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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

LOCATION:

Council Chambers

Scranton City Hall

340 North Washington Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

MR. ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT

MS. JUDY GATELLI, VICE-PRESIDENT

MS. JANET E. EVANS

MS. SHERRY FANUCCI

MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

MS. KAY GARVEY, CITY CLERK

MS. SUE MAGNOTTA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MR. AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please?

4 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Here.

6 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI: Here.

8 MS. MAGNOTTA: Ms. Fanucci.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

10 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here. Dispense with
14 the reading of the minutes.

15 MS. GARVEY: 3-A. AGENDA FOR THE
16 ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING HELD ON
17 FEBRUARY 11, 2009.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. GARVEY: 3-B. APPLICATIONS AND
21 DECISIONS RENDERED BY THE ZONING HEARING
22 BOARD MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 11, 2009.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
24 If not, received and filed.

25 MS. GARVEY: 3-C. TAX COLLECTION

1 COMPARISON REPORTS RECEIVED FROM THE SINGLE
2 TAX OFFICE ON FEBRUARY 13, 2009.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
4 If not, received and filed.

5 MS. GARVEY: That's it for Third
6 Order.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Garvey.
8 Announcements? Mrs. Gatelli?

9 MS. GATELLI: Yeah. I have a few.
10 I know that there was an article in the
11 paper the other day, I read from
12 Commissioner Munchak asking about the real
13 estate tax bills. It's funny, I asked
14 Mrs. Garvey to do that last week, also, as I
15 hadn't received my real estate taxes yet. I
16 since have received them. I believe they
17 came last Thursday, which would have been
18 the 12th, and I asked if there would be an
19 extension for people to pay their taxes by
20 the end of February and you can get a
21 discount being that we got them two weeks
22 late I thought there would be a two-week
23 extension, but I was told that there will
24 not be extension, but the office is open
25 Saturday from nine to noon for the whole

1 month of February, so anyone who is
2 interested in paying their real estate
3 taxes, the Single Tax Office will be open
4 from nine to noon on Saturdays for the month
5 of February.

6 I'll just repeat the upcoming
7 events. Chad Lewis' benefit is this
8 Saturday from 6 to 10 at Holy Rosary. The
9 one for Joseph Noonan is the 28th and the
10 Clarion at 8:00, and the one for Mr. Chapman
11 is March 7 from 1 to 5.

12 Also, I got my gas bill this week,
13 as I'm sure all of you did, also, and inside
14 of it was another rate increase. They want
15 to raise the rates starting in March,
16 March 29, 2009, which isn't very far away,
17 so you can file a formal complaint before
18 May 29, 2009, so I guess you will get a
19 rebate maybe if they don't get it approved,
20 send a letter for a formal complaint, and I
21 would just ask my colleagues that we'll have
22 Mrs. Garvey file this complaint on behalf of
23 city council to represent the taxpayers
24 against this raise. I don't know if it will
25 matter, but I think we have to at least

1 challenge it as we have in the past with the
2 electric rates and things of that nature
3 that we have fought. Unfortunately, we
4 don't have Mr. Malino anymore. He was our
5 advocate for fighting the utilities, but
6 since his passing no one stepped up to the
7 plate to be our advocate by the City of
8 Scranton, so we will send a letter on behalf
9 of council and file our complaint. And I
10 think that's all I have.

11 MS. EVANS: I'd ask everyone to
12 please remember in your prayers all those
13 who have died this past week, particularly
14 Margaret McHale Cawley, mother of former
15 State Representative Gaynor Cawley, and all
16 her dear family and friends she leaves
17 behind.

18 Also, the Upper Hill Ecumenical
19 Committee invites you to dine at Friendly's
20 in Dunmore tomorrow evening from 5 to 8 p.m.
21 A percentage of all food receipts from 5 to
22 8 p.m. will be donated to the St. Francis of
23 Assisi Kitchen to feed the poor and homeless
24 of our community. Enjoy a great meal and
25 support a great cause tomorrow, February 18,

7

1 at Friendly's in Dunmore.

2 Also, the Northeastern Pennsylvania
3 chapter of the friends of the NRA will host
4 their annual banquet on Saturday, March 28,
5 at Genetti Manor in Dickson City. The event
6 begins at 5:00 p.m. and tickets are \$40
7 each, \$75 for couples and \$25 for those
8 under the age of it one, and that's all.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Courtright?

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah, just two
11 things. I, too, would like to send my
12 condolences to the Cawley family, a great
13 family actually. I have been asked to read
14 this for the next two or three weeks, it's a
15 press release, and it says, "We want you for
16 the new alumni directory. West Scranton
17 High School would like to introduce the West
18 Scranton alumni directory, the most
19 comprehensive directory West Scranton High
20 School ever published. The contents of the
21 directory will be divided into four
22 sections, biographical, geographical, class
23 roster, and most importantly the
24 introductory section showing the schools
25 history and events. All efforts are being

1 made to contact West Scranton High School

2 alumni via phone, e-mail and mail to verify
3 biographical information.

4 West Scranton High School has a
5 contract with Alumni Research, Incorporated,
6 to collect and compile the information into
7 a hardbound library, quality volume in an
8 on-line community. This directory is made
9 able to West Scranton High School Alumni
10 only and is a limited edition press run and
11 offer only one time.

12 Alumni Research, Incorporated, is in
13 the process of contacting those who have
14 provided current telephone numbers and
15 addresses to verify biographical
16 information. Please help alumni to keep in
17 touch with you. If you are interested in
18 replying and you have not received any
19 communication from Alumni Research
20 Incorporated, you may call 1-800-299-1230.
21 1-800-299-1230, and I have been asked to
22 read this for the next two or three weeks so
23 I will do so, and that's you I have. Thank
24 you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: I have one thing that I

9

1 would like to make mention, it's the Ryan
2 Mason Mehalchick Memorial Fund. Ryan

3 Mehlich was a one-year-old son of Mark
4 and Diane Mehlich who died in his sleep.
5 Mark and Diane are residents of Dunmore, but
6 Mark has a number of -- I know Mark and
7 Diane have a number of friends in the
8 Scranton area. Mark is very active in the
9 running community.

10 Also, Ryan's grandmother is known to
11 many people in the area, Dolly Mehlich,
12 who worked for the County Drug and Alcohol
13 Council, and also Ryan's great grandmother,
14 Delores D'Renzio who is a long-time resident
15 of South Scranton, so I'd just like to make
16 the announcement of the creation of this
17 fund. It's going to be to benefit
18 children's activities and areas for children
19 throughout the community. They are starting
20 in the Dunmore area where they live, but the
21 Ryan Mason Mehlich Memorial Fund you can
22 access it or contribute to it care of First
23 National Community Bank, 102 East Drinker
24 Street in Dunmore, 18512. And anything that
25 you could do to assist in that fund would be

10

1 appreciated by many.

2 MS. GATELLI: Yes. I just wanted to

3 say to my fellow council members that
4 Mr. Nardone from the Times Leader asked me
5 if we could prepare a list of announcements
6 that we make every week that he would be
7 able to publish them, and I think we have
8 asked ECTV to run them on the screen, so I
9 have made a short list of the ones I
10 announced, if the other council members
11 would, and we can give them to Kay after the
12 meeting she can compile them and give them
13 to the media and then they can be advertised
14 accordingly.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Also, one other thing,
16 last week during caucus a list of proposed
17 projects for the stimulus package was
18 presented to us and compiled by us, I don't
19 know if I'm preempting anything, but I would
20 -- if you didn't mind I was going to read
21 through them and if there is anyone that has
22 any suggestions for other projects we would
23 be certainly glad I think we would be glad
24 to entertain ideas that other people may
25 have, but these will be presented to the

11

1 mayor for his consideration for the money
2 that hopefully we will receive from that
3 stimulus program, and these are in no

4 particular order. It's not a priority, you
5 know, from top to bottom just a listing of
6 things: Main Avenue curb sidewalks and
7 lighting from Jackson Street to Luzerne
8 Street; Keyser Avenue storm water plan; East
9 Elm Street water project on East Mountain;
10 Cane Street drainage and paving; complete
11 renovations to city hall to properly house
12 juvenile detective office at OECD;
13 construction of a lighted sports complex
14 with ASA regulation field; basketball
15 walking trail -- basketball court walking
16 trail to replace South Side Sports Complex;
17 repairs to Parker Street Bridge and
18 elimination of flooding on Parker Street;
19 repairs to Rockwell Avenue and Lackawanna
20 Avenue Bridges; repairs to Crisp Avenue,
21 damage caused by flooding; street leveling
22 and curbs in Oakwood Estate; road repair and
23 redirection of storm water on Ridgeview
24 Drive; sewer and road repair on North
25 Cameron Avenue and Merrifield Street; road

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1 repair at the corner of Marvin and Wells
2 Street. The road has collapsed several feet
3 into the ground.

4 Additional lighting in neighborhoods
5 and in high crime areas or and high crime
6 areas; curb and sidewalk projects in the
7 city neighborhoods; city street paving;
8 Scranton Sewer Authority upgrades mandated
9 by EPA and DEP; and repair of underground
10 lighting problems at the Spruce Street
11 projects and 81 off-ramp into the City of
12 Scranton.

13 Those are once that were presented
14 by council members, and I as I said, if
15 there is anyone that has any other
16 possibilities or ideas for projects that
17 could be included we would be -- we would
18 welcome the opportunity to put them with
19 this list, and that is all I have. Fourth
20 order. Citizens' participation. Andy
21 Sbaraglia.

22 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
23 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,
24 as we all know the state is 2 1/2 million
25 dollars in debt. It's been really, really

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1 put out. They want to close our School for
2 the Deaf, okay? But look at what they are
3 planning for the Connell Building? They
4 have five million to put into that, another

5 four million they put into it and now they
6 are looking for another million. Do you
7 wonder why this state is in debt? I mean,
8 they don't make sense at all, mean, a man
9 buys a building he should be able to fix the
10 building. They shouldn't ask the City of
11 Scranton to -- well, the taxpayers. Why
12 should all of the taxpayers have to pay the
13 to fix his building, same with the 500 block
14 of Lackawanna Avenue when the debt is
15 climbing in the city? I don't know what
16 it's going to be next here, but 2 1/2
17 million and close the School for the Deaf,
18 but then spend millions to fix up the
19 Connell building shows you where the
20 priority is in this administration in
21 Harrisburg. It's just too bad that they
22 care about -- well, let's look at it. Where
23 money goes, money gets.

24 Okay, let's get into Boscov's.
25 Boscov's sold off where Nissan is, that used

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1 to be the Montgomery Ward garage. He sold
2 that off from the mall project. He also
3 sold the leases, \$22 million he got for the
4 leases at Boscov's. We got very little from

5 it. In fact, we got almost nothing from it.
6 Now, you said he pays \$200,000 in the city,
7 but you didn't subject what we are paying
8 for his debt from that \$200,000, so what
9 does that mean? He is giving the city
10 nothing? This man took the mall -- the last
11 time I checked the mall was on the books for
12 a 1 million I think 200,000. He went and
13 got it reduced to 400,000. I asked how he
14 did it and they said there is no record.
15 All there is what it was and what it is.

16 Now, when you start looking at some
17 of the other things, he is suing the
18 theatre. Okay, he is suing the theatre.
19 All of these things he is doing for himself.
20 Some people pointed out that he may be
21 generous, but I bet he is writing it off his
22 income tax. When he takes it out of his
23 pocket that's generous. When he writes it
24 off his taxes that isn't generous, it's just
25 a tax right off. Well, we got to look into

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1 those things. If it was Boscov himself I
2 would say let him sink, but we are not
3 talking about Boscov as himself, we are
4 talking about probably thousands of people
5 and three million or what we are going give

6 them, which we probably will be because I
7 don't see how we cannot give them, for them
8 sinking the 90 employees he says he has in
9 this area.

10 And like I said before, what the
11 heck, we lost millions at the Hilton Hotel,
12 we got lots of money. Somewhere along the
13 line though they will catch up with
14 everybody, but most of us will be out of the
15 area, maybe even dead by then. But like I
16 said before, Boscov hasn't been fair to us
17 as taxpayers. He has been fair to himself
18 mand there is no question about that,
19 because when he went and reduced his taxes
20 on the mall that reflected us. When he sold
21 the leases for \$22 million and we got very
22 little out of it, that effected us, too.
23 And then to find out we are paying for a
24 loan that was even another slap in the face,
25 but like I say before, for Boscov's I would

16

1 let him sink, but for the sake of the 90
2 employees I say vote for the three million.
3 It's a small price to pay for keeping a
4 family together, maybe a roof over their
5 heads and whatever else that may come out of

6 it. Thank you.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
8 Mr. Sbaraglia. Ozzie Quinn.

9 MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Taxpayers'
10 Association. First of all, the debt in the
11 City of Scranton is soaring. It's
12 \$159 million of principle, and I learned
13 like when Mr. Martin was here, you know,
14 these attorneys. I know that one law firm
15 out of Philadelphia, Baylord, Spaar and
16 Engersol, Henders, they have made \$239,772,
17 okay? They have yet to pay and they are
18 going to have to pay Hourigan, Kluger and
19 Quinn and Goldberg.

20 This is a lot of money. Now, how
21 can we ever get out of debt if we keep on
22 spending this money for lawyers? Now, what
23 the city administration is doing is
24 infantile, you know. These people, you
25 know, taking a Machiavellian attitude, you

17

1 know, these people are suffering. They have
2 families these firefighters and police, and
3 the taxpayers can't afford it, and if you
4 can do anything get them to the table and
5 separate this here thing, will you? We
6 support the firefighters and the police. We

7 would be insane if we didn't. The other
8 thing is this here, you hire two new housing
9 inspectors, and I don't know if any is going
10 to be in the Hill, from my understanding
11 none of them are, but that's not what want
12 to ask you tonight. I found out that the
13 housing inspectors actually don't do the
14 housing inspection. Maybe Judy you is
15 answer this, there is contract with
16 Mid-Atlantic Company who does the housing
17 inspections?

18 MS. GATELLI: No, they are
19 underwriters, Ozzie, and they do inspections
20 for electrical service and plumbing and
21 things like that.

22 MR. QUINN: Yeah, that's what I'm
23 saying. Yes.

24 MS. GATELLI: Yes, I believe there
25 is.

18

1 MR. QUINN: Yes.

2 MS. GATELLI: I believe they do it.
3 Mr. Fiorini is involved with that.

4 MR. QUINN: So saying that we have
5 housing inspectors is a -- -

6 MS. GATELLI: Well, they are

7 underwriters. Besides an inspection you
8 need an underwriter's tag when you do
9 certain things.

