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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, May 12, 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

MR. NEIL COOLICAN, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MR. AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call.

4 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

5 MS. EVANS: Here.

6 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

7 MS. GATELLI: Here.

8 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Here.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

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

15 MS. GARVEY: There is no business at
16 this time in Third Order.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mrs. Garvey.
18 Any announcements from council? Mrs.
19 Gatelli?

20 MS. GATELLI: This Saturday evening
21 at Holy Rosary Hall there will be a benefit
22 for Carol Cavaletti. She is a North
23 Scranton resident that is battling cancer.
24 The proceeds will assist Carol to pay her
25 medical fees and any other expenses that may

1 arise during her illness. Tickets are
2 available at the door. This summer the Boys
3 and Girl's Club has announced a Parket
4 Program. It runs from June 22 to August 28,
5 Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 1:00 and it's a
6 playground program with arts and crafts,
7 games, lunch, snacks, and it will be
8 conducted at Bancroft Elementary School,
9 John Adams, McNichol's Plaza and West
10 Scranton High School, and it is for children
11 ages 6 to 18.

12 I wanted to talk about a book that
13 was authored by a Clarks Summit resident and
14 it's called "Father's Day" and it's a
15 private eye novel and it's by Keith Gilman.
16 Keith was a resident of the Hill Section and
17 he was a 1977 graduate of Central High
18 School. He will have a book signing at the
19 Anthology Book Store on the 30th of May at
20 2:00. And that's all I have. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Please remember in your
22 prayers all those who have died this week,
23 particularly, Olga Lucas, faithful member of
24 the Pinebrook Neighborhood Association and
25 downtown senior citizen center, and her

1 devoted family and friends she leaves
2 behind. Also, please pray for Molly Maraski
3 ski who passed away last night from cancer,
4 and Molly had just loss her husband to
5 cancer about a month and a half ago. They
6 leave behind two sons and I ask that
7 everyone please remember Molly, her husband,
8 Larry, and their children and family and
9 friends in your prayers.

10 Saturday, May 16, is Armed Forces
11 Day. The Armed Forces Day parade will kick
12 off at 10:45 in downtown Scranton. Please
13 come out and line the streets of our city to
14 honor our servicemen and woman. We owe them
15 that much.

16 And the Upper Hill Ecumenical
17 Committee invites everyone to partake in the
18 Friendly's Family Fun Night next Wednesday,
19 May 20, from five to eight p.m. A percentage
20 of the food receipts from those who dine at
21 Friendly's in Dunmore will be donated to St.
22 Francis of Assisi Kitchen, and that's it.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Mr. McGoff, I just
24 wanted to see if I could -- I think
25 possibly some people might speak on this and

1 maybe we can get this out of the way in the
2 beginning. I believe we all received a
3 letter from Mr. Jarbola, the District
4 Attorney, about us asking for a criminal
5 investigation into the tax office and just
6 some of the highlights he has there is that
7 he was under the impression, as we were,
8 this was a forensic audit and it wasn't and
9 I guess the disturbing thing is that he had
10 has not had one single conversation with
11 anyone from that office, so what he's saying
12 is, he can't do a criminal investigation
13 until there is audit and I would just like
14 Mr. Minora could you -- did you get this
15 letter or could you give us --

16 MR. MINORA: I read it.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: -- your opinion on
18 it?

19 MR. MINORA: It was in my box, I read
20 it.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Would you willing
22 to --

23 MR. MINORA: Sure. I actually took a
24 look at the analysis that they had on-line.
25 It's not a forensic audit. It's not an

7

1 audit. They're terming it an analysis. As

2 far as I know, that's not an accounting term
3 that has any kind of credibility for
4 anything, and in order to proceed with a
5 criminal charge, a very basic thing you have
6 to prove in a theft is that there was
7 something missing. This analysis doesn't
8 say there is anything missing. I know what
9 Mr. McGovern said in the newspaper, but if
10 you take a look at that analysis on pages 12
11 through 14, which is what I looked at it,
12 doesn't say money is missing. It says it's
13 unaccounted for. Unaccounted for is not a
14 theft and a Court of law would throw out a
15 criminal charge based on that.

16 I read Mr. Jarbola's letter, he
17 asked for a forensic audit, I think he and
18 everybody else thought it was a forensic
19 audit for a year, and a forensic audit would
20 be the necessary basis to begin a criminal
21 charge for a theft because it would show
22 money. Well, it would show whether or not
23 money was missing and if money were missing
24 then he would have credible evidence of a
25 theft. There is no credible evidence of a

1 theft in this report. I don't know whether

2 it is or it isn't, but I can tell you for
3 sure there is no credible evidence in this
4 report of a theft and it would be really
5 dereliction of duty to just try and arrest
6 somebody without evidence.

7 MR. COURTRIGHT: So where do we go
8 from here? What did we do?

9 MR. MINORA: Well, I think, you know,
10 the first step if there is a question of
11 criminality and, incidentally, this analysis
12 indicates there isn't any. Now, it's an
13 analysis, it's not a forensic audit, so is
14 that credible? I don't know. The first
15 step would have to be a forensic audit, and
16 I can tell you I have been in the District
17 Attorney's Office 32 years, there is no
18 Forensic Auditing Division. It's a very
19 expensive undertaking and in a situation
20 like this, I'm no expert, but it would be
21 well into the hundreds of thousands, if not
22 more. I mean, this analysis was, I don't
23 know was in the paper --

24 MR. COURTRIGHT: We've already spent
25 \$130,000 and counting.

9

1 MR. MINORA: Right.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: For this?

3 MR. MINORA: Right. Spent 130,000
4 for this and, I mean, I understand it
5 provides guidelines and going forward,
6 ideas, which is great because, obviously,
7 you know, going forward there needs to be
8 some things looked at, but in retrospect in
9 terms of making a criminal charge out of
10 this, it can't be done. It can't be done.
11 Wouldn't get past a preliminary hearing.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: But I think this
13 council, and I think the people out in the
14 audience and the viewing area, would like to
15 know for sure what's happened so the only
16 way you are telling me that is going to
17 happen if we get a forensic audit, which we
18 haven't gotten yet, we paid \$130,000, we are
19 still paying, I would suggest that we stop
20 paying. You know, what are we paying for
21 right now?

22 MR. MINORA: I don't know. But
23 without a forensic audit, frankly, you don't
24 have anything -- I mean, by the very name a
25 forensic audit indicates that it is for

10

1 legal purposes, for a legal outcome of some
2 kind, criminal or civil, and that's the

3 basis of a forensic audit. It looks to any
4 criminality or some fraud of some kind.
5 That's what they do and this -- it starts
6 out by saying it's not a forensic audit,
7 it's not a -- what does it say? It's not an
8 audit, it's not a review, and it's not an
9 attestation. Those are all things that
10 would be guidelines of some kind set forth
11 by, you know, the certified public
12 accountants, and will give you something,
13 but this, as I said, gives guidelines going
14 forward and I don't think it's nothing, it
15 has guidelines going forward on how to
16 handle accounts, you know, with tomorrow's
17 money and next week's money, but looking
18 backwards, no, it doesn't do any of that in
19 a very good way.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: So I guess we
21 thought we paid for a forensic audit,
22 somebody dropped the ball and we didn't get
23 a forensic audit and now the three taxing
24 bodies are going to have to decide if
25 whether they want to pay for a real forensic

11

1 audit in order for us to go forward; is that
2 --

3 MR. MINORA: That's exactly right.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: -- forward. All
5 right.

6 MS. FANUCCI: I mean, I was under the
7 assumption that's what we were getting and
8 we feel misled in that department.

9 MR. MINORA: I understand.

10 MS. FANUCCI: And especially the fact
11 that we waited so long to get nothing. We
12 actually received nothing in return.

13 MR. MINORA: Well, it's -- as far as
14 looking back and looking for criminality or
15 fraud or that kind of think, there isn't
16 anything in there that you can point to as
17 particularly helpful. As I said, it has
18 guidelines for going forward so that extent
19 if it couldn't have been done internally at
20 least they did that from an external
21 standpoint.

22 MS. FANUCCI: My next thing, and I
23 think we should send a letter finding out,
24 how did they figure out we were \$12 million
25 ahead and it was gone because it's

12

1 inaccurate. Their first assumption is
2 wrong. The claim in the beginning was not
3 accurate.

4 MR. MINORA: Well, there's a --

5 MR. FANUCCI: I mean, you can't say
6 it was there if you can't find it now.
7 Where is it?

8 MR. MINORA: Well, there were a lot
9 of loose comments that really --

10 MS. FANUCCI: Yeah. Exactly.

11 MR. MINORA: -- that had no basis I
12 think.

13 MS. FANUCCI: I'm sorry, I didn't
14 mean to take on your role, but it's
15 frustrating.

16 MR. MINORA: I didn't do it.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thank you.

18 MR. MINORA: You are welcome.

19 MS. GATELLI: I would just like to
20 say that I attended the meeting last Friday
21 at the Commissioner's Office with the school
22 district and the county and the city
23 represented and we did discuss the matter
24 and they are going to have the solicitors
25 get together and try to all agree with the

13

1 declaratory judgment that we made last week
2 here at this particular meeting. They all
3 agreed that that was something that they
4 wanted to do, but they had to go back to

5 their board and see if the school board
6 would agree with those proceedings, so that
7 the solicitors will be meeting to go forward
8 with the declaratory judgment and the next
9 meeting is next Thursday at 2:15 with all of
10 the interested parties, and that's all I
11 have to report from the meeting.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Thanks.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Okay. Citizens
14 participation. Andy Sbaraglia.

15 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
16 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, a
17 few words on 7 -- I guess it's 5-B. It
18 seems like we are going to come into
19 \$2,318,352 for some projects. There is a,
20 well you got the backup there, they did a
21 lot of different ways of doing it, but the
22 portion of it for \$916,485, which was the
23 second part of it, 300 is supposed to go for
24 roads, \$400,000 for -- \$300,000 for roads,
25 \$400,000 for job creation, but the

14

1 administration cost is \$66,485. Who
2 actually does the administration on that?
3 Would that be our good office down there?

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think so.

5 MR. SBARAGLIA: The SRA or down there
6 at HUD? One of them, huh? Okay. The
7 second is 5-C, our costs overrun on our
8 bridge. You know what, originally, they
9 were going to do that bridge for \$1.5
10 million, it then went up to \$7,025,000 so
11 forth and so on. Now it's up to \$8,735,250
12 or an overrun so far of \$1,710,000. This is
13 Lackawanna Avenue in reverse. We are going
14 to spend \$30 million and still climbing on
15 the 5000 block and now on the other end we
16 are going to spend God knows how much more.
17 All I know is something is wrong somewhere.
18 Well, it's hear nor there.

19 Now, we all know, I don't really
20 like to get into it too much, but some of
21 the things draw you in and you got to ask
22 questions, like Carl Greco, \$6,050 to the
23 mayor's campaign. Now, we all know he got a
24 job with I think with Scranton Redevelopment
25 Authority, and then we have some more money

15

1 given Boscov's. We just gave him \$3 million
2 now he gives back I think it's \$6,000 to the
3 campaign. You start looking at the amount
4 of money that was received by this man and
5 start looking at all of the names and you

6 will see a names with a lot of construction
7 going on with the city tied in with this.

8 Now, I'm not saying it's illegal,
9 I'm just saying something is wrong with the
10 way the system runs. We got to get away
11 from this type of a system even if the
12 citizens have to pay for the campaigns for
13 -- like they do for the presidential
14 campaigns so much money, we got to do it
15 here in the states -- I mean, in the State
16 of Pennsylvania because you don't know if
17 there is illegal or not illegal. I have no
18 way of knowing it. All I can say is we give
19 the man \$3 million, he gives back \$6,000, I
20 mean, it's just not quite right. Now, I'm
21 not saying it's illegal, I'm just saying
22 it's not right and the lot of these things
23 are people having contracts, but in the
24 city. That's not right. Somewhere we got
25 to pay for these campaigns. It's the only

16

1 way we are ever going to get an honest
2 government inside anywhere in this age.

3 The system that we have now is
4 inherent corrupt, there is no question about
5 that, because they are out there getting

6 money from all kind of pacts, this, that and
7 whatever and things are done by the amount
8 of money they receive or they call it an
9 ear. They are not bribing a politician,
10 they are giving money so they can lend an
11 ear. Now, it's semantics. There is
12 something wrong with semantics. You can't
13 call one thing one thing and another. It
14 just don't smell right. Like you used to
15 say, there is something rotten in Denmark
16 and there probably is a fish, and if you
17 keep it long enough it stinks. In politics
18 it's getting like that, and that's sad. We
19 got to turn from the way we with are doing
20 it to a knew way. There has got be a
21 different way and a better way. We don't
22 want to ruin democracy, but it's being
23 trampled on. The people are being stepped
24 upon in a lot of different ways and they
25 shouldn't be.

17

1 Government, like I said, for the
2 people, by the way, it should be theirs.
3 Well, I'm not going to get off the soap box.
4 Thank you. Ozzie Quinn.

5 MR. QUINN: Ozzie Quinn, Scranton/
6 Lackawanna County Taxpayers' Association,

7 Incorporated. First, I'd like to say that
8 our interview with the tax collector
9 candidates, Bill Courtright and Mrs. Flynn
10 will be shown for the first time tomorrow
11 night at 9:00 p.m. on ECTV.

12 As long as I'm going to talk about
13 the tax collector and your argument before,
14 again, we are going to have to pay for that
15 forensic audit because somebody wasn't
16 paying attention down there. Somebody
17 wasn't paying attention, so there no was
18 communication. We have to pay for it, the
19 taxpayers. Even if the AG does it, the
20 Attorney General, it's our money. It's
21 ashamed.

22 And, Mrs. Gatelli, I got five phone
23 calls today about South Side about the mayor
24 debate last night, they said they never saw
25 the mayor over there in eight years.

18

1 Now, we are \$170 million in debt
2 principle only, all right? I hope that
3 soaks in everybody. Wage tax is 2.4 and
4 Mr. Doherty promised eight years ago to
5 decrease it. No way. Nonprofits he
6 promised, too. He didn't do a thing.

7 Now, let me speak about our lecture
8 at the church I go to. In the Catholic
9 church a lecture gets up and reads Holy
10 scriptures. Well, let me tell you
11 something, I got a piece -- I got a piece --
12 a couple of pieces of mail that would be
13 hypocritical to get up there and read Holy
14 scriptures and call people like that, their
15 families that, obstructionist, ineffective,
16 embarrassing, destructive. How would you
17 like to have your little son or daughter
18 read that? That's terrible. And that man
19 is a lecture. He is a hypocrite and it's
20 time we vote him out. There is no --

21 MR. MCGOFF: That's out of order
22 Mr. Quinn.

23 MR. QUINN: I can speak when I want
24 to speak. The lawyer will tell me when.

25 MR. MINORA: You can't advocate a

19

1 candidate from that podium. You know that.
2 We have had this discussion before.

3 MR. QUINN: What's that? What case
4 you quoting? The clock is off now. What
5 case are you quoting so I can look it up?
6 Give me a citation. Can you give me the
7 citation? You can't give me the citation.

8 You know, I went to an agency once
9 and I complained, and the guy who was head
10 of that agency said to me, "If you don't
11 like those people and the way they are doing
12 it then vote them out."

13 Let's vote them out, Mrs. Gatelli,
14 Mrs. Fanucci --

15 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Quinn, you are out
16 of order.

