don't care what the school district
. .
60

1 does. We're going to use a failed model of the school
2 district to try to talk ourselves out of a program
3 that's going to enhance the city.
4 Let's not talk about certain interest
5 groups. Let's focus on every youth in this city.
6 Let's not walk away from this idea, all right?
7 You showed a lot of guts coming
8 forward. There are ideas here. I've asked this
9 Council, the Junior Council, if they could work with
10 me. We have some ideas.
11 One of the ideas is is for every one of
12 these Junior Councilman to go into the school and find
13 ten children to work under each one of them and to find

14 an adult to supervise it and go into the neighborhoods
15 and ask people to donate, while adults go to businesses
16 to try to raise money.

17 We're not asking this city to come up
18 with all the money, we're asking this Council to come
19 up with a vision and make it a reality. And it's not
20 going to be easy, but everybody has to work together,
21 and it's time not to walk away from the table and stay
22 on task, and don't retreat.

23 The University of Scranton retreated.

24 Why? Because their funding was cut, okay? Like I
25 said, the Boys Club, 400 children does not equal this
.

61

1 city. We've got thousands of children to supervise and
2 give them visions and ideas.

3 You know, nurturing doesn't end or
4 begin at a certain point, okay? And I think you're
5 showing a lot of focus.

6 And the other thing is, I would
7 appreciate it if you would try to negotiate with the
8 city unions and get the best deal you can, and let's
9 stop wasting all this money on arbitrations.

10 You know, they blame the former chief

11 of police for the problems the last time, and I just
12 think that Mr. Klee wasn't responsible for what
13 happened last time.
14 And I think what has to happen is the
15 people -- the Council needs to go down to the mayor and
16 saw, Look it, we want to end this. We need to come up
17 with a plan to salvage this city.
18 Council has to work with the residents,
19 and we can save this thing, but we need small business
20 incubators in this city bringing people who have ideas
21 forward and meshing it with all the other things that
22 make a business successful, and we can do it.
23 Remember the Scranton Plan, we just
24 have to go back to something in that footing and we can
25 move forward.

.

62

1 But I'm going to ask, you don't give up
2 on the playground program. Make it a reality and ask
3 the mayor to help you. Thank you.

4 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Is there
5 anyone else that would like to speak?

6 MR. GONZALES: Good evening, Council
7 and all in attendance. My name is Pedro Gonzales,

8 South Side resident, taxpayer and registered voter.

9 I'm here today just to make a couple

10 announcements like I usually to doing my thing. I want

11 to say thank you for all the people who came down to

12 the lupus functions. Senorita Gatelli showed up in

13 attendance. I thank so, so much from the bottom of my

14 heart. Thank you so much. She came down and she

15 represented, registered, the who shebang.

16 She did a quick walk and ran out the

17 door because she had other engagements and other things

18 to do. She told me that a week beforehand. So, I just

19 want to say thank you again.

20 MS. GATELLI: You're welcome.

21 MR. GONZALES: Thank you so much for

22 coming down and supporting us. We raised about \$400,

23 \$500 that day, something to that effect in baskets and

24 hot dog sales and things to that effect, but it was a

25 blast. The kids had a blast.

.

63

1 A lot of face painting, a lot of candy

2 was given out. It worked out very, very well.

3 And another announcement I have is that

4 we're having a Latin dance this weekend at Don Pablo's

5 in Dickson City. I'm going to leave these fliers here.

6 When he comes back, maybe he can give them to you guys.

7 And there's one there for each of you

8 guys. And it's Don Pablo's. It starts about ten,

9 10:30.

10 We're having a lot of -- our diversity

11 dancers will be there giving free lessons, so forth and

12 so on, and we're just going to have a nice Latin

13 festival. So, we do it at least once a month. And,

14 again, it's to raise money for certain programs and

15 things to that effect that we do.

16 Third, April 29, April 29, well, let me

17 back up. There's a lot of stuff being said about the

18 parks program, about the mayor, things like that, and

19 these gentlemen are right, they're right with a lot of

20 the things they say, especially the summer program for

21 the kids and things like that.

22 I think instead of hiring someone that

23 has never went through the motions, never been addicted

24 to any drug or been in jail or some shape or form

25 shouldn't be trying to mentor these kids into telling

.

64

1 them don't do this, don't do that.

2 You don't know anything about it. Why
3 should they preach something they've never experienced?
4 You should get people that actually have went through,
5 it, been homeless, been hooked on drugs, going through
6 rehabilitation, something to that effect so these kids
7 can see that, Wow, this person can make it. If he can
8 make it, I can make it.
9 I seriously think that Council should
10 consider that aspect of getting someone for the summer
11 program or these people for the summer program. Lee
12 made a good point on that one.
13 The April 29th event, we are having a
14 roller skating extravaganza. Again, I will be back to
15 announce that when it gets a little closer to the date,
16 but there's always a method to my madness, and we will
17 be there roller skating and raising money for the
18 Children's Advocacy Center. Again, another children's
19 event that we seriously try to address all the time is
20 the kids, the children, just like a lot of the speakers
21 is constantly the youth of this city. There's a lack
22 of programs and things to do for the youth of this
23 city.
24 So, April the 29th, Icebox Area, the
25 roller skating side of it from ten to 3 p.m. We will

1 be out there roller skating raising money for the
2 Children's Advocacy Center. There's a whole sleeve of
3 people that will be there, the library, children's
4 library, the Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the
5 Lupus Foundation, so forth and so on. And there is
6 others. There is so much more that will be there that
7 day. Again. All for the kids, all for the kids.

8 And last but not least, earlier in the
9 week I dropped off a letter, a request to Council, in
10 regards to a Latin Day Festival in this city scheduled
11 for August the 12th and the 13th, and it was a
12 respectable request, and I was wondering if Council
13 have come to a decision on that.

14 MS. GATELLI: I don't know that it
15 would be our decision. Where would you want to have
16 it, at the courthouse?

17 MR. GONZALES: Actually no. The 12th
18 -- the letter has been sent to the Parks and
19 Recreations, that aspect is being handled right now as
20 we speak.

21 The park is still up in the air, but
22 the point is the letter was sent and we are addressing

23 that situation.

24 The parade will be downtown, just like

25 all the rest of the parades. I also hand delivered a

.

66

1 letter to the mayor's office waiting on his answer to

2 this event.

3 And, again, it's a weekend event, it is

4 a Latin cultural diverse weekend that we are planning

5 starting August the 12th with food and fun and

6 entertainment, and so forth and so on, and then the

7 13th would be the parade downtown. Again, just like

8 all the other parades.

9 So, my question to you guys is, I was

10 told that we needed some type of response from Council

11 to vote on it, so that's why the letter was delivered

12 to you guys, and also the mayor needs to respond to it,

13 so that's why a letter was handed to him. So, again, I

14 ask, Do you guys have a response, yes, no, maybe so?

15 MS. GATELLI: As long as the park's

16 available, I don't see why you would be denied.

17 MR. GONZALES: So, in other words,

18 you're saying the Council agrees that this event should

19 take place and it --

20 MS. EVANS: Yes.

21 MS. GATELLI: Yeah.

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yeah.

23 MR. GONZALES: Do the ayes have it, all

24 five of you yes?

25 MS. GATELLI: I'll make a motion that

.

67

1 we send a letter to the mayor expressing our approval

2 for this festival when it's possible at Nay Aug.

3 MS. EVANS: Second.

4 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All in

5 favor.

6 MS. EVANS: Aye.

7 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

8 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

10 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

11 MR. GONZALES: Thank you very, very

12 much. Again, my name is Pedro Gonzales, and thank you

13 for letting me express myself. God bless.