10 MR. QUINN: Because none of the
11 inspectors are qualified.

12 MS. GATELLI: Well, they can't be
13 underwriters and be housing inspectors.

14 MR. QUINN: Do you know -- do you
15 know that the former director of your job,
16 okay, is working with Mid-Atlantic?

17 MS. GATELLI: Yes. Yes, I do know
18 that. I do know that.

19 MR. QUINN: You know, how can you --
20 how can you ever stop this corruption. It's
21 unbelievable. How can we ever get out of
22 it? Nobody -- some of these people houses
23 were condemned and they never knew that
24 Mid-Atlantic was around.

25 MS. GATELLI: Well, they wouldn't

19

1 inspect their house, Ozzie.

2 MR. QUINN: Well, they have to if
3 you are going --

4 MS. GATELLI: Well, it's an
5 underwriter. It's a whole different thing,
6 different from house inspectors. A house
7 inspector is not an underwriter with the

8 utility company.

9 MS. FANUCCI: You need both.

10 MS. GATELLI: So it's a whole
11 different ballgame.

12 MR. QUINN: Do they go into the
13 house with the inspectors?

14 MS. GATELLI: I don't know that
15 answer.

16 MR. QUINN: You know that because
17 you -- did you ever go in with them?

18 MS. GATELLI: I never in with an
19 underwriter.

20 MR. QUINN: Well, how did you condemn
21 a house?

22 MS. GATELLI: They usually come in
23 later and inspect the work --

24 MR. QUINN: That's not what I know.

25 MS. GATELLI: -- from the utility

20

1 company.

2 MR. QUINN: That's not what I know.

3 That's not what I know. Because the
4 inspectors do not know -- I know these
5 people who were just hired, they are good
6 people, but they don't know diddly about
7 housing inspections. Come on, Judy, you

8 know that. Thank you.

9 MS. GATELLI: Well, I wouldn't say
10 that about them. I guess Mrs. Fowler and
11 Mrs. Gillette are here to defend themselves.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Quinn.
13 Bill Jackowitz.

14 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz, South
15 Scranton resident and member of the
16 Taxpayers' Association. Be courteous to
17 all, but intimate with few and let those few
18 be well tried before you give them your
19 confidence. George Washington said that.

20 Okay, free swimming. I talked with
21 Mr. Dougher from Parks and Recreation and he
22 assured me that everybody who will be paying
23 \$3.00 to use the pool and use the slide this
24 year. There will be no free swimming. The
25 mayor is not offering free swimming to

21

1 anyone, so the most important aspect in my
2 opinion of Nay Aug Park is the pool and the
3 slide. Well, guess what? You are going to
4 pay \$3.00 to use it just like we have in the
5 past.

6 We are starting the Free Swim
7 Program. Anyone who would like to make a
8 contribution, "Kids Swim Free," 1416 South

9 Webster Avenue, Scranton, Pennsylvania,
10 18505. We are going to start early because
11 money is tight this year, although I guess
12 the mayor doesn't realize that because he is
13 still going to charge \$3 for everybody to
14 use the pool and slide. So, again, there is
15 no free swimming by the city, but there will
16 be free swimming sponsored by the Taxpayers'
17 Association.

18 The Connell building, I see where
19 they want another \$1 million for the Connell
20 building. When is going to stop? When is
21 it going to stop? How many more millions of
22 dollars of taxpayers' money, again, I
23 emphasized this before and I guess I will
24 have to emphasize it again. There is a
25 difference between private money and public

22

1 money. Public money is my money. Public
2 money is your money. Private money is the
3 person who owns that building's money. They
4 are the ones that are going to reap the
5 profit. They are ones that are going to
6 make the profits. They are the ones who are
7 going to buy a car and the -- not the
8 taxpayers. The only thing the taxpayer is

9 going to do is suffer the loss if it fails.
10 When is it going to stop? Millions and
11 millions of dollars. We got \$30 million
12 plus tied up in the 500 block of Lackawanna
13 County and it's a mess and it's been a mess
14 for five years. It's still a mess.

15 There is more potholes, and I don't
16 know, I don't think that project is ever
17 going to finish. I can't wait for it to
18 finish because I really want to see where
19 those 30 plus million dollars was spent. I
20 really do.

21 Now, there is a nasty rumor
22 circulating and I would like to get this
23 clear if I can tonight about people not
24 paying parking tickets. Is that true? Mrs.
25 Fanucci, is that true?

23

1 MS. FANUCCI: I was waiting all day
2 since, obviously, you have been frequenting
3 the wonderful website.

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: No, I do not go on
5 the website.

6 MS. FANUCCI: Well, okay.

7 MR. JACKOWITZ: I don't own a
8 computer. I don't even own a computer, but
9 people have been calling me and I said I

10 would bring it up.

11 MS. FANUCCI: From what I gathered I
12 did go to figure out what was going on,
13 parking tickets were -- I do owe two right
14 now. I do owe two parking tickets, so I am
15 guilty of that, but parking tickets in 2000
16 were under my name and my husband's name at
17 the time and he -- they were paid from what
18 I gathered. I mean, it's not like they
19 weren't paid, so it seems to be a lot of
20 hype.

21 He said that even when you settle --
22 he went in to pay that it didn't go on the
23 link as whatever, you paid them, but --

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, I appreciate
25 your candor, but there were also other names

24

1 mentioned of other influential people in the
2 City of Scranton. President McGoff, can you
3 check that out, please, because if people
4 have not been paying their parking tickets
5 for the last eight to nine years,
6 influential people within the City of
7 Scranton, that's a lot of lost of revenue
8 that as been lost to the City of Scranton.
9 Some of this stuff is up to like 17, 18

10 hundred dollars in back parking tickets, so
11 if that's true I think we as citizens need
12 to know this and the people who have not
13 paid their parking tickets need to start
14 paying these tickets and also have some
15 fines and penalties assessed to them for
16 being late, just like we do with homeowners,
17 so/SOERBGS can you please do that for me,
18 Mr. McGoff?

19 MR. MCGOFF: It's not that I'm
20 reluctant to, it's just that what you are
21 asking me to do is actually to investigate
22 what might be a criminal activity.

23 MR. JACKOWITZ: Exactly. But, I'm
24 not asking you to investigate it, I'm just
25 asking you to look into the matter.

25

1 MR. MCGOFF: Well, that's
2 investigating and, like I said, I'm not
3 reluctant to but what I think what we are
4 looking at if you are serious this is
5 something that should be done through the
6 District Attorney's Office.

7 MR. JACKOWITZ: I agree with you.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Okay.

9 MR. JACKOWITZ: I'm pretty sure it's
10 going to be done that way. I was just

11 asking you if you were going to assist or
12 cooperate in the matter?

13 MR. MCGOFF: I will try.

14 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay.

15 MR. MCGOFF: To what extent I can.

16 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. I will take
17 that for what it's worth. Thank you. Also,
18 speakers at council meetings, you know --
19 well, I'll finish it later. Got cut off by
20 the bell. The bell ringer got me again.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,

22 Mr. Jackowitz. Mike Dudek.

23 MR. DUDEK: Good evening, Council.

24 My name is Mike Dudek, 608 Depot Street,
25 Scranton. I live down there in the Plot.

26

1 Last week I spoke to you about the need to
2 keep the Scranton State School for the Deaf
3 open, I think we all accept that. This week
4 I'm going to explain to you how and why as
5 city council you should take the lead in
6 helping to keep it open.

7 The newspaper reports that Senator
8 Mellow and Representatives Smith and Kevin
9 Murphy are greatly involved in it. However,
10 it's just like playing bridge. You pick up

11 your hand and you count your cards and you
12 assess the situation. They are not the most
13 powerful people that you can get to do this.
14 Believe it or not, you are the five of you.

15 As a city council there are two
16 basic responsibilities that you have, one is
17 to pass legislation for the city, and
18 Mrs. Gatelli pointed out the other one when
19 she pointed out how she was going to have
20 council write a letter supporting people
21 with their gas or their electric bills,
22 that's city council. That's an example of
23 city council using it's voice in public
24 protest. That is the second and most
25 valuable function, and I'm suggesting that

27

1 city council create a committee of the
2 whole, and the membership of the committee
3 of the whole would be Mrs. Evans and Mrs.
4 Gatelli, Miss Fanucci, Mr. Courtright and
5 Mr. McGoff.

6 Now, Mr. McGoff is the president of
7 city council so I don't think, unless he
8 wants to, I don't think he should be the
9 president of this particular committee, he
10 should hand this one off to someone else
11 unless he wants it, okay, because this is a

12 committee of the whole that would report to
13 the president.

14 And the committee of the whole would
15 spur a fundraising drive to help keep the
16 school open, and my way of doing would be to
17 approach Channel 16 because they have the
18 capability of making one wonderful
19 ten-minute stories about anything they want
20 to and in a ten-minute take they could do a
21 wonderful story about the Scranton State
22 School for the deaf, with that tape one of
23 you or two of you or three of you could
24 approach the management of the world
25 champion Philadelphia Philly's, ask them to

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1 see this tape, and ask them to help support
2 a fund drive here. Ryan Howard got what,
3 \$54 million for three years for batting 251
4 last season. Fifty-four million and he hit
5 251. I think they can probably come up with
6 a few dollars for us.

7 Now, it might be a problem
8 approaching the Rooney family of the world
9 champion Pittsburgh Steelers because western
10 Pennsylvania has their own school for the
11 deaf, and that's a private institution, but

12 I would try it.

13 Now, take a look at say all of you,
14 if you find somebody in the City of Scranton
15 who is really into theatre who is close to
16 an actress named Marlee Matlin, you ever
17 hear of her? The deaf actress, deaf and
18 dumb, what if she were to find out that the
19 governor of the State of Pennsylvania wants
20 to close the first ever school for the deaf
21 ever built anywhere in the world? I think
22 ballistic would be a good way to describe
23 what would happen there.

24 There are many different ways we
25 could do this. Also, as a city council

29

1 working together as a committee of the whole
2 you could approach the leaders of this
3 community, the movers and the shakers of
4 this community to help spur a fundraising
5 drive. I think we would probably need in
6 the neighborhood of a million and a half to
7 two million dollars to put together to start
8 an endowment for the school to keep it
9 together, but if we do something like this
10 it will certainly show the governor that the
11 community wants this school open.

12 There is nothing to stop the

13 governor from closing this school because I
14 haven't really seen that, what can I put it,
15 community anger, community upset about it.
16 He could get away with doing it if we just
17 let it happen, and just having two
18 representatives and a state senator that's
19 not enough. It's just not enough to do it.

20 We have to be the people in that
21 Verizon commercial that you see, the guy
22 with his Verizon phone and he shows all the
23 people behind him, we have to do that, and
24 we to do it by raising the fund in a
25 communitywise drive, but I'm asking council

30

1 to appoint itself as a committee of the
2 whole to get it started.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Dudek.
4 Lee Morgan.

5 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, city
6 council. The first thing I have, 5-C, I
7 would just -- I would like the council to
8 vote "No" on that. And on 7-C I would like
9 the council to vote "No" on that.

10 You know, I sat through these
11 meetings tonight, but when we started to
12 talk about the city's alleged indifference

13 to having a contract with the police and
14 fire, it's just ashamed that it took this
15 long for somebody to decide to have some
16 dialogue, at least in this chambers, and I
17 mean I know that the election is coming up.
18 But, you know, it's just no excuse for this
19 thing to have gone this far because there
20 were statements made from this side about
21 PEL and OECD years ago and asking this
22 council and previous councils, let's come up
23 with an agreement.

24 But I do have to say this there is
25 one person who decided to start this fight,

31

1 and he is the mayor's office and then, of
2 course, the people who are his supporters,
3 not just on this council, but other
4 councils, didn't realize in my opinion that
5 they had an obligation to the community in
6 general to make sure that this battle never
7 got to the point it's reached now, and now
8 that the battle is burning, now that the
9 battle is just beginning to -- it looks like
10 the fire they had in Australia because this
11 thing is starting to burn completely out the
12 control, and now the city may not have the
13 funds to fight this battle because now the

14 unions have been joined by people that
15 understand what's going on here. And the
16 people that are the ones that are going to
17 be hurt the most are the people that you all
18 represent, they are the people in the
19 neighborhoods, and you failed every single
20 one of them.

21 I mean, I'm glad that tonight we saw
22 that there was a little bond here between
23 council. There has been some communication
24 and some understanding, but that needed to
25 happen a long time ago. I think that this

32

1 council and this mayor have forgotten who
2 they represent, just like our national
3 government has now that we find ourselves in
4 an economic meltdown and everybody is losing
5 all their assets.

6 I think this council needs to really
7 take good hard look at what it wants to
8 accomplish and, you know, we are talking
9 about the government stimulus program, you
10 know, Mr. McGoff, my idea for the stimulus
11 would be to start a curb and sidewalk
12 program and maybe you should go to the labor
13 unions and maybe some private contractors

14 and try to create a fund that will continue
15 to fund itself by going to people in the
16 neighborhoods and asking them if they would
17 like to contribute and maybe we can begin
18 real infrastructure in this city and curbs
19 and sidewalks, and maybe we should start
20 somewhere like on Loomis Street over on West
21 Side across from St. Ann's Street, all
22 right, because you know something, and I
23 just picked that out of my head, I really
24 don't care where we start.

25 But, you know, we have wasted a lot

33

1 of time with the Connell building and giving
2 people money and now we are starting to talk
3 about a replacement for the South Side
4 Sports Complex, why are we replacing assets
5 we already own and can we could anything for
6 the average person in this city besides tax
7 them into total oblivion and have just
8 elected officials who don't do their jobs?
9 Thank you.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Morgan.
11 Joe Talimini.

12 MR. TALIMINI: Looks like a fun night
13 tonight. We have a problem again with the
14 storm sewers, I think everybody on this

15 council knows what they are. That's the
16 place where the water is supposed to drain
17 down. Nobody seems to know which streets
18 belongs to who, whether it's PennDOT or
19 whether it's DPW, but the other day as you
20 well know our building is undergoing major
21 reconstruction right now, I took a walk down
22 on the corner of Olive and North Washington,
23 and the only thing that's lacking is a
24 concrete wall over that storm drain because
25 I put a yard stick down there and I came up

34

1 with 20 inches of sludge, and a whole about
2 that big for the water to drain through.