17 MR. QUINN: Thank you.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Bob Bolus.

19 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.
20 Bob Bolus, Scranton. Such hostilities.
21 It's so much fun to come here. On the gas
22 line, the leachate -- or the line going from
23 the Landfill Alliance up through Dunmore,
24 you know, I brought it up several times, and
25 I haven't heard any comments about any

20

1 emergency plans in place or we're going to
2 charge a fee for the gas going through that,
3 pass legislation and put some money in our
4 coffers, and I think it's time now to act
5 about it instead of talking about it.

6 You know, it was interesting last
7 night, I don't know if any of you had the

8 opportunity to attend the debate, I found it
9 very refreshing, and it was educational, we
10 actually learned a different variety of
11 brain drain. All of us had a different
12 version of it, but the end result is that it
13 all comes down to the same people are
14 leaving Scranton. No matter which way we
15 want to classify it or which way we were
16 criticized for even answering it. We had
17 9,000 jobs, I have no clue where they are.
18 I would like to see them. We still have the
19 nonprofits taking advantage of all of the
20 people in the City of Scranton, the KOZ's,
21 and nothing has been done.

22 You know, we sit here and we see
23 money going out in campaigns, we see
24 legislation passed here for grants to do
25 something, do a study, hypothetically one on

21

1 Nay Aug, a study is done knowing full well
2 we have no money to build anything, yet the
3 good ole' boy club and the cronyism somebody
4 gets paid to do a study knowing full-well
5 the city has no money to do anything, and
6 that's what's got to stop. We have to go
7 back to the issues here of putting every
8 single contract, no matter what it is, out

9 to bid professional or otherwise. We have
10 lost that. We have allowed politics in this
11 city and game playing to take over the
12 people.

13 We get 80 some million dollars. You
14 have the same 80 some million dollars I'll
15 make you money, I'm not going to spend it,
16 that's for sure, especially if it's not
17 going to places it should, and I believe
18 that should be the theme of everyone.

19 We are sitting here, and I listened
20 to a lot of things last night and I have
21 listened to the council debates and, you
22 know, we all come here and we speak and why
23 do we do this? Because we have nothing
24 better to do? I don't think so. I think we
25 are all concerned and we are concerned for

22

1 where is Scranton going. We have listened
2 to all of the hype. We have listened to an
3 individual taking credit for a medical
4 school and how many people are going to stay
5 from this medical school in Scranton? Just
6 a curiosity question, how many doctors do
7 you think we are going to have stay in the
8 City of Scranton? A hundred, 200 are going

9 to stay here after they get an education?
10 How many people stay from the University of
11 Scranton or Marywood after they get their
12 degree or they come back and get their
13 master's? Do they stay here and build a
14 business.

15 And we this tremendous growth, we
16 have this tremendous tax base that's been
17 created, I don't know where it is, and maybe
18 I'm looking in the wrong direction. These
19 are the things this council or a future
20 council or a future mayor has to look at.
21 We have to stop the exodus of the city, we
22 have to stop the exodus of the money going
23 out and we need to settle contracts and we
24 need to stop playing games. That's the hard
25 thing that we do here.

23

1 You know, you can go and put into a
2 campaign one candidate had 500 people
3 contribute, gets a grant for something, that
4 gets better that you have a grant for four
5 for five grand, get \$150,000 payback, it's
6 better than going to a casino. Instead of
7 hedging a bet you get 100 percent of your
8 money, and that's what's happening here and
9 we have exposed ourselves to that.

10 And, you know, as we go went through
11 a campaign, each and every one of us, we
12 have learned a lot about each individual and
13 we have learned about the little secrets,
14 all of the little nooks and crannies out
15 there that are affecting the innocent
16 people. That's the kids that want to stay
17 here. That's the individuals that are
18 trying to build a life here, and it's the
19 seniors that are being destroyed by it.
20 It's so important now that we look to the
21 present and we figure out how we are going
22 to change the channel. It's not going to be
23 one individual doing, it's got to be all of
24 us. That's the people sitting home, that's
25 the people sitting here, the people that

24

1 attend, this is an issue that we should
2 start holding town meetings monthly, more
3 involvement in council and administrations,
4 in the government of this city, but more
5 importantly the people. Set up committees
6 where retired people or people want to
7 volunteer their services to help this city
8 get out it's debt. So, on May 19 I'm asking
9 everyone out there, this is your city, it's

10 your right, don't give it up. Go out and
11 vote, you have a lot of candidates running,
12 you have had plenty of time to make your
13 decision, but do what's right for yourself
14 and do what's right for the city and get out
15 and vote. Thank you.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Les Spindler.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Les Spindler. City
18 resident and homeowner, taxpayer. I just
19 want to set something straight that I said
20 last week. In mentioning council who was in
21 place when the South Side Complex and golf
22 course were sold, and I mentioned Brian Reap
23 as one of the council people, Brian Reap was
24 the only person who voted not to sell the
25 South Side Complex and the golf course.

25

1 Next thing, I want to talk about
2 this flyer that came around last week where
3 the mayor says he is working to keep our
4 city safe. Well, last Thursday on Taylor
5 Avenue two men had a home invasion, two men
6 had guns and invaded a home, three people in
7 there, and where is the beat cop? Downtown.
8 There is no crime being committed downtown
9 the crime is in the neighborhoods and Chris
10 Doherty has got the beat cop downtown.

11 And another thing, he says how great
12 his statistics were about the crime in the
13 city, well, in 2008 there was five murders
14 in the city that were never reported to
15 Harrisburg. That's why statistics look so
16 good because none of the violent crimes are
17 reported to the right parties.

18 The next thing, Mrs. Gatelli and
19 Mrs. Fanucci, the two of you should be
20 ashamed of yourselves. Blaming the League
21 of Women Voter's for giving answers to Mrs.
22 Evans, to giving the questions to Mrs Evans,
23 that's why you didn't show up at the debate
24 last week, that's a crime. The League of
25 Women Voter's has been longer than the two

26

1 of you put together. They are a very
2 reputable group and you accused them of
3 giving questions to another person, that's
4 just outrageous. And, lastly, Mrs. Evans
5 wouldn't need the questions on what to
6 debate the two of you. And I think the two
7 of you owe an apology to the League of Women
8 Voter's, but I don't think you each have
9 enough class to do that.

10 Another thing, the mayor says that

11 Business Weekly names Scranton one of the
12 best cities to raise your children. Well,
13 as I just said before, that's because none
14 of the violent crimes are reported and
15 Business Week doesn't know about them. Is
16 there something funny about violent crimes,
17 Mrs. Fanucci? Maybe you wouldn't think it
18 was funny if it happened to you.

19 MS. FANUCCI: What are you talking
20 about, Les, move on.

21 MR. SPINDLER: As I said, five
22 murders weren't reported last year. Now,
23 last night it was reported that the
24 Brooking's Institute said the city is
25 suffering from brain drain, and brain drain

27

1 is our young children graduate from a
2 college are leaving this city. Now, who has
3 been mayor for seven and a half years now?
4 So I guess the Brooking's Institute is
5 saying Chris Doherty is the reason why we
6 have brain drain in this city.

7 And on that same subject, I put a
8 question to this council few months ago, I
9 said, "Can any of you up there give me one
10 reason why a college graduate would stay in
11 this city or a young family looking -- a

12 young couple looking to raise a family would
13 move into there," and nobody said anything.
14 There is nothing to keep young people in
15 this city contrary to what Chris Doherty
16 says, unless they want to get a job at
17 Poochie. Oh, I forgot, they closed.

18 Last night the mayor talked about
19 putting a library in South Scranton. The
20 city has nothing to do with the library
21 system. The library system falls under the
22 county, and the county has already said the
23 commissioners stated they are not giving any
24 money to a new library, so where does Chris
25 Doherty coming off to say he was wants to

28

1 build a library in the South Side. There is
2 nothing wrong with the downtown here. It
3 has been there for years and years, it's a
4 beautiful building, he just wants to waste
5 more of our tax dollars, at least the
6 commissioners are smart enough to know we
7 don't need one.

8 And back to what Andy Sbaraglia
9 said, Al Boscov came here begging for
10 \$3 million, it's funny he needed \$3 million
11 so bad but he had \$6,000 to give to Chris

12 Doherty's campaign. What is wrong with this
13 picture? I guess he didn't need the money
14 too bad if he \$6,000 to throw towards Chris
15 Doherty.

16 And lastly, the mayor said last
17 night that the DPW workers have the most
18 dangerous job. I almost fell out of my
19 chair when I heard that. To the
20 firefighters and police officers, I mean,
21 that's a slap in the face to them. These
22 men risk their lives every single day when
23 they leave their house going out on their
24 jobs. I'm not DPW doesn't have danger, but
25 for somebody to say that's a more dangerous

29

1 job than a police officers or a firefighter
2 that just -- it's just unbelievable, and I
3 know why the mayor said it because it's the
4 only union in the city that supports him.
5 Thank you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Lee Morgan.

7 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
8 I really appreciate the opportunity
9 opportunities I've had to watch most of the
10 candidates express what they believe is in
11 the best interest of the city and it's
12 future, and a lot of people may not like

13 certain candidates and, of course, that is
14 their prerogative, I think that they should
15 appreciate anybody who decides they are
16 going to run for an office no matter who
17 they may be or no whatever stand they make.

18 I did watch the mayor's debate
19 yesterday, I was there. I watched the
20 council debate at the taxpayer group and,
21 you know, of course, the one at the
22 University of Scranton. I'm looking forward
23 to watching the tax collector's debate, and
24 I also appreciated the opportunity to hear
25 what some of the candidates for school board

30

1 had to say.

2 So the most important thing that I
3 could say to everybody here tonight is that
4 on the 19th everybody should vote because
5 that's what's going to make this city move
6 forward one way or another and I would hope
7 that people talk to their neighbors and
8 their friends and ask them to come back to
9 the system because if you don't vote we
10 can't make the change we need, and I think
11 that's been a problem in America for a long
12 time because voting empowers everyone no

13 matter who they are, no matter their
14 economic status, their race, anything, and,
15 you know, if we are going to make change
16 it's going to require struggle and the
17 residents of this city your opportunity is
18 coming and I just hope, actually hope, that
19 everyone will vote irregardless of who you
20 vote for. Go to the polls, convince your
21 friends to go to the polls and let's move
22 this city forward.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Bill Jackowitz.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: Bill Jackowitz,
25 embarrassed South Scranton resident and

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1 member of the Taxpayers' Association. I
2 wasn't going to speak on this, but I have
3 to, the single tax office. I heard what
4 transpired with Mr. Courtright's question
5 prior to this, we are missing the entire
6 point. The entire point is, and what the DA
7 needs to be looking at is it's been reported
8 that state law, single tax office law of
9 1929 combining 23 accounts into one account
10 and also the hiring of a solicitor is in
11 violation of state law. That is what the DA
12 need to be looking at. You need to start
13 the investigation into the violation of the

14 state law single tax law 1929.

15 So, Mr. Courtright, please bring
16 this back up on motions. We know that a law
17 has been broken. Let's not worry about the
18 money, let's not worry about audits, that
19 will come once the investigation is started.
20 The DA needs to investigate the violation of
21 single tax law 1929. It's been reported,
22 the FBI has been in contact with them and
23 they confirm that that law has been broken,
24 so it needs to be checked into. So, please,
25 somebody look into it.

32

1 Okay, I would like to thank
2 Councilwoman Evans and candidates Joyce,
3 Rogan and Miller and Morgan for showing
4 respect to me and all of the citizens who
5 showed up for the debate and for those who
6 watched the debates on television. That
7 includes the taxpayers' debates and the
8 League of Women debates. The only way we at
9 citizens have an opportunity to know where
10 our candidates stands and what they stand
11 for is for them to answer our questions or
12 answer questions that are put forward to
13 them.

14 We, as the single taxpayers -- or
15 correction, the Taxpayers' Association have
16 never, ever abused anyone who has come to us
17 for debates. We have had Congressman
18 Kanjorski there, we have had Lou Barletta
19 there, we have had school board members
20 there, tax collectors there, mayor
21 candidates, and we never, ever once abused
22 anyone. So for Mrs. Gatelli to say she was
23 afraid because she wasn't going to be get a
24 fair shake, I have to disagree with you
25 because we would give you the same shake

33

1 that we gave everybody else.

2 And as far as not showing up for the
3 League of Women Voters, again, the League of
4 Women Voters's have been around for a long
5 time. They have not a partisan group. They
6 do not endorse any candidates, they never
7 have, and Patti Fowler deserves an apology.
8 She is a city employee. She works. She is
9 a city inspector, Mrs. Fanucci, and I don't
10 think that's funny.

11 MS. FANUCCI: I think it's --

12 MR. JACKOWITZ: I think she got --

13 MS. FANUCCI: And I --

14 MR. JACKOWITZ: Excuse me, I'm

15 talking.

16 MS. FANUCCI: Well, don't ask a
17 question.

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: I am talking.

19 MS. FANUCCI: Well, you asked me a
20 question.

21 MR. JACKOWITZ: I didn't ask you a
22 question, I think you are hearing things.

23 MS. FANUCCI: No. But that's okay.

24 MR. JACKOWITZ: But she deserves an
25 apology. She is a city inspector. She is

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1 hired by the city to go out and inspect, she
2 is a health inspector, and now we are going
3 to tarnish her reputation saying that she
4 leaked questions and that's the reason why
5 we were afraid to go and talk and answer
6 questions to the be public, and that's
7 exactly what it is. You were afraid because
8 maybe you don't have the answers.

9 Okay, a trip down memory lane, 2005,
10 109 returned from Iraq sustaining seven
11 casualties. Mayor Doherty attends Syracuse
12 basketball game. No bonus for returning
13 city employees, veterans returning from
14 Iraq. Again, a slap in the face to

15 veterans. No wage tax reduction as promised
16 seven years ago by Mayor Doherty. No
17 contracts, police officers, \$13,000 raise
18 for the chiefs. No attendance at city
19 council meetings as promised seven years
20 ago. No town hall meetings with residents,
21 only speaks to the Chamber of Commerce state
22 of city address. Most of the people in the
23 Chamber of Commerce are not even Scranton
24 residents. \$175,000,000 deficit short-term,
25 \$400 million long-term. 6,000 jobs that's a

35

1 joke. 8.7 percent unemployment reality. If
2 6,000 were created why do we have an 8.7
3 unemployment rate in the area? I don't
4 understand it. Maybe someone during motions
5 can explain it to me. Thank you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Mike Dudek.

7 MR. DUDEK: My name is Mike Dudek,
8 608 Depot Street, Scranton, that's in the
9 Plot. I left a copy in the Union News for
10 everybody on city council for you to look at
11 at your leisure. Page six is what I would
12 like you to look at when you have an
13 opportunity. Those are the labor figures
14 provided by the Department of Labor on a
15 monthly basis to news outlets that publish

16 economic news. They pointed out the
17 unemployment rate in the area is
18 8.7 percent, for Lackawanna County it's 8.1,
19 but 12 months ago the Lackawanna County
20 unemployment rate was 5.5 percent. The
21 difference between 5.5 percent and
22 8.1 percent is 44.5 percent. That's the
23 rates of acceleration of unemployment in the
24 city.

25 In other words, there are no 6,000

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1 jobs created here. For 6,000 jobs to be
2 have been created, 10,400 jobs would have to
3 have been lost and the city police would
4 have been spending all day down by the
5 unemployment office trying to direct the
6 traffic in and out of the building with
7 10,400 jobs loss. The accurate numbers is
8 more like 4,400 jobs and no jobs gained.

