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1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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5 Held:

6 Thursday, April 20, 2006

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9 Time:

10 6:30 p.m.

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13 Location:

14 Council Chambers

15 Scranton City Hall

16 340 North Washington Avenue

17 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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21 Lisa M. Graff, RMR

22 Court Reporter

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1 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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3 MS. JUDY GATELLI, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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5 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT, VICE-PRESIDENT

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7 MS. JANET EVANS

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9 MS. SHERRY NEALON FANUCCI

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11 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

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13 MR. JOHN MINORA, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

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15 MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

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17 MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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1 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Please stand for

2 the Pledge Of Allegiance. Please remain standing for a

3 short prayer. Roll call, please.

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. Before we get on

14 with the rest of the meeting, we have two proclamations

15 this evening. The first one is for Mr. Bill Morgan.

16 Would you come up, Bill, please?

17 Whereas, the Council of the City of
18 Scranton is desirous of honoring William "Bill" Morgan
19 for his many years of dedication to the children in his
20 community.

21 He was born in Virginia and raised in
22 Baltimore, where he started his career in 1948 with the
23 Baltimore Signal Depot, which later became the
24 Tobyhanna Army Depot.

25 After the company relocated to this
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1 area, Bill came to Scranton in 1954 and was a
2 supervisor of the radio branch at Tobyhanna. He
3 received awards for work performed in his section, but
4 always gave the recognition to his employees.

5 Bill began as a substitute crossing
6 guard in 1987 after retiring from his career at
7 Tobyhanna and served as a substitute crossing guard at
8 several elementary schools until his permanent
9 assignment at Prescott School, where he served for
10 nearly 20 years.

11 He was nominated by the entire Prescott
12 School community for the Employee of the Month Award.
13 Last year the East Scranton Business Association

14 presented Bill with a quality of life award and was

15 also recognized in The Scranton Times.

16 He meets people today that still call

17 him Mr. Bill, and he says they're not kids anymore.

18 They are grown up with kids of their own stopping to

19 say hello or share a story from years past.

20 Mr. Bill enjoyed the children very much

21 and feels he was just there to keep the kids safe.

22 Bill is married to Vera Morgan and has two daughters,

23 Paula Frazier and Sonia Morgan and four stepchildren.

24 Now, therefore, be it resolved that on

25 Thursday, April 20, Scranton City Council wishes to

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1 congratulate Mr. Bill Morgan for his dedication and

2 concern for the many children of the community over the

3 years and extend our best wishes for a happy, healthy

4 and much deserved retirement.

5 Be it further resolved that this

6 proclamation be made a permanent part of the minutes as

7 a lasting tribute to Mr. Bill Morgan.

8 MR. MORGAN: I miss the kids.

9 MS. GATELLI: Whereas, the Council of

10 the City of Scranton is desirous of honoring the Junior

11 City Council of Scranton as participants in the Global
12 Youth Service Day. It is the largest service event in
13 the world.
14 The goals of Global Youth Service Day
15 are to mobilize youth to identify and address the needs
16 of their communities through service to support youth
17 on a lifelong path of service and civic engagement and
18 to educate the public, the media and policymakers about
19 the year round contributions of young people as
20 community leaders.
21 Global Youth Service Day is a public
22 awareness and education campaign that highlights the
23 contributions that young people make to their
24 communities.

25 The Junior City Council, which include
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1 Kevin Jones, Katrina Organ, Jerome Singleton, Ian
2 Miller, John Gilbride, Matthew Butler, Doug Miller,
3 Jackson Lockhead, Corey Jones, Michael Garzarella and
4 James Piazza have organized a beautification project
5 along Woodlawn Street in the Green Ridge section of
6 Scranton.
7 The Junior City Council attend weekly

8 City Council meetings, as well as conduct regular

9 meetings in their schools to address classmates'

10 concerns regarding city issues.

11 The Scranton City Council,

12 administrators of the City of Scranton, citizens,

13 parents, teachers and fellow classmates are very proud

14 of the Junior City Council.

15 Therefore, be it resolved that on

16 Thursday, April 20, Scranton City Council wishes to

17 congratulate the Junior City Council for their

18 contribution and outstanding achievement.

19 Be it further resolved that this

20 proclamation be made a permanent part of the minutes as

21 a lasting tribute to the Junior City Council.

22 We'll dispense with the reading of the

23 minutes, Kay.

24 MS. GARVEY: Third order. 3-A,

25 APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS RENDERED BY THE ZONING

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1 HEARING BOARD MEETING HELD ON APRIL 12, 2006.

2 MS. GATELLI: Are there any comments?

3 If not, received and filed.

4 MS. GARVEY: 3-B, Clerk's notes. A

5 response from Mr. Parker regarding the potholes on
6 Parrot Avenue between St. Ann's Street and Sloan
7 Street, he said these potholes will be filled.
8 Regarding the concerns of speeding on
9 Luzerne Street between North Main Avenue and Meridian,
10 you had asked for a stop sign to be placed somewhere
11 between these two streets to slow down downhill
12 traffic. His response was that stop signs cannot be
13 used to control speed limits. This would be more of an
14 enforcement issue.
15 The corner of North Main Avenue and
16 Theodore Street, traffic congestion, Mr. Parker said
17 that this really isn't anything that he could do
18 anything with, and that is also an enforcement issue.
19 Robinson Park, fencing and sidewalk
20 issue from last meeting. This was sent to Mr. Parker,
21 and he said that this was more of an issue for Parks
22 and Recreation Department, and so we have forwarded
23 that onto Mr. Scopelliti.
24 Mrs. Fanucci, regarding your request
25 for information from Mr. Fiorini about finding out how
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1 much money the city brings in on a yearly basis for

2 licensing and permits, he said that all of that is
3 broken down in the budget, so he gave you a copy of
4 that particular page, along with the File of Council
5 155 of '99, and also highlighted the areas that you
6 were interested in, such as licensing fees, application
7 requirements, et cetera.

8 The monthly debt service for the Casey
9 Parkway Garage, as Mrs. Evans asked for, is \$43,005.
10 And 2814 Birney Avenue, the trees growing into
11 electrical wires, Mr. Parker said PP&L normally trims
12 the trees when they're involved with the wires. I
13 think that may be all that I have.

14 Mr. Santolli was in today regarding the
15 trees on Birney Avenue and Cedar Avenue. He said that
16 either last year or the year before PennDOT had cut one
17 side of the trees for better visibility or because of
18 the right of way.

19 That looks like they may have been
20 lopsided and growing to the one side. They do need to
21 be cut on the other side, but due to the lack of
22 funding and the minimal budget that he has to work with
23 it, it's not possible for him to address this right now
24 because this is a mammoth job.

25 He did say the most important thing was

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1 that they pose no public safety hazards, no danger to
2 the public, and hopefully if next year's budget allows
3 more money for him than this year's did, they may be
4 able to take on that project. That's all I have.

5 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. I just have a
6 few things. The first thing is, The Women's Resource
7 Center will be having their annual Take Back the Night
8 next Thursday, April 27 at 7:30. They will be meeting
9 at the Covenant Presbyterian Church on Olive and
10 Madison Avenue.

11 Several cleanups were done on April the
12 8th. The Boy Scouts cleaned up the viaduct, Main
13 Avenue from the Expressway to Farr Street, and Keyser
14 Avenue from Gold's Gym to North and Electric.

15 They collected 150 bags of trash. It
16 was Pac 11 Cub scouts from St. Lucy's Church in West
17 Scranton. Their leader is Paul Martin, and the
18 assistant cub master is Mike Paulick. I'd like to
19 thank them very much. They did a wonderful job.

20 There also was a cleanup in South
21 Scranton, and I'd like to thank the following members
22 of the association, Wayne Evans, Steve Kochis, Susanne

23 Andres, Tony Plishka, and Ann Harrington. We cleaned
24 up Cedar Avenue and South Washington and the 300 block
25 of Birch Street.

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1 I would also encourage groups to please
2 clean up. I have noticed in many areas of the city
3 this week, I guess because it's getting warm out,
4 people are getting anxious and they're cleaning up
5 their properties, and they're to be commended for
6 cleaning up their properties.

7 And it sets an example, and everyone
8 else will see what a fine job you're doing and maybe it
9 will catch on. So, keep up the good work.

10 They questioned last week the light at
11 the corner of Meadow Avenue and River Street. And as
12 we stated, that was supposed to be approved many years
13 ago by the Planning Commission when they put in the
14 mini-mart.

15 So, I called and found out about the
16 study, and the study has been completed, and the light
17 has been approved, and PennDOT will pay for the light.
18 I don't have a time frame on it, but I hope it's not as
19 long as we've been waiting so far.

20 But at least we know that it has been
21 approved. The study's done, and PennDOT is going to
22 pay for it, so that's a plus.

23 Several weeks in a row a neighbor from
24 the 300 block of East Locust Street came here
25 complaining about a dumping problem.

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1 There have been letters issued to the
2 property owner from Mr. Fiorini and from the zoning
3 officer. And when I contacted them to please enforce
4 their letters, they told me that they had already
5 received a call from the property owner, and he said
6 that if they do anything, he is going to sue them.
7 So, they requested that I ask City
8 Council to send a letter on behalf of Council that they
9 pursue this matter. Now, I don't think this is
10 necessary. I think they should just do what they have
11 to do, but to help the person that lives there, I'm
12 going to make a motion that we send a letter to Mike
13 Wallace, the zoning officer, and Mr. Fiorini and ask
14 them to do due diligence and pursue this mater. It has
15 been going on for many, many years with that particular
16 property. It has been a problem property for over

17 20 years. So, I make that motion that we send a
18 letter.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

20 MS. GATELLI: All in favor?

21 MS. EVANS: Aye.

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

23 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

25 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
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1 have it and so moved. Thank you. I didn't think it
2 was necessary, but we'll try that next.

3 As far as the Robinson Park problem,

4 Kay, I was in touch with the neighborhood association

5 up there, because they take care of the property, and I

6 talked to Mike Cummings, and he said that there is no

7 garbage on the sidewalk or debris and that the fence

8 had been run down by a car and they were waiting for

9 the insurance to pay to fix the fence.

10 He went up there this morning and he

11 said the fence has been repaired, and there's only part

12 at the end where it's loose, and he thinks that a car

13 may have hit it again.

14 So, I talked to Mr. Scopelliti, and he
15 was going up there this afternoon. But that problem
16 has been rectified.

17 MS. GARVEY: Okay.

18 MS. GATELLI: I also got a call about
19 graffiti on the Dorothy Street playground, some very
20 vulgar graffiti. So, I called Mr. Scopelliti during
21 the week, and he was up there today with the graffiti
22 removal getting rid of that.

23 And also the trees were trimmed on
24 Capouse Avenue for Mr. Lyman.

25 I also have a letter that I requested
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1 from the mayor to give us that a lien will be recorded
2 for the Holiday Manor. So, I indeed have that letter
3 for all of Council to look at.
4 Potholes were repaired on Meade Avenue,
5 Cottage Avenue, Porter, South Fifth, Meridian, West
6 Elm, Fourth Avenue, Skyview Drive, 2400 of
7 North Washington, University Avenue, Five of Pine,
8 Poplar, West Lackawanna, Olive, Forest Drive, Baker
9 Street, Court Street, Waldorf Lane, Lake Scranton Road,
10 Three of North Hyde Park, Dowd Avenue, 59 Snook Street,

11 Meadow Avenue, Moltke Avenue, River Street area Wheeler
12 Avenue, Ridge Avenue, Myrtle Street, Linden Street and
13 North Sixth.

14 Also, I met with Lisa Moran this week

15 on the issue of the servicemen not being paid, and what
16 she said to me was that she sends a notice to the
17 servicemen and asks for their monthly leave earning
18 statement, and until she receives that, they cannot
19 compile the data, of course, because that's what they
20 need to know, the difference in their pay.

21 And she said, I have the material here

22 of Mr. Ancherani when he comes, or if he comes, I'll
23 save it for him, if he wants to see it, but she said as
24 of this date, there has been no one there requesting
25 any additional money. As far as she knows, everyone

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1 has been paid what they should be paid.

2 So, I'll need to either get some names,

3 if people aren't being paid, to call us and let us

4 know, because she no one has gone there that hasn't

5 been paid. And that's all I have.

6 Does anyone else on Council have

7 anything at this time?

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: If I may, Mrs.

9 Gatelli. I just ask you to remember in prayers

10 Father Cottone from St. Lucy's Church passed away

11 recently, and he was a priest there for quite a long

12 time, so if you could remember him and his family in

13 your prayers, I would appreciate that. Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Gatelli, just a few

15 quick things. First of all, you did allude to the

16 trees on Capouse Avenue earlier being finished, and I

17 wanted to particularly thank Mr. Santolli for his

18 tremendous efforts in that project, and the money that

19 was donated from the Shade Tree Commission to bring

20 this to it fruition, and I also want to recognize

21 Mary Chilipko from the Pine Brook Neighborhood

22 Association who brought this to everyone's attention.

23 And the neighborhood association made a sizeable

24 donation, as well. So, congratulations to all of them.

25 Also, there will be a cocktail party on

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1 Friday, April 28 from seven o'clock to ten o'clock at

2 St. Mary's Center to benefit Special Olympics, Scranton

3 Special Olympics. Tickets may be purchased at the door

4 and the cost is \$30.

5 And then just one more item, because
6 this is something that, frankly, has been of great
7 concern to me since I read about it in the newspaper,
8 and it appears that Attorney Carl Greco has, for lack
9 of the properly legal terminology, sued the city for
10 \$134,000.

11 This represents payment for services
12 rendered from October 2004 through early 2006. He was
13 not paid, of course, because no contract was ever sent
14 down City Council for its approval.

15 I believe that contract was never sent
16 down, because that contract would not have received the
17 approval of the prior City Council, therefore, it was
18 withheld.

19 And according to the legal documents
20 that I have concerning this particular order and
21 decree, it appears that the mayor was very well aware
22 of the situation. Number six, of this particular
23 agreement states, Defendant agrees, defendant, meaning
24 the city, Defendant agrees and admits that all of the
25 services were rendered in a professional manner in

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1 accordance with Defendant's direction and expectation,

2 and in accordance with the understanding of the
3 representation by Plaintiff of Defendant.
4 Now, simply put, that means Mr. Greco
5 was allowed to continue working with the knowledge and
6 permission of the mayor.

7 Now, the mayor has circumvented City
8 Council not once, not twice, but three times in this
9 matter in violation of the Home Rule Charter.

10 First of all, when RFPs were first
11 placed for this particular position as of, I believe,
12 February 2006, although this had never occurred in
13 prior years that Mr. Greco had been hired year after
14 year after year, one of the specs of that proposal was
15 that you could not sue -- you could not have sued the
16 city for a period of ten years in order to be eligible
17 for this particular position.

18 Mr. Greco, however, of course, was
19 awarded the contract by some members of this City
20 Council, but it appears that the timing is highly
21 suspect here, in that, he's granted a contract and it
22 couldn't have been, if indeed at all, that much later
23 that he went to court to win back the earnings that he
24 felt he should have been paid.

25 Now, I'm not entirely certain if he has

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1 yet received that payment. I do know that it has been
2 signed off on by a judge and by Mr. Farrell, to my
3 great dismay, but I do believe that it's the duty and
4 responsibility of this Council to defend the Home Rule
5 Charter and to call the mayor to task in this issue of
6 circumventing the powers of City Council, as well as
7 the stipulations of the Home Rule Charter in three
8 occasions.

9 And, therefore, I am going to make a
10 motion tonight that City Council file an injunction to
11 prevent payment to Mr. Greco for this period of time.
12 And if that is not the appropriate legal action,
13 perhaps our solicitor can tell us what would be
14 suitable, if an appeal is more appropriate, but I do
15 not believe that we should allow this type of chicanery
16 to continue.

17 MS. GATELLI: I'll second that motion.

18 Attorney Minora, do we have any recourse?

19 MR. MINORA: I'd like to study that
20 issue before I answer it; is that fair enough?

21 MS. GATELLI: If you would, please.

22 MS. EVANS: Well, I'd like it done

23 quickly, though, because I would assume that Mr. Greco

24 is going to be paid in any time, and, in fact, that

25 raises yet another question. How will Mr. Greco be

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1 paid?

2 He is paid by HUD, federal funding, and

3 that was attested to by Attorney Gene Hickey during a

4 caucus meeting that was held recently.

5 Now, the proof is in the statement that

6 Mr. Hickey felt it was unnecessary to put this position

7 out for bid, because it fell into the category of a bid

8 of \$100,000 or less, therefore, according to HUD

9 regulations, it was not essential that this be bid.

10 Transitivity we can say safely

11 Mr. Greco was paid with HUD funding. Now, how is

12 Mr. Greco going to be paid, through OECD or through the

13 city's operating budget, specifically the line item

14 court awards.

15 And if that is the case, if this

16 payment falls into our operating budget and court

17 awards, is HUD going to reimburse us? Is OECD going to

18 reimburse us? And I think it's highly questionable to

19 begin commingling all of these accounts.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mrs. Evans, is there
21 enough money in court awards to pay him?

22 MS. EVANS: I can look that up right
23 now.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't even think we
25 have enough money to pay him out of that.

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1 MS. GATELLI: I think he would be paid
2 out of OECD funds.

3 MR. MINORA: I think so, too.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Do you remember
5 what happened when Attorney Hughes had to sue the city?
6 Where was he paid from when he had this problem?

7 MS. GATELLI: He was paid out of OECD.

8 MR. MINORA: My recollection is he was
9 paid out of OECD funds. And I will look into that as
10 quick as possible, but it's the first I heard of it
11 this evening.

12 MS. GATELLI: Just for the record,
13 Mrs. Evans, I had Mrs. Garvey send a letter to Roseanne
14 Novembrino that I want a monthly report on how much is
15 being accumulated by Mr. Greco in this current
16 contract.

17 And I will report that to Council as I
18 get reports from Mrs. Novembrino, because I told you I
19 sent the letter in the beginning that I don't expect
20 him to go beyond the \$100,000 for the whole year.