3 After that I took a walk around the
4 block, went down Wyoming, I went further
5 down Washington Avenue, don't we have some
6 means whatsoever to extract the sludge and
7 things?

8 MS. GATELLI: Yes, we do.

9 MR. TALIMINI: I mean, do they ever
10 use it?

11 MS. GATELLI: Yes, they do.

12 MR. TALIMINI: When?

13 MS. GATELLI: Every day.

14 MR. TALIMINI: Where do they use it?

15 They sure don't use it in our area?

16 MS. GATELLI: Well, we'll report that
17 for you.

18 MR. TALIMINI: Well, it would be very
19 nice because, you know, with all of this
20 construction going on and we have a pile of
21 snow this high three days after the snow
22 fall. It's just melting now because there
23 is no place for it to go, which knocks out
24 two parking space in that area, there are
25 limited parking spaces.

35

1 I don't know how to tell them, but
2 the rainy season is coming in soon and
3 unless that sludge is removed we are going
4 to have a hell of a mess once again down on
5 Olive Street, all the way down to Providence
6 Road, the kids are going to be hiking over
7 the railroad tracks to get home from school,
8 etcetera, and it's a nice condition.

9 I don't know what to say about this
10 intransigence on the part of the mayor. I
11 will say one thing, he is a very unrealistic
12 mayor and it seems that we have some lead
13 councilmen within the same position, but I
14 don't think there is any real intransigence
15 on this police and fire deal. It's about

16 time that everybody grew up here. I mean,
17 if you want to pat yourself on the back
18 that's one thing, but don't do it at the
19 expense of the taxpayers because this city
20 needs to reign in it's spending. I mean, we
21 have supported lawyers, I'm sure there are
22 lawyers all over the world who would like to
23 move to the Scranton because of the bucks
24 they can make here.

25 You know, it's time take a good look

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1 in the mirror, a real good look in the
2 mirror and see if you are really doing your
3 job. I know you are limited in what you can
4 do, but then again, there are those of you
5 who have access to that office downstairs
6 and nobody else has. And I asked Mr. Martin
7 the last time he spoke to the mayor
8 face-to-face and he said he never has.
9 That's ridiculous.

10 I mean, if this man wants to keep
11 his job the least he could do is represent
12 the people, not himself and his own
13 self-interests, and I'm not going to hammer
14 on this thing eternally, but until this guy
15 starts doing something maybe it's time for a

16 change. Thank you very much.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Talimini.
18 Jim Stucker.

19 MR. STUCKER: Okay. Right across the
20 street from where Courtright therapist's
21 thing is or where the post office is
22 handicapped people can't get to the mailbox.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Why, Jim?

24 MR. STUCKER: On account of people
25 parking in front of the mailbox.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Jim, they are
2 allowed to pull up there and put the stuff
3 in the mailbox.

4 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, but there's
5 people -- there's people trying to get to
6 the mailbox, handicaps, they can't because
7 of the cars parked in front of the mailbox
8 right in front of it.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Okay.

10 MR. STUCKER: All right. And a lot
11 of holes out there. I mean, I was riding my
12 bike today first time, I had it out today.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Your scooter?

14 MR. STUCKER: No, my pedal bike, and
15 they got to start fixing the holes in the
16 road, Parrot Avenue, South Side, Moosic

17 Street, Greenridge, a lot of holes in
18 Greenridge really bad. I'm afraid someone
19 is going to bust their tire.

20 Now, in front of my building on
21 Jefferson Avenue one of our handicapped
22 signs is down, somebody -- a big truck must
23 have took it, took it and bent it off and
24 broke it to the bottom, it's laying on the
25 sidewalk up there so, because we have

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1 problems. Lots.

2 And I talked to Mayor Doherty and he
3 said you got -- Courtright's got a lot of
4 money.

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: The mayor said I had
6 a lot of money?

7 MR. STUCKER: Yeah.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll trade him, how
9 about that. He could have my money and I'll
10 take his.

11 MR. STUCKER: I was walking -- I seen
12 him walking up to the building today here,
13 this building, and I talked to him and he
14 says he had to be in a hurry he had to go to
15 meeting today. So he told me thank you very
16 much for donating money for me, 25 bucks.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Oh, you are welcome,
18 Jim. You are welcome.

19 MR. STUCKER: Yeah.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Well, thank you, Jim.

21 MR. STUCKER: Our sidewalks are
22 really getting bad. Really, really bad.
23 Especially in front of Tink's and in front
24 of Judge and Jury. They are really bad. I
25 was with a guy today they fixed the guy's

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1 pipe today, he had a sewage busted, so Judge
2 and Jury is not doing their jobs, they are
3 not doing the sidewalks, they're not
4 cleaning them, they are not picking up the
5 butts, and I'm not going to do it. I do it
6 for Danny Sheeley once in awhile, I pick up
7 the garbage for him.

8 MR. MCGOFF: We'll have to look into
9 that, all right?

10 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, because I have
11 been looking for a side job. I'm getting
12 bored sitting around.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Well, good luck.

14 MR. STUCKER: We need more cops.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Absolutely.

16 MR. STUCKER: We got to get them in
17 South Side, they are all over.

18 MR. MCGOFF: All right, Jim.
19 MR. STUCKER: Greenridge needs a lot.
20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much.
21 MR. STUCKER: Would you put a -- I
22 don't know his name, you should write a
23 'tition and go to the house, go to house t
24 house and have a petition wrote up and have
25 the sidewalks done and the streets cleaned.

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1 We need a sweeper out there.
2 What about that house on Moosic
3 Street, are they going to rip that down? I
4 was there the other day and they didn't do
5 nothing with it?
6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thought you said it
7 was Greenridge Street, Jim.
8 MR. STUCKER: On Greenridge, yeah, by
9 McGinty's.
10 MR. COURTRIGHT: You are right. They
11 should ripe it down. They boarded it up
12 though.
13 MR. STUCKER: Yeah, I seen the
14 boards, yeah. They got to do something with
15 that.
16 MR. COURTRIGHT: You are right.
17 MR. STUCKER: There's a lot of houses

18 they should tear down.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Next.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Please.

21 MR. STUCKER: So that's all we can
22 do.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Jim, thank you very
24 much. Marie Schumacher.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening. Marie

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1 Schumacher, resident and member of the
2 Taxpayers' Association. First, I'd like to
3 report, because nobody on council answered
4 when I asked several times, I did a
5 Right-to-Know and Yanni's did repay their
6 loan to OECD.

7 Then last week at the caucus on the
8 KOZ's, I believe it was you, Mr. McGoff,
9 said the KOZ might be preferable to not
10 collecting any taxes at all. The only
11 reason I believe that property where the Mt.
12 Pleasant Development is going in would be
13 eligible for an extension is because it runs
14 next to the small parcel at the end, at the
15 corner of Linden and whatever that other
16 street is because it is a KOZ. That
17 property where Mt. Pleasant is actually
18 going to be built paid to the city and the

19 school last year \$15,638.63 in taxes, and it
20 is on the books to be billed for taxes for
21 this year. It is currently not a KOZ, so we
22 would get property taxes from that parcel,
23 just so everyone is aware. It's not an
24 extension of an existing KOZ it's really the
25 expansion of a very tiny KOEZ to include

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1 20.63 additional acres.

2 Three, the Ice Box. Mrs. Gatelli,
3 several weeks ago you said forget about that
4 \$600,000, that council had given it away,
5 turns out it was on the agenda one time and
6 it is tabled and it never came back to the
7 agenda, so I see no reason since council has
8 not take any action why you can't have this
9 the solicitor review that contract which if
10 it was reported correctly in the
11 Times-Tribune at the time \$600,000 was due
12 and payable the day that the DPW moved out
13 and I think the city could use that
14 \$600,000.

15 MS. GATELLI: I'll have Attorney
16 Minora investigate that.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: And then next --

18 MS. GATELLI: It was 20 years ago,

19 but --

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'd like to amend
21 Governor -- or President Reagan's -- going
22 back to my California days, trust and verify
23 was his motto, I'd like to say trust, verify
24 and get it in writing. Several years ago
25 Mrs. Fanucci swore to Andy Sbaraglia that

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1 the 408 Cedar Area Avenue property had been
2 appraised, I did a Right-to-Know and found
3 out through OECD the property had never been
4 appraised.

5 MS. FANUCCI: I don't think I swore.
6 That's a little drastic.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay.

8 MS. FANUCCI: I didn't swear.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: You just
10 misreported. Okay.

11 MS. GATELLI: Well, sometimes, Mrs.
12 Schumacher, sometimes --

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: But we take -- it's
14 my time. It's my time, excuse me.

15 MS. GATELLI: You can have your time.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: No, because Mr.
17 Minora won't --

18 MS. GATELLI: But sometimes we report
19 what we are told.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: I understand that,
21 but it would be nice to trust -- you trust
22 those people too much. Get it in writing.
23 That's what I'm saying. Also, the UDAG
24 funding, when that -- when all that's a
25 consolidation of the UDAG funding Mrs. Evans

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1 -- or no, excuse me, it was Mr. McTierney
2 asked about that, whether that would still
3 have to come back before council,
4 Mrs. Gatelli you said, "Oh, yes."

5 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, we all said
6 yeah.

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Attorney Minora
8 said, "Oh, yes."

9 Did you get it in writing? No. And
10 the mayor has been giving away UDAG funds
11 without coming through council. It's wrong
12 and you need to get it in writing.

13 There is another one, Alexander's.
14 Alexander's. Mr. Courtright when it came up
15 that it was really not a loan, a quarter of
16 a million dollars loan on top of buying that
17 small parcel kiddy-corner from Alexander's
18 for \$273,000 that that was not going to be a
19 loan to Alexander's that if they hired eight

20 people within three years, and by the way
21 they didn't have to make any payments for
22 the first three years, so if they hired it,
23 in fact, became a grant and the loan was
24 forgiven. You reported, Mr. Courtright, and
25 lead all of us, I believe, at least you lead

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1 me to believe that that had been changed.
2 You said you met with Lori Reed, the
3 assistant OECD person, and that that was --
4 you told her that council did not want that,
5 I felt that that was taken care of and it
6 was out, but now through Right-to-Know where
7 are finding out that that very clause still
8 is in the contract, so two more years if
9 they've got the requisite eight employees
10 that will turn into another grant.

11 And that segways into Boscov's. I
12 just have a couple of comments on the
13 Boscov's. Oh, come on. That was too quick.
14 Mrs. Gatelli --

15 MS. GATELLI: I took about 10
16 seconds, Mr. Minora.

17 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'll take three
18 seconds to read this then, if I may.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Please.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Remember the risk,

21 the collateral for this loan is future CDBG
22 funding meant to help low and moderate
23 income persons. If this loan defaults, it
24 these people who will have to absorb the
25 loss which represents almost a full year's

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1 CDBG grant money. Two, remember what
2 message this sends to successful businesses.
3 You are rewarding a business that made bad
4 decisions and using money that could be used
5 to help successful businesses expand. And,
6 finally, keep in mind that the Bosov's 22
7 stores which are owned by Boscov's and not
8 leased are pledged as collateral for the
9 county loans to the state and lien also has
10 been offered on their inventory to the state
11 to cover those -- the county loans, and I'll
12 be back next week I hope. Thank you.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you, Mrs.
14 Schumacher. Mr. Ellman.

15 MR. ELLMAN: Ronnie Ellman, homeowner
16 and member of the Taxpayers' Association.
17 Boy, you thought last week was bad when I
18 told you I fell through my garage roof, this
19 week started out the same thing. Miss
20 Rosie's cat was sick and it looked terrible,

21 so I threw him in the car and went to
22 Mr. Gadd in Old Forge, and \$425 later I
23 found out the cat was constipated. You
24 know, there's all kinds of problems and I
25 got a \$350 gas bill and here I had to fix

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1 the cat.

2 You know, if anyone wants to know
3 what's going on in this city you need to
4 talk to a cab driver. I talked to one now
5 and then, they know more information than
6 all of the police and the firemen and
7 everybody that works for city. They just
8 seem to know all of these little things that
9 are never in the paper and never on TV.
10 It's very interesting what goes on. I won't
11 get into it. They will tell you a lot of
12 things that -- well, maybe I better not,
13 crimewise that aren't in the paper that
14 surprised me.

15 One guy was telling me that
16 somewhere along the way something was just
17 lost the after the election with
18 Mr. Doherty, and I have talked to a whole
19 bunch of people in the administration. This
20 morning I phoned everybody in the Licensing
21 Bureau and all I got at 8:30 all I got was

22 one recording after another and nobody is in
23 their office at 8:30. That's -- I mean,
24 everybody. Finally about 9:00 I got
25 Mr. Moletsky?

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1 MS. GATELLI: Oleski.

2 MR. ELLMAN: Yeah, I finally got him
3 on the phone. I got this nightmare next
4 door to me that I have been complaining
5 about, you know, I know things can't be done
6 overnight and they are doing something, but
7 you can spend 100 billion dollars on South
8 Side and you are not going to achieve your
9 goals. I sat here two years ago when
10 everybody was attacking Tony's and Mary's,
11 the neighborhoods were what changed, the
12 people changed. That little bar didn't
13 change, you know, it was the same way it was
14 for three years. The absentee landlords are
15 just ruination of this town like the one
16 next door to me.

17 MS. GATELLI: Right on, Ron. I'm
18 with you.

19 MR. ELLMAN: They gutted the house a
20 little bit yesterday and they had 25 or
21 30 feet of wood and trash out on the

22 sidewalks for the garbage men to pick up, so
23 they didn't pick it up this morning, of
24 course, so I don't know, about a couple of
25 hours later the DeNaple's truck come and

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1 there is three guys that took three men to
2 pick it up, but that's what goes on and
3 there is no permit in the window to be
4 working on the house, you know. I don't
5 know. They got a big sign advertising his
6 business in the backyard and they tell me
7 they can't do nothing, they have to catch
8 him doing something. I don't know.

9 I guess I understand that, but there
10 is two brothers own this house and they just
11 don't care what goes on as long as they get
12 some rent out of place. It's for sale, of
13 course, nobody wants to buy nothing, but it
14 seems to me the only way a taxpayer has to
15 fight something like this is ask your
16 property to be reassessed because they are
17 diminishing my property. They are running
18 the whole neighborhood trying to run the
19 business from a house, and I have talked to
20 a couple of neighbors they just don't care.
21 I've never seen such empathy. It's like
22 nobody votes, they just don't care. The man

23 across the street told me is too old, he
24 doesn't want to get involved, and the people
25 down the street said they don't know what to

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1 do and, you know, it just senseless. It's
2 just senseless. It's ashamed. I don't know,
3 I won't tell you all my problems, I'll go
4 home and see how my kitty is doing.