9 Now, every now and then I try to
10 give some guidance to members of city
11 council, and when you are a council person,
12 you really have three things to do, you
13 research, you vote on issues based on the
14 research, and you are exposed to the public
15 like you are here at this meeting in order

16 to explain your vote, whether it would be a
17 meeting like this or any other type of
18 forum, okay? The way our country's
19 government is structured, and I don't care
20 what state you are in, no elected official
21 has more exposure to the voters or to the
22 people as a city or a borough council person
23 or Illinois in they are called aldermen.
24 You have more exposure to we, the people,
25 than any other elected official. There is

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1 no insulation between you and us. You
2 pretty much have to sit there and take it
3 and some of you have taken it with quite
4 good grace.

5 But one thing has happened that has
6 absolutely left me livid and left me very
7 angry and for once in my life I am not going
8 to pull a punch. Whenever an elected
9 official owes an explanation to the people
10 as was for instance last week with the
11 debate tore city council, for people not to
12 show up, especially incumbents to that
13 meeting, is one of the most despicable and
14 cowardly things I could ever see, and I
15 don't want a coward on my city council.
16 That was cowardly on your part.

17 And, furthermore, to insult the
18 League of Women Voters who have been around
19 longer than the dough boys of World War I,
20 that's just showing such a tremendous lack
21 of integrity that I can't even begin to
22 contain my rage about it. Thank you.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Bob Martin.

24 MR. MARTIN: Distinguished members
25 of Council, Bob Martin, president of the

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1 FOP. I was away and missed some of meetings
2 in the last couple of weeks. Some of my men
3 and women that I represent said that there
4 has been some numbers banting around about
5 their salaries and their wages and their
6 benefits and kept calling me with concerns
7 about those numbers, so I thought maybe I
8 better just stop by and see it I can put
9 some perspective on these numbers. I heard
10 numbers of 80,000, 62,000.

11 MS. FANUCCI: 79.

12 MR. MARTIN: 62, 56,000 bating
13 around, I'm not sure, but I do know that
14 from last year those W-2's that were
15 submitted at that time our base wage was
16 40,009. We received longevity. We receive

17 longevity the same as seven other comparable
18 cities in the State of Pennsylvania:
19 Allentown, Bethlehem, Harrisburg, Lancaster,
20 Reading, Wilkes-Barre, and York. They all
21 receive longevity. It's not unique to
22 Scranton. We receive 1 percent for every
23 two years of service with a cap of 10
24 percent.

25 So, with those figures in mind, and

39

1 believe me, I'm really slow at this, a
2 little behind in school, we are at about
3 45,000 for base wage for a second year
4 patrolman, okay? It should be pretty close.

5 Ten percent, that would be giving
6 benefit of the doubt if the guy has got
7 20 years of service in he is getting 10
8 percent, 1 percent for every two years. On
9 top of that, you have to remember that this
10 year every patrol officer received a Court
11 award from the SIT violation from the
12 Commonwealth Court, seven judges en banc
13 which came through I think in the
14 neighborhood of about \$6,000, so now we have
15 a base wage for the year of 2008 about
16 \$50,000.

17 What I want everybody to understand

18 is that anything above and beyond that is
19 either overtime or extra duty. Now,
20 overtime, and I know that Chief Elliott has
21 received accolades from his supervisors and
22 his bosses that he has kept control over the
23 overtime, and I think he has done an
24 extremely good job in that area, so beyond
25 that, the only thing left is extra duty.

40

1 Extra duty is the CMC. We are hired at
2 football games, we are hired at Friendship
3 House, so essentially those guys that are
4 making 59, 60, \$65,000 a year, what they are
5 doing is they're out there working extra
6 jobs. They are out there working a second
7 job. No different than someone else, such
8 as yourself, that would go to work and then
9 come home and then go out and do another
10 job, so those are where the numbers are
11 coming from and that's what everybody that I
12 represent is concerned about.

13 But beyond that I don't think where
14 these numbers or why these numbers are as
15 important as everybody thinks they are
16 because again, we tried to negotiate, we did
17 negotiate July 27, 2008, came to an

18 agreement, left the table, two weeks later
19 it fell apart because the city wanted to
20 continue and add management rights.
21 October 1, same thing happened at the
22 University, a month a half later management
23 rights fell back on the table and the whole
24 deal fell apart.

25 So the point I'm driving home here

41

1 is that money and benefits is not the
2 contentious issue here. It's not the issue
3 that's driving this away from the table or
4 driving this to a relatively fair and
5 equitable solution to this. It's not -- we
6 are not the greedy people that everybody
7 thinks we are. This is about the management
8 rights. Those rights we are not going to
9 give up today or any time. The city wants
10 to take those rights for all mandatory
11 subjects of bargaining, our hours, our
12 schedules, includes our hours, our days off,
13 our vacations. They are mandatory subject
14 to bargaining. Comp time, overtime,
15 mandatory subject of bargaining. The
16 Recovery Plan strips those statutory rights
17 away from us, the comp time was taken away
18 from us. Longevity. We negotiated for it,

19 it was in our contract, 41 of our men and
20 women lost their longevity. It was striped
21 away from them just last July 7, July 8,
22 taken away, just a pay cut. Some of them
23 lost 3 or 4 percent.

24 These are the management rights that
25 the city talks about they we are not going

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1 to give up. This fight is not about
2 benefits and money as much as it is --
3 they're a major factor, don't misunderstand
4 me, they are major factor, but they are not
5 what this whole argument is about. Thank
6 you very much.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Stephanie Gawel.

8 MS. GAWEL: Hi, everybody, how are
9 you tonight? I strongly disagree with what
10 has been put out by the administration.
11 They have been concerned about the jobs
12 which it says, oh, we are trying to keep the
13 jobs in the city and we are trying to bring
14 them in, we know they tried to basically run
15 Buono out of business because they wouldn't
16 cow-toe to them.

17 We know that he basically put
18 Channel 61 out of business when it was

19 Scranton Today. I mean, that was Jack
20 Finnerty's dream, he is the one that started
21 it, he built it up by himself with some
22 help. He ran it from the library, he didn't
23 have to buy a building, it was 90 percent
24 volunteers. The only one that got paid was
25 the tech person. We need to thank Jack

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1 Finnerty, Leslie Collins, Attorney Brian
2 Lenahan, Emily Perry, Lynn Palalino, Karen
3 Bazzarri, Lorainne Tallo, Annette Palutis,
4 Dan Chefaro, Barbara O'Malley, Scott Thomas,
5 Lori Cadden and anyone else I might have
6 forgotten for all of the services they had
7 given us the ten years before the TV station
8 got taken out from underneath them.

9 Mr. Doherty says he is for citizens,
10 but 90 percent of the campaign money came
11 from people who didn't leave here in the
12 city, we all know that, it came from
13 Waverly, Philly, on and on. He never talks
14 to the people of the Scranton, never or he
15 would have been here a couple of different
16 times. The only time he showed up is to
17 Mr. McGoff in office. That's it. It's the
18 only time I have seen him in council. By
19 the way, welcome aboard.

20 got Southern Union that's got parking, the
21 whole nine yards. I think it's a good deal
22 for them, but they are moving to Dickson
23 City.

24 Please don't say the men and women
25 that put their lives on the line on a daily

45

1 basis don't deserve a little more than the
2 rest of us. They deserve a lot more. I
3 certainly don't have the built to do some of
4 the work they do and I don't have the
5 bravery, I'm a woos.

6 Okay, 75 percent -- as for the
7 Recovery Plan, probably 75 percent of the
8 citizens didn't read the small print. We
9 all believe the spin that was put on it.
10 You believe what you hear and that's why we
11 are where we are at. For the mayor to say
12 he wants the latest crime fighting gear,
13 well, we probably could have had, you know,
14 he had computers in the cars that were never
15 fixed for the longest time, we still don't
16 have cameras in the cars that would save us
17 so much money and save lives it's not even
18 funny, but he doesn't do it. We know that
19 there is no defibrillators in any of the
20 cars, not on one side or the other side, as

21 Mr. Courtright had mentioned. Now, that
22 stuff everybody knows, again, you can do
23 through state grants, federal grants, I bet
24 if you is the Marine Corp League they would
25 even, you know, do a fundraiser and get some

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1 monies together to get some of these stuff
2 for us, so I don't know. There is too much
3 missing. The only one playing the old
4 school politics is the mayor and Governor
5 Rendell. You don't have to be the smartest
6 kid on the block to see that.

7 Oh, by the way, like everyone else
8 ahead of me I would like to know where the
9 6,000 new jobs are. I can't figure it out.
10 I'm not the brightest math person in the
11 world, but I know if we have got an eight
12 point something in unemployment we don't
13 have 6,000 new jobs in the area. The Times
14 reported that -- well, I already went over
15 the contributions and truly we know he
16 doesn't really, you know, truly shows he is
17 not in touch with the average citizen of
18 Scranton, ones that struggle to pay the heat
19 bill, the water bill, the sewer bill, and
20 most importantly, the mortgage payments.

21 Could I finish up real quick?

22 MR. MCGOFF: Quickly.

23 MS. GAWEL: Okay. As for any of the
24 former mayors who are backing Mr. Doherty,
25 shame on you. I realize Jimmy Connors' job

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1 may be on the line, but when the mayor
2 doesn't think we should compensate our
3 firemen and policemen who went to overseas
4 to Iraq and Kuwait, shame on him. This
5 mayor never goes to cops or a fireman's
6 funeral to say thank you to the family for
7 their years of service. Mr. Connors does,
8 Mr. Peters does, etcetera. Thank you for
9 your consideration, Mr. McGoff.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Carl Kupchunas.

11 MR. KUPCHUNAS: Good evening. My
12 name is Carl Kupchunas, I'm a lifelong
13 resident of the City of Scranton. As we all
14 know, next Tuesday, May 19, is primary
15 election day. The Bill of Rights of the
16 United States give all citizens over the age
17 of 18 the right to vote. It is the right
18 that shouldn't be taken lightly. The
19 problem in our area is voter apathy. It's
20 very important that everyone who is
21 registered to vote do so. I cannot and will

22 not tell you who to vote for. I will give
23 you some information that maybe will help
24 you make a good decision when you go to the
25 polls on Tuesday.

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1 If you are in favor of wasteful
2 projects such as the Electric City sign of
3 Linden Street, the \$300,000 dog park, the
4 narrowing of the 500-block of Lackawanna
5 Avenue, the bridge to no where and the ever
6 popular treehouse, you know what to do.

7 If you appreciate getting lied to by
8 a politician who took credit for the medical
9 college and the lower Greenridge flood
10 control project, you know what to do. We
11 all know Senator Mellow brought the medical
12 college here. The flood control project was
13 the Army Corp of Engineers project was which
14 first proposed and started through the
15 Connors' administration.

16 If you believe a politician who is
17 first closing the fire companies, then does
18 a switch because it's unpopular with the
19 citizens, you know what to do.

20 If you appreciate having your
21 mailbox filled are propaganda one but seven

22 times, which is not only very annoying but
23 it's also very environmentally unfriendly by
24 a politician who claims to be a friend of
25 the environment, you know what to do.

49

1 If you are an in favor of the local
2 biased newspapers and their recent seven
3 days newsletter in favor of certain
4 politician when newspaper are supposed to be
5 fair and even in their coverage of all
6 candidates, not just the one, then you know
7 what to do. You can make your voice heard
8 by canceling the subscription to this bias
9 publication and let them now how you feel
10 about the uneven coverage of the elections.

11 If you are into fantasy and the
12 imaginary 6,000 jobs where no one seems to
13 know where the 6,000 jobs are if they even
14 exist when unemployment is at a record high
15 in Scranton, you know what to do.

16 If you are no respect for our
17 hardworking police and firefighters who put
18 their lives on the line protecting the
19 citizens of Scranton and the administration
20 who doesn't want to give them a fair and
21 proper wage, who had to wait seven years for
22 a contract, that's un heard of, you know

23 what to do.

24 If you enjoy paying the 25 percent
25 tax increase and one of the highest wage

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1 taxes in the state and possibility of more
2 25 percent tax increase in these tough
3 economic times, you know what to do.

4 If you like having your tires
5 damaged, your car alignment damaged by
6 potholes which like many affect all of the
7 city streets, you know what to do.

8 If you are in favor of all of the
9 empty buildings and, of course, the white
10 elephant of the Southern Union building on
11 Lackawanna Avenue along with the record
12 number at homes for sale in the City of
13 Scranton, you know what to do.

14 However, if you want change, a
15 change that the citizens of Scranton need
16 and badly deserve, no more distressed city
17 status which has been that affect for
18 17 years you can get this chance. All it
19 takes is a strong of the pen next Tuesday
20 and the citizens of Scranton will have
21 spoken. Remember, choose your candidates
22 carefully and end the current rubber stamp

23 mentality. Make your voice heard and vote
24 next Tuesday. Thank you for your time.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Liz Hubbard.

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1 MS. HUBBARD: That's a hard act to
2 follow. Just a couple of questions and a
3 couple of -- several weeks ago when Mr.
4 McGovern he talked about the companies that
5 had been taking the wage tax out of people's
6 salaries and not turning it over to the
7 single tax office, does anybody know if
8 that's being pursued because I would think
9 that would be illegal from my own years that
10 I worked with my husband in our business.
11 You don't deduct money from people's
12 paychecks and then keep it, you know, and if
13 that is, in fact, happening or has happened
14 what is the tax office doing about it?
15 Anybody have any idea?

16 MS. EVANS: I believe they indicated
17 that evening that they were pursuing those
18 types of cases legally.

19 MS. HUBBARD: Okay. Another thing,
20 last night at the debate the mayor made a
21 big point of saying how he was for the
22 neighborhoods, but in '06 when they had that
23 flood meeting, and I believe Mr. Hubbard

24 spoke on it several weeks ago and elaborated
25 on what had gone on at the meeting, the only

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1 thing he neglected to mention was that the
2 mayor slept through that whole meeting and
3 there were many people that witnessed it and
4 we actually I think somebody has it on tape.

5 Channel 61, the money that was used
6 to renovate Mansour's building up there, are
7 we going to get any of that back now that
8 they are not there any more? If somebody
9 could give me answers to that.

10 And, Judy, could you explain it me
11 what a master's equivalency is?

12 MS. GATELLI: I'll do that in
13 motions.

14 MS. HUBBARD: Oh, I may not be here
15 for that.

16 MS. GATELLI: Well, you will watch
17 it on TV. I'm going to answer all of my
18 questions in motions.

19 MS. HUBBARD: Are you making a note
20 of that question?

21 MS. GATELLI: I have a note.

22 MS. HUBBARD: Okay. Anything being
23 done about the skunks because they are still

24 there? Well, I guess I'll have to wait
25 until motions or else catch you tomorrow on

53

1 TV. And, by the way, Sherry, that's a cute
2 little dog, what is it?

3 MS. FANUCCI: A miniature toy
4 poodle.

5 MS. HUBBARD: He's adorable.

6 MS. FANUCCI: Liz went by the house
7 and actually thought there was a skunk on my
8 porch and it was my dog. She is black and
9 white and small. So, I mean, the irony of
10 the whole thing was actually very funny for
11 us.

12 MS. HUBBARD: But anyway, I would
13 like people out there and make sure
14 everybody gets out and votes on Tuesday
15 preferably for Gary and Janet and her team.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Please, that's out of
17 order, Mrs. Hubbard, you know that.

18 MS. HUBBARD: I'm entitled once in
19 awhile to get out of order.

20 MR. MCGOFF: It's out of order Dan
21 Hubbard.

22 MR. HUBBARD: Good evening, Council,
23 Danielle Hubbard, lower Greenridge. A
24 couple quick points tonight really based at

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Mrs. Gatelli. I have been home the last few

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meetings and watching a couple of comments

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were made: One, Judy had made a comment

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that the D.A.'s Office had told her to wand

4

the residents coming into this building.