14 MS. GATELLI: Thank you, Pedro.

15 Mrs. Franus.

16 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus. Mr. Morgan --

17 oh, first let me say something. With all due respect
18 to Mr. Narsavage, I agree with everything you say, but
19 I just wanted to say something for Jackson here,
20 probably because he doesn't have a chance.
21 I absolutely think that he in no way or
22 form thinks that people who come to podium don't have a
23 right to say negative things. I agree, I really
24 believe he was trying to say that he thinks everybody
25 should say what they chose. That's not what he was
.
68

1 trying to say.
2 I think these students just feel that
3 there should be more positive statements in the city,
4 and that's all he tried to say.
5 Even though there are a lot of negative
6 things going on, you know, you have to give him credit
7 for wanting to have positive things, and I wish Michael
8 would have spoke, because, boy, I love listening to
9 him, and he should be up there and not down here. You
10 really should run for office.
11 Mr. Morgan mentioned about the park
12 programs, is it possible to have the city finance
13 something, as well as the Boys Club, was it, that had

14 this program?

15 MS. GATELLI: Yes, I'm sure it's

16 feasible.

17 MS. FRANUS: But did you vote that down

18 because you felt that that --

19 MS. GATELLI: No, we voted last week to

20 explore the possibility of a play ground program.

21 MS. FRANUS: But when you said,

22 Mrs. Gatelli, that you had plenty of phone calls and

23 that --

24 MS. GATELLI: I got a lot of phone

25 calls because they thought the program at the Boys Club

.

69

1 was going to stop, because we mentioned having one with

2 the city, you know, sponsored by the city.

3 MS. FRANUS: But 400 children, I mean,

4 they do a wonderful thing, but 400 children really

5 isn't all the --

6 MS. GATELLI: No, I agree. I agree,

7 but they are in every section of the city and everybody

8 can go.

9 MS. FRANUS: Yes, but --

10 MS. GATELLI: I'll meet with Mr. Morgan

11 and maybe we can meet with Mr. Scopelliti and see.

12 MS. FRANUS: Because there should be

13 money available, so I mean I don't -- you know, it

14 wouldn't hurt.

15 MS. GATELLI: I mean, the money, I

16 don't think, is the issue.

17 MS. FRANUS: Can we just do this then,

18 not just the Boys Club? What would it hurt?

19 MS. GATELLI: We already voted on it.

20 We're going to investigate it. I just wanted to make

21 it clear, because the Boys and Girls Club was afraid

22 that people would think they weren't going to have

23 their program this year.

24 MS. FRANUS: Right. But what I'm

25 saying is it wouldn't hurt to have two programs.

.

70

1 MS. GATELLI: No, absolutely not. And

2 don't forget, there's that Project Hope with Mike

3 Handley. He takes 600, 700 kids a day up to Camp St.

4 Andrew.

5 MS. FRANUS: No, but that's what I'm

6 trying to say. All those programs are wonderful and

7 things like that, but I would just think that the city

8 --

9 MS. GATELLI: We can always use more.

10 MS. FRANUS: That's my point. You can

11 always use more. Maybe there's a section that isn't

12 covered by a certain playground, so I wish you would

13 really consider it.

14 Another issue I wanted to bring up was

15 about the dog park. I know you're going to have that

16 this summer, I hope, and I hope somebody stays on top

17 of this. Mrs. Evans, maybe you could, because you've

18 been really helpful with this.

19 MS. EVANS: Certainly. It actually was

20 discussed last week, if you were in attendance at the

21 presentation prior to the regular Council meeting.

22 MS. FRANUS: No, I wasn't.

23 MS. EVANS: The mayor described all of

24 the improvements that will be made at Connell Park this

25 summer, one of which was the installation of a dog

.

71

1 park.

2 MS. FRANUS: My little Paws in the

3 Park. But what I would like to suggest, and this so

4 you can take a note of this to make it like it was aid,

5 I think it would be very important to have a section

6 for smaller animals versus bigger ones.

7 MS. GATELLI: Well, it is. There is a

8 section for smaller and bigger dogs.

9 MS. FRANUS: Because you have to have a

10 separation. I've seen them in New York where they're

11 --

12 MS. GATELLI: I told them, because you

13 told me that before.

14 MS. FRANUS: Yeah, because you can't

15 have a big dog. I mean, you could, but you can't --

16 MS. GATELLI: They have it sectioned

17 off.

18 MS. FRANUS: They would only be

19 playing, but they might hurt the smaller ones, and some

20 of those smaller ones might hurt the big ones like my

21 little baby, you know? But just so you have a

22 separation. That's all.

23 MS. GATELLI: I think the people up

24 there are excited about it, because an awful lot of

25 people take their dogs through that park.

.

72

1 MS. FRANUS: Sure, and all around the

2 city. I mean, who wouldn't want to go from one section
3 of the city to another to have their kids play
4 together?

5 MS. GATELLI: So, that's definite. I
6 mean, that is definitely going to be up there.

7 MS. FRANUS: That's why -- I'm hoping
8 it's going to be big enough.

9 MS. GATELLI: I'm not sure about the
10 size.

11 MS. FRANUS: Yeah, because I think
12 you're going to have a very good response, and thank
13 you very much. Thank you. Mr. Newcomb.

14 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Good evening,
15 Council. Before I get started with a few topics I
16 have, Mrs. Gatelli, I'd like to thank you for and my
17 son would like to thank you for coming to his home and
18 trying to help him out with that water problem, but
19 unfortunately nobody from the city was there to, you
20 know, to help him solve his problem, so the next route
21 would be unfortunately, fortunately for him,
22 unfortunately for the powers to be, is he spoke to his
23 attorney today and they had a nice long time with him,
24 and he definitely said that, you know, he would have a
25 lawsuit if he had to file one, but let's hope it

1 doesn't come to that, but you can't keep having those
2 rainstorms with all that water problem that he has over
3 there.

4 On another issue, these are some
5 statistics that 4.1 in our nation is unemployment. And
6 just in Scranton Wilkes-Barre alone it's 5.3, so it's
7 higher than the nation.

8 On a few where that's leading to is,
9 the gentleman back here spoke before about taxes, but
10 what everybody did fail to understand is we have a tax
11 reassessment coming in Lackawanna County, and I believe
12 it's going to be for, like, our 2007 tax bill, and
13 believe me when I tell you, it's going to be quite --
14 some people are going to say, Wow, I got a break, but
15 the majority of the people are going to say, Where did
16 this tax come from?

17 If anybody went to appeal their taxes,
18 I have a few topics, but I'll just give you an
19 instance, I just wrote a check out to the City of
20 Scranton, fortunately I could do it all at once instead
21 of trying to make payments, because it costs you more
22 money that way, but I wrote out two checks for a total

23 of \$2780 for my taxes.

24 I wrote them out on two separate checks

25 on two separate days. One was for the difference of my

.

74

1 3.4 percent wage tax, and one was property tax. And

2 after I wrote the checks out, I just sat down for

3 second and say, Well, what do I get for the difference

4 in this wage tax? And I said, I got police, I got

5 fire, I got DPW.

6 And you know what? I also said to

7 myself, If I live in Dunmore I have that, if I live in

8 Dickson I have the same thing, and I pay one percent.

9 I wouldn't be writing out this extra check here. You

10 get absolutely nothing more for your money than you

11 would somewhere else for the one percent.

12 As far as the property tax goes, I went

13 down to appeal my taxes. I have a home that was built

14 in 1982, I go to appeal my tax, they wouldn't lower it

15 \$20.