5 But, I saw something on TV a couple
6 of weeks ago that when Mr. Cuomo was
7 elected, I'm not sure to which office, it
8 just showed a little couple of seconds of
9 him talking, he got up and said, "Not
10 everyone in this city is sharing in it's
11 splendor and glory."

12 And that certainly is true for this
13 city. You know, I talked to people that
14 they're just hurting and they don't have
15 just no future here. My two boys are
16 talking about, both of them, one might go to
17 Atlanta, the other one said -- they don't
18 want my house, and my house looks good since
19 the fire and it's worth some money and
20 neither one to stay here, you know, they
21 don't care about the house or nothing. If
22 you don't keep people here like Mr. Miller,

23 you know, there is not going to be any
24 future. You can't have a bunch of these
25 kids that are hanging around the mall

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1 running the city.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you Mr. Ellman.

3 MR. ELLMAN: Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Dobson

5 MR. DOBSON: Good evening, Council.

6 Dave Dobson. Scranton resident and member
7 of the Taxpayers'. On our caucus tonight
8 with Mr. Martin, those employees that are
9 going to be left out in the cold, a thought
10 occurred to me, I was involved with the
11 union negotiations and representing people
12 years back and if they settled that contract
13 under those terms and somebody was turned
14 out in the street for medical care by both
15 the union and had no recourse, they could
16 probably sue for failure to represent. They
17 could actually sue the unions, so the union
18 isn't locked into monitoring their
19 responsibility to them. They can't back out
20 of it or they'll pay the bill some day, and
21 I'd like to once again mention the Scranton
22 School for the Hearing Impaired and the
23 medical school, did anything go out on the

24 medical school last week?

25 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, we sent the

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1 letters.

2 MR. DOBSON: Great. And keep up the
3 heat because there is no reason why after we
4 were guaranteed money it should be passed
5 back down to us and have the carpet pulled.

6 Last week, there was a business
7 conference on Sno Mountain, and I didn't see
8 whether anybody from the city was involved,
9 but I noticed that there was a manufacturer
10 of solar panels looking to relocate into
11 this area, and it would be awfully nice to
12 see the former Murray plant area turned into
13 some type of manufacturing for that. I got
14 the impression over time that some of our
15 representatives in that area don't really
16 understand manufacturing, so they gravitate
17 more towards office complexes and so forth,
18 and that's great, but unless we continue to
19 manufacture this country is finished.

20 Another thing I would like to
21 mention is compensation from the state for
22 501-C's. I think we should keep the heat on
23 that and get to our local representatives or

24 state representatives. The bill died in
25 Congress the last time and it's way past due

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1 that we be compensated for 501-C's. We in
2 the city have an ungodly amount of them and
3 there is no reason for them to be up in the
4 middle of the country anyway, the hospital
5 or whatever. Everybody would be dead by the
6 time we got rushed there.

7 I seen an editorial on ECTV in the
8 Scranton Times and I would just like to say
9 that, of course, I stood up for Scranton
10 Today and fought and fought and fought, but
11 at this point and being an election year I
12 don't see the value of closing down ECTV at
13 this time. These people are basically out
14 on a limb every day, they are doing their
15 jobs and trying and anything that if
16 anything it's been the failure of the city
17 to provide what money they promised. You
18 know, it's just wrong to -- if they pull the
19 carpet on ECTV or pull the plug on them now
20 we are probably looking at Spring of 2010 or
21 something until we see somebody else getting
22 involved and getting up unless somebody
23 knows something that I don't, which they may
24 possibly know, but at this point in time

25 it's just going to maybe possibly end public

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1 access TV for quite sometime.

2 And the lot that was bought off
3 Alexander's, the ice was terrible on that
4 and that contractor should be responsible or
5 the city for removing the ice on that lot.
6 There is no reason for those sidewalks to be
7 in that kind of condition. I mean, it was
8 terrible Buono Pizza was cleared, which is
9 their obligation, and it's a city-owned lot
10 and nothing was done to it. Absolutely
11 nothing. We could hold the skating rink
12 right there if we want to.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Dobson.

14 MR. DOBSON: Have a good day.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?

16 MR. KACHUNIS: Good evening. My name
17 is Carl Kachunis. I'm a resident of the
18 lower Greenridge section of Scranton. The
19 reason I'm here this evening is to inform
20 residents of the Plot and lower Greenridge
21 neighborhoods who are victims of the 2006
22 flood about a possible error in their 2009
23 property taxes.

24 In October of 2004, all homeowners

25

in the city who have received application

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for the Act 72 Homestead and Farmstead

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Exclusion on their property taxes.

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Depending on when he filed the application,

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they would have received a letter through

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the county indicating whether their

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application was approved or denied.

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In March of 2005, I received a

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letter of approval from the county. The

9

Homestead Farmstead Exclusion was not

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applied to property taxes until the 2009 tax

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year. When I received my property tax bill

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this year expecting to get the discount from

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Act 72, not only was there no discount, my

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property taxes actually had gone up. I

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called and visited the Lackawanna County Tax

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Office and they informed me that I was

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denied for the Homestead Exclusion.

18

However, I had a letter of approval that I

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received from the county in 2005.

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Upon further investigation, the tax

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office had told me of that assessment on my

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property had changed in the 2007 tax year.

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The reason it had changed is because the

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2007 tax year residents of the lower

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Greenridge and Plot neighborhood who got

1 flood by the Lackawanna County River had
2 their property taxes reduced. That year
3 they only got taxed on the land, but not the
4 improvement. What this did was anyone who
5 was approved for the Homestead Exclusion was
6 now denied.

7 I spoke to some of my neighbors in
8 the lower Greenridge, and found out there
9 were more taxpayers in the flood zone who
10 this also had happened to. However, I'm
11 sure that some taxpayers that do not care to
12 review their tax bill every year may be not
13 aware that they should have received the
14 Homestead Exclusion.

15 The Lackawanna County Tax Office is
16 currently trying to resolve this issue
17 because I was approved for the exclusion and
18 should have received the Act 72 discount on
19 my property tax, but did not because of the
20 flood in 2007. I urge any resident of lower
21 Greenridge and Plot section who were flooded
22 to check to see if the Act 72 Exclusion was
23 applied to their 2009 property taxes. If
24 they were not applied and you were approved,
25 they will request a letter of approval from

1 the county. They should call the county tax
2 office at 963-6728, Extension 1623, and
3 inform them of the error. Right now the
4 county is working on the issue. It has not
5 been resolved as of yet.

6 Finally, I have a question, during
7 the last meeting in our neighborhood with
8 the Army Corp of Engineers in 2008, they
9 said the flood protection should be
10 completed as far as the Albright Avenue
11 bridge by the final quarter of Year 2009.
12 In the last several months, the flood
13 control project appears to be at a
14 standstill and is only completed as far as
15 the East Market Street bridge. Does have
16 this a current timetable when the flood
17 protection will be completed in the lower
18 Greenridge Neighborhood. Thank you very
19 much for your time.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Kachunis.
21 Stephanie Gawel.

22 MS. GAWEL: Good evening, Council.
23 I'm going to be a little bit all over the
24 place again, I'm not quite as organized as
25 I'd like to be. All right, I first want to

1 start by saying, God bless you and thank you
2 to all the military personnel who are
3 serving this country with honor and courage
4 and sacrifice, but I was also wondering if
5 any of the these organizations can help
6 their semi-military counterparts with
7 fundraising for defibrillators in the police
8 cars. I do want to thank Mr. Courtright and
9 other people of the council for looking into
10 the matter for us.

11 Okay, new subject. I know
12 Mr. Morgan and Mrs. Krake touched on this
13 subject, but I have missed some of the
14 meetings and didn't catch all of it on TV, I
15 would like to know why NCC is collecting the
16 delayed garbage fees? Isn't NCC supposed to
17 be collecting taxes? And there is a
18 difference.

19 MS. GATELLI: They do delinquent
20 garbage fees, too.

21 MS. GAWEL: But why? It's a fee,
22 it's not a tax, and if they are collecting
23 that are they only collecting the 12 percent
24 and do they get the 12 percent late fee
25 instead of the city like it used to?

1 MS. GATELLI: I'll check into that.

2 MS. GAWEL: Okay. Thank you very
3 much. Oh, I had my taxes done a couple of
4 weeks ago and in having them done I was
5 talking to the tax person and he informed
6 me, you know, that if we could get the other
7 municipalities to actually collect the right
8 amount in the wage taxes that we wouldn't be
9 in half of the financial situation we are
10 in, maybe we should only collect half of
11 their municipal taxes and see how they like
12 it and, you know, maybe we can get, you
13 know, because, I mean, it's ridiculous.
14 This kid said to me literally we would not
15 be in this situation we are if people would
16 pay their wage taxes the way it should be.
17 The other municipalities don't collect it,
18 you know, the correct amount and this is why
19 we don't get what we deserve so, all right.

20 Onto West Side, on the corner of
21 Main Avenue and Colick Court, which is by
22 Dan Proby's car lot, do you know how long
23 that has been sitting -- that drainage ditch
24 has been sitting their broke, at least a
25 year I'm aware of, probably two. It has a

1 pallet over it. It has a horse over it, but
2 it's -- you know, I mean, it's just
3 ridiculous. I don't understand why and it's
4 been like that for really quite awhile,
5 because I work in Taylor and I travel back
6 and forth from South Side to Taylor, so
7 that's the back route that everybody would
8 take so I'm well aware of it, I see it every
9 day.

10 Also, I was wondering did anybody
11 knows what happened to the bronze plaque
12 that had Mayor Schmidt's -- so that like if
13 we ever get a new South Side complex of any
14 kind we can give it back to the proper --
15 you have got that one, Mr. Courtright?

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: We looked into it
17 and they don't know where it is now; right?

18 MS. EVANS: We looked into that year
19 after year dating back to 2003 or four and
20 we received various tales about the
21 disappearance of the sign and,
22 unfortunately, to date it has never been
23 found.

24 MS. GAWEL: Well, I heard you guys
25 mention about in the wish list, I guess I'll

1 call it for the stimulus, you had talked
2 about doing a little something in South
3 Side. Now, does that include a baseball
4 field that, you know, you were talking about
5 the record? The wish list you guys had.

6 MS. GATELLI: That was to replace
7 the field.

8 MS. GAWEL: Yeah, but is there going
9 to be a baseball field in the replacement,
10 in other words.

11 MS. EVANS: If there is a replacement
12 there should be an ASA regulation softball.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: That's softball.

14 MS. EVANS: And there should be a
15 hardball field as well.

16 MS. GAWEL: Yeah.

17 MS. EVANS: And a walking trail.

18 MS. GAWEL: That would be nice.

19 MS. EVANS: And baseball -- well, it
20 should completely replace what has been
21 taken.

22 MS. GAWEL: Yeah, because, I mean,
23 like even now, like, all of a sudden for
24 whatever the reason you've got goalposts up
25 in the middle of it, you know, the other

1 complex so it's almost like they did that so
2 the kids couldn't even go down and fool
3 around if they wanted to, you know, because
4 nobody really uses them, you know.

5 MR. MCGOFF: It's used by some
6 football teams, that's why the goal posts go
7 up.

8 MS. GAWEL: Well, most of the time
9 the only thing I see is soccer.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MS. GAWEL: You know, it's like the
12 mayor took out all of the baseball fields
13 and put in all soccer fields, but, thank
14 you.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Gawel.
16 Les Spindler.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Les Spindler, city
18 resident, homeowner and taxpayer.
19 Mrs. Gatelli, last week you mentioned a
20 bunch areas that have neighborhood
21 associations. In Tripp Park we also have a
22 neighborhood association along with
23 neighborhood crime watch and we meet the
24 first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 in the
25 Tripp Park Community Center if anyone is

1 interested.

2 Mr. Courtright, did you talk to
3 anyone from the Scranton Ford? You said you
4 were going to speak to someone last week?

5 MR. COURTRIGHT: We sent a letter
6 down to licensing and inspections. We
7 haven't got a response, have we, Kay?

8 MR. SPINDLER: Because I know they
9 did them back about three feet, but it is
10 still not enough. I mean, if you walk
11 straight from their sidewalks to where the
12 cars are you walk right in the course they
13 still can move them back a lot farther.

14 MS. GATELLI: There is a police
15 officers here, wouldn't be that be a police
16 matter? A vehicle on a sidewalk? It's a
17 motor vehicle, I don't know that License and
18 Inspection have jurisdiction over motor
19 vehicles? I'd send it to --

20 MS. GARVEY: I sent the letter to
21 Mike Wallace from zoning. That's where it
22 went. I'm sorry, Mr. Spindler.

23 MR. SPINDLER: Mr. Courtright, last
24 week you mentioned about asking CDTV if they
25 could have the replays of the prime time and

1 you were told absolutely not.

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MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

MR. SPINDLER: That just shows the arrogance of this people. I mean, something has to done with this station. I put on the replay Sunday night and you couldn't hear the few first minutes of Mr. Boscov speaking, the audio was totally off, and I have to put my audio after it came on up to 100 and I could barely hear it at that time, and the programming is terrible and, like I said, I'm not the only saying that now, I see where Commissioner O'Brien is also saying that the programming stinks because he is not going to give them any money until the programming is better and I think council should follow in his lead because this station is just a joke. It's not a fraction of what Scranton Today used to do.

Moving on, you know, I thought the mismanagement of the Single Tax Office left when Mr. McDowell left, but I guess it's still being mismanaged. Channel 16 ran a story last week about tax bills being sent to the wrong address, one was even sent to a

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dead person and Mrs. Vitali-Flynn's answer was, "Oh, it could be computer error or

3 something else."

4 Well, computers don't make mistakes,
5 people do, and I can attest to these
6 mistakes, I got one to my house for a Marian
7 Gomez. I have lived in my house for
8 20 years and there has never been a Gomez
9 living there, and I never got that pill
10 under Mr. McDowell either, so I think
11 something has got to could be done here, and
12 I just think it just shows how improper it's
13 being run by -- the one request Mrs. Vitali
14 was asked last week, last year when she was
15 here before council, someone asked her a
16 question and she said it's none of her
17 business. Well, that tells you what kind of
18 business person she is.