5

Well, my question was who had ordered or

6

told the police department to do the

7

wandering?

8

Secondly, what were they searching

9

for because under Pennsylvania state law

10

this is a public building and residents are

11

allowed to carry weapons in and out of this

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building freely under law. In Pennsylvania,

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schools and courthouses you are not allowed

14

to carry a firearm on you. At the

15

courthouse if you go into the security check

16

point with a firearm, they do provide you

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with a secure and safe lockbox for your

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firearm at the security check point. So if

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you were to wand residents in this facility,

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which is not marked or posted anywhere in

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the building disallowing firearms, and not

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to mention it is a public facility, you

23

would have had to provide residents with a

24

safe and secure lockbox that night.

1 the potential Second and Fourth Amendment
2 violation by wandering residents and possibly
3 searching and seizing any firearms that you
4 would have had on them that night who gave
5 that order to do it because that is
6 protected under the state constitution and
7 the federal constitution. In Pennsylvania,
8 you actually can openly carry a firearm
9 without a permit in plain sight of public --
10 in public facilities other than courthouses
11 and schools, so who gave the order for the
12 Scranton Police Department to search, in my
13 mind illegal search, residents coming into a
14 public facility for weapons that they would
15 have been legally allowed to carry in and
16 out of this facility?

17 Anybody have an answer? I mean,
18 that's a pretty serious violation. You
19 cannot just decide on one day that you are
20 going to put up an intimidating security
21 force at the door and wand residents at a
22 public facility that they are by law allowed
23 to carry firearms in and out of. And let's
24 talk about intimidation. You know, comments
25 were made about you know, council members

1 feel intimidated in chambers. Well,
2 Mr. Quinn was just gaveled the first time as
3 being out of order, he was not rowdy, he was
4 just told he was out of order because he had
5 been I guess campaigning. The officer
6 behind me took ten steps closer to Mr. Quinn
7 that nobody saw on camera, and you want to
8 talk -- I mean, you are intimidated?

9 You have a police officer in council
10 chambers who walks to the podium as soon as
11 somebody is gaveled out of order. I mean,
12 that's intimidation. That's actually very
13 intimidating to a lot of residents that want
14 to come and speak.

15 And secondly, my last point in
16 closing was under what context is it okay
17 for an elected official from her seat during
18 a public meeting to use the term Nazi in
19 reference to a resident in this city? You
20 said it. It's on the record. What's the
21 definition that you would use to defend
22 using or calling somebody a Nazi from your
23 seat on council during a public meeting?

24 There is a lot of people in this
25 city that are offended by that term. I

1 lived right below a lady in Tel Aviv that
2 was a survivor of the camps and just the
3 mention of that term put her in tears
4 because she lost her mother and father and
5 her entire family and she was a sole
6 survivor, so to throw that term around in
7 these chambers in this country in this day
8 and age that loosely is embarrassing and
9 outright wrong.

10 And the residents of this city
11 deserve an apology, the Jewish community of
12 this city deserves an apology, and to be
13 honest with you I think quite honestly it's
14 part of your liable suit where you were
15 actually suing somebody for making a
16 reference to you using that term, so you
17 really don't have a grounds to sue somebody
18 for linking you to that term when you sit
19 here under your official capacity and throw
20 it around like it's nothing. That's a very
21 serious term to be used from an official
22 seat by an official person who is up for
23 reelection in this city. Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Donna Dominick.

25 MS. DOMINICK: Donna Dominick,

1 homeowner and taxpayer. I am here for two
2 things because I'm just frustrated. As far
3 as these 6,000 jobs go Mrs. Schumacher last
4 week said a friend of hers wanted to know
5 about them. Everybody here is talking about
6 the 6,000 jobs. I haven't met anybody in
7 the last week and a half that doesn't want
8 to know about these 6,000 jobs. From where
9 I'm sitting, Mr. Doherty in the last few
10 days has had everything under the sun
11 printed in the Times. I think to put the
12 issue to rest all he has to do is have all
13 of those jobs, the 6,000, published in the
14 Times. I think that would put it to bed
15 once and for all. Everybody would know what
16 those jobs were.

17 Second thing, and this is like
18 beating a dead horse, when it comes to the
19 reducing firefighters or closing engine
20 companies or fire stations, Mr. Doherty
21 said, "Not in the near future," Mr. Hayes
22 said "Not at this time," well, you can't
23 expect that he would say anything other than
24 that, it's election time. I mean, he would
25 have to be a very stupid man to say anything

1 other than that. I don't think you can
2 believe anything that come out of his mouth
3 if his tongue came notarized.

4 And I have one little four line poem
5 I would like it say before I leave and that
6 is: Our firefighters risk their lives day
7 and night, yet we have a mayor who continues
8 the fight. His view of our police officers
9 is very, very dim, so why on earth would you
10 reelect him. Thank you.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Charlie Newcomb.

12 MR. NEWCOMB: Good evening, Council.
13 Just two short ones tonight. I would like
14 to remind everybody next week to go out and
15 vote on Tuesday and I would just like to
16 remind everybody no matter who you are going
17 to vote for look at what these candidates
18 stand for for city council, for mayor. Look
19 at the problems in Luzerne County, two
20 judges going to jail, school directors
21 arrested, corruption. Everybody just look,
22 and you know what, the biggest thing to do
23 is follow the money whenever you are going
24 to vote for a candidate.

25 My opinion is, whether it's

1 Mr. Doherty, Mr. DiBileo or Mr. Bolus, you
2 have to ask yourselves, people listening out
3 there seeing all of the billboards, TV
4 commercials or whatever you do, why would
5 you have to spend \$1 million, and whether
6 it's \$700,000, \$800,000, a million dollars,
7 just think of these numbers, for a position
8 that pays \$50,000 a year.

9 So, all I could say and is just
10 listen to what they have to say, look at all
11 of your contributors, who gives to who, who
12 works where, who has a job here or who has a
13 job there and just look and see how much
14 money these people spend to get elected,
15 because like Andy Sbaraglia said in the
16 beginning, something has to change. That's
17 way, way too much for anybody to be spending
18 on any kind of candidacy. It's almost like
19 the person with the most money wins the job.

20 And one other thing I would like to
21 touch on, Mr. Martin touched on it a little
22 bit, but Mrs. Fanucci, when Stu Renda was
23 here last week and he gave you all of them
24 numbers, did he give you a breakdown on like
25 how much of those numbers were, let me think

1 of the word here, private money, for like --

2 MS. FANUCCI: Well, it depends on
3 what you are saying? You mean, like what is
4 the base salary, what is the overtime?

5 MR. NEWCOMB: I'll elaborate what I
6 mean by private money. It would like, in
7 other words, we are going to use a police
8 officer, for example. Like, let's say he
9 made \$80,000, I'll just use that for a
10 number.

11 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

12 MR. NEWCOMB: Okay. Well, the
13 people, I'm sure you know or maybe you
14 don't, but what the people out there would
15 have to know is, see, if you have a second
16 job or I have a second job you get two
17 W-2's. Like, in other words, if I work say
18 for K-Mart and I work for my company --

19 MS. FANUCCI: This is the W-2, this
20 would be from the city. So, yeah, this is
21 from the city.

22 MR. NEWCOMB: So what I'm trying to
23 say is with any private money, what I mean
24 by private money is if they were work CMC
25 for eight hours, what has to happen is if

1 it's private and that's all private money
2 they have to pay the city, and that's a
3 straight rate, and then it goes to that
4 police officer, but it's all added into
5 their W-2's.

6 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

7 MR. NEWCOMB: So what I'm trying to
8 say is somebody that makes sixty, seventy or
9 eighty thousand dollars, there could be
10 thirty to thirty-five thousand dollars of
11 that that comes from private money which
12 means if let's say you had affair at a
13 wedding or something at the Cultural Center
14 and you had to have a policeman or a fireman
15 there, well, you got to pay them a straight
16 eight hours or whatever or whoever long they
17 have to get paid, so you have to pay the
18 city. You don't pay them, you can't do that
19 anymore, you have to pay the city and then
20 the city puts it into their paychecks. So I
21 just wanted to know if you broke down --

22 MR. FANUCCI: There was a breakdown
23 between overtime, which would be anything
24 above what their normal salary was.

25 MR. NEWCOMB: Right.

1 MS .FANUCCI: Longevity pay. Yeah,

2 everything was broken down.

3 MR. NEWCOMB: But, I mean, he gave
4 the numbers from the private money, too?

5 MS. FANUCCI: He did. Well, he
6 didn't say -- it wasn't private money, it
7 was overtime. I believe it was an overtime
8 section of money that was outside of your
9 normal salary.

10 MR. NEWCOMB: Right, but I just want
11 to say overtime is if they get time and a
12 half, the employees.

13 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

14 MR. NEWCOMB: You don't you get --
15 you get a straight rate for private, I just
16 wanted to know.

17 MS. FANUCCI: I don't remember seeing
18 a separate section of private.

19 MR. NEWCOMB: When you get those
20 numbers look at it because it's very
21 important. Like, if I was a policeman and I
22 worked the St. Patrick's parade extra time;
23 well, then I would get time and half.

24 MS. FANUCCI: Right.

25 MR. NEWCOMB: But if I went tomorrow

1 and I had to go to CMC of the Friendship

2 House or something and I wanted to stay
3 eight hours, I get a flat right, you know,
4 like my hourly rate and you have to --

5 MS. FANUCCI: We could ask them for
6 that.

7 MR. NEWCOMB: Yeah, just because,
8 you know, there is a big difference and, you
9 know, there is a big difference in the money
10 when they do that.

11 MS. FANUCCI: I definitely will ask
12 him for that, for that breakdown.

13 MR. NEWCOMB: Okay, thanks.

14 MS. FANUCCI: Sure.

15 MR. NEWCOMB: And again, I would just
16 like to say when everybody goes out to vote
17 next week just vote your conscience, vote
18 your heart and like they say just follow the
19 money and see where it goes. Thanks.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Any other speakers?

21 MR. TALIMINI: Joe Talimini, citizen
22 of Scranton. I would like to mention a
23 couple of things. First of all, I want to
24 thank Mrs. Evans for mentioning the fact
25 that be this coming Saturday is Armed Forces

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1 Day. If it wasn't for the Armed Forces I
2 can assure you that none of you be sitting

3 up here and none of us would be out there,
4 so it would be a very good idea if during
5 the course of your campaigning you manage to
6 show up for Armed Forces Day. It won't be a
7 drunk fest. There won't be any big parades,
8 big bands or anything else, but it is a
9 chance to honor the veterans.

10 And I'd also like to mention the
11 fact that somewhere along the line the
12 United States I think introduced a
13 constitution back in 1776 or 1777 or
14 something like that.

15 MR. MCGOFF: 1789.

16 MR. TALIMINI: 1789, thank you,
17 Mr. McGoff, and I think there was the first
18 of the 14 amendments that were added later
19 on, something about free speech. I think
20 the free speech applies to the citizens of
21 in this room as well as to those of you who
22 sit up there. So, Mr. McGoff, I
23 respectfully ask gavel a citizen out of
24 order that you also gavel your committee
25 members out of order because they, too, are

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1 just as guilty as some of the people who
2 speak out, and I noticed you have been very

3 reluctant to do that, but I ask that you
4 please do that from now on.

5 On Friday is another day that nobody
6 seems to know about and that's the
7 policeman's memorial day, and it's a very
8 important day. We have a little situation
9 out in the hallway which should have been
10 resolved a long time ago.

11 I would like to point out something
12 that happened to me about a week ago on
13 Saturday, and it's the first time in
14 58 years it's happened. I was driving into
15 Wal-Mart, there was a car directly behind
16 me, and when I pulled into my parking space
17 the gentleman pulled up directly behind me
18 and parked his car. He got out of his car
19 and he walked up, and I happened to have
20 purple heart license plates on there, and he
21 asked me if I was a purple heart veteran and
22 I said, yes, I was. He extended his hand
23 and he shook my hand and he said he was with
24 the Friends of the Forgotten. I had no idea
25 who they were, but in 58 years it's the

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1 first time anybody has acknowledged the fact
2 that we did have a war in Korea, and I'm
3 very pleased to say I got the gentleman's

4 card. It says, "Thank you for your service.
5 Friends of the Forgotten, Northeast wing of
6 Pennsylvania."

7 The other thing I would like to
8 mention, and this is I guess it could be
9 ruled politics, but we have an election
10 coming up next Tuesday, Washington West has
11 been the polling place for District 16-1,
12 nobody has acknowledged it. I think they
13 had a paid legal advisement in the paper on
14 Sunday, 16-1 will not be voting at
15 Washington West next week they will be
16 voting instead at the United House, and I
17 would like to point that out for all the
18 viewers, all the seniors who can't come
19 here, the people who don't know because
20 unless they are advised this way a lot of
21 people are going to be going to Washington
22 West and when they find out they can't vote
23 there they are going to go home. So I don't
24 know who is derelict in this, but I would
25 like to make a very, very specific note of

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1 that. There will be no voting at Washington
2 West this year, it will be at United House,
3 and I understand it's only for one year, so

4 thank you very much floor your time.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening. Marie
6 Schumacher, resident and member of the
7 Taxpayers' Association. First, the big fib,
8 the 6,000 jobs created or the claim I should
9 say of 6,000 jobs created. Probably the
10 easiest method of measuring job volume in
11 the city is to use the EMS/LST amounts that
12 are included in the budget. This EMS/LST
13 tax is imposed at a flat amount of \$52 for
14 every worker earning over \$12,000 annually,
15 so it's a simple matter of dividing the
16 amount budgeted by 52 to determine the
17 number of worker's earning over \$12,000.
18 Hardly a family sustaining amount in the
19 United States.

20 Using this formula for 2006, the
21 first year of this tax was imposed, you will
22 find there were 40,385 wage earners. In
23 2009, the wage earner's amount to 25,547, a
24 decline of 14,838. So we must conclude one
25 of three things: Either the Scranton

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1 workforce has declined by 14,838 or 14,838
2 workers slipped below the \$12,000 a year
3 threshold or there is an error in the 2009
4 budget.

5 Personally, after reading the
6 newspaper regularly and seeing all of the
7 drug arrests, I think that maybe the 6,000
8 jobs have been created in the underground
9 market and they are all drug sale's people.

10 Now, as to the 71 percent of the
11 voters being correct in vote for the
12 Recovery Plan. My main question is what
13 percent voted for the Recovery Plan because
14 the mayor in June of 2002 warned there would
15 be a tax increase if it wasn't approved?

16 Tonight during motions, I hope to
17 hear Mrs. Gatelli ask Mr. Minora two things:
18 One, Mr. Minora said -- or the analysis of
19 the single tax office said the budget was
20 exceeded and when they exceeded the budget
21 they dipped into tax revenues of the city
22 and assuming the boroughs and the county.
23 Now, what is that called? It sounds as
24 though it is theft from the city taxpayers
25 to me.

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1 And I would like and expect an
2 answer tonight on what the remaining road
3 blocks are before BRT must pay for the land
4 they have been using at 800 Providence Road.

5 I would like to know if OECD is
6 moving back to city hall in July or not. If
7 not, what will be the cost of their monthly
8 rent where they are if they are to remain in
9 the Scranton Life building?

10 I would like know if the city is
11 still at risk for the Village of Tripp Park
12 water runoff problem or has the developer
13 come up with the solution? Has any council
14 person investigated to see how our
15 permit/inspection process has failed in this
16 endeavor? This never should have happened
17 in the first place and I would like to
18 believe somebody up there is finding out
19 what went wrong.