16 I go to all my neighborhood who some of

17 them houses could go inside -- I could put mine inside

18 of theirs, I'm paying \$2000 some dollars, they're

19 paying \$612, okay?

20 It's not my fault that you've been
21 there since 1964. If my house is appraised at
22 \$115,000, yours is every bit of that. You're the one
23 that's going to get a big surprise when the
24 reassessment comes. So, I just want everybody to be
25 aware that that's why we're in a lot of financial

75

1 problem because people are not really paying what they
2 should be paying and other people are paying too much,
3 and I'm sure there's people out there that aren't, you
4 know, that aren't paying anything.

5 So, we do have to -- on the news
6 tonight it says for everyone that doesn't pay their
7 fair share for every dollar that's not collected, it
8 cost the fair taxpayer \$2 more.

9 So, for all these millions of dollars
10 that are owed to the city with the garbage fees and
11 everything else, all of us people here that write out
12 checks, and fortunately I was glad that I was able to
13 write out that check, but I'm sure there's a lot of
14 people that can't, we're paying, because these other
15 people don't pay, like the KOZs.

16 I'm a fair believer in these

17 non-profits, churches, synagogues, hospitals,
18 unfortunately we're in a situation where everybody
19 should have to pay something. Everybody should have to
20 pay.

21 And as far as these contract
22 negotiations go, Mrs. Gatelli, as many times,
23 Mrs. Evans, you know, I came up here and I spoke about,
24 and there hasn't been one that I spoke about yet that
25 we didn't lose.

76

1 MS. EVANS: Correct.

2 MR. NEWCOMB, SR. And part of these
3 problems are is we keep using, like the paper used
4 about illegal award, well, why didn't the paper put
5 illegal award to two councilmen who's collecting a
6 pension, because that's illegal, too. Why? Because
7 they favor the mayor.
8 With the Recovery Plan, people in 2002
9 did not vote for a recovery plan to do what the mayor
10 was trying to do to the unions. They voted for not a
11 tax increase.

12 So, I would like you to know, I have
13 30 years experience with laborers. If you need any

14 help or any kind of questions, I would be glad to sit
15 at the table. And believe me when I tell you,
16 economics, I talked to the gentleman at our last
17 Council -- or solicitor, and economics not does a
18 decision make, which means you cannot go and cry the
19 blues. If you have a contract, you have to live with
20 the contract.

21 And the city, I'll tell you right now,
22 I think looking at their contract, the city got a good
23 deal and the mayor got a good deal, because number one,
24 the policemen are paying up to \$15 a visit where they
25 were paying five, their contribution increased, they're

77

1 going to have a manning problem solved that the mayor
2 couldn't get solved before, they're going to reduce the
3 force.

4 The worse thing you can do is appeal it
5 now, because it's going to -- you know, it's going to
6 cost us more money.

7 And as far as bonuses go, as far as
8 negotiating unions, I never negotiated bonuses, because
9 my question is, if you make \$18 to \$20 an hour, and
10 that's their average salaries, if you make \$18 to \$20

11 an hour now and I gave you a four-year contract with a
12 \$1500 a year bonus and you're making \$18.01 now, my
13 question to you is, Four years from now how much would
14 you be making?

15 If I gave you four years of bonuses at
16 \$1500 a year bonus and your salary right now as we
17 speak here today in 2006 is \$1801, how much would it be
18 in 2010?

19 MS. GATELLI: Twenty-four.

20 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: No. It would be
21 \$18.01. It would never change. So, you're not costing
22 them a dime. Your bonuses, your salary, never -- you
23 don't get any --

24 MS. GATELLI: That's why I don't
25 negotiate contracts.

.

78

1 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: If you're making
2 \$18.01 now and I gave you \$1500 bonuses for the next
3 four years, in four years from now, you as the worker,
4 you're losing money because you're only make \$18.01.
5 The taxpayers are gaining. So, believe me when I tell
6 you, an appeal, we're going to lose, lose, lose.

7 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

8 Mr. Ancherani. Chris? Come on up.

9 MR. SLEDZINSKI: One thing you got to

10 remember, Judy. Our girls won today. I told you in

11 the hall, remember?

12 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

13 MR. SLEDZINSKI: I'm proud of every one

14 of them. Varsity girls, keep it up. Doug, I'm proud

15 of you over there, Buddy. Keep up the good work over

16 there, Pal.

17 MR. MILLER: Thanks, Chris.

18 MS. GATELLI: Thanks. Mr. Ancherani.

19 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening, Council.

20 I'm Nelson Ancherani, resident, taxpayer, city

21 employee, member of the FOP.

22 Two weeks ago Mrs. Gatelli asked me to

23 get the names of the City of Scranton employees who are

24 soldiers who returned from Iraq. What I learned after

25 that meeting was that all but three of the soldiers

.

79

1 that were activated got their full pay, that being what

2 the military paid them and what the city should have

3 paid them to equal the base pay of the city of

4 Scranton.

5 I was asking for the whole group to get
6 a \$200 a month bonus for every month they spent in
7 Iraq, but upon learning that these most recent
8 returning soldiers did not get their full pay, I'm
9 amending that to ask that the three most recent
10 returnees get their full city pay, as the others got.

11 MS. GATELLI: Why didn't they?

12 MR. ANCHERANI: You'd have to ask

13 Mrs. Moran.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mrs. Moran discovered
15 after the initial gentlemen went to war, she discovered
16 that the city did not have to pay them their full pay.

17 She took into consideration for these three gentlemen
18 that Mr. Ancherani is talking about, is they get pay, I
19 don't want to call it battle pay, they get paid for
20 supplies, they get paid for housing, and she took that,
21 and she didn't take their base pay.

22 The initial guys she took the base pay.

23 Somebody alerted her to that, and these three guys lost
24 out.

25 MR. ANCHERANI: Right. But the others

.

80

1 got it, so they should.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: The others got it,

3 right. I agree with you.

4 MR. ANCHERANI: And what I was going to

5 mention was as an example, Ms. Moran, who is the human

6 resources director and she's holding up the pay, she

7 benefitted to the tune, I believe, \$10,000, when one of

8 the city's arbitration losses was not appealed, as was

9 the case of all the others.

10 The young gentleman who talked about

11 the negativity, I'll address that in the following, but

12 when the newspaper prints negativity and the mayor

13 talks negatively, someone has to offer rebuttal, and

14 that's basically the speakers.

15 We're not going to get equal

16 representation in the paper, like to all the masses.

17 So, we do it here.

18 Getting to the police contract

19 arbitration opinion, the city took a beating

20 translating into the taxpayers took a beating.

21 This city in its arrogance to the city

22 unions cut off its nose to spite its face, because the

23 mayor wanted to break the unions with his union-busting

24 tactics. He arrogantly ended the contract negotiations

25 starting in 2002.

.

81

1 He filed for the arbitrations knowing
2 that the city's track record and arbitrations is
3 dismal. He filed for the arbitration and the hearings
4 were conducted on 14 different days. The unions
5 offered much testimony and had the information to back
6 up that testimony.

7 The city went to these hearings and
8 said an awful lot, even referring to the police as
9 waiters and waitresses.

10 With all the city said, they didn't
11 back it up with any evidence. They didn't produce any
12 of the subpoenaed items the unions requested.

13 The City's dismal track record of eight
14 arbitration losses and one win is nothing to be proud
15 about. The one win was a DPW arbitration, and they
16 settled their contract.

17 Last week Kay was asked to get the cash
18 value of all the arbitrations under appeal. This
19 point, it's impossible as the amounts change daily.