19 Finally, Mrs. Fanucci, Mr. Jackowitz
20 stole some of my thunder, but I have here
21 three copies of unpaid bills, of unpaid
22 parking tickets, but what he neglected to
23 say was the 15 parking tickets that you had
24 taken care of. How do I go about that if I
25 get a parking ticket?

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1 MS. FANUCCI: -- taken care of this,
2 Les.

3 MR. SPINDLER: They were dismissed.

4 MS. FANUCCI: Well, I didn't have
5 anything --

6 MR. SPINDLER: I didn't want to bring
7 out the 15 pieces of paper, so it's public
8 record, and they were dismissed.

9 MS. FANUCCI: And I saw it, and as
10 explained to you what wasn't -- that wasn't
11 me. It was my husband at the time. I mean,
12 I don't know what you want me to say. It
13 was in 2000.

14 MR. SPINDLER: Well, I guess your
15 name was on there. I saw your name on
16 there.

17 MS. FANUCCI: Yeah, well, the cars
18 were under both of our names, but what I'm
19 saying is that I certainly wasn't trying to,
20 you know, cheat the city --

21 MR. SPINDLER: I mean, I can connect
22 the dots. You do everything the mayor says,
23 the mayor's solicitor was Rob Farrell, Rob
24 Farrell's wife is the one that dismissed all
25 your tickets.

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1 MS. FANUCCI: Is that really what
2 happened, Les? Because I would love to take
3 that -- is that what you are going on record

4 saying right now?

5 MR. SPINDLER: It's public --

6 MS. FANUCCI: Okay, because are you
7 stating that right now?

8 MR. SPINDLER: It's public record.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Are you going on the
10 record as stating that as actual the truth.

11 MR. SPINDLER: It's public record.

12 MS. FANUCCI: Is that what you are
13 stating?

14 MR. SPINDLER: I'm stating that it's
15 public record.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Are you stating
17 personally, you just connected the dots. I
18 don't --

19 MR. SPINDLER: I'm stating it's
20 public record.

21 MS. FANUCCI: I would love, love, to
22 take this up further. I will take this as
23 far as I can. Thank you, Les. Because I
24 didn't do that.

25 MR. SPINDLER: Next thing, Southern

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1 Union, we are promised to have the building
2 filled by the end of the summer and where is
3 Merrill Lynch? Mr. Donnelly, said Merrill

4 Lynch is going in there, does anybody know
5 where Merrill Lynch is? It's another white
6 elephant.

7 MS. FANUCCI: It's his building.

8 MR. SPINDLER: Next thing, North
9 Scranton Junior High School, a speaker asked
10 last week where is the money going, that's
11 what I would like to now. A year or so ago
12 the governor was here with a big check, does
13 anybody know where that money went to. Why
14 isn't anything being done with that school?

15 MR. MCGOFF: We have asked.

16 MR. SPINDLER: What's the answer?

17 MS. EVANS: I got a letter on that
18 last week from Goodwill Industries.

19 MS. GATELLI: He answered us last
20 week and Mrs. Evans read the whole
21 description of what was going to happen.

22 MS. FANUCCI: It's starting. It's
23 underway.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Spindler.

25 MS. EVANS: Maybe you didn't hear it

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1 because the television was so low.

2 MS. GATELLI: You can get it from
3 Mrs. Garvey, she'll have a copy for you.

4 MR. SPINDLER: Okay, thank you.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Spindler.

6 MS. GATELLI: But he did answer us.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?

8 MS. ROYCE: Good evening. Bernie
9 Royce, West Scranton. Growing up my
10 step-father also said that too many people
11 took the architecture of Scranton for
12 granted. I recently had a friend visit
13 Scranton. Dan is a district chief of
14 Orlando Fire Department, one of the top
15 ranked fire departments in the country.
16 Overall, he found Scranton beautiful. Dan
17 was truly amazed by the architecture, but he
18 also found the history of Scranton beautiful
19 as well as we drove through Northeastern
20 Pennsylvania. He was particularly impressed
21 by the importance Northeastern Pennsylvania
22 had in America's labor movement.

23 The Latimer of 1897 in Hazleton was
24 the turning point for labor. We have a
25 monument to Don Mitchell from the Anthracite

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1 Coal strike in 1902 at our courthouse. Our
2 mayor, Terrence Powley, was a leader of the
3 nights of labor. The Avondale mine disaster
4 lead to the first occupational safety laws

5 in our country.

6 As I pointed out these places to him
7 as we were driving through, Dan was truly
8 impressed at the area's impact on labor law
9 and history. Growing up with this history
10 all around us, it is also easy to take this
11 for granted. I believe too many us have.
12 Currently we have a Bishop who won't
13 recognize unions. We have a mayor who
14 wishes to destroy this city's labor legacy.

15 Like most of us, my ancestors were
16 coal miners. My great, great-grandfather
17 died in Scranton's mines. His body was left
18 on his family's doorstep. My family ensured
19 that I had appreciation for the labor's
20 battles that were won for us by our
21 ancestors. Perhaps Chris Doherty's family
22 did not. In this failure, they failed him.
23 Sadly, they also failed all of Scranton.
24 Thank you.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

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1 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
2 Doug Miller, Scranton. Regarding 5-C, I
3 certainly would ask council tonight to vote
4 against this legislation. We want to vote
5 and give \$1 million of green grant or

6 whatever you want to call it to bail
7 somebody else out again. You know, I
8 believe the owners of the Connell building
9 have other properties that are worth
10 millions, so I truly think they can handle
11 it themselves.

12 You know, while we were on the
13 subject of grants, I'm going to ask council
14 tonight and put some pressure on you. You
15 know, rather than going and squandering grant
16 money on the Connell building or anybody
17 else, would council support funding for the
18 State School of the Deaf? You know, we
19 heard recently that funding was going to
20 come to an end? Would this council support
21 funding for the State School for the Deaf?
22 You know, this is an issue that I think
23 council needs to look at because it's a
24 very important issue. You know, this is
25 children, education, it's all important

72

1 stuff.

2 You know, we could go onto the
3 churches, and I think this issue was raised
4 before. You know, we have a Bishop who is
5 going around closing churches left and

6 right, and you know we have families who
7 have been attending these churches for their
8 whole lives, and I would ask council to look
9 out there. There is grant money available.
10 I mean, we could find a million for the
11 Connell building again and let's save some
12 of these churches. You know, I think it's
13 our responsibility to do that.

14 You know, moving onto Channel 61,
15 ECTV. I'm certainly disappointed in the
16 lack of programming, you know, the poor
17 audio, people constantly having a hard time
18 with the station. I certainly don't believe
19 they are delivering on their process that
20 they had in their proposal that they were
21 going to provide all of this educational
22 programming and government meetings and so
23 forth, you haven't seen it. I mean, you
24 turn it on we have Bugs Bunny, you know,
25 what's next the Lion King? I mean, we might

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1 as well call it the Disney channel, you
2 know, and I think it was Commissioner
3 O'Brien who stated last week that if they
4 don't get their act together they are going
5 to start pulling funding and I think the
6 same needs to be said here on council, that

7 if this continues we need to put a hold on
8 the funding here.

9 A few issues that I have raised in
10 the past. You know, we look at the impact
11 fee that I brought up on KOZ's and
12 nonprofits or any other development that
13 wants to come into this city. I believe the
14 city is losing out on millions, as I have
15 said, and I believe it's time for once this
16 administration becomes creative rather than
17 putting the burden on the taxpayers as
18 always. Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Miller.

20 MR. RILEY: Good evening, Council.
21 My name is Michael Riley. I'm a citizen and
22 a taxpayer and a resident of Lackawanna
23 County. I'm here to give report cards
24 tonight to all of you sitting here. As a
25 retired educator, my credentials are as

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1 follows: I have a superintendent
2 certificate, a supervisor's certificate, a
3 teacher's certificate and I would just like
4 to give some grades to all of the people
5 sitting up there tonight.

6 Mr. Minora, I would like to give you

7 a D-minus and ask you to study the
8 constitution and the Bill of Rights.

9 Moving onto Mrs. Fanucci, I remember
10 your very first council meeting, do you?

11 MS. FANUCCI: I certainly do.

12 MR. RILEY: When you couldn't
13 remember how you voted and you had to have a
14 recount and you were like --

15 MS. FANUCCI: That wasn't my first
16 council meeting.

17 MR. RILEY: I believe it was. I
18 believe you were like a deer in the
19 headlights. You had no clue of what you
20 were doing.

21 MS. FANUCCI: The good thing is I
22 moved on. I lived and I learn, baby.

23 MS. GATELLI: You know, I'm going to
24 object --

25 MR. RILEY: It's been all down here

75

1 every since.

2 MS. GATELLI: -- for you violating
3 the Rules of the Council.

4 MR. RILEY: And I'm coming back, you
5 have a grade coming as well, ma'am, if I may
6 continue.

7 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.

8 MR. RILEY: Mr. Courtright, you
9 started out well, but when Mrs. Gatelli ran
10 for city council you sided with her and she
11 became council president and that is
12 something that the voters really will not
13 forgive you for.

14 Mr. McGoff, you came before the
15 council at your very first, I would like
16 your attention, sir, and not talking as --
17 are you listening to me? I hope so. When
18 you promised the people that you would be
19 your own person and not be the mayor's mouth
20 piece and what happened is you are a liar.
21 All of this is --

22 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me?

23 MR. RILEY: -- my opinion only.

24 MR. MCGOFF: No, no. That's not an
25 opinion, that's an accusation.

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1 MR. RILEY: No, it's not. It's my
2 opinion that you --

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, it is, and as an
4 educator you should know the difference.

5 MR. RILEY: And I am asking you that
6 you should know that you failed to live up
7 to what you said you would do.

8 Mrs. Gatelli--

9 MR. MCGOFF: Did that mean I got an
10 "F"?

11 MR. RILEY: "F" minus. Mrs.
12 Gatelli--

13 MS. FANUCCI: Why aren't you doing
14 Mrs. Evans?

15 MR. RILEY: Excuse me, it's my time.

16 MS. FANUCCI: I'm waiting for Mrs.
17 Evans' grade. We all got one.

18 MR. RILEY: Mrs. Gatelli, I remember
19 being at the old Scranton Technical High
20 School in the audience one evening when Mrs.
21 Evans was on the school board and you were
22 being considered for a position as school
23 nurse, you weren't successful that night and
24 the ire and the angst that you have
25 continued to hold --

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1 MS. GATELLI: Really?

2 MR. RILEY: In my opinion only, if
3 you really are concerned about the people of
4 Scranton you would resign now and don't ever
5 run for office again.

6 MS. GATELLI: Thank you very much.

7 MR. RILEY: Janet, continue to do
8 what you are doing. You get an "A" plus.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Oh, we knew that was
10 coming.

11 MS. GATELLI: Your campaign
12 committee, I guess.

13 MR. RILEY: Oh, and --

14 MR. MCGOFF: No, you left the podium.
15 Thank you. Any other speakers?

16 MR. RILEY: And Mr. Dudek was
17 ignorant before --

18 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me. You are
19 finished.

20 MR. RILEY: He referred to deaf and
21 dumb. They are hearing impaired.

22 MR. MCGOFF: It's the Scranton School
23 for the Deaf.

24 MR. RILEY: For the hearing impaired,
25 not the deaf and dumb as he called them.

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1 Shame on you.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?
3 Mrs. Krake?

4 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council.
5 My name is Nancy Krake. I have a few
6 remarks. First, we still have the
7 delinquent city real estate in the
8 Treasurer's Office until April 1, which I'd

9 advise everyone to pay with us. It's much
10 cheaper than going to NCC.

11 I would also like everyone to visit
12 our new website that is up, the citizens of
13 Scranton, it's called www.saveScranton.com.

14 And I would like to say that the two
15 inspectors that are filling the new jobs
16 that were created, those jobs were posted
17 and bid and we currently have two very
18 qualified people that have a lot of time
19 with the city, they actually bid into those
20 jobs, so we are lucky to have those ladies
21 there. It will leave openings eventually
22 and the mayor will fill them, but we are
23 very lucky to have them.

24 I would also like to say that
25 Attorney Minora has been paying his parking

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1 tickets. I have actually waited on him
2 today, so he is doing well there.

3 MS. GATELLI: Mrs. Krake, I just
4 have to ask you a question, was there ever a
5 time when the Treasurer's Office was allowed
6 to waive fees, delinquent fees?

7 MS. KRAKE: The Treasurer's Office
8 has always waived interest or penalty.
9 Never the value of the tax.

10 MS. GATELLI: Who made that
11 determination?

12 MS. KRAKE: In my experience having
13 been there under three different treasurers,
14 it has also been at the discretion of the
15 treasurer.

16 MS. GATELLI: Thank you.

17 MS. KRAKE: You're welcome.

18 MS. GATELLI: I'm sorry to interrupt
19 you, but I did want to --

20 MS. KRAKE: I may need that time in
21 the end, so if you could turn back the clock
22 four years would you still have made the
23 same political choices you did then? Would
24 you have voted for Bush's second term, the
25 term that drove this country into an

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1 economic crisis?

2 Would you have voted for Governor
3 Rendell's second term? His relentless
4 crusade to downsize and privatize state
5 services has managed to create a huge state
6 deficit and his unconscionable budget cut to
7 Scranton State School for the Hearing
8 Impaired?

9 If you knew then what you know now

10 would you have voted Mayor Doherty in for a
11 second term? Would you have a voted for
12 27 percent increase in your house taxes
13 while the city's wage, current and
14 delinquent tax remain uncollected for eight
15 years? Would you have voted for four
16 million plus in administrative raises and
17 jobs while police and fire have no increase
18 for eight years? Would you have voted for
19 over 200 million in long-term debt that our
20 grandchildren will be paying for? Do you
21 know what you got for that money? Does
22 anyone feel they are better off today having
23 voted Mayor Doherty in a second term?

24 A lot of the folks who are better
25 off, the consultants, the lawyers,

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1 60 percent of his campaign contributors that
2 don't even live in Scranton they are better
3 off. And, by the way, they can't vote here,
4 we can. In seven weeks you will be able to
5 correct that mistake, the Doherty mistake,
6 and vote all of the people out who've
7 recklessly spent your money and drove this
8 city into debt. Thank you.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.