20 And then last night the mayor said
21 we are building housing for the community
22 medical college students. I don't recall
23 seeing this item in the capital budget or in
24 the OECD budget line item. Where does the
25 medical college housing appear in the city

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1 budget? I'll look forward to those answers
2 during motions. Thank you.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

4 MS. WILLIAMS: Good evening. Joanne
5 Williams, homeowner and taxpayer. Well,

6 welcome to the negativity. You know, I was
7 going to come down here tonight and say a
8 few things, but once again I was approached
9 by Mrs. Hubbard and asked me why I'm here,
10 why do I come during election? Why?
11 Because I live in the city all my life and I
12 love the city and I have been here before
13 the cameras and I'm tired -- and they talk
14 about negative -- why people don't come here
15 and speak positive about the city, who would
16 want to come here in this room and take this
17 harassment? This is constant -- and the
18 looks by Fay Franus.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Please.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: It's terrible. Well
21 --

22 MR. MCGOFF: We are not going to use
23 names. It's out of order.

24 MS. WILLIAMS: Oh, but it's all right
25 when other people use names though, isn't

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1 it? That's okay.

2 I just want to touch on a few
3 things, Mr. Bolus all of a sudden is
4 pro-Genesis Wildlife Center, it's amazing.
5 I recall when the Wildlife Center first came

6 to the park these people poked fun at the
7 park, made fun of the monkeys, the TV's,
8 said the zoo was no place to put animals.

9 Mrs. Beck talked about me last week
10 about the signs and everything, I'm glad to
11 see her back and her husband, she can put
12 100 signs in her yard it's still a false
13 political statement. The mayor is not
14 closing fire houses.

15 Each week everybody speak on crime
16 and high taxes and how we can save money,
17 I'll say it again like I said a few years
18 ago, back a few years ago when a playground
19 was being built for children by volunteers I
20 didn't see -- well, they say my name, Mr.
21 McGoff, like Mr. Quinn, Mr. Bolus,
22 Mr. Spindler, Mr. Beck, and I can go on and
23 on and, Mrs. Evans, you weren't there either
24 and I know you told me you had a back
25 problem. Well, I have a back and neck

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1 problem, too, but all I did is paint and
2 help serve refreshments. I mean, where were
3 you people then? You want to raise to your
4 children, no volunteers, huh, at that time.

5 As far as the medical school it's
6 very, very dear and near to me. My husband

7 was diagnosed, my late husband, was
8 diagnosed with mild dysplasia syndrome in
9 2005, a form of leukemia. We had to go to
10 Philadelphia. We had to go Fox Chase in
11 Northeast Philadelphia. Gene's Hospital
12 which is supported by the students at Temple
13 University. Let me tell you, what a
14 beautiful sight it was to see those students
15 working with the doctors in that area and
16 trying to find a cure for leukemia. Yes, we
17 need a medical center. Why did the medical
18 center come here? Absolutely. The governor
19 helped, Senator Mellow helped, but Mayor
20 Chris Doherty sat down with four or five
21 doctors a few years back and wanted to know
22 what the city was like, what the people were
23 like, where were you going, was it a good
24 place to put a medical school. They saw the
25 vision there thanks to Chris Doherty.

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1 And I'm going to tell you one more
2 thing, I'm going to say it, get out and vote
3 people on May 19. Get out and vote for the
4 people who have made the hard and tough
5 decisions to make this city move forward.
6 We know who they are, and I'm going to say

7 it, Mayor Doherty, Mrs. Gatelli and
8 Mrs. Fanucci. Thank you.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Please. Wait one
10 moment, please, I'm sorry. Once again,
11 advocating voting for or against a
12 particular person is out of order. I'm
13 simply asking you to refrain from doing
14 that. It's a simple request and one that we
15 should follow. Thank you. I'm sorry, Mr.
16 McCloe.

17 MR. MCCLOE: My name is Brett
18 McCloe, Scranton taxpayer and homeowner. I
19 was just sitting at home actually and I was
20 watching and I, too, sort of had a problem
21 with the 6,000 job number. My job I do for
22 a living totally depends on that number.
23 More so than that, what I do for a living
24 totally depends on what kind of money these
25 6,000 or whatever people make. If the

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1 average of those jobs, if there are 6,000 at
2 all, which I don't really see, if the
3 average of those employees cannot afford to
4 buy the very good and services that they
5 sell that is a recipe for disaster.

6 Eight, 10 and 12 dollar an hour jobs
7 just gets the taxes paid. Period. That is

8 not economic development. We need to take
9 the emphasis off of economic development and
10 put it towards developing an economy with
11 good paying jobs. These 6,000 jobs that he
12 is talking about, first of all, I don't know
13 where he got that number; number two, people
14 just aren't making that kind of money, and
15 even if with the medical school, I'm not
16 sure if I want a doctor who graduates from
17 this medical school who is \$200,000 in debt
18 then marries another person, another
19 doctor who is also \$200,000 in debt, then
20 goes and buys a \$400,000 home at Tripp's
21 Park or wherever, you are looking for a
22 person to come into the city who is almost a
23 million dollars in debt right off the bat.
24 You know, I have seen it. I have seen
25 people that are that deep in debt. If these

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1 are our new citizens, okay.

2 Well, I guess I wasn't really
3 prepared. I was just sort of ticked off and
4 I don't mean to get on you, Mrs. Fanucci,
5 but --

6 MS. FANUCCI: Get on me all you
7 want. Go ahead.

8 MR. MCCLOE: I'm not trying to,
9 believe me. I'm not trying to, but it's
10 more for the mindset of the people of this
11 city. A couple of weeks ago what I found
12 was one of the most economically divisive
13 statements I ever heard was that no one has
14 to pay the same kind of insurance -- or
15 everybody else has to pay more insurance
16 than the firefighters, and not that you were
17 factually wrong, I'm not going to dispute
18 that, I don't know anything about the
19 mechanics of the numbers, but what that did
20 is psychological it just drove a wedge into
21 a lot of people's minds. What it did was it
22 made people think that, well, I pay all of
23 this and they don't have to pay that.

24 Well, guess what, People, you don't
25 have to run into a building that's on fire.

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1 None of you have to suck in noxious fumes.
2 None of you have to worry about the asbestos
3 that might be floating in the air and maybe
4 20 years down the line, oh, you have got
5 something, such and such. That insurance
6 that they get is well-deserved. For me who
7 waits tables, what I pay in insurance, so
8 what if it's more than -- so what it it's

9 way more than theirs? They are there to
10 save my life.

11 I guess that's all I have to say
12 expect for, Folks, this is the time. Get
13 out there and vote. The time for talking
14 about certain things is over. We have a
15 chance to change lot of things, not just in
16 our city but within ourselves which will
17 change the city. Thank you. Thank you very
18 much.

19 MS. STULGIS: Ann Marie Stulgis, I
20 live in the City of Scranton. First off I'd
21 like to clarify something we have been
22 hearing a lot about, beat cops. Beat cops.
23 How great beat cops are. How the mayor is
24 bringing beat cops back. Well, Folks, may I
25 remind you that we have approximately 30

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1 less cops than we did when this mayor came
2 into office? Can I also remind you that he
3 is the one that eliminated beat cops, as
4 much as I came here and protested it
5 happening, he is the one who eliminated them
6 and now it's election time and beat cops are
7 the savior of all saviors. Maybe they would
8 have been had they stayed here and been

9 working the last seven years.

10 It all started on October of 2002
11 when he stated we already have enough cops,
12 and then in November of '02 the first eight
13 were eliminated and then it continued and
14 continued right up to December of '04 when
15 he eliminated ten more and now we have beat
16 cops. Yeah. We have a beat cop in downtown
17 Scranton. Well, what about North Scranton,
18 where is their beat cops? What about the
19 Hill Section, where is there beat cops?
20 Where are all of the beat cops? There is
21 ten federally funded OECD -- or COMM-D
22 officers, we don't have a ten of them out
23 there. I don't know where the federal funds
24 are going, but we could do not have ten
25 COMM-D officers on the street.

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1 Now, we also over the past few years
2 have been blessed with a 25 percent property
3 tax increase, exorbitant increases in our
4 sewer bills, increases in our garbage bills.
5 We have eliminated firefighters, we have
6 eliminated police officers, we have
7 eliminated 48 clerical workers. Where did
8 the money go? Police cost less, fire costs
9 less, clerical costs less. We're sort of a

10 disoriented business. They are the service
11 people, where did the money go? What did my
12 money get used for if it wasn't for my own
13 protection and the protection of my family?

14 What did it get used for if? Well,
15 it got used for the Davis trail maybe, the
16 trail that got washed away and never got
17 repaired or did it get used for, hmm, the
18 green slime pond where all of the fish died?
19 Did it gets used for that? What did it get
20 used for? Did it get used for the treehouse
21 for handicapped people that people in
22 wheelchairs can't get to? Did it get used
23 for the bridge to no where? What did it get
24 used for? Or did it get used for, hmm, the
25 glass we used on the streets instead of

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1 cinders, did it get used for that or the
2 thousands of dollars for garbage cans and
3 flower pots, did it get used for that? What
4 did it get used for, I'd like to know
5 because the taxpayers have a right to make
6 sure they have enough protection.

7 And then we have already also heard
8 about the Recovery Plan, oh, those dastardly
9 unions, oh, how they won't allow the city to

10 recover. They just won't obey that Recovery
11 Pan. Well, the mayor got his management
12 rights and just what did he change? Did he
13 change anything in the fire department?
14 Nope. Nothing. Did he change anything in
15 the police department? Well, if you count
16 the fact that we don't have overtime
17 anymore, so quite often the city is being
18 covered by four police officers, 27 square
19 miles and have you got four police officers
20 working, that's about the only thing that's
21 changed is you have less protection. Other
22 than that, nothing has changed. Nothing has
23 changed.

24 The great Recovery Plan, perhaps
25 some of you can find out for me why the

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1 mayor has consistently violated his own
2 Recovery Plan. Page 63 of the Recovery Plan
3 very specifically says that no city employee
4 can have a pay increase for 2002, 4, 5 and
5 beyond. Well, by gosh, there are some city
6 employees that have received in excess of
7 \$20,000 in pay increases. I don't hear
8 anybody on council saying, wait a minute --
9 well, maybe an exception or two, wait a
10 minute, he violated the Recovery Plan.

11 Those raises are in violation of the sacred
12 Recovery Plan, but he did it.

13 And, also, if you wouldn't mind, I
14 would like to know the Recovery Plan
15 mandates that our business manager go out
16 and solicit funds in lieu of taxes, I wonder
17 if you could find out just exactly how much
18 more money our business manager, Mr. Renda,
19 has selected in lieu of taxes over what was
20 collected by the previous administration?
21 Thank you.

22 MS. FOWLER: I'm patty Fowler,
23 otherwise known as the scapegoat. I'm
24 uncomfortable being here, but I'm here, too.

25 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.

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1 At last week's council meeting, Mrs. Gatelli
2 requested the list of all lawsuits filed
3 against the city by the owner of a local
4 website. It's important tonight to mention
5 some of those lawsuits that were filed:

6 Number one, the sale of the South
7 Side Complex, a public recreational park
8 that belonged to the citizens of the
9 Scranton; number two, the municipal golf
10 course, a city asset, which provided annual

11 revenue for the city; number three, ECTV's
12 zoning appeal which the Courts ruled against
13 ECTV; number four, OECD funding of the
14 mayor's advertisements during political
15 campaigns.

16 It is clear that these lawsuits are
17 filed on behalf of the people and the best
18 interest of this city. On the other hand,
19 Mrs. Gatelli, an elected official is using
20 taxpayers' money to pay for her private
21 lawsuit which benefits only herself.

22 Mrs. Gatelli further stated at last
23 week's council meeting that she intended to
24 pay what was billed by Wright and Reihner
25 Law Firm, the City of Scranton, for her

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1 personal lawsuit which totals \$38,704. I
2 would like Mrs. Gatelli to produce a
3 cancelled check as evidence of her payment
4 for her private lawsuit because it is
5 difficult to take Mrs. Gatelli at her word.

6 For example, she promised four years
7 ago in the Scranton Times that she would not
8 vote for more borrowing. She lied to the
9 taxpayers and voted for borrowing in 2006,
10 2007, and 2008. It appears fair to say that
11 Mrs. Gatelli, who does not tell the truth,

12 has little room to accuse taxpayers of
13 lying. Can we, the taxpayers, afford four
14 more years of Mrs. Gatelli. Thank you.

15 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

16 MR. ELLMAN: Ronnie Ellman, homeowner
17 and member of the taxpayers. I'm not going
18 to Judy bash yet, you ought to be -- I'm
19 afraid you'll tell one of your friends or
20 something and they'll raise my sewer rate or
21 something. You remember when I told you
22 don't put nothing in print that can come
23 back and haunt you? True, wasn't it?

24 MS. FANUCCI: I don't know.

25 MR. ELLMAN: Not you, but the mayor.

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1 This shouldn't have been in print. Even the
2 single tax office doesn't know about jobs
3 like that. Next they will be telling us
4 that he invented the Internet instead of Al
5 Gore.

6 You know, I know everybody has seen
7 this trashy stuff here, you know, that's --
8 to me it's -- this political rhetoric is --
9 it's just not just nonsense and distortions
10 it's --I'm trying to be nice and polite,
11 it's -- I don't know, to me it's a blatant

12 lie. It's from a man that's desperate,
13 that's in trouble, that's drowning, that's
14 grasping at straws. He didn't need to print
15 stuff like this right off the bat. It
16 backfired on him because these were given to
17 me by one of his supporters that said things
18 like that to me at my office, you know, at
19 lunchtime.

20 But, one thing Mr. Quinn has been
21 harping about trying to save properties
22 instead of tearing them down, there is so
23 many houses that could be saved. I got one
24 behind me that was a first time homeowners
25 and the lady lost it because her husband

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1 wouldn't work and the house was nice. Now
2 they've striped it and the pipes are gone I
3 understand, but it cost five, \$10,000 to
4 tear down a house. I just don't see why if
5 you want to keep young families here let
6 them have the house reasonable and get them
7 a credit at Lowe's or the department store
8 or something to go work on them. Ms. Rosie
9 and me put in our kitchen and our bathroom
10 and they come out beautiful, and I didn't
11 know nothing about it, and you can use
12 plastic pipe now, you know, for hot water.

13 You know, people can do it themselves if
14 they want to save these houses and have
15 something. It's better than knocking them
16 down. I know a lot of them ought to be
17 knocked down, but there is a lot of them
18 that can be saved.

19 You know, I'm pretty much a moderate
20 and I vote for the person I think is best,
21 but if Mr. Doherty was anything of a mayor
22 like he thinks he is to me he would have
23 been in Harrisburg a couple of years ago.
24 He wouldn't be here right now fighting for
25 another term. Rendell doesn't want him and

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1 I think that's why he is spending so much
2 money trying to achieve, you know, his goal
3 of making it in Harrisburg.

4 I know you are going to get mad, but
5 I can't comprehend in my wildest imagination
6 why an intelligent person would vote for
7 four more years of what we have gone through
8 the past eight years. Thank you.

9 MS. O'MALLEY: Barbara O'Malley,
10 Scranton resident. Last week I addressed
11 City Council regarding the difficulty I
12 experienced trying to obtain public records

13 related to ECTV's \$90,000 loan from the
14 Office of Economic and Community
15 Development. I have received a reply which
16 provided access to some, but not all, of the
17 records I requested. This is what I have
18 learned so far:

19 According to the language of the
20 agreement executed on September 25, 2008,
21 between ECTV and the city. ECTV received
22 \$90,000 in government funding to "Rejuvenate
23 the building at 933 Prescott Avenue."