20 Interest is accumulating at an exorbitant rate. My
21 estimate, in the millions.

22 The mayor doesn't care, he's

23 financially blessed, not like the rest of us, but the
24 mayor and his solicitor are saying that the arbitration
25 is illegal. That's manure.

.

82

1 In a newspaper article dated 3/28/06,
2 the mayor said the city should win its appeal of the
3 police arbitration because the award violates that
4 plan, specifically with the wage increases awarded to
5 police. That's hypocritical.
6 The mayor violated his, and I say h is
7 Recovery Plan. He gave out raises contrary to the
8 Recovery Plan. They were the favored people. He hired
9 new employees while eliminating others, and don't
10 forget that he the DPW union a contract with pay
11 raises. The Recovery Plan says city employees, not
12 favored employees. That's selected, very selective.
13 What's fair is fair. If he did not
14 give out one raise and he had not violated the recovery
15 plan, the unions would have no gripe. He wouldn't have
16 a leg to stand on. But thanks to him we're able to
17 stand on our own two feet without using a cane.
18 Another thing, the city is going to
19 place cameras all around the city. Ironic, especially

20 since before the last election the mayor and newspaper
21 cronies denied that crime was rising. The election is
22 over, so the truth can come out at last.

23 In The Times editorial calling Council
24 weak kneed politician, The Times has weak-kneed
25 editorialists hiding behind Halloween masks that wont'

83

1 put their names to the editorial.

2 Where were they hiding while the mayor
3 violated the Recovery Plan? But, Oh, I forgot, he's
4 the mayor. He can violate any contract and Recovery
5 Plan, and it's okay.

6 But guess again, when the courts uphold
7 the arbitrations that the mayor is appealing from the
8 contracts he violated, taxpayers, bend over, grab your
9 ankles and say goodbye to your real hard earned money.

10 And one question, Was a lien placed on
11 that property that you know about in the 1200 block of
12 Bryn Mawr Street? \$78,000 was used to tear down that
13 property.

14 MS. GATELLI: I don't think so.

15 MR. ANCHERANI: You don't think so?

16 MS. GATELLI: No.

17 MR. ANCHERANI: Thank you. I'll make a
18 motion that we send Lisa Moran a letter to pay the
19 soldiers the same pay that the other soldiers got.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

21 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All in
22 favor?

23 MS. EVANS: Aye.

24 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

25 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

84

1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

2 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
3 have it and so moved. Would anyone else care to speak
4 before Council? Mrs. Garvey.

5 MS. GARVEY: 5-A, motions.

6 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Evans.

7 MS. EVANS: Good evening. I, too, ask
8 for your prayers tonight, not only for Raymond Boyton,
9 who passed away earlier this week, but for his family
10 members he leaves behind. It is a very large and
11 wonderful family, and his oldest son Ray, who shares
12 his name, is also a DPW worker in Scranton.

13 According to reliable sources, the

14 mayor intends to appeal the police arbitration award,
15 and he has also indicated his intention to appeal if he
16 loses the firefighters arbitration case.

17 The mayor has lost, as was already
18 mentioned, has lost eight arbitrations to date,
19 meanwhile the legal fees to fight the awards and the
20 daily interest and penalty for non-payment of each
21 arbitration award are escalating.

22 An informed, intelligent and prudent
23 administrator would never violate contracts and expect
24 to win. Such violations were fool hearty and will cost
25 the taxpayers dearly.

.

85

1 In all fairness to the taxpayers, they
2 should, at the very least, be relieved of the added
3 costs incurred by these appeals, therefore, I move that
4 Scranton City Council on behalf of the Scranton
5 taxpayers oppose the appeal of the FOP arbitration
6 award and send a notice to the mayor declaring
7 Council's opposition and advising the mayor to abandon
8 such appeal.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

10 MS. GATELLI: On the question? I think

11 that we all agree with that. We stated it at the last
12 meeting, and I did see some quotes in the paper that I
13 don't believe any of us, correct me if I'm wrong,
14 support that notion, so absolutely we agree with you,
15 Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And I did want
17 to also go on record this evening and state that I will
18 not vote for any borrowing or tax increase to pay for
19 these wasteful legal fees, interests and penalties
20 associated with an appeal of this arbitration award.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question,
22 Mrs. Gatelli. Kay, maybe when Amil gets back, he can
23 answer this question for me.

24 I'm very, very happy that the city has
25 gotten a contract with the DPW. I'm happy for the
.

86

1 city, I'm happy for the DPW.

2 My question is this, It's being said

3 that to give this arbitration award to the police

4 violates the Recovery Plan. I don't understand if we

5 gave a contract to the DPW, why would it be against the

6 Recovery Plan then to give one to the police and fire?

7 I would like that to be explained to me, why it wasn't

8 illegal to do.

9 And, again, I'm happy the DPW got it,

10 but I want to see it resolved for the police and fire,

11 also. So, I need somebody smarter than me, I guess, to

12 explain to me why it's in violation of the Recovery

13 Plan to do with the police and fire and it was not in

14 violation to do it with the DPW. And I guess we will

15 wait until Amil comes back, or maybe Mr. Farrell might

16 be the man to ask, right?

17 MR. MINORA: I'll take a look at it.

18 MS. EVANS: If I could piggyback on

19 your question, Mr. Courtright. I think we also deserve

20 an explanation as to why non-union, that is,

21 administrative raises, were provided in a significant

22 amount every year in violation of the Recovery Plan.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Absolutely. So, if we

24 can get those answered, you know, maybe --

25 MS. GATELLI: And jobs were created

.

87

1 that weren't in --

2 MS. EVANS: Oh, absolutely. Many jobs

3 have been created.

4 MR. MCTIERNAN: Attorney -- no, go

5 ahead.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: I just said it's been
7 a long time since I read the Recovery Plan. Actually I
8 read it on vacation one time, and maybe they know
9 something I don't know, but it seems to be what's fair
10 for one should be fair for the other. That's the way I
11 look at it.

12 MS. GATELLI: And I think that when the
13 people voted for the Recovery Plan, I don't think they
14 realized they were going to lose some of their police
15 force.

16 And with the amount of crime and drugs
17 in this community, I don't see how you can decrease
18 police patrols, and I don't think that the people
19 really thought about that when they voted for the
20 Recovery Plan.

21 MS. EVANS: I might add, I don't think
22 most people read the Recovery Plan. It's a very
23 voluminous document and it certainly wasn't an item
24 that was distributed to every resident of the City of
25 Scranton.

.

88

1 So, my fear is, as I said, most had not

2 read it, whether we're discussing in its entirety, or
3 even selectively.
4 The message that was clear at the time,
5 however, was this, if the Recovery Plan is not passed
6 and implemented, there will be a tax increase, and that
7 was the message the voters, particularly the senior
8 citizens who vote, took with them into a voting booth
9 that November. And that's quite enough to frighten
10 anyone.

11 MS. GATELLI: Okay.

12 MS. EVANS: I don't believe they felt
13 it necessary to even read the Recovery Plan. That
14 message was strong and potent.

15 MS. GATELLI: Are we finding out what
16 PEL has received to date? I don't know, Kay, if that's
17 part of it. That would be interesting, too.

18 MS. GARVEY: I don't think so.

19 MS. GATELLI: I think when I was still
20 here, they were already to a million, and that's about
21 13 years ago, so --

22 MS. EVANS: Yes.

23 MS. GATELLI: They're making a lot of
24 money, the PEL. Anyone else on the questions?

25 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes. A question for

1 Attorney Minora, and maybe you can tell me if this is
2 possible, I'm curious, knowing that we went into an
3 arbitration, I'm assuming, and maybe I'm incorrectly
4 assuming, but there must have been proposals on the
5 table from both sides, and we have been relatively in
6 the dark on that.