21 MS. EVANS: Yes.

22 MS. GATELLI: And if and when he
23 becomes close to that and the year isn't up, then I
24 think it's incumbent on this Council to write letters
25 or have our attorney or somebody give him legal notice,
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1 your money is running out and be aware that we are not
2 going to pay you.

3 Now, I don't know if that will hold up
4 in court, but I think we can try that.

5 MS. EVANS: I think that's a very good
6 idea, but there is a sharp difference here between the
7 case of Attorney Hughes and the case of Attorney Greco.
8 Attorney Hughes was told to stop work,
9 and that he indeed did do, and that was ordered by the
10 director of OECD at the time, Mr. Washo.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: He still had to be
12 paid, right? Weren't there -- there was some monies --

13 MS. EVANS: Yes, and then he was

14 allowed to continue, however, when I asked the question
15 in 2005, is Mr. Greco's contract expired? How is he
16 being paid? I was answered, there is no time limit on
17 his contract. There is no ceiling. So, quite frankly,
18 I was deceived. Now --

19 MS. GATELLI: There was no \$100,000 or
20 the end of the year, December-31-type-deal?

21 MS. EVANS: That's what I had been
22 told, but, in fact, that indeed was the case, and
23 that's -- it's been since then that I've discovered
24 that contract ran out in 2004, and no contract was
25 presented to this Council while I have been seated
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21

1 here.

2 Now, plain and simple, I'm no attorney,
3 but this is wrong. And he should not be paid, and it
4 is nothing against Mr. Greco. This is against the
5 administration.

6 MS. GATELLI: I was notified by
7 Mr. Brown from The Scranton Times about the settlement,
8 which --

9 MS. EVANS: Well, I had no idea --

10 MS. GATELLI: -- which I answered no.

11 MS. EVANS: -- that he had even taken
12 this to court, but I can see why, since the
13 specifications in the RFP specifically outlawed doing
14 such, nevertheless, he's holding the position.
15 He was paid an extra \$10,000, which I
16 did not vote for, he was awarded a new \$100,000
17 contract, which I did not vote for, and the reasons
18 were because there was collusion between the mayor and
19 Attorney Greco to continue working without the
20 approval, without a contract from City Council in
21 violation of the Home Rule Charter.

22 MS. GATELLI: Let me ask you a
23 question, Did you know that he was working?

24 MS. EVANS: Oh, we all knew he was
25 working.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Did Council ever send a
2 letter for him to stop working?

3 MS. EVANS: No, not to stop working,
4 but I had posed the questions.

5 MS. GATELLI: But was correspondence
6 ever transferred to the mayor or Mr. Greco to stop
7 working?

8 MS. EVANS: No, no, because the answer
9 we were given is that, in other words, he had an open
10 ended contract and all is well in Scranton.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Do you have that
12 in writing?

13 MS. GATELLI: Did you ask for a copy of
14 the contract?

15 MS. EVANS: Oh, I have copies of all of
16 his contracts now.

17 MS. GATELLI: Did you ask your
18 solicitor if it was open ended and he could still get
19 paid?

20 MS. EVANS: When it's open ended,
21 you're paid.

22 MS. GATELLI: But, was it open ended?

23 MS. EVANS: No, it wasn't.

24 MS. GATELLI: Well, why didn't your
25 attorney do something?

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1 MS. EVANS: Because at that point, the
2 attorney himself wasn't aware of what was going on; in
3 other words, Council was purposely kept in the dark
4 for, well, from October 2004 until, oh, I don't know,

5 it might have been late fall, when Mr. Greco began to
6 approach many of my colleagues. I have to say he never
7 approached me, but asking their support for a new
8 contract for himself.

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Are you aware of
10 it ever being sent down and not placed on the agenda by
11 Council president?

12 MS. EVANS: It was never sent down.

13 Mr. Courtright, you were here.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: No, it was never sent
15 down. I have another question to ask then, one of the
16 stipulations in order to give the contract was that you
17 couldn't have sued the city.

18 Now, is that going to prevent Mr. Greco
19 from entering in the contract next year, because he
20 sued the city. Will we have the same stipulations
21 after this contract is up?

22 MS. EVANS: Well, this was a
23 specification, Mr. Courtright, that was designed
24 specifically for this year's contract. So, I would
25 assume that for next year you will see the

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1 disappearance of that particular requirement.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: That's why I asked

3 that question.

4 MS. EVANS: I think that's it on the

5 question. Let's do a roll call on it, okay?

6 MS. GATELLI: Neil.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

8 MS. EVANS: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: No.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

12 MR. MCTIERNAN: No.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

15 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

16 MS. GATELLI: Yes. Anything else?

17 MS. EVANS: That's it. Thank you.

18 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else?

19 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yeah, I have

20 something. I want to respond to two weeks ago I was

21 asked to find out about the CRF loans and what their

22 placement was, so what I did was I spoke to CRF and

23 OECD, and what has happened is currently we need to

24 provide one or two more forms to qualify for this.

25 The problem being that there's an old

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1 Allied loan that they're trying to investigate, it's
2 from, like, 1988, and that's what's holding us up right
3 now.

4 The reason it has taken so long is
5 because we -- they were prepared, I guess, now, I was
6 not here for this part, but they were prepared, I
7 guess, to hand over the check at the time the loan was
8 proposed.

9 The reason they could not hand over the
10 check now is because every month and every dollar has
11 to be reassessed and amended. The loan has to be
12 amended for every month and every dollar since the
13 timing.

14 Now, they're saying currently the check
15 will be released in June, if everything goes the way
16 it's supposed to. So, that is the answer I have on
17 that.

18 Also, I had another answer about --
19 another question about Southern Union. I am meeting
20 with one of the heads of Southern Union, in the next
21 week we're supposed to meet with Rob Kerrigan, and as
22 soon as that is done, I will come and report to you on

23 that. And that's all I have. I'll save the rest for

24 motions.

25 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on Council?

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1 The Junior Council, would anyone like to address

2 Council?

3 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.

4 Doug Miller. I would like to thank Council for this

5 proclamation. It's a wonderful honor, and I would also

6 like to thank my fellow Council members, because

7 without them here, none of this would have taken place

8 tonight. So, thank you.

9 I would again like to announce our

10 first project on May 6 from -- on Saturday, May 6 from

11 eleven to three at the Green Ridge Islands. We will be

12 planting flowers along with benches that will be

13 donated by West Scranton High School and Scranton High

14 School. I would like to thank them for donating these

15 benches. And if you would like to help volunteer with

16 this project, please call 498-2167 for more

17 information.

18 Last night I had the opportunity to

19 attend a debate at Mellow Theatre for State

20 Representative for the 113 District. Many questions
21 were asked and issues were discussed which went from
22 jobs, school strikes to health care, et cetera.
23 I learned a lot from each candidate, as
24 far as where they stand on the issues, and I thought it
25 was a good clean debate. Mrs. Evans and Mr.
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1 Courtright, I thought you both did a great job. It was
2 nice to see the large amount of kids that also attended
3 the debate.

4 Tonight we will hear from Jackson
5 Lockhead, as he is going to present to Council his idea
6 for a new and much needed skate park in the city.
7 I commend him for all his work in
8 putting this together, and at this time I would like to
9 turn it over to Jackson.

10 MR. LOCKHEAD: Thank you, Doug. Good
11 evening, Council. Before I get to the skate park
12 proposal, I want to touch on something that I was asked
13 to be touched on by a very nice family.

14 There's a student at West Scranton
15 Intermediate School by the name of Michael Hull.
16 Michael Hull is in the seventh grade and is

17 academically a most excellent student, and because of
18 this, he has been nominated, interviewed and accepted
19 into the People to People International Student
20 Ambassador Program.

21 This is a great program where Michael
22 will travel to France, Italy and Greece while meeting
23 with various diplomats and ambassadors. This is not
24 just a vacation. He will be expected to keep a log of
25 who he meets and what he did. In return he will
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1 receive high school credits.

2 Along with being a student ambassador,
3 Michael will be a great representation of his hometown,
4 Scranton, Pennsylvania. This all sounds too good to be
5 true, but the problem is the trip costs \$5700, and
6 Michael and his family have only raised \$2700. So, an
7 additional \$3,000 needs to be raised within the time
8 span of two months.

9 I was hoping, Mr. McTiernan, that we
10 could possibly discuss or we could possibly have a
11 dress down day at Scranton High for the rest of his
12 funding for his trip sometime in May.

13 MR. MCTIERNAN: I would have to look at

14 our policy, but we're limited on the number of dress

15 down days, but I will review it.

16 MR. LOCKHEAD: Thank you. Also, Mrs.

17 Gatelli, when Michael gets back from his trip, I think

18 it would be more than necessary to present him with a

19 proclamation for his excellent academics and his

20 representation of Scranton, Pennsylvania on an

21 international level.

22 MS. GATELLI: I think that's an

23 excellent idea, but we have another student going, too,

24 from Northeast Intermediate School. So, I think that

25 maybe you should contact that school and see if that

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1 student has the need of any funds, also, and we can

2 honor him. I think his last name is Kaczmierchak, but

3 I don't know his first name.

4 So, maybe if you do something, you can

5 do it for both children.

6 MR. LOCKHEAD: Absolutely. And thank

7 you very much.

8 Next, I have been working on a

9 presentation for a skate park for a very long time,

10 and, you know, this is something that I think Scranton

11 needs, and I think it's something that Scranton wants,

12 and I think it's a great thing for the entire city as a

13 whole.

14 You know, it would remove kids skating

15 from downtown, which eliminates destruction of business

16 property, residential property, and also city

17 sidewalks.

18 The idea that I have for the skate park

19 is that this will cost nothing to the city for the

20 construction of the park. All of the money that will

21 be raised or donated will be used for the cost of the

22 park.

23 The possibility of this park, there's

24 many ideas. This is a very rough idea, but this park

25 could be a sun up to sundown park, which means there's

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1 no lights, so no electric bill for the city ever for

2 this park. Sun up to sundown, and that's it.

3 Also, depending on what kind of ramps

4 are purchased possibly, if this idea were to launch,

5 the cheapest being wood, the middle being steel and the

6 highest being something called skate light.

7 In the middle would be steel, would be

8 the best possibility, and you have 10 to 15 years
9 before they would ever need to be even touched to be
10 repaired.

11 Also, this park will definitely bring
12 revenue into the city of Scranton. You know, this
13 isn't California. There aren't skate parks galore.
14 You know, people will travel, you know, not too far,
15 but a distance to come to Scranton. They definitely
16 will be compelled to spend some money here.

17 I know this sounds a little crazy and
18 it's a lot to take in, but I wouldn't even think about
19 coming up to you with this if I didn't have a trick up
20 my sleeve. There's the Tony Hawk Foundation.

21 For those of you who don't know who
22 Tony Hawk is, he's a world renowned professional
23 skateboarder and is also the chief executive officer of
24 the Tony Hawk Foundation.

25 This organization gives grants to

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1 municipalities anywhere from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

2 In the folder that I have for you, you
3 will find the eligibility questions to apply for the
4 grant and a copy of the grant application.

5 Like I said, the first thing you will
6 find will be the eligibility questions, which is just
7 questions, whether we even have a shot of even applying
8 for the grant application.

9 To the best of my knowledge, I think
10 that Scranton has a really great chance of getting a
11 lot of money from the Tony Hawk Foundation after
12 looking over those questions.

13 Also, the idea of this presentation was
14 in the paper today under the local section, and I did
15 mention that Mr. Scopelliti was open to the idea, which
16 is very encouraging.

17 And I was hoping that I could maybe
18 talk to Mr. Scopelliti and figure out how we could
19 possibly start the funding for this, and if we can even
20 just see if we can even get any kind of -- any amount
21 of money from the Tony Hawk Foundation to see if we can
22 even just maybe get started on this it. That's about
23 it actually.

24 MS. GATELLI: Do you have any idea
25 where you would like to see this located?

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1 MR. LOCKHEAD: My idea for this to be

2 located, Doug made up a survey for me that I will have
3 mass copied and handed out of where it would be and,
4 you know, if it would be free to get and such things
5 like that.

6 My idea was the South Side Complex,
7 because in the South Side Complex there are four tennis
8 courts, and I don't think that we use all four of them
9 too often, and if we could fence off two and just use
10 the concrete that's already there for the area of the
11 skate park.

12 I have a picture here of a municipality
13 in some other state in America that did just that.
14 They used an old tennis court.

15 MS. EVANS: Jackson, the only potential
16 difficulty with that would be the fact that the South
17 Side Complex is still involved in litigation, so
18 Mr. Scopelliti may not be, you know, he may not approve
19 of this idea, so have plan B and plan C.

20 MR. LOCKHEAD: Well, yeah. Like I said
21 before, this is just an idea. It's very rough.

22 MS. EVANS: Oh, it's a wonderful idea.

23 MR. LOCKHEAD: Thank you. That's why
24 also we have the survey. And, yeah, someone did
25 mention to me about the problems with the South Side

1 Complex, and, yeah, but there's still many options and
2 Scranton has a lot of parks and a lot of space, I'm
3 sure, so that's really it.

4 MS. EVANS: Good job.

5 MS. GATELLI: Is there any preliminary
6 design for the skate park? MR.

7 LOCKHEAD: There is really no
8 preliminary design that I have. There are a lot of --
9 I have a lot of pictures of sample parks from
10 construction companies that do this thing in the area,
11 and, you know, no, there isn't, but the grant
12 application calls for one.

13 MS. GATELLI: Yes, I notice there's
14 several things in here. You need to have a location,
15 you need to have a design, and you need to have some
16 fundraising goals before you can even think about
17 applying for the grant.

18 MR. LOCKHEAD: Yes, exactly.

19 MS. GATELLI: Would you like me to set
20 up a meeting for you with Mr. Scopelliti?

21 MR. LOCKHEAD: I would love that, yes.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. GATELLI: We talked about having it
24 up at Connell Park. I don't know if it's feasible.
25 And you'll see from your study, because West Scranton
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1 is doing one, too, to see where most of the kids would
2 like this located.

3 And I think until we get the survey, we
4 can't really even ask anybody where there's any land
5 until we know where the kids want to go. But that's
6 excellent, and we'll help you out however we can.

7 MR. LOCKHEAD: Thank you very much.

8 MS. GATELLI: Anybody else from the
9 Junior Council like to speak?

10 MS. ORGAN: Hello, Katrina Organ. I'm
11 just going to be a little repetitive on our planting
12 project on May 6th. We really need everyone to come
13 out.

14 Like, I don't know if everyone is
15 familiar with the islands, but they're pretty big, and
16 there's three of them, and we're doing three gardens in
17 each of them, so it's a lot of work.

18 And even if you want to bring your
19 kids, it's only flower planning. It's something that,

20 like, the whole family can do, so don't think that you
21 need to get a babysitter. It would be a great family
22 day.

23 So, I'm just asking that and asking any
24 businesses if they would like to make any donations.

25 My number again is 498-2167. Thanks.

35

1 MS. GATELLI: Catrina, did you contact
2 any landscapers in the city?

3 MS. ORGAN: Yeah, Garden Path in the
4 Green Ridge Shopping Plaza has agreed to give us
5 20 percent off all our purchases there.

6 MS. GATELLI: And how about the
7 Mulberry Bush?

8 MS. ORGAN: Haven't checked there yet.

9 MS. GATELLI: You might want to try
10 there, and you might want to ask both of them if they
11 could help you.

12 MS. EVANS: Shop around.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: How about the
14 landscaper that did all of Nay Aug? We gave him a lot
15 business. Maybe he can help us out.

16 MS. GATELLI: Were not going to ask

17 anybody in Dunmore, Bill. I don't care.

18 MS. EVANS: I thought he was from

19 Wilkes-Barre. I'm confused.

20 MS. GATELLI: Just ask Scranton people,

21 please.

22 MS. ORGAN: Of course, Mrs. Gatelli.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: But we're asking for

24 freebies, that's what I'm saying.

25 MS. GATELLI: I think maybe -- like, I

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1 I know the Mulberry Bush. He does a lot of work. I

2 don't know about the garden path. I think you can just

3 buy things there, but he actually goes out and does

4 work.

5 So, maybe Mike -- his name is Mike

6 Calinery. Maybe he would come and help you for an hour

7 or two.

8 MS. EVANS: And actually you might be

9 able to solicit donations from several so that you may

10 have -- I did see you did a wonderful chart and all the

11 costs involved, very meticulous attention to detail,

12 I'm very proud of you, but you may find that all of it

13 could be donated from a number of local landscapers or

14 florists, which would be ideal.

15 MS. ORGAN: And one more thing that I

16 forgot, I'm trying to get in touch with the

17 neighborhood association there, so if anybody has a

18 name and a number for me.

19 MS. EVANS: I do.

20 MS. ORGAN: Okay. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: You're welcome.

22 MS. GATELLI: And Nancy K. Holmes, I

23 gave her number to somebody. She used to be a City

24 Councilwoman, and she lives on the islands and she used

25 to plant the islands.

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1 Did anyone get a hold of Nancy K? I

2 don't think she disappeared. I don't know what

3 happened to her. But keep trying. It's Donald Holmes

4 on Woodlawn. Very good. You're doing an excellent

5 job, as usual. When they're all 18, they're all going

6 to be sitting up here, I hope, caring about their

7 community. The first speaker is Ray Lyman.

8 MR. LYMAN: Raymond Lyman. I got a

9 couple of problems I need corrected. Number one,

10 Ms. Evans said about Capouse Avenue about the trees cut

11 about Mrs. Mary Chilipko is the vice president, number
12 one, the Capouse Avenue trees were cut, but there's a
13 guy going around with a petition saying that the 300
14 block of Phelps Street, they don't want their trees
15 cut, and the people on Phelps Street does want their
16 trees cut, and we want to know if are they going to cut
17 the trees Saturday on Phelps Street.

18 Now, we found out that down by Lourdes
19 Court down to the Waffle Shop in the 400 block of
20 Phelps Street they're going to cut the trees, but up
21 from 300 down to Lourdes Court, where I live, they're
22 not going to cut the trees. That's nine trees there
23 they're not going to cut because of some, pardon my
24 words, idiot passed a petition.

25 And I asked the people that live on

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1 that block where I live did not pass no petition. So,
2 I want to ask -- Mrs. Evans said that she talked to
3 this guy, what, who runs the tree cutting?