24 The project will, "Result in the
25 creation of new jobs as well as remodeling

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1 and refurbishing the project site."

2 ECTV's applications projected budget
3 for the renovation for these bold
4 improvements was \$28,000. \$28,000 in public
5 money for carpentry work, electrical work,
6 plumbing work as well as excavating and
7 paving the parking lot at 933 Prescott
8 Avenue. A private property leased for one
9 year by ECTV. ECTV's lease is not being
10 renewed and as I reported last week there is
11 a sign on the door at 933 Prescott Avenue,
12 the project site, indicating ECTV offices
13 are no longer at that location. A \$90,000

14 loan for a project site that was occupied
15 for less than one year. I doubt any private
16 investors would spend that kind of money
17 given the circumstances. Why is it
18 acceptable to use public funds so
19 carelessly? Who is responsible for these
20 decisions?

21 As for the job creation clause, an
22 absolutely condition of the loan is the
23 creation of three new full-time equivalent
24 permanent employment positions at the
25 project site. Once ECTV fulfills this

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1 requirement the loan is forgiven and ECTV is
2 no longer required to submit reports to
3 OECD.

4 According to a letter from OECD
5 dated December 30, 2008, ECTV has fulfilled
6 this requirement with three new employees.
7 The three employees ECTV hired are familiar
8 to any entities or people who dealt with
9 Scranton Today because they were employees
10 of the ousted former operators of Channel
11 61, Scranton Today. Mark Migliore and
12 Anthony George were on Scranton Today's
13 payroll with the bids were submitted to

14 operate the new community access channel.
15 Mark resigned from Scranton Today after the
16 bid was awarded to ECTV. Anthony continued
17 to work for Scranton Tomorrow through June.
18 Heather Davis is a former employee of
19 Scranton Today who resigned prior to the
20 contract award.

21 I ask you, would you call this job
22 creation or job transfers? A duplication of
23 services perhaps? Maybe OECD's lawyers
24 could make the case that's technically it's
25 job creation, but is it ethical? I think

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1 people know when someone is trying to pull
2 the wool over their eyes.

3 As I stated, by fulfilling the job
4 creation component of the loan it is
5 forgiven, it is now a grant. ECTV is no
6 longer required to submit reports to OECD.
7 In effect, ECTV has been given \$90,000 for a
8 private building that was occupied for less
9 than a year with employees who were already
10 employed in the industry to do a job that
11 Scranton Today did for ten years with a
12 total investment of \$13,000 from the City of
13 Scranton.

14 I do intend to find out how ECTV

15 pulled this off by utilizing the
16 Right-to-Know process to examine the
17 voracity of the documentation that ECTV
18 provided to OECD between September 25, '08
19 and December 3, '08.

20 In conclusion, I would like to ask
21 the three council persons, Mrs. Gatelli,
22 Mrs. Fanucci, and Mr. McGoff who voted for
23 this project to justify this boondoggle
24 during motions. Thank you.

25 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening. Nelson

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1 Ancherani, First Amendment Rights. Some
2 remarks to rebut Mrs. Fanucci's motions of
3 5-5-09. Sherry asked, "When did we file for
4 bankruptcy, '92?" FYI, we never filed for
5 bankruptcy.

6 Sherry spoke about our health care
7 co-pay not going up in any way until the
8 last two pay periods and police are
9 complaining. FYI, my health care co-pay was
10 \$21 before the city lost an arbitration
11 under Connors and had to hire a health care
12 consultant. Sara Pickard was hired and she
13 straightened out a health care disaster.
14 She saved the city \$2 million and my co-pay

15 drops to \$5 and the mayor fires her. He
16 puts Lisa Moran in charge of health care,
17 now supposedly health care has risen to
18 \$12 million. Why? What does Ms. Moran know
19 about health care? Remember, Sara Pickard
20 saved the city \$2 million and the city
21 raises co-pays in violation of the Court
22 opinion and says that the health care
23 committee should meet and co-pays will be
24 worked out by the committee. The committee
25 didn't agree before the new pay co-pays were

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1 enacted. I do not mind paying my fair share
2 as long as it's my fair share.

3 Mrs. Fanucci said 71 percent of the
4 voters voted for the Recovery Plan. She
5 should have said 71 percent of the 13,000
6 who voted did voted for the Recovery Plan,
7 Recovery Plan violated from the first year.

8 She said, oh, wait a minute, just to
9 add to the \$80,000 salaries, for your
10 information extra duty is not overtime. She
11 said 71 percent of the voters -- I'm sorry,
12 she said, "It is my hope that after the next
13 two weeks are over that we can sit down and
14 start to act like civil human beings, stop
15 using this forum constantly as a perpetual

16 use of information that is one-sided and sit
17 down and actually do what we are supposed to
18 do which is work together for the City of
19 Scranton, realize that the taxpayers are the
20 people who are footing these bills and to
21 sit down and do what's best for them not
22 just what's best for our own personal
23 agendas."

24 Mrs. Fanucci, you talk about vote
25 counting. You are right, Ms. Fanucci, Ms.

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1 Gatelli and Mr. McGoff, the rubber stampers
2 all voted for the 25 percent tax increase,
3 the 25 percent tax increase that was enacted
4 all the while 12.2 million sat hidden in an
5 account in the single tax office. Taxpayers
6 are footing the 25 percent tax increase
7 bill.

8 You three also voted for the 35
9 million Scranton Parking Authority loan. 35
10 million borrowed, 94 million payback. That
11 translates into 59 million interest. 59
12 million, can you believe that? Do you know
13 that the 59 million is four million more
14 than Connors' last budget in 2001. It's
15 more than one of our city budgets.

16 Taxpayers interest, \$300 million
17 long-term debt, our children, grandchildren
18 who will be taxpayers will be paying this
19 bill off. Taxpayers interest, 20 million in
20 raises, new hires, add in consultants,
21 attorney fees. \$950,000, another taxpayer
22 interest paid for public safety office, an
23 office eliminated under the previous
24 Recovery Plan.

25 Another taxpayer interest, 879,000

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1 to the Scranton Parking Authority after they
2 received a \$35 million loan. Taxpayer
3 interest, 5.5 million loss arbitration to
4 American Anglican causing 56 percent
5 Scranton Sewer Authority rate hike.

6 Taxpayer interest, forced out 100
7 city hall workers by January 1, 2003 with
8 full benefits, hiring 100 replacements with
9 full benefits.

10 Question, does anyone know what you
11 will do when there is a deficit because we
12 are not getting the full 5.5 million that
13 was plugged into the budget from the zero
14 balance account found in the single tax
15 office? That money has been sitting in that
16 accounts for a number of years and just

17 discovered last year. If we had a
18 5.5 million deficit that the money from the
19 tax office was going to plug, what kind of
20 deficit will be claimed for 2010? Will the
21 claim be that we would have an 11 million
22 deficit? And if we have an 11 million
23 deficit where will that money come from.
24 More 25 percent tax increases? Thank you.

25 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Hello, Bill.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Hi, Chris.

2 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Hi, Judy. Oh,
3 you're leaving, huh? Here you go.

4 MS. GATELLI: We won yesterday.

5 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Look at it. Look.
6 I will give it to you now. I didn't forget
7 you. Look at it.

8 MS. GATELLI: Oh, that was so nice.
9 Thank you.

10 MR. SLEDZENSKI: You are welcome.
11 Well, Jude, we won yesterday, buddy, but we
12 have another one this week so last win it
13 all the way. Thank you.

14 MR. DOBSON: Good evening, Council.
15 Dave Dobson, a member of the Taxpayers' and
16 also a resident of Scranton. I don't want

17 to comment a lot on the election, I think
18 there has been enough comments, but one
19 comment I would like to make on money and
20 donations and is maybe some food for thought
21 in the future would be to put into the Home
22 Rule Charter that unless you are a resident
23 of Scranton please don't come to any
24 elections in Scranton. We don't need your
25 input, we are the people that have to live

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1 here and pay the taxes and whatever and we
2 would like to keep it that way.

3 On this job business, for a long
4 time I have been talking about industry and
5 industrial parks, and a lot of these
6 politicians right up to the very top I think
7 their problem is trade packs and it's
8 causing more unemployment around this
9 country and everybody can't be a rocket
10 scientist or even an automative mechanic,
11 it's a very difficult field and most of
12 these fields are difficult, and some people
13 really need a simple job that they could do
14 and, for instance, I play guitar and mostly
15 for my own entertainment, but I play it very
16 religiously three or four hours a day, but I
17 found in a magazine about five years back up

18 in the attic and it had this guitar, it's
19 made in Korea, it was priced at \$500. Well,
20 a couple of weeks ago I got another magazine
21 from the same outfit and the price of that
22 guitar, it was used by one of the Beatle's,
23 John Lennon, that particular model, it was
24 \$1,500, so it's coming, you know, it's not
25 going to be cheap. The trade packs are not

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1 going to be cheaper in the long run.

2 A couple of weeks ago I asked about
3 taxes not turned over by employers, and we
4 have -- one thing I'm happy to report and
5 that is that it is not the policy of the
6 single tax office to pursue those people,
7 however, you are the people that are out if
8 they don't turn it over, so keep that in
9 mind. If I hear of employers not turning
10 the money over and deducting it they are
11 stealing off of you.

12 On the police business inside of
13 council chambers, you know what, a lot of
14 people are probably not like this comment,
15 but you are probably better off with the
16 policeman back there. You know, we don't
17 have many who are on the sheet, but some day

19 some reason they just didn't need the
20 business because it was a check on a Sunday.
21 That's silly. That's very silly.

22 So good luck for everybody with the
23 election and have a good night. Thank you
24 for listening.

25 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council.

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1 My name is Nancy Krake. I would like to say
2 I thought there were many good speakers here
3 this evening and what I have to say will
4 probably be a little repetitive for council,
5 but I do love the fact that I have the
6 privilege to say them.

7 The mayor tells us what Business
8 Weekly and Money magazine and the Wall
9 Street Journal have to say about Scranton.
10 The mayor's first priority should be about
11 what Scrantonians themselves are really
12 saying and what they need from their city
13 government. The mayor has gotten hundreds
14 of thousands of dollars in campaign
15 contributions mostly from people who don't
16 live in Scranton and who can't vote here.
17 Once again, the mayor's priority should be
18 taxpayers of Scranton and not how he can

19 give contracts to campaign contributors.

20 Sticking to his guns. The mayor
21 repeated that several times at last night's
22 mayoral debate. He said he is sticking to
23 his guns. Well, he might as well just shoot
24 us now rather than subject us to another
25 four years of moving forward. He will be

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1 moving us forward all right with his
2 50 percent tax hike. That's part of his
3 Recovery Plan, that's the part the
4 Pennsylvania Economy League sat here in
5 council chambers and promised to level on
6 the residents of our city. They weren't
7 going to be finished until 75 percent was
8 the tax hike they had accomplished, so
9 that's what we have to look forward to in
10 another four years.

11 That's not bad enough, the mayor,
12 Mrs. Gatelli, Mrs. Fanucci and Mr. McGoff
13 voted time after time to allow NCC and
14 Abrahamsen, Moran and Conaboy to collect
15 fines on homeowners who are unable to pay
16 their taxes on time. These fines are
17 thousands of dollars compared to the
18 homeowner's original bills for two or three
19 hundred dollars. The fines go right into

20 the pockets of the collectors. Talk about
21 pay to play. Nice work if you can get three
22 people to vote for it.

23 Now it's our time to vote. Vote out
24 tax hikes, vote out pay to play, vote out
25 Northeast Credit and Collection, vote out

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1 Abrahamsen, Moran and Conaboy, and you now
2 how to vote them out. Thank.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans, I believe
4 there was the last speaker.

5 MS. EVANS: Good evening. First a
6 few financial matters. At last week's
7 council meeting, I asked that legislation
8 requiring accountability for the use of city
9 tax collections to augment the tax office
10 operating budget be placed on tonight's
11 agenda. Attorney Minora drafted this
12 legislation, however, he has requested
13 additional time to research the legislation
14 with Attorney Patterson, city solicitor.
15 Council should have this results for our
16 next scheduled meeting.

17 Also, Council received a May 12
18 update from Robert Rossi & Company,
19 independent auditors of city council, to

20 date, 14 items must be addressed by the city
21 business administrator. The auditor still
22 have not received a response to our first or
23 second confirmation request from the single
24 tax office, and they have received the Sewer
25 Authority and the Parking Authority 2008

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1 financial statements. The Redevelopment
2 Authority report is projected to be issued
3 with their July 2009 meeting.

4 Once again, it's apparent that the
5 projected completion date of May 31, 2009,
6 which, of course, is dictated by the Home
7 Rule Charter will not be met this year.

8 Council also received it's monthly
9 report from the single tax office. On May
10 8t, check 033973 was issued to the city in
11 the amount of \$3,727,000.26. Let's break it
12 down: The year-to-date real estate tax
13 collection is \$2,024,594 and the wage tax
14 collection is \$1,702,431. The wage tax
15 collection has increased 84.7 percent over
16 2007 collections.

17 In addition, a second check was
18 issued for \$513,931. This includes the LST
19 or local services tax year-to-date
20 collection of \$30,072.23 and the city

21 business privilege mercantile tax
22 collections of \$483,859.

23 On the topic of city taxes, council
24 also received a letter over a week ago from
25 a local elected official correcting a

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1 statement made at a recent council meeting.
2 I believe Mrs. Gatelli according to that
3 letter had stated that the city only
4 receives 17 percent of your tax dollar.
5 However, the city receives 46.3 percent of
6 real estate taxes and 70.6 percent of your
7 wage tax, and now I believe Mr. Renda has
8 jumped in the fray to assist Mrs. Gatelli
9 with her figures, but the fact is county
10 taxes are actually the smallest dollar
11 amount we pay, and when we add our city
12 property tax to our city wage tax, the city
13 seems to receive the largest portion of your
14 tax dollars.

15 I offered the chance to lower your
16 wage tax in December 2007, unfortunately,
17 other members of the council voted against
18 it, thus, the working men and women of
19 Scranton continue to pay a 3.4 percent wage
20 tax and apparently more total tax dollars to

21 the city than to any other local taxing
22 body.

23 My letter of request for an
24 investigation of the Scranton tax office by
25 the District Attorney will be sent by

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1 certified mail this week. According to
2 statements made in the Scranton Times,
3 Mr. Jarbola does not appear to intend to
4 conduct an investigation until a new
5 forensic audit is performed, and earlier
6 Attorney Minora, an employee of Mr. Jarbola,
7 agrees that a forensic audit must first
8 occur. Yet, prior to any announcement of a
9 forensic audit last year, Mr. Jarbola had
10 already decided against an investigation and
11 had stated there was no wrongdoing.

12 Now, this decision for a new
13 forensic audit seems to postpone any
14 investigation until the end of 2009 or
15 possibly even 2010. At the same time, the
16 current tax office solicitor conceded that
17 as much as \$2 million is missing and I am
18 appalled that cash is missing according to
19 the newspaper headline and that the DA is
20 not interested.

21 In addition, the DA appears to be

22 less than concerned that state law was
23 broken. Well, ladies and gentlemen, it
24 doesn't pass the smell test. Despite his
25 comments in the newspaper, I will request a

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1 written response from the DA and should he
2 decide, which is his prerogative, against an
3 investigation, I will take our tax office
4 problem to a state authority.

5 Next, I would like to clarify last
6 week's League of Women Voter's council
7 candidate debate. First, candidates were
8 notified of the date, time, and place of
9 this debate several weeks in advance which
10 provided ample opportunity for all
11 candidates to schedule time to attend.