7 Is it possible or is it allowable by
8 law for us to know what proposals were brought from
9 arbitration on both sides?

10 I'm reading this document that was in
11 our backup from Reed Smith and it's largely an
12 advertisement for a seminar, but they're citing the
13 Sunshine Act and they're talking about not part of the
14 Sunshine Act would be strategy and negotiation sessions
15 related to negotiation or arbitration of a collective
16 bargaining agreement, but we're not talking about
17 strategy now. We don't know the actual proposals.

18 And just as a matter of course, I'm
19 curious how far we're apart. I don't know that anyone
20 in the city knows how far apart we are, and we're --
21 while I agree I don't want to spend any more money
22 fighting arbitrations, I would be even less agreeable

23 to spending money to fight appeals, let me rephrase

24 that, sorry, to fight appeals if we were close.

25 If we were far apart, then we ought to

.

90

1 I know that. I will vote in favor of the motion tonight,

2 but I don't think it would be prudent for us not to

3 know that. And just so -- if you can just answer, is

4 that doable?

5 MR. MINORA: Honestly, I don't know the

6 answer to your question. I think before a decision is

7 rendered, I feel fairly certain in telling you that

8 that would be considered confidential at that point.

9 Post a decision, I don't know, and I think that's your

10 question.

11 MR. MCTIERNAN: I mean, I know it's

12 under litigation now because it's been appealed, so --

13 MR. MINORA: I will look it up, and I

14 also think that that's something that the union has

15 just as much access to, and they may be willing to

16 share that with you.

17 MR. MCTIERNAN: That was my second

18 question. If we can't ask that, maybe rather than put

19 each side in a difficult position, would it be

20 possible, rather than asking one side to reveal the
21 other's, if each side could reveal their own, then that
22 might be more palatable. I don't know if that's
23 doable, but just a point of issue.

24 MS. GATELLI: I think it's doable.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I am just going to
.

91

1 say what I -- I had approached people on this subject
2 and they told me that they really can't tell us on
3 either side what is going on because it would hurt the
4 negotiation process.

5 MR. MCTIERNAN: Sure.

6 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Okay. So, ponce
7 the arbitration went into effect, nobody can really
8 reveal what is going on.

9 MR. MCTIERNAN: Because it's under
10 litigation.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: My understanding,
12 again, rumor, but rumor from maybe some people that
13 it's not that far apart, not worlds apart.

14 I think the unions gave, my
15 understanding is, in on a lot of the issues. So, I
16 just -- rather than see us spend good money, you know,

17 on these arbitrations, maybe they could sit down and
18 talk. I don't know if they're even allowed to sit down
19 and talk, are they now, that it's binding arbitration?
20 Does it have to go to the court?

21 MR. MINORA: I don't believe so.

22 MS. GATELLI: I think he can withdraw
23 his appeal.

24 MS. EVANS: Oh, certainly.

25 MS. GATELLI: Absolutely.

92

1 MR. MCTIERNAN: That's what I was
2 wondering. If you got a decision, then we can't have
3 disclosure until there's litigation.
4 If we withdraw the litigation, then we
5 can have disclosure, the way I'm understanding
6 everyone's comments here.
7 So, even if it was a temporary withdraw
8 of the litigation so that we all know, it just seems
9 silly for us to say we're voting on something and we
10 have no idea. I'm going to vote yes, only because I
11 know we're incurring interest payments and other fees,
12 but, Boy, I would really like to know where we stand.
13 MS. GATELLI: As I stated previously, I

14 have a meeting Monday or Tuesday, and Amil will be back
15 then and he will come with me. So, if I find anything
16 out, I certainly will share it with Council. I don't
17 know if I can share it with the public, but at least
18 Council --

19 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yeah, that might be
20 something in executive session that would be --

21 MS. GATELLI: Yeah. I mean, there are
22 certain things that cannot be divulged, and that will
23 be one of them, but I certainly would share what I
24 learn with my fellow Council members.

25 MS. EVANS: And I agree, I, too, would

93

1 like to know, Mr. McTiernan. And I hope, as
2 Mr. Courtright said, that they are very close, both
3 sides, but I still believe that you cannot violate a
4 contract and expect to win, and then to appeal a
5 discussion rendered, and, I mean, my goodness, this
6 took about 18 months to come down, so, I would imagine
7 that the arbitrator spent a goodly amount of time.
8 And as I said last week, it appears
9 this is a very, very fair agreement for both sides. To
10 think that we're going to waste even more money

11 appealing that, it's a losing battle, no matter how you

12 want to look at it.

13 And we are already stuck with the cost

14 of the arbitration wards themselves, seven of them. I

15 really don't think we can afford to escalate those

16 costs endlessly.

17 MS. GATELLI: All in favor?

18 MS. EVANS: Aye.

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

20 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

22 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

23 have it and so moved.

24 MS. EVANS: I also wanted to read an

25 announcement that we received from the County of

.

94

1 Lackawanna Department of Parks and Recreation. Please

2 be advised that Lackawanan County Department of Parks

3 and Recreation is cooperating with the Pennsylvania

4 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau

5 of Forestry in conducting a gypsy moth suppression

6 project in the East Mountain section of the city this

7 spring.

8 The insecticide being used on
9 residential properties is BT, a biological insecticide
10 which has no known adverse human health or
11 environmental impacts.
12 The insecticide will be applied by
13 aircraft, either helicopter or fixed wing flying
14 approximately 50 feet above the tree tops.
15 To avoid the possibility of eye
16 irritation, persons should not look up as the spray
17 cloud is descending. If eye irritation does occur, and
18 eye wash should be used and the family physician
19 consulted.
20 If the material gets on the skin, soap
21 and water are sufficient to remove it. To make spot
22 removal as easy as possible, vehicles which are exposed
23 to the spray deposit should be washed as soon as
24 possible.
25 You may contact the local bureau of

95

1 forestry office at Brad Allison, district Forester, 401
2 Samters Building, 101 Penn Avenue, Scranton, PA, if you
3 need additional information on the insecticides being
4 used or the timing of the spraying in your area. And

5 that comes from Michael Chisdock, Lackawanna County

6 Gypsy Moth Program Coordinator.

7 Also, Kay, has the mayor responded to

8 the QRS request?

9 MS. GARVEY: No.

10 MS. EVANS: No? Well, perhaps

11 following the announcement of the arbitration award in

12 that case, he may then consider the proposal hopefully.

13 Also, Kay, did we receive any

14 information from Mr. Fiorini regarding an abandoned

15 trailer on Pittston Avenue, the 3200 block?

16 MS. GARVEY: No, I haven't.

17 MS. EVANS: If we do get that

18 information, would you let me know, please?

19 MS. GARVEY: Sure.

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you. I was also

21 presented with some very interesting information today

22 regarding a city ordinance that requires apprentices

23 and journeymen to pay a license fee.

24 Now, I'm told an apprentice labors for

25 five years before he is a licensed individual, why then

.

96

1 must he pay to be licensed while he is in the process

2 of studying to become licensed?

3 There are those apprentices who are

4 Scranton city residents paying a 3.4 percent wage tax,

5 the EMS tax, and now they are paying a fee on top of

6 that to be licensed to work in the City of Scranton.