10 MR. GERVASI: Good evening, city

11 council. My name is Dave Gervasi, I'm a
12 taxpayer, homeowner and member of the fire
13 department. I just want to get back to the
14 beginning when we started tonight and
15 Mr. Martin was up here, it seemed like a lot
16 of the questions were what happened with
17 that. I was there during the whole time
18 while I was on the negotiating team and I
19 got to give credit where credit is due.
20 Mary Gardier Patterson she was very, very
21 courteous, very, very professional and I
22 think she believed she had the authority to
23 negotiate that contract.

24 Actually, there was two points in
25 the two days where I actually grabbed her

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1 when things weren't looking too good and I
2 said -- frankly, I did a selfish thing, I
3 just happened to be on vacation for that
4 week, and I was spending my time at the
5 University and things weren't going so well
6 at times, and I asked her straight up in the
7 hallway, I said, "Is this going anywhere or
8 are we just wasting our time again? This is
9 getting ridiculous at points."

10 And she said, "No."

11 She said, "I have been talking to
12 the mayor."

13 Each component after we negotiated
14 it she was talking to the mayor and then a
15 little while later at one brief break that
16 we had our attorney told us that he was
17 informed that they were you talking to
18 people from DCED. So basically when it was
19 all done we shook hands, we had a tentative
20 agreement and, you know, what happened later
21 is what happened, so I just wanted to
22 clarify that, that I think that negotiating
23 team especially, Mrs. Patterson, they really
24 tried and I think they were either misled
25 or just, you know, lead to believe that they

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1 did have the authority to negotiate and make
2 those decisions and everybody was
3 disappointed afterwards, so I just wanted to
4 clarify that, and if there is any questions
5 you guys have with my remaining three
6 minutes on any of those particulars I would
7 be happy to answer your questions on the
8 firefighter's side, but that's where we are
9 at this point. No questions? No?

10 Just closing, Mrs. Fanucci, I'm not
11 picking on you, please, I'm not trying to

12 start an argument, but last week when you
13 mentioned I was amusing you, honest to God,
14 I was not saying anything about -- actually
15 I wasn't paying attention to what you were
16 saying. I was having a conversation --

17 MS. FANUCCI: That was my point,
18 Dave. My point is like we are up here and
19 you are out there giggling and having a
20 conversation and, you know, it's not -- it's
21 just not right. So that's why I said that.
22 I was --

23 MR. GERVASI: Just so you know, I
24 wasn't making fun of you.

25 MS. FANUCCI: Oh, I know. I said I'm

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1 glad I'm amusing.

2 MR. GERVASI: The conversation had
3 nothing to do with you.

4 MS. FANUCCI: I'm glad I'm amusing.

5 MR. GERVASI: Well, you weren't
6 amusing me because I wasn't paying
7 attention. If that bothered you --

8 MS. FANUCCI: I was being sarcastic.
9 I was being sarcastic.

10 MR. GERVASI: I wasn't talking about
11 you.

12 MS. FANUCCI: It's okay.

13 MR. GERVASI: I mean, a lot of
14 people have called me this week.

15 MS. FANUCCI: I'm not one of the
16 conspiracy theories. It's okay.

17 MR. GERVASI: Okay. All I'm saying
18 is that a lot of people called me that night
19 and said, "What did you do to Mrs. Fanucci?"

20 And I said, "I don't know."

21 MS. FANUCCI: Well, that's -- you
22 just explained it. You explained it well.

23 MR. GERVASI: Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Gervasi.
25 Anyone else? Mrs. Evans?

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1 MS. EVANS: Good evening. The final
2 2008 tax collections from the Scranton Tax
3 Office were received by city council's
4 office on Friday, February 14 -- or 13, I
5 should say. A comparison to 2007 tax
6 collections was also included. The results
7 are as follows:

8 The real estate final 2007,
9 \$13,809,153.21. Final 2008, \$13,709,768.
10 89 for a decrease of over \$99,000.

11 The earned income tax or wage tax,
12 the final amount for 2007 \$19,218,06.58 and

13 the final for 2008, \$22,3086,143 for an
14 increase of \$3,168,082.49 and in terms of
15 the percentages a 16.48 percent increase.

16 The EMS/OPT/LST tax which is now the
17 LST, local services tax, the final for 2007,
18 \$2,155,287. The final for 2008, \$1,340,021,
19 a decrease of \$815,266 or in percentages a
20 37.8 percent decrease.

21 The business privilege and
22 mercantile tax, final for 2007, \$1,773,938.
23 The final for 2008, \$1,850,954.81 for an
24 increase of \$77.016, and translated into
25 percentages that is 4.34 percent.

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1 In addition, Mr. McGovern states
2 that the auditors are putting their final
3 touches on their report, however, they
4 believe a meeting with the Pennsylvania
5 Treasury Auditors must occur before the
6 report can be finalized. Once it is
7 finalized, Marilyn, that would be
8 Mrs. Vitali, will host a meeting with all of
9 the state holders and the auditors before it
10 is released.

11 Now, on a tax-related note, last
12 week council received correspondence from an

13 Attorney Christopher P. Cullen requesting
14 the approval by official action of a
15 proposed motion and the forwarding of a copy
16 of the approved motion to six state
17 representatives, state Senator Robert Mellow
18 and the Board of Commissioners of Lackawanna
19 County. The motion supports and requests
20 that the General Assembly of Pennsylvania
21 amend sections of the Home Rule Charter and
22 optional plans law to empower the Home Rule
23 Municipality to require referendum approval
24 by it's qualified electors of an annual
25 millage rate as levied by it's governing

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1 body that is in excess of 5 percent of the
2 preceding year's rate of millage in order to
3 make effective the levy millage rate in a
4 manner similar in concept and effect to the
5 requirements set forth at Section 302-C of
6 the Home Rule Charter of Lackawanna County.
7 335 Pennsylvania Code Section 1.3-302.

8 Now, simply, currently there are no
9 protections available that give property
10 owners in Lackawanna County, the City of
11 Scranton and the City of Carbondale the
12 opportunity to contest excessive tax rates
13 other than exercising their right at the

14 voting pole every four years, so Lackawanna
15 County may enact without any limitations
16 whatsoever an excessive rate of taxation and
17 impose excessive taxation upon taxpayers.

18 This motion simply supports a state
19 amendment of the Home Rule Charter law in
20 order to safeguard and protect taxpayers
21 from excessive taxes. It doesn't incur any
22 expense, it doesn't require special action,
23 and it does not involve city council in a
24 lawsuit as was confirmed to me by Attorney
25 Cullen yesterday.

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1 In addition, this motion does not
2 effect Scranton's Home Rule Charter since it
3 has no language addressing tax rates. It
4 will apply to Lackawanna County. I'm
5 certain we all vividly remember the
6 48 percent tax increase of 2005 that was
7 levied by the county, and I believe that as
8 elected officials we have the duty and
9 responsibility to seriously consider this
10 motion and to protect our Scranton residents
11 who are also county residents from excessive
12 increases in the future.

13 Therefore, I move to approve and

14 support the proposed motion in support of
15 amending Section 2962 (b) of the Home Rule
16 Charter and optional plans law, 53
17 Pennsylvania CSA Section 2962 (b) to prevent
18 or eliminate the enactment and imposition of
19 an excessive millage rate, specifically in
20 excess of 5 percent of the presiding years
21 rate of millage by the governing body of the
22 Home Rule Charter Municipality. Such
23 amending legislation will be prepared and
24 introduced by State Representative Kevin
25 Murphy.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll second that.

2 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

3 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question, I
4 would just ask if Mr. Minora could take a
5 look at that this week and just give me his
6 opinion on it to make sure that everything
7 remains proper.

8 MR. MINORA: Okay.

9 MS. EVANS: I might add though, I
10 asked Attorney Cullen when I spoke to him
11 yesterday if any of my colleagues had any
12 reservations about interceding on behalf of
13 the taxpayers in this manner, would he be
14 available to come to a caucus to answer any

15 of the questions and he indicated that, yes,
16 he would.

17 MS. FANUCCI: That's great.

18 MS. EVANS: So maybe we could have
19 him come in next week.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Absolutely.

21 MR. MCGOFF: With that in mind, I
22 would move to table this motion until after
23 investigation or after we look into it and
24 perhaps a caucus with Attorney Cullen. So I
25 move to table Mrs. Evans' motion.

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1 MS. FANUCCI: I'll second that.

2 MR. MCGOFF: On the motion to table,
3 anyone on the question? All in favor
4 signify by saying aye.

5 MS. EVANS: Aye.

6 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

7 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
10 ayes have it and so moved. Thank you, Mrs.
11 Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Now, with regard to the
13 \$3 million loan included in tonight's agenda
14 for it's second reading, I spoke to

15 Mr. Boscov and Mr. Zurney, Boscov's
16 controller during the week and also
17 corresponded by e-mail to seek answers to my
18 questions. I learned the following
19 information from Mr. Boscov and Mr. Zurney.

20 There are two Section 108 loans for
21 Boscov's. The original loan in 1991 was for
22 the initial construction of the mall and
23 matures in August 2011. This is the loan on
24 which the city makes payments. In
25 June 2003, an additional three million was

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1 to be borrowed as a Section 108 loan, but
2 was not closed on until 2004. It matures
3 August 1, 2024. According to an e-mail from
4 Mr. Zurney, Boscov's controller, he received
5 a schedule presumably from one of Mr.
6 Mitchell's OECD predecessors which starts in
7 2003 when Scranton Mall Company was
8 bifurcated into two entities, Steamtown Mall
9 Partners, LP, which is the mall, and the
10 Scranton Mall Associates which would be his
11 office buildings.

12 He presumes in the refinancing of
13 the PSERS loan to a UBS bond issue there
14 were agreements and concessions made to keep
15 the company viable. He has not found any

16 documents in the binders to explain the
17 20 percent paid by the city, but will
18 continue to search.

19 At the same time Mr. Mitchell,
20 Scranton's director of finance and
21 compliance for OECD cannot seem to find
22 information on why the city pays a
23 20 percent portion of the Section 108 loan
24 in his two binders.

25 Now, I also received a schedule of

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1 Section 108 loan payments for both the
2 80 percent Scranton Mall share and the
3 20 percent City of Scranton's share which
4 ends August 1, 2011, for a total payment of
5 \$7,679,624.39. The city's 20 percent is a
6 total payment of \$1,595,924.88 from 2003
7 through 2011, for both principle and
8 interest.

9 In addition, Mr. Boscov explained
10 that the Steamtown Mall cannot be used as
11 collateral for this third loan. Since the
12 108 loans are already in second position and
13 held by the City of Scranton, it will not be
14 possible to add them all as collateral to
15 the third loan until both prior Section 108

16 loans are paid off.

17 Now, according to Mr. Mitchell from
18 OECD, the newest Section 108 loan to
19 Boscov's is for 20 years at \$170,000 per
20 year. Both Mr. Siegle and Mr. Boscov have
21 stated that Boscov's alone will be
22 responsible for payments on this new loan.

23 Further, both the Steamtown Mall
24 Partners and Scranton Mall Associates are
25 current on their real estate and mercantile

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1 taxes according to Mr. Zurney, Boscov's
2 controller.

3 Now, I had asked in response to a
4 citizens' request last week about
5 specifically the mercantile tax and a letter
6 was sent to Mrs. Vitale requesting that
7 information in the Scranton Tax Office. She
8 responded that on the advice of her
9 solicitor she would not release that
10 information without a waiver from
11 Mr. Boscov, and I do understand that
12 currently a waiver had been sought and not
13 found, and I believe that Mr. Boscov will be
14 provided with such a waiver, but it really
15 is unnecessary in that I do know the amount
16 of the mercantile taxes that were paid in

17 2008.

18 The annual real estate and
19 mercantile taxes paid to the city and school
20 district, which I'm told they have been
21 paying for the last three or four years well
22 exceeds the amount paid annually by the city
23 on the Section 108 loan and, in fact, is
24 very close to the dollar amount the city
25 will pay on that particular Section 108 loan

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1 for the years 2003 through 2011. And I am
2 most grateful to Mr. Boscov and Mr. Zurney
3 for their cooperation in this matter.

4 Next, I wish to report to citizens
5 on their request and questions: First,
6 Mr. Bob Fiffer from Municipal Energy
7 Managers said that Mr. Brazil DPW was
8 notified about the Spruce Street Complex
9 lights that have been out, and that a call
10 was put into Pennsylvania One. Since it is
11 an underground problem DPW is going to do
12 the digging as to not to hire a
13 subcontractor. It should take approximately
14 10 to 12 days to complete barring any
15 weather problems. I thank the East Mountain
16 residents who brought this problem to my

17 attention.

18 Also, at last week's meeting there
19 was a request to hear the projects proposed
20 by council for inclusion in the federal
21 stimulus package grants, and since the mayor
22 apparently had earmarked a new South Side
23 library for these funds I asked council to
24 compile a list of city projects which could
25 be funded as well, and Mr. McGoff read that

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1 list earlier.

2 Now, I am aware that the Sewer
3 Authority has applied for a \$20 million
4 state grant, but it seems to require an
5 additional \$100 million for necessary
6 upgrades to the antiquated system. The
7 Scranton Sewer Authority may be able to
8 apply for a stimulus grant itself, but if it
9 can't I believe the city should pursue
10 funding to prevent the ratepayers of the
11 Scranton and Dunmore from incurring very
12 significant sewer rate increases in the
13 future.

14 The Spruce Street Complex lighting
15 problems that were read earlier will be
16 removed from that list because, of course,
17 they are currently being addressed.

18 Now, I know that Mayor Doherty and
19 Mrs. Gatelli supported a new library in
20 South Side. I don't know where my other
21 colleagues stand on the issue and I can only
22 speak for myself, I do not oppose a second
23 main library in South Scranton, but now is
24 not the time. In the midst of this
25 recessions we should address the problems in

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1 all city neighborhoods which have burdened
2 the residents for years and effected their
3 daily lives. Stimulus grants should be used
4 for the benefit of the people and their
5 priorities, not the mayor's, and that's why
6 the bulk of those proposals had come from me
7 and focused on the neighborhoods and the
8 problems that I have seen and heard over the
9 last five years.