12 Next, the gentleman who ran the
13 debate together with the League of Women
14 Voters president is a political appointee of
15 Mrs. Fanucci, yet, despite this documents
16 political connection, my teammates and I
17 chose to participate in the debate because
18 the issues at stake like 25 percent tax
19 increases, a 3.4 percent wage tax, and
20 wasteful spending are extremely crucial and
21 the people of Scranton and all of your

22 neighborhoods are very important to us.

23 I don't have to hide have my voting
24 record. I have taken some very hard stands
25 and made some difficult decisions, but I

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1 stand by them because they are based on
2 cold, hard facts and on the priorities of
3 the people. I didn't tell you one thing and
4 then do another. And when I said, no, I
5 offered alternatives such as the three
6 budgets I produced and numerous budget cuts
7 I provided each year.

8 My colleagues state I am the
9 naysayer who says "no" simply to oppose them
10 or the mayor, but I believe that "yes" is
11 not always the right answer. In fact,
12 sometimes it can be downright harmful to the
13 best interest of the taxpayers. When other
14 council members tell me they are going to
15 raise taxes by 25 percent because they won't
16 stop runaway spending, my answer will always
17 be "no."

18 When council members tell me they
19 are going to authorize massive pay increases
20 for underqualified city officials and high
21 paid attorneys like Mr. Greco my answer will
22 always be "no."

23 And when they want to increase the
24 debt to over a quarter of a billion dollars
25 my answer will be "no."

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1 And when progress means enriching a
2 few by taxing the many, my answer will
3 always be "no."

4 However, I will gladly vote "yes" on
5 a reduction in the wage tax, cuts in
6 wasteful spending, and an investigation into
7 the Scranton Tax Office, economic
8 development that doesn't depend solely on
9 taxpayer money to finance it, and a
10 competitive wage and contract for the city
11 unions. And I will continue to help flood
12 victims with sewer bill relief, keep our
13 neighborhood swimming pools free, feed the
14 poor through food drives, expose the true
15 city debt and most of all, tell you the
16 truth, and you can take that to the bank.

17 Finally, I wish to correct a
18 statement made by Mrs. Fanucci at our last
19 council meeting. She stated the city had
20 gone bankrupt but, in fact, the city did not
21 go bankrupt at any time.

22 Also, when discussing health care

23 contributions made by union employees, she
24 failed to tell you that the health care
25 contributions for management and cabinet

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1 members were not increased. Further, there
2 is no time line set for increasing their
3 contributions, and equally important is the
4 fact that management employees pay
5 significantly less, for example, for family
6 coverage per pay than do union employees and
7 many management positions pay far greater
8 wages than union jobs.

9 As taxpayers, you have a right to
10 the whole story, which is what I have tried
11 to provide you tonight. Examine the voting
12 records of your elected officials and
13 information and pledges made by new
14 candidates then please take the time to vote
15 next Tuesday. Vote for yourself, vote for
16 your family and your grandchildren because
17 that is how far into the future this debt
18 and this election reaches.

19 And, Kay, I would like a letter to
20 the mayor requesting the location and
21 funding of student housing for the
22 Commonwealth Medical School. And just one
23 final note about NCC because it became a

24 topic of discussion earlier among council
25 speakers, there are 23 provisions included

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1 in the delinquent tax ordinance and those
2 are very punitive measures that include
3 additional costs, fees, fines, etcetera,
4 when an individual is unable to make his
5 city property tax payment. Now, that
6 language is not specific to any one group of
7 people. It doesn't state anywhere in the
8 ordinance that this applies only to absentee
9 landlords. This applies to everyone.
10 Granted, it should apply to absentee
11 landlords, though I haven't heard of any
12 whose properties have gone to sheriff's sale
13 yet, but the fact of the matter is when you
14 say it applies only to them that language
15 has to be contained within that ordinance
16 and it is not, and to say you will help
17 other people besides an absentee landlord as
18 much as the intention is good it's
19 discriminatory and the city could be taken
20 to Court for something like that.

21 So, council members need to be aware
22 of the whole picture and be very careful of
23 what they vote for because you can't single

24 out one group, it applies to everybody,
25 unfortunately. Absentee landlords certainly

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1 it should apply to them. We need to rid our
2 city of slumlords, but as for the elderly,
3 the sickly, the working men and women of
4 Scranton who have lost their jobs, that
5 8.7 percent that lost their jobs, do they
6 deserve to lose their homes? Think about
7 that, and that's it.

8 MS. GATELLI: First of all, I would
9 like to tell the audience at home that once
10 again policemen had to be called to these
11 rooms this evening. A person was being
12 harassed out in the hallway and three
13 additional policemen had to be called.
14 Spewing venom and hatred gets nothing
15 accomplished here in these rooms, it just
16 causes more dissension.

17 First, I'd like to address the
18 reason that I did not go to the League of
19 Women Voter's debate. I was told shortly
20 after I filed my papers to run for city
21 council that there would be a debate. I
22 didn't believe that would happen because as
23 far as I could remember city council members
24 had interviews and they did not have a

25 debate. Then I received a notice that a

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1 city employee was the chair of the debate.
2 I had known for a fact that she had attended
3 rallies for Mr. DiBileo on several occasions
4 and also she was on Facebook on Pat Rogan's
5 Committee for Council and Mr. DiBileo's. I
6 notified the League of Women Voters about
7 this and they told me that that was not
8 allowed. That a board member of the League
9 of Women Voters was not allowed to
10 participate in political activity for
11 certain candidates.

12 I spoke to Mrs. Olgham on Monday
13 before the debate. I told her that I
14 certainly would not be attending as I had
15 received an e-mail that day after
16 Mrs. Olgham told me that Mrs. Fowler had
17 resigned, and Mrs. Fowler e-mailed me if I
18 was coming to the debate or not.

19 I feel as though the League of Women
20 Voters it is not their fault, but they were
21 not told the truth about a board member
22 participating in political activities. That
23 is not allowed, that is a no-no for the
24 League of Women Voters.

1 master's equivalency. A master's
2 equivalency is a degree beyond your
3 bachelor's degree where you have credits
4 equal to a master's degree. I have 30
5 graduate credits from Marywood College and
6 you need 45 for a master's degree. I took
7 my other credits through the NEIU and some
8 at Keystone Junior College, so I have enough
9 credits to say that I have a master's
10 equivalency degree and that is how I am paid
11 through the Scranton School District, a
12 master's equivalency. It's a master's
13 credits, but you didn't get the actual
14 degree from Marywood University. I only
15 completed 30 graduate credits there.

16 I found it interesting that they are
17 questioning my education when other
18 candidates don't only property, they don't
19 work so they don't pay the wage tax, and
20 some of them have criminal records of which
21 people are aware and the Scranton Times is
22 aware but it's not being brought forward. I
23 urge you all to seek out the information
24 about candidates that have arrest records.
25 I think that is far more important than what

1 my master's degree is in. I am one of the
2 few candidates that has a master's
3 equivalency. You can read them, they were
4 in the paper today, exactly what everyone's
5 qualifications are educationally.

6 As far as the term Nazi that I used
7 last week, if any one of you have ever
8 watched Seinfeld they talk about the Soup
9 Nazi. It's a common word that's used for
10 things of that nature when people are very
11 strict about something. It is not meant to
12 disrespect the Jewish people in any way
13 whatsoever. The woman that watches that
14 particular area likes to make soup and we
15 always call her the Soup Nazi and she
16 watches that particular area of South
17 Scranton and reports everything to us that
18 happens in a bad way. That area has some
19 problems and she reports to the neighborhood
20 association as she sees fit, so it was not
21 meant to be disrespectful in any way and I
22 certainly do apologize if anyone took it in
23 that manner.

24 As far as the borrowing, I know
25 Mr. Ancherani talked about the borrowing and

1 I have a report here about the borrowing
2 from 2002 until 2009. In 2002, Mr. DiBileo
3 borrowed 7.7 million. In 2003, Mr. DiBileo
4 borrowed four million. In 2004,
5 Mr. Courtright and Mr. DiBileo borrowed 9
6 million. In 2005, \$14.5 million was
7 borrowed; and for the all time record of
8 borrowing, as Mr. Sbaraglia talked about it
9 approximately two weeks ago, there was a
10 \$72 million loan and it was approved by
11 McCormack, Gilhooley, Hazzouri, Murphy and
12 DiBileo.

13 So when you look to blame someone
14 for borrowing money, I think that the true
15 test has to be told about who actually did
16 all of the borrowing in the City of
17 Scranton, and you will see that there were
18 many others involved in the borrowing. It
19 was a way to keep the city solvent to
20 prevent bankruptcy.

21 I'd also like to comment on
22 Mr. Quinn calling people names and their
23 lectures at church and Mr. Dudek for calling
24 people cowards for not going to a debate.
25 The people that are the real cowards are the

1 people that harass you on the Internet. I'm
2 going to say it again because that is what
3 has happened to many people that sit up on
4 this dais. That is why the police were
5 here, that is why people were wanded,
6 because there were threats and that's why
7 that happened, not for any other reason.
8 And believe me, if any one was unsafe up
9 here I, wouldn't hesitate to ask the
10 district attorney again and the police chief
11 to please protect us. As you see, there is
12 two police officers here tonight because
13 people were harassed.

14 This chambers belongs to everyone in
15 the City of Scranton. Every one, but no one
16 will come here because they don't want to be
17 harassed and they don't want to be spit on,
18 and they don't want to be ridiculed. As a
19 matter of fact today, I had one of my fellow
20 employees come into my office to tell me
21 that one of my opponent's supporters spit on
22 the ground next to them today because they
23 had my sign in their yard. If this is the
24 way you want the City of Scranton to run,
25 then don't vote for me 'cause I don't want

1 it to run that way. I don't think our city
2 business should be run in this fashion.

3 And I would just like to tell you
4 for those of you that don't know, I have
5 fought 28 years for the City of Scranton. I
6 never got paid a dime. I fought the garbage
7 trucks on Keyser Avenue with Mary Alice
8 Burke and Jimmy Connors. I fought a plastic
9 plant emitting smoke in our neighborhood and
10 fought Philadelphia lawyers. I got 10,000
11 names with Jimmy Connors to keep my
12 firehouse open and they are not going to
13 close it because I won't let them. I fought
14 against another low income housing project
15 in our neighborhood. We already have over
16 500 families and we didn't need anymore.

17 I fought zoning issues. I still go
18 to the zoning board to fight for my
19 neighborhood to fight Charlie's Bar and
20 other places that don't belong in the
21 neighborhood. I participate in cleanups
22 every year. We moved illegal -- thousands
23 of illegal tires near the old post office on
24 Orchard Street when the gentleman refused to
25 remove them. Nancy Kay Holmes was a

1 councilwoman then and she help us fill
2 trucks and trucks full of tires.

3 I have advocated for neighborhood
4 police patrols. I cleaned Connell Park once
5 a month. I fought and closed nuisance bars,
6 probably some of them that are in your
7 neighborhood, Eichler's, O'Toole's,
8 Hannah's, Chick's Western Bar. I fought
9 zoning where commercial activities wanted to
10 entered residential areas. I fought the EMF
11 lines on Palm Street that caused cancer in
12 little children.

13 When I worked for Mayor Connors I
14 closed 200 homes that were unsafe. On my
15 tenure here, 30 plus homes have been
16 demolished in South Scranton, 15 in West
17 Scranton and 20 throughout the city. We
18 have worked on the Elm Street program for
19 Cedar Avenue to make it a better place to
20 live. Connell Park has been redone where
21 drug dealers don't hang around anymore. The
22 post office came down and the Orchard Street
23 park is there. We purchased the Renaissance
24 Center through our neighborhood association
25 where we have our Community Justice Program.

1 I have been a fighter my whole life.
2 I fight for my neighborhood and I fight for
3 you, and I will continue to do that as long
4 as I am sitting here, and if I'm not sitting
5 here I will still advocate for my
6 neighborhood, but what goes on in these
7 chambers is not acceptable to me and I do
8 not condone it. Thank you.

9 MS. FANUCCI: Well, once again, you
10 definitely got your money's worth for
11 tonight's performances. I have to say that
12 coming into these chambers tonight I was
13 very well prepared for the intent, which is
14 always to just spew venom, hate, and make
15 sure division stays true in the City of
16 Scranton.

17 I'm going to talk about the debate.
18 The debate is a major issue, which is
19 amazing to me. I don't know why it's okay
20 to break rules for some people. It's a
21 simple rule. Certainly if I showed up at
22 that debate and found Tom Welby was the one
23 giving the debate, I would the not have been
24 comfortable and I would have spoke up. To
25 act and ignore rules because they benefit

1 certain individuals is just as bad, it's
2 just as bad as ignoring them.

3 So is it okay for me to ignore
4 everything that goes on here, to ignore the
5 fact that someone wrote the rules and
6 actually I felt bad, felt bad for the League
7 of Women Voters. I felt they were duped to
8 be honest because they put their trust in
9 someone. They believed someone to say,
10 these are the rules and you are to abide by
11 them, but because I know in these chambers
12 week after week rules are never kept, they
13 can't be, it's a problem. Why? Because
14 certain people cannot get their point across
15 without knocking other people down, putting
16 up facts that are not true, showing that
17 they are not in support of anything that
18 goes on in this city, not one thing. I
19 can't imagine being against everything.

20 I am here and I'm going to stay here
21 to fight for the people who decide that they
22 want to have small business in the city
23 despite of what goes on in these chambers,
24 in spite of the people who hate where they
25 live. I always wonder why you come here

1 week after week to just spew venom and

2 decide that this is a productive event for
3 you. I know the people out there are smart.
4 I know they see what goes on here.

5 Scripts are handed out like paper.
6 People run off this podium, running in the
7 back, having their conversations, it is
8 amazing to me what goes on in these
9 chambers. It is wonderful, everyone sounds
10 very, very well prepared when the teacher
11 hands the student the answers and the
12 questions everyone is always prepared. That
13 is not life. That is not tolerated. Why?
14 And it's only to make one person look good.
15 Notice, everyone here is chastised every
16 week for four years, but one stands alone.
17 One is always okay.

18 So now we get one person tonight who
19 actually comes here because they actually
20 like where they live, she believes in our
21 city, she believes in us, she believes in
22 small business, she believes in families,
23 she believes in all of the things that maybe
24 you don't believe in and what happens? Is
25 she entitled to the same free speech that

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1 you cling onto every week? Is it okay for

2 her to sit and say what she wants to say, is
3 that okay? No, it's not, because if she
4 doesn't agree with the 20 people in this
5 audience she is wrong.

6 Guess what? My hope is that most
7 people don't agree with the 20 people in
8 this audience. My hope is that people see
9 what actually goes on and the motives here
10 and the intent, that is the problem. To act
11 and ignore it week after week then add your
12 little sarcasm and your insinuations and
13 innuendoes and your conspiracy theories and
14 everything else, is it possible that every
15 one is wrong who tries to work together? Is
16 that possible? I'm going to say, no.

17 You don't have to like me, I don't
18 have to like Mrs. Evans, she doesn't have to
19 like me. I don't have to like the mayor, I
20 don't have to like the governor. I don't
21 have to like any elected officials, but what
22 I have to do is my job which is to do what's
23 best for Scranton to move us into a better
24 place.