7 I was also told by the individual who

8 passed this notice along to me that in terms of our

9 neighboring townships, boroughs and municipalities,

10 specifically Scott Township, Taylor, Mahoopany,

11 Dunmore, Wilkes-Barre, they do not charge a license is

12 fee, and so I would like a copy of the ordinance,

13 please, Kay, to review and discuss with Council

14 members.

15 I also have this week's citizens

16 requests. 314 North Cabrini and 306 North Cabrini,

17 there are two empty lots, and if we could please ask

18 Mr. Fiorini to determine the ownership of each.

19 A letter to Mr. Parker, can you install

20 a catch basin on the odd side of the street in the 200

21 block of North Cameron Avenue. I know this problem was

22 discussed earlier.

23 Even prior o your family member

24 residing in that area, I have been out there due to the

25 complaints of other residents, and I do know what we're

1 looking at, and it seems that either the street must be
2 leveled off or another catch basin needs to be created
3 in order to absorb that water on the odd side of the
4 street.

5 The corner of North Main and Theodore
6 Street, although there is a sign posted to prevent the
7 intersection from blockage, vehicles ignore the sign,
8 hence emergency vehicles occasionally are unable to
9 travel through the intersection.

10 Residents express concerns about speed
11 limits on Luzerne Street between North Main and
12 Meridian. They feel it's difficult to maintain a 25
13 mile per hour speed limit when traveling downhill, so
14 they're asking possibly if a stop sign might be
15 installed somewhere within those two avenues thereby
16 slowing down vehicular traffic.

17 2814 Birney Avenue, I ask that Mr.

18 Santolli inspect trees at this address whose limbs are
19 growing into the house and into electric wires.

20 And as I think it was Mr. Gilbride who

21 mentioned earlier Robinson Park, we would like fences
22 repaired and debris cleared.

23 Also, a street paving list,
24 South Decker Court, the 300 block of Division Street,
25 the 900 block of North Filmore Avenue, the 2600 block
. . .
98

1 of Boulevard Avenue, the 600 and 700 blocks of Herbert
2 Street, the 1200 block of Grimes Court, the 1100 block
3 of Watson Street, the 1100 block of Smith Place, 1100,
4 1200 and 1300 blocks of East Park Avenue, Greenbush
5 Street, 100 block of North Hyde Park Avenue the 1300
6 block of Pittston Avenue, the 1600 block of Division
7 Street, Olive Street from the intersection of Olive and
8 Capouse to the intersection at the light before the
9 entrance to Scranton High School, Ruddy Place in
10 North Scranton, North Dewey Avenue, 500 block of
11 North Sumner Avenue, the 200 block of Putnam Avenue,
12 Halsey Court, And, again, coming from our Junior
13 Council member Reeves Street.
14 And finally, I have one last commercial
15 announcement that I forgot about earlier. This
16 Saturday evening April 8 at Lackawanna College,
17 formerly the Scranton CYC, there will be a celebrity
18 basketball game, the Harlem Jokers versus Celebrity
19 Locals, including Commissioner Munchak and Mayor

20 Doherty.

21 The admission fee is \$8. All proceeds
22 will be donated to the children's advocacy center for
23 battered children. And this project is being sponsored
24 by the class of -- the current class, that is, of
25 Leadership Lackawanna.

99

1 And as a graduate of Leadership
2 Lackawanna, I'm very, very pleased to promote this
3 project, and I hope that all of you will come out and
4 enjoy the game. They're very much like the Harlem
5 Globetrotters, and it's for a wonderful cause, and I
6 hope I'm going to see you there, because I think, God
7 help us all, I'm playing in the game, too. That's it.

8 MS. GATELLI: I think more of us would
9 go if there was a dunk tank. Mrs. Fanucci.

10 MS. EVANS: You never know.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: How do I follow
12 that? Okay. I'm going to talk a little bit about the
13 playground program. I do believe we need one. I
14 believe it's something important.

15 Now, my idea for the playground program
16 might not be in competent with the Boys Club, I don't

17 think it is. What I'm looking at is trying to bring
18 more arts and introducing the children into more arts.
19 I have a volunteer acting instructor that would come in
20 and help volunteer. I've had volunteers for art
21 classes that are more in depth, introducing children to
22 impressionists paintings, different types of art.
23 I also have someone who said that they
24 would come in and do music and introduce the children
25 to different instruments. So, maybe if I talk to the
.

100

1 Boys and Girls Club, we can get together and maybe do
2 something in conjunction with that they won't feel like
3 it's just -- will deter from their program, something
4 that maybe they can send the kids over after, maybe at
5 one o'clock, when their program is over. So, I will
6 definitely look into that.
7 I also had three more volunteers on
8 helping with the funding for this program, so it
9 obviously is something that people feel is important,
10 so I will get back to that next week.
11 Kay, in the -- I want to send a letter,
12 can you believe this? I want to send a letter. I want
13 to find out from the permit department exactly how much

14 money be bring in in licensing and permits probably on
15 a yearly basis, but I also want it broken down to find
16 out how the people go about in the city to be a
17 contractor, how much money that each person has to pay,
18 and if there are any part-time or temporary licensing
19 that can take place, okay, and how much they are.

20 Also, after I've been in contact, I
21 don't know how to go about this, okay, I've been in
22 contact with a few people on issues that -- we've been
23 discussing a lot of issues about people and what
24 businesses are coming into this area.

25 What I found out is that a lot of

.

101

1 businesses don't want to tell you they're coming into
2 this area. I found it to be a little odd, considering
3 the fact that you would think they would want to
4 advertise.

5 They are very tight lipped and very
6 structured because of competition. I thought only
7 retail people would be this way, but it doesn't seem to
8 be that way. It's office buildings.

9 I found out we were being looked at by
10 people in New Jersey to relocate and put some

11 businesses here. They don't even want to tell you who
12 they are.

13 But when I did discuss maybe sitting
14 down and giving us an outlook of maybe not telling us
15 exactly the company's name, but who they are
16 encompassing, what kind of -- is it an office building,
17 is it a retail business, so that's something that they
18 are going to look into helping us with. So, I thought
19 I would just report that. And that is all I have right
20 now. Thank you.

21 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

22 Mr. McTiernan.

23 MR. MCTIERNAN: Mrs. Gatelli, I have
24 nothing at this time.

25 MS. GATELLI: Oh, my goodness. Don't

.

102

1 think you're going to get away with that next week.

2 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Courtright.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes. I'd like to
4 offer congratulations to our three Scranton police
5 officers, Officer Mike Schultz, Joe Dombrowski and
6 Eddie McEntire.

7 On April 5 at approximately 8:15 p.m.,

8 they received a call, and I'm not going to say the
9 address or the person's name, and when the officers
10 reached the residence within a couple of minutes they
11 got there and they found a victim in full arrest and a
12 sister-in-law who was a nurse was doing CPR on them,
13 and the officers, they carry an AED with them, which
14 would be an automatic external defibrillator. They
15 attached the defibrillator and saved this gentleman's
16 life, so I'd like to thank those officers for doing a
17 job well done there.

18 I know over the weeks we mentioned
19 probably 100 streets need to be paved, and I don't know
20 if these are on there, Kay, or not, but the one of
21 South and North Hyde Park and the five and six of
22 Meridian. If they aren't already on there, we probably
23 covered every street in the city over the last couple
24 of weeks.

25 Some individual, I don't know who, when
.

103

1 you go off of Keyser Avenue on to Flume Street, it
2 turns into Forest Glen Drive, and someone went in there
3 and cleaned up the whole area, but there's three or
4 four garbage bags on Forest Glen Drive. If the DPW

5 could pick them up, the person was good enough to clean
6 up the area or persons, I'm not quite sure, if they
7 could pick those up.