4 MS. EVANS: Mr. Santolli. But I do

5 think --

6 MR. LYMAN: Now, I talked to the DPW,

7 they don't know anything about this petition. And I

8 talked to Neil today, and I don't know who else to get
9 a hold of. That's why I wanted to speak to George
10 Parker.

11 MS. EVANS: Well, actually, Mr. Lyman,
12 if there are trees, I'm sorry that I didn't hear all of
13 your trees, but there are trees that have not yet been
14 addressed, but that is due to lack of funding. It
15 doesn't mean that it isn't going to happen, it means
16 that as soon as more monies are freed up, additional
17 trees will be trimmed.

18 MR. LYMAN: Mrs. Evans, on Phelps
19 Street we had three cars where the branches of the
20 trees broke off and destroyed cars. That's why I want
21 those tree branches cut, and, plus, they're into the
22 wires of the -- the branches are into the main power
23 lines. Now, I told the electric company to cut them,
24 and they won't do it.

25 MS. EVANS: I have a message from
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1 Mr. Santolli that they're going to try to do New Street
2 and Phelps Street if there's any more money left over.
3 So, they are aware, believe me. And I don't think this
4 is petition related. This is purely financially

5 connected.

6 MS. GATELLI: I think, though, Mrs.

7 Evans, that the DPW also cuts trees, so maybe we can

8 ask them.

9 MR. LYMAN: Yeah, if a branch breaks,

10 you have to call City Hall to come down just to cut --

11 to take the branch away. They will not cut the tree

12 down if the tree is damaged. They won't do it, unless

13 you holler at them.

14 MS. EVANS: No, no, no, no. The trees

15 aren't cut down until they're --

16 MS. GATELLI: Evaluated.

17 MS. EVANS: Mr. Santolli, yes,

18 evaluates the trees. He's a former district forester.

19 MR. LYMAN: Yeah, I know that. I know

20 that, Mrs. Evans. I know that.

21 MS. EVANS: He evaluates the health and

22 condition of the trees, and if he feels the tree is

23 healthy, then, of course, it's not going to be --

24 MR. LYMAN: I know that. I had two

25 trees cut down by Mr. Santolli. Now, I have two lights

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1 -- well, one light on Lourdes Court that's out, and I'm

2 going to give you the numbers.

3 But then I have one on 306 Phelps

4 Street that needs a light. There's no light there but

5 needs a light to be installed. Because a guy -- a

6 neighbor next door, his car was vandalized, spray

7 painted. And it's so dark there, you can't see it.

8 And he wants a light installed.

9 MS. GATELLI: He needs to give

10 attention in that block. Get names, and you can bring

11 them into Neil, and he will forward them to Mr. Parker.

12 MR. LYMAN: I'll get the names written.

13 MS. GATELLI: No, they have to sign it.

14 They have to do a petition for a streetlight.

15 MR. LYMAN: I'll just take a tablet and

16 I'll go to every pole there.

17 MS. GATELLI: No. There's actually a

18 form for that, Ray, that you need to fill out, and

19 he'll give that to you later.

20 MR. LYMAN: Okay. You can't just write

21 names down?

22 MS. GATELLI: There's actually a form

23 that needs to be filled out.

24 MR. LYMAN: Okay. Now, I have the

25 catch basin on Capouse Avenue and Greens Place. It's

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1 eight -- the sidewalk part that they did is 8 inches
2 off the ground. And if you don't see it at night when
3 you walk, you could fall down and crack your head open.

4 The DPW, who installed it, did such a lousy job.

5 Now, the Pine Brook Vice President Mary

6 Chilipko, she got credit for having this fixed, and now

7 she's crying about that they didn't do a right job, and

8 she's telling me to come down here to tell you about

9 it. Now, I'm asking you to get this fixed.

10 MS. GATELLI: I'll report it, Ray.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. LYMAN: Okay. The next speaker is

13 Jim Stucker.

14 MR. STUCKER: Hi, Mr. DiBileo,

15 Courtright. Okay. Over on Providence Square, I

16 cleaned the parking lot over there at the laundromat

17 where the thing in the middle of the road, the middle

18 of the parking lot, and the city owns it.

19 So, the guy at the laundromat, he gave

20 me money to do it. So, I complained about it, and he

21 did. There was a lot of leaves and dirt and everything

22 mixed, and I took all the stuff and dumped it over the

23 bank.

24 And right around Providence Square

25 where the laundromat is, we need some mulch there.

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1 There's some maple trees there. We need some mulch

2 there, like, the red stuff. They got to rake the brown

3 stuff out and put some new stuff there.

4 Right in front of the drugstore,

5 Leonard's Drugstore, what they did, they put the heavy

6 black top. They didn't put the smooth stuff in the

7 black tap to lay on top of the heavy stuff. It's going

8 down the black top. It's going down a little bit.

9 And up on Parrot Avenue, what I heard,

10 somebody told me over town in Scranton, they said

11 they're going to get Parrot Avenue fixed, fix the road.

12 They never did. The holes are still up there.

13 I want to get them holes fixed up there

14 before somebody busts a tire.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: We're going to try to

16 get that road paved, Jim, all of Parrot Avenue.

17 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, you say that and

18 you don't.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: We're trying, I said.

20 MR. STUCKER: Yeah. And our garbage is
21 over there on Providence Square. They picked up a
22 little at a time. There's people live upstairs, they
23 put the garbage in front of people's offices,
24 especially Murphy's office -- his bar, in front of
25 Murphy's Bar.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Okay.

2 MR. STUCKER: Because the garbage has
3 been there, and they had a guy inspect over there, and
4 they had an inspector there, like, two weeks ago
5 checked it out, and they picked it up. Now they're
6 picking it up again.

7 MS. GATELLI: Okay. Thanks, Mr.

8 Stucker.

9 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, all right.

10 MS. GATELLI: The next speaker is
11 Giovanni Picollino. I said that perfectly, didn't I?
12 My name is Maldonato Gatelli, so I know Piccolino.

13 MR. PICCOLINO: I'm going to start off
14 by reading a brief letter and to get to my point.

15 Dear Gio, my special thanks to you for
16 collecting the donations of pizza for the St. Francis

17 of Assisi Kitchen. Our local youth groups truly
18 enjoyed having something to eat while they wrapped
19 Christmas gifts for our clients at the kitchen.

20 You've been a tremendous help to us,
21 Gio, in giving your time and effort in helping make
22 this a very special day. I am most appreciative for
23 your kindness. We are blessed in having friends like
24 yourself who care about less fortunate and give up
25 their time and energy to help out every year.

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44

1 My point is, I'm representing Buona
2 Pizza with the Lackawanna Avenue Redevelopment Project.
3 We've been an institution in this city
4 for 40 years. We've done nothing but service the
5 community, give back everything, and city wants to use
6 condemnation and eminent domain to move us from the
7 spot we've been in for 40 years.
8 Now, I'm just asking here, we give all
9 strange businesses that come to this city KOZ zones,
10 this and that breaks, why are we being locked out of
11 this? Is there not any loyalty for 40 years of service
12 to the city? I don't understand how we're being --
13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Do you have an option

14 to stay?

15 MR. PICCOLINO: Not at all.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Mr. Giovanni, I

17 was in contact with OECD. In fact, today I inquired

18 about this, because I was worried about this, also.

19 I know that all the other businesses

20 have complied and want to stay, and your business was

21 the one that didn't, but I was told, and you can

22 correct me, that you are offered the fact to stay.

23 They will relocate you and bring back Buona after the

24 building is updated and restored. That is not

25 corrected?

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1 MR. PICCOLINO: No, not at all. We

2 haven't even been given a chance by Mr. Rinaldi. He

3 maybe approached my uncle five years ago and said

4 something to him. He hasn't even said anything.

5 We're not just a little pizza shop.

6 Because we're so successful, I've been able to expand

7 to Harrisburg, Ocean City Maryland with upper scaled

8 Italian delis, and we just purchased --

9 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: You don't have to

10 sell us the pizza, we love it.

11 MR. PICCOLINO: We purchased a
12 warehouse in Scranton. I'm just wondering why the
13 money wouldn't be made available to us to improve our
14 building and not for use of eminent domain and
15 condemnation. I'm absolutely baffled by it.

16 We have people who want to come in
17 through the holidays on vacation from South Carolina,
18 Florida, everywhere.

19 There was a kid that was in the war in
20 Iraq for a year and a half, and the only thing he
21 wanted was our pizza.

22 I mean, what are you going to do when
23 people come to that corner after we've been there for
24 years and we're not there anymore?

25 We haven't been given an option. I
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1 think we should be given the money.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: I thought you were --
3 you were not given that option, huh?

4 MR. PICCOLINO: We have no option. I
5 have suffered --

6 MS. EVANS: We were led to believe that
7 you would have an option.

8 MR. PICCOLINO: Mr. Shane from the
9 Redevelopment Authority has -- I think I speak Japanese
10 when I call him. And it just so happens he's in the
11 same building as Mr. Rinaldi, who's the developer on
12 Spruce Street, shockingly. And I'm just absolutely
13 boggled.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: We were led to believe
15 that every business --

16 MR. PICCOLINO: I have the majority of
17 the business owners on here that have come to me --
18 that come to me with the same problem. No one wants to
19 deal with Mr. Rinaldi at all. He's just been very,
20 like, manipulative. He just doesn't tell anything.
21 And Mr. Shane, when I ask him, like,
22 who's the developer, I thought maybe I spoke a
23 different language. He didn't know.

24 So, I have to call him back a few times
25 and ask him the same questions in slow motion.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Let me say this to
2 you, Mrs. Evans and myself, and I believe Mr.
3 McTiernan, we were on Council, and we supported the 500
4 block of Lackawanna Avenue, but I think we were all led

5 to believe that you would have the option to stay and
6 have your building renovated or not.

7 MR. PICCOLINO: You have been misled,
8 because we have it here. I have the letters from the
9 Redevelopment Authority about the use of eminent
10 domain.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: I just want to know
12 why you're not given that option.

13 MS. EVANS: We have to bring them in
14 for a caucus, Mr. Rinaldi and Mr. Shane. I think it's
15 certainly worth discussing, because --

16 MR. PICCOLINO: I wanted to stay there.

17 MS. EVANS: I don't like to be misled.

18 MR. PICCOLINO: Well, you definitely
19 have been. A lot of people have all been misled.

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I was told today,
21 I mean, I'm not even kidding, it was today that I had
22 asked about this, and they had said that you had had
23 the option, you were allowed to relocate and they will
24 actually move you back into a redone building, and you
25 have the option to stay, also.

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1 MR. PICCOLINO: We haven't been given

2 the option remotely, except with a letter that says
3 they're going to come in, assess our property.
4 And the assessment was kind of a joke.
5 We made that in four months what they gave us as an
6 assessments, as an offer to leave with the use of
7 eminent domain. I have both letters. And I'm just
8 baffled.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Well, your business is
10 an institution in this city.

11 MR. PICCOLINO: We say that to people
12 all the time and they're looking at us, they're like,
13 they're really going to do that?

14 MS. EVANS: May we get a cop of that
15 letter?

16 MR. PICCOLINO: Sure. I have two of
17 them here.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Give it to Neil and he
19 can make copies for all of us.

20 MS. EVANS: Your original will be
21 returned, but I think that is valuable information for
22 us to have when the caucus is conducted. And I would
23 also invite you to attend that caucus.

24 MR. PICCOLINO: I definitely will. And
25 you know how it says here that he's going to, I have

1 the little letter here, and it says he's going to, you
2 know, cooperate with the property owners. He hasn't at
3 all. And we don't want to go anywhere. We've been
4 there too long, you know?

5 And like I said, because we're so
6 successful, I've been able to go in other parts of the
7 areas and create more business in Pennsylvania.

8 MS. EVANS: Well, actually wouldn't it
9 seem to be just a splendid idea to keep you there in
10 light of what is proposed within that project?

11 MR. PICCOLINO: Yeah, they could build
12 around us. It's an original. We have people come from
13 Old Forge.

14 MS. EVANS: In fact, you know, I know
15 there was supposed to be a courtyard in the back with a
16 fountain.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Wasn't your building
18 in the pictures?

19 MR. PICCOLINO: It's not even in the
20 picture. The reason is because we're on the corner, so
21 that's the main spot. They want to put up a big story
22 whatever.

23 MS. GATELLI: The picture I saw does

24 not have you in the picture.

25 MR. PICCOLINO: A nice office space,

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50

1 which there's plenty in Scranton.

2 MS. GATELLI: The picture I saw from

3 the governor's office does not have you in it.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: The original picture

5 we saw, I think, had them in there.

6 MS. EVANS: Yeah, they were.

7 MR. PICCOLINO: Well, I brought it to

8 the attention --

9 MS. GATELLI: I have been trying to

10 schedule a caucus with Mr. Rinaldi for the past month

11 --

12 MR. PICCOLINO: I brought it to the

13 attention of people in Harrisburg, also, because it's

14 wrong.

15 MS. GATELLI: -- -- you can ask Mrs.

16 Garvey. I even told the mayor said yesterday when I

17 met with him that I was very concerned that they're not

18 getting back to me. And every time they get back to

19 me, there's another excuse why they can't meet with us.

20 I also called John Blake from the
21 governor's office, because the governor's very upset
22 about it. He has \$9 million dollars invested in that
23 project, and they're not moving forward.

24 MR. PICCOLINO: I do all the caterings
25 in Harrisburg for the government officials through our
.

51

1 deli, so I've been, like, fortunate enough to be in
2 contact with them, and I get the same response from
3 them.

4 They thought it was -- he was supposed
5 to represent all the property owners. I said, I have
6 all the property numbers here. No one wants to deal
7 with him remotely.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Who does the
9 condemnation letter come from?

10 MR. PICCOLINO: The SRA, Mr. Shane.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Bill Shane?

12 MR. PICCOLINO: Yeah. And like I said

13 --

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Maybe we can get Mr.

15 Shane in to speak to us.

16 MR. PICCOLINO: I speak to him, he's

17 just like --

18 MS. GATELLI: No. I think we need to

19 talk to Mr. Rinaldi.

20 MS. EVANS: Mr. Piccolino, leave your

21 phone number with Mr. Coolican, and this way you will

22 be contacted by our office as to the date and time of

23 this caucus, and, in fact, if you'd like to invite any

24 of the other business owners.

25 MS. GATELLI: I already contacted the

.

52

1 other business owners, and they will be invited when we

2 schedule it.

3 MR. PICCOLINO: Great. Thank you very

4 much, Council. I appreciate it.

5 MS. GATELLI: Andy Sbaraglia.

6 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia, citizen

7 of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I'm glad some of the

8 property owners are -- finally opened their eyes.

9 Remember we discussed this? It was

10 about a month ago.

11 MS. EVANS: Yes. You said it's your

12 favorite pizza store.

13 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah, and not only

14 that, my hot dog store, too.

15 MS. EVANS: That's right. That's

16 right. Coney Island.

17 MS. GATELLI: Coney Island's not even

18 involved.

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: We're losing a lot of

20 landmarks in the city. It's a shame. My whole

21 neighborhood is gone to redevelopment. Of course, what

22 are you going to do?

23 Okay. Let's get into this 5-C. I'll

24 read it for you so you don't have to look it up.

25 Authorizing the mayor and other appropriate city

.

53

1 officials for the City of Scranton to enter into a loan

2 agreement and make a loan from the economic development

3 administration loan program, project No. 06-500.2 in an

4 amount not to exceed \$650,000.00 to Scranton Irish

5 Pubs, LLC, Molly Brannigans, to assist in an eligible

6 project.

7 That is a KOZ. We all know it's a KOZ

8 building. You gave them \$100,000.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Are you sure that's a

10 KOZ?

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Sure. It's the garage.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: I was told it wasn't a

13 KOZ.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Sure, it's a KOZ.

15 Don't listen to what people say.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay. I'll ask and

17 find out.

18 MR. SBARAGLIA: I think somebody has a

19 list of all the KOZs. I think Mrs. Gatelli did, don't

20 you? And that is a KOZ site. Okay.

21 MS. GATELLI: I have it, but not with

22 me.

23 MR. MCTIERNAN: The Casey Parkway is a

24 KOZ.

25 MR. SBARAGLIA: So, let's go on a

.

54

1 little further on it.

2 MS. GATELLI: Unfortunately, I don't

3 have a suitcase that I can carry everything that I

4 have.

5 MS. EVANS: Mr. McTiernan, what did you

6 say?

7 MR. MCTIERNAN: 128 Adams Avenue is

8 listed as the Casey Parkway is listed as a KOZ
9 property.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: So, that's a KOZ,

12 right? So, we got back to that. Okay.

13 Now, we gave them \$100,000. Well, you

14 gave them \$100,000 grant, well, maybe five months ago,

15 six months ago, the parking authority gave them, I

16 think, \$70,000, and if they want to do stuff around the

17 building, they don't have to -- they can write off

18 \$70,000 off the rent or whatever method of doing it.

19 Now, you're going for a loan, now, are

20 the people of Scranton, if they go under, who has to

21 pay the loan? Don't say you're going to get the

22 building, because that ain't going to do nothing. Are

23 we on the hook?

24 MS. EVANS: Yes.

25 MR. SBARAGLIA: And you don't find

.

55

1 anything wrong with that, how they keep piling more

2 debt on top of debt on top of debt and giveaways?

3 When this mayor talked about this

4 project, he talked about like it was a done deal. They

5 had the money to do it, but nothing is being done in
6 this city without digging into the public treasury
7 either from low interest loans, which wouldn't bother
8 me if they were loans from the bank, where we're not
9 going to be obligated to pay if they go under. Okay, a
10 little there.

11 Let's go into the parking garage,
12 because that's an interesting one. Okay. Here's what
13 it says, Whereas, the authority and the city to
14 undertake a project -- a refunding project to currently
15 refund the outstanding series of 1995 bonds B. Capital
16 project and renovation of existing facilities, funding
17 of debt service reserve fund for, I guess, for 206
18 bonds, which is probably the bonds that we're talking
19 about them getting. Paying costs, fees and expenses,
20 so, so and so on.

21 Okay. If you look at the '95 bonds,
22 the coupons on them grow from six and a half to seven
23 percent. Now, the bonds that are floating has a coupon
24 of eight percent.