10 Now, to answer some questions posed
11 by a speaker last week, I have now learned
12 that the city pays variable dollar amounts
13 on principle and interest on the Section 108
14 loan for Boscov's. For example, in 2008 it
15 paid \$179,581.50, and in 2011 the city will
16 pay \$184,536. We were likely financially
17 upside down prior to tax payments by

18 Steamtown Mall Partners. Currently we do
19 not appear to be.

20 Mr. Boscov stated at last week's
21 meeting that he owns the Lace Works, so in
22 response to a speaker's question I asked for
23 information about the Lace Works. To date,
24 125,000 was allocated to artist space for
25 this building. \$236 was spent in 2006 for

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1 soft costs for the project. The remaining
2 \$124,763 remains in OECD's financial system.

3 In addition, the amount of \$62,510
4 from a 2005 activity entitled, "Demolition
5 of former Scranton Lace building" still
6 remains in OECD's financial system. This
7 grant was originally to be used in
8 conjunction with Lackawanna College. I do
9 not believe that Scranton receives any
10 percentage of interest for Section 108
11 loans, and also according to Mr. Mitchell
12 all of OECD loans that are currently pledged
13 for Boscov's, that is for this third Section
14 108 loan, will be paid back simultaneously
15 on a bi-annual payment schedule determined
16 by HUD, and Boscov's is an anchor of the
17 Steamtown Mall.

18 However, without other profitable

19 stores occupying the mall it will cease to
20 be a mall. I believe that Boscov's and it's
21 tenants of the mall are dependent upon one
22 another for success. And I hope that
23 answers all of the gentleman's questions
24 regarding Boscov's and the Lace Works.

25 And finally just a few citizens'

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1 requests: Please fill potholes in the 15,
2 16 and 1700 blocks of Dickson Avenue, at the
3 corner of Olive Street at North Washington
4 Avenue clean the catch basins, and council
5 is requesting a timetable for completion of
6 flood work on the Albright Avenue bridge and
7 surrounding areas. Residents report that no
8 work has been observed in several months,
9 and that's it.

10 MS. GATELLI: I just have a few
11 things, Mr. McGoff. First of all, I also am
12 not in favor of the stimulus money going to
13 the library in South Scranton. I said that
14 several weeks ago so you can take that off
15 your list.

16 MS. EVANS: My list of what?

17 MS. GATELLI: Well, you said I was in
18 favor of the stimulus money going to the

19 library in South Scranton. You said it last
20 week or the week before that, yes, I'm in
21 favor of the library, but I'm not in favor
22 of using the stimulus money to go after
23 private money and grants for the library so
24 I just wanted to make that correction.

25 I would also like to say that I

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1 thought that Mr. Quinn was not accurate in
2 his statements concerning the new inspectors
3 in LIPS. I know Carol has been there for
4 many years and so has Patty. Patty has
5 helped many times as a health inspector with
6 problems that we have had throughout the
7 neighborhoods and does an excellent job and
8 Carol will surely do the same thing also.
9 They are union jobs. They are qualified for
10 the positions, and I don't want the public
11 to think that someone in those positions
12 that aren't qualified.

13 Underwriters is a whole different
14 topic. He is mixing apples and oranges and
15 I don't want the property owners and the
16 taxpayers to think that these people are
17 working there, coming to their homes and
18 they are not qualified.

19 The lights on the Scranton

20 Expressway at Keyser Avenue have been fixed.
21 And I talked to Attorney McGovern, I believe
22 it was last Thursday, and I also talked to
23 Mrs. Flynn this afternoon, and the audit is
24 pretty well finished. They have to present
25 it to the Treasury Department first and it

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1 shouldn't be a matter of much longer before
2 we get the results, and I'll keep you
3 informed on that. And that's all I have,
4 Mr. McGoff. Thank you.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Mrs.
6 Fanucci.

7 MS. FANUCCI: I wanted to answer
8 Mrs. Schumacher's questions about the grant
9 for Scranton Tomorrow. All of the list that
10 you read is included in the application
11 process. They have to meet all of those
12 requirements to get the grant, as you have
13 said. That does not have to do with us. We
14 do not get the paperwork until they approve
15 -- the grant is approved through the state.
16 Like they already had -- meet all of the
17 requirements for the state, so you are
18 asking for something that has already been
19 done, but it's not on our level, it's the

20 state level, so all of those questions have
21 been answered and obviously have cleared
22 through the state and they said it was okay
23 for them to go to this level, so I wanted to
24 clarify that. You are asking for us to do
25 work that is not, you know, a part of our

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1 structure here, you know, so it has already
2 been done. Obviously it hasn't reached
3 that. It doesn't come here until they
4 qualify for the state, so I wanted to answer
5 that question.

6 Also, I was going through the -- you
7 know, every week Mrs. Krake gets up and
8 talks about NCC and our fees that we impose
9 and the bad -- how people they are losing
10 their homes and what a bad situation it was,
11 so I did some of my own research on this,
12 and what I found was that I'm extremely
13 happy with my NCC vote and will stay happy
14 with my vote.

15 Sometimes people have ulterior
16 motives and sometimes they don't, but what I
17 found out is there is, you know, someone,
18 and I'll come right out here, someone who is
19 a website owner, director, you know, sues
20 the city on a regular basis, his taxes are

21 under his wife's name, and I never see
22 anybody come up with this research, which
23 amazes me, they owe us over \$8,000 in taxes
24 since 2002; garbage fees since 2003, and --
25 yeah, they are not paying for any services

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1 since 2002. They are not paying the fire
2 department. They are not paying the police
3 officers. They are not paying the garbage
4 collectors, but yet supposed to cover that
5 for them at the rest of the taxpayers' bill?
6 I'm supposed to pay for it, you are supposed
7 to pay it and everybody out there is
8 supposed to pay for people who aren't paying
9 their taxes.

10 I don't agree with it. I don't
11 think it's fair. I think that people work
12 very hard for their money and yet here is
13 someone who is praised almost in these
14 chambers, and let's go there, this is where
15 all of life happens, let's go here, and they
16 are not even paying the people who are
17 getting up and praising them. It makes me
18 sick.

19 So, yes, I'm very happy with my NCC
20 because at this rate I believe the legal

21 fees that we will get out of when finally
22 they do decide to make me pay one is two
23 dollars to the city we will get almost
24 \$2,000 in legal fees from these people, and
25 with the slap in the face the fact that you

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1 are paying for their lawsuits every week and
2 in the name of being a taxpayer in the city
3 I believe that this is a good deal.

4 Do I believe it's a bad deal for
5 people who can't pay? No. I think you call
6 and you ask for help and you arrange help
7 and you make a payment plan, which is
8 something people should do all over the
9 city, so in finding out that little bit of
10 information I have to say it was absolutely
11 disturbing, and not only typical, but very
12 showing of what we are doing and who we are
13 covering in the city and it's not all of the
14 connected people, I guess. And that is all
15 I have. Thank you.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Courtright.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Kay, I just have a
18 couple of letters here. The 3,000 block of
19 Division Street is really far out there and
20 that road is in pretty bad shape. The
21 residents are asking when they do start

22 paving if they could consider paving that.
23 The road that I drive every day DPW fixed
24 them last year, it's Forest Glenn, it's on a
25 really bad turn and the entire road, the

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1 whole length of road now is just torn up.
2 There is -- someday there is going to be a
3 real bad accident I don't think we can wait
4 until the weather breaks. If the DPW could
5 get up and take a look at it. I could call
6 down and even show you specifically, it
7 can't wait. It's something that has to be
8 fixed now, so if you could go up there and
9 take a look at that.

10 And this question I have been asked
11 quite a bit the last couple of weeks, and I
12 I'm not quite sure, other people are asking
13 me and I want 100 percent correct answers so
14 I'm asking if, Kay, we can look into this,
15 the monies or money that ECTV has gotten to
16 repair the building that they are in now if,
17 in fact, the building is sold and they are
18 made to move, I don't know if they are being
19 made to move or not, do we receive back any
20 of the monies that were paid for whatever
21 renovation? I know there was money sent

22 through, what's that organization, East
23 Scranton Business to the tune of 10,000 and
24 I believe there is other monies. So if, in
25 fact, they sell the building do we get any

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1 money back because everybody is always a
2 little bit sarcastic. They say to me,
3 "Well, okay, I will just let ECTV move into
4 my house, I'll fix up my basement and then
5 I'll sell my house."

6 You know, so I'm not quite sure who
7 we go to for that answer. Do we go to OECD?
8 Can we start there and see. If, in fact, I
9 don't know maybe they will sell the building
10 and maybe the people will let them stay
11 there who are buying it, but can we find
12 out.

13 MS. EVANS: Mr. Courtright, while you
14 are doing that could we also request a list
15 of the officers and members of the East
16 Scranton Business Association?

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah.

18 MS. EVANS: Current and for 2007,
19 2008. And in addition to that, I do
20 understand or in the past anyway that the
21 owner of that property has for lack of
22 better terms a nonprofit organization that

23 he oversees, and wanted to know if that
24 structure at, what is it, 933 Prescott?

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'm not quite sure

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1 of the address.

2 MS. EVANS: If that is part of that
3 nonprofit organization. In other words, all
4 of the buildings that he owns that are
5 protected under 501-C-3.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yeah, I have no
7 problem with that, and I was never happy
8 with the way that money went through that
9 organization and to that gentleman, that
10 never sat well with me, and I'm assuming it
11 was legal because nobody has done anything
12 about it, but it just never set well with
13 me, you know, the money went to them and
14 they in turn turned it over to them. I
15 don't want to use the term on the air what I
16 consider that, because I may get myself in
17 trouble, but I'm just not happy with how
18 that was done, so if we could start there
19 and I'll come in and we'll start with OECD
20 and just see what becomes of the money if,
21 in fact, the building is sold and if, in
22 fact, if they are made to move. And that's

23 all I have. Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,

25 Mr. Courtright. Just very quickly a couple

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1 of responses, first of all, on the Scranton
2 School for the Hearing Impaired, I know that
3 we are all concerned with that and while
4 Mr. Dudek offers us some discussions for
5 things that we can do, alternative funding I
6 know is being sought at many levels and for
7 him to say that, you know, there are more
8 powerful people, I don't know of too many
9 more powerful people in the state that
10 Senator Mellow and if he is unsuccessful in
11 searching out and finding alternatives to
12 this situation I don't know that there is
13 much more than we can do.

14 Certainly I know we all support the
15 idea of keeping the school open, and we will
16 do whatever we can to support the efforts of
17 those who are probably in a bit stronger
18 position than we in searching out that
19 funding. I don't think anyone wants that
20 school to close. I don't think that the
21 governor wants the school to close to be
22 honest, but I think that it was an attempt
23 to find alternative funding in others ways

24 other than through the state and hopefully
25 that can be done.

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1 Also, an interesting question on the
2 timetable for the flood control project, I
3 think that perhaps that is something that we
4 should find out for the residents of lower
5 Greenridge and I will attempt to contact
6 someone at that office to see if there is an
7 update on the timetable for moving that
8 project forward.

9 And the last thing, as far as
10 providing funding for keeping churches open,
11 certainly the Diocese of Scranton is a
12 separate entity and if we had found anything
13 over the course of the past couple of years,
14 it is that trying to find alternatives
15 solutions to what the Bishop of the Diocese
16 of Scranton has decided falls usually on
17 very deaf ears, ask the people of Pittston
18 who try to keep schools open and other
19 places I know that even though they have
20 provided and will go also to the keeping the
21 current Bishop Hannon building open as part
22 of the Holy Cross School system. There were
23 plans and everything sent to the Bishop and

24 they were simply returned without even being
25 considered, o, not only would our pleas fall

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1 on deaf ears, I would think, but also we
2 actually have no authority to make those
3 pleas other than as private citizens, so
4 just so people out there aren't thinking
5 that we, you know, have some power to try
6 and keep churches and schools and Catholic
7 schools and churches open. While many of
8 may have a vested interest in it, there is
9 little that we as -- there is nothing that
10 we as a council can do, maybe we as
11 individuals can do things, but just wanted
12 to make sure we understood that. And that
13 is all I have.

14 MS. GARVEY: FIFTH ORDER. 5-B. FOR
15 INTRODUCTION - A RESOLUTION - ACCEPTING THE
16 RECOMMENDATION OF THE HISTORICAL
17 ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD ("HARB") AND
18 APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
19 FOR SCRANTON-CONNELL, LP, 700 SOUTH
20 HENDERSON ROAD, SUITE 300 B, KING OF
21 PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA FOR FAÇADE MASONRY
22 REPAIR/RESTORATION; REPAIR OF LIMESTONE AND
23 TERRA COTTA BLOCK ELEMENTS; POINT BRICK;
24 REPLACEMENT OF MISSING BALUSTERS;

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REPLACEMENT OF ROOF WITH EPDM SYSTEM;

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1

REPAIR/REFINISH ALL EXISTING UPPER AND LOWER

2

SASHES AND SURROUNDING CASEWORK ON WINDOWS,

3

INCLUDING FABRICATION WHEN NECESSARY TO

4

MATCH ORIGINAL TO THE CONNELL BUILDING,

5

119-129 NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE, SCRANTON

6

PENNSYLVANIA.

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MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll

8

entertain a motion that Item 5-B be

9

introduced into it's proper committee.

10

MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

11

MS. FANUCCI: Second.

12

MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All

13

those in favor signify by saying aye.

14

MS. EVANS: Aye.

15

MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

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MS. GATELLI: Aye.

17

MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

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MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The

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ayes have it and so moved.

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MS. GARVEY: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -

21

A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

22

OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE

23

AND APPLY FOR A GRANT THROUGH THE

24

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF

1 FOR A GROWING GREENER II MAIN STREET AND
2 DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT
3 OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00). IF
4 THE GRANT APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL, THE
5 CITY WILL ACCEPT THE GRANT FUNDS AND
6 DISTRIBUTE TO "SCRANTON-CONNELL, LP" AND ITS
7 GENERAL PARTNER "SCRANTON- CONNELL, GP, LLC"
8 FOR THE "PROJECT" TO BE NAMED AS "CONNELL
9 BUILDING ADAPTIVE RE-USE".

10 MR. MCGOFF: At time I'll entertain a
11 motion that Item 5-C be introduced into it's
12 proper committee.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

14 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

15 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: On the question,
17 Mr. McGoff, you know, I voted for funding of
18 this project in the past, I got to be honest
19 with you, I'm getting sick of giving this
20 place money. Really. I mean, I'm not
21 against the project, but I got to do a
22 little bit more thinking. I'm going to
23 vote, no, tonight. I'm not against us
24 applying for grants, but maybe you can go to
25 another place. I think they've gotten

1 if we are getting mixed signals from people.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: It was the union
3 official. I think maybe we can make a call
4 and ask. I'd just like to, you know, if it
5 does go through I would like to see the
6 local union people are getting the work.