8 I can't read my own writing here. Oh,
9 okay. I was talking to an individual. Hyde Park
10 Avenue where it goes across Oram Street, it used to
11 have Deckers Court name on it, now I think they're
12 calling it Hyde Park Avenue, but anyway, what happens
13 is when individuals are coming down Hyde Park Avenue,
14 they look off to the right onto Oram Street, and if the
15 light is red, they will cut through this alley and
16 they'll speed through to beat the light, and the
17 residents were wondering if we're calling it the court
18 or if we're calling it Hyde Park Avenue, if it could be
19 a one way heading south, if they can change that street
20 to a one way heading south so the people won't be
21 trying to beat the light that way.

22 I know that's how they got speed bumps
23 behind Smith's Diner because people were trying to beat
24 the light there. So, maybe we can change that to a one
25 way and, again, I'm going to refer to as Hyde Park

.

104

1 Avenue, probably the eight of Hyde Park, but it was

2 named a court before, and the residents aren't even

3 sure what they're calling it these days. And that's

4 it. That's all I have. Thank you.

5 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mrs. Garvey.

6 MS. GARVEY: 5-B, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN

7 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 162, 2005 AN

8 ORDINANCE ENTITLED GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2006

9 BY ADDING ACCOUNT NO. 01.011.00011.4080 (OVERTIME

10 SALARY) IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

11 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

12 entertain a motion that 5-B be introduced.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

15 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

16 those in favor.

17 MS. EVANS: Aye.

18 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

19 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

21 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

22 have it and so moved.

23 MS. GARVEY: 5-C, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN

24 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 162, 2005, AN

25 ORDINANCE ENTITLED GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2006

1 BY TRANSFERRING \$200.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
2 01.011.00011.4420 (TRAVEL/LODGING-PUBLIC SAFETY) TO
3 ACCOUNT NO. 01.011.00011.4080 (OVERTIME SALARY-PUBLIC
4 SAFETY) TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR OVERTIME SALARY.

5 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll
6 entertain a motion that 5-C introduced.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

9 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

10 those in favor.

11 MS. EVANS: Aye.

12 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

13 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

15 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

16 have it and so moved.

17 MS. GARVEY: 5-D, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN
18 ORDINANCE - DECLARING THE CURRENT REFUNDING OF THE
19 OUTSTANDING PARKING REVENUE BONDS, SERIES OF 1995 OF
20 THE PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
21 PENNSYLVANIA AND THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND
22 RENOVATION OF EXISTING PARKING FACILITIES OWNED BY THE

23 PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA
24 AND LOCATED IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND OPERATED BY THE
25 CITY PURSUANT TO AN OPERATING AGREEMENT, TO BE A

.

106

1 PROJECT OF THE CITY FOR WHICH LEASE RENTAL DEBT IS TO
2 BE INCURRED; DETERMINING TO INCUR LEASE RENTAL DEBT IN
3 THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$6,300,000 IN RESPECT OF THE
4 PROJECT, SUCH DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED BY BONDS TO BE
5 ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY AND SECURED BY RENTALS PAYABLE
6 TO THE AUTHORITY BY THE CITY UNDER A LEASE (INCLUDING A
7 FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE) OF THE PARKING FACILITIES,
8 AND BY A COVENANT OF GUARANTY OF THE CITY CONTAINED IN
9 SAID FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE; STATING THE ESTIMATED
10 REALISTIC USEFUL LIVES OF THE PARKING FACILITIES;
11 AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CITY OFFICERS TO PREPARE, CERTIFY
12 AND FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
13 DEVELOPMENT THE DEBT STATEMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 8110
14 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT AND STATEMENT
15 REQUIRED BY SECTION 8026 OF SUCH DEBT ACT TO QUALIFY
16 THE DEBT INCURRED AS SELF-LIQUIDATING DEBT; AUTHORIZING
17 THE PREPARATION OF A BORROWING BASE CERTIFICATE;
18 SPECIFICALLY APPROVING AMOUNTS OF FIXED RENT AND OTHER
19 PAYMENTS (INCLUDING THE GUARANTY OF DEBT SERVICE ON

20 SAID BONDS) TO BE MADE BY THE CITY UNDER SUCH LEASE;
21 APPROVING AND ACKNOWLEDGING NOTICE OF THE AUTHORITY'S
22 ASSIGNMENT OF SUCH RENTALS TO TRUSTEE IN RESPECT OF THE
23 AUTHORITY'S BONDS; AUTHORIZING INCIDENTAL ACTION;
24 REPEALING INCONSISTENT PRIOR ORDINANCES; AND APPROVING
25 THE FORM OF, AND AUTHORIZING, SUBJECT TO RECEIPT OF

107

1 NECESSARY STATE APPROVALS, EXECUTING AND DELIVERY OF
2 FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE AND THE OPERATING AGREEMENT.

3 MS. GATELLI: Before I entertain a
4 motion, because we introduce something doesn't mean
5 we're approving of it. It just puts it in the next
6 order, and we will have Attorney Minora investigate
7 this for the next time we meet.

8 At this time I'll entertain a motion
9 that 5-D be introduced.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

12 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

13 MS. EVANS: Yes. I would like to have
14 a caucus meeting about it that would include the bond
15 Council, maybe a representative of the bank. I know in
16 the past when there have been similar financial

17 dealings regarding the garages, a representative of PNC

18 Bank came in to address all of us, and perhaps

19 Mr. Wintermantle, as well.

20 MS. GATELLI: We can do that.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question, just

22 for the public, sometimes I don't think people realize,

23 Kay, you correct me if I'm wrong, all ordinances have

24 three readings, right?

25 And for the most part, whether it was a

.

108

1 piece of legislation I agree with or disagree with, for

2 the most part I'll say, not all the time, I usually

3 would vote to introduce it into a committee, because I

4 think that was the purpose. You know, it goes into the

5 committee and the committee would study it, and then we

6 could talk about it.

7 So, if, for instance, a piece of

8 legislation is something you don't agree with, we can

9 vote it down in sixth order or seventh order or we can

10 pull it, whatever the case may be.

11 So, as Mrs. Gatelli said, I think this

12 evening it's in fifth order, and I'll be voting in

13 favor of it to put it into the committee.

14 MS. GATELLI: Anybody else on the

15 question? All those in favor.

16 MS. EVANS: Aye.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

18 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

20 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

21 have it and so moved.

22 MS. GARVEY: 5-E, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN

23 ORDINANCE - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT

24 1130-1132 LUZERNE STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO

25 EDWARD J. BACKUS, 608 NORTH HYDE PARK AVENUE, SCRANTON,

.

109

1 PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, FOR THE SUM OF \$16,000.00.

2 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

3 entertain a motion that 5-E be introduced.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

6 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

7 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

8 MS. EVANS: Aye.

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

10 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

12 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

13 have it and so moved.

14 MS. GARVEY: 5-F, FOR INTRODUCTION - AN

15 ORDINANCE - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 412

16 WILLOW STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO KEY EQUITY,

17 LLC, 705 ROSEN COURT, APT. 2, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,

18 18505, FOR THE SUM OF \$1,000.00.

19 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

20 entertain a motion that 5-F be introduced.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

23 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

24 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

.

110

1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

2 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

4 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

5 have it and so moved.

6 MS. GARVEY: 5-G, FOR INTRODUCTION - A

7 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

8 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
9 GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
10 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO
11 ACCEPT THE GRANT OF \$124,263 RELATING TO THE DEMOLITION
12 OF THE HOLIDAY MANOR PROPERTY.