25 So, hence, we're letting them call in

.

56

1 low interest bonds and we're issuing higher interest

2 bonds. We're putting money into a sinking fund, which
3 means that they don't expect to pay off.

4 I have a solution for this thing. Why

5 can't they take out bond insurance? Let the parking

6 authority take out bond insurance like we took on the

7 \$72 million, and if they fail or if the parking

8 authority goes under, the taxpayer's paying out for all

9 of it. That would make more sense than what they're

10 doing here. All they're doing is really telling you

11 that they're in debt and they ain't going to get out of

12 debt.

13 You said you were going to call Mr.

14 Wintermantle here with his accountant and go through

15 everything.

16 MS. GATELLI: He was here today.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: He was here today.

18 MR. SBARAGLIA: When was he here?

19 MS. GATELLI: After the meeting.

20 MR. SBARAGLIA: Oh, God, I wish I'd

21 known.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Can I interrupt for

23 one second? I'm looking at the list of the -- Mr.

24 McTiernan has, and it's saying the Casey Parkway at 128

25 Adams Avenue is a KOZ.

1 The address in the backup, and this is

2 from the backup, is it not --

3 MS. GATELLI: Uh-huh.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: -- for Molly

5 Brannigans is 101 Adams Avenue.

6 MR. SBARAGLIA: Where is 101 Adams

7 Avenue?

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Well, I think 101 is

9 where Molly Brannigans is going to be. I think, and,

10 again, I'm not sure, I think 128 is the old Medallion,

11 is that --

12 MS. EVANS: Well they're calling it the

13 Medallion now, but that was the original Casey Parkway.

14 What they're calling the Casey Parkway

15 now, you know, used to be the Casey Hotel.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right.

17 MS. EVANS: So, what I think

18 Mr. Courtright is saying, perhaps 101 is where the

19 Casey Hotel was and 128 is where the old Casey Parkway

20 was.

21 MS. GATELLI: We will find out if it's

22 KOZ, but I do not think it is.

23 MR. SBARAGLIA: You know, I got the
24 legislation from the parking authority when they signed
25 with this Molly Brannigans, and they signed on this
. . .
58

1 garage that's the Casey Garage. As far as I know,
2 that's the one they're going to actually be building
3 in.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, but it's two
5 different addresses.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't believe 101 is
7 KOZ. We will find out for sure. I believe 128,
8 because it's listed 128 Adams Avenue. The Casey
9 Parkway would be listed as the corner of Lackawanna and
10 Adams.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA; Yeah. Well, Casey
12 Garage, I think, is 101, okay? That's right across
13 from the Hilton.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right. And that's not
15 on this list.

16 MS. GATELLI: That's not on the KOZ
17 list.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: It's not on the KOZ
19 list.

20 MR. SBARAGLIA: It's not on the KOZ?

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: No. I don't see.

22 MS. GATELLI: We'll double check.

23 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. If it's not on

24 the KOZ, it really don't matter. The question is,

25 where is this restaurant going?

.

59

1 MS. GATELLI: 101 Adams Avenue.

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: Okay. They're going in

3 there.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Which we believe is

5 not KOZ.

6 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, I'm not going to

7 argue with it, because for some reason or other I

8 thought that was a KOZ building many, many times ago.

9 MS. GATELLI: We are not going to argue

10 with you at all. We're just going to find out for you.

11 MR. SBARAGLIA: No. Anyway, it don't

12 really matter. It's the loan that's important. The

13 loan is very important, because if it's a 108 loan,

14 where the City of Scranton is the guarantee on it, and

15 if they go under, we have to pay, that's the quirks.

16 Whether it's a KOZ or not, we'll find

17 out. For some reason or another, I thought that was --

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: There's, like, 30

19 pages of backup on that. I've got to be honest with

20 you, I didn't read all 30 pages.

21 MS. GATELLI: And there's 19 jobs being

22 created.

23 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah, I know,

24 waitresses. I mean, that's not going to pay for

25 anything. Don't come up with waitress jobs --

60

1 MS. GATELLI: No, but that's how they

2 determine loans in OECD. They're tied into job

3 creations.

4 MR. SBARAGLIA: I realize that. You've

5 got more into de facto slavery than you are to job

6 creation.

7 When you give them jobs and they can't

8 make their living, you might as well say they're a

9 slave. I mean, it's ridiculous.

10 You want jobs that people are able to

11 make a living off of, and not jobs --

12 MS. GATELLI: Well, I don't think we

13 should throw away any jobs. I agree with you that we

14 need family sustaining jobs, but I don't think we
15 should throw all those other jobs out the window
16 either.

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, regardless of it,
18 how much do you think if they go under, are you going
19 to pay? You're going to pay if you're in this city.

20 MS. GATELLI: Sure, I pay. I pay
21 taxes.

22 MR. SBARAGLIA: Sure, you're going to
23 pay.

24 MS. GATELLI: You know, that's what
25 cities are all about. We give money to risky
·
61

1 businesses.

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah, but that's not
3 it. The city is not Atlantic City. We're not here to
4 gamble.

5 MS. GATELLI: No, but we're here to
6 redevelop our city and to bring it back and to bring
7 jobs.

8 MR. SBARAGLIA: Yeah, but you're not
9 redeveloping it. All you're doing is creating giveaway
10 projects for people.

11 MS. GATELLI: We're not going to leave

12 it empty.

13 MR. SBARAGLIA: How much money is that

14 man developing in this project? How much of his money?

15 MS. GATELLI: I don't know. I'll have

16 to find out.

17 MR. SBARAGLIA: You gave him \$100,000

18 already. This was a grant. The Parking Authority gave

19 him \$70,000. Now you want to give him \$650,000.

20 What does this man bring into the city?

21 You might as well go into charity. You might as well

22 say the City of Scranton is a charitable organization

23 trying to charatize all the downtown.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: We're just voting to

25 introduce to tonight. And we will research it before

.

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1 we find --

2 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, I mean, you're

3 probably going to go with it anyway, but that's not the

4 point. The point is --

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't know what I'm

6 going to do. Like I said, there's 30 pages. I haven't

7 read it yet.

8 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, the main thing is
9 on the loan. If the city guarantees the loan, we're on
10 the damn -- you know, we're on it.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right, absolutely.

12 MR. SBARAGLIA: They go under, we've
13 got to pay. Now, I don't care how many jobs equate for
14 somebody making a minimum wage or we're going to get 52
15 bucks off them. But if they go under, we got to do it,
16 and I just wonder if this man is fiscal enough to do
17 it.

18 A lot of these projects in town, these
19 guys ain't coming up with nothing. Even that 500
20 project, it's all public money flowing into it.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: I do believe that
22 this is not just a one time deal, that this is a very
23 large chain that has, you know, been secured all over.

24 So, it's not like you're taking a risk
25 on someone who is not financially stable and also a

63

1 business person, so that is something that we will
2 consider.

3 MR. SBARAGLIA: Well, That's true, too.

4 MS. GATELLI: We'll find out those

5 answers for next week. Thank you.

6 MR. SBARAGLIA: Thank you.

7 MS. GATELLI: You know, just because we
8 introduce it, doesn't mean we're voting yes. That's
9 only to move it to the next level. And we'll get your
10 answers for next week. Mr. Jackowitz.

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening, Council.

12 Bill Jackowitz, resident, taxpayer, retired United
13 States Air Force.

14 If it's a large business and it's a
15 chain business, that means they have mega dollars, so
16 why are they getting taxpayers' money? I don't agree
17 with it.

18 Okay. We're building a better Scranton
19 by creating new jobs, investing in our infrastructures,
20 attracting new businesses and supporting our existing
21 ones. It's a plan to build our future today so we're
22 ready for the challenges that tomorrow may bring.

23 The best way to be ready for tomorrow
24 is to build today. We're all in it together, and if
25 everybody succeeds, we'll all do well. Quotes from the

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1 Honorable Chris Doherty, Mayor of Scranton,

2 Pennsylvania, Sunday Times, 2 April '06, Outlook '06.

3 Austin Burke, President of Scranton

4 Chamber of Commerce since 1981, 25 years on the job.

5 He also serves as executive vice-president of the

6 Scranton Lackawanna Industrial Building Company, the

7 chambers' industrial development arm.

8 Projects, Valley View Business Park,

9 Glenmaura Corporate Centers, Scott Technology Park, the

10 Bank of America, JC Penney Customer Center, General

11 Dynamics and the Scranton Enterprise development small

12 business incubator.

13 On Friday, 7 April '06, I went out

14 again on a fact finding mission. I went out job

15 hunting. I found businesses within the city limits who

16 had help wanted signs, full-time or part-time

17 positions.

18 I visited convenient stores,

19 restaurants, movie theaters, grocery stores, fast food

20 joints, telemarketing, auto part stores, bars, one

21 furniture store.

22 I was offered positions starting at

23 minimum wage to the high of \$8.00 an hour. No

24 benefits; meaning, retirement, health insurance or

25 vacation days. The \$8.00 an hour job was a night job.

1 \$6.50 an hour, \$10,546 a year after

2 taxes. \$7.50 an hour, \$12,168 a year after taxes.

3 \$8.15, \$13,223 after taxes.

4 When I completed my job search, I went

5 to the gas station where I paid \$2.69 a gallon for

6 regular unleaded gas. It has gone up since.

7 I started thinking, why am I

8 complaining? At least I own a car so I would have

9 transportation to and from my job. Some people do not

10 have that luxury. They would have to walk or ride a

11 bus or coworkers pick them up to take them to work.

12 At this time I would like to thank

13 Mr. Burke for his 25 years of community service, also

14 Mr. Doherty for his four and a half years as mayor and

15 four years on Council, all the past mayors of Scranton,

16 Council members and Chamber of Commerce, plus the

17 county commissioners for their hard work and dedication

18 to all citizens of Scranton. Without them, I would not

19 have been given the opportunity to live the American

20 dream.

21 On the positive side, I did find a job

22 that paid \$8.15 an hour. I did not qualify because I

23 do not have the required computer skills or a degree in
24 computers.

25 I am thankful that I really did not

.

66

1 need a job. I'm going to tie all of this together.

2 Bear with me.

3 Long hours, low pay, away from home,

4 children taking care of themselves, less adult

5 supervision, some parents working two or three jobs,

6 still struggling, but trying. Jobs are not the answer.

7 Higher wages, better solution.

8 Playground program, Mrs. Fanucci,

9 Mr. Morgan, Mr. Davis, Mr. Gonzales' ideas, combined

10 all of the ideas into one program. Invite ex-convicts,

11 drug dealers, prostitutes, police officers, corrections

12 officers, politicians, clergy, military, school

13 teachers, school counselors, doctors, nurses and

14 volunteers to conduct seminars, conferences, one on one

15 conversation with the kids and teenagers.

16 Relay your experience, but most

17 importantly, listen to the kids, what they are saying.

18 This should be a year around program. Finding a

19 building or a site should not be a problem. A city

20 building, school church, Western Field, Holy Cross, old
21 CYC building, University of Scranton, Jewish Community
22 Center, non-profits giving towards betterment of
23 Scranton, basketball courts, swimming pools,
24 University, old CYC.
25 Get Mr. Burke and Chamber of Commerce
.
67

1 involved, all city elected officials, including the
2 mayor, policemen, firefighters, EMT. You name it,
3 there's no end. Open these activities to all citizens,
4 teenagers, professionals, non-professionals.
5 I view this as a community working
6 together and coming together. Get the county
7 commissioners involved, state senators, state
8 representatives. Build a central community center.
9 Money should not be an issue, only an excuse.
10 We have am tours of the coal mine,
11 Steamtown. How about tours of the jails, drug and
12 alcohol rehab centers, mental wards, homeless shelters,
13 employment agencies.
14 Let's start educating our children for
15 real. Not everyone has a silver spoon, \$1,000 suits,
16 wing tipped shoes. Or have we forgotten? Maybe we

17 never knew or cared. The largest --

18 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Jackowitz, could you

19 wrap up your thoughts, please?

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: I am right now.

21 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

22 MR. JACKOWITZ: The largest predator of

23 economics well being in the city is a percent of

24 college graduates. Cities with few college graduates

25 have a hard time generating good paying jobs. Scranton

68

1 has two colleges, no graduates staying. Society is

2 paying people more for their brain than are their

3 brawn.

4 And, also, I have not forgotten about

5 the Hollow Avenue project, nor the South Scranton

6 Complex, Mr. McTiernan.

7 The Rinaldi project, I've have been

8 talking about this now for three or four months now,

9 and the five of you act like it was never mentioned

10 before, because nobody took the time to look into it.

11 Austin Burke invitation to City

12 Council, the mayor's invitation to City Council, we

13 were supposed to have an answer back today. Waiting

14 for the answer. Mr. Pocius' retirement, what City

15 Council voted for. Thank you.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mr.

17 Narsavage.

18 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Gatelli, I might have

19 a little bit of information that I was given today at

20 the end of the day.

21 Lori Reed from OECD called regarding

22 that issue of Molly Brannigans, just to try to fill us

23 in a little bit, and what she told me was that it is

24 federal money from the Economic Development

25 Administration Loan. It's a low interest loan at the

69

1 rate of 4 percent for approximately ten years, I think

2 she said.

3 This is the fifth Molly Brannigans, the

4 fourth in the State of Pennsylvania. They'll be using

5 the money for working capital, inventory, furniture,

6 fixtures and equipment, and they will be creating 80

7 jobs within three years.

8 She also stated that they were here for

9 two days. I guess there were ads in the paper. They

10 were here for two days at the Hilton and held

11 interviews for the management level positions, and they
12 will go for training at the other Molly Brannigans, at
13 their restaurants. Then they will be returning for
14 interviews for all of the other positions.

15 Most of the applicants for the
16 management positions were from Scranton. There were
17 some from Wilkes-Barre and some from Dickson City.
18 She said it was probably going to be
19 120 days for construction, then probably another three
20 to four weeks for their training to all take place.

21 So, it may not even be open until September. She
22 wasn't quite sure of the time line on that.

23 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much, Mrs.
24 Garvey. Mr. Narsavage.

25 MR. NARSAVAGE: Stan Narsavage,

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1 resident of Scranton. I want to ask Mrs. Gatelli about
2 something that she mentioned before the meeting -- or
3 before we proceeded.

4 You mentioned the park on Dorothy
5 Street was vandalized again.

6 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

7 MR. NARSAVAGE: I stood here last -- a

8 couple of months ago and asked about a beat officer,
9 and was told that we live in an affluent neighborhood,
10 so we're not entitled to one.

11 That park was vandalized three times
12 last year, and every time it was vandalized, I spoke to
13 two beat men that we walking the beat and asked them
14 why they were here, and they said because the park was
15 vandalized.

16 We have a problem there. The mothers
17 won't even send their kids to that park, because the
18 gang that's there hangs out there.

19 MS. GATELLI: I know. That's who I
20 heard it from.

21 MR. NARSAVAGE: We have no beat
22 patrolman. We don't live in The Village. That's not
23 where I'm talking about. I live in Tripp Park.

24 MS. GATELLI: According to the economic
25 development census track map, you are not eligible for

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1 a police officer that would receive federal funds,
2 however, we can ask the mayor, and I did speak to him
3 already, and I spoke to Mr. Scopelliti, who is going to
4 relay the message to the rest of the cabinet, that

5 there is a problem there with the graffiti, and they're
6 going to increase the patrols there.

7 Well, I'm going to tell you this, and I
8 said this before, also. It's graffiti now. Next month
9 it's going to be burning houses. A month after that,
10 it's going to be vandalizing cars. It's going to
11 escalate, unless something is done.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: I just ask them to
13 hold your time, I don't want to take your time.
14 I was there about two weeks ago, and
15 there was six or more mothers with their children
16 there, it was in the afternoon, and they pointed out
17 all the graffiti to me, and I called it in.

18 And we were not able to get a beat
19 officer. I agree, I think you should have one back
20 there. We just haven't been able to do that.

21 So, what we have done in the past, and
22 I think you know, we put the signs up saying no
23 trespassing after dark, so at least after dark, the
24 police could come there and move them out of there.

25 And I did ask the police as best as

.

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1 possible to step up the patrols. But I think you'll

2 agree with me that we're spread a little thin on the
3 police. We need more police.

4 MR. NARSAVAGE: I understand that.

5 We've had a Recovery Plan for four years with no
6 recovery, no recovery in for years.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'm not going to argue
8 with you on that. I'm not arguing about that.

9 MR. NARSAVAGE: Let me say one other
10 thing about Tripp Park, we have something there unique
11 that I don't think you've seen in any other it part of
12 the city. We've had exploding mailboxes. Now, is
13 there anybody else that can come up with that? We
14 have.

15 MS. EVANS: And, Mr. Narsavage, you
16 probably know, too, you've already had a car set on
17 fire, and that led to siding of two houses catching
18 fire, and to my knowledge, I've never heard the
19 conclusion of that crime.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: They haven't caught
21 the person yet.

22 MS. EVANS: They still haven't been
23 caught. And this is quite a while ago. I think it
24 might be two years this spring or summer.

25 MR. NARSAVAGE: Well, every time the

1 park gets vandalized, we get a couple beat cops that
2 walk for a couple of days or one, and it just happens
3 all over again. So, what does that tell you? That's
4 not the answer. You need a constant beat cop there.
5 Well, let me move on. Along with that,
6 Mount Vernon is about three blocks down the street from
7 Tripp Park. And this incident where an elderly couple
8 woke up at night and they had two men in their bedroom
9 looking for money.
10 And the woman, according to this
11 article, is 87, and so is the husband 87. And she
12 said, We don't have any money. And the guy hit her in
13 the face and busted her lip.
14 Now, is this what we have to look
15 forward to? After four years of recovery, this is what
16 we're looking forward to? This just happened
17 yesterday. I can't get a beat cop. Unreal.
18 Mrs. Fanucci, thanks for the
19 information you got. I'd like to have a copy of those
20 notes, is that possible?
21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Sure.
22 MR. NARSAVAGE: And I want to ask you

23 another favor, Mrs. Fanucci, if you can. I'd like to
24 see a copy of the audit that was done for HUD on the
25 GDBC funds. How do I go about getting that?