7 MS. EVANS: Is this million dollars
8 though for -- going to go toward the
9 restoration of the building to it's former
10 beauty, is that what this particular grant
11 would be used for? I know I voted against
12 four million last month because I felt
13 Scranton's already building them a garage,
14 we didn't need to give them anymore, but I
15 am very concerned about architectural
16 preservation and if this developer/owner
17 isn't going to concern himself with that
18 unless a grant from the state is received to
19 enable him to provide for that, then I'd
20 like to see that happen.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Right.

22 MS. GATELLI: It's going to be
23 because the HARB is involved.

24 MS. EVANS: Right.

25 MS. FANUCCI: And it keeps them

1 regular, that's what I like. They can't
2 just do what they want.

3 MS. GATELLI: And they get tax
4 credits if it's historic in nature, they get
5 certain tax credits.

6 MS. EVANS: So I will be voting to
7 approve this for the reasons that I
8 mentioned. And I do find n addition to that
9 this is a far more feasible, in my opinion,
10 dollar amount than January 20th's \$4 million
11 gift.

12 MS. GATELLI: I say we should do all
13 we can to keep work here. In this bad
14 economy it's hard to believe that we are
15 getting all of this work here to put some of
16 our people to work. I mean, other
17 communities are just dying and I think we
18 are very fortunate that we have a lot of
19 activity and a lot of construction going on
20 when the economy is so bad. So, you know,
21 that's the reason I'm be voting for this
22 project until it's completed, but we will
23 check that union stuff.

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: I'll make calls.

25 MS. EVANS: Why don't we all get

1 together on a project and apply for all of
2 these grants. We would be wealthy.

3 MS. FANUCCI: We have to do the
4 match.

5 MS. EVANS: We could be the
6 developer.

7 MS. FANUCCI: Sorry, I can't do the
8 match.

9 MS. EVANS: There is not always
10 matches to these so, you know, we could get
11 the loans and the grants.

12 MS. GATELLI: And we can't do it for
13 a year until we have off council for a year.

14 MS. EVANS: Correct, but in the five
15 years that I have been here I have never
16 seen so much money fly out.

17 MS. GATELLI: I think it's great.

18 MS. EVANS: Out of OECD and out of,
19 you know, the state government and
20 sometimes, you know, you really have to look
21 at things and think wow, you know, no wonder
22 Pennsylvania is just about bankrupt, you
23 know, this huge deficit because there has
24 been this, you know, massive infusion of
25 money that, you know, I don't know if even

1 exists. Where is it at?

2 And as someone mentioned earlier
3 tonight, if we are going to look at closing
4 state-owned schools in order to provide for
5 wealthy developers I don't know that we are
6 making the best choices all the time.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else? All those
8 in favor of introduction signify by saying
9 aye.

10 MS. EVANS: Aye.

11 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

12 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed?

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: No.

15 MR. MCGOFF: The ayes have it and so
16 moved.

17 MS. GARVEY: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

18 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 61 -
19 2009 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
20 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY
21 OF SCRANTON TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE
22 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
23 URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD") FOR A SECTION 108
24 FEDERAL LOAN GUARANTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF
25 THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000.00) AND IF

1 SUCH APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL, TO ACCEPT
2 THE LOAN PROCEEDS AND DISTRIBUTE THEM TO
3 BOSCOV'S, INC. FOR AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT, AND
4 FURTHER TO AMEND THE CITY OF SCRANTON'S
5 CONSOLIDATED PLAN FILED IN 2004 AND THE
6 FISCAL YEAR 2009 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE
7 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ("CDBG")
8 PROGRAM TO INCLUDE AND PERMIT SUCH SECTION
9 108 APPLICATION AND LOAN ACTIVITIES.

10 MR. MCGOFF: You have heard reading
11 by title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: I move that item
13 6-A pass reading by title.

14 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

15 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? All
16 those in favor signify by saying aye.

17 MS. EVANS: Aye.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

19 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
22 ayes have it and so moved.

23 MS. GARVEY: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
24 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES -
25 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 103, 2009 -

1 RE-APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM LAZOR, 677 MARY
2 STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, AS A
3 MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON
4 REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE
5 (5) YEARS. MR. LAZOR'S CURRENT TERM EXPIRES
6 ON MARCH 19, 2009 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL
7 EXPIRE ON MARCH 19, 2014.

8 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
9 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
10 passage of Item 7-A.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

12 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
13 call, please.

14 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

15 MS. EVANS: Yes.

16 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

17 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

18 MS. MAGNOTTA: Ms. Fanucci.

19 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

20 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

22 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
24 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

25 MS. GARVEY: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION

2 RESOLUTION NO. 104, 2009 - RE-APPOINTMENT OF
3 PETER RIEBE, 1315 SANDERSON AVENUE,
4 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER
5 OF THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON REDEVELOPMENT
6 AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS. MR.
7 RIEBE'S CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON FEBRUARY 4,
8 2009 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON
9 FEBRUARY 4, 2014.

10 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
11 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
12 passage of Item 7-B.

13 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

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

16 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

17 MS. EVANS: Yes.

18 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

19 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

20 MS. MAGNOTTA: Ms. Fanucci.

21 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

22 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

24 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare

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1 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

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MS. GARVEY: 7-C.

MS. EVANS: Mrs. Garvey, before this is read could we table this until we meet with, is it Ms. Collins again?

MS. FANUCCI: When were meeting with Ms. Collins again?

MS. GATELLI: Next week.

MR. MCGOFF: I wasn't sure that we are going to do that, I didn't know how the vote was going to go on this, so I didn't request that she be here next week.

MS. EVANS: Would it be possible to do that so that some of the questions could be --

MS. FANUCCI: Well, what she said to me on the phone was that they were all answered in the application. You can't apply for this unless you do all of that work. So she said did say, and I don't know understand what it is that I should tell you that I didn't already tell the state. They wouldn't even give me -- I wouldn't be able to pass to get to the state, you know, unless I answered all of the questions and

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met all of the qualifications for them. So, I mean, I can't imagine unless she wants to

3 show us the application, which I don't see
4 is necessary.

5 MS. GATELLI: I think we have the
6 application.

7 MS. FANUCCI: Yeah. I mean, to see
8 like every question that Mrs. Schumacher --

9 MR. MCGOFF: I personally think that
10 it's a good program and it's something that
11 would, you know, aid in the development
12 community development and I -- personally
13 I'm ready to vote on it as is.

14 MS. FANUCCI: She has a motion on
15 the floor; right?

16 MS. EVANS: No, I didn't make it, I
17 just asked.

18 MS. FANUCCI: Oh, okay.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

20 MS. GATELLI: It wasn't introduced.

21 MS. EVANS: I think it was.

22 MS. GARVEY: No, I didn't read it
23 yet.

24 MR. MCGOFF: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -

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1 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 105, 2009 -
2 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

3 CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
4 MUNICIPAL-MAIN STREET ORGANIZATION
5 COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF
6 SCRANTON ("MUNICIPALITY") AND SCRANTON
7 TOMORROW ("ORGANIZATION") IN ORDER TO
8 RECEIVE FUNDS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF
9 PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND
10 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ("DCED") TO ASSIST
11 WITH DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION.

12 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
13 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
14 Committee on Community Development.

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

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

19 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

20 MS. EVANS: I would have like to have
21 spoken more with Ms. Collins about the
22 issues raised by speakers tonight and, you
23 know, again, I do feel that grant money
24 needs to be spread throughout the city not
25 just focused entirely on the downtown,

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1 that's been ongoing now for nearly eight
2 years, and I'd like to see that spread
3 throughout our city. I had voted for this

4 previously and I would again if I were able
5 to at least get the answers that I'm looking
6 for but, unfortunately, that's not going to
7 happen so I'm going to have to vote, no.

8 MS. GATELLI: I would just like to
9 add that there are many communities that
10 have had a Main Street Program, Allentown
11 was very successful, and I know I mentioned
12 this one before, Times Square has a, I don't
13 know if they call it a Main Street Program
14 but they have a downtown district which is
15 what can be done here with the Main Street
16 Program.

17 I think that one of the benefits of
18 it would be to help the small business
19 owners who have been neglected for so many
20 years. We focused on the mall at one point
21 in time and we focused on the big developers
22 and I think that the Main Street Program
23 will be a chance for the little guy to
24 finally get something, a facade grant or
25 things to spruce up his business and, you

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1 know, that's why I'm going to be voting for
2 it.

3 MS. EVANS: I guess I would like to

4 see exactly what those projects are, and
5 what I think I heard tonight was generally
6 speaking we hope to do, A, B, C, D, but no
7 specifics, so as if you apply for money
8 without ever having to present a business
9 plan or a --

10 MS. FANUCCI: You do.

11 MS. EVANS: -- a projection of
12 exactly how this money is going to be used.

13 MS. FANUCCI: Actually, you do as you
14 go along and the whole idea is to have the
15 main person go out, develop the business
16 plan, decide where the money is going to go,
17 go to the small business owners and say, you
18 know, what is you are looking for, what is
19 it -- that's the whole idea of the program.
20 So, yeah, eventually that does come down the
21 pike.

22 MS. GATELLI: You need a manager to
23 start that.

24 MS. FANUCCI: You need the manager to
25 be able to start that so that this person is

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1 one who decides.

2 MS. GATELLI: In our Elm Street
3 Program in South Scranton we have to get an
4 Elm Street manager, and then he will look at

5 what we want to do there and pursue those
6 avenues to get grants, more grants to do
7 those things, and it's determined by what
8 the people there want and this will be the
9 same way. It will be determined by the
10 downtown business, you know, what they want
11 and so hopefully it will be many of those
12 small businesses, you know, that need that
13 little boost.

14 MS. EVANS: Mr. Courtright, what was
15 the program that you call that you have been
16 looking for the Main Avenue in West Scranton
17 all of these years?

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Oh, Congressman
19 Kanjorski gave me the name of it.

20 MS. GATELLI: Was it the one Barry
21 Minora did in North Scranton?

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: I don't know. It
23 might have been Main Street. It might have
24 been Main Street. When the Congressman was
25 here he had his assistant with him and I

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1 can't recall off the top of my head, it
2 might have been Main Street, and he asked if
3 there was any monies in that and they had
4 told him, yes.

5 MS. EVANS: See, that would be
6 something that I think very, very beneficial
7 for West Scranton. Granted, it's not in the
8 downtown area, but that was a little busy
9 area.

10 MS. GATELLI: They can apply for Elm
11 Street. They can be an Elm Street. They
12 can't be a Main Street.

13 MS. EVANS: But they have had
14 terrible problems, as you know, all of these
15 years, Mr. Courtright, for some reason that
16 just --

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: I keep hitting road
18 blocks. I can't --

19 MS. GATELLI: Well, I'll tell you,
20 you know, sometimes you just have to step up
21 to the plate. There is nobody stepping up
22 to the plate. I mean, up in North Scranton
23 Barry Minora did all of the leg work. He
24 applied for the grants.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: He actually --

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1 MS. GATELLI: In South Side it's the
2 South Side Neighborhood and United
3 Neighborhood Centers. You need somebody,
4 some group other than government to get it
5 together.

6 MR. MCGOFF: We have sort of
7 deviated --

8 MR. COURTRIGHT: Dr. Minora offered
9 to help us.

10 MS. GATELLI: Well, I know, but you
11 need to get a group over there interested,
12 you know, in helping, like maybe United
13 Neighborhood Centers or some nonprofits over
14 there maybe with the neighborhood group, and
15 you have to pursue it. It's just too much
16 work and too lengthy that the government
17 just isn't going to do it for you.

18 MR. COURTRIGHT: The first person I
19 went to was Dr. Barry Minora because I knew
20 he put a lot of work into. He offered to
21 help, and I brought it up to the mayor and I
22 actually asked him to use Mr. McTiernan
23 because he was a little bit tighter with the
24 mayor than me at the time when he was here,
25 and the mayor didn't want to go that route,

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1 he said we need to get the Congressman
2 involved, so I said, "Fine. Whatever it
3 takes to get it done."

4 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, but you still
5 need somebody.

6 MR. COURTRIGHT: And we brought in
7 the congressman.

8 MS. GATELLI: You still need people
9 over there that --

10 MR. MCGOFF: Might we vote on 7-C and
11 we can discuss --

12 MS. EVANS: We'll all face it, you
13 lose.

14 MS. GATELLI: You got to put your
15 time in.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: The people in West
17 Side lose, not just me.

18 MS. GATELLI: You can't talk. You
19 gotta -- if you can't talk the talk you got
20 to walk the walk.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

22 MS. EVANS: Exactly, but sometimes it
23 depends on who is holding your hand.

24 MS. GATELLI: Yeah, well, I held a
25 lot of hands in 28 years.

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1 MS. EVANS: Me, too.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

3 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

4 MS. EVANS: No.

5 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

6 MS. GATELLI. Absolutely Yes.

7 MS. MAGNOTTA: Ms. Fanucci.

8 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

11 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
13 No. 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. GARVEY: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
15 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
16 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 106, 2009 -
17 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
18 CITY OF SCRANTON OFFICIALS TO APPLY FOR AND
19 EXECUTE A NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM
20 (NSP) GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF THREE
21 \$3,000,000.00 MILLION DOLLARS THROUGH A
22 PROGRAM OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,
23 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
24 DEVELOPMENT (DCED), AUTHORIZED AS PART OF
25 H.R. 3221-THE HOUSING AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY

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1 ACT, AND IF THE GRANT APPLICATION IS
2 SUCCESSFUL, ACCEPTING AND DISBURSING THE
3 GRANT FUNDS FOR THE "PROJECT" TO BE NAMED
4 "THE NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM"
5 (NSP).

6 MR. MCGOFF: What is the

7 recommendation of the Chair for the
8 Committee on Community Development?

9 MS. FANUCCI: As chairperson for the
10 Committee on Community Development, I
11 recommend final passage of Item 7-D.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

13 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
14 call, please.

15 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mrs. Gatelli.

18 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

19 MS. MAGNOTTA: Ms. Fanucci.

20 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

21 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. Courtright.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

23 MS. MAGNOTTA: Mr. McGoff.

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

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1 MS. GATELLI: Motion to adjourn.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Thank you
4 for your participation.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and
evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
and correct transcript of the same to the best of my

8 ability.

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CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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