13 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll
14 entertain a motion that 5-G be introduced.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

17 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

18 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Gatelli, you indicated
19 earlier that the city will place a lien?

20 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

21 MS. EVANS: Can we get that in writing?

22 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

24 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
25 question? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

.

111

1 MS. EVANS: Aye.

2 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

3 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

5 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

6 have it and so moved.

7 MS. GARVEY: 5-H, FOR INTRODUCTION - A

8 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

9 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A GRANT

10 AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT

11 OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO ACCEPT THE

12 GRANT OF \$72,168 RELATING TO THE DEMOLITION OF THE

13 HOLIDAY MANOR PROPERTY.

14 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

15 entertain a motion that 5-H be introduced.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

19 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

20 MS. EVANS: Aye.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

22 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

24 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

25 have it and so moved.

.

112

1 MS. GARVEY: 5-I, FOR INTRODUCTION - A

2 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
3 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
4 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CLOUGH HARBOUR &
5 ASSOCIATES, LLP FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND
6 LANDSCAPING ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES RELATED TO
7 PROVIDENCE SQUARE, PHASE II.

8 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll
9 entertain a motion that 5-I be introduced.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

12 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All
13 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

14 MS. EVANS: Aye.

15 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

16 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

18 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19 have it and so moved.

20 MS. GARVEY: 5-J, FOR INTRODUCTION - A
21 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
22 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
23 ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN FROM THE
24 COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM, PROJECT
25 NO. 03-150 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000.00 TO

113

1 DTK VENTURES, LP TO ASSIST IN ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

2 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll

3 entertain a motion that 5-J be introduced.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

5 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

6 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

7 MS. EVANS: This may be tied into the

8 CRF loan.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: No. I asked that. I

10 thought the same thing.

11 MS. GATELLI: No. The CRF money isn't

12 there yet.

13 MS. EVANS: Okay.

14 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the

15 question? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

16 MS. EVANS: Aye.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

18 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

20 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

21 have it and so moved.

22 MS. GARVEY: Sixth order. 6-A, READING

23 BY TITLE - AN ORDINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 26, 2006

24 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 68, 2004 ENTITLED, AN

25 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

.

114

1 CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL

2 NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED

3 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

4 PROGRAMS (AS AMENDED) TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY

5 DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT

6 PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT

7 (ESG) PROGRAM BY TRANSFERRING \$77,700.00 FROM 2002 HOME

8 ADMINISTRATION, \$414,000.00 FROM 2004 HOME BUYER

9 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, \$384,668.00 FROM 2004 HOME

10 ADMINISTRATION, \$123,632.00 FROM 2005 HOME BUYER

11 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,000,000.00 TO 2005

12 SOUTHSIDE/CEDAR AVE. STRATEGY AREA PROJECT.

13 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

14 title of 6-A, what is your pleasure?

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-A

16 pass reading by title.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

19 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

20 MS. EVANS: Aye.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

22 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

24 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

25 have it and so moved.

.

115

1 MS. GARVEY: Seventh order. 7-A, FOR

2 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION

3 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 17, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE -

4 CLOSING AND VACATING THE IDENTIFIED PORTIONS OF HILL

5 STREET, AN UNNAMED STREET AND UNNAMED ALLEYWAY SHOWN ON

6 EXHIBIT "A" LOCATED BETWEEN BOULEVARD AVENUE AND

7 OLYPHANT AVENUE NORTH OF PARKER STREET.

8 MS. GATELLI: As the chairperson for

9 the committee on rules, I recommend final passage of

10 Item 7-A.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

12 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

13 call.

14 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

15 MS. EVANS: Yes.

16 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

18 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

19 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

20 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

22 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

23 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

24 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted. And, once

25 again, there's a success story when you deal with the

116

1 neighborhoods. I'm very, very happy for you, and I

2 hope that you'll treat the neighbors with respect, and

3 I know you will.

4 MR. HOLECKO: I will.

5 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.

6 MS. GARVEY: 7-B, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

7 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL

8 NO. 18, 2006 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL

9 NO. 74, 1993, (AS AMENDED), ENTITLED THE ZONING

10 ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON, BY CHANGING A

11 PORTION OF A PARCEL OF LAND KNOWN AS PARCEL NUMBER

12 13501060019, LOCATED BETWEEN OLYPHANT AND BOULEVARD

13 AVENUES, NORTH OF PARKER STREET, SCRANTON,

14 PENNSYLVANIA, AS DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT A ATTACHED HERETO
15 FROM R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO I-L (LIGHT
16 INDUSTRIAL).

17 MS. GATELLI: As chairperson for the
18 committee on rules, I recommend final passage of 7-B.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

20 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
21 call.

22 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

23 MS. EVANS: Yes.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

117

1 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

2 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

6 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

7 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

8 MS. GARVEY: 7-C, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

9 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 24, 2006

10 - AN ORDINANCE - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 516

11 LEGGETT STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO RONALD AND
12 JENNIFER WILLIAMS, 2115 BALLAU AVENUE, SCRANTON,
13 PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, FOR THE SUM OF \$2,000.00.

14 MS. GATELLI: What is the
15 recommendation of the chairperson on finance?

16 MR. MCTIERNAN: I recommend final
17 passage of Item 7-C.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

19 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
20 call.

21 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

22 MS. EVANS: Yes.

23 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

24 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

25 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

.

118

1 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

2 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

5 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

6 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

7 MS. GARVEY: 7-D, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

8 THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 25, 2006
9 - AN ORDINANCE - SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT
10 517-519 GIBSON STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO TWINS
11 MANAGEMENT, LLC, 105 SKYTOP MANOR, DUNMORE,
12 PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, FOR THE SUM OF \$3,500.00.

13 MS. GATELLI: What is the
14 recommendation of the chairperson on finance?

15 MR. MCTIERNAN: I recommend final
16 passage of Item 7-D.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

18 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll
19 call.

20 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

21 MS. EVANS: Yes.

22 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

23 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

25 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

.

119

1 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

5 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

6 MS. GARVEY: 7-E, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

7 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION -

8 RESOLUTION NO. 42, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

9 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER

10 INTO SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 048675-A

11 WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF

12 TRANSPORTATION (PENNDOT) FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING

13 FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR THE STREET LIGHTING PROJECT ON EAST

14 MARKET STREET.

15 MS. GATELLI: What is the

16 recommendation of the chairperson on public works?

17 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

18 on public works, I recommend final passage of Item 7-E.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

20 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

21 call.

22 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

23 MS. EVANS: Yes.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

25 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

.

120

1 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

2 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

6 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

7 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

8 MS. GARVEY: 7-F, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

9 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR ADOPTION -

10 RESOLUTION NO. 43, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

11 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER

12 INTO A SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO.

13 040928-B WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

14 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (PENNDOT) FOR THE PURPOSE

15 OF INCREASING THE FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION

16 PHASE OF THE EAST MARKET STREET BRIDGE PROJECT.

17 MS. GATELLI: What is the

18 recommendation of the chairperson on public works?

19 MS. EVANS: As chair for the committee

20 on public works, I recommend final passage of Item 7-F.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

22 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

23 call.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

121

1 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

2 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

4 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

8 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

9 Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted. Do I have a

10 motion to adjourn?

11 MS. GATELLI: Second. Meeting

12 adjourned.

13

14 (MEETING WAD ADJOURNED.)

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24 C E R T I F I C A T E

25

.

122

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

6

7

8

LISA M. GRAFF, RMR
9 Official Court Reporter

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25