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1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Well, I can talk
2 to Ms. Hailstone and see what we can do, if we can get
3 a whole copy of the application and the audit at once,
4 because I believe that we want to see what they applied
5 for first, too.

6 MR. NARSAVAGE: All right. I want to
7 see where the funds went to, too.

8 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Exactly.

9 MR. NARSAVAGE: Now, I don't want to go
10 through freedom of information act, but it is public
11 information and it's federal, but that's a long tour.
12 You're lucky if you get it.

13 But will you see if you can do that?
14 You seem to have the key to the executive lounge, so
15 maybe you can help me.

16 MS. GATELLI: Well, that's her
17 committee.

18 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: That's my
19 committee.

20 MR. NARSAVAGE: I know it is, but she

21 also has the key to the executive lounge.

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Oh, you talk to me

23 so nice.

24 MR. NARSAVAGE: Only when you deserve

25 it. That's all. Thank you very much.

75

1 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Bolus.

2 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council. Bob

3 Bolus, Scranton. I've been away so long, Amil's

4 starting to look like John Minora. Things are really

5 getting bad.

6 I would like to congratulate the kids

7 here tonight for the job well done and hope it

8 continues. I'd like to pay special attention to Doug.

9 As people know, Doug came here. I

10 brought him here a long time ago, and he continued to

11 come to the meeting after meeting here presenting

12 issues. I think he earned the right as chairman.

13 I understand there has been some

14 questions on the Council through some members there

15 that they don't believe they need a chairman. I think

16 it's totally wrong. I think you get to appoint a

17 chairman at the end of the year.
18 Everywhere there's leadership, whether
19 it's in your Council, this Council, or anywhere else
20 you go, someone is going to tell you what to do,
21 whether you like it or not, and it's going to be that
22 way through your whole life.
23 You have to remember, you earn your
24 right to be somewhere. You just don't demand it and
25 get it. So, look at that in the future. I think you
.
76

1 guys got a good award tonight, and I think you should
2 continue the progress.
3 Mr. Jackson with the skateboard.
4 Katrina, what I would like to do for you tonight, on
5 behalf of Scooter's Hot Dog Hut in Dunmore, and that's
6 Dunmore, but I'm a resident of Scranton, Judy.
7 MS. GATELLI: They will accept that.
8 MR. BOLUS: Okay. We'll donate 100 hot
9 dogs to your venture that day. And I'll leave my
10 number with you to contact me, and we'll see that you
11 have them to feed the people that are coming to work.
12 The plants need food, so do the kids.
13 On the KOZs and non-profits, you know,

14 I'd still like to see some progress . I've been away
15 from here for quite a while on other issues, and I
16 think we need to get that back on track. As you can
17 see, it's getting out of control.

18 The Rinaldi project, all the nonsense
19 going on, the eminent domain, what we're doing is
20 taking taxes out of the city, not bringing them back
21 in, and we've got to get that back on track.

22 The debate, I thought was great last
23 night. I had the opportunity to listen to everybody
24 that spoke there.

25 Mrs. Evans, Mr. Courtright, I think you

.

77

1 did a great job. You represented the city as the city
2 should be represented.

3 I listened to a former Council member
4 claiming that he didn't vote to sell the golf course,
5 but by the time the vote got to him, it was already a
6 done deal because three preceding councilmen already
7 voted in the majority. So, whether you voted for it or
8 against it, it didn't really make any difference.

9 What about South Side, what about the

10 Icebox Complex that we only get a dollar for? And I

11 could go on and on and on about a lot of things.
12 Shutting people up when you came to
13 speak here, ruling them out of order or having them
14 arrested when you didn't like what they had to say.
15 But where has Councilman Murphy been
16 since he left here, or anybody that spoke there, other
17 than the two sitting councilmen that represented this
18 city?
19 Look around, do you see them in this
20 forum here? No. No one brought this expertise that
21 they're claiming to have to this forum here on this
22 side of the table. How are they going to represent us
23 down the road? I'd like to really see that.
24 When you shut everybody up then, maybe
25 we will sell Harrisburg and sell the assets in
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78

1 Harrisburg.
2 So, I think a lot of people have a lot
3 of examining before they come out and talk about what
4 they're going to do for us.
5 You know, actions speak a lot louder
6 than words do, and we've listened to the actions. I
7 don't think the people would be that foolish in the

8 future as to who they're going to look for.

9 This Carl Greco thing is just

10 outrageous. I raised these issues in the past. I

11 wasn't here when you did your voting on him. I would

12 adamantly challenge the Council against it.

13 Why in the City of Scranton do we only

14 have two people who could go the job, Boyd Hughes and

15 Carl Greco? Does that mean the rest of the attorneys

16 we have here are completely stupid, that they can't

17 read a book and find out what's going on, that this

18 couldn't have been put out to an open bid and let

19 everybody bid it?

20 We gave this money away, and now this

21 character sues us. Let's get realistic. This is

22 America, and we've lost our rights to hand this guy

23 this money. And the vote to give it to him is

24 outrageous.

25 He didn't earn it, he's not deserving

.

79

1 of it. And to put this bid out like it was was

2 ridiculous.

3 Cameras in the city. There's no crime,

4 as Mr. Doherty says, why do we need cameras? People

5 are getting mugged, but they're not getting mugged in
6 Scranton, they're getting mugged somewhere else
7 apparently.

8 We're in a safe city. We cut police,
9 we cut funding, we cut everything else. Now we need
10 cameras to tell us what's going on. Who's going to go
11 out to the accident or who's going to go out to the
12 crime scene?

13 You know, but we can build a bridge to
14 nowhere. I would like to really know what this bridge
15 does at Nay Aug.

16 I would like to take a minute, Judy, if
17 I can. I returned from Iwo Jima, and most people have
18 been asking me, and if I can take a minute, if it's
19 okay with you.

20 MS. GATELLI: You can have two extra
21 minutes.

22 MR. BOLUS: Thank you. I recently
23 returned from the Island of Iwo Jima, where most people
24 know I've been a mission to recover the remains of a
25 Sergeant William Genaust.

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80

1 He was the Marine who filmed the flag

2 raising on Mount Suribachi. He and another Marine were
3 lost to the Japanese going into a cave. They were both
4 killed. They've been entombed in a cave on the
5 island.

6 I've taken this up as a mission to
7 bring an American home. It's privately funded by
8 myself. I've been to the island. We've located the
9 area of search.

10 I've received correspondence from the
11 Japanese government now where I was getting a negative
12 before. After meeting with everybody on the island,
13 our own people and the Japanese, I received
14 correspondence back and forth, where if I'm sanctioned
15 or endorsed by a government agency here in the U.S., we
16 could go back and complete the mission.

17 I received a correspondence, just
18 briefly, Dear Mr. Bolus, my name is Captain Mark Welsh.

19 I'm the U.S. Defense and Naval Attaché to Japan.

20 I recently received a copy of your
21 letter to Mr. Gino, the Japanese Minister of Foreign
22 Affairs requesting approval from the Government of
23 Japan to visit Iwo Jima for the purpose of conducting a
24 survey of an area suspected to contain the remains of
25 Sergeant Genaust.

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1 Ambassador Sheffler asked me to look
2 into your request. I have contacted the EOD Office
3 having responsibility for recovering the remains of
4 U.S. Service Members killed in action.
5 They told me that you had already
6 contacted them. I have moved so far advanced of people
7 that are involved.
8 But I met with our ambassador to Japan,
9 and we are in the process now of securing the
10 permission and the endorsement of a government agency,
11 whether it be the Marine Corps, JPAC or one of the
12 other agencies for me to return with our crew of
13 people, our forensic people and everything else, that's
14 in place already to return back to Japan and bring him
15 back.
16 And it's interesting I bring this up
17 for you. This has been in various papers around the
18 country, and because I'm from Scranton, Scranton has
19 been highlighted.
20 But in the past, I trained a Japanese
21 driver to race one of our race trucks at the Pocono
22 Race Track. They were from Japan, also. And when they

23 came to this city, I had asked then Mayor McNulty to
24 recognize these people, and he ignored them.

25 But ironically enough in a filming of
.

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1 our racing and everything that we did throughout the
2 state where they finally raced one of our trucks in
3 Rockingham North Carolina, in the video in the filming
4 called The Challenger, that was showed all through
5 Japan showed Welcome to the City of Scranton, yet, our
6 administrative people then ignored them, and as they
7 ignore other people coming into this area, other than
8 for KOZs and non-profits.

9 There's a lot of good going on.

10 There's a lot of great people in this city that are
11 doing things that don't get recognized for it, because
12 they're not part of the political cronyism, so to
13 speak.

14 But thank you for allowing me to let
15 the people know, because The Times had been writing
16 stories about. Everybody is asking me when am I going.

17 Well, I'm back, and that's where we're at now. Thank
18 you.

19 MS. GATELLI: Thanks. Good luck. Les

20 Spindler.

21 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening, Les

22 Spindler. Mr. Narsavage, I want to add another crime

23 that you didn't mention. Yesterday on Snook Street on

24 East Mountain there was a big drug bust. I think

25 \$18,000 worth of drugs confiscated.

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1 But as Mr. Bolus said, no need to

2 worry. According to Chris Doherty, we have no crime in

3 this city.

4 Next thing, I want to comment about

5 this ridiculous editorial in the Sunday paper of April

6 9. I'm sure all of you Council saw it blaming Council

7 for the huge tax hike in the city. Well, I was really

8 taken --

9 MS. GATELLI: You need to stop reading

10 those editorials, Les.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Well, I was really taken

12 aback by that. I wrote a letter to the editor

13 defending Council, and I can't believe it was put in

14 the paper, and I want to read it, in case anybody else

15 didn't see it.

16 In your editorial of Sunday, April 9,

17 you blamed Council for a huge tax hike. You stated the
18 police arbitration award was a violation of the
19 Recovery Plan.
20 What you failed to report was how Mayor
21 Doherty violated his own Recovery Plan. Mayor Doherty
22 gave the DPW a contract with a raise, along with giving
23 his friends in City Hall huge raises, both of which
24 violate the Recovery Plan.
25 By Council voting in favor of the mayor

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1 dropping his appeal, they showed they are working for
2 the taxpayers of this city, unlike Mayor Doherty, whose
3 reckless borrowing and spending are the real reasons
4 for a huge tax hike. I was shocked that that was put
5 in the paper.

6 MS. GATELLI: Thanks, Les. I was going
7 to write one myself, but I figured I shouldn't even
8 dignify it with an answer, but thank you.

9 MR. SPINDLER: Well, I think Council by
10 voting 5-0 for the mayor to drop his appeal showed that
11 they're sticking up for the people of this city.
12 And I applaud you, Mrs. Evans, and you,
13 Mrs. Gatelli, and Mr. Courtright for voting to have the

14 payment stopped for Mr. Greco.

15 It's about time we step to the plate

16 and stop Chris Doherty from taking care of his friends

17 and costing the taxpayers money, It has to stop now.

18 So, thank you.

19 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Lee Morgan.

20 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

21 I'd like to start today by saying that land value tax,

22 it may be an option to the mercantile tax, and on the

23 27th of this month, Josh Vincent is going to be in

24 Scranton, and he's trying to inform people on how to

25 use the land value tax as a development tool.

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85

1 And what I'm asking this Council is to

2 make themselves available to this man, whether you

3 agree with what he says or you disagree.

4 There's a large body of people who seem

5 to have a lot of knowledge about taxation and the land

6 value tax to answer some of the questions in this city

7 in regards to a transfer more to that and away from the

8 mercantile tax. It may not be an answer, but being

9 informed is very important and alternatives are

10 important.

11 And it's time for, I think, the Council
12 to maybe even possibly meet this gentleman here. It
13 doesn't have to be televised, but, I mean, it's a place
14 where Council can make meet.

15 And I spent an hour and a half with
16 this representative last week and went through a lot of
17 stuff. I have a lot of information, and I think that
18 we need to start looking for information where it
19 exists. And we may not agree, but at least we'll have
20 options.

21 In regards to the playground program, I
22 think that it's a very important tool to empower
23 children and the community to fight many things besides
24 drugs, and I think that that's a very important thing
25 to move forward, as a few speakers before me, you know,

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1 spoke about that issue.

2 And I think it's very important for
3 Council to stay on task and know that change is very
4 hard, but I think that you have all the tools necessary
5 to bring that change forward, and I think that that
6 problem can be up and running if all five Council
7 people work together to bring that change about.

8 I think the city can definitely change,
9 and we're looking to Council, and I think you have some
10 answers, and I think that we have to furnish more.
11 The Lackawanna Citizens and Taxpayers
12 Association is trying to give as much information as we
13 can possibly give to this Council as we receive it.
14 We're going to hold meetings in Moosic
15 and Carbondale in the upcoming month, and we're going
16 to go through all the communities in Lackawanna County
17 and speak at as many as we possibly can and get as much
18 information as we possible can.
19 Because the City of Scranton is not
20 going to be the only community that's going to be
21 caught up, I'd have to say, in a revival.
22 I think the city can come back, but I
23 am totally against fast tracking the legislation for
24 the Parking Authority today.
25 I think we need to take some more time,

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1 study where all that money is going and whether it's a
2 viable option for the city.
3 The other thing is, I think that this
4 Council has to be begin to use its power of subpoena.

5 We have too many questions that aren't answered. We're
6 still debating Mr. Greco here. We're still debating
7 too many issues. We're talking about not having any
8 information. We're talking on fast tracking
9 legislation without all the knowledge that I think we
10 should have.

11 And we shouldn't be doing that, because
12 we make one bad decision after another bad decision
13 after another bad decision, and then we try to decide
14 how we're going to recover from it, okay?

15 You know, Mr. Doherty spoke about Don't
16 Take the Bait, well, you know what I'm going to say,
17 use his own slogan and don't take the bait, all right?

18 Let's make some smart choices. Let's
19 sit and think. If we don't vote on it this week, we
20 can vote on it next week. But if you vote on something
21 that's bad for the city, it's going to cripple us.

22 We've been crippled enough.

23 Okay. Walk through the communities.

24 I've asked Mrs. Gatelli on Council about the amount of
25 homes on the market, on the amount of vacant

.

88

1 apartments. They're all indicators of where this city

2 is.

3 This city is seriously troubled

4 financially, and we've got to start making smart

5 choices, because there's not much time left to make

6 them choices.

7 We need young people to come here.

8 We've talked about jobs. \$8 an hour jobs are not the

9 kind of jobs that sustain a family. We've got to face

10 the reality that we've been lied to.

11 Economic development is a very

12 important tool, but are we wisely using that tool? And

13 if we aren't using that tool wisely, why aren't we?

14 Because we don't have information.

15 And you can't make smart choices

16 without information. And too often Councils have gone

17 off on a tangent and made serious errors as far a

18 economic development and as far as a strategy of

19 redevelopment of the city .

20 And the last thing I have here is this,

21 there's no way that this development with Buona's and

22 all this stuff, somebody needs to stop this project and

23 find out exactly what's going on before we destroy

24 something else. Thank you.

25 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Michael

1 Anderson.

2 MR. ANDERSON: Hello. Michael

3 Anderson. I have some issues with the Department of

4 Public Works and stuff. It started about two and a

5 half years ago up on East Mountain on Birch Street.

6 When they engineered the road, they

7 engineered it towards the house, and then they put

8 ditches on the other side and built up the curb about 6

9 inches.

10 Well, when it comes to my house and my

11 driveway, there is no curb. So, every time it pours,

12 it rains, it floods my drain up and then goes in the

13 house.

14 Now, I've asked Mr. Parker to call me

15 back, never; Mike Luciani to call me back, never, and I

16 believe even Neil's written four or five letters, and

17 no response to get fixed.

18 MS. GATELLI: What is the address?

19 MR. ANDERSON: 1427 Birch.

20 MS. GATELLI: 1427 Birch.

21 MR. ANDERSON: It's tore up my drain.

22 It's -- it just floods it. I got rocks, I got sand, I

23 got boards out there.

24 MS. GATELLI: Do you have any pictures?

25 MR. ANDERSON: On me? No, I don't.

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90

1 But I've just been trying to get somebody to give me a

2 phone call back.

3 Now, you said you spoke to the mayor's

4 office this week or the mayor? I was told he's not

5 here this week.

6 MS. GATELLI: He came back yesterday.

7 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. Well, they told

8 me he was gone for the week. They wrote eight or nine

9 letters. I mean --

10 MS. GATELLI: Neil, do you have any of

11 those letters?

12 MR. COOLICAN: Yes.

13 MR. ANDERSON: And this has been going

14 on for two and a half years.

15 MS. GATELLI: Will you give it to me,

16 please?

17 MR. ANDERSON: They told me it would be

18 done. After the first year, they told me the city

19 didn't have no money. Well, I know I'm taking taxes

20 out of my check every week, so the city's got some
21 money.

22 MS. GATELLI: Leave your money with --

23 Oh, Lord -- your phone number with Neil --

24 MR. ANDERSON: Okay.

25 MS. GATELLI: -- and I'll call you.

91

1 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, I just -- every

2 time it pours, I don't want to take time out for my

3 children.

4 MS. GATELLI: Only leave the money if

5 it's a million. Thank you, Mr. Anderson.

6 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you.

7 MS. GATELLI: Next is Ron Elman.

8 MR. ELMAN: You all don't look very

9 happy tonight. I thought you'd be elated to see me

10 back.

11 MS. EVANS: We are.

12 MS. GATELLI: We're thrilled to see

13 you.

14 MR. ELMAN: Well, see, I write my notes

15 down. But when I hurt my hand, I had to learn to write

16 with this one, and this is so terrible, I can't read

17 it.

18 And besides that, I'm dyslexic, so it's

19 all scratchy and it's upside down and sideways, so you

20 all have to bear with me.

21 I heard him say if Mr. O'Malley hears

22 about that property, it will be KOZ in the morning.

23 And as far as contacting Mike Wallace, I don't think --

24 I think he has another eight-hour job, because all I

25 did for months was get answering machines.

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92

1 It seemed like this whole

2 administration lives off of answering machines, you

3 know? Nobody's ever -- they don't answer. I leave

4 nice messages, you know? I hadn't used no bad words or

5 nothing. Nobody answers me. I guess they wear you

6 down.