25 Saying "no" is a problem all the

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1 time. I disagree. I am a rubber stamper.
2 Do you know why? Because I see the progress

3 and I see the project from start to finish
4 and I get to say what I believe and change
5 and make ideas. That's what coming together
6 is all about. I will state this from day
7 one, Mrs. Gatelli and I were on total
8 opposite ends of the spectrum from day one.
9 Are we always? Sometimes we still are.
10 Many times we are, but her challenges make
11 me a better councilwoman. They make me step
12 up and say, "You know what, she has an idea
13 that's pretty good. Mr. Courtright has an
14 idea that's pretty good."

15 So now that challenges me to come to
16 a better solution. That's the problem in
17 these chambers. It's not about solutions.
18 It's about constant complaining, constant
19 bickering, complaining, and being someone
20 who just wants to keep the venom going so
21 that they can get what they want at the end.
22 It's about special interests.

23 Remember, whether or not you like
24 what goes on with our unions, it is still a
25 special interest group. They are here to

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1 get what they want. Do I agree that they
2 are not -- we are an unsafe city? It's

3 amazing, this is the most amazing to me,
4 when you say we are unsafe you are actually
5 saying that the people who do their jobs are
6 not doing the work. Our policemen are
7 wonderful. They are doing their jobs. They
8 get the bad guys. Every day they get the
9 bad guys. Is that something that's not
10 acceptable to you? No. But to say that
11 they are not, you know, crime is rampant you
12 are acting like they are not doing their
13 jobs. It's a double standard.

14 Do I think that everyone should get
15 paid billions of dollars for what they do?
16 Absolutely. Are they heroes in my eyes.
17 Yes, I couldn't do what they do. I couldn't
18 do what the firemen do, but when they get up
19 and complain every week about the fact that
20 they have to pay for health care insurance,
21 that they are paying \$11 instead of five,
22 when they complain that they haven't got a
23 cost of living increase, but then their
24 arbitration awards came in and it is more
25 money, so when their figures are not correct

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1 and they are complaining week after week
2 that is the difference between the DPW
3 union. That is the difference between the

4 other unions. They are not here complaining
5 every week acting like they got gypped off,
6 you know, people are taking their money.
7 That's the problem.

8 It's not that they don't have
9 respect, it's the fact that they expect more
10 and the taxpayers are the once who pay for
11 it so there has to be a line drawn. Are you
12 a taxpayer, are you for protaxpayer or are
13 you going to be someone who believes the
14 unions should have everything they want?
15 There is a line and it's a sad line, but
16 it's reality.

17 The other day I was asked, I spoke
18 at an event and I was asked about the wage
19 tax. If you honestly believe that there is
20 not one elected official in this city who
21 doesn't want to get rid of the wage tax you
22 have to be kidding me. Do you believe that
23 we like the fact we are in recovery, that we
24 like the fact that we have a wage tax that's
25 so high? Do you think we enjoy this? No.

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1 We work hard to make sure it's not there,
2 but the money has to come from somewhere.
3 Reality is reality. If you keep dealing

4 with nonreal reasons you are not going to
5 find a solution.

6 Listen, I wish I was a size six
7 every morning when I get up, but guess what,
8 when I get up I know I'm not fitting in the
9 size six pants. Why? Because it's reality.
10 I can hope and dream all I want, but
11 tomorrow morning it's going to be another
12 day. Size six, not going on.

13 I also want to talk a little bit
14 about the scare tactics. I'm sorry, this is
15 going to be a long night, but you knew it
16 was going to be, so -- I don't find it
17 acceptable right now that we have firemen
18 from out of this city going door to door
19 trying to scare our citizens into believing
20 that for some reason the rest of us don't
21 care if they are safe or not, that if you
22 have a sign in your yard that is not in line
23 with what the firemen believe that you are
24 not safe, that you are going to have a
25 problem. That's not acceptable to me. I'm

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1 a mother, I'm a daughter, I have friends,
2 relatives, aunts, uncles, colleagues in this
3 city. To insinuate that anyone, whether
4 it's myself, the mayor, any of us here, any

5 elected official, any normal person wouldn't
6 want to risk anyone's safety is an absurd
7 thought, and I know the taxpayers are smart
8 and they are not going to fall for that.

9 It is time, time to stop the fear as
10 motive. It is time to stop all of this hate
11 and the perpetual, perpetual constant
12 digging at other people and other elected
13 officials for personal benefit. I'm sorry,
14 but I certainly don't want to see anyone put
15 their faith in someone who works harder
16 against than they do for the people who put
17 them here. That is a problem. That is a
18 major problem.

19 So I have to say I'm afraid. I'm
20 afraid some days after four years here. I'm
21 afraid that the people aren't going to see
22 the truth. I'm afraid that they are not
23 going to see these scripted meetings and
24 very well-produced and well-spoken people in
25 the audience are still cronies. They might

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1 not be mine, but they are cronies. Funny
2 how isn't allowed to apply on the other
3 hand, but it really does.

4 It is time for all talk and no show

5 to stop, so I'm going to ask you at home to
6 not fall into the trap of the fear mongers,
7 to make sure we don't lose a step backwards
8 in time, to assure that we keep on the path
9 we are on. You know yourself this is not a
10 time where hate and division will bring
11 anything but more hate and division. I want
12 the progress to continue that we have had in
13 the past four years. It might not be
14 enough, it will never be enough, but we are
15 on a good road and I want to stay on the
16 path we are on and I will do it in spite of
17 the people here who don't want to come along
18 with us.

19 You can stay in your world of hate,
20 you can stay bickering back and forth with
21 each other and the constantly digging your
22 own holes and running around with each other
23 and not getting anywhere. You can do that,
24 it's okay, but the rest of us can't. We
25 can't afford to do that anymore. Those

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1 times are gone.

2 So when we come back in these
3 chambers after this election it is time to
4 move forward and time to come in with good
5 ideas and happy, wonderful thoughts for our

6 future and make us see and work together for
7 what is better for the citizens of Scranton
8 and for the taxpayers. I will work for you,
9 I promise I will work for you, and I will
10 not give credit for credit is not due. I do
11 not want the type of behavior that happens
12 in these chambers to run my city ever and I
13 hope you are smart enough out there to see
14 why it happens and know what the rest of us
15 are here to do our job and not just say no
16 and cast blame all the time. Thank you.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: I would just like to
18 say each and every year I go to the Armed
19 Forces Parade and I don't stand in one spot,
20 I walk the route just to see how it is every
21 year and I'm disappointed that more people
22 don't show up. I really ask that you come
23 out and support that parade and our Armed
24 Forces. It's not that much time out of your
25 day, and I think we need to show them the

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1 support. Each and every year, like I said,
2 I'm disappointed in the showing, I think we
3 need to have a much better showing.

4 The firepits, I don't know if I
5 answered this, I think it was Mr. Spindler's

6 question, I spoke with Marty Monahan about
7 these so-called firepits or whatever that
8 they are that you burn in the backyard, they
9 need to have a screen on them and a device,
10 I forget what he said they were, and if they
11 don't they are illegal and it comes under
12 the open burn ordinance, so those of you
13 that aren't, Mr. Spindler, if you get the
14 open burn ordinance from our office you will
15 be able to find out if your neighbor is, in
16 fact, in violation; and I believe, I spoke
17 to him on the way in here so I wasn't able
18 to write down everything he told me I told
19 him I would get with him, I believe that the
20 police officer is able to write a citation
21 if you are in violation of the open burn
22 ordinance.

23 And I'll be brief, it's been a long
24 night, just one last thing and I'm not going
25 to campaign so we all campaign in different

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1 ways, but I think every one of us meet a lot
2 of people when we are out there campaigning,
3 and we end up in neighborhoods that we don't
4 normally go in every day and so we see how
5 different parts of the city and different
6 people in the city live and what their

7 problems are and they maybe different than
8 our own neighborhood.

9 I think it's an education that every
10 one in the city should have. You campaign
11 you learn about this city, and again, you
12 learn things outside of your own
13 neighborhood, we all have a tendency to be
14 partial to our own neighborhood, that's just
15 human nature, but my hats off to each and
16 every candidate and each and every election
17 that's runs. It's not easy. It's not as
18 difficult on us as it is on our families and
19 the people that depend on us, but I do hope
20 that you go out and vote and you try to pick
21 the person that you think will be best for
22 the job, and I wish the best to everybody
23 and everybody that's running because it's
24 not easy. It's a difficult and hard couple
25 of months, and people ask me, you know, what

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1 do you do it for. I think everybody has a
2 different reason, but I think most of us
3 just want to serve the public, so best of
4 luck to everybody. We won't be here next
5 week, but we'll be here the following week.
6 Thank you.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Very briefly,
8 Mr. Sbaraglia brought up campaign spending
9 and contributions and one thing that I
10 thought for -- I thought for years is
11 something that the State of Pennsylvania
12 should consider is on a statewide basis
13 having campaigns spending limits specific to
14 each office. It's probably never going to
15 happen because people want to raise money
16 for whatever reason, but campaign spending
17 limits would alleviate a lot of the
18 problems, hopefully maybe in the future it
19 will be something that is looked into and
20 perhaps enacted.

21 Also, Mr. Jackowitz, I don't want to
22 say that some things shouldn't be
23 investigated at the tax office, but I know
24 the -- I don't know specifically when a
25 separate solicitor was used by the single

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1 tax office, but I think, if I'm not
2 mistaken, it goes all the way back to when
3 Mr. Walsh was tax collector that they hired
4 a separate solicitor, so it's not a recent
5 event. I'm not saying it's right but --

6 MR. JACKOWITZ: It's the law.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Again, I'm not

8 saying -- it's not something that has just
9 recently occurred. I just, you know, it's
10 something that has been going on.

11 And as far as the policemen in
12 chambers, from the time that I took the
13 presidency I was asked if I would continue
14 to do that and I will provide the same
15 answer, I believe that a policeman should be
16 present at any public meeting. It's not for
17 intimidation, just as you have a policeman
18 at a basketball game, you know, a concert,
19 whatever, I think any public meeting should
20 have a member of the police force present
21 just in case something does occur and I will
22 ask that we continue to do that as long as I
23 am president.

24 And the very last thing, all of the
25 fish in the pond did not die. Some of them

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1 did, but not all of them and, Mrs. Garvey.

2 MS. EVANS: Mr. McGoff, I just wanted
3 to mention one thing to you because you
4 addressed campaign finances reform
5 initially, which I think is an excellent
6 topic, I had tried myself to address that
7 during a previous council and I ran into the

8 problem you stated which is it has to be a
9 change on the state level. However, there
10 are councils, I think Philadelphia might be
11 one of them, that actually did enact their
12 own legislation applying to their own city.

13 Now, will that hold weight according
14 to state law, very likely not, but perhaps
15 it can be something that even candidates
16 would abide by voluntarily knowing that it's
17 there, and so there would be that
18 opportunity to, you know, set a level and
19 see who will actually do the most beneficial
20 thing because it certainly does I think go a
21 long way to avoiding pay to play operations.

22 MR. MCGOFF: I agree. Mrs. Garvey.

23 MS. GARVEY: FIFTH ORDER. 5-B. FOR
24 INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE
25 OF COUNCIL NO. 123, 2007, ENTITLED, "AN

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1 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
2 APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
3 SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO
4 IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR
5 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
6 (AS AMENDED) TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
7 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
8 PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)

9 PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG)
10 PROGRAM", BY AMENDING THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN
11 AND THE 2008 ACTION PLAN TO INCLUDE NEW
12 FUNDING UNDER TITLE XII OF THE FEDERAL
13 AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF
14 2009 ("RECOVERY ACT") FOR THE HOMELESS
15 PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM
16 (HPRP) AND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
17 GRANT-RECOVERY (CDBG-R) THAT RESULTED FROM
18 THE RECOVERY ACT.

19 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
20 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
21 introduced into it's proper committee.

22 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

23 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

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

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1 MS. EVANS: Aye.

2 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

3 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

4 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
6 ayes have it and so moved.

7 MS. GARVEY: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
8 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND

9 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
10 AND ENTER INTO SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT
11 AGREEMENT NO. 040809-F WITH THE COMMONWEALTH
12 OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
13 TRANSPORTATION REGARDING THE LACKAWANNA
14 AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
15 INCREASING THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE
16 PROJECT DUE TO CONSTRUCTION COSTS OVER-RUNS.

17 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
18 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
19 introduced into it's proper committee.

20 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

21 MS. FANUCCI: Second.

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

24 MS. EVANS: Aye.

25 MS. FANUCCI: Aye.

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1 MS. GATELLI: Aye.

2 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
4 ayes have it and so moved.

5 MS. GARVEY: SIXTH ORDER. NO
6 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
7 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
8 FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
9 64, 2009 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 49,

10 2008, AN ORDINANCE "ENTITLED GENERAL CITY
11 OPERATING BUDGET 2009" BY TRANSFERRING
12 \$25,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT NO.
13 01.401.13090.4299 (NON DEPARTMENTAL
14 OPERATING EXPENSES-CONTINGENCY) TO ACCOUNT
15 NO. 01.040.00040.4190 (BUSINESS
16 ADMINISTRATION UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE) TO
17 PROVIDE FUNDING TO COVER QUARTERLY PAYMENTS
18 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

19 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
20 recommendation of the Chair for the
21 Committee on Finance?

22 MS. GATELLI: As Chairperson for the
23 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
24 passage of Item 7-A.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

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1 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
2 call, please?

3 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

4 MS. EVANS: Yes.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

6 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

8 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

10 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
13 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. GARVEY: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
15 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION -
16 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 65, 2009 - CREATING AND
17 ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO.
18 02.229592 ENTITLED "BILLY BARRETT PARK
19 GRANTS" FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF
20 GRANT FUNDS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES INCLUDING
21 BUT NOT LIMITED TO LACKAWANNA ENVIRONMENTAL
22 CONSERVATION AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
23 PARTNERSHIP ("LECOR"), DEPARTMENT OF
24 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ("DCED")
25 AND BOUNDLESS PLAYGROUND FOR

137

1 RENOVATION/REHABILITATION OF BILLY BARRETT
2 PARK.

3 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
4 recommendation of the Chair for the
5 Committee on Finance?

6 MS. GATELLI: As Chair for the
7 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
8 passage of Item 7-B.

9 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

10 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll

11 call, please?

12 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

13 MS. EVANS: Yes.

14 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

15 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

16 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

17 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

18 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

19 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

20 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

21 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare

22 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

23 MS. GARVEY: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION

24 - BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION

25 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 66, 2009 - CREATING

138

1 AND ESTABLISHING SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT NO.

2 02.229591 ENTITLED "JIMMY CONNORS PARK

3 GRANTS" FOR THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF

4 GRANT FUNDS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, INCLUDING

5 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LACKAWANNA ENVIRONMENTAL

6 CONSERVATION AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

7 PARTNERSHIP ("LECOR"), DEPARTMENT OF

8 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ("DCED")

9 AND BOUNDLESS PLAYGROUND FOR CONNORS PARK.

10 MR. MCGOFF: What is the

11 recommendation of the Chair for the
12 Committee on Finance?

13 MS. GATELLI: As Chair for the
14 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
15 passage of 7-C.

16 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

17 MR. MCGOFF: On the question? Roll
18 call, please?

19 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Evans.

20 MS. EVANS: Yes.

21 MR. COOLICAN: Mrs. Gatelli.

22 MS. GATELLI: Yes.

23 MR. COOLICAN: Ms. Fanucci.

24 MS. FANUCCI: Yes.

25 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Courtright.

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1 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

2 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. McGoff.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. I hereby declare
4 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

5 MS. GATELLI: Motion to adjourn.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Before we adjourn, I
7 would just announce that due to Election Day
8 next week's meeting is cancelled and our
9 next meeting will be May 26, and we shall
10 adjourn.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

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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 ability.

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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