7 Did you all see Mr. Jackowitz's article

8 in the paper this morning in Letters to the Editor?

9 Well, I'm not the only one unhappy with the city

10 evidently.

11 I got some notes here, but I was going

12 to say something. I went to the Taurus Club this

13 afternoon, and a young fellow come up to me about this

14 age group, I guess, and he was supporting someone, and

15 we sat and talked for a few minutes.

16 And I just love to be around young

17 people. My son lets me hang out with them sometimes

18 for a couple hours, and then they bring out those funny

19 smelling cigarettes and chase me off. But I guess I

20 grew older now. I just enjoy young company and not

21 people my own age.

22 But I want to tell you something real

23 quick, and I'll show you where we're going with this in

24 a minute. In 1957, was the first time I voted. I'm

25 from Memphis. That's the deep south. Just strict

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93

1 segregation is how I grew up in.

2 And I was living in California. I

3 drove 2,000 miles. And that was before expressways.

4 It was an adventure to drive up and back then. It was

5 like driving 2,000 miles around allies in Scranton.

6 I came from Los Angeles to Memphis to

7 vote. The morning I was going to vote, this is a local

8 election, too. The morning I was going to vote, I was

9 sitting with my father. My father graduated

10 Northwestern University. He had a law degree, a

11 master's degree, and he had a gravy job with the State
12 of Tennessee, and he was into politics. I mean, you
13 know, very political person.

14 I told him, I said, Dada, I'm going to
15 vote for, I think the man's name was Ben Hooks, and it
16 didn't have any effect.

17 Ben Hooks was the opposite of my
18 father. He was like an Al Sharpton and Jessie Jackson
19 rolled into this big 1950 ball. And my father knew him
20 well and didn't like him. I was surprised my father
21 just -- didn't have any effect, you know, because he
22 was already very irritable at me.

23 This was in 1957, and I had these Blues
24 Brothers glasses on and my hair was like this, and he
25 was awful upset with me.

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94

1 Anyway, he's giving me these
2 instructions how to vote and everything, not how to
3 vote but what to do, because I'd never been in a box or
4 nothing, didn't have an idea of what was going on.

5 So, the second time I said this to him,
6 I said, I'm going to vote for your buddy Ben.
7 He looked at me and said, you know,

8 something like this, he said, if you think Mr. Hooks is
9 the best man for the job, you vote for him, but don't
10 vote for him because you feel sorry for him or you're
11 going to make fun of him because he's Irish or Jewish
12 or Italian or buying you a beer today or something.
13 He said, Vote for the best man for the
14 job. And I've done that. I've always tried to do
15 that. I've had some bad losers. I supported Wallace
16 when I lived in California, so you know I felt he was
17 the best man for the job then.
18 My father told me that you judge people
19 on their past performance as a guide to future
20 behavior.
21 When you get these people, study their
22 background and get to know them. The young man talking
23 to me today didn't know anything about his candidate,
24 who I happen to know a little bit. I met him a few
25 times.

95

1 You can't sell something you're proud
2 of if you don't anything know it. But, you know, you
3 guys, you're inheriting a bad city with debts and
4 problems and all. I just wouldn't want to be in your

5 shoes. I wouldn't know what to do with this place. I

6 feel sorry for the next mayor.

7 Yeah, he'll probably be \$250, \$300

8 million in debt between Todd O'Malley and the teachers

9 and everybody else. You know, the place is going to

10 pot.

11 And you guys got to, like I said a

12 couple weeks ago, you're going to inherit these

13 problems and have hundred-year-old houses. I don't

14 know.

15 MS. GATELLI: Thanks, Mr. Elman.

16 Anyone else care to speak before Council?

17 MR. DAVIS: Assalaam Alaikum. My name

18 is Jim Davis. I thank Herman Johnson up in Dalton for

19 his research on the Roberts Rules of Order.

20 I've heard the term used many times

21 here that we were following The Roberts Rules of Order

22 and procedures, and he makes an observation here that

23 if the Council President wanted to make a motion, he or

24 she would have to hand the gavel over to the vice

25 president, then make the motion. That's the law, which

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1 has not happened here so far.

2 So, all the things that you've made a
3 motion for, Mrs. Gatelli, should be taken back and --

4 MS. GATELLI: I'll take that under
5 advisement, Mr. Davis. I'll ask my solicitor. Thank
6 you.

7 MR. DAVIS: Read your own rules.

8 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

9 MR. DAVIS: Secondly, we just came
10 through a very tough week here in Scranton, because we
11 just dropped 4,000 kids out to into the hind yards or
12 into the City of Scranton without any programs.

13 And I noticed after sitting here all
14 evening, nobody has said to you that we have a crisis
15 problem. We have kids who are economically deprived,
16 we have kids that don't a place to play or eat lunch,
17 and nobody has tried to address this problem.

18 I've watched the newspapers, and I
19 don't see anyone coming up with an answer. I don't see
20 anyone proposing an answer. That leads me to think
21 that Scranton really doesn't care about the
22 economically deprived.

23 They seem to be the father for HUD so
24 we can have agreements. HUD okays the grants based
25 upon the economically deprived. But as far as the

1 services to them, actual services to our kids and those
2 who need the services, we don't really care.
3 So, I guess that thing that I said a
4 long time ago about racism in Scranton is maybe more
5 classism. Maybe that's our problem.
6 Because changes are being made as I
7 stand here and I speak. I can go through this town
8 from one end to another and I can see another black
9 face here, I can see another black face there, I can
10 see a Latin American over here, and, you know, little
11 by little we're actually hiring these people. These
12 people. Do you hear what I said? I hear that all the
13 time. And the thing that I'm trying to say to you is,
14 racism will tear this town apart.
15 Now, I've asked several times for City
16 Council, for the school board, for county commissioners
17 to step together and do something in Central City.
18 I've got 4,000 kids on my back for the summer, and I
19 can't find out anything that I can do with them.
20 Now, there are grants to be written,
21 I'm quite sure all sorts of programs. I'm glad you're
22 still awake. Okay.

23 But, you know, it's all based on one
24 thing. It's based on the Declaration of Independence.

25 This is something that I just read recently. We hold

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98

1 these truths to be self evident and true. What truths?

2 Do we trust you to give us the truth about what is

3 actually happening at OECD?

4 How can you give this kind of money to

5 Rinaldi or to this company and that company and still

6 have money for the non-profits who really need it

7 because they don't have an intake of funds? How can

8 they support the kids in camps? How can they do things

9 to help people who are out of money or out of food, if

10 you're giving all the gravy? You're taking the gravy

11 out of these people's mouths and giving to people like

12 Rinaldi. Oh, you don't think so? You really don't

13 think so? You look at your budget.

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: You know what, I'm

15 going to tell you why I don't think so, because they're

16 totally two different programs.

17 You cannot -- economic development

18 cannot go toward those programs, which it is not our

19 fault. This is all state money set by the state. It

20 is not. So, you are inaccurately describing what goes

21 on. You cannot say we are taking money out of

22 children's mouths. That's not the case.

23 And I don't think that the taxpayers

24 should be out there listening and believing that that's

25 the case, because it is not accurate. And I'm sorry

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1 that you don't agree with me, but it is accurate, what

2 I am saying.

3 MR. DAVIS: How much of this budget do

4 we have today that's gong to be rewarded to the

5 underprivileged?

6 MS. GATELLI: There was a grant, I

7 believe --

8 MR. DAVIS: What percentage of it?

9 MS. GATELLI: -- for a loan for

10 \$750,000 --

11 MR. DAVIS: Who?

12 MS. GATELLI: United Neighborhood

13 Centers.

14 MR. DAVIS: Would you please give me an

15 audit of the United Neighborhood Services Centers?

16 MS. GATELLI: I can't give you an audit

17 of them. They're a private organization.

18 MR. DAVIS: Oh, you can't get that?

19 Because I've went over there and I asked for one. I
20 asked for the audit for 2005 and 2006 and 2004, and
21 they refused to give it to me. Would you get it for
22 me? No.

23 MS. GATELLI: I don't know if they have
24 to give it to us.

25 MR. DAVIS: No. There's no reason to,

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1 right?

2 MS. GATELLI: But they are helping the
3 children.

4 MR. DAVIS: Find out first. Please,
5 investigate. Find out what the funds are being used
6 for, where they're being used and how they're being
7 used before you tell me that I'm wrong about how
8 they're being used in the City of Scranton. Because I
9 see the kids every single day that don't have. Thank
10 you.

11 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Anyone else
12 care to speak before Council?

13 MR. BUDZINSKI: Fred Budzinski,

14 Scranton. I was listening to a couple speakers here,
15 one talking they were looking for a job, \$8.00 an hour,
16 and then I was listening to another speaker talking
17 about \$8.00 an hour.

18 And you consider everything taken out
19 of that, all the taxes and everything taken out, you're
20 working for \$6.50 an hour take home pay.

21 Now, this morning I read the paper, and
22 on the front page it's seven running for 113 District.
23 Let's not forget The Times harping
24 weeks after weeks about these representatives getting
25 them -- voting themselves a raise and patting each

.

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1 other on the back and congratulating one another, while
2 our senior citizens getting Social Security 15, 20
3 bucks a month.

4 Now, I've been talking to a lot of
5 people that go to senior centers. It's getting to be a
6 joke. Why are they running? I would say they're
7 running because there's a lot of freebies.

8 Now, the gasoline pushing \$3 an hour,
9 I'm wondering if the taxpayers are going to be paying
10 their gas in that car that they're running around in.

11 Now, I would say this election is pay
12 back time, pay back time, and I would hope to see a lot
13 of these representatives voted out and get some fresh
14 ones in.

15 Now, I'm talking to some people, and
16 they got to narrow it down who to vote for. They got
17 it down to Janet Evans and Mr. Courtright.

18 Now Mr. Courtright is young in
19 politics, and I would hope he wasn't running, but next
20 time that he would run and people would vote for him.

21 So, the way I hear it, the people and
22 most of the seniors favor Janet Evans, because it seems
23 --

24 MS. GATELLI: Mr. --

25 MR. BUDZINSKI: What?

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1 MS. GATELLI: I can't pronounce your
2 last name, please, we don't want to get into politics
3 at the Council meeting, please. Thank you. Of who to
4 vote for.

5 MR. BUDZINSKI: I'm not telling them
6 who to vote for.

7 MS. GATELLI: I know, but you're saying

8 that, and it's not appropriate.

9 MR. BUDZINSKI: Okay. So, if they're
10 trying to shut me out, there's no use in me talking
11 anymore. Thank you.

12 MS. GATELLI: Ann Marie Stulgis.

13 MS. STULGIS: I'm Ann Marie Stulgis,
14 and I live in Scranton. And, Mrs. Gatelli, at the risk
15 of being redundant, did I understand you correctly? I
16 was at home with no intention of coming down.
17 Regarding the military for the city employees, the
18 military pay --

19 MS. GATELLI: Mr. Ancherani came here
20 last week and said that there were people that hadn't
21 been paid the differential.

22 And when I went met with Ms. Moran, she
23 said there aren't any that haven't been paid the
24 differential.

25 MS. STULGIS: Is that right?

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1 MS. GATELLI: I mean, I don't have any
2 names, so I can't -- I can only go with what I have.
3 If you give me a name or the person calls me and tells
4 me they didn't get it and shows me proof.

5 I can't just go there all the time.

6 And I do. You know Mr. Ancherani, I try to answer his
7 questions all the time.

8 MS. STULGIS: Mrs. Gatelli, you were
9 not told the truth. Mrs. Moran is more than aware of
10 police officers who where were not paid military
11 differential.

12 MS. GATELLI: Well, then you need to
13 tell me who they are and give me some information so
14 that I have it.

15 MS. STULGIS: I brought -- I grabbed
16 information quite quickly when I came down, so I don't
17 have everything, but I do have copies of letters that
18 Ms. Moran received.

19 In fact, the letter on top is a letter
20 written by our police chief to me with a carbon copy to
21 Ms. Moran saying, This is in response to a grievance I
22 received on your letter pertaining to, and two of the
23 officers are named. It is regarding the city paying a
24 salary differential.

25 Since it was the human resource

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1 department that handled this matter, I will forward

2 this documentation to the director, Lisa Moran, and
3 have her contact you as soon as possible.
4 When, of course, she failed to do that,
5 which is quite common -- oh, by the way, this letter is
6 dated June of 2005. Grievances are dated April of
7 2005. Correspondence has been going back and forth
8 since that time.
9 I later -- sometime later when she
10 failed to notify me, I filled out the proper forms
11 requesting state mediation. I gave that to Ms. Moran.
12 She did not sign it and get it back to me.
13 During an arbitration meeting here,
14 right here at the table, I asked her, Lisa, did you
15 sign those papers so we could have the mediation? Oh,
16 I forgot. And, of course, they weren't signed.
17 I then E-mailed her twice asking her,
18 Were they signed? They were not. I have sent her -- I
19 also got -- oh, she said they were overpaid, the
20 officers were overpaid.
21 A police officer's salary is
22 \$40,009.75. This officer received \$28,072.97 for the
23 entire year. It's a W-2 from the federal government.
24 I know Ms. Moran doesn't believe it, but I think most
25 of us would.

1 The other officer's W-2 is \$22,695.75.

2 Both of those were forwarded to the chief and to

3 Ms. Moran, and not just a few weeks ago. She is very,

4 very well aware.

5 She also withheld money owed on an

6 arbitration to another officer who was in the military

7 because she said he was also overpaid.

8 Ms. Moran is very well aware of what's

9 going on. The problem is, and it seems to be a

10 consistent problem with this city, is quite simply the

11 fact that you don't hire somebody with a degree in

12 fashion design to be a human resource director for a

13 city this size. And that's the problem.

14 You were lied to. She is very, very

15 much aware of it. And I'm going to tell you something,

16 and I'm going to ask you all something, because this

17 has gone on for a long, long, time.

18 You, as the legislative branch of this

19 city government has the right, the authority and the

20 duty to write legislation. I'm asking you to start

21 that, and to please enact legislation whereby any city

22 employee who serves in the United States Government

23 service in an armed conflict, please, the city match

24 their base military pay with their base city pay.

25 I think it is the very least that any

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1 of you can do and the very least that we, as American

2 citizens, owe these men and women. Thank you.

3 MS. GATELLI: Ann Marie, can you leave

4 this stuff with me?

5 MS. HUMPHREY: I'm back. May the Peach

6 of Jesus Christ be with all you and --

7 MS. GATELLI: Phyllis, Phyllis --

8 MS. HUMPHREY: Yes.

9 MS. GATELLI: Before you start, I'm

10 going to tell you --

11 MS. HUMPHREY: You don't have to

12 chastise me. I have freedom of speech.

13 MS. GATELLI: No. You are not allowed

14 to talk about --

15 MS. HUMPHREY: Jesus Christ --

16 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

17 MS. HUMPHREY: -- who's my personal

18 savior?

19 MS. GATELLI: No, you can't.

20 MS. HUMPHREY: I got a mouth, and I

21 will say it.

22 MS. GATELLI: Attorney Minora, is she

23 allowed to talk about that at a Council meeting?

24 MR. MINORA: No.

25 MS. HUMPHREY: They just passed a law

.

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1 in the higher justice --

2 MS. GATELLI: You're not allowed. I

3 Have letters here -- listen, listen. You're not

4 allowed to talk about religions. There are other

5 religions besides yours, and it's very offensive to

6 people that are not of the same religion.

7 We all have received a letter from

8 people that are very offended that people come here and

9 talk about their religion. Is not allowed. And if you

10 are not going to talk about city business, I'm going to

11 ask you to step down, please.

12 MS. HUMPHREY: No. You are trying to

13 censor me into something --

14 MS. GATELLI: No, I'm not.

15 MS. HUMPHREY: I'm trying to do

16 something here for my city. I'm dealing with the

17 United Nations here that I have papers to give to the

18 City Council. Now, it's --

19 MS. GATELLI: You can talk about the

20 city and you can talk about the united nations, but you

21 cannot talk about God.

22 MS. HUMPHREY: That's the Fourth

23 Amendment? Okay.

24 MS. GATELLI: That's the legal opinion

25 from the council solicitor.

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1 MS. HUMPHREY: Okay. Excuse me. Then

2 you know what I feel? When I vote and if anybody votes

3 in the City of Scranton, if you can't say you're

4 Muslim or you're Jewish or you're Protestant or you're

5 Baptist, well, then I think we should fold up and we

6 should have a pile of Baptist, Priests, Ecumenical

7 people sitting on the center.

8 MS. GATELLI: Phyllis, please sit down.

9 You're out of order.

10 MS. HUMPHREY: I want to tell you

11 exactly about this man. This man Mr. Davis, he is

12 complaining and putting down our town saying that the

13 children are starving.

14 I have a list of all the places,
15 especially Sister Adrian. When I lived at Valley View
16 Apartments, Sister Adrian would come over with bags and
17 bags of stuff that so many people that they would do is
18 throw turkeys and things out and take advantage of the
19 system, the goodness of Sister Adrian.

20 There is list of all the places where
21 people could go for food. So, I want to hand this
22 over. If you could put it in the paper, because this
23 man is trying to drag down our town.

24 He's not letting the people know the
25 truth that the love we have -- I mean, we have our

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1 misunderstandings and everything and we just got to
2 come to together in love and peace.

3 But I have this, and I want to submit
4 it to the children, to our young councilmen. I want to
5 submit it to them and let them work with this to see
6 it's in the paper, because I love the teenagers. And
7 that's my mission for the teenagers. Is that okay?

8 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.

9 MS. HUMPHREY: Now, this one right
10 here, I want to tell them that it went to the UN, and I

11 met with Reverend Kathleen Stone. She's the Chaplain
12 of the Tillman Chapel Church of the United Nations, the
13 777 United Nations Plaza in New York.

14 The holy picture that I showed you
15 children with Father Chesik and Father Peyton is right
16 now --

17 MS. GATELLI: Phyllis, you're going off
18 on religious --

19 MS. HUMPHREY: No, it's for peace.

20 MS. GATELLI: Please, please. I don't
21 want to do this. Please.

22 MS. HUMPHREY: I am trying to tell you
23 something.

24 MS. GATELLI: You cannot talk about
25 religion at a public Council meeting.

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1 MS. HUMPHREY: Okay. Let's talk about
2 war. Let's talk about --

3 MS. GATELLI: Let's talk about potholes
4 and police and taxes. There's enough issues to talk
5 about.

6 MS. HUMPHREY: Okay. Let's talk about
7 police. I live it every day. Police, there's ten

8 fingers on your hand. You can't blame -- if one goes

9 down, you can't blame nine.

10 Every day I live knowing what happened,

11 documents September 11. That's why I was there with

12 pictures and everything, number one; number two, this

13 woman, Sylvia McDoc, her father was a doctor here.

14 She's cute. She's 94-years-old. I met her.

15 And she's with International Black

16 Women's Association for Justice. And I thought it

17 would be nice if the children, we could write them a

18 letter and invite them here, the people that I know

19 from the United Nations.

20 Because I am working for peace, but I'm

21 also working for justice, and I'm also going to be

22 allowed within my life to expose the good, the bad and

23 the ugly. Nobody will like it, but it's truth in its

24 fullest. And they say the truth will set you free.

25 MS. GATELLI: You have to wrap up your

.

111

1 comments, please.

2 MS. HUMPHREY: The University of

3 Scranton had a violence thing going on and I had all my

4 articles there and everything, but anybody was allowed

5 to speak, but what they did was they pulled out these

6 so I wouldn't speak, but my voice is louder than this

7 microphone, and I write faster than I talk.

8 MS. GATELLI: All right. Thank you

9 very much. Anyone else?

10 MS. HUMPHREY: Time is up?

11 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, your time is up.

12 Anyone else care to speak?

13 MS. HUMPHREY: I just want to say to

14 Mrs. Evans, my vote is for you, because not once did

15 you sequester me. And I love you and I know you're

16 going to be great when you become a state

17 representative.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Phyllis.

19 MS. HUMPHREY: God Bless you. Take

20 care.

21 MS. GATELLI: Next speaker, please.

22 MR. ARCHER: Good evening, City

23 Council. My name is Joe Archer, taxpayer and resident.

24 Mrs. Evans, I had a couple of people

25 approach me on Sanderson Avenue. Way back when we had

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1 the original Council, I talked to Jay Saunders about

2 getting a streetlight on Sanderson, and I had no
3 response. He said he would be in touch with Parker --

4 MS. EVANS: Just let's stop for one
5 second. Now, there is no streetlight at all, correct?

6 MR. ARCHER: It's, like, 0one dark
7 area.

8 MS. EVANS: Okay. Did he give you --
9 did Mr. Saunders give you a petition?

10 MR. ARCHER: It has been filled out and
11 sent back in when the old Council was here.

12 MS. EVANS: You heard nothing since?

13 MR. ARCHER: Nothing since. I think a
14 couple days after he said he'd been talking and they
15 still didn't get back to him yet. I just want to know
16 the progress on that or do we have to do a whole new
17 one or --

18 MS. EVANS: Honestly, I don't know.

19 Neil, can you look into it?

20 MS. GATELLI: We could have Neil look,
21 because he found several for me that were returned to
22 Council.

23 MS. EVANS: I remember this, though,
24 Neil, on Sanderson Avenue.

25 MS. GATELLI: And if it's not, then he

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1 can give you the papers for another one.

2 MR. ARCHER: Okay. No problem. I have

3 another question. I think this is going to have to --

4 on Capouse, I guess we're going to call this a nuisance

5 bar, it's going to be The Clubhouse. Last week there

6 was a stabbing, now this time they're out screaming in

7 the middle of the street. I have people approaching me

8 to ask Council for their help to stop this before it

9 gets way out of control. It's already been a nuisance

10 bar. I think Scranton --

11 MS. GATELLI: It's on Capouse Avenue?

12 MR. ARCHER: Yep.

13 MS. GATELLI: There's a community

14 justice down there. We will contact them.

15 MR. ARCHER: Contact them, because I

16 haven't seen them walking around lately.

17 MS. EVANS: I think it might be

18 Attorney Ware, who handles that area.

19 MS. GATELLI: We'll call that in for

20 you.

21 MR. ARCHER: Okay. One more thing. I

22 know we are getting into where it's going to be

23 springtime now. If you go down to Albright Avenue,
24 where they just put the new flood gates in, you can see
25 the sewer all blocked with dirt and everything else.

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1 I know it's --

2 MS. GATELLI: Anyone care for an ice
3 cream?

4 MR. ARCHER: Yeah, let's go.

5 MS. GATELLI: Dairy Dan's outside.

6 MR. ARCHER: Like I said, it's on

7 Albright where they put the sewer grates in. They're
8 clogged with a lot of dirt.

9 I know we're getting to the springtime

10 where we're going to get a lot of rain this year

11 because we haven't had enough rain.

12 Well, if we get one steady rain and

13 that water doesn't go into the drain, it's going to

14 back up and you're going to have Albright back into a

15 whole mess, what we had last year, problems with that.

16 Maybe we'll contact DPW to see if they

17 can locate it and try to figure out a problem. But the

18 thing is, the hole is not big enough and it doesn't

19 hold that much water.

20 And once that water backs up, it's
21 going to back all the way up on the road and you're
22 going to have a nice -- look at ten years ago, when we
23 had that big flood. It's going to start right back
24 over. If you guys want to look into that, okay?
25 That's all I have.

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1 MS. EVANS: Before the flood gates.

2 MR. ARCHER: That's all I got.

3 MS. EVANS: I think Neil got this down,

4 didn't you, Neil? And if you just want to add that to

5 the list I gave you already, it will save time on the

6 letters.

7 MR. ARCHER: Thank you.

8 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

9 MR. SLEDZINSKI: Hey, Bobby, what

10 happened Monday? We beat you guys so bad, Bob. We

11 beat you guys, Bob. We murdered you. I had to bust

12 you on that one, Bob. You don't mind, do you?

13 MR. MCTIERNAN: Okay, Bob. Thank you.

14 MS. GATELLI: Thanks, Chris. Anyone

15 else?

16 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council. My

17 name is Nancy Krake, and I'm a resident of the

18 City of Scranton.

19 I'd just like to reiterate what

20 Mrs. Evans spoke about earlier. The former seated

21 Council was never asked to approve a contract for Carl

22 Greco, which should -- why -- actually why should you

23 have been asked?

24 Mr. Greco continued to work without a

25 contract, knowing full well that by filing a lawsuit

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1 where the Defendant, in this case the administration,

2 would never fight him, he would be paid in full, \$100

3 an hour, plus expenses totalling over \$134,000.

4 Not only was Mrs. Evans deceived, as

5 she said earlier, but more importantly, 70,000

6 Scrantonians were deceived and manipulated by these

7 tactics.

8 Thankfully tonight Council voted to

9 stop Mr. Greco's court award. Accountability to the

10 citizens is still important to at least three of the

11 City Councilpersons.

12 It was an eye opener tonight for all of

13 us, and I'm sure hopefully for all Council members, of

14 just how this administration operates. Many deceptions
15 were revealed this evening, and some of them were very
16 sad.

17 Also, speaking about that,

18 Mrs. Fanucci, I hope as the liaison to OECD, you will
19 do everything in your power to open the lines of
20 communication for Mr. Picollino and his family. We're
21 hoping that something will be done there.

22 On another note, I attended the debate
23 last night at Lackawanna College. It was for state
24 representatives of the 113th district -- or candidates,
25 I should say.

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1 Two of the things that were mentioned,
2 this is not political, I am bringing them up because
3 the two questions that were asked are issues that have
4 come up over the term -- over Mr. Doherty's term.
5 Mrs. Evans' question was, that critics
6 say she misrepresented city borrowing. Once again,
7 Mrs. Evans patiently explained this administration's
8 policy of assigning debt to the authorities to minimize
9 their cost. We know that the people are not fooled by
10 this at all, Mrs. Evans.

11 Mr. Courtright, he was asked if he
12 misrepresented crime statistics. Simply and truthfully
13 he explained the number of calls have risen, while the
14 number of police officers are down. He also said,
15 Ask the people if they feel safer now. And he also
16 said, There's never been a shooting at West Side High
17 School in all the years that he's aware, but there was
18 one during the mayoral campaign.
19 And I have to say that these people,
20 once again, just spoke the truth as they've been doing
21 over the past two and a half years, and I would like to
22 say a well done to both of them.

23 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Mrs. Krake,
24 though, I just wanted to add something, because it
25 plays into a piece of legislation we have this evening
.

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1 with regard to the authorities.
2 It was said tonight during a very brief
3 caucus meeting in Council's office that, of course,
4 this agreement has to be run through the city for the
5 garage, because after all, the authorities have no
6 power of taxation, but the city does.
7 And I said, so you are referencing our

8 pledge of full faith and credit? And they agreed, Yes,
9 indeed, this, because the taxpayers are ultimately
10 responsible for all of the debt incurred by all of
11 these authorities if those payments are not met.
12 And, you know, the notion that the
13 citizens are not responsible is nothing short of
14 ludicrous. And as I indicated yesterday, the auditor,
15 a CPA, and, of course, I am not, but he indicated that
16 there is no way to disassociate the two, according to
17 government accounting standards.
18 The total debt must be represented in
19 precisely that way. And, of course, ultimately even
20 The Scranton Times agreed and corrected my total number
21 of long-term debt from, I believe, \$198 million to
22 \$204, and that, of course, was prior to the passage of
23 the 2005 budget and the additional \$5.5 million some
24 Council members granted the mayor. So, the numbers are
25 up from there now.

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1 MS. KRAKE: Yes. Thank you very much
2 for your diligence in that. Thank you.

3 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

4 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening, Council.

5 I'm Nelson Ancherani. I'm a taxpayer, I'm a resident,
6 I'm a city employee and financial secretary of the FOP.
7 I really didn't prepare to be here tonight, but as I
8 thought about it, I have to come to the defense of the
9 unions again.

10 I can't let the newspaper have the last
11 word, even though they'll come out again. They got the
12 power of the press.

13 On 4/9/06 in their editorial titled,
14 City Council Votes For Huge Tax Hike, and Les Spindler
15 already mentioned that, I'd like to know when. I
16 didn't see this Council vote for a huge tax hike. Did
17 you vote on one?

18 MS. EVANS: No.

19 MR. ANCHERANI: I didn't think so. I
20 know the mayor already admitted that there will be a
21 tax hike. After all, we owe close to \$240 million over
22 the past 28 years in long-term debt. This council had
23 nothing to do with that. So, how are you voting for a
24 huge tax hike?

25 In that editorial it has Scranton City

.

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1 Council did not simply vote Thursday against appealing

2 a big and probably illegal arbitration award for city
3 police, it voted for big future tax increases that will
4 be needed to fund it, nowhere near the \$240 million
5 that the mayor put us in debt for if the arbitration is
6 not appealed. He put us in debt for that \$240
7 million. We didn't. We got nothing.

8 Another part, Council members claim
9 that further appeals would be too expensive, which is
10 an astounding conclusion. It is the police arbitration
11 award that is expensive. All the more so, because it
12 is likely to be followed by a mirror image award for
13 firefighters, nowhere near the \$240 million. We got
14 nothing.

15 The cost of the police award, this is
16 another part, a loan is estimated at \$2.4 million over
17 the next two years, but that is just the next two
18 years. The award becomes the base line for future
19 awards and the compensation increases. Again, what
20 about the \$240 million? We got nothing. The mayor put
21 us in that.

22 Council members seem unconcerned that
23 the arbitration award violates a city law. The
24 Recovery Plan that was approved overwhelmingly by city
25 voters in 2002, that plan is the basis of the city's

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1 contract proposal.

2 What about the mayor violating the plan

3 with \$5.5 million for new hires, new raises, and the

4 DPW raise? Didn't that violate the plan?

5 And in terms of the appeal, it is even

6 more remarkable that Council members don't recognize

7 that the award also appears to violate state law.

8 That's another part. The newspaper never mentions the

9 mayor violating the plan, never.

10 He violated state law, if that was --

11 if the Recovery Plan or Act 47, he's violating it.

12 Where was the paper? Where was PEL? Missing in

13 action.

14 Now I ask, where were these nameless,

15 faceless editorialists who won't put their names to the

16 editorials? Where were they hibernating when the mayor

17 violated the Recovery Plan?

18 It's a shame the one sided reporting

19 from this paper in a one paper town. They are supposed

20 to live up to their journalistic ethics. Where are

21 they? Under what snake's belly are they hiding?

22 In my eyes, the paper and editorialists

23 have no credibility. Wake up. Report the news, not
24 just one-sided stories. I cancelled my subscription.
25 I'm saving money. I read it for free, and even then I

.

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1 have no respect. I have utter disregard for them, but
2 they give me ammunition every week to come here.
3 Remember, the unions got nothing for
4 the four years, and we are \$240 million in debt.
5 That's the mayor's doing, and I'll keep saying it, not
6 ours. Where were these editorialists sleeping or
7 hibernating?
8 Also, on this copy I have here the
9 mayor's picture is on it. Who's paying for that?
10 That's probably coming out of the \$240 million. That's
11 not your -- you guys didn't vote on that.
12 Anyway, Mrs. Gatelli, I have the three
13 names of those three parties. I'll get them names to
14 you. They weren't paid. No matter what Ms. Moran
15 said, they weren't paid.
16 MS. GATELLI: Okay.
17 MS. EVANS: Mr. Ancherani, if I might,
18 as you spoke I was thinking of this, if I might
19 paraphrase Mark Twain, I believe he said something like

20 The Constitution protects the freedom of the press, but

21 who protects the people from the press?

22 MR. ANCHERANI: Yeah. We're stuck.

23 One paper, one town, we're snuck. And we get one side

24 of the story, if we get that. We get nothing.

25 Journalistic ethics? Where? I mean, they're supposed

.

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1 to be protecting us. Where? Thank you.

2 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Anyone else

3 care to speak before Council? Mrs. Garvey.

4 MS. GARVEY: 5-A, motions.

5 MS. GATELLI: Good evening.

6 MS. EVANS: I'm going to piggy back

7 what Mr. Ancherani said, because I believe I would be

8 doing a disservice to the good people of Scranton if I

9 did not straighten out the facts about a tax increase.

10 So, please remember that the newspaper

11 editorial is nothing more and nothing less than an

12 opinion. And it's written by a Scranton Times

13 employee, and it's his job to present the opinion of

14 the owners of the newspaper.

15 Now, here are the facts for your

16 consideration. First, following his re-election to

17 office, Mr. Doherty did announce a tax increase after
18 fiscal year 2006 in The Scranton Times. So, we're all
19 well aware that that is forthcoming by virtue of our
20 leader's own announcement, and then, secondly, as Mr.
21 Ancherani so eloquently stated, the police arbitration
22 award is so large because it's retroactive to 2002, and
23 the police have not received, not COLAs, not bonuses,
24 nothing since 2001, and the reward grows larger each
25 day. As the clock ticks, the interest grows, the legal

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1 fees grow.

2 And finally, who is to blame? Well, if
3 you're going to blame anyone, I think you need to go
4 downstairs. His office is downstairs, and his name is
5 Chris Doherty.

6 Now, Kay, did Mr. Doherty ever respond
7 to Council's motion opposing the appeal?

8 MS. GARVEY: No, not to our office.

9 MS. EVANS: And did he respond to my
10 request to negotiate a QRS system with Mr. Schreiber?

11 MS. GARVEY: No.

12 MS. EVANS: Okay. You know, I think
13 our mayor needs to stand before the people he sunk into

14 an abyss of debt, \$22.8 million in debt service for
15 2006 alone, and tell them how he will pay for the
16 American Water Services award, the police award, the
17 firefighters award, the DPW raises, the legal costs,
18 Carl Greco, additional court awards.

19 How many elected officials would love
20 to address their constituents once every four years
21 when they're sworn into office?

22 I also received an E-mail from a
23 constituent which contained, I believe, some very
24 useful suggestions regarding the University of Scranton
25 Summer Youth Program. The proposals are as follows:

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1 First the U could sponsor the program entirely as an in
2 kind payment in lieu of taxes, or, secondly, a
3 cooperative public private investment program could be
4 formed in order to support the program.
5 The county, city, school district, as
6 well as WHAM contributions from Representatives Cawley
7 and Belardi and Senator Mellow, and, of course, any
8 private benefactors from our community at large, we
9 could all pool those resources to save the program,
10 which well might cost the city. I do agree with this

11 citizen in terms of increased crime, vandalism, and
12 lost community pride.
13 So, Kay, I'd like letters sent to the
14 two county commissioners, the two state
15 representatives, Senator Mellow and president the
16 school board requesting monetary assistance for the
17 U of S summer program, and I believe perhaps even City
18 Council might be able to contribute a bit from some one
19 of our line items, maybe travel and lodging.
20 And, also, I did notice that we had not
21 received a response yet from Southern Union, although I
22 think Mrs. Fanucci indicated she would be meeting with
23 them next week, and I'm very, very pleased to hear
24 that.

25 And I have this week's requests. A

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1 number of city residents have complained about the lack
2 of address numbers on city residences. They fear that
3 emergency vehicles will experience difficulty and
4 increase response time if the numbers are not
5 displayed.

6 Now, I've addressed this previously,

7 and the response was that the department is too busy,

8 and I'm sure it is. And they're going to try to solve
9 it in terms of, let's say, a happy coincidence.
10 But perhaps residents should call and
11 report the locations to the office of licensing,
12 permits and inspection, and in this way, when you're
13 pointing them out to the office, I'm sure then we can
14 get an inspector out there while they're in the area on
15 another mission and try to clear this up.

16 Actually I've noticed it as I'm going
17 door to door that you oftentimes can't find the address
18 for which you're looking, and oftentimes the addresses
19 that are even posted don't seem to make sense. They
20 don't follow any particular numerical order.

21 A letter to Mr. David Baker, why are
22 section eight applications no longer accepted? Is
23 every available apartment rented? And there appear to
24 be vacancies at Park Gardens.

25 The 300 block of Evans Court needs

.

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1 paving, the 900 block of Spellman Court behind John
2 Adams School, there is a huge hole which a child fell
3 into. I'm told it's approximately 6 foot long and a
4 foot wide.

5 I'm hoping we can fill it, but since it
6 borders the faculty parking lot of that school, it may
7 be the responsibility of the school district, if so,
8 could we please notify the president of the school
9 board?

10 And not far from the above mentioned
11 hole in Spellman Court, there was also a tree which was
12 cut down by a homeowner last summer, and the actual
13 tree is just lying there for almost a year now. So,
14 I'd like the DPW to remove that as soon as possible.

15 Finally, there's an abandoned city
16 owned lot located next to 508 South Hyde Park Avenue.
17 Please have it cleaned. It hasn't been touched in
18 years, according to neighbors. And that's it.

19 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mrs. Fanucci.

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Tonight we're
21 going to be voting on one of the projects that are
22 going to -- we're going to transfer money from one
23 account to another. This project is going to be for
24 South Side.

25 What I found out was last week or last

.

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1 meeting, should I say, we were discussing where this

2 money had come from. This is a very large amount.
3 From what I found out now, as we find
4 out tonight, this is what I found out, so I will tell
5 you what they said.
6 The money that is being transferred,
7 what account, are backlogged. This money has been
8 backlogged over the past few years.
9 What happens is when we meet the
10 criteria for applications that are approved with the
11 CDBG money, the PFA, which is the -- this is the
12 administration fund for filling out applications.
13 And when you get reimbursed, you get
14 reimbursed for the homes when you meet the criteria.
15 This is where the money comes from. So, they do not
16 have an accurate account for every time or every person
17 that the money comes from, which I don't understand why
18 that accounting isn't there, but we get reimbursed
19 sporadically, I guess, when people meet the criteria.
20 So, that's where some of this money is in place from.
21 And they said that they meet all state
22 compliance and the regulations, and that is pretty much
23 set by the state from what I heard. So, that's what
24 I'm reporting.
25 But, also, I have one more thing I

1 wanted to talk about resolution, for the grants for the
2 Holiday Manor Project. This was always something that
3 we were having a little bit of a problem with.

4 But what I found out, the federal grant
5 money will be paying for this totally. This is not
6 going to be our burden. We had said that last time,
7 but it has been proven that that's where that money is
8 coming from.

9 And if we do not do this project in
10 compliance with the state, we will have to pay the
11 \$200,000. So, we don't want to do that obviously. And
12 that's all I have tonight.

13 Oh, one more thing. I have -- anybody
14 that has any information on small business hubs or
15 incubators that want to help out and try to contribute
16 to a place or where we can do this, please get in
17 contact with our office. This is something that I
18 believe we need to roll on, so I just want to put that
19 out there. Thank you.

20 MS. GATELLI: Thank you. Mr.

21 McTiernan.

22 MR. MCTIERNAN: Thank you, Mrs.

23 Gatelli. Just a few brief comments. There is a letter

24 sent to us from the business administrator, Mr.

25 Kresefski, in response to our request, and the letter

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1 reads as follows: This letter is in response to your

2 request dated April 10, 2006 regarding Council's

3 inquiry as to the dollar amount paid to the

4 Pennsylvania Economy League.

5 Please be advised that the City of

6 Scranton has not made any payments to PEL from 1999 to

7 the present time. Both a review of our records and the

8 records from PEL confirm this fact.

9 Should you need any confirmation, et

10 cetera, et cetera. That's just a follow-up letter from

11 Mr. Kresefski's office.

12 And I would like to thank Mr. Wallace

13 and Kay for handling that zoning issue. It appears as

14 though that's been rectified, and I appreciate both Kay

15 and Mr. Wallace's efforts. And that's all I have.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: If I could just jump in

18 there for one second. I think Mrs. Gatelli knew, as we

19 all do, that the city doesn't pay PEL, but PEL is paid

20 by the state, and that's our money. They're paid
21 through state taxes.
22 So, I really took Mrs. Gatelli's letter
23 as meaning not what payment does the city make, but how
24 much has PEL been paid from the State of Pennsylvania
25 for the 13 years they've been overseeing our city. Is

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1 that what you meant, Mrs. Gatelli?

2 MS. GATELLI: Yes, absolutely. And I
3 think that they knew that and they just --

4 MS. EVANS: Well, I think you should
5 send that back again, because I would love to know, for
6 one.

7 MS. GATELLI: I'm going to call Mr.

8 Cross that's listed on the letter, because when I was
9 still here when Mayor Connors was here, I was only here
10 a year or two at the time, and they were already paid a
11 million dollars.

12 So, I'm sure it's a lot of money. So,
13 we will find out. It is the state that pays them, but
14 like Mrs. Evans said, that's our tax money, too. Thank
15 you, Mr. McTiernan. Mr. Courtright.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes. Cameron Avenue,

17 I know Mr. Newcomb has been here talking about the
18 water problem there, and I happened to be there talking
19 with a gentleman I know, and he said he had a solution
20 to the problem, and he had actually performed the job
21 himself years ago.

22 And I took the opportunity this evening
23 to talk to Mr. Parker and ask him if he could go down
24 there and take a look at that, so he said he would.

25 And it's not a complex solution, but

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1 one that might possibly work, so he's going to go down
2 there and take a look at it.

3 I think as, you know, we compile a list
4 of roads that need to be paved, we compile a list of
5 potholes that need to be fixed, and it can go on and
6 on.

7 One thing, it's coming summertime now,
8 and I'd say more often than not every catch basin you
9 take a look at is chock full of dirt and whatnot.

10 So, rather than each week myself or any
11 other council members bringing up a catch basin that
12 needs to be cleaned and is full, Kay, I don't know,
13 some, I'm sure, are done by the Sewer Authority and

14 some by the DPW.

15 If we can ask both of them do they have

16 a schedule of what they're going to do this summer as

17 far as cleaning out these catch basins and let us know

18 so that each week we're not bringing up one on every

19 different street.

20 And if they don't have a schedule, I'd

21 like to know why not. I think we need to have a

22 schedule to get these things cleaned out.

23 And one last item, a little over a week

24 ago I happened to be coming home and there was a really

25 bad fire down in Bellvue. And I spent about an hour

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1 and a half there. And I think sometimes our fire

2 department takes some criticisms. And I stood there

3 for an hour and a half, and I was across the street,

4 and there were times where I couldn't see in front of

5 me. I had to leave.

6 I watched at least one firefighter

7 change his air pack three times. I watched

8 firefighters put the ladder up on the second floor and

9 go into this building. That was just an unbelievable

10 fire.

11 So, I think until you walk a mile in
12 their shoes and see what they do, I don't think you
13 should criticize.
14 I watched a guy come out of the second
15 floor twice, up and down, up and down. I don't even
16 know how they move with all that equipment on to get on
17 the ladder.
18 I kept thinking he was going to fall.
19 I didn't want to look, because I kept thinking he was
20 gong to fall. But maybe they don't have a fire every
21 day, but when they do, they certainly earn their money.
22 And, so, I think we need to give them
23 credit when credit's due. And that's all I have.
24 Thank you.

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

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1 MS. GARVEY: 5-B - FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
3 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER
4 INTO LEASE AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS LITTLE LEAGUE,
5 TEENER LEAGUE, MISS-E LEAGUE, AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL
6 LEAGUE ASSOCIATIONS FOR USE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY IN
7 CONNECTION WITH APPROVED LITTLE LEAGUE, TEENER LEAGUE,

8 MISS-E LEAGUE, AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE ACTIVITIES
9 FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING APRIL 15, 2006 AND
10 ENDING APRIL 14, 2009.

11 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll
12 entertain a motion that it be introduced into
13 committee.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

15 MS. EVANS: Second.

16 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

17 MS. EVANS: I'm very pleased to see
18 that Sloan Little League is safe and where it belongs.

19 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
20 question? All in favor.

21 MS. EVANS: Aye.

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

23 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

25 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

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1 have it and so moved

2 MS. GARVEY: 5-C, FOR INTRODUCTION - A
3 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
4 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO

5 ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN FROM THE
6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION LOAN PROGRAM,
7 PROJECT NO. 06-500.2 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
8 \$650,000.00 TO SCRANTON IRISH PUBS, LLC (d/b/a MOLLY
9 BRANNIGANS), TO ASSIST AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT.

10 MS. GATELLI: At this time I'll
11 entertain a motion that the item be introduced into its
12 committee.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

15 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question. Once
17 again, this is just for introduction. There's over 30
18 pages of backup with this, so I think we need to take a
19 closer look at this and read all the backup, and then
20 next week we can come back with a little bit more
21 educated decision. But I'm going to be voting in the
22 positive just to introduce this.

23 MS. GATELLI: Anyone else on the
24 question? All in favor.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

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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 ordered.

6 MS. GARVEY: Sixth order. 6-A, READING

7 BY TITLE - AN ORDINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 27, 2006

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

9 ENTITLED GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2006 BY ADDING

10 ACCOUNT NO. 01.011.00011.4080 (OVERTIME SALARY) IN THE

11 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

12 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

13 title of Item 6-A. What is your pleasure?

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-A

15 pass reading by title.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

17 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

18 those in favor.

19 MS. EVANS: Aye.

20 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

21 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

23 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

24 have it and so moved.

25 MS. GARVEY: 6-B - READING BY TITLE -

1 AN ORDINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 28, 2006 - AMENDING
2 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 162, 2005, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED
3 GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET 2006 BY TRANSFERRING
4 \$200.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO. 01.011.00011.4420
5 (TRAVEL/LODGING-PUBLIC SAFETY) TO ACCOUNT NO.
6 01.011.00011.4080 (OVERTIME SALARY-PUBLIC SAFETY) TO
7 PROVIDE FUNDING FOR OVERTIME SALARY.

8 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by
9 title of Item 6-B. What is your pleasure?

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-B
11 pass reading by title.

12 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All
14 those in favor.

15 MS. EVANS: Aye.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

17 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

19 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
20 have it and so moved.

21 MS. GARVEY: 6-C, READING BY TITLE - AN

22 ORDINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 29, 2006 - DECLARING

23 THE CURRENT REFUNDING OF THE OUTSTANDING PARKING
24 REVENUE BONDS, SERIES OF 1995 OF THE PARKING AUTHORITY
25 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA AND THE

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1 ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF EXISTING
2 PARKING FACILITIES OWNED BY THE PARKING AUTHORITY OF
3 THE CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA AND LOCATED IN THE
4 CITY OF SCRANTON AND OPERATED BY THE CITY PURSUANT TO
5 AN OPERATING AGREEMENT, TO BE A PROJECT OF THE CITY FOR
6 WHICH LEASE RENTAL DEBT IS TO BE INCURRED; DETERMINING
7 TO INCUR LEASE RENTAL DEBT IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF
8 \$6,300,000 IN RESPECT OF THE PROJECT, SUCH DEBT TO BE
9 EVIDENCED BY BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY AND
10 SECURED BY RENTALS PAYABLE TO THE AUTHORITY BY THE CITY
11 UNDER A LEASE (INCLUDING A FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE)
12 OF THE PARKING FACILITIES, AND BY A COVENANT OF
13 GUARANTY OF THE CITY CONTAINED IN SAID FOURTH
14 SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE; STATING THE ESTIMATED REALISTIC
15 USEFUL LIVES OF THE PARKING FACILITIES; AUTHORIZING
16 CERTAIN CITY OFFICERS TO PREPARE, CERTIFY AND FILE WITH
17 THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
18 THE DEBT STATEMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 8110 OF THE
19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT AND STATEMENT REQUIRED

20 BY SECTION 8026 OF SUCH DEBT ACT TO QUALIFY THE DEBT
21 INCURRED AS SELF-LIQUIDATING DEBT; AUTHORIZING THE
22 PREPARATION OF A BORROWING BASE CERTIFICATE;
23 SPECIFICALLY APPROVING AMOUNTS OF FIXED RENT AND OTHER
24 PAYMENTS (INCLUDING THE GUARANTY OF DEBT SERVICE ON
25 SAID BONDS) TO BE MADE BY THE CITY UNDER SUCH LEASE;

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1 APPROVING AND ACKNOWLEDGING NOTICE OF THE AUTHORITY'S
2 ASSIGNMENT OF SUCH RENTALS TO TRUSTEE IN RESPECT OF THE
3 AUTHORITY'S BONDS; AUTHORIZING INCIDENTAL ACTION;
4 REPEALING INCONSISTENT PRIOR ORDINANCES; AND APPROVING
5 THE FORM OF, AND AUTHORIZING, SUBJECT TO RECEIPT OF
6 NECESSARY STATE APPROVALS, EXECUTING AND DELIVERY OF
7 FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE AND THE OPERATING AGREEMENT.

8 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by
9 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-C
11 pass reading by title.

12 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

13 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All
14 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

15 MS. EVANS: Aye.

16 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

17 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

19 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

20 have it and so moved.

21 MS. GARVEY: 6-D, READING BY TITLE - AN

22 ORDINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 30, 2006 - SALE OF TAX

23 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 1130-1132 LUZERNE STREET,

24 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO EDWARD J. BACKUS, 608 NORTH

25 HYDE PARK AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, FOR

.

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1 THE SUM OF \$16,000.00.

2 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

3 title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-D

5 pass reading by title.

6 MS. EVANS: Second.

7 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

8 those signify by saying aye.

9 MS. EVANS: Aye.

10 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

11 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

13 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

14 have it and so moved.

15 MS. GARVEY: 6-E, READING BY TITLE - AN

16 ORDINANCE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 31, 2006 - SALE OF TAX

17 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT 412 WILLOW STREET, SCRANTON,

18 PENNSYLVANIA, TO KEY EQUITY, LLC, 705 ROSEN COURT, APT.

19 2, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, FOR THE SUM OF

20 \$1,000.00.

21 MS. GATELLI: You've heard reading by

22 title of Item 6-E, what is your pleasure?

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that Item 6-E

24 pass reading by title.

25 MR. MCTIERNAN: Second.

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1 MS. GATELLI: On the question? All

2 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

3 MS. EVANS: Aye.

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

5 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

7 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

8 have it and so moved.

9 MS. GARVEY: Seventh order. 7-A, FOR

10 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

11 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 26, 2006 - AMENDING FILE OF
12 COUNCIL NO. 68, 2004 ENTITLED, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
13 THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS OF THE
14 CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO
15 IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY
16 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (AS AMENDED) TO BE
17 FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
18 (CDBG) PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)
19 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG) PROGRAM BY
20 TRANSFERRING \$77,700.00 FROM 2002 HOME ADMINISTRATION,
21 \$414,000.00 FROM 2004 HOME BUYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,
22 \$384,668.00 FROM 2004 HOME ADMINISTRATION, \$123,632.00
23 FROM 2005 HOME BUYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR A TOTAL OF
24 \$1,000,000.00 TO 2005 SOUTHSIDE/CEDAR AVE. STRATEGY
25 AREA PROJECT.

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1 MS. GATELLI: What's the recommendation

2 of the chairperson for the committee on community

3 development?

4 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for

5 the committee on community development, I recommend

6 final passage of Item 7-A.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

8 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

9 call.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

11 MS. EVANS: Yes.

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

13 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

14 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

15 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

16 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

18 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

19 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

20 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

21 MS. GARVEY: 7-B, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

22 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -

23 RESOLUTION NO. 44, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

24 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER

25 INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF

.

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1 AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN

2 ORDER TO ACCEPT THE GRANT OF \$124,263 RELATING TO THE

3 DEMOLITION OF THE HOLIDAY MANOR PROPERTY.

4 MS. GATELLI: What is the

5 recommendation of the chairperson on community

6 development?

7 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for

8 community development, I recommend final passage of

9 7-B.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

11 MS. GATELLI: On the question?

12 MS. EVANS: Yes. As Mrs. Gatelli

13 showed us earlier tonight, a letter, an official letter

14 from Mayor Doherty, stating that a lien will be placed

15 against this property, a city lien.

16 MS. GATELLI: Any other questions?

17 Roll call.

18 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

19 MS. EVANS: Yes.

20 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

21 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

22 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

23 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

24 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

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1 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

2 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

3 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

4 MS. GARVEY: 7-C, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

5 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -

6 RESOLUTION NO. 45, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

7 OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A

8 GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

9 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO

10 ACCEPT THE GRANT OF \$72,168 RELATING TO THE DEMOLITION

11 OF THE HOLIDAY MANOR PROPERTY.

12 MS. GATELLI: What's the recommendation

13 of the chairperson on community development?

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for

15 the committee on community development, I recommend

16 final passage of Item 7-C.

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.

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1 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

4 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

5 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

6 MS. GARVEY: 7-D, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

7 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO.

8 46, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

9 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL

10 SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CLOUGH HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES, LLP

11 FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LANDSCAPING

12 ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES RELATED TO PROVIDENCE SQUARE,

13 PHASE II.

14 MS. GATELLI: As chairperson for the

15 committee on rules, I recommend final passage of 7-D.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

17 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

18 call.

19 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

20 MS. EVANS: Yes.

21 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

22 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

23 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

24 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

25 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

2 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

3 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

4 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

5 MS. GARVEY: 7-E, FOR CONSIDERATION BY

6 THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION -

7 RESOLUTION NO. 47, 2006 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

8 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF

9 SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN

10 FROM THE COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM,

11 PROJECT NO. 03-150 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED

12 \$250,000.00 TO DTK VENTURES, LP TO ASSIST IN ELIGIBLE

13 PROJECT.

14 MS. GATELLI: What's the recommendation

15 of the chairperson for the committee on community

16 development?

17 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: As chairperson for

18 the committee on community development, I recommend

19 final passage of Item 7-E.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

21 MS. GATELLI: On the question? Roll

22 call.

23 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

24 MS. EVANS: Yes.

25 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Fanucci.

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1 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Yes.

2 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McTiernan.

3 MR. MCTIERNAN: Yes.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I hereby declare

8 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted. Do I have a

9 motion to adjourn?

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

11 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Second.

12 MS. GATELLI: All in favor.

13 MS. EVANS: Aye.

14 MS. NEALON FANUCCI: Aye.

15 MR. MCTIERNAN: Aye.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

17 MS. GATELLI: Aye. Meeting adjourned.

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20 (MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

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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.

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LISA M. GRAFF, RMR

11 Official Court Reporter

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